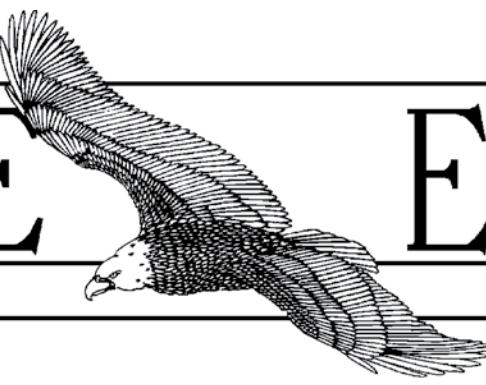


# The CRESTONE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 29, Number 4

29 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley



# EAGLE

April, 2018 \$2

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Spring bunny. photo by Haruyuki Suzuki

To see this photo in color and more, visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

## Due to drought, the potential for fire is severe

by Sandia Belgrade

Representatives from the Forest Service painted a picture of the clear and present fire danger facing the residents of the San Luis Valley at a recent Saguache County Commissioners meeting. Tristan Post noted we are at 28% of our usual moisture. With the concerns about fire danger, a drought notice may be forthcoming. Accompanying Post was Chad Lewis, who is a point of contact for the Rio Grande National Forest in case of fire. The

San Juans have already had small fires. Counties north and east of us have restrictions in place. Crestone will also issue some bans. The Forest Service will start getting out Public Service Announcements. Dry weather, drought, and strong winds create a recipe for disaster with their potential to transform a spark into a conflagration. U.S. wildfire starts indicate that 88% of fires are human-caused and 12% lightning-caused. Most of these human fires are uninten-

tional and result from carelessness or inattention. With the unusually warm weather that's occurring, access to the mountains is happening early; there are many people in the mountains for this time of year and the potential for accidental fires increases.

### The importance of individuals' attention

Vital to our safety are not just official guidelines and restrictions but the efforts of each individual.

*continued on page 4*



Piñon pines torching on the Hewlett Fire near Ft. Collins, 2012.

See our feature spread on fire preparedness on pages B-9, 10, 11.

## Proposed oil & gas leasing near wilderness areas in Wet Mountain Valley raises concerns

by Christine Canaly  
Director, San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Royal Gorge Field office (RGFO) is currently taking public comment on 11 parcels (18,358 acres) that have been nominated for potential oil and gas leasing in Huerfano County. These nominated parcels are located on the eastern side of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range,

within the Wet Mountain Valley. Some of these parcels border designated wilderness and are also located within a few miles of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve boundaries.

Most of these nominated parcels are located on private land, but confined to a split estate situation, where the surface owners are private, but the mineral rights belong to the federal government (us!). Because the federal government owns

the mineral estate, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has been initiated, giving the public an opportunity to respond. The company that nominated the parcels appear to be Reagan Resources, based out of Oklahoma City.

Ranch ownership, where most of these nominated parcels are located, just recently changed hands. Thomas Redmond, the Aus-

*continued on page 8*

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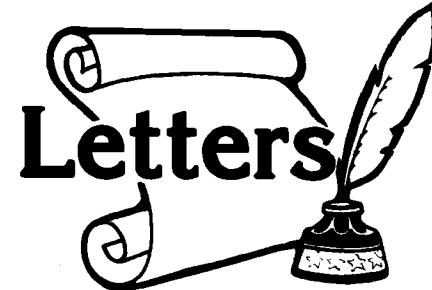
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Deadline for copy: 18th of the month.

Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit, or reject advertising, letters or articles. Letters may be sent to parties mentioned or referenced for response. All rights reserved.



## An invitation for you

Dear citizens,

Members of the Crestone Town Board unanimously recognize the importance and value of hearing from you directly as members of this awesome community.

We also understand that the few minutes of "Citizens' Comments" allocated at our regular meetings may not be sufficient.

Therefore, we have scheduled a monthly "Hear to Listen" session held the first Monday of each month from 10am to noon at the Cloud Station. Trustees will be present to hear your thoughts, ideas, and concerns regarding town development and issues.

Please note, Trustees will not be there to make decisions or enact solutions, but are committed to listening and taking your input back to the Board of Trustees as a whole.

Hear to Listen! See you there!  
Adam Kinney,  
Crestone Board of Trustees

## Thank you

I would just like to thank all who came to the Jungle Sale exhibition and symposium at Shumei. Everybody got into the spirit of the event—I certainly did, and would like to thank those who bought some paintings and supported the arts. My appreciation goes out to all who came and participated.

Love to you all,  
Terry Corcoran

## More than thoughts & prayers

Dear Editor,

If you are a supporter of the Second Amendment or belong to the NRA and you feel that thoughts and prayers for the victims of school shootings are inadequate, here is some good news. One can believe that there is a Constitutional right for individual gun ownership and still believe in, and support, sensible gun safety regulations. Even

thoughtful conservatives make that distinction. Antonin Scalia did just that in his opinion stating that the Second Amendment does apply to individual right to bear arms, while also noting that this *does not* preclude imposition of reasonable rules and regulations for gun ownership ([www.scotusblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/07-290.pdf](http://www.scotusblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/07-290.pdf), pp. 54-55).

We should all take note of the craven response of our Congressional representatives like Scott Tipton and Sen. Cory Gardner, who take large NRA contributions (Gardner 3.9 million; Tipton \$103,000) and then make sycophantic rationales for support of reduced gun regulation. Their tired excuses amount to the circular argument that gun regulations would be ineffective because there are already so many guns out there. The fact is that there are numerous examples of states and countries that have gun regulations that have resulted in reduced gun violence, for example, Connecticut following the Sandy Hook shooting.

While we cannot prevent every tragedy, there is ample evidence that they can be reduced. The lack of a perfect solution is NOT an excuse for rejecting imperfect solutions that reduce gun violence. Besides, they haven't even tried to come up with any policy proposals that would respond to the 80-90% of Americans who support some form of gun control.

To those who believe in the romantic idea that an armed citizenry is a bulwark against government oppression, I invite you to give even one example of a successful armed citizen uprising that has succeeded in the modern era of U.S. history. In fact, the most successful uprisings, the Vietnam War resistance and the Civil Rights Movement, were largely non-violent.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Corcoran

## Wait to spray the lions

Dear Editor,

Dandelion season is almost here. Which for a vast majority of you, that means herbicide season. This year I would like to suggest that at the very least to hold off on your decimation of the dandelion. This lowly flower provides some of the best nutrition at the earliest

**Thank You**  
to all those who donated to the *Crestone Eagle*  
"Keep a small town newspaper alive" Go Fund Me campaign  
Your donations & kind words are a great blessing.

- "Our Eagle is invaluable" • "Best wishes to keep things prospering!" • "Thank you for the years and years of quality journalism and information that holds us together as a community!" • "Glad to support such a great small town paper!" •
- "We are fortunate indeed to have the high quality newspaper that we do in this community. Please encourage all who enjoy having it to continue to support it by participating in this campaign. Crestone without the Eagle would be like apple pie without the apples!" • "Keep it going folks!"
- "Keep up the good work!" • "Love the Eagle and love Crestone."
- "No one who lives in Crestone or beyond can say what this community would be without The Crestone Eagle. I urge all who know this small international village at the foot of sacred mountains to contribute some commemoration to this necessary solidarity provided by one of this nation's most unique newspapers."
- "Thank you for this important service" • "Sincerely hoping y'all can keep up the good work. Will re-post on FB for more support. xoxo" • "Yes, let's keep The Crestone Eagle alive. We need it." • "When I visit any other village the size of Crestone, I realize how fortunate we are to have this resource!" • "May all your needs be met. The Eagle is a great gift to this community and all who love her." • "Really hoping you reach your goal because we are all so grateful for the Eagle! Love to all!" • "What would we do without the Eagle? Glad to contribute." • "Long live the Eagle!"

time for honey bees. Without this crucial nectar and pollen the bees will have a very difficult time getting up to speed. They are currently making as many brood as they can, using up the majority of their stores. The dandelion gives them some fresh nutrition right when they need it. Herbicides sprayed on "weeds" like the dandelion will poison the bee as well. Not much escapes the tenacious grasp of that poison. Please, if you must spray, wait a few weeks or a month before you do to give the bees a leg up this year.

Thank you,  
Mark Burrows, Carbondale

## Notice of Liability

Dear Editor,

On Wednesday morning I was a witness to an executive session POA meeting where my fiancé, an 11-year veteran firefighter and 21-year Crestone community member, was denied mediation and restorative justice. He has requested this for over 5 years, in writing and in person, and finally was granted this executive session. What I witnessed, unfortunately, was a shocking display of dismissiveness, numerous interruptions and even guffaws during the stated requests, and a pretended (I assume) ignorance, to the meaning of the terms "impartial, trained mediator," and "restorative justice." The statement was then heard from a Board member, "Restorative Justice presumes there is a perpetrator and an injustice—this Board is not the perpetrator of these grievances" (belying the previously expressed ignorance to the term).

The initial demand—a promise for restorative justice to be offered (mediation) in writing, that very day—was rejected (there was no vote). One member of the Board did speak in a way that showed some receptivity, but the rest remained silent, or made dismissive comments throughout the session.

Therefore, my partner will be moving forward with submitting a Notice of Liability against the POA.

If anyone is interested in joining us, or who would like clarity on this matter, please feel free to contact us.

Heather D'Alessio

## Help get out the vote!

To the Editor:

In the 2016 election, our District 3 Congressional District incumbent Scott Tipton (R) defeated Gail Schwartz (D) by 15 percentage points. Ms Schwartz received 151,000 (40%) votes to Tipton's 204,000 (55%). You probably knew that. But do you know that 167,000 registered voters in our district failed to vote in that election? Do you know that 93,000 other residents that were eligible to vote hadn't registered?

Hard to believe? Well, those are the sad facts. Please don't let this happen again.

If you are tired of being "represented" by a Congressman who apparently doesn't read the legislation he votes for or even co-sponsors, who seems to support the fossil fuel and other extraction industries at the expense of our environment, and who avoids face-to-face town

**Snow!** Another thing I'm thankful for is the recent wet snow we had.

This issue of the *Eagle* we've devoted multiple pages to reporting on how serious the drought is and the very high fire danger, as well as important information on how to protect yourself or escape from wildfire.

I am hoping that cosmic humor will come into effect and we will now have a very wet spring.

But it is always good to be prepared. Please read, clip and save this valuable information. If we should have a fire emergency, the *Eagle* will endeavor to post updated news on its Facebook page and website.

Please pray, dance and wish for snow or rain.

—Kizzen

halls because his well-informed constituents don't buy into his boilerplate talking points on issues ranging from environmental protection to healthcare to public land sales, then also know this: You have more power than you may realize.

If you want to see positive change in our flailing government, help us help potential voters register online and/or where voter registration is taking place, then help us get out the vote in the San Luis Valley.

Indivisible Crestone/Baca Grande and other D3 Indivisible groups in the valley are eager to have you on board and to show you how to achieve our goal of toppling Tipton in 2018. Are you in? Then come to our first voter sign-up discussion/training meeting from 2-3:30pm on Saturday, April 7 at Sarah Hoenninger's home at 3687 Enchanted Way in Crestone. Mike-la Tarlow, a D3 board member and the most qualified GOTV specialist in our local midst, will make her presentation. We hope you'll step up to join one of our teams. RSVP to Meryl Ennis at [merylemail@gmail.com](mailto:merylemail@gmail.com) or call Sarah Hoenninger at 256-4031 for directions.

There are dozens of ways to be active in this next election and we will discuss them all. There is a path for every personality and a way to get involved that will feel comfortable for you.

Susannah Ortego

## Fracking near Dunes

To all Crestone people concerned about protecting the wild lands of our area:

Recently a public announcement has been made by the BLM to auction off a number of parcels of publicly owned land to oil and gas leasing. Yes, that means fracking, in an area immediately adjacent to the Sand Dunes National Park, on the east side of the Park in Huerfano County. Sand Dunes are about 8 miles south of Crestone. Although Huerfano County may seem far away in our minds, the Sand Dunes are not, and the hydrology of that area, if you are at all familiar with it, would be extremely sensitive to fracking fluids used in the process of gas drilling. Not to mention the impacts on the wilderness quality of our area by these operations, the issue of water and water quality is and has been a major issue in the San Luis Valley for a long time.

This opening up of these lands is of course under the auspices of a federal government that is now bent on removing all environmental restrictions on use of public lands, per the Mining Law of 1872, which to this day has not been repealed, and mostly is for the benefit of investors in the oil, gas and mining industries. Historically this law helped create lots of jobs in Colorado's mining past. Today it is oil and gas, the new gold rush. Fracking is a short term technology whose impacts have been proven to be extremely detrimental to the subsurface water it is in contact with. The revenues from mineral extraction for the most part benefit only its investors, which include our governments, with a pittance going to job creation for workers. And then of course the consumer. In the bigger

picture, we must all look at how our energy use habits, that supply the demand for these profit-motivated mining and drilling operations, affect our long-term health, quality of life and that of our children, and all other living things. The Great Sand Dunes is getting close to home here in Crestone.

If this concerns you, please take a little bit of your time to contact the Royal Gorge Field Office of the BLM. A very limited comment period is being allowed, deadline April 6, to voice your concerns. email: [blm\\_co\\_rg\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_co_rg_comments@blm.gov). This conversation is currently active in Crestonians, on Facebook.

Respectfully,  
Wade Lockhart

## Vote no and welcome to reality

Dear Editor,

Regarding the tax increase for Crestone, where is the money to go, more pretty flowers and cute parks for tourists that don't exist? Or, for expanded offices for Town offices that are only open part-time? Or, for paying "stoners" to spread salt on dry sidewalks or shovel snow 3 days after the storm?

Maybe the Town could rent that "old" Town Hall space that has been storing old junk (antiques?) for the past 10 years . . . or renting the space to the east instead of expanding office space.

I vote No!

Is the *Eagle* a newspaper or a blog? Forget the website and just print a newspaper with some relevant news, like why a tax increase and the Town meetings and who is behind the tax increase? After reading about your vacations to exotic destinations over the years, vacations *from* the beautiful mountains you extoll in your worthy newspaper, go fund yourself!

The party is over!

Sincerely

Hayduke

PS. I dare you to print this in the spirit of free speech!

## Letter reply

Dear "Hayduke",

We usually don't print anonymous letters, but I printed yours in the "spirit of free speech"—even though you didn't have the ovaries to sign it. If you had been reading the *Eagle* or talking to your elected representatives in town, you would have been able to answer many of your questions. You would know the Old Town Hall is being turned into a work and equipment shop for the Maintenance Department. That 4 staff people currently squeeze into a space for 2 at the Town Hall.

Who is deciding the ballot sales tax question? The voters.

Kinda wish I could forget about a website, but that is the direction news media is going. If you think I live an extravagant lifestyle, you sure don't know me very well.

And "Hayduke" (insert Edward Abbey eye roll here) while I appreciate broad opinions, next time you have something to say to me or want to write to *Eagle* readers, please have the decency to stand behind your words and sign your name.

—Kizzen

## Saguache County Crime Report

by Mary Lowers

As we move into spring, ripoff rumors abound. I asked Saguache County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) Deputy, Wayne Clark, about thievery in the area. He commented, "People are not calling stuff into the SCSO, so it is hard to tell if this increase is rumor or not. A big one that did get called in was that someone stole a 250-gallon propane tank. I went up and took a picture of tire prints etc, etc. I called the propane company to get the serial number of the tank and found they had picked up the tank by mistake. But the story it had been stolen was already out there."

Deputy Clark said there are no new developments in the disappearance of Khristal Resinger. In the Brandi Bishop aka Raven case, the SCSO is waiting on information. I was told that her boyfriend did kill himself a few days after Raven's body was discovered west of Saguache last month. Colorado Bureau of Investigation is working on these cases with SCSO.

A Saguache man, 55, was served with a complaint and summons to appear in court on charges of third degree sexual assault and unlawful sexual contact. The alleged incident took place at the site of the Town Market in Saguache. A Center man, 35, was jailed with a \$50,000 bond for menacing, possession of weapon by a previous offender, intimidation of a witness/victim, and violation of a restraining order.

A Center woman, 29, was jailed as a fugitive from justice with two counts of failure to appear. She had no bail amount listed. An Olathe man, 32, was put in the county jail for driving while intoxicated and criminal mischief with no bail listed. A Crestone man, 21, was jailed on fourth degree arson charges with \$500 bail.

As we enter one of the driest seasons on record, the SCSO wants to make sure we are very alert and careful around the issue of fire in our county. Keep aware of current fire rules and changes to them. Remember, a ban is not a suggestion; it means no fires, period. Check the weather remembering wildfires can travel at 14mph without wind. Do not burn weird combustible stuff. Use just wood and charcoal for fires, no fuel starters. Make sure all fires are out completely. Smoke whatever you smoke inside a building or a vehicle. Do not pull hot vehicles onto dry grass. If you see a possible fire, call it into 911. Remember the online and facebook *Eagle* can help keep us current on the fire situation.

## Escapee apprehended

by Mary Lowers

According to a Colorado State Patrol (CSP) press release, an early morning report on March 3 from a citizen about a suspicious man walking on Fourth St. in the town of Sanford led to the arrest of a fugitive. Troopers responded to the 7:38am call and were led on a chase by the suspect who fled across fields and attempted to hide in a ditch. When taken into custody without injury by troopers, the suspect was identified as Kyle Pauley, who had escaped from the Conejos County Jail a few days earlier. Lawrence Gonzales, who escaped from the jail at the same time Pauley did, is still on the loose as we go to press. CSP asks people to be on the lookout for Gonzales.

## Luxury resort planned for former Baca Inn site

*The Crestone Eagle* has recently caught wind of a high-end golf vacation resort planned by Trump Inc. It will be located at the former Inn at Baca on County Road T just west of Crestone.

The current building will be demolished and a 10-story building housing a hotel, 3 restaurants, gaming room, luxury shops, twitter room and a spa would take its place. The current 9-hole golf course will be expanded to 36 holes, taking advantage of the undeveloped land on the south side of Rd. T currently allotted to the Baca Wildlife Refuge.

"That land is not being used for anything right now; might as well use it for turning a profit," said Texas developer Bucks Overall, in charge for now of expanding the Trump empire. The Inn at Baca will be renamed "Trump Inn".

Those interested in applying for employment at minimum wages should call 041-2018 unless, of course, you think this is fake news.



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Neighbors help to suppress a brush fire in the town of Crestone on March 10. Strong winds threatened to quickly spread the fire up into a stand of cottonwood trees and dry grass. A garden hose was inadequate to put out the fire and neighbors, seeing and smelling smoke, arrived armed with shovels and were able to knock it down. The Baca and Crestone Fire Departments responded and extinguished the fire. The fire was deliberately set by a person having mental problems. He was later arrested and may face charges for arson.

## Fire potential

*continued from page 1*

Bobby Woelz, the new Director of the Office of Emergency Management, has been meeting with communities to discuss emergency preparedness, as he did in Crestone in March (see page B-9 for an interview with him). However, with the severity of the drought, the situation is quickly moving toward emergency restrictions.

The times require each of us to be present and aware at all times. Unless there are significant rains, governmental entities will increase their level of fire bans and there will be signs posted saying: "No smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or while stopped in

an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials."

But individuals must also remember not to casually throw a cigarette butt from a car, or drive onto dry grass. Homeowners and renters must create defensible space around their houses. People must have a preparedness kit with important papers and supplies at the ready, and make contingency plans with your neighbors or family. Be vigilant! Be informed and prepared.

**For more information about making these preparations, evacuation in case of fire, and evacuation routes and creating defensible space, see the special "Be Prepared!" centerfold in the B section of this edition of the *Eagle*.**

## The winter that never was Severe to extreme drought conditions persist in southern Colorado

**by Keno**

As I write this article, it's the first day of spring. But we really had no winter this year at all, did we? Well yes, it got cold and went down to zero on a night or two, but that was it, along with record low snow for the entire season, and that's what this article is about, or in other words, let's look at the current drought that we are in.

As of March 20, our entire area is officially experiencing severe to extreme drought conditions. The entire state is having issues, other than the far northern edge of the Great Plains way out east. Crestone/Baca just saw its least-ever snow fall in any winter since records have been kept, along with the least amount of snowpack both here in town and up high in our mountains where we get our drinking water. This doesn't cover the entire snow season (not yet anyway), which runs from August 1 to July 31, but at this point we are also on course to see the least amount of snow for that too, as we have only received 9.9" of snow so far in this snow season, with the all-time low record being 22.5" in the 1999-00 season (a total that is disputed and more than likely incorrect, since data is missing from that season and the amount noted is more than likely too low).

It is pretty much believed that our area has actually never seen less than 33.7" of snow in a snow season (in 2005-06). Regardless what

the true record might be, we are on course to smash the official record if things hold up. It could take just one big spring storm to change all of that, but as of this writing no such storm is anywhere on the horizon.

No question, even if we do see a late season snowstorm in the next month or so, we are already in big trouble as far as our drinking water goes for next summer, since any heavy snows that fall from this point on will melt fast; as it's very hard to build up a new snowpack at the close of the snow season, since the sun melts snow very fast this time of year. It's the old snowpack that fell in the fall and early winter that takes the longest time to melt, and we've got little of that left at this time. The snowpack has been slim the entire season, with this past January and February seeing the all-time lowest levels for our mountains at only 32% of normal. That did improve some, to around 55% of normal in the first week of March, yet that reading is still at record low levels. So while a big spring snowfall would be appreciated and welcomed, it won't help with most likely dry wells, come this summer. The only hope to change that would be a very wet spring and summer.

In early March, our mountains above the tree line looked as they should in late May and early June. The snowpack was already that low by then.

Please support the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram On-Line Fundraising Auction

**Friday, April 20 - Sunday, April 29**  
[www.biddingforgood.com/babaiashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babaiashram)

*Bid on: Massages, Adjustments, Art, Energy Work, Health Care, Consultations, Hot Springs, Services, B&B's, Food, Sacred Items from Babaji, Divine Mother & India, Jewelry, Surfing Lessons, JD Marston Fine Prints, 9 Nights at Kamalaya in Koh Samui Thailand, LA Lakers Signed Basketball*

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# Saguache County News

## by Sandia Belgrade County issues formal statement on marijuana

The Commissioners, the Sheriff's Department and the Land Use Office have issued a joint statement on marijuana: "As representatives of the people we defend personal freedom and choice but with greater freedoms comes greater responsibility. The legalization of cannabis in our state and county, as well as hemp, brings benefits to our valley and people. The new industry brings the possibility of jobs and income to an area that has struggled with poverty, and we have seen the potential of Cannabis for medical purposes. But it has also brought environmental degradation, illegal water consumption, blight and land use violations and a strong public outcry. We have seen stark changes to our landscape and population. If you are growing, possessing or using within guidelines we support you. For illegal activities that operate outside the state structure there is no place for you; your activities threaten families, community, land, and the freedoms we hold sacred."

"The County will hire a full-time Code Enforcement Officer operating under the Sheriff's department in partnership with both the Commissioners and Land Use office. We will also hire a Code Enforcement Administrator to compile data, manage complaints, and assure a systematic enforcement of illegal cannabis activities in the county. These positions, funded by the excise tax, will not be limited to illegal cannabis. Sanitation, building permits, and other land code enforcement will also be addressed through these positions. The County will propose the adoption of State regulations that cap residential property plant counts at 12 plants, and 24 plants for medical license holders and caregivers. State statistics show that these numbers address the needs of 85% of medical license holders. On those rare occasions when a higher plant count is necessary, we will propose a process for those individuals."

The new State regulations also allow for fines of \$1000 for convictions of first illegal cannabis offenses and increases from there. State regulations are no longer adequate to address the land use situations here brought about by the growth of the legal cannabis

industry. We will continue to review the county's existing regulations to adapt to the changing cannabis landscape and the will of our residents. At this time Saguache County would like to call upon our partner municipalities and property organizations to join us in the support of our citizens, their freedoms, the land, and our chosen way of life."

### County fee schedule

As part of the changes affecting marijuana, the Land Use Department, upon review, has changed the County fee schedule. It now reflects the additional time it takes for staff to review all applications for any type of Conditional Use Permit (CUP) including going out in the field, investigating and preparing paper work. A CUP for marijuana use is now \$5,000. When asked if that is a deterrent to residents trying to be legal, Wendi Maez replied that most applicants remark on how low that is compared to other counties in the state. A list of the entire fee schedule is posted online.

### San Luis Valley transit study

In western Saguache County, a corridor which includes 285, the Gunbarrel highway, and highway 160 there is currently no transit service. There are plans in the works to change that. As a first step, six government bodies are undertaking a CDOT rural transit study. Barry Van Sant, President of the Saguache Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to encourage them to sign a memorandum of agreement with the other communities that would be served: Del Norte, Monte Vista, Center, Villa Grove and Salida. The figures amount to a maximum of \$40,000, and a 20% match split 6 ways would come to about a \$1300 contribution from our county. The study would provide the data needed to assesses and quantify the need for a fulltime transit service, including traffic flow and route usage to determine if bus service is needed. Another value is to give visibility to the needs of this part of the state in the belief that linking the rural areas of the state will provide a vital service for those who need or want the amenities that larger communities provide. Chaffee County will be the fiscal agent and submit the planning grant.

### Rate increases approved for Sheriff's Department

The BOCC approved a salary rate change for employees at the Sheriff's Department as required by state statute. As part of his proposal Sheriff Dan Warwick presented a monthly pay scale that

reflected the changes needed to be made for hourly rate increases. This was not a blanket rate of pay increase; some went up 7%, some 4%, depending on the criteria for each of the personnel. While there was some back and forth between the Board and Warwick, the money was already there and within his budget so a budget amendment was not necessary. Sheriff Warwick rearranged and adjusted his budget to be efficient and meet the needs of his employees and after some discussion the raises were approved.

### Providing care to inmates

Warwick said the jail is housing 16 inmates. The department will seek to get electric locks on doors which will improve safety. Warwick will also get bids from local contractors to build a recreational space that is safer both for inmates and residents. Valley Wide Health Systems refuses to see this population, and the Sheriff is looking into working on a cooperative agreement with other counties for nursing costs. Rio Grande County is moving forward with that and has graciously asked us to join. They will work together to bring in a certified nurse for the jail to provide care and required services for inmates at a lower cost.

### Patrol officer for Town of Saguache

Attorney Ben Gibbons has reviewed the contract for law enforcement services for the Town of Saguache. It is similar to the previous contract. Iris Garcia, the Town Clerk representing the Town of Saguache, said they have a sales tax used to pay for police enforcement. The Town has agreed to pay \$4100/month for the cost of the officer. They are also providing the vehicle. Garcia said the Town needs regular patrolling. The BOCC moved to accept the contract for police services.

### Employee's pay adjustment for Road & Bridge

Ken Anderson urged the Commissioners to move since they have been talking about a pay adjustment for a while. Tim Lovato recused himself from voting because his brother works at Road and Bridge. Jason Anderson commented on the pattern of the County which hasn't been able to staff people or be competitive with other counties. The increase will be retroactive to the March payroll.

### One retail cultivator meets criteria . . .

George G. Jackson presented his proposal for retail marijuana cultivation at a site located off of County Road U near Villa Grove. This is a county road but the county does not maintain it. The Planning Commission recommended the proposal which came in before the moratorium became effective.

They have water accessibility and will obtain water from a provider. The nearest neighbor is a mile to east.

### ... another does not

Andreas & Karen Pleschutznig, landowner applicants for "A Growing Concern," a commercial marijuana grow on Road T, faced scrutiny. The Planning Commission denied them because the improper fence allowed visibility from the road and because it was only a few hundred feet away from a bus stop. The term "designated bus stop" was a point of contention. The applicant had paid an attorney to research the area but he did not discover it was a bus stop. A mother walks a preschooler there, so clearly it is a bus stop. In a rural area such as ours a designated bus stop is proven through usage and history. Given the bus stop, the impact on children and neighbors, and the fence, the Commissioners denied the application.

### The Eastern Trails coalition has acquired 100,000 acres

The owner offering this land requested that a conservation easement be available for public use and groups such as the Eastern Trails Coalition. What is significant about obtaining a resolution for this open space is that it prevents commercial development of this riparian area that flows into south Crestone Creek. Funds will come to the County first. Fish and Wildlife will manage the usage and safety of the area which will give people access to both the trail system and the refuge. Jason Anderson noted it could bring more people to the area and help economically.

### County looking at finance position

As was reported last month Lyn Lambert has retired after 32 years with the County. Her departure leaves a significant void to be filled. There is no replacement yet because the Commissioners are using this transition time as an opportunity to decide whether to hire a chief financial officer or find a person who would serve as a co-administrator. They will be reviewing the overall administrative structure.

### In other news

Duane and Mary Beth Netz requested support of their proposal to have storage units off Road 58EE. The units will specialize in RV storage and offer 20' x 50' units. The BOCC approved their application.

Dorraine Gasseling was named by the BOCC to be a new member of the Board of Trustees of the Northern Saguache County Library District. Gasseling, who lives in the Baca and has served as the director of the Saguache County Museum, will complete Megan Riley's term until Dec 31.

Kirsten Schreiber, vice chair of Crestone Peak Community Senior Housing, sent a letter requesting support of their application for their Enterprise Zone status. The Board moved to approve.

I'd like to thank Matie Belle Lakish for stepping in and writing the County news last month. She did a wonderful job and assured that our readers didn't miss a beat when it came to knowing what's happening in our part of the world.

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# Town of **CRESTONE** News

## March 12 Board of Trustees meeting

The meeting began at 9:31am and adjourned at 6:25pm, and the Trustees passed the following motions:

- To approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting on February 12, 2018.

- To approve the minutes of the special Board meeting on March 5, 2018.

- To adopt Resolution #005-2018 to amend the fee schedule.

- To approve paying the bills and the financial report as presented by the Treasurer.

- To move into an executive session at 4:55pm for the purpose of receiving legal advice as per CRS 24-6-402(4)(b).

- To close the executive session at 5:33pm

- To approve signing the DOLA contract for \$600,000 for Phase II of the PPNP- Downtown Development Project.

• To apply for a Council of Governments Grant (COG) in the amount of \$8750.00 if the Town received a Conservation Trust Fund Grant (administered through Saguache County) that could be used as a match to the COG and to pay labor costs for remodeling the Old Town Hall building into the Public Works Department workshop. The vote of the Trustees present was unanimously in favor, and Mayor Danforth declared.

• To pay Board members their approved monthly stipend even when they are absent during part of the Board meeting, as long as their absences are considered to be a reasonable amount of time.

• To move forward on the construction plans for Phase II of the downtown project with attention to maximize the corners so that inside corner turning radii would meet the minimum rear drag wheel turning radius (32' on intersections) with no parking near corners, and Burt Wadman confirmed that he would do so.

• To hire Nicolas Navares and Mary Lowers as part-time contract Code Enforcers to work with Benjamin Byer pending satisfactory background checks. The vote of the Trustees present was unanimously in favor, with the exception of Trustee Byer, who recused him-

self due to a conflict of interest.

- To possibly increase the fire ban to Stage 2 danger level.
- To adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm.

### Citizen's comments

Town resident Fred Bauder commented on the absence of an "independent critical voice" to report on Town business. He also stated that residential districts were adversely impacted by commercial parking requirements that had been changed in the past.

Town resident Lonny Roth stated that he approved of Burt Wadman's design for Phase II of the downtown development pertaining to the corner of W. Golden Ave. and S. Cottonwood Street near his business.

### Reports & discussions

Treasurer Gwynn Busby presented her detailed financial report. The Trustees discussed several items with the Treasurer including:

- The previous month's sales tax revenue collected that was \$16,822.

- During the first quarter of 2018 Town expenses were within budget.

- A Conservation Trust Fund grant could possibly be used as the match for the Council of Governments grant to remodel the Old Town Hall (OTH).

- The importance of keeping OTH exterior consistent with historic character.

Mayor Kairina Danforth reported on appointing Benjamin Byer to fill a regular vacant Planning Commission position in May when he will no longer be a Board member. She also reported on a recent meeting with three members of the Northern Saguache County Library District, and their interest to work on the Tract 1 development plan that would include a prospective library site.

Clerk Allyson Ransom reported on suggestions for the Fourth of July event, and Trustees confirmed that the celebration will continue in its traditional manner with a parade and activities in the park; Mayor Danforth planned to speak to Mr. Martino about fundraising and organizing again for the Town; complaints to Town Hall staff regarding aggressive dogs running



Crestone Charter School students stage a walk out protest in Crestone in solidarity with other school walk outs taking place nationwide to bring awareness to the national problem of school shootings.  
photo by Roy Gould

around town and people questioning why owners go un-ticketed. Also discussed were the election preparations including 120 ballots that were printed and mailed out.

Trustee Kinney reported that the first "Hear to Listen" session held on March 5 at the Cloud Station was successful with various residents coming to talk about loose dogs, fire dangers, dust issues with construction vehicles and illegal camping in town parks.

Due to the large number of complaints about aggressive dogs and dogs running loose, please be advised that to protect the safety of our community, dog owners will now be ticketed under the nuisance code.

Code enforcers can also take down license plate numbers to give to the County Sheriff's department for drivers speeding and running stop signs.

For those with Bed and Breakfast businesses, the amended Town fee schedule now includes a \$150 B&B application fee that will be sent out with business licenses in May.

Trustees discussed the possibility of working towards changing Crestone's status from a statutory to home rule town, and the State statute does not allow people who live outside of the Town limits to run for elected positions whatever the Town's status may be.

### Other information

Fire safety and prevention packets were recently sent out with the fire protection bills to all landowners in the Town limits. A long-term project to update property owner information was recently completed, so any property owners who may not have received a bill in past years will begin receiving an annual bill that is due in April. The fees collected maintain a 15-hydrant system and pumps to provide water pressure. Even if your residence is not served by the Town water system, the hydrants and pressurized water are available nearby to protect your property and your neighbors. We have coordinated with the Fire Department so that they can enter our hydrant locations into their GPS system to provide you with the most efficient service in the event of an emergency. Please know that it is a Town priority to provide excellent water service in case of a fire emergency.

The Town of Crestone's Regular Municipal Election will be held

on Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

Ballots were mailed on March 12, and voters may return their completed and sealed ballots by mail or as walk-ins during regular office hours in our secure ballot box. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-2pm.

All ballots must be received by the election official by 7pm on April 3, and on Election Day the office will be open from 7am-7pm as per state statute.

Please be advised that Town staff may not accept ballots in the water payment drop box, shoved under the office door, or handed to staff to carry back to Town Hall.

• Hear to Listen: Trustees are available to speak with constituents every first Monday of the month from 10am-noon at the Cloud Station, 222 S. Cottonwood Street.

• Board of Trustee meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 9:30am in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 108 W. Galena Ave. Contact the Town Clerk at least one week in advance to be placed on the agenda. Presentations are limited to ten minutes.

• Planning Commission meetings are held in the Town Hall Meeting Room the first Monday of each month at 5pm.

• Agendas and public notices are posted in the following public locations: locked bulletin boards outside of Town Hall and inside the Post Office lobby and on the Town of Crestone website at [townofcrestone.org](http://townofcrestone.org). and *The Crestone Eagle's* online calendar.

• If you would like to receive agendas and meeting minutes, please join our listserv by contacting Town Hall 719-256-4313 with your information.

• A Certified Notary Public is available during regular office hours; the cost is \$5 per signature being verified as per Colorado Secretary of State guidelines.

• Free brush pick-up for Town residents takes place the first Monday of each month. Call Town Hall to schedule a pick up and leave your weeds and brush piles next to the road.

• For disposal of trash, old appliances, batteries, lumber scraps or recyclables, contact the Saguache County landfill and recycling center at 719-221-1956.

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## Plans for new POA website move forward

**by John Rowe**

The regularly scheduled POA meeting for March was held at 10am on March 20 in the POA Meeting Hall. This is a different day and time than originally scheduled, so please check with the POA office for the latest scheduling of next month's meeting. The Board intends to try to have future meetings at 10am, usually on the third Thursday of every month. All four Board members were present as were about fifteen audience members.

There was considerable commentary in Member Forum on a variety of topics. The POA office is busy and understaffed with the departure of Kristin Eglund and that has delayed the hiring of a new communications liaison, but this hire is definitely in progress. A concerned homeowner worries that all the unmitigated empty lots make the rising fire danger much worse and would like the Board to try and address this. The Board agreed but is at a loss on how to get the thousands of mostly absentee owners to do this. However, they vowed to pay attention to the issue. Another member stated that with so many talented artists in our community, the Board should be more closely allied with the Crestone Creative District, starting with attending their Board meetings. The Board encouraged another member help to consolidate, update, and streamline POA Design Guidelines and submit his offering to the Board.

Two other members representing Crestone Baca Resil-

iency (CBR) gave a thorough and thoughtful presentation on preparedness and how to proceed in case of fires in the upcoming fire season, bound to be the driest in many years. They included much more mitigation, evacuation route signs, increased sirens, well distributed handouts detailing best fire-wise practices, fully funded POA greenbelt mitigation and a special assessment fee for unmitigated lots and perhaps monetary incentives for those who do mitigate their property.

Joy Hill and Mark Repp put their names forward to fill the vacant fifth Board seat. A vote was taken among the Board members and Mark Repp will be the new Board Director, his tenure to last until this November when the membership will vote on a Director to fill a three-year term. Joanna Theriault's and Matie Belle Lakish's seats will be open this November as well.

Mark Talbot gave a presentation on membership needs for a new website. Only 35 out of 1000 surveys sent out to POA membership were returned so member wants and needs are still largely unknown. Mark recommends a new website that can be added onto in future years as membership desires become apparent. He is certain this can be done for under \$10,000 and can include more community interaction with the POA, a way to pay various dues and fees easily, and perhaps even something like classified ads and advertising services.



*The Baca Fire Department responded to a camper on fire at a residence in the Baca Grants March 12.*  
photo by Janet Woodman

Ben Weeks, Baca member and homeowner/builder, gave a thoughtful and measured presentation on how he feels POA policy could better help owner/builders finish their homes more quickly and keep neater homesites. He thinks more thought along the lines of helping builders and less punitive measures could produce better results and dramatically increase good will in the community. Two recommendations would be to allow builders to apply for electrical and plumbing permits as they need them so as to avoid having to pay \$600 for new permits as they expire in 18 months of issue, a timeframe most owner/builders don't finish within. Another would be to eliminate extension fees that can exceed several hundred dollars and make it more difficult for home builders to finish more quickly as

many of the do-it-yourselfers are already financially strapped and just end up with less money for building.

The public portion of the meeting ended at 11:45am and the Board went into private session where many issues were expected to be addressed.



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# Oil & gas leasing

*continued from page 1*

northern half sold to the Navajo Nation, who negotiated a direct site connection to Mt. Blanca, which they consider a sacred mountain and cultural legacy. The southern half of the ranch was sold to David and Crystal Watts, who recently promoted a high-development, high-end dude ranch and hunting grounds to the town of Gardner community, touting a \$40 million project investment.

David and Crystal Watts are also energy development investors. Their associated companies are Upland Explorations, based out of Houston, Texas, where David Watts is president, and Mbogo Energy, which has active leases in Weld County. It is unclear what their association with Reagan Resources is, which is in business to "negotiate and manage the best lease strategy for your prospect" (from their website [www.reaganresources.com](http://www.reaganresources.com)).

The San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council (SLVEC) and many other organizations and members of the public have concerns about these nominated parcels for leasing. If the BLM RGFO decides to move forward, it will release the parcels for lease sale in September of 2018.

The first public comment deadline to the BLM RGFO is coming right up, Friday, April 6, 2018. Address your letter to:

Royal Gorge Field Office  
Attn: September 2018 Lease  
Sale  
3028 E. Main St.  
Canon City, CO 81212  
via email: [blm\\_co\\_rg\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_co_rg_comments@blm.gov)

Some of SLVEC's major concerns are as follows:

Water/Proximity of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve

SLVEC will be requesting that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hydro/geologic study of the area be conducted.

The unique geology of vertical dikes throughout Huerfano County can act as transmission zones for water and fracking fluids alike. These dikes are known to be present within the proposed leasing area; it will be requested that a further detailed study be conducted in the form of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS must contain a hydro/geologic analysis of the proposed area and the 2018 lease sale must be withdrawn until a further understanding of the complex hydro/geologic system contained within the potential lease sale area is understood. Water is a far more precious resource within the Headwaters State (the source of a number of major rivers) of Colorado than potential oil and gas.

Also, because of the proximity of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, for which additional lands were purchased for \$33 million in 2004 on behalf of the American public to enlarge the previous monument to create the Park and Preserve; and so that the precious resources identified at the time, and investment surrounding the Park, should receive the utmost consideration on behalf of future generations to experience the same pristine landscape that is available today; for humans, flora and fauna; SLVEC will request an immediate withdrawal of these recommended parcels.

For more information regarding concerns and joining our mailing list, please go to our website: [www.slvec.org](http://www.slvec.org). SLVEC office phone is 719-589-1518.



Hanne Strong, the native grandmothers and others met the morning of March 15 to pray on the land that may soon be developed into a Solar Village by the native grandmothers.

photo by Lori Nagel

## Blue Stone Pueblo Adobe and solar native village

*by Mary Lowers*

On March 15, I joined Grandmother Vivian Delgado and a circle of community members to pray and set up a tent on the proposed site of the adobe and solar native village, near the western boundary of the Baca Grande close by the sadly dry swimming hole. Vivian, who is Dr. Vivian Delgado, a pioneer in Indigenous Studies on the faculty of Bemidji State University in MN, returned to Crestone for the second time to create space for the native village. In prayer the name of the village came to Vivian the night before we gathered on the llano, cactus and rabbit brush plains. "The village will be called Blue Stone Pueblo." Using aspects of a plan local architect Michael Bertin drew up by request of the Manitou Foundation years ago for the Blue Stone Pueblo site, the dwellings will be simple adobe structures and the pueblo will be off-grid and self-sufficient. It will be a real working community within our community, housing families getting back in touch with their roots and their ancestral piece of the planet.

Vivian is of Tewa and Yaqui heritage and is a part of several NM land grants. Her ancestors were among the very first native peoples to call this valley home. She told us, as we stood in prayer after she called in blessings from the four directions, "we are the ones who communicate with the land. No one knows more about this land than the native people." Blue Stone Pueblo will bring native families to live again on this land, returning a vital piece to our extended Crestone Baca Community. The project is in its infancy but Blue Stone Pueblo is coming to stay.

**"We have not inherited the land  
from our fathers, we have borrowed it  
from our children."**

- Dennis J. Hall,  
Michigan Office of Land Use 1975

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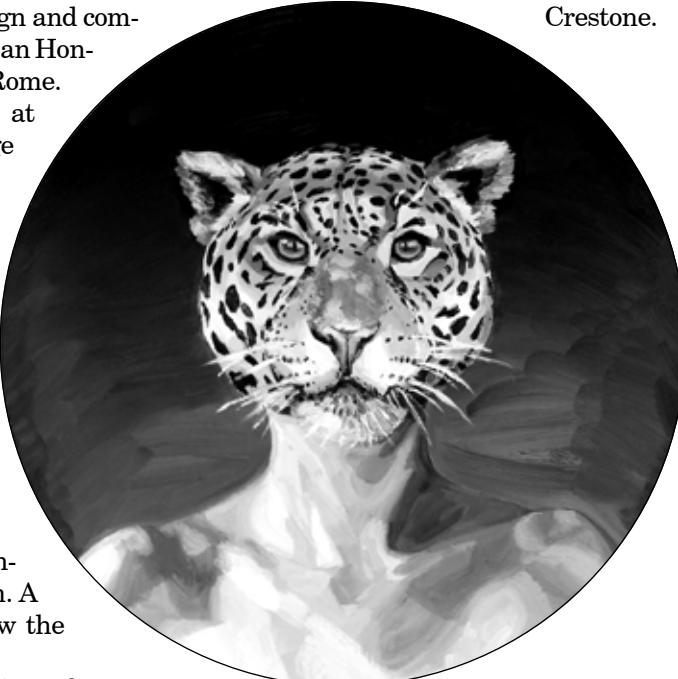
## Blue Starseed: Shumei's April featured artist

### Symposium April 15

Born 1979 into a family of artists, Blue Starseed (Meredith Rose) grew up in Philadelphia and a remote island in Maine. She received her BFA in Painting from Rhode Island School of Design and completed their European Honors Program in Rome. She also studied at Edinburgh College of Art, Scotland. Sensuality, truth, and outer space influence Blue Starseed's figurative paintings. Shumei will host Blue Starseed for the entire month of April. A symposium with the artist will be held on Sunday April 15, 3-5pm. A reception will follow the presentation.

The expressive figures that Blue Starseed creates are painted from live models and incorporated into the natural world. Her recent work portrays humans in the cosmos or floating in clouds. She paints on hemp linen for environmental reasons. She also creates charcoal figure drawings that are high contrast and sharp in execution. In an ongoing series of art videos, she performs paintings in extreme environments internationally to redefine what a

"solo exhibition" truly is. Besides outdoors, she has exhibited in galleries in New Mexico, Colorado, and the Centro Cultural, Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, Mexico. Blue Starseed currently lives in Crestone.



*"Cat Human"* by Blue Starseed.

Meet with the artist and learn more about her work on Sunday April 15, 3-5pm. This event is free to the public. Please visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 256-5284 for more information. The Shumei gallery is open every day 9 to 5pm.

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Geneva Hollyer begins the Earth Tribe Playgroup.

## Earth Tribe Studio grand opening April 2

"Earth Tribe Studio will be opening up this spring, as a place for the community to engage in health promoting practices of all kinds. The studio will be run by Geneva Hollyer and her mother, Carolyn Parsons. A big motivation for holding this space for the community is to offer a place for people to commune in a healthy way, and to strengthen our community bonds, while learning new things. Currently we are offering Yoga, Capoeira, Children's Dance, and a children's playgroup. The playgroup will be centered around creative play, gardening, art and music.

We are always open to hearing from new teachers to consider offering new things. The studio will also be available to rent for healing arts practitioners, workshops, etc. Our schedule at the moment is:

**Mon-Thurs, Earth Tribe Playgroup** 9:30-3:30  
**Monday, Children's Dance** 3:45-5pm, ages 5+  
**Friday, Vinyasa Yoga** 8:30-9:30am  
**Friday, Capoeira** 9:30-10:30

Please feel free to stop by during our grand opening party Monday April 2 from 4pm on. Geneva will be doing a slide show of her pictures from a recent trip to Ireland. This gathering will be a potluck and please feel free to bring a musical instrument as well. Please bring your wonderful self by, and help us activate our new community space!

The studio is located at the corner of Golden and Birch as you come into Crestone.



# The 'Gift Horse' shop opens in downtown Crestone

by Lori Nagel

There's a new shop in town, and the gals who run it don't mess around! Kimberlee Best and her daughter, Madelyn Davis have made their dream a reality and brought Crestone a truly unique shopping experience. Don't want to spend a ton of money but want to get a nice gift for your friend? They have that. Want to buy a really fancy, top dollar outfit with all the accessories? They have that, too. The selection is outstanding, and features the work of many local artists.

"Gift horse started out really small," Madelyn said. "We just wanted to offer a few amenities to people who were checking in late

and wanted snacks, a toothbrush or something for the hot springs." Then the demand started to rise, with guests asking where they could get socks or a pair of sweatpants, so they started stocking more and more things. "Then," she said, "it got really fun, and we were so excited to be picking out specific things for specific people in the community that we knew they'd like. It's really thrilling to see the excitement on community members' faces when they see different items, and it's heartwarming when they purchase it, knowing they're taking it home and are going to love it."

So what all is in this fantastic shop? They have a wide range of clothes (some of it even local) from one rack of gently used men's, women's and children's clothing to very fine pencil skirts and outdoor wear for men, to underwear and socks for everyone. They also offer locally made jewelry, paintings, photography, blankets, booties, hats, scarves, aprons, T-shirts, sweaters, painted glass bottles and homemade soaps—all locally made! They also have bobble heads, journals, tarot cards, prayer flags of many different faiths—and they are very proud of the fact that they have Catholic prayer flags in there as well as Tibetan. "We wanted to hold something for everyone," said Kimberlee. "We wanted to



Kimberlee Best and her daughter Madelyn look forward to welcoming you to their new retail shop, Gift Horse, at the Crestone Inn.  
photo by Lori Nagel

have something for every type of shopper." And it looks like they've done just that.

They plan to be changing out inventory rapidly, always having a sale rack and bringing new things in. They'll post everything on their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/clothingandgiftsinCrestone](http://www.facebook.com/clothingandgiftsinCrestone)), so if you like their page you can see

what's just come in and what's on its way out. Coming soon: Patagonia products, hemp clothing, more wool products, and their spring and summer line. So you know what that means. All the winter stuff—boots, jackets, gloves—should be on sale by the time you read this article, so you can stock up for next season!

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Claudia Stover from Growing Spaces explains products to patrons at the Chaffee Home & Garden show at the Chaffee County Fairgrounds.

## Chaffee Home & Garden Show in Salida April 28-29

Coming Up! On April 28-29 a really fun-filled home and garden show with opportunities for learning about gardening at our altitude and climate; for eating some great food at the food trucks; for exploring new ideas for improving and maintaining your home and garden. Many of our favorite vendors are returning and about a third of the vendors are exciting and new, attracted to the show by our 5-year reputation. There will be 84 display booths from Chaffee and surrounding counties, some travelling from other states, and some national companies.

The Salida Sunrise Rotary has conducted this event for five years, and we are as excited about this upcoming 6th show as we were with our first—they just seem to get better each year! All proceeds go into the 501(c)3 Salida Sunrise

Charitable Fund from which small grants and scholarships are awarded locally, and we participate in international sustainable Rotary projects.

Magnificently, overnight, the show transforms 16,000+ square feet of the Chaffee County Fairgrounds' two largest buildings and outside space into a marketplace full of garden and home improvement ideas. There are free educational seminars on Saturday starting at 10am and continuing hourly until 5pm. Show hours are 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday. Admission is \$3 for those over 12. Children are free. Put this event on your calendar now! Show details may be obtained on our website, [chaffeehomeandgarden.com](http://chaffeehomeandgarden.com), or look for one of our *Mountain Mail* inserts available after April 19. We are also on Facebook.

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## News from the Crestone Creative District

In this new year, the CCD has expanded its Board and has developed a new platform for applying for assistance. CCD is happy to be providing support to local individuals and groups. Our newest exciting news is that we are obtaining general liability insurance so that organizations and individuals can apply and use CCD's insurance for their events. But we won't be stopping there. Keep your ear to the ground, as we have big plans for this year to come. So far the CCD has sponsored the second showing in the Local Artist's Film Series: a film by Sharron Rose and Jay Weidner at the Colorado College and the great local Poetry Festival put together by Peter Anderson.

As you know, members of CCD represent a diverse group of creatives with a range of artists, artisans, writers, dancers, performers, cooks, seekers, spiritual communities and institutions, entrepreneurs and a variety of local businesses. For \$39 a year each individual member will continue to enjoy a dedicated

full page on the CCD website, with high-resolution images of their work, their website address and social media links, as well as an eCommerce platform through SaatchiArt.com to market and sell their work. Business and corporate membership levels are at \$150 and \$250 per year. Please visit [CrestoneCreativeDistrict.xyz/join](http://CrestoneCreativeDistrict.xyz/join) where you can sign up for a monthly payment to renew your membership or send in a check to Crestone Creative District, PO Box 1333, Crestone, CO 81131, or you can drop a check with Elaine at the Crestone Mercantile.

Please mark this date: April 25 at 5:30pm at Bob's Diner in Crestone, you can join us for our membership drive, where the Crestone Creative District Board can share the new Request for Proposal (RFP) form and also reasons to join or renew your membership, or visit [www.crestonecreativedistrict.xyz/rfp](http://crestonecreativedistrict.xyz/rfp).

Thank you for considering to continue your support. The CCD board looks forward to seeing you in April.

### Crestone End of Life Project

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

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

[www.informedfinalchoices.org](http://www.informedfinalchoices.org) • 719.588.7415 or 719.256.4644 • [ceolp.info@gmail.com](mailto:ceolp.info@gmail.com)

**"What's in the way IS the Way."**

**-Mary O'Malley**

Monthly open meeting **Wednesday, April 11**, at 7pm, at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd Church, Crestone. Call 719.588.7415 for information/directions.



**April 28-29**

**Saturday, 9-5 • Sunday, 10-4  
Chaffee County Fairgrounds**

**Admission \$3**

(Kids under 12 FREE)

89 Booths

Food Vendors

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**Saturday & Sunday Speakers Will Include:**

- ⇒ Beekeeping in the Upper Arkansas Valley
- ⇒ Gardening in Low Moisture Years
- ⇒ Solar Living & Working
- ⇒ Geo Dome Gardening
- ⇒ The Latest in Cooking Gadgets
- ⇒ And More!



A project of the Salida Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund, Inc.  
Proceeds fund college scholarships and community grants to non-profit organizations.

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

## Crestone Artisans Gallery Artist of the Month, Robert Long

Bob has been working in stone since the early 90s after he moved to Boulder from Nashville. Music wasn't bringing money in but people immediately began paying for the pipes he was carving. This led to larger sculptures and eventually jewelry.

He works with a wide variety of stone, which includes marble, alabaster, jade, lapis lazuli, petrified wood and so on. His inspiration for abstract sculptures comes from the natural beauty of nature.

After showing in galleries and shows around the Boulder and Denver area he moved to Moffat and has shown in Creede, Alamosa, Saguache, Salida and currently here in Crestone, where his Crestone conglomerate heart pendants are very popular.



Robert Long, Crestone Artisans Gallery Artist of the Month.

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On March 6 members of the Crestone/Baca Resiliency Energy Action Group took a tour of SLVREC's new Penitente photovoltaic installation with Loren Howard, CEO of SLVREC. Left to right, Kathryn Lorenz, Lee Temple, Loren Howard, and Vince Palermo, and Claire Barker of the SLV Ecosystem Council.

## Crestone/Baca Resiliency Energy Group visits photovoltaic site

In early March Kathryn Lorenz, Janet Woodman, Vince Palermo, and Lee Temple of Crestone/Baca Resiliency and Claire Barker of the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council toured the Penitente Solar Project site with San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative (SLVREC) CEO Loren Howard. It was a very interesting visit. Howard appears pragmatic and not opposed to renewable energy.

### Among the things the group learned

\* Only one transmission line brings all power into the valley, over Poncha Pass.

\* SLVREC has to use all the power generated at Penitente Solar—it cannot be back-fed through Tri-State (the major electricity supplier to SLVREC) wires.

\* Electric use in the valley

is the opposite of use in cities and towns, in that most of the power here is used at night, for irrigation, rather than during the day.

\* Penitente Solar generates 2.7 MW.

\* According to SLVREC's agreement with Tri-State, there is a percentage cap (roughly 5%) of the total amount of power SLVREC generates that can come from renewables. At this point, along with Penitente Solar, only an additional 1 MW could be generated through renewables (for example, in future solar projects in the valley.)

\* The system came online in July 2017, and while Loren said he is pleased with the results, it is too soon to know whether SLVREC would be interested in another photovoltaic project, perhaps in the north end of the valley.



[crestonebacaresiliency.net](http://crestonebacaresiliency.net)

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”

- Audrey Hepburn

## Firedworks Gallery

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The Veggie Tower  
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## Sun Studio exhibition with Jennifer Thomson

On Sunday, April 8 from 2 to 4pm, Jennifer Thomson's Sun Studio will be open to the public. The first hour there will be observation exercises on color after images, light and dark drawing studying composition to stimulate our eyes.

The second hour will be viewing Jennifer's paintings, including a color demo on how she works. Come for all or just some! Refreshment too! 937-7694 for directions.

### Jennifer Thomson: A balance of soul through art

Growing up in rural Tennessee, I spent most of my time in nature, wandering through woods and fields. I knew at a young age that art was my path. I studied at various art schools, and took up painting. One of my teachers introduced his students to anthro-

posophy and awakened us to sense the living, breathing inwardness and depth in all true art. To see and experience life and art spiritually became my path from then on. It eventually led me to Switzerland to study with Beppe Assenza, master artist of color. After 4 years I came back to the states near Hudson, New York to lead a painting training for adults. From there I traveled to Denver.

Life changes led me to Crestone, a town filled with a wide spectrum of spiritual seekers. In Crestone, I give two August Art Retreats. Finally, I have written a book for artists, *An Artist's Workbook*. My approach to teaching as well as my own art is an inner search for truth and balance of soul through art.



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#### Pagosa Springs Office

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# BROAD BRUSH

by Paula Hudson

This article is an experiment. Frequently one art group is somewhat disconnected from others in the area. So, what if we collect art news and present it here under the title "Broad Brush"? That will require you to help collect the information. So, send me your creative activities announcements. My e-mail is [hudsonbonasso@comcast.net](mailto:hudsonbonasso@comcast.net).

### Present & Creative

Hester Triplett and I have opened a small art-supply store in the Sangre De Cristo Inn in Crestone (come inside at the end of the hall). The goal is to provide a source of art supplies that is readily available and reasonably priced. We are also offering classes for adults and children during the spring and summer. Stay tuned.

### Crestone Creative District Membership Drive, Wednes-

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- Now offering:
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day April 25, 5:30pm, at Bob's Diner. Membership is \$39 annually or \$3.90 per month for individuals and business and supporting memberships as well. There will be a drawing for a free print by Paula Hudson, donated by Present and Creative, so come and sign-up.

CCD is a part of a state-wide initiative to support the arts and enhance economic viability in rural areas. Two projects that have already been supported this year: screening of the Sharron Rose film, *The Last Avatar* at Colorado College and the Crestone Poetry Festival.

### The Crestone Artisans Gallery

The Gallery is welcoming a new artist, Dome Betz; you really need to see her paintings.

Crestone Artists present their artist for the Studio of the Month, Jennifer Thomson. The reception will be April 8, 2pm to 4pm. For more information go to [crestoneartists.com](http://crestoneartists.com).

### Shumei International Institute

Blue Starseed is Shumei's featured artist for the month of April: Art Symposium April 15 from 3pm to 5pm. This event is free to the public. Please visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 256-5284 for more information. The Shumei gallery is open every day, 9am to 5pm.

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# HAPS

## **EarthKnack's annual all-Community Easter Potluck & Egg Hunt April 1**

Sunday April 1 at 1pm EarthKnack is hosting their annual Easter potluck and egg hunt. ([www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com) for directions) Bring:

- something to hide for the kids
- your dishes
- potluck dish to share
- instruments
- warm clothes



Kemba Banks put on a powerful performance, with her husband, Jack on the sound board and their 2 children on stage for moral support (all together, Kemba & Co.) at the annual Cabin Fever show March 10 at the Crestone Charter school.

photo by Lori Nagel



The annual Cabin Fever event on March 10 at the Charter School went off without a hitch, thanks to the lovely volunteers who made it all happen! Front row, L to R: Pamela Rose, Lili Zoha, Sweet Thunder, Mary Lowers. Back row: Allison Ramadei, Judie Rose, Isaline Simms, Rodney Volkmar.

photo by Lori Nagel

## **Poetry reading & discussion April 11**

On Wednesday, April 11 at 10am share readings from inspired poems received by Vince Palermo, recently published in *Extensions of Mind*. Come and we'll explore topics such as love, mind, consciousness and creation. What are your beliefs about the nature of life on earth? 262 Moonlight Way, 256-4135.

## **Tree pruning workshop by Colorado Forest Service**

On Thursday, April 5 from 9am-3:30pm come and learn how to shape your trees and encourage good growth. Vince Urbina, Colorado State Forester, will present. The morning session is classroom-style in Center at the Kiwanis building (S. Broadway & E. 5th), and the afternoon demonstrations will be held at Center Consolidated School and Center parks.

The \$20 charge includes lunch. Class size is limited to 20 people, so register early by calling 719-587-0915.

## **Small-dog powered electrical generation plant**

The Energizer Group of the Crestone/Baca Resilience Movement has announced that an experimental gym/power generation plant, for hyper-active small dogs, using hamster wheels, belts, games of tug, and trampolines to harness highly energetic pets, will soon be opened to provide backup power to the community should the national electrical grid go down.

Organizers are hoping to find a suitable site where high-pitched yapping won't bother the neighbors, before April Fool's Day.

## **Free brake inspection clinic at the Baca Grande Library April 21**

Bring your car in to the Library Saturday April 21, 10am-dusk for a free inspection of your brakes. If there is enough interest this will be a recurring event; a getting-to-know-your-car clinic is a future potential event under discussion.

## **9 Health Fair April 21**

This year's health fair will be held at Mountain Valley School, 403 Pitkin Ave, Saguache, 7:30-11:30am. Fasting is not required and there will be multiple screenings available other than just come and own your health. For additional information contact Ron Gilbertson, site coordinator, at 719-221-9574.

## **Spay/neuter clinic for people planned**

Citing the growing human population in the San Luis Valley, Wide Valley Health Servers has announced a new endeavor to curb the growth.

"This is something we've been considering for years now, and have finally decided this is the time," said Dr. Curt Fecund of Wide Valley. "If we don't do it now, we'll have people cheek by jowl before you know it."

Attempts have been made in other parts of the country to curb population growth but have generally been stifled by a range of religious organizations; Wide Valley has finally said "Enough!"

"We only wish this weren't an April Fool joke; we could solve a lot of the problems in this world," said Fecund.



Rose Burek, center left, awarded the door prize from this event, which was one of her Recycled Art Wind Chimes, to Niamh Kelly-Weston, center right, at the Crestone Artisans Gallery's "Brewfest" event March 16.

photo by Lori Nagel



Tim Riley, Zack Lavin and Jimmy Bjurman enjoying the St. Patrick's Day celebration at Crestone Brewing Co. March 17.

photo by Lori Nagel

## **Trans-Sangre tunnel approved; due to start in May**

Colorado transportation authorities plan to start excavation on a tunnel connecting the San Luis Valley and the Wet Mountain Valley, starting this spring. The hope is that the resultant roadway will provide an economic boost to the two remote agricultural areas. The tunnel will be christened The April Fool's Tunnel.



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# Community Calendar—April 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).

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).

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

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

To list your event in the upcoming edition of the *Eagle*, please submit it by the 22nd of the month via our website, [www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent](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.

## Monthly Events

### **Friday, March 30**

- Good Friday services – Nada Hermitage 3:00 pm-4:00 pm 719-256-4778
- CARE host/organizer meeting – Little Shepherd in the Hills 4:00 pm

### **Saturday, March 31**

- Blue Moon (2nd in month) – All Day
- Lopon Phurbha Dorji Teachings, Yeshe Khorlo (Choying Dzong) 9am-5pm \$108 Sat & Sun. (no one turned away for lack of funds)
- Full Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo (Choying Dzong) 10-11am
- Easter Art Show & Open House – The Bridge in Alamosa 10am-4pm 719-587-3514
- Start of Passover – 7:30 pm

### **Sunday, April 1**

- Easter – All Day
- Easter Vigil mass – Nada Hermitage 5:00 am-6:30 am 719-256-4778
- Lopon Phurbha Dorji Teachings, Yeshe Khorlo (Choying Dzong) 9am-noon
- Easter Holy Eucharist – Little Shepherd in the Hills 2:00 pm-3:00 pm

### **Monday, April 2**

- Town Trustees: Hear to Listen – Cloud Station 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- Earth Tribe Studio grand opening, 4:00 pm

### **Tuesday, April 3**

- Crestone Municipal Election – 7:00 am-7:00 pm 719-256-4313

### **Thursday, April 5**

- Tree pruning workshop – Kiwanis Club 9:00 am-3:30 pm \$20 719-587-0915
- Baca POA EAC Covenant Violation Hearings, POA Meeting Room 10am bacapoa.org 256-4171
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602

### **Friday, April 6**

- Public comment deadline: Oil & Gas leasing – Royal Gorge Field Office All Day

### **Saturday, April 7**

- Voter Sign Up Training, Indivisible Crestone/Baca, Hoenninger home 2-3:30pm 256-4031

### **Sunday, April 8**

- National Library Week – All Day 719-256-4100
- Monthly Sampai, Shumei Sanctuary 10:30am-noon Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org), 256-5284
- Jennifer Thomson/Sun Studio exhibition – Sun Studio 2:00 pm-4:00 pm 719-937-7694

### **Tuesday, April 10**

- Dakini Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6-8pm

### **Wednesday, April 11**

- Poetry of Consciousness, Reading & Discussion – Vince Palermo's 10:00 am Free 719-256-4135
- Crestone End of Life Project Monthly Meeting – Little Shepherd in the Hills 7-9pm 719-588-7415

### **Sunday, April 15**

- National Volunteer Week – All Day
- New Moon – All Day
- New Moon fire ceremony followed by a meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am-noon [www.Babajiashram.org](http://www.Babajiashram.org) 719-256-4108
- New Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am
- Blue Starseed Art Symposium – Shumei Gallery 3-5pm Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 256-5284
- Mystical Qur'an Class. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-588-8602

### **Wednesday, April 18**

- BGPOA EAC meeting – BGPOA Meeting Room 10:00 am [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171
- Friends of Library Annual Bake Sale, 120 Silver Ave. 10:00 am-3:00 pm 719-256-4045

### **Thursday, April 19**

- BGPOA Board Meeting – BGPOA Meeting Room 10:00 am [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171
- Sufi Dhikr. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-588-8602

### **Friday, April 20**

- 9th Annual Ashram On-Line Fundraising Auction – All Day [www.biddingforgood.com/babajiashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babajiashram) 719-256-4108

### **Saturday, April 21**

- Earth Day Fest – CCS All Day
- Saguache 9 Health Fair – Mountain Valley School Dist. 7:30 am-11:30 am 719-221-9574
- Take a Brake (brake inspection) – Baca Library 10:00 am-5:00 pm

### **Sunday, April 22**

- Earth Day – All Day
- Earth Day Fest – CCS All Day

### **Wednesday, April 25**

- Crestone Creative Dist. Membership Drive – Bob's Diner 5:30pm [www.crestonecreativedistrict.xyz](http://www.crestonecreativedistrict.xyz)
- Guru Rinpoche Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck), Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6-8pm

### **Saturday, April 28**

- Chaffee Home & Garden Show, Chaffee County Fairgrounds 9am-5pm \$3 [chaffeehomeandgarden.com](http://chaffeehomeandgarden.com)
- Awakening Sophia: Celebration of the feminine – Crestone Charter School 6:00 pm-8:00 pm Free

### **Sunday, April 29**

- Full Moon – All Day
- Chaffee Home & Garden Show, Chaffee County Fairgrounds 10am-4pm \$3 [chaffeehomeandgarden.com](http://chaffeehomeandgarden.com)
- Full Moon Riwo Sangchö (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10:00 am-11:00 am
- Full-moon Fire Ceremony followed by a Meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-12:00 pm [www.Babajiashram.org](http://www.Babajiashram.org) 719-256-4108

### **Saturday, May 5**

- Bear Wisdom Workshop with Láné Sáan Moon-walker – Call for location 9:30 am-4:30 pm \$165 719-937-7786

### **Monday, May 7**

- Town Trustees: Hear to Listen – Cloud Station 10:00 am-12:00 pm

## 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@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org), [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.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](http://vajravidya.com)
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, [info@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org), [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org)
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6-7pm. Chanting in Sanskrit and Hindi. All are welcome. 256-4108, [info@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org), [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org)

### **Sunday**

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org)
- Sunday Mass at Nada Hermitage Nada Carmelite Hermitage 9:00 am-10:00 am 719-256-4778

### **Monday**

- Gentle Yoga w Cynthia Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd Church 10-11:15 am 719-298-0360

### **Tuesday**

- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca Grande Library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm 970-309-0710
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Gentle Yoga at Joyful Joyful Journey Hot Springs 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

### **Wednesday**

- Wednesday Night AA Meeting in Moffat Free Spirit Christian Church 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

### **Thursday**

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church noon-1:00 pm [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org)
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Indivisible Crestone/Baca postcard posse Desert Sage Restaurant 12:30 pm 719-937-7699

### **Saturday**

- Narcotics Anonymous Open Step Study meeting Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 9:00 am-10:00 am 719-256-4931

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# Out & About with Lori Sunflower

What challenges have you faced as a business owner in Crestone?



### Carmin Teeple (Ragpicker Used Books)

When I opened the bookstore, my first challenge was to find a place to do the business, and I was successful at finding a very small space. Then the next challenge was not having enough space! But by taking a wall out, I ended up with enough space. Another one of the challenges was making enough money to keep it going. And I did pretty good in the seasons where we had a lot of visitors to town because I got a lot more business from visitors than I did from local people. But I still had months that I wasn't making any money, so I decided to move the business to my house a few months ago. Now, the challenge is to get people to come to my house! I'm working on that now with a sign, and I plan to put an ad in the paper and put up posters.



### Matthew Johnson (Crestone Mercantile)

A big challenge is finding employees that stay. It's a transient kind of town, people coming and going all the time. Also, a lot of customers assume your business isn't going to last long—it's just kind of how things have been around here—making it more difficult to establish a customer base. Everything costs a little more with delivery fees, and we try to compete with big city supermarkets, but people just assume we can't, so they make that weekly trip outta town. Our business is also really dependent on other businesses in town doing well, which fluctuates. For example, the gas pumps not

working for a month hurt our business quite a bit because people had to leave town, and when they do, they purchase other things. So, basic small mountain town problems of being really far away, not having as much of a labor pool, that labor pool also being more independent minded and wanting to enjoy life more, not just slave away at the 9 to 5. But we don't have much competition around here, being so far away, so that's a positive!

It also depends on the business. The diner was challenging because there was never really a lunch rush in town. Not many people have a standard 9 to 5, noon take your lunch, hurry, 30 minutes, come back. This town floods with people all of a sudden, so you often have to have more staff than you need. Some days are really slow, but some days are insanely busy for no real reason whatsoever. So, predicting how many people are in this town at different times is another challenge of being a business owner.



### Lonny Roth (Crestone Creative Trade)

The biggest challenge for me has been government: when my property taxes went up suddenly and when the Town Hall restricted me trying to do business. Of course the customer base is always a challenge in a small town, getting customers to come in. There's a dichotomy between the people who don't want a lot of people here and the people trying to make a living here, which is another challenge. The customer base has risen and we're doing a little better, but paying people what they deserve to be paid is a huge challenge. I believe the quality of the goods brought in is key to customer satisfaction. I want customers to have a good experience, leaving happier than when they walked in. It leaves a good impression of the town on the customer, makes them talk to other people and bring their friends or whatever. For me, the hardest thing I did is re-framing my business, spinning it around. Most businesses I see start with what they want to do. But you really have to revise it to where you're still really enjoying what you do while building

the business from the perspective of what people want to come in for. That is really difficult for people to figure out, and I've seen 9 out of 10 businesses fail in Crestone because of that very thing.



### Linda Behrns (Mobile Veterinary Service)

Probably the hardest was deciding on prices. My expenses are about the same here as they were in Denver, but I can't charge the same as in Denver. And getting a good fit where people felt comfortable calling me and we could at least work things out, regardless of what they could afford, and to try to fit in to the general average of the community. In a way, it's easy to start up here because the word gets around pretty quick, especially being the only vet! Although, that's another challenge. Being the only vet is hard because there's no backup or emergency clinic around, so there's a lot of things I really can't do. Sometimes people just have to go in, and that's hard for people who can't afford it or can't get there. I like doing what I do and I like not having the clinic or employees and not having to deal with all the emergencies, but it does limit what I can do, and that can be hard, not being able to take care of everybody all the time. And I also have the issue of setting boundaries so I have a personal life as well, and time to do the things I wanna do, the things I moved the Crestone to do—not just be working 90 hours a week!



### Madolyn Davis (Crestone Inn)

The challenges of being a business owner in Crestone for me have mostly come from within: learning a new business as a first-time business owner, getting to know a new community, balancing being a single parent with work, and learning my own strengths and weaknesses in all these areas.

Regarding Crestone-specific challenges, the biggest problem I see is for the employees. Finding affordable decent housing that's stable is tough, and keeping motivated workers is difficult when they can't make their lives work here. So they come and they go, and this has affected our business and many others here. Just when you think you have a great team, poof! They're gone. One of the many things I learned from a ship captain's course a few years ago is "there's no such thing as a bad crew, only a bad captain." An interesting concept that keeps me humbled. I try to keep this in mind when things go astray for an employee.

As of right now we have a great team of bubbly, motivated people. With their help, we've been able to recently open our new clothing and souvenir store called Gift Horse, where we sell products of many local artists, in addition to lots of other things! We feel privileged to hold this space here for Crestone.

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

### Cynthia Nielsen (Gentle Yoga with Cynthia)

The biggest challenge in Crestone over the last 4-5 years teaching yoga classes has been finding a space consistently. However, I've found if you're willing to knock on doors, a space opens up. Over this time, we've had 7 spaces in the town of Crestone, so it has allowed for flexibility and impermanence! Another challenge would be how some students are here part of the

## R. Carlos Nakai & Will Clipman to perform for Shumei's 16th anniversary celebration

The Shumei International Institute will celebrate its 16th anniversary Saturday May 19 and Sunday May 20. This year's anniversary theme is "Seeds of World Citizenship" and all events are free and open to the public.

On Saturday, May 19 Shumei hosts a Taiko performance with Grammy® award-winning Taiko Master Sensei Koji Nakamura performing with Crestone members of all ages and members of Shumei's Los Angeles-based Makoto Taiko. Following taiko, Shumei is excited to offer a special concert with world-known performer of the

Native American flute, R. Carlos Nakai, with Will Clipman on pan-global percussion.

The conversation between the flute and the drum began at the dawn of the human experience, and continues to this day in forms that are both ancient and contemporary. For over a quarter-century R. Carlos Nakai and Will Clipman have carried on an intimate dialogue in these primal voices, adding fresh expressions to the universal language of world music. Each of their many recordings, in different musical configurations from duo to trio to quartet to symphony orchestra, offers a unique context for their ongoing sonic exploration, yet all are immediately recognizable by virtue of the artists' unmistakable style, tone and instrumental mastery. This is also true of their incomparable live performances, each of which is a restlessly creative infusion of improvisation.

Channeling a sound that grounds each of us in the center of our being, R. Carlos Nakai & Will Clipman delve into a primal sonic odyssey as they guide the listener to a place where all cultures flow and merge into the river of human experience. The intimate dialogue between the ancient call of Native American cedar flute and the subtle vibration of African, Native



Shumei welcomes R. Carlos Nakai (right) and Will Clipman to help celebrate 16 years in Crestone.

American, Polynesian and Asian rhythms connects us to our innermost essence and finely tunes the naturally awakening energies inside each of us, nourishing inner balance and harmony.

The concert on Saturday will be followed by a special World Peace Prayer Sampai service. During this special Sampai for World Peace thousands of friends and members from Shumei centers in Japan and around the world join hearts and minds with us in Crestone in simultaneously chanting and sharing of Jyorei with a shared intention for peace on earth.

The 16th anniversary continues on Sunday May 20 when Shumei hosts an Anniversary Sampai officiated by Sensei Tamao

Koyama joining us from Shumei's headquarters in Japan. There will be a public luncheon, art exhibition, garden tours and a presentation after lunch with Ken Green of the Hudson Valley Seed company. A tireless advocate for seed sovereignty, Ken also celebrates the role of art in our agricultural and horticultural heritage. More details of the 16th anniversary events and schedules will appear in the May edition of *The Crestone Eagle* and on Shumei's website.

We hope you will join Shumei in celebrating 16 years in the Crestone community.

For more information visit Shumei International Institute at [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 719-256-5284.

**Rian Johns, LCSW Therapist**



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# Shumei International Institute's 16th Anniversary Seeds of World Citizenship

**Saturday May 19th 2018**

\*2:30pm

Come experience the power of Taiko  
and  
R. Carlos Nakai  
with William Clipman  
at the Shumei Amphitheater

6pm

Sampai prayer  
for world peace at Shumei Sanctuary



**Sunday May 20th 2018**

\*10:30am

Anniversary Sampai at the Shumei Sanctuary  
Immediately following Sampai  
A delicious and healthy community lunch

2 pm

A presentation by Ken Green of  
the Hudson Valley Seed Company

12:30 to 5 pm

Art Gallery and Garden Open

**\*Plan to arrive early to give yourself time to park and be seated as all events start promptly at times listed**

## Combining 3D printing technology with ancient gold smith traditions

Ascending up the road to Vajra Vidya Temple, one loses a sense of time and place. It's a bright red temple adorned with gold objects, shining amidst snow capped peaks with Tibetan flags flapping in the wind. Inside is the Shrine room, which contains an 8-foot central golden statue of Buddha, 21 forms of Tara, 8 Medicine Buddha statues and 1,000 statues representing Buddhas yet to come.

Of the smaller statues on the left is the likeness of Padmasambhava (Lotus-Born), otherwise known as Guru Rinpoche. Sometimes referred to as the "second Buddha",



Kary Kilmer.

Guru Rinpoche is attributed with the introduction of the Buddhist religion and establishment of the first monastery in Tibet. The statue, cast in bronze and adorned with

gold plate, was missing a Dorje otherwise known as Vajra in his right hand.

Vajra is a Sanskrit word meaning both thunderbolt and diamond. Additionally, it is a weapon won in battle which is used as a ritual object to symbolize both the properties of a diamond (indestructibility) and a thunderbolt (irresistible force).

Raising concerns, the resident nun Ani Drime and Khenpo Lobzang Tenzin approached Kary Kilmer, a Crestone resident and a master gold and silversmith, to make a Vajra that would be proportionally correct and match the materials of the statue.

"The challenges for creating a Vajra in proper perspective to the sacred statue were complex and required some flexibility. Traditionally, the object would be constructed by carving a wax model. However, if the model required sizing adjustments a new model would have to be hand carved, adding significant cost, delays and expense to the project," Kary Kilmer explained.

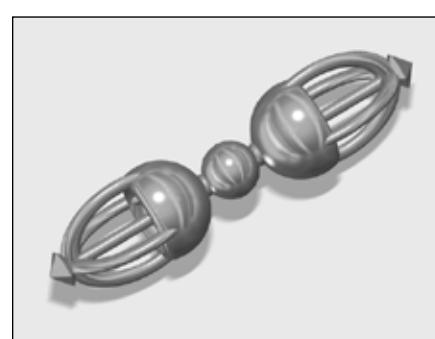
"Instantly, I knew this project was the perfect candidate for CAD (Computer Aided Design) and 3D printing. I would be able to create a model in high detail that went beyond my carving skill. Prototypes could be printed in nylon for less than \$5.00. The prototype could then be placed in the statue's hand and adjustments can be made at the touch of a keyboard."

There have been many advances in 3D printing over the last few years. In the past, 3D prototypes were restricted to plastic, nylon and wax. A mold had to be made from the prototypes which also compromised the detail and the proportions. Today's technology includes direct printing in metals such as stainless steel, bronze, gold and silver.

The Vajra made for Guru Rinpoche's statue will be directly printed in bronze with gold plate. This choice was made to ensure that the object's



Photoshop image of how the Vajra will look in the Guru Rinpoche statue's right hand.



This is the CAD drawing of the Dorje or Vajra.

material was consistent with the statue and did not look out of place.

The Vajra is quite small, approximately two inches in length. This makes it ideal for a jewelry pendant. Reproduction jewelry of Guru Rinpoche's Vajra in 18kt gold plate, silver and bronze can be purchased directly on Kary Kilmer's website, bijouxcelestes.com.

Kary Kilmer began his goldsmithing career as a young child forging copper welding rods on the horse shoeing anvil at his grandfather's ranch. Kary garnered a majority of his skills working for a variety of jewelry designers and has studied metal smithing techniques in Ireland.

In 2002 Kary Kilmer was chosen as one of four American finalists in the World Gold Council's Virtuosi Competition in Vincenza, Italy, dubbed the world's "Oscars" of gold jewelry design.

Currently, Kary is working on a collection of pieces inspired by the natural landscapes and phenomena of the Crestone area. Kary specializes in custom jewelry design in silver and gold and teaches a series of one-day silversmithing classes. Inquiries can be made at karyk4u@gmail.com or 720-583-5667.

## Peter Peterson for Saguache County Assessor



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*"I absolutely love the work of assessment. It is challenging, complex, with a large database always in motion. I am blessed to have met and worked with a wonderful mix of people from all over the county, and indeed, all around the state."*

*I would be honored to be given the opportunity to serve Saguache County for four more years. Thank you for your vote."*

Look for Peter Peterson's Facebook page coming soon!

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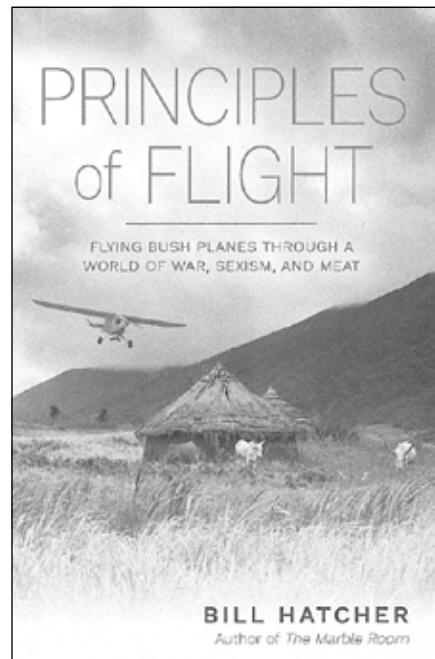
## Bill Hatcher releases his latest book, *Principles of Flight*

After narrowly surviving a plane crash, Bill Hatcher woke up to discover his life of carefree abandon shattered. As a Peace Corps volunteer in Tanzania, he had risen above his own racial prejudices and religious jingoism, and yet remained emotionally aloft, afraid to commit to the full transformation that was calling to him.

In spite of misgivings, he returned to Africa. In Kenya, he flew bush planes, guided wilderness courses, and fell in love with a young Kikuyu woman. All seemed well, until he was attacked and beaten by thugs and then injured when chased by an elephant. Still unable to deal with reality, he escaped to Alaska, where he flew still higher and loved more recklessly. Ultimately, the principles of flight forced him to make a choice: to fly away again or return to Earth as an advocate for social, animal, and environmental justice.

Set before, during, and after 9/11 and the wars that followed, *Principles of Flight* is filled with spectacular scenes of flights over the African savanna and Alaskan glaciers. More than mere travelogue, this memoir is a psychosocial inquiry into the hyper-masculinism that has resulted in the violence, sexism, animal cruelty, and environmental destruction that have ruled our world.

Bill Hatcher teaches geogra-



Bill Hatcher has released another thrilling autobiographical book, *Principles of Flight, Flying Bush Planes through a World of War, Sexism and Meat*.

phy and anthropology in southern Colorado, where he lives with his wife, Kim, and their cat, Mitts. He is also the author of *The Marble Room: How I Lost God and Found Myself in Africa*. He can be reached through his website at [www.billhatcherbooks.com](http://www.billhatcherbooks.com).

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## 'WillIncarnate', a new business with a plan to make your *next* life more successful, moves to Crestone

An exciting new international estate planning business that has generated a lot of interest on Kick Starter is opening in Crestone. It is seeking to hire skilled psychics and spiritual advisors. This start-up company is a unique, one-of-a-kind business model that chose Crestone because of its reputation as an open-minded and talented community.

Will and estate attorney, B. Jan Tyme said in an *Eagle* interview that the convergence here of many of the world's major religions was a determining factor in his choice of location. Because of the spiritual aspect of his business, he needed to locate in a community where his unique business would be warmly received and have the qualified talent available that the company needs.

Jan describes his business as "an evolutionary step in estate planning. Once this catches on, it will totally revolutionize the whole industry of estate planning."

So what exactly is it? We asked. "A way to utilise the principles of reincarnation and be able to will your assets and holdings to your next incarnation".

He described how it will work: "The process is very similar to the way in which the Tibetans choose the Dalai Lama. When a person dies, a group of 8 psychics will con-

vene and begin to search psychically for babies born close to the time of the client's death. Then the candidates will be contacted and, with the permission of the parents of course, tracked over the first three years of their lives. At age 3, they will choose from a group of objects and the child who correctly chooses the key items belonging to the deceased will then become the recipient of the will. The assets of the deceased will be held in trust until the child comes of age."

"What about the deceased's family? Won't they get anything?"

"It will be up to the person, of course, but a large portion of the estate could be willed to the current family. The remainder will be held in trust for 18 to 21 years, and even a modest amount can grow into a small fortune during that amount of time. Think of it! You can take care of your family and your future self. Or you could die with only a few hundred dollars in the bank and be reincarnated wealthy!"

WillIncarnate offers this service for an annual percentage of the person's estate.

"What a fascinating idea," I thought, then got up from my April Fool's daydream and went back to work. However, I think there's potential there. I might just float this on Kick Starter after I ask my psychic friends if they're in.

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# Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

## *Thinking about the divine: 2*

by Dr. Eric Weiss

As we saw last month, we can name the Divine as a Person, which satisfies the heart. But if we want to satisfy the mind, we cannot adequately name the Divine by any one of its attributes—not “Pure Consciousness” or “Love,” or “Infinite Energy,” or even “Matter,” because nothing fully characterized by a single name can be the origin of all nameable things.

The mind needs a name for God which is rich enough so that we can deduce from it both the life that we live every day, and also the possibility of Enlightenment and Holiness that our various spiritual intuitions insist are actual possibilities. Such a name must be complex. It must involve a number of concepts, and those concepts must be an interlocking whole that reflect the ultimate unity of the One in Many. When our ideas are properly chosen, sufficiently rich, and beautifully enough interrelated, they can become a cathedral in which God can be mentally worshipped.

The primary name that Sri Aurobindo uses for God, a name which he inherited from the ancient Vedic tradition, is *Sachchidananda*. This name breaks down into three parts—Sat, Chit and Ananda. “Sat” is the Transcendent Being of the Divine, and if it were not a Being, nothing could ever be derived from it. Also, if this Being were not conscious, then consciousness, such as ours, could never be derived from it. “Sat” is “Conscious Being.” This Conscious Being, when it manifests, does so as Force, as Energy. All of the happenings that make a universe are expressions of Energy, and this Energy, too, is Conscious, so that every manifestation of Force (*Shakti* in Sanskrit) is, on its inside, Conscious Will (or “Chit,” for short). Finally, this Conscious Being, which is “One Without a Second,” is never opposed, and its essence and the reason for its manifestation is “Ananda,” pure preciousness, pure value, or bliss.

God, then, is named as a Conscious Being, sole and alone, expressing itself by its Conscious Force, as a multiplicity, for the sake of Bliss: *Sachchidananda*. This is a rich, complex, intellectually satisfying name for God.

Please contact us at 719-256-4917 for information about our ongoing classes. eric@ericweiss.com.



A few of the 200 articles on the Ashram on-line Auction, April 20 -29 at [www.biddingforgood.com/babajiashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babajiashram).

## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram

by Ramloti

What a wonderful month with a lovely Divine Mother Festival (Spring Navratri) attended by many people. Thank you to all who made it such a special time to thank the Divine Mother for all She provides for us.

The big news this month is our 9th Annual Ashram On-Line Fundraising Auction, which will run from Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 29. Many of our local businesses have donated items and services for the auction. We are so grateful to them all as this is a large part of our operating budget. It is not too late to donate if you are able to do so, please let us know at [info@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org). or you may put your auction item up directly on the site. Your business logo or website will be displayed in all of the advertising for the auction.

Even more important is that people bid on the nearly 200 items that are available, most at 50% of their original cost. The time to begin is on Friday, April 20 at 11:08am MT. Just go to [www.Biddingforgood/babajiashram](http://www.Biddingforgood/babajiashram) and place your bids; you can keep placing bids until it closes at 8:08pm Sunday, April 29. Please let as many people know as you can. Thank you for all of your support.

The new-moon fire ceremony is on Sunday, April 15. The full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Sunday, April 29. 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 indoor fire ceremony when we do not have a large one. Call us at 719-256-4108 for proper protocol

for attending fire ceremonies and any other questions.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is full of wonderful items and more are always arriving: there are brass statues, hand-decorated deity candles, cloth items, earrings, bracelets, journals, oils, incense, purses, eye pillows, Benares silks, soaps, and much more. We also have an overflowing amount of gently used clothes, which are 50% off this month. The shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and look around. We deeply appreciate your support. If you mention this article you will receive 10% off your purchase, except for sale items. You may view some of what is in our Shop on our website at <http://mahalakshmishop.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, the next one is on Sunday, March 11 at 10am. Please call the Ashram for an agenda. We also invite you to visit the Ashram at any time. We love to share Shri Babaji's and Mother's home with others. Just drop by or give us a call at 719-256-4108.

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## The cart before the horse —on ‘Real Love’

by Ramloti

Today a Real Love friend emailed me saying: “Yesterday I read that the inability to tolerate an honest hindsight keeps many people from growing and learning. I believe it. It is so easy to see how in the past, the awareness of my flaws and mistakes followed by the harsh self-criticism that followed it, and the guilty feelings that followed that, lead me straight to over eating, or blaming, or feeling like a victim, or some other self-sabotaging behavior rather than learning.

“Because of Real Love, I can now tolerate the honest hindsight. I don’t think I’m bad, no matter what the old parental voices in my head might be trying to say. And I know that when I reach out, I can find someone in Real Love to love me unconditionally, that’s with no expectation of me changing or being a certain way. This gives me the strength to look at myself honestly. And it also helps me see that most of my time in all the self-help and growth programs I have been involved in the past, has focused on trying to see myself clearly with eyes that were blind because they didn’t have any love. I was blinded by my fear of being basically bad. I had the cart before the horse. Well, I see this differently now.”

I could so relate to what my friend wrote. I answered her the following: “Yes, yes, yes, this is all so right on. I spent a lifetime doing every growth thing available, including living and practicing at an Ashram for 26 years. It was not until I began to believe through Real Love that I am loved and worthwhile no matter what mistakes I made, that I could actually live the teachings and techniques I had studied so hard. Cart before the horse is a good way of putting it.”

What this is all about is unconditional love (the horse). I came from a big family, about as good as they get—I am grateful. It seemed that my parents loved me. However, when I made mistakes, acted like a stupid kid, or was inconvenient, that love seemed to turn to anger, disappointment, or at least a withdrawal of love. As a child, my parents’ love was everything to me, so to avoid losing it, I tried to always be “perfect”, “good”, and basically “please” everyone. That got me a lot of positive strokes and made life easy for those around me but it left me with a terrible legacy of living for the approval of others and believing that if I did not make everyone “happy”, I was worthless. It was a very fragile self-esteem and it also took a lot of work, as it was pretty exhausting worry about everyone else’s opinion.

So with those debilitating beliefs, every technique or teaching I learned would fall by the wayside when I did not get enough positive feedback from others. The ironic thing was, however, that when people told me how great or holy I was, I would hear inside, “if they only knew who I really was, they would not say these kind things”. So when things were quiet, I would feel how empty and afraid I was, a pretty terrifying realization. It is no wonder my marriages, relationships, and work situations always turned out badly. Now that I can see more clearly and have unconditional love in my life, my relationships are very different, and I am much happier and much less exhausted—no more trying to be perfect all the time!

I invite those who may share some of these feelings to explore RealLove.com and to consider attending the RealLoveFest.com May 26, 27, and 28.

## Longing for wholeness, the quest for a new myth for modern man

by Ruth E. Pulver

When does it begin for some of us? First comes the realization that we are split apart, fragmented in ourselves, not just in body and mind, often feeling painfully the split between heart and reason, convention and impulse, society and individual, and we find out that often not even in our own family, if we have one, there is any unity to be found any longer. What, if anything, can hold us still together, now that traditions and old myths do not seem to serve us any longer, nor all the whole food in the health food stores can provide enough nutrition for our souls? Where should we turn?

### A sobering awakening

Comfort may lie in the knowledge of evolution, and to our help come people like Ilia Delio, a contemporary nun-scientist-meta-physician, (founder of Omega-Center) and Teilhard de Chardin, a 19th century monk-scientist-mystic and more.

The painful awareness to be split off from the whole also is an invitation and possible awakening to a higher vision of belonging to something bigger, even transcendental, supported by an infinite and ever-expanding dynamic universe, reflected in the smallest particle of a human cell, the belonging to a creation in a constant process of transformation.

And that consciousness of all this cosmic expansion, reflected in ourselves, shows us, once we follow the arrow, that the impulse to it is love, following the laws of attraction, small light to bigger light, particle to the whole, and expanding out into space! And so can our minds expand, our intelligence deepen, our hearts dilate.

We are on our way to a new wholeness on the inside manifested on the outside!

This is evolution. No need to believe in it, it is happening! So they proclaim.

And realizing the brokenness even within my own heart—I know, “conscious” individual and even more, “collective” evolution is not going to be that easy—we are stuck in the rut of routines and old ley lines (and it may well take a very long while), will create a lot of upheaval, leave many stranded, challenge all of us in ways unforeseen—and will force us, if we still endure, to deal with the shadow side within us and to start integrating it into our own ego, an ethical ego—and yes we do need a strong ego—as we need to stop projecting the enemy on someone out there, whether it is your neighbor, a family member, or the President.

And it means, for those who are ready to go through this process of what C.G. Jung called the “Individuation”, getting to know ourselves, including gradually becoming more and more aware of the unconscious in us. Only thus can we start to participate in the creative process of evolution and eventually experience ourselves as more open and fluid, living in a mutually responsive relationship with and in this cosmos, in a constant dialogue with our own inner forces, the environment, nature and all sentient beings, the rocks, the woods, the waters, as to being in touch even with the remotest star. And we start to recognize and hold the opposites within ourselves instead of externalizing them. Everything we see outside, is also in us.

Dr. Edward Edinger, (died 1989), a Jungian researcher and analyst, said in “Individuation, a myth for modern man”:

“When enough individuals can carry the consciousness of wholeness, the world itself will be transformed!”

And he adds, “this will happen one by one, one lonely individual after another one.” Thus, gradually, we can achieve a new consciousness, and a new understanding which we need in order to stop destroying ourselves and with us possibly the entire planet—a consciousness carried by the vision of the whole working together in co-creation! There is order and harmony in the universe already. The mess is in us.

Evolution is rise of consciousness, said Teilhard de Chardin, 100 years ago. Did we miss this message despite of or because of all the new technology of which we possibly have not seen anything yet? Will “techno-sapiens” solve the problems that “homo sapiens”, meaning us, were not able to resolve?

Fact is, evolution is happening, we have a past and we have a future, and we are evolving, and maybe the best of it all: we are conscious of this evolution. Can a robot be conscious of evolution the way we are?

Let’s be grateful for being conscious and use more of this potential to truly evolve! We may never become whole all the way, but we certainly can become more whole, or—if you prefer—holier.

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## Messages from the heart of God

Free Spirit Christian Church



**Come to Me just as you are received by Earl LeRoy  
What do you want to tell me Lord Jesus?**

Come to Me all of you that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest in Me.

I love everyone with all my love just where they are. You do not have to attain to any level to come to Me. I accept everyone in the state or position they are in. The most self-centered, sinful person can approach Me, and I will welcome them with open arms.

You see, I do not love you more because you have grown in Me; as a matter of fact, as you grow in Me, I expect you to give more of yourselves to others' growth. The more you grow in Me and My Spirit, the more like Me you become. The more like Me you become, the more you will sacrifice yourself for others because that is what I do. The more you become like Me, the less you judge others and the more you love others. Your life becomes a reflection of Me and My Glory.

Do not compare yourselves to other people. Only compare yourselves to Me and strive to be more like Me. When I said deny yourselves, take up your cross daily (crucify your flesh) and follow Me, I meant complete self-sacrifice and a complete dying to yourself. Very few have reached that level and still remained alive.

I Am the One who searches hearts and motives and I know

what true humility looks like. I Am never fooled by some con-artist who thinks they can tell me something and not mean it from the bottom of their heart. Many who come to Me and seek Me do so for the promotion of their own glory. They have received all they are going to get. They get adoration from some people, but it is not long lived and their pride always destroys them.

I Am seeking those who have pure hearts and motives. I Am seeking those who give all to Me so I can give all to them, those who love unconditionally and never walk in judgment of others or in judgment of where their status is in Me.

I know there are so many temptations in the world that try to remove you from Me. I Am here to help you overcome. I Am not here to condemn your choices, but to help you make wise ones. Ask Me—I will show you all things that lead to life, love and satisfaction in My Glory. Seek My face and you will never be led to a place of compromise and self-indulgence. Knock and I will open the door to My majesty and glory and you will enter in. We will share time, thoughts and conversation. I will give you grace and insight. I give you wisdom and understanding. I will sup with you and We will enjoy the best together.

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

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Prayer Services Mon & Fri	10:00 am
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\* Please feel free to call Earl LeRoy at 719-650-9737 or Tim Brenner at 588-1857 if you have any questions.

*Lori Nagel*

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Happy April Fool's Easter, Crestone!

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Left to right: Judy DeLuca, Secretary; Barbara Hoeppner Vice-Chair; Cheryl Waschenko, Treasurer; Kirsten Schreiber, Chair; and Steven Elliott, Director. photo by Kate Steichen

## Living Wisdom Village elders creating community

by Barbara Hoeppner

The LWV Board of Directors has taken on the leadership of Crestone Peak Community Housing (CPCH) non-profit 501(c)3, formerly known as Crestone Peak Community Alliance. Living Wisdom Village is now a project under CPCH. We've hired a Project Manager, have a new Board member, and the estimated time of beginning construction is 2020. Living Wisdom Village will provide rental units for those 55+ and have Title 8 low-income housing units available as well.

Akia Tanara, our Project Manager, comes to us with a true wealth of experience and knowledge in community development, having served as the Town of Crestone's Administrator/Clerk for 10 years. She arrived here 25 years ago from the corporate world in Boulder to work at the Roadkill Café. (Her Boulder friends thought she was nuts!) Akia is experienced in dealing with not only the nuts and bolts of things in organization and development, but floods, bridges, project administration, not to forget authoring and administering 55+ grants totaling \$3,000,000. Plus, she knows who to talk to in various governmental agencies.

Cheryl Waschenko, our new Treasurer, also comes to Living Wisdom Village from the corporate world, having worked as a CPA for 10 years in Philadelphia. She has worked as a consultant in Crestone for the past 12 years, including for a few non-profits and spiritual centers. Cheryl has a Master's in Theological Studies and is currently studying to become a Certified Nutrition Therapist.

Currently, CPCH is applying for Enterprise Zone status that will allow donors to take a generous

credit on their Colorado tax return. We continue to look for land either in Crestone or adjacent to it. If you have any suggestions, please call Barbara at 256-4320 any day after 10am. Once we have land, we will be able to apply for grants and will be looking for an architect.

And, last but not least, we, the Board, have had to say farewell to our beloved president, Ammi Kohn. Ammi had been our president for almost 3 years and taken us through many trying times. Last summer, Ammi had a heart attack. After much consideration, he felt he wanted to live near one of his daughters in Boston. He left Crestone during the first part of March and is presently enjoying his new adventure surrounded by several universities, all kinds of ethnic restaurants, theater, art, and music. We already miss him but are also happy because for Ammi, life has been a lot about new adventures!

Fulfilling Ammi's role as Chair of the Board is Kirsten Schreiber, Barbara Hoeppner is Vice-Chair, Judy DeLuca is Secretary, Cheryl Waschenko is Treasurer and Steve Elliott is Director.

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A wishbone, a backbone  
and a funnybone."  
Reba McEntire

Living Wisdom Village ~ Elders Creating Community  
Crestone, CO ~ 719-588-2064 ~ www.living-wisdom.org

## The Bridge in Alamosa, a fun & caring place to retire

The Bridge at Alamosa is the place to be as a retired adult. You can be as busy as you want to be. There is always something going on. Every other Friday you'll find Tim Longmire with his sultry, sexy voice and amazing repertoire, singing from 5pm to 7pm. While you listen to Tim, you can enjoy an amazing spread of food, wine, beer, and punch. Families love to connect as a community around seniors who have lived amazing lives. Dancing, laughing, and making memories together is what Friday nights at The Bridge are all about.

Have you ever been to the Creede Repertory Theatre or ridden the LaVeta train or headed down to Chama on that train? No problem, that happens several times a year at The Bridge. Trips are planned all year long. Adams State University students and professors are commonly engaged with people at The Bridge. No

such thing as being bored.

Are you staying up on your physical condition as you are living out your retired years? At The Bridge you'll find 2 fitness classes a day with a beautiful amazing swimming pool and aquasizer to keep your joints and muscles strong. You gotta keep up with those grandchildren, right? The Bridge has you covered.

We all know music is powerful. Deborah Palmer, MM, MT-BC is a Neurologic Music Therapist (Fellow) who works at The Bridge. What an amazing opportunity for folks to benefit from. Not many communities can boast of having someone with Deborah's training and gifts at their community serving their seniors.

The Bridge at Alamosa understands the importance of small groups and family connections. Seniors can enjoy all the amenities of a large community yet ap-

preciate the small groups and relationships that are strong among all those who live and work at The Bridge. Don't be surprised when staff can anticipate your needs before you even call for assistance. You'll just be getting ready to call for your usual evening eye drops at just the right time you want them and . . . Tada! Here one of the ladies comes with your eye drops right on cue. The medical care at The Bridge is second to none. The nursing care you receive is given to you by a Registered Nurse and qualified medication personnel all trained to your individual needs and preferences in accordance with your and your families' and doctors' plan of care.

The building has a library, billiards, store and coffee shop, private dining room for events and parties, 3 individual dining rooms, individual laundry rooms where your laundry is done for you in in-

dividual washers and dryers (no mass washing and drying here). Housekeepers are attentive to your every need and preference as to your clothes and how you want your apartment kept.

The chefs and wait staff cater to your every desire, wanting to please you and keep you nutritionally strong and healthy. Are you a diabetic and used to going without? Not at The Bridge. You'll have diabetic desserts and modified dishes; you'll wonder how you did without all these years.

Life is full at The Bridge at Alamosa. You will not want to miss out on such an opportunity to live life to the full for years as you care for grandchildren, and encourage friends and family, all the while engaging in a strong healthy perspective towards aging.

Come see why Carol (the Executive Director and designer of The Bridge) says "Be careful, your kids might want to move back in with you."

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## 7th Annual Easter Art Show and Open House March 30, 31 and April 1

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with a full buffet, wine, beer and punch



**THE BRIDGE**  
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## Crestone Performances continues to bring the arts into local schools

Every month in *The Crestone Eagle*, CPI will keep you informed on what we are doing and who is helping us do it. Our Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) just completed a tour with the Aztec dance ensemble Mik Tochia who performed at Haskins Elementary in Center and for Mountain Valley School in Saguache. These were our 205th and 206th shows featuring our 39th different presenter. The shows were a big hit especially when the students got to participate, which they once again did with extreme exuberance. In other words, they went nuts. Fortunately the schools are used to us staging mayhem and delight for the kids. The cost to the schools was covered 100% by Saguache County and Crestone Performances Inc.

So what's next? On March 30 will be the Adams State University Samba Bateria at the Crestone Charter School. This group is a marching drum line playing Latin percussion instruments. The Shumei Taiko drummers will per-



The kids from Haskins Elementary in Center swarmed like bees to Aztec dance ensemble Mik Tochia.

form at Center High School April 4 and at Moffat School April 19. Next will be the Nature and Raptor Center of Pueblo bringing their birds to Saguache April 30 and to

the Crestone Charter School May 1. We are working on more for April, as this is the month that schools like to reward their students for getting through their national testing. Be sure to check our website, [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org), for current events and highlights of recent shows.

Crestone Performances is teaming up with local sponsors and individuals to keep cultural and educational performances flowing into the schools through YEP. We would like to thank Saguache County, *The Crestone Eagle*, Orient Land Trust, Joyful Journey Hot Springs, Sangre de Cristo Real Estate, Amicas Restaurant and First Street Flooring in Salida. We would also like to thank individuals who have stepped up to the plate. First off would be the enchanting couple of Peter Taylor and Denise Peine who have been continuously and extremely generous. Next would be Elaine Blumenhein who has always come to the rescue when we needed it. And lastly Hanne Strong whose longevity in giving is unsurpassed.

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 P.O. 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 16th year! All donations are tax deductible.

On a side note, we are always looking for folks who would like to get involved and be a board member or volunteer. We also invite anyone with knowledge of cultural or educational presenters to contact us. Lastly, we still have a big 45-foot-diameter tent for sale, plus an assortment of fence posts, wooden and plastic fencing, trash cans and more. Please contact us for more information. Thanks.



## Introducing the stop sign

To assist the citizens of Crestone, I'd like to introduce them to a not-so-new invention. It's called a "stop sign". You see, when you drive up to one, you are supposed to stop the vehicle completely. You don't just slow down or tap your brake pedal. You come to a complete stop, look both ways, then proceed with caution. Since the concept seems to be new and strange to the overwhelming majority of you, I've listed the definitions of these concepts to aid your understanding below.

One of the three pieces of information contained in this stop sign should convey its purpose to you. There is the obvious word "stop". For those unfortunately unable to read, there is the color of this sign, red. Red signifies danger, stop. And if you are so unfortunate to be both illiterate and color blind, then there is the shape of the sign, an octagon. This shape is only used in traffic signs for stop signs. Using one or all of these pieces of information should communicate the appropriate action . . . stop!

### Stop

Verb (stops, stopping, stopped)

- [no object] (of an event, action, or process) come to an end; cease to happen: his laughter stopped as quickly as it had begun | the rain had stopped and the clouds had cleared.

- [with present participle] cease to perform a specified action or have a specified experience: she stopped giggling | [with object]: he stopped work for tea.

- [with present participle] abandon a specified practice or habit: I've stopped eating meat.

- stop moving or operating: he stopped to look at the view | my watch has stopped.

### Red

Adjective (redder, reddest)

- of a color at the end of the spectrum next to orange and opposite violet, as of blood, fire, or rubies: her red lips | the sky was turning red outside.

### Noun

- wavelengths of light between approximately 620nm and 750nm

### Octagon

Noun

- a plane figure with eight straight sides and eight angles.

- an object or building with a plan or cross section of this shape.

**Crestone Performances inc.** **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)

### YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

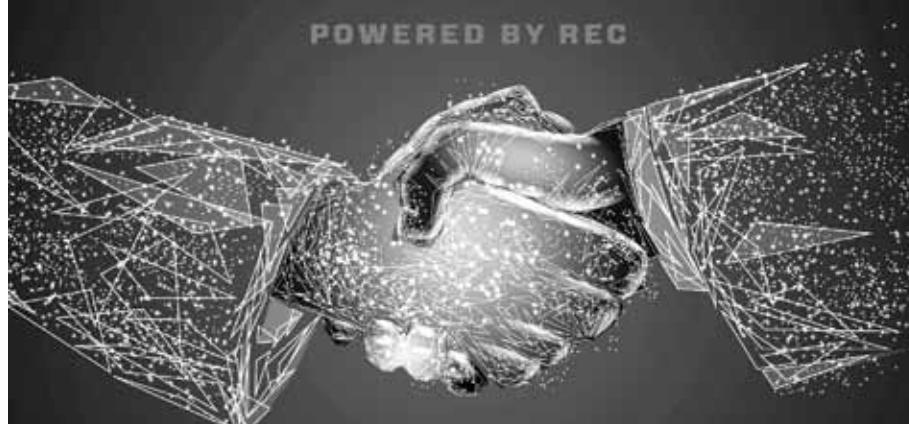
#### ♪ April Events ♪

- ♪ April 4 ... Taiko Drummers @ Center High School
- ♪ April 19...Taiko Drummers @ Moffat School
- Twitter icon ♪ April 30...Nature and Rapture Center  
@ Mountain Valley School

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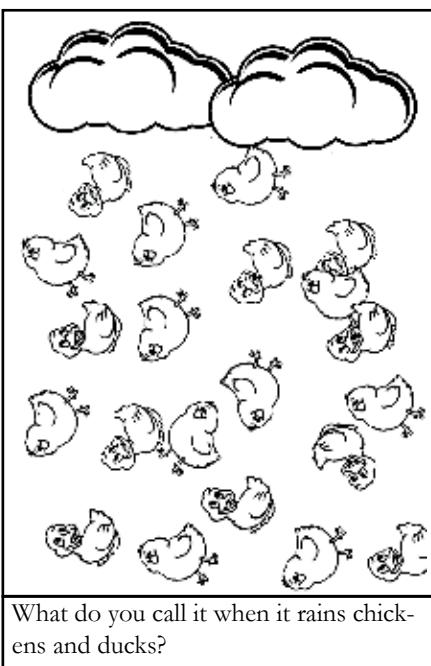


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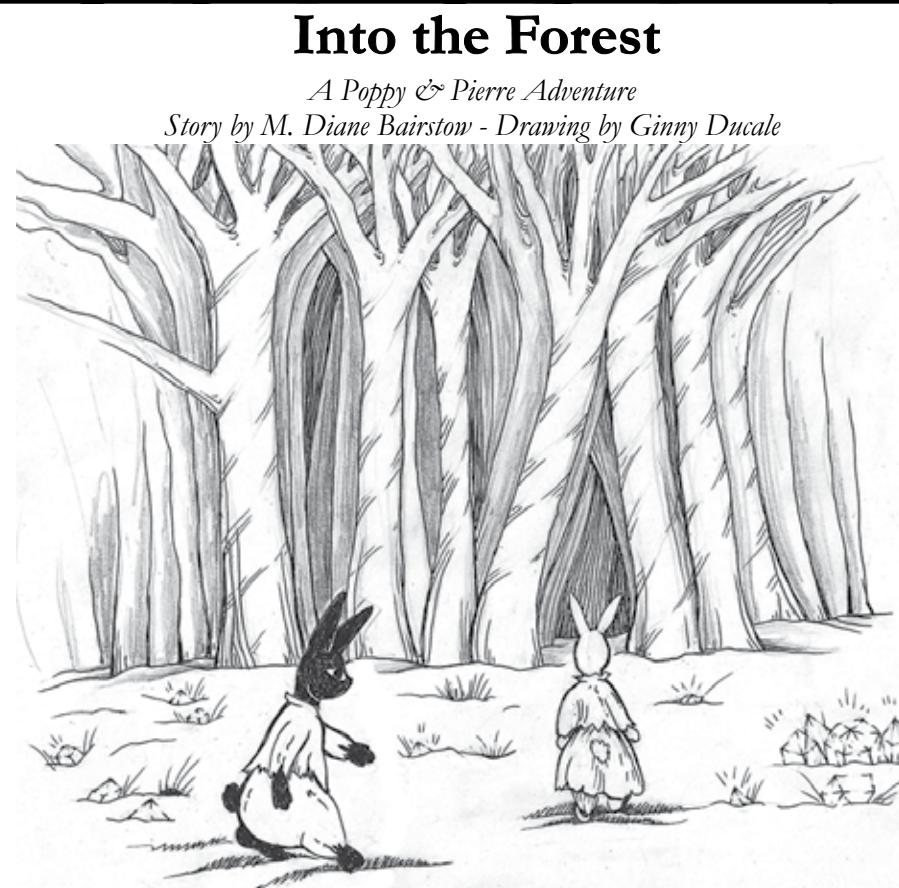
## The Jokester

When do monkeys fall from the sky?  
*During APE-ril showers!*  
If April showers bring May flowers, what  
do May flowers bring?  
*Pilgrims!*  
What's a baby chick's favorite plant?  
*EGG-plants!*  
When do people use trampolines?  
*Spring time!*  
Why is everyone so tired on April 1?  
*They just finished a 31 day March!*  
What goes up when the rain comes down?  
*An umbrella!*  
What bow can't be untied?  
*A rainbow!*  
Can February March?  
*No, but April May!*  
What falls but never gets hurt?  
*The rain!*  
How excited was the gardener about spring?  
*So excited he wet his plants*



What do you call it when it rains chickens and ducks?  
*FOUL weather!*

Why is the letter A like a flower?  
*A bee (B) comes after it!*  
What does the Easter Rabbit get for making a basket?  
*Two points just like everybody!*  
What's the difference between Thanksgiving and April Fool's Day?  
*On one you're thankful and on the other you're prankful!*  
What did the summer say to the spring?  
*Help! I'm going to fall.*  
Can bees fly in the rain?  
*Not without their little yellow jackets!*  
Why are frogs so happy?  
*They eat whatever bugs them.*  
Why did the farmer bury all his money?  
*To make his soil rich!*  
Why did the farmer plant a seed in his pond?  
*He was trying to grow a water-melon.*  
What type of bird should you never take to the bank?  
*A Robin.*  
Why did the worm cross the ruler?  
*To become an inchworm.*  
Why can't you tease egg whites?  
*They can't take a yolk.*  
Why do hens lay eggs?  
*If they dropped them, they'd break.*  
What creature is smarter than a talking parrot?  
*A spelling bee*  
How does a bee brush its hair?  
*With its honeycomb.*  
What has 18 legs and catches flies?  
*A baseball team.*



### Can you find the 13 crystals hidden in this drawing?

Suddenly Poppy and Pierre were down to just their bunny fur and Sarah had on a ratty looking shift with holes in it and bare feet, which were dirty.

"Ew! I can't go around like this!" Sarah shrieked.

"Sorry," Sunita told her, "you are a peasant girl who was lost in the forest while searching for her pet bunnies."

"Can't I please have shoes?" Sarah was near tears; Sunita waved her wand and primitive sandals appeared on

Sarah's feet.

"What about our clothes?" Poppy and Pierre wailed; Sunita sighed and waved her wand again.

Poppy had a ratty looking shift like Sarah's. Pierre had a little jacket with a frayed collar and a little tear at the shoulder.

"Now," Sunita told them, "You two, off into the forest."

"What about our training?" Poppy asked feeling very worried.

"You've had it. Run ahead and keep your eyes open. Sarah will follow calling your names, but don't come to her."

"Why not?" Pierre asked.

"Because you are all lost and that's why you're in the forest. Keep your eyes and ears open and stay out of trouble."

Poppy and Pierre nodded.

"There is a trail marked with Gladseed blossoms," Sunita continued and opened her palm. A beautiful golden flower appeared in it. "They may become hard to find the farther you go into the forest, so pay attention. Now, off with you!"

The forest didn't seem so scary on this bright sunny day, and soon the bunnies were sniffing flowers and frolicking merrily. This seemed like a fine, fun adventure.

"How will I know what to do?"

Sarah asked as the bunnies hopped off.

"It's simple," Sunita told her, "just find Lasher's encampment and send messages back."

"How do I do that?"

"With your wand of course."

Sunita seemed a little annoyed.

"This?" Sarah held up the stick from the old woman. "How?"

Sunita rolled her eyes and sighed, "Raw recruits."

Then she let out a piercing whistle, and within moments a beautiful blue bird appeared hovering in front of them.

"Morning Song," Sunita spoke politely to the bird, "this is Sarah. Will you follow her into the forest and bring back messages to us?"

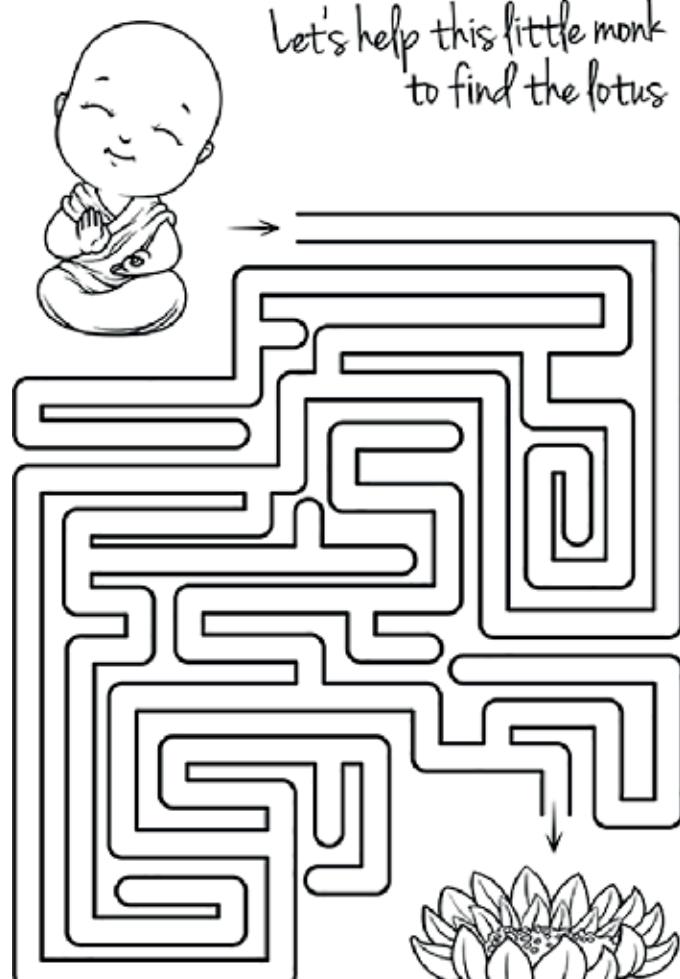
With her ears, Sarah heard twittering, but in her mind, she heard, "It is my honor to serve the Fairy Lands."

"Now that's settled," Sunita said.

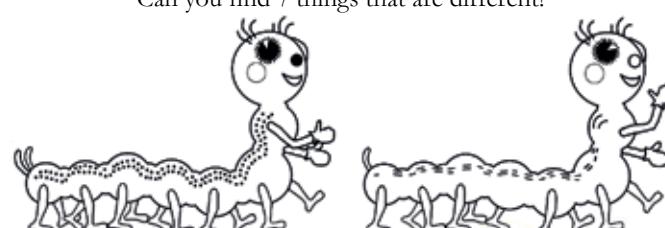
"The bunnies have a good head start on you, so off you go." And with that, Sunita simply disappeared.

*To be continued.*

### CONNECT THE DOTS



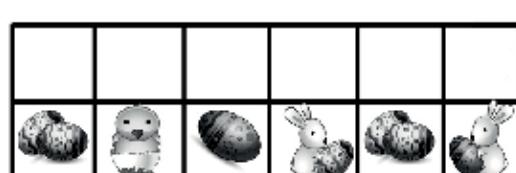
Can you find 7 things that are different?



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## Moffat School news

### Walk-up! Special assembly held to discuss school safely

by Principal Jillian Sciacca, M. Ed

As March comes to an end, and we embark upon April, I could not be more proud of students and staff at the Moffat School. On March 14, a national walkout was planned by students throughout our nation. The walk out was an opportunity for students to voice their concerns about school safety. Moffat administrators, teachers, and students worked together to plan an event that turned the focus to kindness.

To kick off the assembly, students were reminded that they have the power to make their school a safer place by treating each other with kindness and having some empathy for others. Rather than walking out on school violence, students were encouraged to walk-up to someone sitting alone and ask them to join their group, or to walk-up to a teacher



Tanner Shellabarger shares his thoughts on how helping others is way to practice kindness.

and say thank-you. Additionally, students were provided with a summary of the book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today*, by Carol McCloud and encouraged to be a bucket filler by using kind words and performing acts of kindness on a daily basis. After a moment of silence to honor victims of school



Senior Ryker Poor helps preschool students write down their ideas to practice kindness.

violence in recent months, the stage was given to student representatives to share their voices on the importance of kindness. Here are the things Moffat students shared on this topic:

"Grade doesn't matter, height doesn't matter, neither does age or your personality. You should just be you," —5th Grader

"We're here most of the day. This is our home. We're supposed to feel safe, and come here and feel like we belong . . . with bullying that makes this impossible. We all have bad days, but it's not hard to look at somebody and smile and tell them they are beautiful or smart or have potential. It's easy for you to be nice!" —10th Grader

Kindness is not just a trait but an attitude . . . we all have the power to be kind. —9th Grader

One way of being kind is to help people. —Kindergartener  
Say Please. —Preschooler

Everyone has a kindness bucket. All day long, we are either

filling up or dipping into each other's buckets by what we say and what we do! —4th Grader

By filling someone else's bucket, you fill yours in return! —3rd Grader

At the conclusion of the assembly, older students paired up with younger students to write an act of kindness on a chain link. Every student in the building shared one idea, and the links were connected to form a chain that is hanging across the railing upstairs for all to see as a reminder of the role kindness plays in creating a positive school environment.

This was an amazing event for students and staff alike and certainly made all of us proud to be Cowboys. In the words of Jeremiah Jenkins, a Moffat Senior, "Kindness is one of the few things that is free in life! Imagine what an amazing school this could be if we all could just practice one or two acts of kindness a day? This is my challenge to you!"



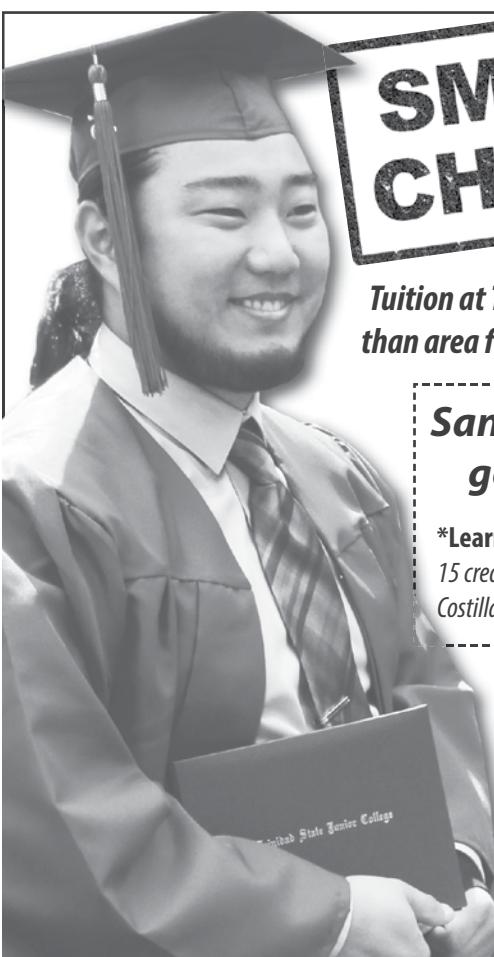
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# Ancient skills & new technology at CCS

by Ayla Sirois,  
CCS 10th grade student

It has been an exciting month for the sciences at Crestone Charter School. From the Littles in 4th-5th, all the way up to a recent graduate, there are lots of cool things happening!

First, in the beginning of February, Robin Blankenship took her fourth and fifth grade kids to a primitive skills gathering for the second time. Robin is known for the primitive skills camp (Earth Knack) she ran before she started teaching at the Charter, and has been teaching kids about the outdoors for years. In addition to the outdoor skills she teaches students here, Robin took her class down to Florence, AZ. There they spent a week learning various outdoor and survival skills. It sounds like it was full of excitement! They camped in the middle of the desert in Arizona, the kids made bows, started fires with bow drills, carved spoons and knives, learned about spear-throwers, also known as atlatls, and made pottery. Robin has been going to the camp for years, but only recently has she started taking her students and will hopefully continue to take them in the future since they seem to enjoy it.

Checking in with middle school, Austin Shwark, a long time friend of middle school teacher TJ Walling, recently came to visit the Crestone Charter Middle School. Shwark, who works for the satellite company Planet as an Account Manager in customer success, talked to the kids about career op-



CCS students take a tour of Monarch Resort. Pictured here is Food Services.

tions in their home state of Colorado. He also discussed with them options and possibilities in tech companies out of state. Planet is an innovative satellite company that builds shoe box-sized satellites that take two images a second while orbiting the Earth. Planet's satellites, which they call Doves, take up to 1.3 million pictures a day and sometimes even manage to photograph the Earth's entire landmass in a single day. Planet builds, designs, and launches their satellites faster than any other company or government in the world; they build every satellite and operate over two hundred of them. The company helps their customers track the information they need and care about through the satellites, and Shwark's job is to find customers and then make sure that everything works for them. The kids were very interested in everything he came to talk to them about, and had lots of questions to ask.

Lastly, CCS received some really cool news about a former alumna! 2017 graduate Rosalea Anderson applied to go to an event Harvard was hosting called Hackathon. The idea is that at Hackathon (also called Makeathon) a group of students have a limited amount of time to make anything they can think of using the resources that



CCS students learn primitive living skills at Winter Count in Arizona.



All-school photo on top of the Continental Divide. CCS is wrapping up their ski program with hot chocolate.

Harvard provides them. The possibilities were endless. Rosalea graduated a year early last year and got into the Colorado School of Mines. At the school, she was put into a group that came up with, and executed, an idea for a device by which you could have two people connected and could feel one another's heart beats just by touching. The device was made using an arduino particle photon, which can be programmed to read data from sen-

sors. The arduino was connected to a vibration sensor which measured the wearer's heartbeat. The data from the heartbeat was sent to a website where another device could be paired with it. That data would then be transferred to the other device where it would vibrate the same pattern as the other wearer's heartbeat. There is no doubt in anyone's mind that Rosalea and her team did an amazing job and we're all very proud of her.



CCS graduate Rosalea Anderson participates in Harvard Hackathon.

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# Voting in Colorado, the basics

by Lisa Cyriacks

Primary elections are just around the corner. Here are some things you may need to know in order to be prepared.

- Colorado permits online voter registration. [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com)

- Colorado utilizes a vote-by-mail system for all elections.

- Voters must be at least 18 years on Election Day, a citizen of the United States and have lived in Colorado for 22 days prior to Election Day.

- Colorado voters can register through Election Day, but must register at least eight days prior to Election Day to automatically receive a ballot in the mail.

- Voters who register after that point can pick up a ballot and vote at a Voter Service and Polling Center. In Saguache County, this is the courthouse.

- If voting in person, voters in Colorado are required to present a valid form of identification at the polls.

- Polls are open on Election Day from 7am to 7pm MT.

For the first time, Colorado will be implementing an open primary system for the June 26, 2018 Primary Election. What this means is that an eligible unaffiliated elector is entitled to vote in the primary election of a major political party without affiliating with that political party.

Primary elections in the past have only allowed participation by affiliated party members.

Registered unaffiliated voters will, in many instances, receive ballots for both Republicans and Democrats, but there is an important caveat: Don't vote both.

The hope of politicians and election officials is that an open primary election will result in an influx of new voters in what, in the past, have always been partisan affairs. For the first time, the state's unaffiliated voters will have a say in the outcome of primary elections.

At the end of January, Colorado counted 3,219,953 active, registered voters—1,163,751 of them unaffiliated, 1,003,424 Democrats and 995,090 Republicans, with the remainder belonging to minor parties. The ranks of unaffiliated voters have been growing at a significantly faster clip than either major party for some time.



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The question is just how many of these Independents will actually vote in the 2018 Primary Election. Most pollsters think it is harder to characterize unaffiliated voters in Colorado and, most importantly, predict how they might vote, if they choose to vote.

Starting in early June, Republicans will get a Republican primary ballot in the mail, and Democrats will get a Democratic primary ballot, but most unaffiliated voters will get one of each and have the opportunity to pick which one to fill out and return by the June 26 deadline.

There is certainly promising to be an unusually high number of contested races up and down the ballot in both major parties that might entice a fair number of unaffiliated voters to participate in a primary election.

A common misconception is that unaffiliated voters constitute an "inert," middle-of-the-road bloc occupying the space between the two parties, but is more likely that they just don't identify with the conservative values of the Republican Party or the progressive values of the Democratic Party.

The number of major candidates running to replace term-

limited Gov. John Hickenlooper is approaching double digits, with as many as four or five likely to qualify for each major party's primary ballot. There are also crowded races for State Treasurer in both parties and for Attorney General among the Democrats, as well as what's shaping up to be primaries in every one of the state's seven congressional districts. Throw in a smattering of contests in legislative and other races, and most primary voters will be facing more choices than ever before.

Local races for Saguache County government that will be on the primary ballots are:

**County Commissioner**

Ellen Cox (R)  
Tim Lovato (D)

**County Assessor**

Peter Peterson (D)  
Rhiannon Curry (D)

**County Clerk**

Trish Gilbert (R)  
Renee Hazard (D)

**County Coroner**

Tom Perrin (D)

**County Sheriff**

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Nobel Havens (D)

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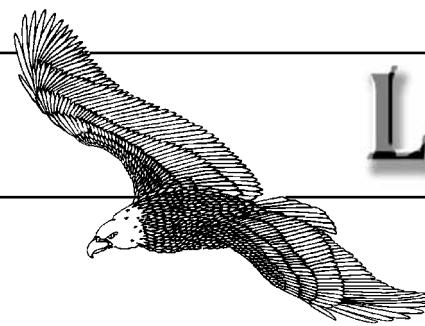
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# Living on the Earth

## The willow family in Crestone

by David Lee

This sounds like a new family, just moved to Crestone/the Baca from the traffic of Boulder. It is actually a plant family, consisting of trees from the north temperate regions. The willow family, or the Salicaceae (both names from the Latin) consists of trees, several of which are important to us. Shading the parks of Crestone, and parks and greenbelts of the Baca, is the narrow leaf cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*); both *Populus* and its English equivalent, poplar, are from the Latin as well (as these trees also grew in the Roman Empire). Lining our streams, and on open slopes at higher elevations, is its cousin the trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). Willows (several species of *Salix*, difficult to distinguish) grow along our streams and other wet areas. We have recently learned, by comparing DNA sequences, that the family also includes some tropical trees that look quite different. The willows (more strictly the poplars, aspens and willows) are all very important trees in our neighborhood.

This month, the willows are making their presence known in the landscape, in subtle pastels, and collectively very beautiful ways. The buds are swelling and producing soft greens that will be more pronounced when leaves actually expand at the end of the month. Buds are also opening to produce flowers. In cottonwoods those are the reddish-browns in the high canopies.

A little about those scientific names, the genus and species. The



Weeping willow. photo by J.D. Forester



Broadleaved plains cottonwoods (*Populus deltoides*) are the main shade trees at the Baca Ranch and the headquarters of the wildlife refuge.

photo by David Lee



Male catkins of narrow leaf cottonwood, Willow Creek Greenbelt, April 2017.

photo by David Lee

generic name, as *Populus*, is much like a surname, and the species name, as *angustifolius*, is like a given name. There are several species of *Populus* in our neighborhood. Beyond our local natives, narrow-leaf cottonwood and trembling aspen, broadleaved plains cottonwoods (*Populus deltoides*) are frequently planted in towns, and are the main shade trees at the Baca Ranch, or the headquarters of the wildlife refuge. Cottonwoods with very narrow crowns have mainly been cloned from the roots of *Populus nigra*, a European cottonwood with the common name of Lombardy poplar. These shade the grounds at the Hooper pool. This naming system was devised by Carl von Linné (Latinized as Linnaeus). Family names, like Salicaceae, were invented a bit later by the French botanist Magnol (whose surname was acknowledged by the genus *Magnolia*).

The poplars, aspens and willows have quite a bit in common. They all produce reproductive structures, catkins, of long clusters of very simple flowers, usually female catkins on some trees and male cat-

kins on others. In general, only a few different trees produce catkins, but around us we also have the gambel oak (seen at Valley View Hot Springs, with only male catkins), the birches and the alders. These trees, along with the conifers, are pollinated by wind. Wind-pollination can only occur in forests with a very low diversity of species so that the probability of pollen reaching the female is greater. Yet, the cost of such a reproductive strategy (all of the pollen produced) is rather high. A few people develop allergies to the copious pollen of these trees during spring time. Although the pollen is carried by wind, in many willows the catkins produce sweet nectar rewards for bees, which carry pollen from the male to female catkins.

If the female catkins are effectively pollinated in these trees, individual fruits ripen and split open, producing lots of cotton fluff (with a few embedded tiny black seeds). The cottonwoods, by name, are notorious for the amounts of fluff produced, more so than willows or aspen. Millions of seeds may be produced by a single tree,

but hardly any of them germinate. Lucky seeds, perhaps one in a billion, may find a choice spot, well away from its parents, where it may germinate and survive as a seedling, and grow into an adult, as in a new stream habitat many miles away. Pollination produces genetic variation, the stuff of evolution. The primary mode of reproduction and growth among the willows is the production of new shoots from the roots. In aspen and cottonwood, new shoots sprout from horizontal spreading roots. In willows, new shoots arise from the base of the plant. Individual shoots grow quickly, producing soft wood. These trees don't live long, generally less than a century, although they often look ancient. Particularly in quaking aspen, the young trees maintain their connections through the root system traced back to a single parent tree. Collectively these "populations" of trees may attain a great age. The "pando," a trembling aspen stand in Utah, consists of 40,000 stems on 106 acres. Its root system is estimated to be, roughly, 10-80,000

*continued on page B-14*



Female catkins of narrow leaf cottonwood, Cottonwood Creek (appropriate!) green belt.

photo by David Lee

# SKIES OVER CRESTONE

**by Kim Malville**

At sunset brilliant Venus appears above the western horizon every night of the month, getting higher every day. It remains visible after sunset for 95 minutes at the start of the month and will last 130 minutes at the end of the month. At the other end of the sky, Jupiter rises 3 hours after sunset at the start of the month. At April's end it will rise 30 minutes after sunset. The giant planet reaches opposition to the sun on May 8, when it will be brightest, closest to the earth, and due south at midnight.

**April 2:** Mars and Saturn will nearly bump into each other about 1 hour before sunrise. They will be visible above Sagittarius in the south-southeast.

**April 7:** Again for early risers, look to the south-southeast to view the moon next to Saturn and Mars above Sagittarius

**April 17:** The crescent moon will be below and to the left of Venus about 45 minutes after sunset in the west.

**April 18:** The moon moves close to Aldebaran and the Hyades.

**April 24:** Watch Venus move upward thought the constellation. Tonight it passes just below the Pleiades.

**April 27:** Venus will have moved half-way between the Pleiades and the Hyades.

**Stephen Hawking dies at the age of 76 on March 14**

"Einstein was wrong when he said, 'God does not play dice.' Consideration of black holes suggests, not only that God does play dice, but that he sometimes confuses us by throwing them where they can't be seen."

"It would not be much of a universe if it wasn't home to the people you love."

-Stephen Hawking

(Jan 8, 1942- March 14, 2018)

Tyger Tyger, burning bright,  
In the forests of the night,  
What immortal hand or eye,  
could frame thy fearful symmetry?

-William Blake

(Nov 28, 1757 - Aug 12, 1827)

**Stephen Hawking**

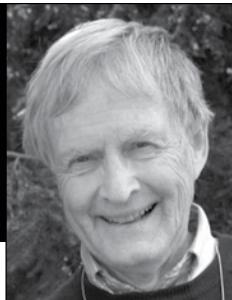
For the last few years Stephen Hawking has been communicating with the world by means of a slight twitch in the muscle under his right eye. He was informed when he was 21 that he had ALS and probably had only a few years to live. According to some friends that news energized him and sent him on a trajectory to become a veritable cultural icon, one of the world's most famous

scientists. Although confined to a wheelchair for most of his adult life and eventually rendered capable of speaking only through a computer-controlled voice synthesizer, Hawking had the goal of creating a grand "theory of everything" in which the small world of quantum mechanics was joined with the larger cosmos of gravity. In 1974 he partly accomplished that goal using black holes as his platform and announced to everyone's surprise that black holes are not truly black and some could be brilliantly white. Black holes are the gaps in the fabric of the universe that result from the collapse of massive stars, driven inward by their own intense gravity. Before 1974 everyone believed that these holes in space were utterly and totally black. Nothing, not even light could escape from the so-called event horizon of a black hole.

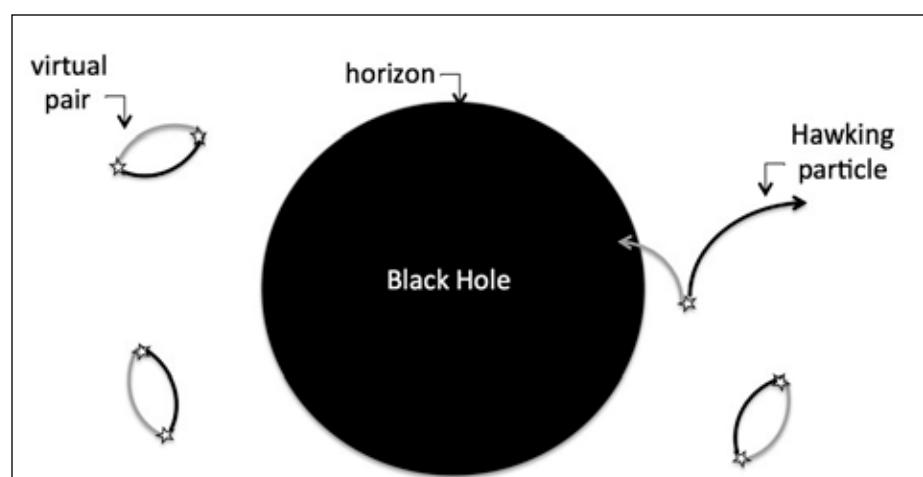
Hawking knew that that space is not really empty but filled with the constant creation and destruction of pairs of particles and anti-particles. These symmetrical particles, such as electrons and positrons, are virtual (like virtual reality) because they last such a short time that they cannot be detected. To an astonishing degree our cosmos is thus dominated by this "fearful" symmetry: every particle has a perfectly symmetrical anti-particle, equal in every way except having an opposite electrical charge. When they join they annihilate each other in a burst of energy.

Hawking suggested that if such a pair popped into existence close to the event horizon of a black hole, the symmetry could be broken because the intense gravity would prevent their mutual annihilation. One particle would fall into the event horizon and be lost forever while the other could escape to distant space. Because the gravitational energy of the black hole had been responsible for the creation of the escaping particle, the mass of the black hole would be diminished. Half of these escaping particles will be anti-particles and these will almost immediately be annihilated by particles in space, producing radiation. This process will cause the black hole to glow with what is now known as Hawking radiation.

An alternative interpretation involves quantum mechanical tunneling. Particles are not like tiny ball bearings, but they are clouds, which can pass beyond



Stephen Hawking.



The escape of particles from the vicinity of a black hole

photo from Quora.com

seemingly impenetrable barriers, such as gravity or electrical fields. A well-known application of such quantum mechanical tunneling is the tunnel diode, which is found in many electronic devices. In a black hole, there is a finite probability that a portion of the electron cloud lies beyond the event horizon and thus could slowly escape. The smaller the black hole the larger the fraction of the electron cloud that lies outside and hence the brighter the Hawking radiation. A mini-hole with a mass of the moon would have a temperature of 0.02K while a really tiny one with the mass of a proton would radiate at a temperature of a billion degrees. None of these mini-holes has been observed, but, as you can imagine, astronomers are eagerly searching the heavens.

On January 8, 1942 Stephen Hawking was born, exactly 300 years to the day after the death of Galileo Galilei in 1642. The last few years of the life of Galileo and almost the entire life of Stephen Hawking were similar in some ways but very different in others. Both were brilliant minds trapped inside their own skulls. Galileo was the first human to view the heavens with a telescope but some two decades later was condemned for heresy by the Inqui-

sition. In 1633 he was threatened with torture for maintaining that the Earth moves around the sun. He was forced to "abjure, curse and detest" that opinion and was sentenced to house arrest for the rest of his life. By 1638 he became completely blind and died four years later aged 77. In a letter to his friend Elie Diodati dated January 1638, he wrote: "Your dear friend and servant Galileo has been for the last month hopelessly blind; so that this heaven, this earth, this universe, which I by my marvelous discoveries and clear demonstrations had enlarged a hundred thousand times beyond the belief of the wise men of bygone ages, henceforward for me is shrunk into such a small space as is filled by my own bodily sensations."

The ashes of Steven Hawking will lie in Westminster Cathedral, close to Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin.



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## Starr Sightings

### Mercury retrograde

We are currently in the middle of an infamous Mercury Retrograde period. There are 3 Mercury retrograde seasons per year and they each last about 3 weeks. Mercury Retrograde tends to wreck havoc in our lives, causing our machines to malfunction, sowing miscommunications, creating trouble while traveling, instigating poor decision-making, generating potential money problems, and erupting in frustration because nothing seems reliable.

While some Mercury Retrograde seasons seem benign, it depends on how your natal chart is impacted. Those most affected now are the Cardinal signs (Aries, Cancer, Libra, Capricorn), especially those born near the end of March, June, September or December and early into the next month. Mercury retrograde can be a good time for meditative pursuits because we can build self-knowledge and spiritual power within while deepening analytical awareness. It's an excellent time for inner processing and journaling! And for people born with Mercury Retrograde, it is said that they thrive during these periods while the rest of us stumble.

Even when Mercury turns direct on April 15, we won't be "out of the woods" until early May as Mercury re-traces its Shadow—the

degrees "lost" during its retrograde period. During Mercury's Shadow weeks, mental functioning may remain partially debilitated as Mercury reorients itself to direct movement.

### Saturn & Pluto go retrograde too

This month both Saturn (4/17) and Pluto (4/22) go retrograde as well, turning us even more inward. Saturn in earthy Capricorn represents governments and corporate hierarchies, laws and loans—all of which require some serious restructuring. Pluto in Capricorn focuses on businesses that drill into the Earth, the secrets that drive their bottom line, and the magma that flows within the earth. Retrograde planets enhance our ability to analyze deeply, study and plan, while slowing us down. We feel less confident, worry more about our status, and have a tendency to overwork as compensation. Some may experience depression, but in general retrograde times are good for review, re-examination, reorganizing, as well as re-balancing our accounts, whether monetary or karmic. Saturn and Pluto will remain retrograde until fall. Saturn transits Capricorn through 2020; Pluto until 2024. During this time, face reality squarely and with integrity. Stamina and perseverance will be rewarded.

### Chiron enters Aries

Chiron, a large asteroid orbiting between Saturn and Uranus, takes ~50 years to circle the Sun. Chiron was last in Aries during the 1970s Watergate Years. (Since history repeats itself, infer what you may.) Those in their 40s (experiencing a Chiron Return) will start feeling their mid-life crisis coming on. Those near or into their early 70s (transiting Chiron opposed natal Chiron) may need to focus more on health issues. Chiron in Aries generally marks a good time to heal past wounds (especially self-esteem and abuse issues), to break old destructive habits, and to re-energize a deeper sense of purpose. Friendships will be tested, "toxic masculinity" and misogyny will be further exposed and explored, while self-harm, including suicide, will likely rise during Chiron's 8+ years in impulsive Aries.

### Current aspects

Of gravest concern is that friction is building between opposing sides. Tensions run high as Mars conjuncts Saturn on April 1, and even higher when Mars conjuncts Pluto on April 26. We can expect tempers and pressures to build this month and beyond, as Mars, Saturn and Pluto all rise higher in declination. Meanwhile, expect more mass shootings and assassinations, volcanoes erupting, plus war and trade threats to unsettle global markets and rattle nerves. Leaders may fall, Indonesia and the Philippines are highly vulnerable to seismic activity, and the Korean peninsula will take front stage.

### Trump

Transiting Saturn conjunct Mars (stop-go) in Capricorn are setting up a Cardinal Grand Square (big challenges instigating action) by opposing Trump's Mercury (mind), which squares Trump's natal Neptune (confusion and illusion), opposed by transiting Mercury, squaring Mars/Saturn. Trump will be clear one moment and make a mental muddle of things the next, with new lies that may lead to his further undoing, ideas that go nowhere, and poor decision-making all month.

### Uranus square Pluto continues

Transiting Uranus started squaring transiting Pluto back in 2010 when Uranus entered Aries. Then the Arab Spring erupted in Egypt in Jan 2011. Pluto has been square Uranus ever since. Now transiting Uranus is squaring the US national "Sibley" Pluto, extending the impact of this square for yet another year. This explosive astrological aspect generates chaos with unexpected transformational repercussions. We must overhaul our systems of governments and global finance, recode our social networks, and learn to cooperate with each other if the USA is to prosper into the future unobstructed. While current attitudes and events shock and amaze, resistance mounts, and new solutions emerge out of the mayhem in unpredictable ways. It's important to believe that we can become wiser and stronger as a nation, despite appearances to the contrary. happy Earth Day on April 22!



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# Who We Are

## Heather D'Alessio:

*At home on the threshold of wilderness*

by Gussie Fauntleroy

When Heather D'Alessio entered Colgate University in Hamilton, New York, medicine seemed like a logical choice. She was thoughtful, hard working, and had a quick mind—in high school she'd won the New York State Olympiada of Spoken Russian. She'd interned with a veterinarian as a teen. She was good with her hands and with living creatures, having grown up with goats, chickens, horses, and other animals on a wooded New York homestead created by her engineer-turned-artist mother and nature-loving engineer father.

But when it came to pre-med, she hit an unexpected bump. She learned and understood the course material, but her artistic side would not be bottled up. She found it almost impossible to answer questions in a clinical, formulaic way. "My answers were too much like poetry," she says, smiling. After a year and a half of pre-med, she took a literature course that blew open her sense of what was out there to be learned about life. She knew it was time to change tracks.

### Self-designed education

As the first Colgate student to design her own independent major—actually a double major—Heather earned a B.A. in Peace Studies (with a minor in Russian) and Creative Expressions of Social Change. The first took her to such inspirational places as Corrymeela Community, a long-established peace and reconciliation organization in Northern Ireland, and to Findhorn in Scotland. Her second major allowed her to explore the ways in which artistic creation reflects social change.

Together her studies helped affirm her belief that even in the midst of social and ecological breakdown, there are positive efforts and successful models of peacemaking and sustainability in the world. Yet she would search for years before finding her own sense of community and belonging in a lifestyle that echoes the values and experiences she had growing up.

### Blueprint from an earlier era

In many ways, Heather's upbringing was a throwback to earlier times. Her mother, who traded geotechnical-engineering for pottery and later other forms of art, engaged her only child in a wealth of hands-on experiences—from animal husbandry and gardening to welding, horseback riding, and chopping and hauling firewood by horse team through 80 acres of towering oaks. Heather's father took her orienteering. As a hobby carpenter he taught her the use of tools and what quality craftsmanship means. The elderly couple down the road exemplified the value of old-fashioned kindness and neighborliness.

Following college graduation Heather headed for Madison, Wisconsin where her parents had moved



Heather at age 8 with her first goat, Ben.

for her father's job. She worked in a feminist bookstore, as a bicycle mechanic, and for three years drove a cab on all shifts for an employee-owned taxi company. She learned to listen to people and connect on a level in which others were comfortable. Often after her shift she would write about her experiences and the people she'd met. "It was a study in human nature and personal safety," she says. "In ten minutes you can pass the time of day with a stranger, or be moved forever by a brief, shared moment."

After the taxi stint Heather traveled for a short time, returned to Madison, and fell in love with a man named Jay. The couple spent two years following the West Coast hardcore music scene before settling in Salem, Oregon and marrying. When their daughter Justice was 15 months old, Jay died. Hungry for community and wanting to escape the debilitating effects of modern society, Heather sought out like-minded families to share a vision of intentional living in the woods—unsuccessfully at first, since her friends at the time were primarily urban.

### Searching & finding

She was also searching for her own spiritual foundation, not the Zen Buddhism she'd grown up with or her father's Jewish heritage. Paganism filled that need. "I wanted to give my daughter a sense of meaning, something ancient that came from a place before patriarchy," she says. One spring she attended a Beltane festival at Nomenus, a "Radical Faerie Sanctuary" for gay men and their friends in Oregon. "I



Nathan Good, Heather holding Owen, Toby, Kim Hansen (Heather's father), and Justice.



Heather and her mother, Ruth Hansen, on the horse cart Ruth built on the family's rural New York homestead.



Heather at 15 (right), sad to say goodbye to her Russian host sister Anya Kissina, with Moscow skyline in the background after a student exchange stay in 1992.  
photo by Jen Blair

walked in and someone walked toward me with arms open and said, 'Welcome home!' I just cried," she remembers. "I found my people, all weird, like me." She returned each Beltane and Samhain for several years.

At around the same time she connected with people living on the land in the old ways, learning and using primitivist and indigenous skills. For three years, nature was her sustenance and home. She and others followed the season-guided "sacred hoop," traveling to the ocean to harvest seaweed and salt and to Washington and Idaho for berries, for example, while the men

headed south to hunt wild pigs. She was also part of a tipi village for a time. But living on the land was often easier, she found, than people and personalities getting along. Tired and lonely, she sheltered for a time at a northern California commune. Then she heard about Crestone.

### A liminal space

In 2011 Heather moved to Crestone, drawn to the charter school for Justice but also because it felt like a place where she could be herself. She and her fiancé Nathan Good got together in 2016, and a year ago baby Owen joined Justice, now 14, and 6-year-old Toby. The family's lifestyle, on two acres in the Sangre de Cristo foothills, recalls Heather's early years, with a garden, goats, chickens, llamas, and ducks, all in the spirit of permaculture and bio-cooperation. "I want to cooperate with others, sharing what I've learned about hobby farming with people who need a little encouragement," she says. (Visit shangrilahcolorado.com and click on Raw Goat Milk Shares.)

At 43, and after years of seeking peace and community in wilderness, Heather says she finally found a place that suits her well: the liminal, threshold space between civilization and wilderness. It's a place where work, play, family, creativity, and caring for the earth and other people can come together. "I want to facilitate community building—how to live together, get along, trust, work, and evolve together," she says. It's also a place where her personal, earth-based sense of spirituality can quietly thrive. "All I have to do is sit on a stump with my goats, twenty feet from my front door, and watch them chew their cuds," she says, "and I feel this huge peace come over me."

# The Grassroots Grows Green Shoots! Celebrating Earth Day

by Lee Temple

The many-faceted petals of budding environmentalism burst into full bloom on the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970. Some 20 million participants helped energize the nation's ecological spirit with this incredibly successful event, widely recognized as the birth date of the modern environmental movement. In addition to the traditional goals associated with preserving nature and protecting human life from water and air pollution, dealing with chemicals and toxic wastes then also became an important focus.

Earth Day was the brainchild of Wisconsin senator and former governor Gaylord Nelson. Long troubled that the environment had failed to make it onto the legislative agenda despite public concern, Nelson conceived the possibility of forcing the issue on Congress by fusing environmental concerns with the energy behind student activism—especially the anti-Vietnam War teach-ins spreading across college campuses—to create a huge grassroots environmental protest. His first announcement of Earth Day in the fall of 1969 electrified the country, including the media. In Senator Gaylord's words, "It took off like gangbusters."

Overwhelmed by the response and to ensure bipartisanship, Senator Nelson invited Republican Representative Paul N. "Pete" McCloskey from California, an early environmental advocate, to partner with him. McCloskey

raised \$100,000 and hired Harvard graduate student Dennis Hayes to direct Earth Day's organization. Hayes brought in twenty-two staffers, all aged twenty-one or younger. From a small office in Washington, DC, they worked tirelessly to build and coordinate the event.

Yet Earth Day turned into a truly grassroots movement that actually grew autonomously. Senator Nelson reported: "We had neither the time nor resources to organize twenty million demonstrators and the thousands of schools and local communities that participated. That was the remarkable thing about Earth Day. It organized itself."

When Earth Day arrived, Congress took a recess for the day so that members could participate. In New York City, Mayor John Lindsay closed Fifth Avenue to automobile traffic and 100,000 people attended an ecology fair in Central Park. Across the US, 10,000 public schools, 2000 colleges, and 1000 communities hosted Earth Day activities, some of which were distinctly theatrical. One group of demonstrators dumped oil-coated ducks in front of the Department of the Interior. Another dragged a net full of dead fish down Fifth Avenue, shouting, "This could be you!" It was, as American Heritage magazine declared, "one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy." Today, about a billion people in 192 countries continue to celebrate Earth Day each year.



Caity Daniels spreads some joy to other vendors by bringing them bunches of flowers at last year's first official Saturday Market, held downtown on Earth Day. Caity makes leather goods, mostly moccasins, with Desert Mountain Stitching. photo by Lori Nagel

This article is another excerpt from Lee's award-winning book, "Awakening into Unity," a comprehensive, richly illustrated compendium of the entire Global Awakening series, and a powerful healing balm for these troubled, turbulent times. View/borrow it at leading universities and the Baca Grande Library. Buy it at Poor Richard's and Elephant Cloud Market at a generous local's discount. Follow the source text for this article on pp 196-197, together with other similar efforts in Chapter Ten, "The Power of Enlightened Intention and Choice." Learn more about Lee Temple, Awakening into Unity, and the Global Awakening series at award-winning [www.primamundi.com](http://www.primamundi.com).

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## The Atalanta Cooperative Garden

by Joanna Dokson

The Atalanta Cooperative Garden has openings for both working and non-working members this year. Located on the north bank of Willow Creek, the garden is in its 18th year on the Atalanta project land. The garden has been producing food for members, as well as the Food Bank and La Puente, each summer with the help of working members. Only organic pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers are used in the garden. Our water is from our solar-powered well.

Part of our mission is to share the experience of growing food and healthy eating. Last year we were honored to have mothers and preschoolers visit from Alamosa to help with the final harvests and a recipe exchange. We look forward to more of these opportunities in the upcoming growing season.

A wide variety of veggies are grown each year from asparagus to potatoes, greens to tomatoes, peas and beans, peppers and radishes, carrots, garlic, onions, leeks, shallots,

lots, parsnips, broccoli, cabbage, winter and summer squash and herbs. An orchard is being established with apple, plum, and cherry trees and berry bushes. Members may also purchase eggs and goat milk from Atalanta.

Members can sign up for half or full shares. A full working share is \$50 and a non-working share is \$250. A full share is generally enough for a family of four. Share contents and amounts change and increase throughout the growing season. Non-working members have their shares delivered while working members take their share home after harvest each week. Working members help with planting, harvesting and maintaining the garden which is watered by soaker and drip irrigation on timers.

We are happy to share that, after submitting a proposal, the garden was chosen to participate in a crowdfunding effort sponsored by SeedMoney, a nonprofit offering financial and technical support to public food garden projects. We



Preschool moms helping out at the Atalanta Community Garden last Fall.

photo by Katie Dokson

quickly surpassed our initial fundraising goal and raised enough money to fund some wonderful improvements, including table-height planting beds for those with difficulty kneeling or bending that will be accessed by a new firm pathway suitable for chairs, stools or walkers. The expanded goal

also includes funds for improving the solar-powered water system. Thank you to everyone who donated!

We are looking forward to another productive and fun year. Call or email for information and to sign up: 719-256-6200, contact@atalanta.org Joanna.

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# Garden Guru

## Earthworms



by Matie Belle Lakish

It's springtime, planting time, and drought seems to be upon us. As we greet the month of April, we still have a chance of snow and rain. One of the deepest snows that I remember happened on April 7. However, as our warmer-than-usual weather continues, it is difficult to know how to plan for gardening success.

Already, plants are shooting up in my garden. Garlic and onions are coming up, along with the spring flower bulbs I planted last fall. Some spinach from a fall planting is putting out new leaves. I will be doing an outdoor planting of lettuce and spinach early this year, I believe. The first week in April will be a target, unless snow surprises us. Kale and chard can go in soon as well. If the weather stays warm, I may plant peas and onions, and possibly beets and carrots later in the month.

A few months ago, I wrote about the composition of soil and the creatures that live within it. There are literally millions of creatures, from tiny bacteria and fungi to springtails and mites and centipedes. One of the larger creatures is the earthworm.

In healthy garden soil, earthworms will usually be abundant because healthy soil provides the right conditions for earthworms to

thrive, and conversely, earthworms will help create those healthy soils by tunneling, which allows oxygen and nutrients to travel to lower layers within the garden. Earthworms will also feed on those smaller organisms and release the debris from their digestion into the soil in the form of "castings".

They are surprisingly complex creatures, with over 6,000 species known around the world, and many more unclassified. There are three basic types, classified based on how they behave in the soil. Epigeic worms live primarily in litter near the surface feeding on leaves, animal feces and other tiny surface creatures. Endogeic worms live in soil, but tend to travel horizontally through it. Anecic earthworms dig fairly stable vertical tunnels and drag bits of vegetation and animal remains down these tunnels where it can decay and be consumed by the worms, as well as other creatures. This action aerates the soil and allows water to flow into these tunnels where it can moisten the soil at lower layers. Nightcrawlers fall into this category.

An earthworm has a gizzard to grind the food items it ingests. The tiny bits of sand in the gizzard grind everything the worm eats into a fine slurry that mixes with the soil it in-

gests and exits its long digestive tract as castings. It has five aortic arches that control its circulatory system, and spiky little hairs on each of its segments that help it move along through the soil. It has no eyes or teeth and breathes through its skin, which must stay moist.

Although each worm produces both sperm and eggs, worms do seek partners for breeding. Breeding is fairly complex. Each mature worm has an enlarged area on the forward part of its body called a clitellum. The worms join at the clitellum facing in opposite directions and, through a complex mating process involving mucus exchange that carries sperm from one to meet with eggs from another, a cocoon is then formed from a protein called albumin. As this begins to harden around the worm, the worm backs out, depositing eggs and sperm in the cocoon as it does so. As the worm departs, the cocoon then closes at both ends to form an egg case containing the eggs and sperm. Fertilization occurs within this case, and in two or three weeks about 5 baby worms will emerge, each measuring under an inch. In 6 to 8 weeks these babies can be reproducing. This breeding schedule could result in a huge growth rate, but in reality, environmental conditions will limit numbers.

Although I don't know for sure, I believe the worms that live in the soil around here are what is known as "nightcrawlers" and may be *Lumbricus terrestris*. After a summer rain, I often find them early in the morning, and gather them and move them to my garden. I have tried putting them into a "worm box" in my greenhouse, but have had little success in getting them to survive and reproduce. In my research, I discovered that the worms people raise indoors in boxes is a different variety, probably *Eisenia fetida* or *Eisenia andrei*. These varieties are not hardy enough to live outdoors in our climate, but are much easier to raise in a worm bed indoors. The Eisenia pair are excellent worms for breaking down raw material such as vegetable scraps, coffee grounds and shredded paper into worm castings that can be added to garden soil.

Soil that worms have processed has more nutrients than



Earthworms mating. All sorts of fascinating things go on in your garden.

otherwise similar soil. According to Wikipedia, "Investigations in the United States show that fresh earthworm casts are five times richer in available nitrogen, seven times richer in available phosphates, and 11 times richer in available potassium than the surrounding upper 6 inches (150 mm) of soil."

Earthworms' bodies are over 70% water, and they cannot thrive in dry environments. They are rarely found in the native sand that is abundant in our area. As I have developed my gardens by adding compost and manure to the sandy soil, I have also tried to collect and add earthworms. They have now spread fairly well throughout my garden beds. I am concerned that the dry weather we are having will cause some of them to dry out and die. They seem to be masters at moving into the deeper soil layers, so hopefully, this will help them survive in a drought.

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56 Wagon Wheel Road - \$299,000  
Luxurious ~1800sf 2BD/2BA southwest-style ranch home built in 2002. 2-car garage w/studio. Large windows in great room w/stone fireplace & amazing views. 4.6 acres, well & septic.

147 Moonlight Way - \$279,000  
Spacious 2600sf 2 story 3/2.5/Office w/garage backing to Crestone Creek greenbelt. Upstairs master suite w/soak tub & double vanities & separate wing w/2 BR's, BA and living area. Downstairs is living, dining, kitchen & office.

207C Foothill OL - \$255,000  
2-story 3BD/2.5BA/Studio 2192sf home on .965 acres built with non-toxic materials & energy efficiency. Lrg kitchen, bamboo floors, pine ceilings. Spacious master suite w/Jacuzzi tub, sep. shower, marble counters. Views/Deck.

21820 County Rd. 48X - \$249,000  
Lovely 1606sf ranch home w/bunkhouse, horse setup, on 6.11ac on CR 48X just outside town of Saguache. Lots of updates to the home. Built in 1953, updated from 2013-current.

1974CR Highland OL - \$675,000  
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**New Listings**

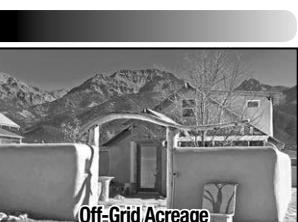
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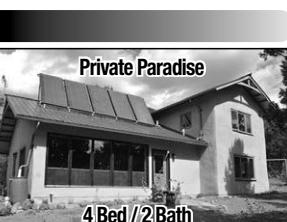
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1381 Saddle Rock Trail - \$280,000

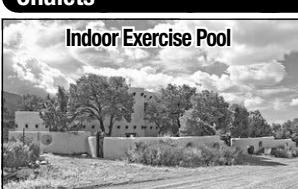
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780C Palomino OL - \$585,000

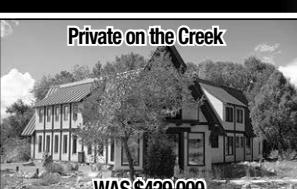
Built by Lee Mitchell to capture mtn & valley views, elegant 3 BR/2.5BA home w/2-car garage on 2.787 acres. Fantastic landscaping & flowing water. In-floor radiant heat & Hearthstone woodstove w/ stone surround. Expansive Master balcony.

437C N. Chaparral Way - \$479,000

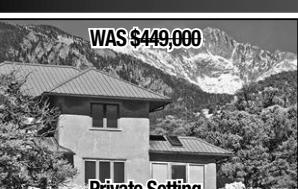
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**Chalets**

Indoor Exercise Pool



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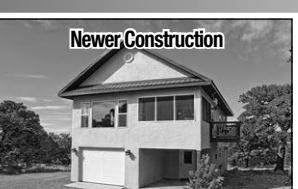


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4519C Grayline Ct - \$389,000

Elegant 2BR 2BA 1932 custom strawbale built in 2003 by Paul Koppala. A refined Asian/Southwest blend. On private cul-de-sac 5.35 acres backs to greenbelt. 30' yurt w/kitchenette & bathroom.

22 Alpine OL - \$279,000

CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch & wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!

3461 Splendid Way - \$265,000

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.

3760 Jubilant Way - \$239,000

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

**Chalets**

Contemporary



1212 Chaparral - \$229,000

Ranch style 3BR/1.75BA 1272sf stucco home w/mtn views. Built in 2017 by Terapin & Co. near paved road close to town. Great room w/hardwood floors & views. Passive solar. Modern kitchen, new appliances. ETS heater & baseboard heating.

## Jump in on an Active Market!

**719-256-4198**

### 2017-2018 HOME SALES (\*denotes listed & sold)

380 N Alder St.....	\$425,000 .....	SOLD	2715 Happy Hollow Way.....	\$185,000 .....	SOLD
120 W. Silver Ave. ....	\$399,000 .....	SOLD*	635C Panorama Way.....	\$179,000 .....	SOLD*
786C Panorama Way.....	\$399,000 .....	SOLD*	1212 Chaparral Way.....	\$175,000 .....	SOLD*
1038 Beaver Trail.....	\$337,000 .....	SOLD*	107 Pinewood OL.....	\$172,500 .....	SOLD*
4511C Ridgecrest Way.....	\$312,000 .....	SOLD*	1327 Badger Road.....	\$172,000 .....	SOLD*
999C Badger Road.....	\$289,000 .....	SOLD*	98 Skyview Way.....	\$169,000 .....	SOLD*
223 Moffat Way.....	\$289,000 .....	SOLD*	200 Evergreen.....	\$169,000 .....	SOLD
359 Chaparral Way.....	\$269,000 .....	SOLD	3705 Carefree Way.....	\$165,000 .....	SOLD
2145 Indian Well.....	\$266,500 .....	SOLD*	4275C Fallen Tree OL.....	\$164,000 .....	SOLD*
1738C Willow Creek Way.....	\$259,000 .....	SOLD	3901 Rarity Way.....	\$163,000 .....	SOLD
535 Thornwood.....	\$255,000 .....	SOLD	415C Moonlight Way.....	\$159,000 .....	SOLD
305 Palomino Way.....	\$252,000 .....	SOLD	35 Camino Baca Grande.....	\$155,000 .....	SOLD*
4376 E. Twinview OL.....	\$245,000 .....	SOLD	1001 Badger Rd.....	\$149,000 .....	SOLD
3481 E. Graceful Ct.....	\$239,000 .....	SOLD*	34 Camino Baca Grande.....	\$149,000 .....	SOLD*
757 Rendezvous.....	\$239,000 .....	SOLD	3735C Jubilant Way.....	\$149,000 .....	SOLD*
323 Holiday Way.....	\$235,000 .....	SOLD	760 & 761 Panorama Way.....	\$149,000 .....	SOLD*
999C Badger Road.....	\$225,000 .....	SOLD*	3708 Enchanted Way.....	\$142,500 .....	SOLD*
983C Peaceful Way.....	\$224,500 .....	SOLD	354 Huerta Ct.....	\$89,000 .....	SOLD*
1202 Wagon Wheel.....	\$219,000 .....	SOLD*	4485 Ridgecrest Way.....	\$74,500 .....	SOLD*
1867C Rockyview Way.....	\$219,000 .....	SOLD	157 Moonlight Way.....	\$69,000 .....	SOLD
1541C Camino Real.....	\$205,000 .....	SOLD	56 Wagon Wheel.....	\$299,000 .....	UNDER CONTRACT*
3762 Carefree Way.....	\$198,000 .....	SOLD*	147 Moonlight Way.....	\$279,000 .....	UNDER CONTRACT*
661 Camino Del Rey.....	\$195,000 .....	SOLD	207C Foothill OL.....	\$255,000 .....	UNDER CONTRACT*
2035 Lost Cave Way.....	\$189,900 .....	SOLD	21820 County Rd. 48X.....	\$249,000 .....	UNDER CONTRACT
333 Palomino Way.....	\$189,000 .....	SOLD*			

# Bobby Woelz, Director of the Saguache County Office of Emergency Management, speaks on preparing for wildfire

by Gussie Fauntleroy

Bobby Woelz stepped into the position of emergency manager for Saguache County in December 2017. The *Eagle* asked him about the role of that office and what we as residents need to know about potential emergency threats in our area and what we can do to be as prepared as possible.

**Eagle:** Bobby, tell us about your background.

**Woelz:** My last position was with Washington State Department of Ecology as a grant writer and compliance officer. Before that I was a wildland firefighter for five years with the Student Conservation Association (SCA), the Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC), and the US Forest Service (USFS). With the SCA and SCC I led the Veterans Fire AmeriCorps program, training recent-era military veterans to be wildland firefighters. With the Forest Service I was a firefighter type 1/incident commander type 5 trainee on a type-6 engine in the Dolores Ranger District of San Juan National Forest. The largest and most notable incident I was a part of was the West Fork Complex fire, northeast of Pagosa Springs, Colorado in 2013.

I was recently accepted into the Colorado Emergency Management Academy. This is a seven-month practitioner program designed to provide the skills and knowledge required for new emergency managers to effectively manage a Type III Incident in their jurisdiction.

**Eagle:** As County Emergency Manager, what are your responsibilities?

**Woelz:** I work closely and collaborate with local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, EMS, search and rescue, public health agencies, schools, and elected officials in Saguache County and across the San Luis Valley. My primary responsibility is to update and maintain Saguache County's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This includes coordinating training and exercises to improve the disaster readiness of all the county's disaster response organizations. I also act as a liaison and coordinate with area businesses, industrial installations, public utilities, welfare agencies, and adjacent jurisdiction Emergency Managers to develop integrated disaster plans. During a disaster I would staff the San Luis Valley Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and provide technical support, logistics and planning assistance during the disaster response and recovery.

**Eagle:** What's the biggest emergency threat to Crestone/Baca and Saguache County right now and what should we be doing, individually and as a community, to prepare?

**Woelz:** The risk assessment conducted in Saguache County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan lists wildland fire as Saguache County's biggest threat with respect to probability and severity of consequences. Honestly, it is not a question of

if there will be a large-scale wildfire in our area—it's a matter of *when*.

The Baca Grande Volunteer Fire Department is currently working with the Colorado State Forest Service on an updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the Baca. The current CWPP lists wildfire mitigation plans which include: "First Priority: Individual Property Owners' Responsibility. Effective defensible space is the single most important factor in determining the outcome when a wildfire burns through inhabited areas. There is no replacement for individual homeowners redeeming



Bobby Woelz spoke during a Baca Resiliency presentation at the Charter School on March 11 about disaster preparation.

their responsibilities to themselves and the community. Second Priority: Road Signing. The Baca Grande has relatively small, low contrast, sporadically occurring signage. And green belt management: Without thinning and fuel cleanup the green belts are extremely vulnerable."

Crestone and the Baca Grande are located in a fire-adapted ecosystem, which means that fire is a natural (and beneficial) part of this landscape. We must do our best to become a Fire Adaptive Community, "a community consisting of informed and prepared citizens collaboratively planning and taking action to safely coexist with wildland fire."

## Preparedness begins at home. I encourage everyone to:

1. Sign up to receive Reverse 911 notifications at: [www.SLVE911.org](http://www.SLVE911.org)
2. Prepare a 72-hour (3-day) "grab and go" disaster supply kit containing your family's and pets' necessary items, such as cash, water, clothing, food, first aid and prescription medicines. More info can be found at: [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov)

3. Create defensible space around homes. [www.csfs.colostate.edu](http://www.csfs.colostate.edu) and [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov) have information about defensible space.

4. Make sure your home's address numbers are clearly visible at night (reflective).

5. Develop your family's "shelter in place" and "fire evacuation" plans. Practice family fire drills. Ensure that all family members are aware of and understand escape routes, communications, meeting points and other emergency details.

For more information I can be reached at: [RWoelz@saguache-county-co.gov](mailto:RWoelz@saguache-county-co.gov).



A roaring crown fire in a stand of ponderosa pines. The Pioneer Fire in Idaho, 2016. photo courtesy of Daniel S. Johnson.

## Wildfire season could become extreme this spring

by Nathan Good Crestone Volunteer Fire Department

In my nearly 17 years learning fire science in this community I have not observed such low fuel moisture conditions nor a fire weather forecast as extreme as the one issued for this spring since 2001. Herein is NEED TO KNOW information for all residents, but folks new and or unfamiliar with the Crestone/Baca wildland urban interface area are especially encouraged to learn about what is called WATCH OUT CONDITIONS that come with dry, windy weather.

If fire danger is forecasted a red flag warning will be issued by local fire managers and will be broadcast on local FM radio 88.7 KRZA and hopefully a fire danger sign will be installed on rd. T coming into Crestone/Baca soon. Our topography and general aspect lends itself to be fire friendly, so be cautious with your actions and stay vigilantly prepared in case the need to evacuate arises. Look up the links below to educate yourself, family, friends and be safer!

Hopefully we get snow/rain and the forecast below will change!

The National Interagency Coordination Center and Predictive Services suggests drought conditions will worsen across the south central U.S. and expand westward to the southwestern deserts. Dry fuels and high fuel loads will increase the potential for intense, fast-spreading fires typically driven by wind during the spring months. Drying will spread into the southern mountains as snowpack melts and as spring is generally windy, any ignitions are likely to spread quickly. Snow depth analysis (NOAA, Office of Water Prediction) shows the central to southwest CO mountains snow depths were 30"-60" (53%-63% of median), and only 7"-20" in the central to southern CO front range (20%-50% of median).

We need precipitation! If not, large wildland fire potential is expected to increase in our area. March found severe to extreme conditions expanding over the Four Corners states, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and parts of the southern and central Mississippi Valley. Large fire history shows an increase in large fire activity through mid April associated with pre-green conditions and warmer and windier periods. Green-up conditions typically moderate large fire activity during the second half of April through May before the core fire season begins by June.

Current Climatology of the RMA (the geographic area Crestone is located) had above average moisture during the 2017 spring growing season and resulted in significant fuel loading. Snow-pack deficits continue in the southern CO mountains with resultant exposed fuels that are typically under snow this time of year, especially in the central to southern CO front range. Weather Predictions with dry swaths most notably in the corner of southwest KS through the plains of southeast CO.



Nathan Good holds up a map showing the drought and potential fire danger for our region during the Baca Resiliency presentation on March 11.

## Emergency websites

To sign up for reverse 911, which will notify you in case of an emergency or evacuation order, go to [www.SLVE911.org](http://www.SLVE911.org).

To check on San Luis Valley emergency announcements, go to [www.slveemergency.org](http://www.slveemergency.org).

To order a reflective blue house number sign, contact Joseph Saia, Brimar Industries, Inc., 1-800-274-6271 or [sales@brimar.com](mailto:sales@brimar.com).

## Wildfire Evacuation Checklist

### READY (Preplanning)

- Build with fire resistant materials and mitigate fuels
- Brief all family members of planned escape routes (Are there handicapped/elderly who need extra time? Where do pets go?)
- Have emergency kit ready to go (See below)
- Designate out-of-town contact to call

### SET (When fire reported)

- Wear leather shoes, cotton clothing, long sleeves, gloves, kerchief
- Back vehicle into driveway, leave keys in ignition
- Place emergency kit in vehicle or by door
- Listen to radio for emergency updates
- Move flammable materials away from house or take inside
- Close all windows and garage doors (disconnect automatic garage door opener), turn off fans or AC
- Porch light on, hose charged (off), ladder against back of house
- Close non-flammable shades, remove flammable drapes
- Move furniture away from windows, to middle of rooms
- Move small animals into single room where easy to catch
- If unprotected, allow large animals to escape

### GO! (asap)

- Account for all people and place small animals in vehicle
- Leave early before smoke and traffic impair escape
- Call contact to tell them where you are going and when
- Use headlights, windows up, seat belts
- Leave note or taped X on door, check in at evac. center

### EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Medications- (prescription & OTC, glasses, contacts)
- Cell phone and charger (vehicle plug)
- Money, credit cards, DL, passport, insurance, titles, etc.
- Food and water (at least 3 days, 3 gallons per person)
- Pet food as needed
- Flashlight (with extra batteries)
- First aid kit
- Clothing (for a few days, for cold nights, raingear)
- Sanitation supplies- (hand sanitizer, toothbrush, etc)
- Valuables- (photographs, jewelry, computers)
- Radio (for news, in vehicle?)

## SHELTER IN PLACE

(Do not attempt unless well-planned or escape routes cut off.  
WARNING: Smoke can be fatal, especially to asthmatics!)

### PREPLANNING

- Build with fire resistant materials
- Cover house with non-combustible roofing
- Upgrade to double-pane, tempered glass windows
- Surround house with fire resistant landscaping (thin trees and brush, cut weeds and grasses, remove ladder fuels, etc)
- Support neighborhood fuels treatments to reduce fire intensity around all homes, along Escape Routes and in Safety Zones
- Have emergency kit ready

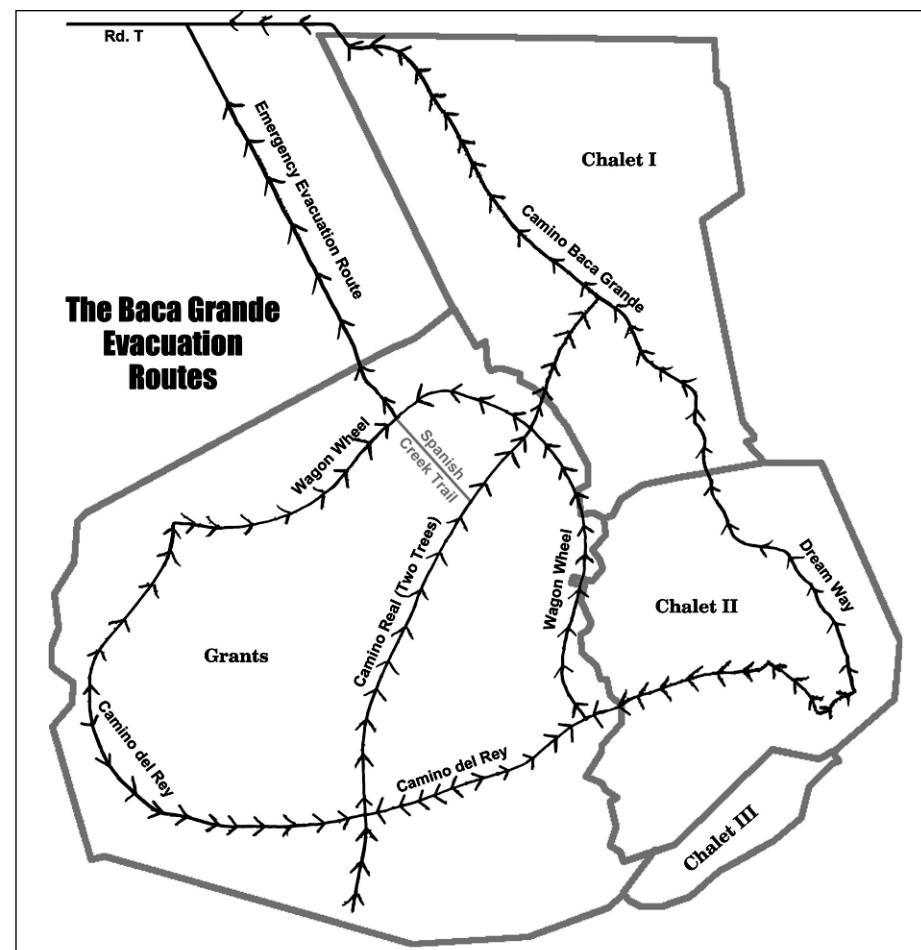
### WHEN FIRE REPORTED

- Wear leather shoes, cotton clothing, long sleeves, gloves, kerchief
- Account for all family members
- Listen to radio for emergency updates
- Move flammable materials away from house or take inside
- Close all windows and garage doors, turn off fans or air conditioners which might bring in sparks and smoke
- Close non-flammable shades, remove flammable drapes
- Move furniture away from windows, to middle of rooms
- Move small animals into single room
- If unprotected, allow large animals to escape

### WHEN FIRE APPROACHES

- Move all people into safest room, away from fire approach, cement floor best, with small windows but exit door if needed
- Bring emergency kit, water, food, radio, flashlight (no candles) and telephone into safest room
- Call contact to tell them where you are, call authorities if possible
- Breathe through masks or kerchief (do not wet) if smoke present
- Talk to each other to avoid panic, keep calm
- Have books or games for children
- Monitor radio news

If structure catches fire, check to see if fire front has passed and you can move outside, or to neighbor's house.



Evacuation map for the Baca Grande. Familiarize yourself with the recommended routes.

## Evacuation information

*by Fire Chief Tad Crawford,  
Baca Grande Emergency  
Services*

As you all know that it has been a very dry winter so early preparedness is the key in the event of an emergency.

It is important that you sign up for Reverse 911 at [www.slve911.org](http://www.slve911.org). This service will notify you in the event of evacuation initiated by the Sheriff. If you receive the phone call from reverse 911 please remember to not tie up the phone lines. You may also be notified by radio on KRZA 88.7 FM and KSLV 1240 AM.

### How to know when to evacuate & what to do

In the event that there has been an evacuation order, the Sheriff will initiate the reverse 911. Not everyone is signed up yet for this service, so a good rule of thumb is to be proactive. Have your evacuation kit ready before it's needed. Tune into the radio and listen for emergency prompts.

Know your way out at all times. Landmarks may not always be visible due to smoke or dust. The escape route you take depends on the location and direction of the fire. Plan for more than one escape route in case of heavy smoke, blocked routes or darkness. Select the closest route, watch for obstructions, avoid an uphill evacuation, pay attention to instructions from emergency services personnel, drive safely and please do not speed.

Your primary objective is to make it to County Road T and to the Moffat School to check in. Checking in at the school is imperative. This tells us who has evacuated.

Right before you evacuate, tie a dry cloth over your nose and mouth to reduce smoke inhalation. A wet cloth may steam and burn your lungs if the surrounding area is hot. Wear all cotton and natural fabric clothing and carry leather gloves. Gather family members; restrain pets and take them with you. Shut off your propane at the tank and turn off pilot lights to appliances. Leave lights on, inside and out, so we can locate your home in heavy

smoke. Close all doors and windows and do not lock them. Disconnect automatic garage door openers, put an X on your door with duct tape or spray paint when you leave, and leave a note indicating where you are going and a phone number to reach you.

### Ready Set Go: having the things you need ready

Have a 72-hour kit ready in the event you need to evacuate. Here are a few things to have in your kit:

**Water** - one gallon of water per person per day for drinking and sanitation

**Food** - non-perishable food, canned food and can opener, matches in a waterproof container, paper cups, paper plates, plastic utensils and paper towels

**Communication** - battery-powered or hand crank radio; NOAA weather radio with extra batteries, cell phones, whistle to signal for help

**Light** - solar flashlight or flashlight with extra batteries

**Personal care** - first aid kit, dust mask or dry cloth, towelettes, plastic bags for disposal, toothbrush, prescriptions, infant formula and diapers, pet food, carriers and leashes, extra water for your pets, feminine supplies and personal hygiene items

**Documents** - local maps, any important documents, cash and/or travelers' checks, emergency reference material like a first aid book

### Clothing & sleeping items

- sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person, at least one complete change of clothing

**Entertainment** - Paper, pencil & pens, books, games, puzzles or other things for the kids.

This information is also available online at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

Please keep in mind that in the event of an evacuation you could be displaced for an extended period of time so being prepared is key.

Please stay responsible with your fire and follow the rules. Be aware of the conditions and always make sure your fire is *dead out*.



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

## Now is the time to do fire mitigation & create defensible space around your home

by **Fire Chief Tad Crawford,  
Baca Grande Emergency Services**

Here are a few tips on what you can do as a homeowner to better protect your asset with home fire mitigation:



Baca Fire Chief Tad Crawford

### At home

Keep trees and branches away from your home, and clear around trees down to bare mineral soils. Remove tall grass, brush, low branches or dead wood on the ground up to 30' from the house.

If you are on a slope, mitigate 100'-200' downhill from your home. Keep in mind the steeper the slope, the further you should mitigate. Please remember to maintain your property and work with your neighbors for mutual safety.

Do not in any circumstance ever use or tamper with fire hydrants.

Stack firewood 30' from your home, uphill if possible. Cut grass-

es down to 3". Use metal screen to cover open areas under decks, porches, over all vents and openings. Do not store flammables under your deck. Clear debris from roofs and out of gutters. Be sure to remember our local wildlife and to check for birds and other wildlife before removing vegetation.

### Removing ladder fuels

Prune limbs of trees within 30' of your home up to 4' from the ground. Remember, to give your trees a better chance of healing, do not cut the limbs flush to the trunk but leave at least a 1 1/2" collar. Try to provide 10' between trees to better avoid too dense a canopy. The canopy should be no more than 40% of the area. Remove all dead trees that are not a wildlife habitat and remove all crowded young trees (please remember if you are a resident of the Baca Grande, any trees with a trunk over 8" in diameter at 4' above ground need to have EAC approval before cutting). Remove all slash from your property.

The Title 3 Firewise program offers free home assessment and mitigation work to your property. This program is based on a first-come-first-served basis with limited funding. (See adjacent article) If you are interested in this program you can contact Daniel Johnson at 719-480-9764. There are information pamphlets at the POA office on home mitigation; you can also access this information from the US Forest Service at [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us).

## Crew members wanted

Baca Grande Emergency Services is starting an extensive mitigation project on greenbelts in the Baca Grande. We are looking for eager individuals to join our services. This will give you an opportunity to start a career in Wildland Firefighting, EMS and Rescue. Emergency Services offers competitive pay, free training and hands-on experience in Wildland/Urban Interface. Come join our team and help support your community.

If you are interested, contact Baca Emergency Services Fire Chief Tad Crawford at 719-256-4171 or by email at [bacafire1@gmail.com](mailto:bacafire1@gmail.com).

## Community Action & Readiness for Emergency: Neighborhood CARE groups forming

The best way to face an emergency or disaster situation is first to be prepared as an individual and household. Second is to be prepared as a neighborhood. That means knowing the neighbors living closest to you and what you can do to help each other during the "golden hour"—the crucial first 60 minutes of an emergency.

CARE, or Community Action & Readiness for Emergency, is a local Crestone/Baca initiative for assisting neighborhoods in organizing and enhancing their own preparedness. CARE is modeled after a program called Map Your Neighborhood, used in various parts of the country, which provides materials and guidelines for setting up and working with neighborhood groups.

Together, neighbors can:

- \* Learn the steps to take to secure your home and protect your neighborhood and immediate ecosystem.

- \* Identify skills and equipment neighbors have that could be useful in an emergency.

- \* Create a neighborhood contact list that identifies those with specific needs—including the elderly, anyone with a disability or with medical equipment dependent on electricity, and families with very young children—in case of evacuation or other types of emergencies.

- \* Establish a means of communicating and sharing information during an emergency.

- \* Create a neighborhood map with locations of propane tanks that may need to be quickly shut off.

- \* Bonus: Get to know your neighbors and share friendship, food, and light-heartedness as you learn and plan. The sense of connection and community you build will be there whether or not your neighborhood ever faces an emergency.

In Crestone/Baca, the way CARE will work is for individuals (or teams of two) to volunteer to serve as a hosts/organizers for CARE groups, or the homes in closest proximity to theirs. The size of neighborhood groups will depend on the density of population and distance between homes. Keep in mind that in some types of emergencies—for example extreme winter weather—vehicle travel may be difficult and walking may be necessary to check on and assist neighbors in need.

Hosts will receive special training and materials on organizing CARE groups. Next they will go to the homes around them and meet their neighbors—an enjoyable and vital part of the process. Then the host will facilitate a CARE gathering where neighbors get to know each other and learn preparedness for their own homes and their neighborhood.

Communication and neighborhood CARE gatherings will continue as necessary to ensure that everyone is as informed and prepared as possible for whatever might call their teamwork and mutual assistance into action.

CARE hosts are needed all over the Baca and the town of Crestone. For more information or to volunteer, contact John Luke Wall, [johnwall62@hotmail.com](mailto:johnwall62@hotmail.com) or 719-580-4094.

The CARE project is an initiative of the Governance Action Group, part of the Crestone/Baca Resiliency effort that began with the Resiliency Conference in March 2017.

## Free Saguache County fire mitigation "Firewise" funding almost over

by **Daniel S. Johnson**

For all Saguache County residents who are on the waiting list for a wildfire hazard assessment, there is still some funding left over from last year. I will call to arrange times for those on the current waiting list.

As far as doing hands-on mitigation, I believe there will be enough funding to complete those already on the waiting list and possibly a few more. Following the assessment, homeowners will have the option to do the work themselves, to hire someone to do the work, or to work with us on their yard as a training day. If a resident is elderly, handicapped or otherwise unable to help, the Commissioners have allowed us to do the work for them, as long as funding holds out.

The Saguache County Firewise Program is now in its 10th year but it appears federal funding for the program has ended

with the current administration. Over that time, I have assessed 350 structures and helped complete around 200 mitigation projects. Some 50 homeowners did all the work themselves.

For those interested in catching the tail end of this service, please watch the video *Preparing for Wildfire* about 1/3 of the way down on the Saguache County Homepage ([www.saguachecounty.net](http://www.saguachecounty.net)) under "Wildfire Protection." This will give you a good idea of the possible avenues fire may take to approach your home, and offer solutions.

Check the opposite page (B-10) for Evacuation or Shelter in Place checklists.

It has been an extremely dry winter and current predictions call for it to get much worse as we roll into summer. To get on the assessment waiting list or to get a DVD copy of the Wildfire Evacuation video, call me at 719-480-9764.

## There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root, RH (AHG)

### Community herbalism Part 2



For those of you who were interested in February's article and want to go further, I suggest you clip this whole series, as it is an abbreviated version of a class I am planning to teach soon. Last month we talked about medicinal herbs to plant in a kitchen garden to use for family health. This month we'll get into herbs to wildcraft, or harvest in the wild. Most of these are considered "weeds", and they grow throughout the country. Some are considered "invasive" and those can be harvested freely. Others are less

abundant in this area and need to be harvested with care (see previous article on ethical wildcrafting).

Ten herbs to wildcraft: Dandelion, Burdock, Mullein, Nettles, Yarrow, Violet, Plantain, Red Clover, Pine, and Thistle. Of these, Dandelion, Violet, and Red Clover may need to be planted as they're not as abundant here as in other places. Burdock grows a bit north of here but I haven't actually seen it in Crestone/Baca. Plantain may need to be encouraged by having a well watered area in the garden

where it can take hold. If you don't know these plants well enough to wildcraft yet, I will be offering at least one herb walk in the spring where you can learn to identify them.

A brief guide to harvesting: Dandelion – harvest young leaves in the spring for salads, and dry for medicine. Harvest tight buds to pickle and eat like capers. Flowers can be harvested in full bloom to make wine, fritters, and numerous other delicious dishes. Post-bloom leaves can be used in soups and dishes with ingredients that mask the bitterness. Roots harvested in the fall can be dried for medicine, and roasted slowly in an oven to use for a coffee-like beverage or to add to coffee.

Mullein leaves can be harvested spring to summer, best pre-bloom. Dry for medicine, or tincture fresh. Flowers can be harvested



Dandelion.

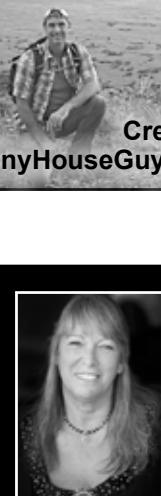
as they bloom – usually a few at a time on the flowering spike. Flowers are commonly made into an oil and used as a part of "ear oil". Roots can be harvested when the plant is spent and can be used for urinary tract issues and bed wetting. These two alone—Dandelion and Mullein—add so much to the medicine cabinet that they totally vindicate the concept of "weed"!

To be continued next month!

*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).*

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187 W. Silver. \$475,000  
Prime location in the center of Little Pearl Park. Currently Restaurant, Brewery and Hotel rooms – Long term lease in place.



26998 CO RD 65. \$469,000  
Newly remodeled home nestled in the foothills next to creek on 36.99 acres. Domestic well. 4BD 3BA 2 kitchens, 2 laundry rooms, multifamily/unit.



4488 Ridgecrest Way  
\$399,500 encompassing 1.5 acres. Not completed. Amazing retreat facility. Commercial set up kitchen. Views are out of this world! Sauna, hottub, outdoor bar, guest cottage. Secluded.



1401 Badger Rd. \$340,000.  
Fantastic site, screened porch, contemporary 2BD 2BA home with quiet sunroom. Detached garage/workshop. Home & garage on 3 consolidated lots.



668 Crocus Rd. \$375,000  
SELLER CARRY. 41 pristine acres with Creek running through it. Home & meeting bldg 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, indoor stucco, R32 insulation, very energy efficient, open floor plan.



2720 Happy Hollow Way  
\$279,000 4BD 2.5BA  
Spacious home/B&B  
Beautiful, serene living spaces, fully furnished, vacation/permanent home.



1315 Moonlight Way  
\$265,000 Large 6 BD 3 BA home on greenbelt & Willow Creek. Remodel in 2014. New ETS Heaters. Adjoining lot available. FHA/VA



CR 48X \$249,000  
Lovely horse property on 6 acres with creek meandering thru. Fenced, barn, bunkhouse, charming home, newly remodeled.



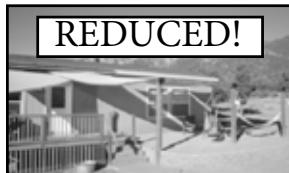
776 Table Rock Tr, \$245,000  
2300 sf. 2BD 1 BA. Pristine 23 acres bordering 1/4 mile of Spanish Creek. Expansive 360 views. Newly remodeled.



33 Sunset OL \$229,000  
Charming 5 BD 3.75 BA home with additional room off Master suite. 2 car garage & extra BA. Screened porch. Motivated sellers!



4501 Ridgecrest \$220,000.  
Amazingly unique property with 3 domes, catwalks attaching structures. Home sits high above property looking down on wildlife.



463 Lime Ave. \$199,000 4BD 2BA 2,200 sq ft home on edge of downtown Crestone. Excellent mountain views, 2 Blocks from school & stores. .5 acres. 2 storage units.



80 Cottonwood Creek Road.  
\$199,000 Large home on 7+ acres in the Grants, tons of charm! Built in 1998. 2555 sq ft with an additional guest cottage & out buildings.



1590 Crown Point Ol  
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250 S 2nd St. \$149,500 2BD 1BA Motivated sellers!  
Private, mountain views on 1 acre, deep well, landscaped, new roof, new paint. Wood shed, woodstove.



626 Worth st. \$61,000. Great location in Center. Near school and Central Business District. Home needs your special touches to make it a home.



3801, 3802 & 3803 Virtue Way \$21,700 per lot. 3 adjoining lots bordering Cottonwood Creek. Secluded area.

# In Search of Economic Reality

*The American Dream is alive, just not in America*

by Ed Lyell

America led the world in 1950 and now is not even among the world's 10 best for economic household income. Some historians focus on lost treasures from the wars around the world, some of dubious need in retrospect. America became the world's cop, on its taxpayers' credit card, while northern Europe and others cut military spending and focused on helping its children and working class to become richer than Americans in multiple ways, including income, wealth, access to quality health care, access to higher education, early childhood starting with 3-year-olds, etc. Europe and others have invested in their working class and are creating the next generation of highly educated workers who create the productivity that brings benefits.

More important to me is to focus on policy changes that will enable more solutions to spring forth. To me we are making a mistake to stay with a two-party political system. Both parties are controlled by Wall Street wealthy elites. Around the world better policies have come out of multiparty countries.

In 1950 the US had a mean family income of \$9,573 which was highest in the world. Now we are at \$55,200 and more than 12 other countries are ahead of us. How did Norway, and many others, go from

\$4,969 in 1950 to over \$100,000 now. Of course, we need to adjust for inflation in both cases. If the USA economy had even stayed up with annual inflation since 1950, income per household would now be \$98,904, not the current \$55,000. Reporting family income based on the mean average skews the number much higher than most people realize. The mean rises as the super-rich get richer, whereas the median is the middle point of all incomes. The larger the income inequality the more the difference between mean and median. For instance, America's average household income is \$55,000 measured by the arithmetic mean, whereas the median is only \$33,000. Americans are worse off now than in the 1950s.

Comparing country economies over decades is difficult. Population changes, technology adoption, inflation rates are all different. However, I looked at the leading countries by economic prosperity per person adjusted for inflation comparing 1950 leaders to 2018 leaders. Most clear is that the so called "socialist" countries have done dramatically better than the USA.

Northern European countries like Norway, Sweden, and Denmark have come away from post WWII low economics per person to become the world leaders. Norway, now number one in the world, has twice

the annual income of the USA. Australia and New Zealand also have done much better than the USA, as have Ireland, Iceland, and of course Switzerland.

America has been very productive for over 200 years. Until 1980 the workers creating productivity were given pay raises for their effort. Since the 1970s the investor class has been able to get the productivity out of workers while not raising worker pay and in most cases not even giving out pay raises to offset annual inflation costs. If the American worker had even received pay increases equal to inflation the average household would now have \$98,904, much more than the \$55,000 they now receive. The Norways, Swedens, Australias have had wages go up beyond the inflation rate and now lead the USA in average family wealth. Of course, if you want to get rich from investments, America is the best place, as over 90% of all new income goes to the richest 1% of Americans. With the forthcoming bonuses for the investor class from new tax laws they will be even better off, while workers will continue to go down in income and wealth.

America has been invaded by the world's wealthiest people who now control our government and keep giving more benefits to the investor class, especially through the

war industry. President Eisenhower warned us of this trend back in 1961, yet no one has ever slowed it down. With the current leadership in Congress, President, and courts, there is no reason to see any positive changes for America's lower 90%—the worker class.

The average American has been misled into believing that he/she is better off than in the past. The wealthy control the media and make that the story—even if fake. The issue is whether the 90% wake up and use real democracy to help the working class, or do they let current leaders mislead them and let the super-rich exploit them? We may need a new system of parliamentary government, or direct democracy, or at least adjustments to take away the unfairness of small states like Wyoming and Montana having as much political power as California. Or we can make one of the two existing parties focus on the working class and the other be labeled for the investor class.

*Ed Lyell, PhD is Professor Emeritus, Business and Economics Adams State University, ehlyell@adams.edu, facebook dredlyell*



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## Willow family

*continued from page B-1*

years old. Such roots also help the stand survive fires, sprouting afterwards. We expect these stems to be genetically identical, but in fact there is some genetic variation among them.

The young shoots of the willow family are avidly eaten by mule deer, and even elk. In the Baca Grande National Wildlife Refuge, enclosures have been built to keep the elk out to help the cottonwood and willow shoots survive, although the porcupines do some damage, as well. In the town of Crestone, the large cottonwoods are not being replaced by young shoots, and this may also be true in the riparian greenbelts in the Baca. It may be necessary to use fencing to protect young shoots and allow them to grow tall enough to resist consumption by mule deer. In Zion National Park, the loss of mule deer predators, especially mountain lions, has reduced the stands of cottonwoods and altered the ecosystems profoundly. The introduction of wolves into Yellowstone has reduced elk populations and helped the cottonwoods recover. We may be seeing the same declines among our trees, and may need to protect some shoots with fencing to ensure future trees. Since these trees aggressively grow from roots, it is unwise to plant them close to homes, as the roots can damage pipes and septic systems.

Another feature shared among these trees is their production of resin, particularly seen in the sticky and fragrant young leaves in springtime. A stand of cottonwoods gives off an attractive fragrance that reminds me of my trips along the rivers and into the Cascade Range of my youth in

Washington State. An important ingredient of this chemical mixture is salicin, a simple organic compound attached to a glucose molecule. When ingested, salicylic acid is released and assimilated to produce anti-inflammatory effects like aspirin (whose production salicin inspired). The fragrance of trees, through the evaporating molecules (volatile organic compounds, VOCs) is an important component in the therapeutic practice of walking in the forest, practiced in Japan and Korea as "forest bathing," or shinrin-roku in Japanese. Scientists there have documented the beneficial effects of this practice in reducing stress, and modulating immune responses. Perhaps the benefit of walking in a stand of cottonwoods or aspen includes a small inhaled dose of salicin. I bet that Dorje Root, in some past *Eagle* issue, has written about the medicinal value of these plants.

The prevalence of trees of the willow family becomes most apparent to us during the autumn when the foliage changes color. The predominant color is yellow or gold, resulting from the breakdown of chlorophyll and the unmasking of carotenoid pigments. Occasionally, at certain locations the aspens turn an orange or even bright red in color. This results from the production of red anthocyanin pigments in the dying leaves, perhaps a response to geology under the surface. The cottonwoods trace the flow of streams through the town and the Baca, a flow of yellow seen from a hike up one of the trails, as South Crestone Creek. In the winter, the stream banks are traced by the soft reds and yellows of the bark and buds of willow shrubs. These color displays in the landscape remind us how important these trees are, and how they are susceptible to changes in the ecology of these habitats.

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Male catkins of Catskills willow, May 2014.

photo by David Lee

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## DISPATCH from the edge

by Peter Anderson

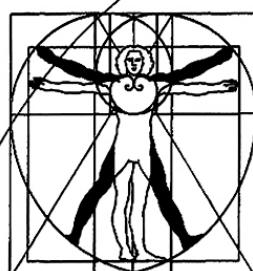
All winter long, this lingering dissonance: I say "beautiful day," and the blue sky mildness is real and pleasant enough, but so is the uneasy notion that our good fortune now will cost us come summer. The weather "pleasantries" we exchange carry only half of the truth. The other half, too unsettling to acknowledge in neighborly comments at the hardware store, is that we may be entering into a season of dangerous drought—one that rivals 2002 when we lost many of our cottonwoods or 2013 when the great rising plumes of smoke from the West Fork fires over by Creede and South Fork settled in here at the base of the mountain and the only sunlight we saw for weeks was filtered through an ominous orange haze.

Barring an exceptionally heavy wave of storms in the coming month or so, we are headed into that kind of drought, the kind of drought that we will feel when our bodies tell us that the world is not as it should be (or at the very least, not what we're used to). The kind of drought that will trigger our fight or flight reactions. Fight: prune back the pinyons, clean up the scrap piles, check on your insurance policy. Flight: get out of "Dodge" as soon as you can and head for water. In the summer of 2013, I remember the visceral relief of driving north out of the smoke and into the headwaters country of the Yampa River near Steamboat Springs. Finally, a free flowing river and clear, high country skies offered a reprieve from the apocalyptic haze that had settled in over the San Luis Valley.

Those of us who live in the high desert on the cusp of the truly arid Southwest feel especially vulnerable when seasons of moisture are diminished. Even moreso for those of us living in foothills surrounded by highly combustible pinyon and juniper belts, which are overdue for a good burn. We are reminded that in living here, we are rolling the dice and we have been lucky for a long time. In a summer like the one that may soon be upon us, prevailing winds out of the southwest carry only worrisome news, and the dessicated ghosts of our riparian zones, surrounded by parched valley grasslands, are fuses waiting to be lit.

Sorry, I couldn't help myself.  
But it is a beautiful day.

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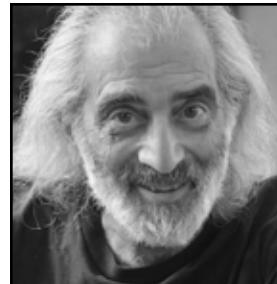
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## Aging as an adventure

by Ammi Kohn

### Two old farts? No!

The packing was easy, the leaving was hard.

I promised you, oh Crestone Readers, that the April issue of the *Eagle* would talk about two longtime very close friends of forty-seven years now, Bill and Ammi, eighty-four and seventy-six years of age, traveling together across country in a rented mini-van stuffed with boxes, rugs, paintings, books and clothes, a journey to end with depositing Ammi in his new home in the Coolidge Corners neighborhood of Boston.

I had not seen Bill for some time. At first I saw only the changes time had made. For a few minutes he was different . . . a bit shorter, a bit heavier, a bit more biting in his attitude toward life in general and the political scene in particular. But then, like a layer of cellophane pulled off the surface, my old friend emerged the same. It was I who had changed, or so it then appeared to me. Had I mellowed while he went the other way? No matter. With five days' travel together, this new/old friendship would renew itself quickly. And it did.

I met Bill in Kansas City in 1970 after moving from Arlington, VA and a job with the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. I was exploding with energy and frustrated ambition to create a private consulting corporation in a demonstration program of Social Planning and Evaluation for Model City programs in the mid-west, a federal initiative to upgrade neighborhoods. Bill had been a reporter for the Kansas City Star, a Peace Corp volunteer in Colombia, SA, and a Community Action Program director on the Pacific island of Yap in Melanesia. I had been a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal. I needed a writer, he needed a job. We bonded immediately and we have worked at nurturing our friendship, experiencing together divorce, family problems, job changes, and all the experiences of aging together over forty-seven years.

Our journey's first sustained conversation began with a topic we had agreed upon over the phone, his eulogy for me, which he has promised to write and deliver . . . assuming I die first. This conversation diverged over the next week

to all the deep and meaningful experiences of living so long . . . lost loves, illnesses, jobs, marriages, deaths of friends, children, crucial singular moments of life. There were times he and I both teared up. These conversations were punctuated the first three days with stops to visit children. All through the trip I grieved inside over the loss of Crestone, wondering what Boston and Coolidge Corners would be like. It was emotional, both for Bill and this self that was engaging on a major life change at 84.

The driving itself was smooth and easy till Wednesday when we crossed the Pennsylvania border to New York. It was snowing heavily when we stopped for a hotel and discovered that the power was out over a wide area, the hotels in the area filled with locals whose homes were freezing and dark. We thought we would have to sleep in the lobby but when I called the local police department at midnight they suggested a hotel that did have two rooms left, an adventure we could have done without.

We rested the next day and arrived at Coolidge Corners on Friday where my daughter and a man she had hired moved these tired travelers into my new home. I love my eighth floor apartment with a Boston skyline view where I watched the next nor'easter storm in comfort some days later. Everything I need is in walking distance, the doctor's office is 8 floors down instead of a 120-mile round trip, and there is a multi-ethnic neighborhood a short distance the other direction from Coolidge Corners with Brazilian, Italian, and Caribbean food. I am very content now, having a week's experience in this completely different and new setting.

But, for transparency's sake and to tell you that there were some rough edges in the trip, Bill really does like to grumble a lot, too much really, partly in jest and partly in impatience and emotional discomfort. He likes to refer to us as two old farts, both in our conversations together and to other people. And I insist to him that we are definitely *not* old farts. Our hearts are still the same as they were when we met so many years ago.

The parting from Crestone was hard, but the landing feels beautifully soft.

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# Baca Grande Library News



by Suzanne McGregor

April is a very busy month, especially for libraries across the nation. Please help us celebrate National Library Week, April 8-14, by making use of your library, one of the most valuable resources available to our community members. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to visit us, please come check us

out. As we belong to a union catalog, we work with over 100 other libraries in Colorado and can access over a million items that are available for you.

Also in April is the celebration of National Volunteer Week, April 15-22. Volunteers are an essential part of a smooth-running library, and we depend on and value the individuals who contribute their time and energy to enhancing our library. We give many thanks to our Friends of the Library, patrons who help with bake sales and fundraisers, and community members who help at the front desk, make donations of all kinds, shovel our walks, pack up books and move bookshelves, and fix things that are broken—thank you all! Established by executive

order by President Richard Nixon in 1974, this is a way to recognize and celebrate the efforts of those who give freely of their time to make their communities better, brighter places to live.

And another event this month—celebrating Earth Day on Sunday, April 22. It is important for the future custodians of our planet to be introduced to its wonders at an early age—and here in Crestone, these wonders are right outside our front doors! Earth Day was created in 1970, and now more than 192 countries celebrate it each year. To help plan your celebration, please ask about our books and activities that relate to this special day—we have a number of excellent resources in the library.

The Friends of the Baca Grande Library will be holding their annual Spring Bake Sale on Wednesday, April 18 from 9:30-3:30 in the parking lot across the street from Aventa Credit Union. They would be grateful for any contributions to the bake sale table—there will be a sign-up sheet at the front desk in the library.

Notice: The library will be closed Thursday, April 19 and Friday, April 20 for staff workshops. It will also be closed on Tuesday, May 1 and Wednesday, May 2 for a complete weeding of excess inventory throughout the library.

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

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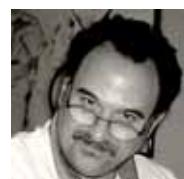
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## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

### —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



#### THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY by Ish

**1/ Manglehorn:** (2014) ★★★★

He is an eccentric with a broken heart, who functions as a small town locksmith with his only friend, his cat. He is obsessed with his lost love, to whom he writes love letters to that go unanswered. This is a character study of anyone we may know, an ordinary citizen, except it becomes exceptional as played by Al Pacino and Holly Hunter.

**2/ In the Shadow of Iris:** (2016) ★★★★

Iris is the young wife of a wealthy Parisian banker. While he is settling the bill from a high-end restaurant, Iris disappears and hours later he gets a phone call from ruthless kidnappers. This thriller has Hitchcock qualities but tends to be a bit more confusing as the police have a hard time figuring it all out.

**3/ I'll Follow You Down:** (2013) ★★★★

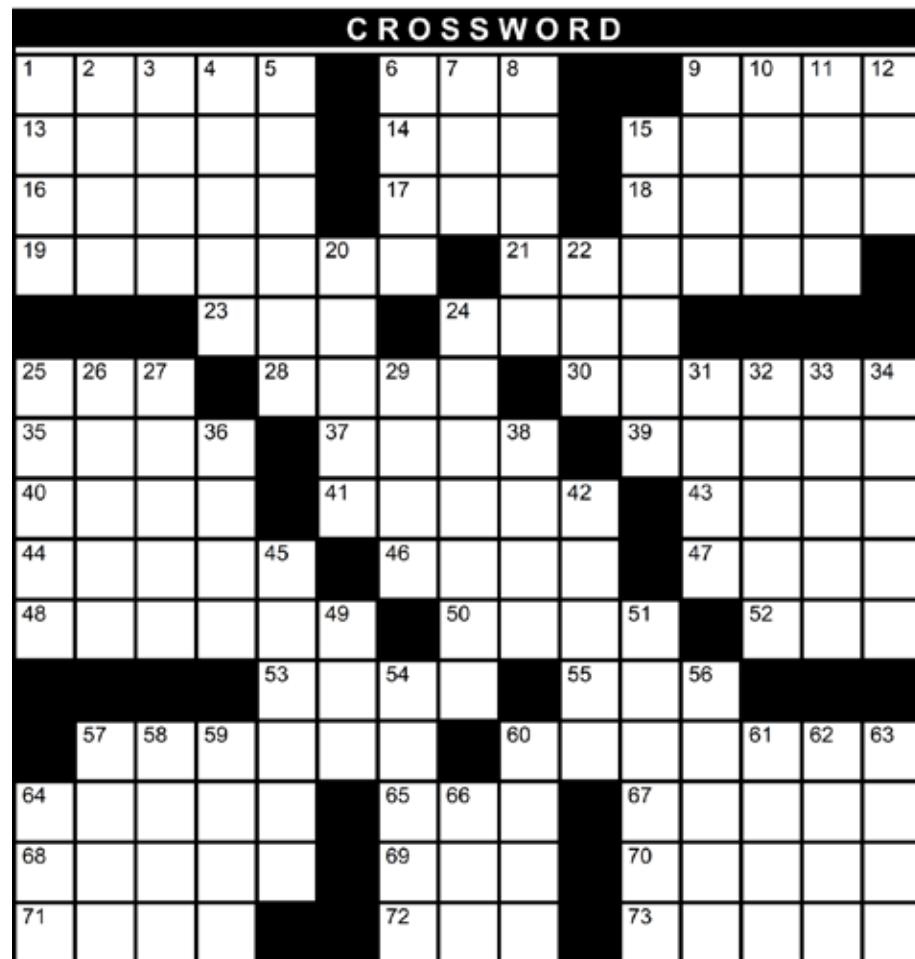
This sci-fi thriller doesn't have the usual special fix which makes it more potentially real. The genius husband disappears while on a business trip and winds up being gone for 12 years, creating great difficulty for his family to survive. His son grows up and is invited to go to MIT, and as he delves into quantum physics, the mystery of time and his father's disappearance begin to unravel. Stars: Haley Joel Osment, Gillian Anderson, Rufus Sewell.

**4/ The Golden Compass:** (2007) ★★★★

This is an adventure fantasy that is done surprisingly well. Young Lyra Belacqua travels to a parallel universe to save her best friend and other kidnapped children from various experiments. They are in far North, cold and dark and with the help of giant, armed polar bears . . . the adventure continues. Stars: Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, Dakota Blue Richards, Sam Elliot.

**5/ Still Alice:** (2014) ★★★★

Alice is a renowned linguistics professor, happily married with three grown children. All that begins to change as she starts to forget words and gradually even more things. She is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's Disease. The roles are excellently portrayed and the story and her life become very poignant. Stars: Julianne Moore, Alex Baldwin, Kate Bosworth, Kristen Stewart.



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## THEME: BEFORE AND AFTER

### ACROSS

- "\_\_\_\_ Fever," movie and novel
- "Is" in the past
- Name of the Blue Ox
- Rome's Colosseum, e.g.
- Fla. neighbor
- Jig, in France
- Volcanic rock, pl.
- Basketball hoop
- Opposite of adore
- \*Before - Rodham; After - \_\_\_\_
- \*Before - \_\_\_\_; After - Mumbai
- Make mistakes
- Prickle on a wire
- Art degrees
- Abominable humanoid
- "American Horror Story: Hotel" hotel
- Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
- Sailor's call
- Tarzan's swing
- Search without warning
- Audition tapes
- Shorter than maxi
- King of ancient Crete
- Time distortion
- Bit of slander
- Bobbysock
- Row of vagrants
- "All the Light We Cannot \_\_\_\_," novel
- Auctioneer's quantities
- El \_\_\_\_
- \*Before - \_\_\_\_; After - living room
- Like misanthrope's remark
- Pluck
- Flying saucer acronym
- Nary a soul
- Sicker
- Waikiki garland
- Written corrections
- English playwright Coward
- Japanese capital
- Fit out again
- Locker room supply
- Caspian feeder
- Denim innovator
- Foolish
- \*Before - flour, water, shortening; After - \_\_\_\_
- Announce Red Alert
- \*Before - Clay; After - \_\_\_\_
- Brazilian dance
- Kind of lettuce
- Turkish honorific
- Channel marker
- Always, in verse
- Run around
- Artemis' companion
- Middle-earth creature
- Organic matter used as fuel
- \*Before - \_\_\_\_; After - Myanmar
- "Encore!"
- Move furtively
- Muscle or strength
- #17 Across, pl.
- Quarter side, pl.
- Empower
- \*Before - \_\_\_\_; After - Democratic Republic of Congo
- \*Before - William Michael Albert Broad; After - Billy \_\_\_\_
- \*Before - New Amsterdam; After - New \_\_\_\_
- Like certain foods
- Amazon, e.g.
- #me \_\_\_\_
- \*Before - supper; After - \_\_\_\_
- "Yours \_\_\_\_"
- D in LED
- Prince William's sport
- Car shaft
- Cambodian currency
- Mint product
- Salon creation
- Hostile to
- Just in case
- M in rpm
- ATM extra

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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!](http://crestoneeagle.com)

Get us your classified + payment and it will be listed online within 2 business days.

### 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.

New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com!](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

#### Houses & Property for Sale

##### **Beautiful 3 bedroom/ 2 bath**

Straw bale house on 10 acres in the grants. Beautiful new 14 X 32 storage shed/art studio/ 12 X 20 rhino barn car garage. Surrounded by green space and backs to creek. Must be pre qualified for showing. BY owner \$289,000. 719-588-1397

##### **PREMIUM BUILDING LOTS**

##### **FOR SALE:**

CH I: 1480-81, 1537, 1554, & 1848-49. CH II: 4083, & 4200. Grants 1210 720-480-2066

##### **For Sale 13K**

4 ACRES OFF GRID SURROUNDED BY WILDERNESS SANCTUARY NEAR CRESTONE 720-301-7885

##### **LOTS FOR SALE**

2212 Spanish Creek Rd., Greenbelt, Creekside, W&S, Tap fee paid, great value at \$9900, OBO! 528 Panorama Way, trees, views, W&S, \$4000. Call 719-588-8727, or contact Darlene Yarbrough Real Estate at 719-256-4198.

#### Houses for Rent

##### **Beautiful Cabin for Rent**

Fully furnished, off grid, private, on 40 acres. Above Crestone. Available now. \$650 per month + security deposit. 720-219-3024 [thegaiatree33@gmail.com](mailto:thegaiatree33@gmail.com)

##### **Panama House**

Tuna Coast Panama! 4 Bd/2Ba home in Panama near surf beaches. Very low rent for the right couple! Available March 5th, 2018. Furnished and utilities prepaid. Six month minimum lease/agreement. Income opportunity! Call or write for details. 719-632-4443 [bowronn2@gmail.com](mailto:bowronn2@gmail.com)

#### **Beautifully Furnished 2BR/2BA Home in Grants**

Passive solar, ETS heater, completely equipped kitchen, Views from Every window, Pics: <https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/22484763>. \$1600/mo./long term lease + wifi, electric. \$1800/mo./ short lease: includes wifi/util. 505 728 0244

##### **Charming Retreat Studio**

##### **Log Cabin**

Completely furnished, gas range, full fridge, radiant floor heat, Steam Shower! Mtn./ Valley views. 500sf. Daily (\$110), Weekly (\$700), Monthly Rates. Pics: [airbnb.com/rooms/2107536?preview\\_for\\_ml](https://airbnb.com/rooms/2107536?preview_for_ml) 505 728 0244 text/call long/short term/mo. rates. Avail. April 1.

#### House Rental Wanted

##### **Seeking Home**

Healthy Life Skills Professional agent for a thriving Crestone Community through Creative Healing and Earth Arts leader in NHN. Requesting an off Grid, straw bale, own well, organic greenhouse, garage, Art studio, home space. Can spend \$400 or provide trade of immaculate house care and or healthy life skills, juicing, body work, life coaching. Have impeccable references 719 937 7813 text 303 807 8625 or e mail. sweetthunder@mail.com

##### **Cabin Wanted**

Looking for simple cabin for long term lease starting May 1, no electric or WiFi required. \$600/mo. or less. Contact: [susantwotrees@yahoo.com](mailto:susantwotrees@yahoo.com)

##### **House rental wanted**

Smaller affordable home by long term female resident. Neat and reliable. Local references . Two cats. 719-426-5626 Shila.

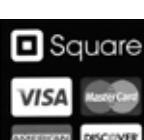
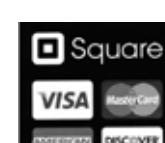


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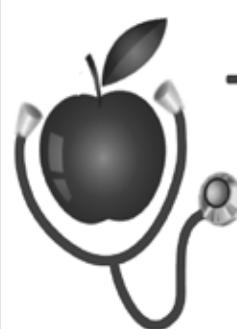
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## ...Classifieds

*continued from  
Page B-14*

### Services

#### Looking for a Mechanic?

Toyota/Lexus specialist of over 10 years, can travel to diagnose/provide estimates. Best to email for inquiries. Aside from Toyota I also can help with Subaru's. Timing belts, brakes, check engine light, etc. ericjlemos@gmail.com 610-597-2639, no answer? Send a text :)

#### Fire Mitigation Services

Helping create a defensible space around your home - 719-580-4094

#### Professional Nanny, Pet & House Sitter

15 yrs. experience. Newborn-12 yrs. Elem. Ed. Degree. Animal lover. Local references (319)530-8637

#### Painter, Cleaner, Dry Wall Repair & Hauler

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#### 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.

#### Craig Electric Services

Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, 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 Also, listen to my podcast on How2BuildGreen.com Adam Fries 970-426-9446

#### Recycling

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

#### RELIABLE CARPENTRY & HANDYMAN SERVICES

38 years experience in carpentry, painting, stucco, tile, drywall, roofing, etc. Drug/Alcohol free. Free Estimates 719-496-7630

#### Help Wanted

#### Part Time Work Available

Need someone w/ 4 wheel drive truck to haul water to retreat cabins by Tashi Gomang Stupa. This is a paid position. Call Rene 970-308-7534.

New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)!

#### Full Time Facilities Director

Moffat School in Moffat, CO is looking for a highly-qualified and motivated person to serve as the Facilities Director. This is a full time, 12-month position with benefits in a state of the art facility with approximately 150 students in grades Pk-12. For more information and an application, please visit [www.moffatschools.org/employment](http://www.moffatschools.org/employment) or call the school at 719-745-0500.

#### Misc. Wanted

#### Psychics Wanted:

Revolutionary estate planning company is looking for a group of 8 psychics to find the reincarnation of its clients so they can be reunited with their assets. Must prove abilities on a series of tests. Only serious psychics should apply. Call B. Jan Tyme at 1-800-itstime.

#### Seeking Employment

Available for work. I hold a strong work ethic, I have common sense, do my best, am punctual, honest, trustworthy, competent, intelligent, diligent, detail-oriented, and am skilled in the following areas – corporate executive assistant, sales management, youth programs management, book editing, caregiving for elderly (CDass registered), children and animals, detailed-cleaning, feng-shui organization, gourmet cooking, yard work and gardening, interior painting. Kristi O'Haver kristikohaver@gmail.com 719-429-2774

#### Misc. for Sale

#### Smaller Regency wood stove

Model F1100, brass and glass door, excellent condition, \$500 firm. 719-207-3409

#### Case 680 backhoe

Older machine but runs very well. Completely rebuilt engine about 800 hours run time ago. \$6000 obo. 719-207-3409

#### Pop Up Trailer

Coleman Taos. New battery and sine wave inverter. Hardly used. Spotless interior. \$2700. 720-219-3024 shantara108@gmail.com

#### Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales

#### Yard sale on April 14th

(weather permitted) Lots of wonderful stuff! Housewares, bedding, lots of building type supplies, rototiller, dog house, kennel, older tools and stuff from our ranch we sold. Starting at 10-4 pm 1202 Wagon Wheel out by the swimming hole. 719-588-1397

#### Free

#### Heavy duty two axle trailer

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#### Free Manure

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### TOWN OF MOFFAT PUBLIC NOTICE

#### RESOLUTION NUMBER 2018-7

A RESOLUTION FINDING SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE OF POTCH LLC ANNEXATION PETITION FOR THE ANNEXATION OF A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN TOWNSHIP 43 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SAGUACHE COUNTY, COLORADO; AND SETTING FORTH DETAILS IN REGARDS THERETO; AND SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ELIGIBILITY OF SAID LAND FOR ANNEXATION

WHEREAS, the owners of 100% of the real property included in an area proposed to be annexed in Saguache County, Colorado (which area is described in exhibit 1 attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference), excluding public streets and alleys and any land owned by the Town of Moffat, have filed a petition for annexation of said area with the Town Clerk of the Town of Moffat, Colorado, requesting the Town to commence proceedings for the annexation of said area; and

WHEREAS, having received the petition for annexation, the Town Board is required under the Municipal Annexation Act of 1965, as amended, to determine whether said petition is in substantial compliance with C.R.S. Section 31-12-107 (1), and if so, to follow the procedure set forth in C.R.S. Sections 31-12-108 through 111;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MOFFAT, COLORADO:

1. The Town Board hereby finds that the petition for annexation has been signed by 100% of the landowners in the area proposed to be annexed, excluding public streets and alleys and any land owned by the Town of Moffat.

2. The Town Board hereby finds that the petition for annexation is in substantial compliance with the requirements of C.R.S. Section 12-31-107 (1), as amended.

3. The Town Board hereby finds that it has the necessary jurisdiction to proceed with the annexation of said area.

4. The Town Board hereby determines that it shall hold a public hearing to determine if the proposed annexation complies with Sections 31-12-104 and 31-12-105, C.R.S., as amended, to establish whether or not said area is eligible for annexation under the Municipal annexation act of 1965, said hearing to be held at a special meeting of the Town Board on Monday, April 16th at 6:30 p.m., which date is not less than 30 nor more than 60 days from the date of this Resolution, in the Town Hall, 401 Lincoln Avenue, Moffat, Colorado.

5. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to give notice of said public hearing in accordance with the provisions of Section 31-12-108 (2), C.R.S., as amended.

6. This resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Town of Moffat, Colorado, Patricia Riegel, Mayor

Attest: Sarah Van Horn, Town Clerk

## 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)

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# EARTH TALK



## Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk: I need to get my roof replaced as a result of storm damage (thanks global warming!). Is Tesla's solar roof a good deal and do other companies offer similar products—with the photovoltaic cells integrated into the roofing material?**

—Kenny S., Vero Beach, FL

It would be a stretch to call Tesla's new Solar Roof a "good deal" given that it costs more than just about any other rooftop solar option, but there are some scenarios where it might make sense anyway. For instance, some housing developments or homeowners' associations don't allow traditional photovoltaic panels to muck up roof sightlines for aesthetic or other reasons, so solar collectors integrated into a traditional-looking roof may be worth the extra expense.

According to EnergySage, a solar information clearinghouse and matchmaker for 500-plus pre-screened solar installers, replacing a roof on a 3,000 square foot home in southern California with another regular roof and then adding photovoltaic panels on top would run around \$34,000 in gross costs all told (\$8,000 for a new asphalt or slate roof and \$26,000 for the photovoltaic equipment and installation). Of course, some solar installers will lease the panels to you, so you would just pay a smaller monthly fee akin to your old electricity bill.

Meanwhile, gross costs for putting in a full Tesla Solar Roof top out over \$50,000, a 33 percent price premium for the sleeker look and added cool factor. But given all the turbulence in the solar industry in recent years, Tesla customers are also happy to pay a premium for the peace of mind of knowing they are dealing with a company that won't be going out of business anytime soon. Tesla is already the dominant force in the sector given

its 2016 acquisition of leading residential solar installer SolarCity and vertical integration with electric cars and lithium-ion battery arrays. They also have pretty deep pockets: Tesla went public in 2010 and has been a darling of tech investors ever since. The first Tesla Solar Roofs have already started going up in California, with a roll out to other states planned by the end of 2018.

But Tesla is far from the only game in town when it comes to so-called "building integrated" photovoltaics (BIPV). Forward Labs, a venture capital-backed Silicon Valley start-up, has started installing its own integrated solar roofing systems around the San Francisco Bay Area and plans to expand beyond California in 2019. Unlike Tesla's tiled roof design, Forward Labs' "single-surface" look—more akin in style to a metal roof—features layers of solar cells and tempered glass that can take on any color the customer chooses. The start-up claims its solar roofing technology can produce almost double the energy output of Tesla's tiles while costing 33 percent less. While we know less about the technical details, the Japanese company Solar Frontier plans to roll out its own solar roof technology across Japan in 2019.

Yet with all the hype about solar roofs, we can't forget about the technology's forebear, solar shingles. While not technically integrated into the roof, solar shingles lay flat on existing roofing, keeping a low-profile and requiring less installation time than traditional photovoltaic panels or fully-integrated solar roofs. RGS Energy's PowerHouse and CertainTeed's Apollo have been around since 2011 and can achieve efficiencies similar to traditional photovoltaic panels at a price point far below fully integrated solar roofing.

**CONTACTS:** EnergySage, energysage.com; Tesla Solar Roof, tesla.com/solarroof; Forward Labs, www.forwardlabs.com; RGS PowerHouse, rgspowerhouse.com; CertainTeed Apollo, certainteed.com/solar/products/.

*EarthTalk® is a weekly syndicated column produced by Doug Moss and Roddy Scheer for the non-profit EarthTalk. To find out more, submit a question, or make a donation, visit us at EarthTalk.org.*



Forward Labs, a venture-backed Silicon Valley start-up, is one of a small number of companies vying to compete with Tesla on so-called "solar roof" technology.

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report by Keno February 21 to March 20

### Total precipitation for period:

Liquid precip (includes melted snow): 0.11 "

Snow: 1.7"

Measurable precipitation fell on 4 days.

Measurable snow fell on 4 days.

A trace of snow fell on 4 days.

No Rain, Hail or Thunderstorms occurred.

### Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1 : 0.46"

### Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1 (for 2018): 6.9"

Snow Season\*: 9.9"

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

### Temperatures for the period:

High temp: 59.0°F on February 14

Low temp: 2.2°F on February 21

Avg. high: 46.9°F

Avg. low: 16.7°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 50°: 12

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 40°: 22

Number of days with the high temperature at or below freezing: Only 2

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 32°: All 28

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 10°: 7

### Winds for the period:

Avg. speed: 3.0 mph

Highest gust: 54 mph on February 19

Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the southwest during the day.

### Weather summary:

As has been the case for the entire winter of 2017-18, spring like temperatures prevailed for most of the period, with readings both during the day and at night very much above normal, with almost no snow to boot. Yet with that stated, there wasn't a single record high to report, either.

Precipitation was way below normal. Snow wise, about the only interesting thing to note, was on March 15, it started to snow in the afternoon with the temp at 47 degrees. Actually that isn't totally uncommon in our area, and a new study released by scientists at CU in early March, noted that Colorado was the mostly likely place on Earth to see snow fall with the temperature above 32 degrees (F), and they noted that it is common and most likely to happen here in our state over anywhere else in the world.

### Outlook for April:

April is our fourth wettest month of the year, averaging 1.24 inches. It's usually the first month out of the year where we see measurable rain fall, yet it's the second snowiest month out of the year for our area, too, with an average of 10.8 inches. The snowiest April ever, hit in 2009 when 47.3 inches accumulated on the ground. The wettest was back in 1990, when 3.41 inches was recorded in both rain and snow.

As everybody knows, we start to warm up nicely in April, with average high and low temperatures of 52 and 24 degrees in the first week, to averaging 61 and 31 degrees by the last week of the month. The warmest reading ever in April was 80 degrees on April 30, 1992, while the coldest reading was 6 degrees, happening twice, first on April 5, 1983, then once again on April 12, 1997.

The 30 day out look by the NWS as of March 20, is calling for above normal temperatures and unfortunately, once again, below average precipitation.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/vws](http://www.keno.org/vws).

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