

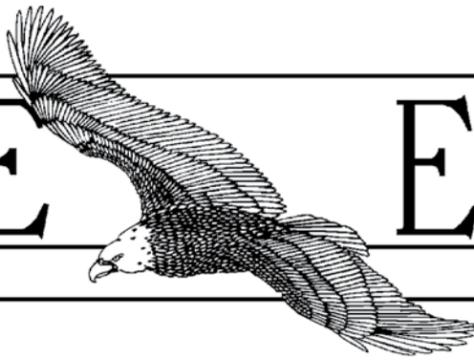
The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 29, Number 7

July, 2018 \$2

29 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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Entering the Comanche Valley high in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. See our feature story on page B-1 on hiking Comanche.

photo by Emmy Savage

To see this photo in color and more, visit our website at www.crestoneagle.com

Revisions to marijuana regs approved by County Planning Commission; MJ moratorium extended, complaints continue

by Lisa Cyriacks

The Board of County Commissioners received proposed changes to the marijuana regulations as a draft in June. Due to the time constraints imposed by a public hearing process, the County Commissioners voted to extend the moratorium on marijuana cultivation operations another 60 days.

After public meetings in January 2018 and numerous complaints by citizens adversely impacted by marijuana cultivation practices, the County enacted a moratorium on new applications in February

in order to facilitate the Planning Commission's review of the existing regulations and propose measures to mitigate citizens concerns.

The number of operations approved in 2017—after the passage of a County excise tax of 5% in the 2016 election—seemed to be the impetus for many of the people registering complaints. Commissioner Jason Anderson reported that a total of 29 retail marijuana cultivations had been approved as of the end of 2017. Six operations were approved prior to January 1, 2017.

Residents, in public com-

ments, identified issues ranging from water theft, light and noise pollution, diesel generator fumes and noise, increased traffic, inadequate sanitation on many sites and health concerns related to chemical contamination.

As a secondary issue, many parents and teachers identified concerns about students in county schools becoming desensitized to marijuana due to its prevailing presence and availability in county communities.

Several citizens complained of marijuana cultivations surround-

ing their homes and ruining their views and peace and quiet. At both Planning Commission and County Commissioner meetings, people continue to express their complete disillusionment with the permitting process that does not take their concerns into consideration.

Procedural questions persist as the Planning Commission continues to review applications that were in process before the moratorium was imposed. People attending meetings registered complaints about lack of notification as required

continued on page 7

Town of Moffat adds new property by annexation, concerns raised

by Lisa Cyriacks

The Town of Moffat held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 2, 2018 for new land being annexed. The property, owned by Potch, LLC, lies west of Highway 17 and north of County Road U 60 aka known as the Moffat-Saguache Road.

In the petition for annexation, Potch, LLC proposes to develop the 100+ acres for residential and commercial marijuana use in accordance with Moffat's ordinances and state regulations.

Whitney Justice, Manager of Potch, LLC, is an experienced

builder from the Roaring Fork Valley. Having heard of the housing shortage in the San Luis Valley, and especially Saguache County, her company is interested in building affordable housing. Her first experience affirmed the shortage as truth, as she slept four nights in her truck before finding lodging in Crestone.

Justice hopes the proposed development will bring benefits to the Town of Moffat in addition to fees and licenses, such as improvements to infrastructure, employment

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The Soap Box Derby Race is back! Celebrate the 4th of July in Crestone. See page 28 for the scoop on the fun!

The Crestone Eagle

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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.



Successful registration party

To the Editor:
 The Crestone End of Life Project would like to thank this wonderful community for taking the time to put their End of Life choices in writing! Whether completing the CEOLP registration forms or your Advance Directives, it's a positive step, showing your regard for those who love you. With your EOL wishes in writing, they'll be able to act confidently on your behalf.

I have to admit, we didn't anticipate such a turnout—at least we could offer delicious O.F.I.A. gluten-free cookies for sustenance as you waited!

Special thanks to notaries Lori Nagel and Marilyn Bunker (and grandchildren), videographer Peter Taylor and our stellar CEOLP volunteers: Denise Peine, Registrar; Gussie Fauntleroy, Rainbow Adler, Jeanie Krogh, Anna Louise Stewart, Paul and Sean Kloppenburg, and McGregor Gaines

All the materials available at the Registration event, including copies of the CEOLP registration packet, were paid for through the generous Saguache County Sales Tax Grant given to Informed Final Choices (IFC), the educational outreach branch of Crestone End of Life Project.

If you were unable to attend the Registration Party, visit our website, informedfinalchoices.org, for more information on advance directives and end of life choices as well as the CEOLP registration packet, or call CEOLP Registrar Denise Peine, 719-256-4644.

With gratitude,
 Stephanie Gaines,
 for CEOLP/IFC

NHN Thank You!

Dear Editor,
 Neighbors Helping Neighbors' yard sale was a huge success! Funds raised will go toward helping those in crisis, as NHN has been doing for over two decades. What was particularly wonderful was the participation of generous community donors, volunteers, and buyers...neighbors helping neighbors for real...who made the NHN yard sale 2018 a stellar event. I would like to mention a few names of those who went above and beyond to help put this sale together and then take it apart again:

In no particular order...
THANK YOU, THANK YOU
 Gretchen Wendi
 Lili Judie
 Julia Pam
 Taleb Brian
 Crestone Mtn Zen Center
 Matt Tristan
 Junan & sisters
 Drew Jacob
 Jon Enid
 Joel Tom
 Deb Shirley
 Jessica Michelle

Usnea	Benjamin
MacKenzie	Clarke
Jerry	Treat
Nick	Jim
Nathan	Drew
Tilly	Forrest
Eric	Benny
Meryl	Janet
Joanie	Kizzen
Sima Simon	Tom

—with appreciation, Mary Lowers and Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board of Directors

Community interdependence

Dear Editor,
 In this time of uncertainties, it is clear we are independent from England. We fought for it. But it is becoming increasingly evident that we are deeply an interdependent species. Elsewhere in this Eagle issue read an eloquent Declaration of Interdependence.

This interdependence is very evident in our little hamlet of Crestone Community. And I say Crestone Community because I see no fundamental separation between the Crestone Township and the Baca. We are one interdependent community. We do things together and need each other. I myself have a vision, and it was one also shared by others at the Crestone Baca Resilience conference a year ago, that at some time in the future there is one governing body administrating the Crestone Community as a whole. It may take years, but in could occur cooperatively and organically. We have common shared values. There is more that unites us than separates us, and there is more kindness and cooperation than otherwise.

So, celebrate Independence Day, and I invite you to also celebrate our Community Interdependence!

Vince Palermo

Trail between Crestone & Baca

Dear Editor,
 The Eastern San Luis Valley Trails Coalition (ESLVTC) is a group of organizations including the town of Crestone, Saguache County, Crestone Charter School, Colorado College, SLV Great Outdoors, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado and public lands agencies that work together to create routes in the Crestone/Baca area for non-motorized transportation between schools, communities, and the abundant surrounding federal lands. This is primarily being carried out by coordinating the design and development of an interconnected trail system.

As the group began to establish a priorities list for needed projects it became clear that creating a connection between the population of the Baca subdivision and the town of Crestone and schools was of paramount importance. With the growth of our community we recognized that the main thoroughfare of Camino Baca Grande had simply gotten too congested for both vehicles and non-motorized users. With a concern for the safety of all those involved, the ESLVTC has proposed the construction of a separate, non-motorized user path

running from the top of Camino Real (Two Trees) north to the town of Crestone and the Charter School.

The trail will be an unbroken route. It will be an inviting, non-motorized corridor accessed by multiple trailheads, and will provide unique recreational, educational, and interpretive opportunities.

As the trail is implemented, local youth, area residents and hikers will benefit from improved safety and health, greater social interaction, and a growing sense of environmental stewardship. The trail will catalyze development of the town's trails, promote the formation of a volunteer trails group, and cultivate awareness of Crestone's beauty and recreation opportunities.

Granting cycles for funding this project are upcoming and the Coalition will begin the process of seeking community input for the application. We invite all parties in our area to be part of this process through comment and support. Please stay tuned for these upcoming opportunities.

Thank you
 The Eastern San Luis Valley Trails Coalition

Now's the time to run for the POA Board

Dear POA members,
 I have been a POA Director for five and a half years now, and my second term will be ending with the election in October. I do not plan to run again. There are two other

Editor's Notes

Suffer the children

The United States is in the midst of a humanitarian crisis, and an even bigger moral crisis. "If you are not outraged, you are not paying attention."

Under the guise of "getting tough on immigration", thousands of people—families and children—are being greatly harmed. What is happening to them is evil. I use the word "evil" because when you cause harm to children and don't care, that is the definition of evil.

The Guatemalan and Honduran refugees are not gang members trying to sneak across the border. They have been on the news for many weeks—families fleeing horrible violence in their countries. The US knew they were coming and should have planned on dealing with refugees seeking asylum.

These people have come to know Americans as friendly people visiting their country. Aid workers, doctors, missionaries. America was a beacon of light to them. We offered hope. They knew there would be process and probably some detention. But not this. Not incarceration after their children, some only infants, were stripped from them and taken who knows where.

Put out the Amber Alert because this is kidnapping.

No tracking. No wrist bands. Toddlers who don't know their parent's names—only as mama and papa. How will they be reunited?

Why weren't these people just turned back at the border until they could be helped? Why weren't refugee camps set up so families could stay together? We assist other countries to do so—bringing aid, food, shelter. Why not here?

And that's where the moral crisis comes in. Our "leadership" not only allowed it, they created it and attempted to justify it. They expected Americans to accept it. It is hugely alarming that many do.

Illegal immigration is a problem we must and can solve. So are people seeking asylum. But *this* way is *NOT* the solution. This is a crime against humanity that must stop. Now.

—Kizzen



Let's try this again

Dear readers,
 In May's Eagle I encouraged you, if you were interested in photovoltaics (pv) for your home, to take a short survey by the Crestone/Baca Resiliency's Energy Action Group.

Unfortunately, those who responded encountered a non-functional survey.

Ah, technology. This in itself has been a lesson in resiliency. Dogged determination, I'm discovering, is an important part of resiliency.

Please bear with me and visit <https://crestonebaca-resiliency.net/energy>. There you will be asked to take our quick, easy survey. This involves no commitment; we just want to know the level of interest in the community.

Thank you to Nicole Bass, webmaster for CBR, for her help, and to you for your time, patience and participation.

Janet Woodman

Imagine... A Declaration of Interdependence & call for new liberty

by John Loll

We hold these truths to be self-evident that all species are created with inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

As a result of human-caused climate disruption the miraculous interdependent web of life upon our planet is so gravely imperiled that it has become necessary for our species to dissolve old bonds with one another and to assume our rightful station amongst all inhabitants of Earth so we may be in concert recognizing the rights of all in order that all may simply live.

We dissolve our prior self-conceited separation formerly known as "independence" and call on all peoples to look to a benefit beyond our imagined singularity. We call upon all tradition keepers and awareness holders to open their hearts and minds to share their bundles, texts, and scrolls of sacred knowledge and ceremony so that the human species will not cause ever greater harm in the ongoing apocalypse known as the Sixth Great Extinction.

We recognize we are not exempt from extinction. The harm we cause to others compounds and harms ourselves. We call for an end to dualisms that perpetuate nonrecognition of the truth that we are all one.

We hold the Rights of Nature and Planet to be as self-evident as our own including the right of Gaia's ice caps, atmosphere, forests, rivers, mountains, oceans, seas, aquifers, plains, and sky to remain healthy, thriving, and viable so all life may endure.

We affirm the importance and centrality of Science in guiding our actions to protect and cherish all life and prohibit the exercise of Science intended for use in warfare or subjugation of nature especially for purposes of human greed.

We declare the rackets of War, Capitalism, and Corporatism over and done.

That to secure these rights, Governments instituted amongst and by Men are insufficient, in that government by a single gender of a single species will never derive just powers from the consent of the governed to which Men appear alien, unintelligible, and lethal, in all or most part.

We call for the Feminization of Governments in all forms based on Ways of Nature and Spirit.

Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of All Peoples to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organization of its powers, as shall seem most likely to effect harmonious continuation of life itself upon our Mother Earth.

We call for a Congress of Peoples, Species, and Nature to form a Compact providing Articles of Understanding for a New Liberty based upon this Declaration of Interdependence that shall provide protection for All.

Board members up for re-election, and I don't know if they plan to run again. That is three of the five positions that will be open.

There has been a lot of controversy about covenant enforcement and building restrictions during the last two years. If this is an area of concern for you, as a member, this is your opportunity to run for office and represent your position as a POA Board member.

To run for a Director position, you must be a Member in Good Standing. Basically, that means your dues are paid up and you have no outstanding violations or fines. If you are not sure, call the POA office to check your status.

Personally, I am hoping that some younger members of our community will run for this position. Most of our current members are approaching, if not already, retirement age. Younger owners with families often don't get heard be-

cause they are so busy taking care of their business and family needs. However, this means that some decisions made by the Board may adversely impact families, whether Board members intend that or not.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you these last few years. I hope I have been helpful. I have enjoyed getting to know more of our members, and have appreciated working with other Board members.

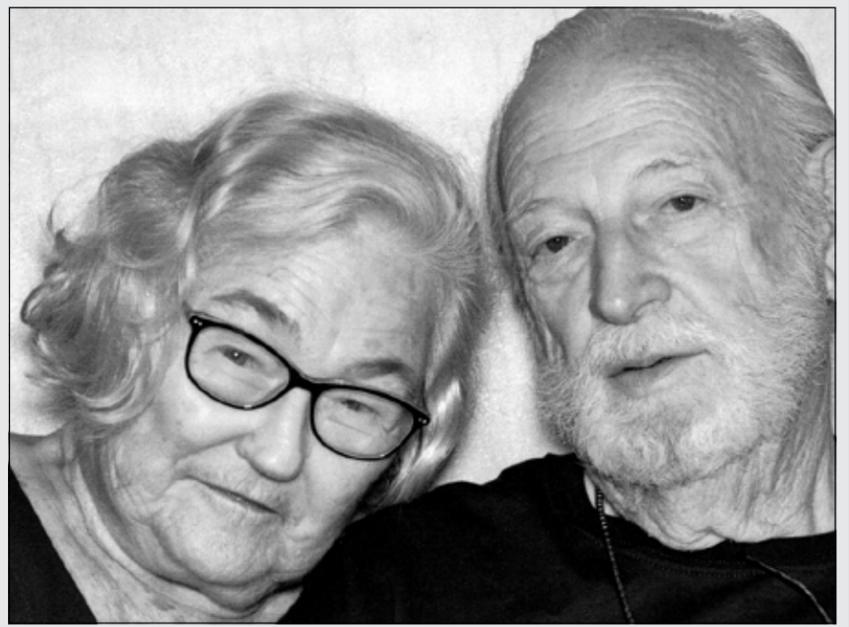
Matie Belle Lakish

Not for Sissies

To the Editor:

The Crestone Eagle has allowed me space to write about the sort of thing that matters to older readers, I being a card-carrying member of that group. Not a lot of space, so I don't get to ramble on for as long as I would like; the Editor is clear on that. I practice the art of compression under the heading of "Not for Sissies". That comes by way of a quote from Bette Davis, "Old age is no place for sissies." If you are older, you know the truth of that statement. If you're younger, you will learn it. Anyway, I am pleased to be able to contribute to the *Eagle* and its community. "Not for Sissies" will appear monthly or perhaps from time to time. I hope folks of all ages will benefit from reading it.

Tom Alfred deMers,
writing as Tomas



Patricia H. Johnson

On Sunday, June 3, 2018 Patricia H. Johnson left this world. She was joined in heaven by her son Michael, her grandchildren, Jovito and Chrissy Johnson, Brian Law and numerous other loved ones.

Her lifelong valentine and husband of 61 years, Parvin Johnson Sr., carries on her mission of unconditional love. Her remaining children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, lucky enough to grow in the light of her love include: Jody & Doug Barra, Ron John and Maria Cook; Parvin Johnson Jr., Ximena Perez, Patty & Tony Johnson, Niti Johnson & Tatiana Quevedo; Vanessa Van Dyne, Seth, Ashley, Ella & Michael Daniel Johnson, Caiti & Jordan Shaw; John, Marlene, Johnny & Adam Johnson; Antoine, Colleen, Christopher, Lizzie & Charlie Dupont; Valerie Law, Justin, Patricia & Isabella Law, Daniel, Danielle & Riley Law, Audrianna Law; and her brother Louis Horkan. We, along with countless nieces, nephews, cousins and friends know the gift to humanity that she was.

Pat with her husband Parvin had lived many years in Crestone, having a home in the Baca that they visited in the summer. When Parvin is able to come back for a visit, the Nada Hermitage will hold a mass and celebration in her name.

In lieu of floral arrangements, please consider orchids that can come home to a garden built in her honor. For charitable donations please consider the Guatamalan Mayan Center at 430 North G Street, Lake Worth, FL 33460.



Patricia and Parvin Johnson having fun in the Crestone 4th of July Parade in 2011.

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Grants range from \$300 to \$500

To apply go to: Info. saguachetourism.com

Search: Grant. Copy & past into word document

Print: Grant application

Deliver to County Land Use Office

Or mail to: Saguache County Tourism

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Missing Baca boy found safe

by Mary Lowers

On Sunday, June 24 the Saguache County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) issued an Endangered Missing Alert, which was upgraded to an Amber Alert for twelve-year-old Jacob Roe. The boy had been last seen around 3pm on Saturday, June 23 near his home in the Baca Grande near Crestone. Jacob's family was concerned that a man, identified as David Freeman, 60, a Baca resident, may be connected to the boy's disappearance. He was seen driving away from the Baca Park near where Jacob was last seen in a maroon Jeep Patriot.

Despite there being possible sightings of the Jeep, in Pueblo and elsewhere, for forty-eight hours where Jacob was and if he was indeed with Freeman was anybody's guess. The FBI was called into the investigation.

On Monday, June 25 in the late morning, authorities in Gar-

field County, Utah were following a lead that the Jeep Patriot described in the Amber Alert had been seen in the area. They found Jacob Roe and David Freeman together. Freeman was taken into custody on the spot. At this time we do not know what charges if any he will face relating to the possible kidnapping. Jacob Roe, who was missing for two days, was reported to be in good health and on his way home.

FIRE BAN!
NO
Fireworks!
NO
Camp fires!
NO
Smoking
outside!
Please
Keep it cool,
keep it wet!

Saguache County Crime Report

by Mary Lowers

On June 7 the entire county was put under a Stage 2 Fire Ban. As we approach the 4th of July holiday please remember for the health and safety of yourself and others ALL FIREWORKS ARE BANNED in the entire San Luis Valley. Even the rain we have gotten have not lessened fire danger. Anyone using fireworks will face stiff penalties. A fire can start so quickly in the extreme drought conditions we are experiencing. Remember the Black Forest Fire on the eastern slope was started by a Forest Service employee burning old love letters. It was one of the biggest fires in the state and the woman who was just burning old love letters went to jail for starting it.

Deputy Wayne Clark tells me the warrant sweep is alive and thriving in Saguache County. A Saguache man, 65, was jailed on failure to appear charges with no bail listed. A Crestone man, 26, was jailed on charges of criminal mischief and two failure to appear charges. His bail was set at \$2400. A Denver man was caught speeding and when the deputy ran his license it was found to be suspended. He was jailed on charges of speeding, driving with a suspended license, false reporting to authorities, and being a fugitive from justice. His bail amount was \$5000. A Crestone man, 18, was jailed for two failure to appear charges and given \$500 bail. A Saguache man, 48, had a bail amount of \$2,500 set on failure to appear charges. A bail amount of \$500 would get a Center man, 36, out of jail on failure to appear charges. A Center man, 48, was jailed on charges including, criminal impersonation, leaving the scene of an accident, driving while license is under restriction, no insurance, failure to comply and failure to appear. His bail amount was listed at \$1500. Two failure to appear charges landed a Center man, 31, in jail with \$2000 bail.

Bail of \$1000 would get a Center man, 31, out of jail on fugitive from justice charges. A Center man, 20, faces charges that included: fugitive from justice, criminal impersonation, resisting arrest, unlawful distribution of a controlled substance, unlawful procession of a controlled substance. His bail was set at \$2,500. A Center man, 55, went to jail for violation of a restraining order and two fugitive from justice charges. A bail amount of \$10,000 would get him out of jail. A homeless Crestone man, 48, went to jail on fugitive from justice charges with bail set at \$750.

Maybe it's the heat causing defendants to accrue contempt of court charges?!? We had quite a few in the county this past month. A Center man, 18, was charged with contempt of court with a bail amount of \$500 listed. A Center man, 19, and a second Center man, 40 were charged with contempt of court with no bail amount listed. A Saguache man, 25, went to jail on contempt of court charges with no bail listed. A Center man, 31, had no bail listed on his booking sheet for contempt of court charges. A man from Lakewood, 21, was jailed on contempt of court charges with no bail listed. A homeless man with a Denver address, 25, was jailed on contempt of court charges with his bail set at \$5,000.

A Moffat woman, 40, was summoned to appear in court to face theft charges. A Center man, 37, was jailed on a list of charges that include: first degree assault, violation of bail bond conditions, violation of a restraining order, criminal mischief, and obstructing a police officer. His bail was set at \$50,000. A Moffat man, 31, was jailed on charges including, menacing, reckless endangerment, and prohibited use of a weapon. His bail was set at \$2,500. A Center man, 27, was jailed for driving with a revoked license and for failing to drive in a single marked lane. His bail was set at \$250. A Poncha Springs man, 43, went to jail for processing a weapon as a previous offender. His bail was set at \$1000.

Domestic violence charges sent four people to jail this past month. A Center woman, 26, was charged with domestic violence and assault. She had no bail amount listed. A Center man, 43, went to jail charged with domestic violence and second degree assault. He had no bail amount listed. No bail was listed for a Center woman, 38, charged with domestic violence and harassment. A Center man, 34, was jailed with no bail amount listed on charges including, domestic violence and violation of a restraining order.

Automobile violations include lots and lots of no seatbelt tickets so buckle up folks it's not worth \$85 and risking your life! A Northglen woman, 27, was jailed with a bail amount of \$500 listed on charges including, driving while license is under restraint, speeding, and reckless driving.

Drive carefully the Winnebago season is upon us.



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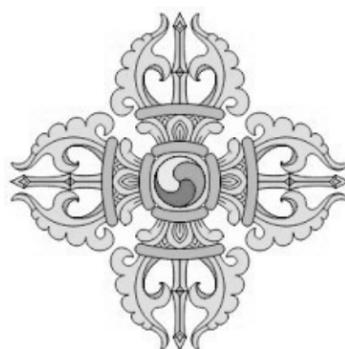
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Konchog Chidu Empowerment	Sunday July 22nd
Medicine Buddha Empowerment	Friday July 27th
Mahakala Empowerment	Saturday August 4th
Consecration/Groundbreaking	Sunday August 5th

for completion of the South Wing of the Retreat Center
 Crestone, Colorado



Please check Special Events for update at
VAJRAVIDYA.COM 719-256-5539

Saguache County News

by Sandia Belgrade Stage II fire restrictions in place

Despite the welcome relief of recent rains the county remains in a drought condition. For the first time the San Juan National Forest was closed to the public, though it is open again. It indicates the extreme fire danger state-wide. For this reason, a Stage II fire ban has been implemented. It intensifies the restrictions from Stage I:

- No fires or open burning
- No smoking except inside closed areas
- No operating a chainsaw or other motorized equipment without a spark-arresting device, or blasting or welding which can generate a flame. And, with the Fourth of July upon us, no fireworks or pyrotechnics are allowed. Residents can celebrate themselves as protectors of the awesome natural world around us.

County considering solar garden

Over the years the County has looked into different companies to bring in solar generation of electricity. This time around Xcel Energy is giving permits to put solar in our county. The County would prefer a solar garden. A solar garden is a community-shared solar array with multiple grid-connected subscribers connected to the utility grid. Just as if the panels were on their own roofs, subscribers receive a credit on their electric bill for the power the panels produce. John Herferd of Oakleaf Energy Partners based in Denver offered a presentation to the County Board of Commissioners (BOCC). Oak Leaf has successfully completed over 55 projects, including 13 solar gardens across the state, one of which is in Alamosa. In our county we have a patchwork set of providers. Some electricity users are in Xcel territory. It would be necessary to be a subscriber with Xcel, since they own the transmission lines. The east side of Hwy. 17 is SLVREC territory. Electricity from the Xcel solar garden would not be available there.

More data has to be considered.

County Land Use

The Saguache County Land Use Office is now requiring an appointment for any Conditional Use variance request which includes marijuana variance requests. This allows the Land Use Office to review all applications for correct information and additional information that may be required. To make an appointment with the Land Use Office, you can call the office at 719-655-2321, or come by the County Courthouse at 501 4th Street, Saguache.

County activates complaint line

With a marijuana code en-

forcement officer in the field and a person in the office, residents can now call in to the Land Use Department dedicated complaint line if they believe there is a code enforcement violation. The 719-221-0547 number can be called Monday through Friday 8am-4pm.

Please provide the address or location of violation.

The significant drug abuse is really . . .

. . . opioids. While residents have valid complaints about marijuana, no one is coming in to meetings to comment about opioids. This deadly epidemic is causing more fatalities than car crashes, and it is widespread due to the abuse of pain relievers available legally by prescription. So it was good to hear that the County Social Services Department is moving forward on it. Linda Warsh, Director of Social Services, said federal funds are available and valley-wide programs are being put together for opioids and substance abuse. The County approved renewal of the contract for substance abuse.

Social Services is using Red Willow Transportation, which picks up about 58 valley-wide residents as well as serving some non-Medicaid clients.

Diane Dunlap requested a Conditional Use Modification for property at 17505 Co. Rd. 52 for four additional temporary hoop houses. She uses approximately 50,000 gallons water per year and will have a new water contract. Jason Anderson asked with the price of marijuana dropping what is the future? Dunlap replied she is primarily growing only a few select medical strains. The CUP modification was approved.

Wendi Maez, head of Land Use, is also acting as the County Administrator. A budget and audit training is coming up July 11 and it might be wise if the Commissioners move forward on their decision concerning that position, • to have an administrator on board before then. In Maez's report there was discussion concerning maintenance pay increase and Airmed care enrollment for County employees should they ever need emergency flight services.

Ideas to improve the landfill

Chris Canaly, director of the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, said the council has a plan for the valley for the reduction of waste and presented a case for a transfer station instead. A transfer station is a building or processing site for the temporary deposition of solid waste. It is an environmentally sound way to handle collected community waste prior to loading it into larger vehicles for transport to the end point of disposal: an incinerator, regional landfill, or hazardous waste facility. Given the difficulties that our landfill has had with State regs, and that our county processes 2,000 tons of waste while comparable communities have 5,000 tons, it begs the question: where is that waste going? Clearly our county is producing waste that's not going to the landfill. It was noted that Bill Burch did well to recycle and redirect 40 tons out of the landfill.

Cost & environmental considerations

A small rural landfill is hard to manage because it has to follow the same regs as large landfills. Our landfill has issues with the liner and the well and may need another cell or area constructed and approved for disposal of waste. Additional well testing could cost \$15,000. In 2017 the landfill operated at a loss as expenditures ran over \$200,000 while revenues were less than \$100,000. The bottom line is that the Commissioners have to decide if it might be easier and more cost-effective to convert and manage a transfer station than a landfill. There is also the cost for residents to drive long distances to get to the landfill. The BOCC will be gathering more information before deciding if they will go in the direction of many counties which are now using transfer stations along with regional landfills.

SRS funding discussion

The Superintendents from Center, Mountain Valley and Moffat appeared before the BOCC with Randal Arredondo, supervisor of the Road and Bridge department to work out payment options for SRS funds (Federal Payments to Local Governments Provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act) This year 100% of SRS is going to the schools. The County general fund will get the full PILT payment for 1 year. PILT is payment in lieu of taxes which helps offset the losses from property taxes due to the large amount of non-taxable Federal lands within our county.

Veteran Assistance Grant

Jim Sheeran, the Veteran Service Officer for Saguache County, has announced that all of the 2017-18 Veteran Assistance Grant funds have been spent helping Saguache County veterans in need. Also, the grant application for 2018-19 has been approved by the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This means that another \$2,250.00 will be available to assist local veterans with housing, utilities, food and gas beginning July, 2018. If you're a vet you owe it to yourself to meet Jim and see what the office can do for you. He's a friendly public servant who is willing to help. Contact Jim at 719-655-2680.

Sales tax increase

Sheriff Dan Warwick would like to see a sales tax increase. Saguache residents want more police coverage and patrols. They deplore the state of the jail. The surround-

ing counties have higher sales taxes and voters don't mind paying 7% in Alamosa at Walmart. Although voters defeated a previous measure for an increase in taxes in the past, a ballot measure will be explored again to increase manpower for the Sheriff's Department.

County-owned lots

There was discussion on what the minimum bid amount should be for County-owned lots.

The County has taken in \$50,000 in bids so far, triple their projections. Currently:

- Mineral Hot Springs \$1400
- Baca Grande Chalets and Lazy K-V Estates \$4000
- Moffat \$100 per lot approved
- Casita Park \$1500

Matie Belle Lakish of Crestone requested that there be a delay in listing several properties in Casita Park. She asked that the Planning Commission be able to engage the community in a conversation regarding other possible uses than just listing the lots individually. The Commissioners wanted more information on the lots, and lacking that information, they delayed a decision until they had a better description of the property.

Public lands

At the monthly discussion several reps were present, including Forest Supervisor Scott Armentrout from the Grande Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest. He noted that while the rains have helped, there is still much care that is needed. They are working to manage spruce and salvage and to decide how to treat fuels more effectively as well as to increase recreation opportunities. Others were present from Gunnison and there was some back and forth around management areas and decisions. Tristan Post of the Forest Service reported that the drought has had a big impact. They didn't get the rain amount that some places like Crestone got.

She discussed ongoing projects and said bear lockers have been installed in the north Crestone campground.

Short takes

• Connie Trujillo, County Treasurer, said there have been only 2 foreclosures so far for this year. 89% of taxes have been collected. November 5 will be the next tax lien sale.

• Deputy Wayne Clark's next Active shooters class will be August 2 and 9.

• Villa Grove Trade's liquor license was renewed.

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by **Allyson Ransom,**
Town Clerk

June 11, 2018 Board of Trustees Meeting

The meeting began at 9:30 am and was held in the meeting room located at 111 S. Alder Ave., on the east side of the town hall building. The Board of Trustees passed the following motions:

- To approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting from May 14, 2018

- To approve the Minutes from the Special Meetings from May 21, 2018 and June 1, 2018

- To approve the agenda as amended by including Trustee Laki's request to replace trees during the Clerk's Report

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

- To approve adopting the GSA per diem rates for traveling and training of staff and elected officials.

- To approve paying the office assistant up to 20 additional hours in the next two weeks to assist the clerk with the EQR research project.

- To approve filmmaker Doug Beechwood's request to fly a drone above 800 feet for 4 hours total on a designated day, and temporarily suspend the municipal ordinance that does not permit the flying of drones over the town limits.

- To approve advertising the old museum space at 101 S. Alder as a retail space at \$600 per month including utilities.

- To preliminarily approve Nathan Good to organize the energy fair combined with a music festival to be held in town during the Labor Day weekend and that Nathan and his group will be in charge of all costs, cleanup, and submit a letter of intent and proof of insurance at the August board meeting.

- To approve buying two replacement trees by transferring funds from the mosquito control budget

- To approve Water System Manager Ann Bunting to spend up to \$800 to lower the main water pump further into the town's principal well if Bunting deems it necessary or if she finds there is less than ten feet of water above the pump level in the well shaft.

- To approve a brew pub renewal license for Crestone Brewing Co. located at 187 W. Silver Ave.

- To approve a change of ownership structure for Conscious Connexion, dba Higher Elevation at 152 W. Silver Ave. by deleting the name of Don Gifford, and to approve the annual retail marijuana sales renewal license for Conscious Connexion contingent upon receiving a renewal license from the State Department of Revenue's Marijuana Enforcement Division.

- To reconsider the motion to pay \$600 for engineering fees for the Block 59 water extension project as it was in conflict with the

town water ordinance, thus, the previous action taken on May 14, 2018 was rescinded, and the cost of an engineer's stamp would be the responsibility of the developer.

- To inform Karen Kenney, who is the water extension applicant, that she would have to pay the cost for the engineering review and stamp as the prior motion from May 14, 2018 was rescinded.

- To inform John Niewoehner that adding his name to Karen Kenney's application on the Block 59 water extension project is not appropriate as per the town attorney.

- To approve the revised version of the SLVREC Franchise Agreement with a base fee of 1%, which could possibly increase to 5% in the future, subject to a board resolution, and that 1% shall be earmarked for underground electric infrastructure and that SLVREC shall not add towers, substations, or streetlights without town board approval

- To approve signing the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Saguache County Sheriff's Department as amended from the May 14, 2018 Board meeting to include the corrections with the correct town name.

- To approve signing the Pet Cemetery Independent contractor agreement with project volunteer, Denise Peine

- To approve Mayor Danforth signing the construction contract from Alcon Construction for the Phase II Downtown project based upon Burt Wadman's review

- To adjourn the meeting at 5:46 pm

Citizen's Comments

Town resident Fred Bauder shared an online resource for flood control (udfcd.org) and requested that a storm water professional be hired by the town to continue to evaluate the Phase II project. Mr. Bauder also requested a meeting with Martin Reynolds, the project engineer. Mayor Danforth directed Mr. Bauder to bring up this subject during the Attorney's Report when Burt Wadman would be present.

Reports

The treasurer presented her detailed financial report and the month's bills for approval. The following was discussed with the trustees:

- Sales tax revenue received-\$19,649.93

- Estimated marijuana retail sales tax for the month totaled \$640.00

- Request to follow the standardized GSA rate for per-diem for training and travel

- Meeting with Baca Grande water and Sanitation District about sewer rates

- Reviewing EQR rates to update commercial properties

Mayor Kairina Danforth reported that Columbian indigenous leaders, the Kogi, plan to visit Crestone in August; filmmaker Doug Beechwood requested using a cam-

era drone over Crestone for four hours; and Crestone's obligation to the San Luis Trails Coalition ends on June 30, 2019

The clerk informed the board that Jim McCalpin had moved all museum inventory to the new location at the community building; gave a recommendation to advertise the old museum space at 101 S. Alder St. as a rental space; shared a property owner's request that the town remove piles of rubble off her property on Block 42 in exchange for using her lots for temporary town parking; and an email was received from Patti Jackson of the food bank stating that the food bank is moving out of the Town building on June 30, 2018.

Discussions

The trustees reviewed the franchise agreement with San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative, discussing the 3% base franchise fee, including a 5% fee on Cielo Telecommunications and the advantages and disadvantages of doing so.

Nathan Good was present to discuss his offer to work with the town on an on-call basis for fire danger issues. Nathan offered his services at a rate of \$50 per hour when assessing fire hazards. The Board asked Nathan to return to the July 9, 2018 board meeting after having worked on a memorandum of understanding with the town attorney.

Burt Wadman was present and discussed the following with the Board: lighting designs for Phase II project; installing irrigation for future planting; that he would charge the town for additional services for meeting with the engineer and Fred Bauder; and Mr. Wadman verified that the drainage design was based on the Davis Engineering findings from 2004.

Town Resident Fred Bauder requested the following: a set of final construction plans for the phase II project, to talk personally with engineer Martin Reynolds, that the town hires a storm water engineer to review the entire Phase II project, and compensation of \$30,000.00 for sending possible future storm water runoff to his property. Fred verified that he was against constructing this project.

After further comments by the board members and attorney, the consensus of the trustees was that there would be no more meetings about this matter with Fred Bauder as they had already provided information as requested, as well as, holding private meetings for him.

Other Information

- The Town of Crestone is an incorporated town with the fol-

lowing elected officials: Trustees Diane Birstow, Terry Goergen, Kizzen Laki, Adam Kinney, Sam Pace, Bob Prather and Mayor Kairina Danforth; they may be reached via email links from our website at townofcrestone.org under the 'contacts' tab or during the 'Here To Listen' sessions scheduled every first Monday of the month from 10:00 am-noon at The Cloud Station, 222 S. Cottonwood Street.

- Board of Trustee meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 9:30 am in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 111 S. Alder St. 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 also held in the meeting room the first Monday of each month at 5:00 pm.

- Agendas and public notices are posted in the following public locations: locked bulletin boards outside of Town Hall and inside the Post Office lobby. Online locations include the Town of Crestone website 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 at 719- 256-4313.

- The Crestone Museum and Welcome Center at 240 N. Cottonwood St. will be open this summer Saturday 10-4, Sunday 10-4, and Tuesday through Thursday from 1-4.

- Crestone remains under a severe fire danger threat at this time, which may increase throughout the summer due to the lack of moisture and low snowpack. The Town has adopted a Stage II Alert based on the Saguache County alert, as well, as the forest service who have been alerting people to the same dangers while camping or traveling through federal lands. There can be no outdoor fires of any kind, including covered BBQs, no smoking outdoors, or welding and chain saws may only be used if they have spark protection guards.

- A Certified Notary Public is available during regular office hours; the cost is \$5.00 per signature being verified as per Colorado Secretary of State Guidelines.

- Free brush pick-up for town residents takes place at the beginning 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 for their hours of operation.

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Jim pulled it off!

Congratulations to Jim Hollmer who rode away with 4 first place awards at the Silver Cliff Antique Tractor Pull! He used his 1945 Farmall tractor model M, "The old mighty M," to win in each event he entered. Jim pulled twice in the Farm Class and twice in Classic. He out-pulled every other entry. "Sure makes me feel good to take that old Farmall and beat some of those John Deers!". Jim Hollmer loves tractors and a favorite hobby is collecting and restoring antique tractors and winning in tractor pulls!



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Marijuana regs

continued from page 1

by the existing Land Development Code, questioned whether or not adequate verification of application information was being done, and disputed County official claims that County and State regulations were being followed and enforced, resulting in operations continuing to be approved despite citizens concerns.

The marijuana moratorium is a temporary solution to allow time for County officials, Planning Commissioners and employees to identify and work out problems in the first year of implementing and collecting an excise tax on marijuana cultivation and of having a mari-

juana code enforcement officer. Additional code enforcement staff has been added since the first of this year.

According to some residents, the heart of the debate is the question of how the County is spending revenue from excise taxes and licensure fees collected from legal marijuana businesses. The intent outlined in the TABOR notice for the 2016 ballot question on imposing the excise tax was for retail marijuana cultivations in Saguache County "to pay their fair share of excise tax as a contribution to offset the effects these operations have on the county".

Revenues from excise tax and various fees charged specific to marijuana applications totaling \$287,755 was reported for 2017. What that money was expended on is not apparent from 2017 financial reports currently available from the County. Modifications have been made to 2018 financial reports to make answers to those questions more clear.

To further complicate things, there are ongoing concerns about the inability of the Sheriff's office to address illegal marijuana operations due to underfunding and the increase in crime overall that has occurred in the same time frame as the legalization of marijuana.

Sheriff Dan Warwick continues to address the Commissioners with concerns about being understaffed and underfunded, and propose possible funding solutions for his office.

Citizens will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions July 19, 6:00 p.m. at the County Road & Bridge meeting room in Saguache.



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Clips from the Clerk

by *Trish Gilbert*
**Saguache County
 Clerk & Recorder**

As custodians of public records, the Saguache County Clerk and Recorder's office respectfully requested funding assistance through a grant for digitizing our old books, aperture cards, microfiche and other documents—indexing of the documents, providing permanent archiving of our historical documents and for our web-hosted public access site.

Saguache County is where the West was settled. Our county is economically depressed with no significant tax base to generate revenue for badly needed services such as this project. Our records go back to the 1800s and some of our books are in very poor condition, with an occasional page missing. We are dedicated to preserving this important history, but without digitizing, our old books are at risk of further deterioration and even loss of important information. Approval of this grant request for Saguache County will now link our past with the present and take us forward into the future of technology for historic preservation while providing state-of-the-art services to our citizens.

We also requested enough funds to add a slipsheet printer, and a Laser Jet Printer as well as a Public Search Workstation, to include maintenance and in-

ternet services. Some of our office equipment used for recording is outdated. At present we have just one public search station. We will also purchase a light table for viewing recorded plat maps.

Our Board of County Commissioners is very excited about this project and eager for us to get started. They realize the seriousness and historic nature of these documents and would like to see them preserved in timeless quality.

A lot of time and careful consideration was given to this grant application. Our entire staff was involved throughout the process. Ben and Desiree kept the daily operations of the Clerk's office going while Jane made important contacts for letters of support from recording stakeholders such as the Abstract Office, title companies, searchers, etc.—we even received a letter of support from the Saguache County Museum. There were many demands on everyone's time.

We deeply appreciate the Electronic Recording Technology Board's approval of our full request of \$181,553.89!

No strings attached. The grant money we receive will be at no cost to the taxpayer. No in-kind contributions and no pay-back of grant funds.

Eureka!



Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper presents Crestone Mayor Kairina Danforth with a proclamation declaring May 24 as "Crestone Day". His visit to Crestone was only a quick stop—long enough to have a beer at the Brew Pub and meet with a few citizens. He was given a quick tour by his aid, Connor Hall, a former "Crestone kid", son of Thomas and Collen Hall.

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SHOP LOCAL

Moffat annexation

continued from page 1

opportunities and increased sales for existing and newly established commercial enterprises.

One of the specialties that Justice brings, in addition to a background of building affordable housing, is the ability to help people bridge the gap between renting to first time home ownership.

Part of the annexation agreement approved by Moffat Trustees indicates that a town well will be re-drilled at the expense of Potch, LLC, in order to facilitate extending municipal utilities to serve the new development.

Mayor Patricia Riegel, at a recent county commissioner meeting, indicated the many struggles faced by Moffat, "There is nothing in Moffat to work with, no water or sewage systems, no trails. It is hard to find resources to improve the town." According to Moffat Mayor Patricia Riegel, the parcel will be annexed to avoid paying marijuana excise tax to the county. If the town approves its own excise tax, those revenues will be diverted directly to the town coffers and away from the county.

At this time, both the town trustees and the owner of Potch, LLC, are interested in a mutually beneficial annexation agreement, and have signed a document accordingly.

Property owners opposed to the annexation protest that the annexation has not been completed correctly and as required by Colorado municipal law. Residents complain that the process has not been transparent, accountable or compliant as required by state law. Locals have not been provided access to maps, decisions and explanations of potential impacts and how these will be mitigated. Adequate notice

for community meetings has not been provided to all impacted residents and property owners, again, as required by state law.

While the commissioners approved and signed an impact statement in April, it is not clear that the annexation has been approved or completed. Records at the county clerk's office show that on May 23, 2018 a series of documents were filed related to the annexation along with an ordinance instigating a temporary moratorium on applications to establish new businesses that cultivate or manufacture retail marijuana or marijuana products.

Property owners and residents have been concerned about the rumors that the property being annexed is for additional marijuana operations. People in the Moffat area share some of the concerns that have been expressed county-wide when it comes to development tied to marijuana – including lack of adequate law enforcement to address those concerns.

At the BoCC June 12, 2018 business meeting, Mayor Patricia Riegel presented the county commissioners with a Three Mile Plan for approval. The commissioners tables a decision in order to review and will respond at a later date. This plan was a requirement prior to annexation documents being approved.

Opponents intend to file a legal challenge to the annexation. Among reasons they contend cloud the annexation legally are the constitution of the town board at the early stages of its approval, the fact that trustees did not formally approve the impact statement in a trustee meeting before it was presented to commissioners and ex parte communications with growers prior to the public hearing.

A the June 12th meeting the county commissioners broached the topic of whether or not marijuana cultivations located in the town should be paying the county excise tax. Commissioner Jason Anderson indicated that it is within the county's purview to collect an excise tax within the town boundary since Moffat has not levied an excise tax of its own.

Mayor Patricia Riegel quipped that then the county could pay the Sheriff for his calls in the town, A cost the town is currently paying that averages about \$200 per month.



Lots of people discovered lots of fantastic finds at the annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors yard sale, held in its usual location, the Elephant Cloud parking lot, on Saturday, June 2. photo by Lori Nagel



Happy neighbors! Meryl Ennis and Pamela Rose happily volunteered to collect the cash donations at the annual NHN sale. photo by Lori Nagel



A ton of donations and a myriad of shoppers made for a really great annual yard sale for Neighbors Helping Neighbors again this year. photo by Lori Nagel

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* Summer Fun & Events



Art demonstrations & play groups at the Earth Tribe Studio in Crestone

by Geneva Hollyer

Earth Tribe Studio, now in its 3rd month is thriving. We will be changing things just a little as we refine the process of meeting everyone's needs, those of my family, and those of the community. Our playgroup will be expanding hours and ages, as well as increasing the rate to \$7hr. The yoga classes have shifted to a single Saturday 11 am class, due to summer travel etc. The Studio will be hosting a live Art demonstration Day this coming month, serving refreshments, and giving people a chance to witness artists of different mediums at work in the creative process. Stay tuned for the date. Thanks to the Crestone community for your patronage and support!



Cash register and grocery scale from the old Pioneer Store (NE corner of Galena and Alder). The register was made by National Cash Register Company of Dayton, OH in 1913; the company still exists. The scale was made by The Computing Scale Company of Dayton, OH between 1905 and 1910; that company later became IBM. Both items were donated by George and Lu Sherer in 2014.

The past comes alive at the Crestone Museum & Welcome Center

by Mary Lowers

The Crestone Historical Museum is settling into its new home in the Old Schoolhouse on Cottonwood Street less than a block north of Galena Ave. They are ready to welcome visitors and locals alike.

The school house was built with the love and sweat of early miners. It is designated a historic building by the State of Colorado and is in very much the same condition as it was when erected in 1881 shortly after the founding of the town. Walking into the building will take you back in time and spending time there will give you a different perspective on life in the northern San Luis Valley.

There is a mammoth tooth from the end of the ice age, all sorts of interesting geologic specimens from the area including the Crestone Conglomerates found nowhere else on the planet. The museum proudly displays many treasures donated by families who have been here since the mining days. Questions about who came here and why they chose this little spot at the end of the road are explored.

Displays and artifacts illustrate how gold was mined, how people lived a century ago, and how Native Americans and Hispanic settlers used this area before the

town was founded. Exciting new outdoor displays are on-the-way!

If you find something of interest while hiking, take a couple of pictures of it where it lies and write a clear description of where you discovered it. When you come by, the museum staff can help you identify the artifact, and by leaving it where you found it historians can weave it into the story of that place and time.

The Crestone Historical Museum also hosts the town Welcome Center. Friendly volunteer staff can help you with directions, maps and flyers describing local areas of interest, shops, galleries, accommodations, spiritual centers, and eateries.



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Summer Fun & Events *

Visit the Saguache County Museum

The Saguache County Museum occupies a building partially constructed in 1870. It has functioned over the years as a school, temporary courthouse, and a residence for jail-keepers and their families. The old jail, built in 1908, is an adobe building finished with stucco. The interior has a sheriff's office, a women's or V.I.P. cell, and a large room or "bull pen" with an escape-proof maximum security "cage". This jail was used until 1958. Original graffiti done by prisoners still adorns the walls.

Historic, nostalgic, memorable, and educational are some of the words that describe the Saguache County Museum. In an age when we are spoiled with easily acquired (and soon discarded) possessions, we can step into the past here and learn from earlier generations. They had to be able to create most of the items they needed, first in order simply to survive, and later to bring more comfort into their lives. They used and cherished their possessions, passing them on to the next generation to save or use until they were worn out or no longer needed.

The history of Saguache (pronounced sa-WATCH and meaning Water at the Blue Earth [Sa-gua'-gua'-chi-pa]), and our exhibits,

are spiced with the story of railroad mogul Otto Mears, Ute Chief Ouray and Chipeta (before the white man, there were the Utes), Spanish settlers and Native American tribes.

Our museum includes historical artifacts concerning Alferd E. Packer, who was charged in 1874 with murdering, robbing and eating portions of his five prospecting companions. Staffers are prepared to relate the puzzling story of this man, who was at first condemned to death, escaped, was recaptured and given the sentence of 40 years for voluntary manslaughter.

The Saguache Museum also manages the restored Hazard House Museum (just down the block at 917 Pitkin), built in 1913. The house was a gift to the Museum from Georgie Marie Hazard Givan in 1994. It was opened to the public in May, 1997. The home depicts the affluent life-style and furnishings of the wealthier Saguache families of the 1920s and 1930s.

The museum is located at 405 8th St (US Hwy 285) in Saguache, Colorado. It is open 9-4 every day from Memorial Day through Sept 10. Adult admission is \$7 and children under 12, \$1.



Artist Wade Collins was the 1st Place Adult Art Winner at the 2017 Annual Hollyhock Festival in Saguache.

photo by Stephanie Buechler

7th Annual Saguache Hollyhock Festival July 28

Join us in the town of Saguache for the Hollyhock Festival, 10am-3pm. Start at the Community Building, 525 Seventh Street, with a self-guided tour of gardens and yards around town and so much more:

- Hollyhock art contest and show. Open to residents (adults and youth) of Saguache County. Original art works in any medium featuring hollyhocks are eligible for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes.

- Hollyhock Garden contest and show. Town gardens with or without hollyhocks are eligible to enter. Prizes are in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in either category.

- Loads of fun for kids of all ages. Enjoy walking, biking or driving self-guided tours of the gardens of Saguache. Master Gardener Plant Clinic, local honey information, face-painting, hands-on-activities, root beer floats, and so much more.

- For more information call 913-484-8983 or visit the Chamber of Commerce website for food, accommodations and activity options. www.Saguachechamber.org.

'Christmas in July' in Saguache July 4

Saguache County Department of Social Services is teaming up with HEART of Saguache/KV to host a fundraiser for the Saguache Sharing Christmas program. The Saguache Sharing Christmas program serves all of Saguache County during the holiday season with food and gift to those most in need.

On July 4 at Otto Mears Park in Saguache we are hosting "Christmas in July". This event will be a day of family fun, live music, food, vendors as well as a do-

nation drawing and a toy and food drive. All proceeds from food sale, toy drive and food drive and the donation drawing will benefit the Saguache Sharing Christmas program.

Please plan to join us for the day, and support this great county-wide program. Other Saguache Sharing Christmas partners include Saguache Fire Department, Saguache Ambulance, Mountain Valley School, Center School, farmers and local businesses.

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7th Annual Saguache Hollyhock Festival

July 28th
10 am to 3 pm

Community Building - 525 Seventh Street
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Gardens, Hollyhock Art & Demonstrations
Fun, Fun, Fun

Start at the Community Building and enjoy walking or biking guided or self-guided tours of the gardens of Saguache. Master Gardener Plant Clinic, local honey demonstration, face-painting, hands-on-activities, and so much more.

913-484-8983 www.Saguachechamber.org

Funding provided by Saguache County Grant

* Summer Fun & Events



While in the San Luis Valley, a trip to the Sand Dunes is a must.
photo courtesy of the National Parks Service

Visit the Great Sand Dunes National Park

The tallest dunes in North America are the centerpiece in a diverse landscape of grasslands, wetlands, conifer and aspen forests, alpine lakes, and tundra. Experience this diversity through hiking, sand sledding, splashing in Medano Creek, wildlife watching, and more! The park and preserve are always open, so plan to also experience night skies and nocturnal wildlife during your visit.

The visitor center offers films and interactive displays on the creation of the dunes. There are ranger lectures and events for children.

For more information visit www.nps.gov/grsa/index.htm.



Shoppers stroll through the Crestone Saturday Market on Silver Street. Local arts, crafts, plants and food are available. Grassy Little Pearl Park is a great place for kids play. It's becoming better every year! Come on by and then stroll through town and visit shops, galleries and cafes.

For up to date listings of regional events, visit the Crestone Eagle Community Calendar online at www.crestoneeagle.com.

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Crestone, we love you and appreciate you. Thank you for your patience during this time of transition. Please come in and talk to us with any questions or concerns. Ask for Tim, Shane, Tony or Kira.



Live music every Friday night!

Upcoming Events

June 29 - July 1: Rapids & Grass Beer Festival, BV

July 4th: Barry Monroe and the Cheap Therapy Singers live on the patio

July 22: Brewers Rendezvous, Salida

August 4: Second Anniversary Party, Crestone

September 8: Oktoberfest, Crestone

September 20-22nd: Great American Beer Festival, Denver

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The Crestone Artisans Gallery features local artists & events

by Paula Hudson

Well here we are again! Loaded up with news for the month of July. By the way, Thank-you so much for coming to our 14th year celebration in May. We had a drawing for one of Kathy Strathearn's shawls (a \$170 value) and it is safe to say the drawing tickets were going like hotcakes. We had over 115 people in attendance.

We have another celebration, July 21, 11am to 1pm, with music by The Company of Friends, and great food and wine. The artist of the month is moi. And I will be donating an original painting.

But don't wait for the brunch, come in and see the new art and get acquainted with the work of our new artists.

Jim Petruzzi is a new author in the gallery. His wife, Sue Petruzzi, makes beautiful soft leather bags large enough to be purses and small ones the size of amulet bags. Sofia Bogdanovic is a new painter joining us. See her mystical paintings. We are most happy to welcome Emmy Savage back. She is a fabulous painter and pastel artist. Her landscapes are really worth seeing.

Down the jewelry isle, Sasha Lovelace has some extraordinary costume pieces. Myan and Jim Sorensen have been busy making their elegant deer and elk antler jewelry. Bob Long has once again found the most amazing colors of jade for his intricate Celtic knots and conglomerate stone for his heart necklaces.

Don't miss the back room. Bill Ellzey has a beautiful landscape photograph there. One wall is de-

voted the Desi Faraci (artist and pizza maker par excellence) and Terry Corcoran, our very own Irish painter and photographer.

Our artist of the month, me, is a painter who uses oils, acrylics and watercolors. Sometimes all in one painting. I do abstracts as well



Party Animal, new painting by Paula Hudson.

representational work. Though, if you think about it, all painting is abstract. I have been painting since I was in third grade. Let me tell you that story: I had just copied two children sledding from a Bruegel print on the wall, when my teacher walked by and said "Where did you get that?" Needless to say, that was all the encouragement that I needed. I am in a gallery in Denver and have been in other galleries around Colorado and the southwest.

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Summer Fun & Events *

Nick Keefer featured artist for July at Shumei International; Symposium July 15

Nick Keefer's work will be on display at the Shumei Gallery in Crestone in July. A symposium with Nick will be held on Sunday, July 15 starting at 3pm. A reception will follow.

Nick Keefer was born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1968. He has lived in Utah, Northern California, Mexico, Costa Rica and Colorado. He has created art in all those places, leaving a trail of art in his wake. He has traveled extensively throughout the world and now lives in once again in Crestone, Colorado. Nick has always been a prolific artist, and has created many distinct bodies of work in his lifetime. He has shown in a variety of venues and several countries. In the past ten years he has refined his technique while continuing to dig deeper into the concepts that drive his art.

Nick has worked in many mediums including: pen and ink rendering, water color, print making, jewelry making, oil paint on canvas, digital art and video collage, stone carving, photography and wood carving. He now works primarily with acrylic paint and mixed media on wood panel. Nick is mostly a self-taught artist, though he studied art at San Francisco Community College and Cabrillo College in Santa Cruz. To Nick Keefer the school of life is where the true artist should learn his trade and take in the insight that makes for art that has the ability to make one ponder the meaning of life.

Nick says, "My current painting style is an amalgamation of paint, paper, collage, image transfer and varnish on wood. Central to every painting is a fascination with transforming the piles of paper that we humans leave in our wake, into something of significance. I find inspiration everywhere: in ads, old magazines, books on science, geology, anatomy, biology—I devour images. It all gets repurposed, stained, torn, pasted, varnished, sanded, painted over, hidden and revealed. Sometimes a magical transposition happens, creating, intentionally or by coincidence, some fresh meaning or symbolism, out of the old and possibly banal. From piles of babble comes precious jewels.

"My art has always been fueled by a need to investigate my interior

workings and the conflicts that exist there. Explorations of love and lust, fear and ambition, the mystery of existence and my relationship with the world around me, underpin all of my pieces. Often a series will begin with my grappling with some sense of angst about a particular subject or feeling, and then develop into something I had not originally intended.

"The creation of my paintings is both an additive and subtractive process. I build up layers of paint and imagery and then begin to sand and remove areas I don't care for, while enhancing and bringing out the areas that work. Many layers of paint, varnish and paper can be built up over time. It is a very labor-intensive process. Much of the time, a painting does not come together until I have wiped out many hours or days of work, paring the piece down and allowing its essence to emerge.

"Recently, I had a time of deep reflection on my life as an artist. I was feeling frustrated with my work, like I had said everything I wanted to say and my ideas had run dry. I was painting less and enjoying the process less. In a sense, I kind of threw in the towel. If I was not going to create new and meaningful work then what was the point? A couple of winters ago something shifted.

Perhaps in the act of capitulation, something in me shifted or loosened. I felt inspired to create, and even inspired to put some work out into the world for people to see again, an idea that has always caused me some trepidation. While previously, my approach to art started with a image, or an idea I wanted to put on the canvas, I was finding myself working from a more intuitive place. For me to stay in this space, and work with a balance of control and flow, is challenging, but immensely rewarding. To me life revolves around the creation of art, I create to exist."

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



Nick Keefer's "Trinity." Nick is Shumei's featured artist for July 2018.



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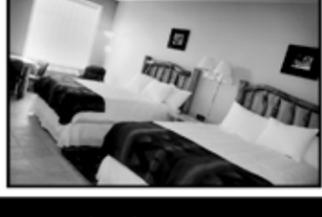
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* Summer Fun & Events



Kids in art class at Present and Creative.

Free kids' art classes in July

Present and Creative, Crestone's new art supply store, has been hectic this past month. Free art classes for children have started and been filled to the gills with young artists. Present and Creative will be hanging some of the work during store hours. Come and see it. There will be 3 more classes in July: Weaving, July 11, 10am to noon, for 8-year-olds and above; Clay, July 18, 10am to noon, 5-year-olds and above. And a continuation of the found-object sculpture class meets as determined. Sign up on the door.

There is a new group called The Art Mafia. It is made up of Present and Creative art supply, The Shumei Shop, Crestone Artists and the Crestone Artisans Gallery. In joining forces, we hope to support each other in marketing and sharing events.

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Alamosa

Sundays at Six: June & August

One of the mainstays of the Alamosa Live Music Association is its free summer concert series, Sundays @ Six. Sundays @ Six started a few years back and has grown into a hallmark of the San Luis Valley summertime season. For two of the most beautiful months in the San Luis Valley the community is exposed to all kinds of music, performed by everyone from the neighbor down the street to nationally recognized touring musicians. Find more information at www.almaonline.org.

Weekends on the Rio: June-August

Joining in on the fun of Sundays @ Six is the Weekends on the Rio. Starting Sunday afternoon enjoy a relaxing session of yoga, a running clinic, paddle boarding, and for the kids a bike pump track. Enjoy all that Cole park has to offer during the summer season. Get active outside and wind down with live music to cap the day off. For times and special events visit www.weekendsontherio.com

The Ski-Hi Stampede: July 26-July 30

Colorado's oldest pro rodeo has roots as deep as the San Luis Valley itself. It began in 1919, but two years were deducted because of World War II, when no events were held. The first rodeo was held August 11-13, 1919, and was called the Ski-Hi Stampede. Old newspapers reported that more than 10,000 people assembled to watch the local competition. It has continued for nine decades as an annual event and is an important piece of western history that can still be lived. www.skihistampede.com.

Salida

Colorado Brewers Rendezvous July 14

Over 75 Colorado breweries celebrate the 22nd Annual Colorado Brewers Rendezvous with plenty of food and fun with live music throughout the day! Sample more than 200 different beers from 70 Colorado brewers on Saturday, July 14, in Riverside Park. Hosted by the Salida Chamber of Commerce, for additional information call 719-539-2068, email info@salidachamber.org or visit SalidaChamber.org. Click there to purchase tickets.

Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival, July 21 & 22

Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival, July 21 & 22, is a premier fine arts and live music festival held annually on the 3rd weekend in July at Riverside Park in downtown Salida, on the banks of the Arkansas River. There will be juried handcrafted art by national artists, with sculpture, jewelry, ceramics, wood, photography, wearable art, painting, fiber, mixed media, and more. Popular local and invited musicians perform during festival hours both days on the amphitheater stage. Visit the free Creation Station for All Ages to create your own art. Enjoy delicious foods and Salida's own Soulcraft Brewery libations. Saturday 10am-7pm and Sunday 10am-4pm. Free admission and parking nearby. More details at ColoradoEventsAndFestivals.com.

Chaffee County Fair and Rodeo

The Chaffee County Fair and Rodeo will be held July 21-29, showcasing the biggest pumpkins, the newest gizmos and the toughest rodeo cowgirls and cowboys in the county.

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JULY 15 - SLV BIG BAND (JAZZ/BIG BAND)
JULY 22 - THE ANT PEOPLE (JAZZ/ELECTRONIC)
JULY 29 - TUMBLEWEED (COUNTRY ROCK)
AUG 12 - 9 MILE (COUNTRY)
AUG 19 - YOU KNEW ME WHEN (FOLK ROCK)
AUG 26 - MARIACHI SAN LUIS (TRADITIONAL SPANISH)

- AT THE RIO GRANDE FARM PARK

WWW.ALMAONLINE.ORG



Amazonian Breathwork & Chi Kung/Qi Gong

New Amazonian Breathwork and Chi Kung/Qi Gong classes will be taught in South Crestone Park on Wednesdays from 5-6:30pm.

Classes are free, taught by Steve Fillenberg, Lisa Bodey & Afton Fleming.

New NHN Phonebook, make sure you're in the book!

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Phone Book aka the best little directory in Crestone will be going to print at the end of the summer. This little volume is a decade old publication the sale of which helps fund NHN our local non-profit helping people in crisis in north eastern Saguache County for over twenty years.

Locals rely on this phone book for quick, easy access to people, businesses, eateries, entertainment, schools, non profits, spiritual centers, healers and anything else one might want to find in the greater Crestone Baca area.

Don't miss the opportunity to be in the 2019-2020 phone book! Ad space is still available. You can sign up at Crestone Mercantile or find more information at nhncrestone.org

Music performance July 1

On Sunday, July 1 at 2pm at Colorado College, violinist Sarah Off and marimbist Clark Silva will be joined by a half-dozen more of the faculty of the Mt. Blanca Summer Music Conservancy, which is based at Adams State. These artists, performing in various combinations of instruments, will present works spanning from Handel and Beethoven to Broadway.

Admission is \$15, students, free. Proceeds go to the Mt. Blanca Summer Music Conservatory, a 501(c)3 organization benefitting youth of the San Luis Valley.

Real Love

"Real Love Sharing Group" meets every Tuesday from 1:30-3:30pm at Little Shepherd Episcopal Church meeting room. For more information please call Ramloti at 719-480-5514 or email ramloti108@gmail.com.

CCS Governing Council looking for members

The Crestone Charter School Governing Council is now considering applicants, looking to reinforce the council for the 2018/19 school year. This is a great opportunity to give back & participate in holding the vision for our children, the heart of our community, the hope of our humanity.

If you are interested in serving on the Governing Council, please contact vgers@crestonecharter.com for more information.

Lovebourn Build Project Presents an Art Show July 27-29

The art show is a solo photography exhibition and fundraiser featuring the work of Thomas Schultz, located at the 'Crestone Hobbitat' in The Grants at 1450 Malachite Trail & Wagon Trail.

There is an artist's reception with hors d'oeuvres Friday July 27, 5-10pm. Saturday July 28, the show continues from 10am-10pm. Sunday July 29 there is a birthday celebration & BBQ from 12-6pm.

For more information contact Thomas at 623-236-6405.

Art in the Garden, Aug. 5

Gardeners and artists get ready! The second annual "Garden as Art: an Art in the Garden Event" will take place on Sunday, August 5, from 11am to 3pm. All local gardeners and artists are invited to participate. We'll visit local gardeners and see how they are growing food and flowers in our challenging environment while also viewing the work of local artists and performers. Artwork may be offered for sale to visitors.

If you are an artist who would like to exhibit your work, or a gardener who would like to share your garden and growing knowledge with friends and visitors, please contact Matie Belle Lakish at 719-256-4252 or matieb42@gmail.com.



Tarboche Park flag raising

On Saturday morning July 28, we will be raising the flagpole at Tarboche Park. All are invited to attend and participate. We will provide refreshments. Please bring gloves if you wish to participate. The park is one of the few memorials in the world to the millions of Tibetans who died during the invasion of their country by the Chinese.



Denise Peine helps Scott Young complete his registration for the Crestone End Of Life Project (CEOLP) registration party, which was held in Town Hall's new conference room on June 16. photo by Lori Nagel

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Community Calendar—July 2017

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monthly Events

Sunday, July 1

- MBSMC Faculty concert – CO College auditorium 2:00 pm \$15, students free
- Indian Nickel in concert – Cole Park 6:00 pm Free <http://www.almaonline.org/>

Wednesday, July 4

- Independence Day
- Christmas in July, Otto Mears Park, Saguache, All Day
- Crestone 4th of July Celebration, 8am-6pm

Saturday, July 7

- 1st Annual Howlin' Blues Fest – Old Cow Town Resort All Day \$75 www.oldcowtownresort.com 719-207-2322
- Opening of Shumei Shop & MoSpace Gallery – Sangre de Cristo Inn Space 1-5pm free

Sunday, July 8

- 1st Annual Howlin' Blues Fest – Old Cow Town Resort \$75 www.oldcowtownresort.com 719-207-2322
- Monthly Sampai, Shumei Sanctuary 10:30am-noon Free www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284
- Dakini Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck), Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6-8pm
- Eufroquest in concert – Cole Park, Alamosa 6pm Free www.almaonline.org

Monday, July 9

- Children's Riding Program Session 3 – Baca Grande Stables 8:00 am-10:30 am \$150/session; assistance available 719-256-6200
- "Geezers into Geeks" seniors' computer clinic, Baca Grande Library 9:30-11:30am Free 719-937-1202

Wednesday, July 11

- "Geezers into Geeks" seniors' computer clinic, Baca Grande Library 9:30-11:30am Free 719-937-1202
- Crestone End of Life Project & Informed Final Choices open meeting, Little Shepherd Church 7-9pm informedfinalchoices.org 719-588-7415

Thursday, July 12

- New Moon – All Day
- New-moon Fire Ceremony – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-12:00 pm www.babajashram.org 719-256-4108
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome! – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719.588.8602

- Baca Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Tour – Baca Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge 8:30 pm Free 719-256-5527

Friday, July 13

- New Moon Riwo Sangchö; Partial Solar Eclipse (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10-11am

Saturday, July 14

- 22nd Annual Colorado Brewers Rendezvous – Riverside Park, Salida SalidaChamber.org 719-539-2068

Sunday, July 15

- Art Symposium with artist Nick Keefer, Shumei Gallery 3-5pm free www.shumeicrestone.org 256-5284
- SLV Big Band in concert – Cole Park, Alamosa 6:00 pm Free www.almaonline.org/

Monday, July 16

- "Geezers into Geeks" seniors' computer clinic, Baca Grande Library 9:30-11:30am Free 719-937-1202

Tuesday, July 17

- Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop, Little Shepherd Church 9am-2:30pm \$15, includes lunch 719-587-0915

Wednesday, July 18

- "Geezers into Geeks" seniors' computer clinic, Baca Grande Library 9:30-11:30am Free 719-937-1202

Saturday, July 21

- Chaffee Co. Fair & Rodeo – Chaffee County Fairgrounds All Day
- Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival – Riverside Park All Day Free www.coloradoeventsandfestivals.com 303-916-5711
- Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival – Riverside Park 10:00 am-7:00 pm ColoradoEventsAndFestivals.com

Sunday, July 22

- Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival – Riverside Park All Day Free www.coloradoeventsandfestivals.com 303-916-5711
- Salida Riverside Art & Music Festival – Riverside Park 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- Guru Rinpoche Tsok (Feast Offering Potluck) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
- The Ant People in concert – Cole Park 6:00 pm Free <http://www.almaonline.org/>

Monday, July 23

- Children's Riding Program Session 4 – Baca Grande Stables 8:00 am-10:30 am \$150/session; assistance available 719-256-6200

Thursday, July 26

- Ski-Hi Stampede – Monte Vista Ski-Hi Arena www.skihistampede.com 719-852-2055
- Baca Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Tour – Baca Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge 9am-noon Free 719-256-5527
- Sufi Dhikr. All Welcome! – 5:00 pm-6:30 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-588-8602

Friday, July 27

- Full Moon – All Day
- Full-moon Fire Ceremony followed by a meal (Guru Purnima), Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 9:15am-noon www.babajashram.org 719-256-4108
- Full Moon Riwo Sangchö & Total Lunar Eclipse (Outdoor Smoke Offering) – Yeshe Khorlo Buddhist Temple (Choying Dzong) 10-11am

Saturday, July 28

- Flag raising at Tarboche Park 9:00 am
- Saguache Hollyhock Festival, Community Bldg 10am-3pm www.Saguachechamber.org 913-484-8983

Sunday, July 29

- Pema Cho Ling Community Practice & Potluck, Pema Cho Ling Nuns Community 10:30am-12:30pm pemacholingcommunity.org 719-496-0946
- Tumbleweed in concert – Cole Park 6:00 pm Free <http://www.almaonline.org/>

Saturday, August 4

- Bal Gokulam (Children's Program) – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:30 am-12:00 pm www.babajashram.org 719-256-4108

Sunday, August 5

- Art in the Garden Tour – Crestone/Baca gardens 11am-3pm 719-256-4252

Monday, August 6

- Children's Riding Program Session 5 – Baca Grande Stables 8:00 am-10:30 am \$150/session; assistance available 719-256-6200

Wednesday, August 8

- Teyuna of Sierra Nevada visit SLV, www.teyuna-tour.org

Daily/Weekly Events

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

Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7-8am, 256-4108, info@babajashram.org, www.babajashram.org
- Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery 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 719-256-5539 vajraavidya.com
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, info@babajashram.org, www.babajashram.org
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6-7pm. Chanting in Sanskrit and Hindi. All are welcome. 256-4108, www.babajashram.org

Sunday

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

Monday

- Gentle Yoga w Cynthia Little Shepherd in the Hills 10:00 am-11:15 am
- Al-Anon weekly meeting Little Shepherd Church 1:00 pm-2:00 pm Donation 719-298-9133

Tuesday

- Real Love Group Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 1:30 pm-3:30 pm \$2 www.reallove.com 718-480-5514
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Gentle Yoga w Cynthia Joyful Journey Hot Springs 5:00 pm-6:00 pm \$10
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca Grande Library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm 970-309-0710

Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30-10am By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Amazonian Breathwork & Chi Kung/Qi Gong, S. Crestone Park 5-6:30pm free www.facebook.com/events/391705301311834/ 719-480-5925
- AA Meeting, Lazy KV, The Clubhouse at Lazy KV 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Thursday

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church noon-1pm www.slvaa.org
- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

Friday

- Energy Workshop Little Shepherd Church 12:45 pm-2:45 pm donation 719-937-7684

Saturday

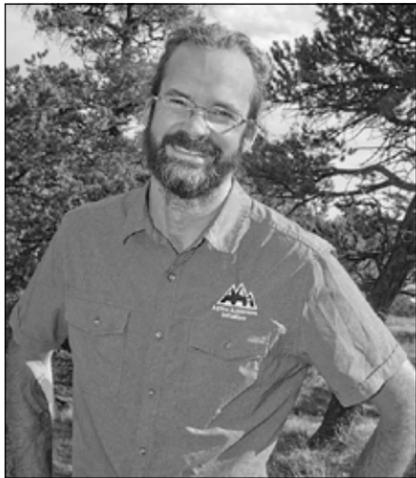
- Crestone Saturday Market, 10am-4:45pm \$5/vendor, www.crestonecan.org/satmart 303-715-0356
- Feel Free Ministries Little Shepherd in the Hills 11:00 am-5:00 pm Free

Conscience is a dog that does not stop us from passing but that we cannot prevent from barking.

-Nicolas de Chamfort

Out & About with Lori Sunflower

Activities to do with Crestone visitors?



Ryan Johns

We live in such a beautiful place that we have no shortage of visitors who want to come see us. It's kind of a struggle to decide between showing them the sights or letting them just experience the natural beauty of Crestone. One of our favorite spots is the Ziggurat, because it's so unique. We also like the ashram because it's so welcoming to anybody who walks in the door and if there's a full moon ceremony, even better. Because we have little kids, our outings usually aren't very long. We spend time outside going to creeks, our favorite swimming hole or a short hike. If we eat out, we often go to the brewery. It's exciting having a new brewery in town and makes me feel like we're a proper Colorado town because we have this lovely brewery that is consistently making better beer. So that's fun to take family to. We actually end up spending a lot of time in our backyard, letting the kids play and letting our family enjoy mountain views and quiet serenity. I find that when people are here visiting, they come to see us but also to get away from the busyness of the city, and if we can offer them that, then the magic of Crestone speaks for itself.



Anne Kelly

I let visitors know before arriving that GPS and Google maps aren't reliable here, so they don't get lost and frustrated. I tell them Joyful Journey's on the way, to shed city stress and get more out of Crestone. I tell them about our grocery stores, liquor store and restaurants with healthy options. I'd found people would stock up in the city, not

knowing. I want to bring as much business to town as possible. I help them prepare any healings beforehand to make it less complicated with last minute bookings. I tell them about the energies in Crestone because quite often in my 14 years here, people come up against things, then blame the restaurant, B'n'B or whatever. But when they know energetic stuff surfaces and moves through quickly here, it's a very transformative and healing place. Crestone's got so much to offer and if visitors don't know about it, they might say, "Oh, it's full of weirdos," and leave saying, "That's a weird place!" That's fine, but my preference is for them to gain from what this place offers and support the people who work so hard here. It's difficult to make a living. I'd encourage B'n'B owners to prepare guests for what's available locally. Everybody benefits hugely! There is nowhere else on earth I'd rather be, and my wish is that people realize what can really take place here. Yes, we can look a bit nutty to outsiders, but they can miss out on so much if they're not even aware of how their visit here can be so life-transforming.



Suzie Ryan

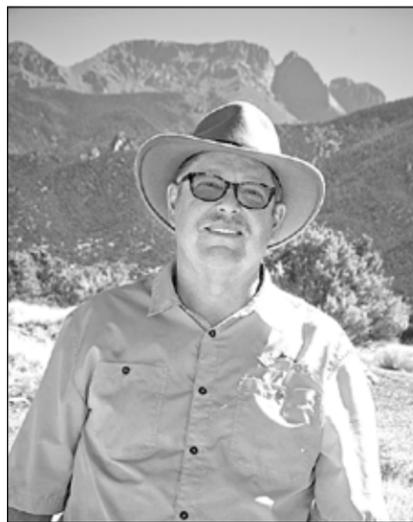
We meet the most number of people when they come for retreat to our Nada Hermitage center. I wouldn't pretend to know what they need for their spiritual retreat, but oftentimes they do want to know what's to do in Crestone and the surrounding area. I love promoting the beauty of this place. Who wouldn't? Look where we live! So I like to encourage them to all the hiking trails, places to walk. This is one of the most beautiful places on the face of the earth, so enjoy that. Get outside! I love to encourage myself to do that, too. I also love places like the Great Sand Dunes, Hooper Pool, etc. I always let people know where the trailheads are and where the grocery stores and little businesses are because I love them supporting that, and they can meet some of the locals while they're at it. So those are the kinds of things I love encouraging people to do, especially getting outside in

the summertime. Most visitors are getting away from their city life, on the whole, and come out here to enjoy the beauty that we live with.



Jodi Tucker

First, we have such a beautiful, natural place here. I send a lot of visitors up to the mountains, but most of 'em come to experience the spiritual centers. So we go to Vajra Vidya and the temple and Chamma Ling—all the different meditation centers. Really, that's my favorite thing to do with these people, cuz most are just here for a short time. Sometimes we go to the hot springs. When people visit, we just have a real family experience, sharing meals together and having that feeling of family. Some seem to be specifically looking for that. My mom, brother and sister have visited and I took them to the spiritual centers, too. We all meditate together! A couple of the hikes we like are Dead Man's Creek and Liberty Trail. And of course we all want to take guests downtown and have a good meal or see some great live music. We like to have music here at the Dream Sanctuary, too. We just built this little stage, so we're starting to have musicians come out here sometimes. In a way, we're kind of a destination ourselves. It's kind of vacation for people just to come out here.

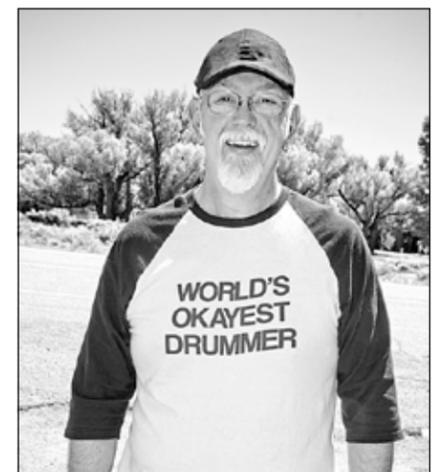


Kelvin Heitmann

Our visitors often are family, including grandchildren, so we like to go to the creeks, where 2 of them caught their very first fish—little brookies. The family loves to go up the hiking trails; some further than others, of course! There are unique local shops like Lonny's imports and the Artisans Gallery; and the Elephant Cloud is a very unique small town store, with selections comparable to bigger chains. We also take visitors to retreat centers if we get a chance. The Big Stupa's a nice drive; that wonderful view clear across the valley is tremendous. The dunes are always fun. One time, the grandkids just

wanted to play in Medano creek—we didn't even get up to the dunes! A visiting friend went up to Zapata Falls with me, and I took an alternate way down. We'd hung onto this mossy bank getting up there, and I'd felt like I was going to fall! Once up there, I said "I'm not going down that same way," and my friend replied, "How are you going?" I said, "Here, hold my glasses!" then got in the water and slid down!

Across the valley is Penitente Canyon, but watch out for rattlesnakes! Donna almost stepped on one this spring. Real close! Other destinations include Salida Fish Hatchery, Hooper pool, and especially Colorado Gators. Having collected reptiles as a child, I like to show the grandkids that stuff. We also like to drive around and see the unique local homes, or just enjoy the wildlife, clean air and quietness. That's a lot of what we do with visitors; plenty of things to do!



Mike Croft

In Crestone, our go-to place is the brewery, which is such an asset to the town. Great bar, great food, and if you love to people watch, it's fantastic just to grab a beer, sit on their deck and watch the local circus happen. For people who like really good beer and selection of spirits, Crestone's Liquor Store is a great place, great folks there. The Indian café, new pizza place and Desert Sage are all really good. And there's Lonny's store on the corner and a unique new gift shop across from the Post Office. The Elephant Cloud Market is worth the trip in just to see 14 different kinds of dried beans and rice! Saturday Market, with local vendors and music, is a really nice thing to do with visitors. The Hooper gas station makes some of the best burgers in the valley (or pretty much anywhere!), making it well worth the drive. Across the valley in Saguache, there's a fantastic pizza pub place with great pasta and live music; a neat coffee shop serving pastries, coffees, and milkshakes, with live music and open mic nights; an organic market attached to a nice thrift store, art galleries, and a huge community park with apparatus for kids to play on. And with all the outdoor stuff to do around here—hiking, fishing, swimming—if somebody were to come to this area and not find something to do, it would be because they weren't trying really hard!

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

Shumei Shop & moSPACE Gallery collaborate in a new downtown space

Opening July 7 from 1pm to 5pm

On the cusp of summer new growth often emerges from seeds sown before the cold. Wandering around downtown Crestone one notices many offerings old and new on Alder Street—in the interior space of Sangre de Cristo Inn: Phytology and Thriftology, a plant and thrift store; Present and Creative, an art supply store. On Alder Street: Taco Love; Sangre de Cristo Real Estate. And kitty-corner down Alder: Gift Horse at The Crestone Inn. Nestled amid all these thriving businesses—Shumei International Institute

(SII) is announcing the opening of Shumei Shop next to Taco Love. And in the spirit of collaboration and community, the space will be shared with local filmmaker Maureen VanWalleghan.

Shumei Shop, a retail space, which highlights Jyorei, Natural Agriculture products that are available from Shumei, and provides information about Shumei International Institute's many offerings to the Crestone community, will now also have art curated by VanWalleghan as part of "moSPACE art & talk," a gallery dedicated to pre-



Join Shumei Staff and Maureen VanWalleghan of moSPACE Gallery July 7, 1 to 5pm for the first opening and celebration of collaboration.

senting art, poetry, and short film exhibitions in Crestone.

One can experience the healing art of Jyorei, purchase Natural Agriculture products from Crestone and other Shumei Centers around the globe, learn more about Shumei art-based events, and participate in smaller gallery events organized through moSPACE art & talk.

Jyorei is a simple yet profound healing art that focuses spiritual light to gradually penetrate and dissolve spiritual impurities or clouds that cause physical, emotional, and personal dilemmas. "Jyorei" means "purification of the spirit." Jyorei is a shared act involving two people, one who gives and one who receives. No physical contact occurs. Besides profound healing, the person receiving Jyorei may experience a sensation of tranquility and wellbeing. The beauty of Jyorei is that its practice is not reserved for members of a spiritual or religious elite, but can be practiced by all who are affiliated with Shumei and have been trained in this healing modality. Jyorei can be given at any place and to anyone. And is available at SII's Crestone Center at 3000 East Dreamway Rd. (aka the high road) at daily morning and evening sampai services at 8am and 6pm; or just walk in anytime between 9am till 5pm. Now you can also stop by the Shumei Shop downtown for a 5-minute ses-

sion while running errands in town and experience the healing effects of Jyorei most mornings.

Along with Jyorei energy healing, the Shumei Shop will also have many Natural Agriculture products available for purchase. The underlying basis of Natural Agriculture is a profound reverence for nature, and the farming involved is guided entirely by nature's intrinsic wisdom. Rather than seeking to control nature, farmers listen and respond to it. Mokichi Okada, who developed Natural Agriculture in the 1930s, envisioned it not only as a means of cultivating pure and wholesome food, but as an art and spiritual pursuit as well.

The days Shumei Shop and moSPACE art & talk will be open are Wednesday thru Saturday and Shumei products will be available for purchase whenever the space is open.

The first exhibition for moSPACE art & talk opens July 7 and will be a combined poetry and photography show featuring the poetry of VanWalleghan and the photography of Mary Rose Cupery. Throughout the afternoon of opening day, 1-5pm Shumei Shop and moSPACE will have refreshment for the public. The second exhibition for moSPACE will be a juried student exhibition for raising freshman through newly graduated seniors opening in mid-August.

Shumei International Institute is very excited for this new, accessible location and collaboration with moSPACE. Spend an afternoon at Shumei International Institute (3000 East Dream Way Road) or drop into Shumei Shop while enjoying all that downtown Crestone has to offer.

For more information about Shumei www.shumeicrestone.org, call the office at 719-256-5284 or visit Shumei Shop. For information about moSPACE art & talk make a visit or contact Maureen VanWalleghan at mo.space.art@gmail.com.

Shumei International Institute

Sharing Natural Agriculture, Art & Beauty, and Healing Jyorei with the world.....

Shumei is happy to announce the opening of the Shumei Shop in downtown Crestone in the Sangre de Cristo Inn

Offering Natural Agriculture products, Shumei Information and Jyorei

Together with moSPACE art & talk!

Join us July 7th starting at 1pm to 5pm

for a poetry and photography show featuring the poetry of Maureen VanWalleghan and the photography of Mary Rose Cupery, refreshments provided



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Two Sun Studio Art Retreats to be held in August

by Jennifer Thomson

Twelve years ago Philip and I moved from Denver to Crestone, a small mountain town up against the Sangre de Cristo Mountains with lots of wildlife, where nature is stark. The weather is unpredictable, but with lots of sunshine. Every August I present an Art Retreat to share color and the art of painting with others. This year there will be an Art Retreat August 10-14 and a Landscape Painting Retreat August 23-26. This venture opens doorways to art in many ways, not only for the students who come, but also the local community. Some local artists were interested in helping develop a evening art retreat presentation on a chosen artist. We are scheduled to present the chosen artist in the Range Gallery in Saguache for the first time. Also, it will be presented in the Earth Tribe Studio this year.

It takes two days before students begin to feel quiet and turn inward to listen to the colors. On the third day, one hears only the

sound of brushes on paper. I spend months preparing the material for the retreats by creating exercises that lift the heart forces. I am not a therapist, nor do I judge a student's work. I look at the art only and see where there is too much flow or hardness in order to find a balance. Balance is the key.

"This will be my eighth year attending Jennifer's Art Retreat. I enjoy studying a new master artist and a different color theme each year. I leave the retreat newly inspired to continue my artistic work at home."—Kim Youngblood

Participants might be professional artists who are looking for something different, teachers, or life change, or who just want an art experience. Beginners are great because they shake up us old-timers in art. I love leading others through an artistic process, then watching as they find their own path. Working with color in a living way nurtures a person's life. Developing a feeling for the artistic process brings one closer to a

deeper understanding of life and death. We strive to create a setting and a mood in which a student can feel inspired to courageously enter into a living artistic process of making the unseen visible. Art awakens the creative forces in our souls and penetrates our life in all areas, giving us more confidence and flexibility. So much more!

"The learning environment is gentle encouraging and deep. We are supported to work from within ourselves with kindness and clarity. The art retreats balance hu-



Working with composition during an art retreat at the Sun Studio.

mor, uplifting, and quiet communion with others all while we create art."—Susan Fey

In both retreats there is an evening presentation in which Philip Incao talks about the parallels between the healing process and the artistic process.

The Landscape Painting Retreat has been in process for 5 years. My love for nature inspired this program. Viewing nature through art stimulates an awareness of the depth in nature.

"Each morning we work on a veil painting we are developing over the course of four days. Afternoons, Jennifer offers us exercises as a way to enter in and explore color and the

landscape, sometimes out in nature and sometimes in her studio."—Katie Schwerin

With this year's theme, Art & Nature, we explore the texture of sand, patterns and paint. Katie Schwerin will give a presentation on Color Shadows.

In both retreats, organic, gluten-free veggie meals for snacks and lunch are served.

In these two retreats, I wanted to create art programs that speak to everyone. Especially in a place near these mountains; where the elementals thrive and the environment is unspoiled. It is my way of giving back what I love most . . . Art and Nature



Artist Jennifer Thomson loves color! photo by Lori Nagel retreats balance hu-

Sun Studio Presents:
Life & Art
Winifred Nicholson (1893-1981)
July 28th, 7:30pm at Range Gallery in Saguache
Also August 13th, at Earth Tribe Studio, 7:30pm

Art Retreat, August 10 thru 14th
Landscape Painting Retreat, August 23 to 26th
August, 25th, 7:30pm, Color Shadows by Kathleen Schwerin

719-937-7694
Sunstudio.thomson1@gmail.com / www.jenniferthomson.net

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A Merry Donkey out to play,
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Looking at the bug, the bug is looking at me.
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Ooh la la! She exclaimed, "Hee Haw!"
 "I see the moon and the stars and all!"

thanks! to A.R.

And that, my friends, is THE DONKEY AND THE WELL KOAN

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Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

Samsara as an evolution

by Dr. Eric Weiss

Two months ago, we began a discussion of Samsara and Nirvana. At that time, I said "Samsara is the manifested, the relative. It is everything in time and space, including both Mind and Matter. It is everything with quality, anything you can point to and indicate. Nirvana is none of that. It is absolute, beyond qualities, beyond time and space, nowhere, nothing, empty. This 'nowhere, nothing, empty,' however, turns out to be of extreme importance. It is what we find at the mysterious center of our own conscious being, and it is the origin and the goal of all becoming."

When Buddhists talk about Samsara, they define it as "the ocean of suffering in which we go 'round and 'round.'" They imagine Samsara as beginningless and endless. They envision a steady-state universe in which we either suffer forever or, if we are very lucky and very determined, we manage to wake up and cease suffering in an endless peace.

Sri Aurobindo, on the other hand, envisions the universe in

which we live as an evolution. In this way Sri Aurobindo accepts the evidence of the great work of Science. An evolution is not just an endless round of cycles, but it is also a process that has a beginning and an end. Sri Aurobindo sees evolution as a manifestation of the Divine One. At the beginning of the process, Nirvana descends into Samsara, leaving behind its Luminosity to dwell as an ignorant multitude, as primitive Materiality, and it gradually evolves this Materiality, producing first the physical world of galaxies and planets, then the living world of plants and animals, and recently (in evolutionary terms) the thinking world of humans. The physical world, the living world and the thinking worlds are more and more brilliant incarnations of the Divine in Matter.

The goal of the evolution then must be not the escape from Samsara to Nirvana, but rather the full incarnation of Nirvana in Samsara, the full awakening to ourselves as the Divine One right here, in a human body.



The Divine Mother Temple and Ashram are open daily from 6am until 6:45pm. We welcome you to visit. You can call us at 719-256-4108 for more information.

Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

June has been a full and wonderful month at the Ashram and the amount of visitors seems to grow daily with the lovely weather. We are praying for rain at our daily fire ceremonies.

The new-moon fire ceremony this month is on Thursday, July 12 and the full-moon fire ceremony is on Friday, July 27. This is Guru Purnima, the day you honor your teacher. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am and evening aarati is at 6pm. At 8am

there is generally a small fire ceremony when we do not have a large one. Call us at 719-256-4108 for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies and any other questions.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop has received the new book by Jeffery Paine, *The Enlightenment Town, Finding Spiritual Awakening in a Most Improbable Place*. It sells for \$15.95 and you can also order it through our website at <https://mahalakshishop.wazala.com/products/enlightenment-town-finding-spiritual-awakening-in-a-most-improbable-place-by-jeffery-paine>.

We still have lots and lots of yards of beautiful silks and other yummy fabrics, which we are selling for only \$2. The shop is also full of wonderful items, many from Inda: there are anklets, brass statues, hand-decorated deity candles, cloth items, earrings, bracelets, oils, incense, purses, glass and cell-phone cases, CDs, eye pillows, Benares silks, soaps, wooden carved boxes, and much more. We also have an overflowing amount of gently used clothes, which are 50% off this month. The shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and look around. We deeply appreciate your support. If you mention this article you will receive 10% off your purchase, except for sale items. You may view some of what is in our shop on our website at <http://mahalakshishop.wazala.com>.

For more information about the Ashram, please visit our website at www.babajiashram.org. All are invited to our Ashram Board of Directors' meeting, which is Sunday, July 22 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 Teyuna gathering for a divining session in preparation of the Summer Recorrido.
photo by Kandymaku Bastida, 6.11 Sierra Nevada, Colombia

Teyuna of the Sierra Nevada coming to the San Luis Valley in August

by Myra L. Jackson

A historic weaving of Native peoples will converge in the heart of North America in what is being called a Summer Recorrido. The tour initiated by the Teyuna of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta region will pay homage to the sacred waters and lands through ritual offerings in the US and Canada.

Teyuna encompasses the four indigenous families of the Sierra. They are the Arhuaco, Kankuamo, Kogi and Wiwa. Sixteen Mamos with various specialties will rotate in groups of four from July to September.

Kandymaku Busintana, General Secretary of the Council of the Cabildos, the highest governing authority among the Teyuna of the Sierra will accompany the

Mamos with Mary Gaetjens and Ginny Villarraga of the Teyuna Foundation.

The Great Lakes mark ground zero for the start of the tour with Lakota Chief Izzy as a guide through riparian communities known to most westerners as the Black Hills, and to the Lakota as Paha Sapa—the Heart of everything.

The delegation of Mamos, or priests, will settle in the San Luis Valley, August 8-12, where they will include public Harmony with Nature teachings and one-on-one healing sessions by appointment in the Crestone/Baca region.

See details on the Teyuna's activities in the August edition of *The Crestone Eagle*. For general tour information go to: teyunatour.org.

Crestone Creative District (CCD) announces merge with CABA & creation of new welcome 'center' in Little Pearl Park

by Deana Wilfong,
CCD Board of Directors

The Crestone Creative District (CCD), with a grant from the Saguache County Tourism Council, is happy to announce a new addition to Little Pearl Park in downtown Crestone this summer. With support from McGregor Gaines and the talents of Lynn and Nick Drake, the park will now have a beautiful and creative welcome "center". Deemed "The Mosaic," this piece showcases the creative spirit of our community in a centralized location. Please check out this beautiful addition to our communal space later this summer.

Last month exciting changes unfolded as The Crestone Area Business Alliance (CABA) was absorbed into CCD. What does that mean? It means that our website CrestoneCreativeDistrict.xyz will now be the one stop for information on business and artists in our area. In addition to supporting area events, CCD produced the Crestone area map which will now have a home in the welcome center mosaic downtown. So now you have even more reason to join CCD membership!

As you know, members of CCD represent a diverse group of artists, artisans, writers, creatives of all types, seekers, spiritual communities and institutions. 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 www.CrestoneCreativeDistrict.xyz/join where you can sign up to renew your membership. Or send in a check to Crestone Creative District, PO Box 1300, Crestone, CO 81131. Or you can drop off a check to Elaine at Crestone Mercantile.

Thank you for your continued support of CCD. We are excited for what the future holds for the arts in our community. And a big thank you to the Saguache County Tourism Council, McGregor Gains and Lynn and Nick Drake!



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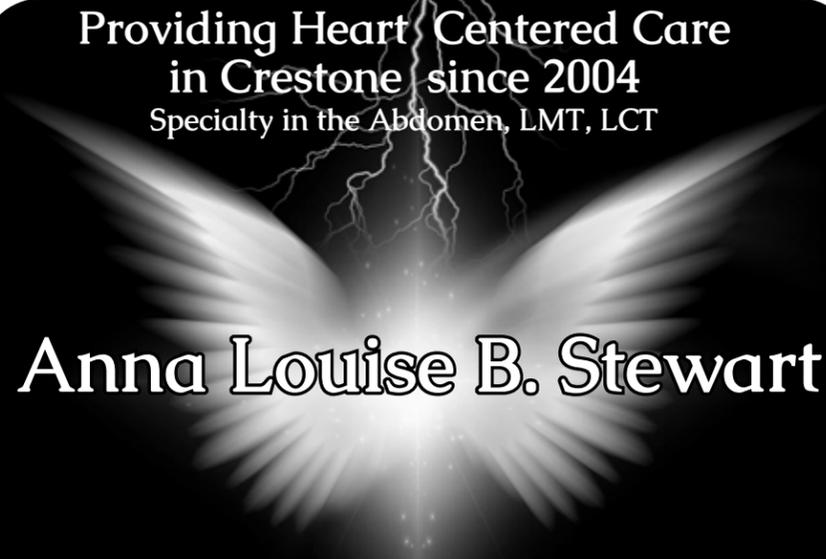
Jenny D. Filter, D.D.S., P.C.

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Messages from the heart of God

Free Spirit Christian Church



Learn to be still

As received by Earl LeRoy

Lord, what do you want to say?

My son, stay the course and keep telling the people of all My love for them. Keep dying to the things of the flesh and keep opening-up your spirit to My Spirit living through you.

As you learn to be still, I will begin moving through you all. So many times people want to help Me get things started, but that is not what I want you to do. I want you to be still and let My Spirit have free reign in your lives. As you all seek Me and not let any interference come in, I will move this one, then that one, and I will manifest Myself through My Body. It will be like it's supposed to be where I will be free to direct My people in My perfect will and no one will be the focus here, but I will be lifted high and then I will draw all men to Myself.

As people are drawn to Me, you will see Me without hype or human substance. I do not want to create a feeding frenzy of miracles, but I want to be able to express My love, righteousness and holiness that causes people to fall on their faces and not go into craziness.

I Am a holy God and right now My holiness must prevail before My people. My people will bow down on their faces and My holiness will

begin this revival and renaissance. I will release the Spirit of the fear of the Lord first in this revival and a solemnness and profound stillness will be the beginning of the move of My Holy Spirit.

My goal is to first get your attention, and then the attention of the lost as they see Me in you. As you seek My righteousness first, My holiness will become evident to the point of awesome peace and solemnity. Holiness will be a substance like faith that people will know and love to be in. Holiness will then open the door to My Glory, which will pour in like Niagara Falls. My Glory will pour in such a great way that you will not be able to stand or hold any of it, but it will pass through you like a flash flood. This flash flood will be a manifestation of My love and grace. You will not hold onto anything I will send, but it will flow in an uncontrolled flood of My mercy.

Yes, people will come, many will come to see the move of My Glory, but I will draw them as you keep lifting Me up. You all will minister by My Spirit and you will not follow any agenda but Mine.

So this is My picture to you of what is coming. You need do nothing, but seek Me first. I will do the rest and I will prevail over all.

All My love, Jesus

Dr. Teresa Loftin joins Swan Mountain Family Practice in Buena Vista

Dr. Teresa Loftin, who previously worked at the Moffat Clinic, invites former patients to see her in Buena Vista. Dr. Loftin is a Board Certified Family Physician with a special interest in women's health and enjoys providing care to the entire family. She believes in evidence-based and integrative care and enjoys caring for children and babies. Having raised 2 sons she embraces the full spectrum of family practice with over 20 years experience.

Dr. Loftin is the associate medical director for HRRMC Home Health and Hospice, providing compassionate medical care for all stages of life from cradle to rocking chair. She has previously worked in Chaffee, Lake and Saguache counties, providing mind, body and culturally respectful medicine to all patients. Allowing patients to choose their personal preferences, and coaching them with respect to medical choices is her passion.

In 2011, Dr. Loftin moved to Buena Vista and is pleased to be joining the team at Swan Mountain Family Clinic in the former Mountain Medical Building.

Swan Mountain Family Practice is at 36 Oak Street, Buena Vista, CO and their phone is 719-530-6012. They accept most insurances and Medicare/Medicaid, with discounted pricing for self-pay. Open M-W and Friday, they are closed on Thursday. Late clinic Wednesday 'til 6:30.



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Prayer Services Mon & Fri	10:00 am
Food Bank Tuesdays	2-4 pm
<i>Events at Sangre de Cristo Trading Post in Moffat:</i>	
Prayer Breakfast every 2nd Saturday	8:00 am

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



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Feel Free Ministries: Food & music fellowship

by Mary Lowers

Since November 2017 Saturday food and music fellowship from 11am-5pm have been taking place at the Little Shepherd of the Hills Parish Hall in downtown Crestone. These well-attended events are the brainchild of Erin McGrath and Arnie Alba aka Aha and their congregation at Feel Free Ministries. Aha told me, "We realized we needed to do some spiritual work in the community to bring unity from division. A new route through prayer, relaxing, breathing, co-creating food & music while assembling as people. Let's get to know each other." Through knowledge of others compassion and respect can follow and this "increases love, awareness, compassion and understanding." Erin says, "The ministry was inspired by watching so many of our friends strugg-

ling, living in fear and acting out of fear. We are unifying to accomplish goals." These goals include seeing that people have enough to eat, can get a shower, join in music and conversation and get to know one another.

Feel Free Ministries is organized as a church, an unincorporated Self-Supporting Ministry, recognized under IRS Code as a 508(c)(1), which Aha explained "is a sovereign entity under American Common Law and the Bill of Rights." The ministry operates outside the system of commerce, working on gifts, trades and donations, all tax deductible. People contribute as they can and get what they need. On the Saturday I attended the food was amazing: everything from fresh salad and sprouts to a vegan casserole, apple crisp, homemade cookies, and decadent donuts. People were



Erin McGrath and Arnie Alba (Aha)

playing wonderful music in one corner, dishes were being washed, kids were playing, and folks were visiting. Check out the Feel Free Ministry Facebook Page facebook.com/feelfreeministry for videos of the Saturday gatherings. During the week ministry volunteers work for the community, helping build the new pet cemetery and delivering wood to elders, among other projects. You can support their ongoing fundraiser here: youcaring.com/feelfree. Recently, Feel Free was invited to become a jubilee ministry, designated in the Episcopal Church. "A ministry of joint discipleship in Christ with

poor and oppressed people, wherever they are found, to meet basic human needs and to build a just society."

A grandma with her active grandson here for the summer was happy to have the sociability the group offered both of them. People who had just arrived in town were rubbing elbows with old timers. Local Fay Ferris said she enjoys the Saturday event because, "it's a gathering with no agenda, lots of heart, friendship, kindness, respect . . . a physical place where people could express unity allowance through the heart without condition."

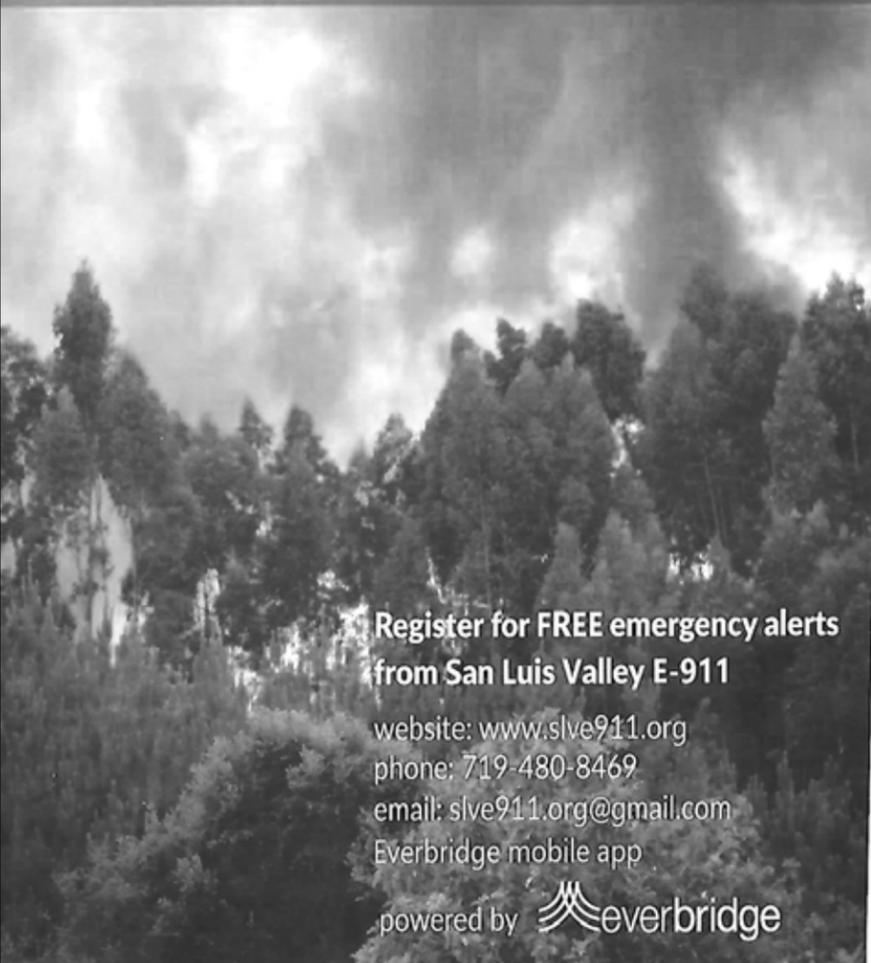


"The combination of realizing our distinctiveness along with our unity is seeing interdependence."

- Sharon Salzberg

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Register for FREE emergency alerts from San Luis Valley E-911

website: www.slve911.org
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Who is San Luis Valley E-911?

San Luis Valley Emergency Telephone Authority governs 911 service for Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache Counties. We are committed to the principle of prompt and accurate attention to emergencies for all visitors and residents of the San Luis Valley.

What is the emergency alert system?

The system allows residents of the San Luis Valley to sign up for FREE emergency alerts on their cell phone, work phone, text message, email, home phone, etc. Residents can choose the locations they want to be contacted about, as long as those locations are within the boundaries of the San Luis Valley.

When will it be used?

The system will be used to notify residents about imminent threats to life and property. Public Safety officials will send alerts about emergencies such as wildfire, flood, gas leaks or critical police activity and missing persons.

How do I sign up?

Register online at www.slve911.org. Email your information to slve911.org@gmail.com or call SLV E-911 at (719) 480-8469 and someone will call you back to help you with the sign up process. You can also download the Everbridge mobile app for your device.

What if my contact information changes?

The system is only as good as the information you provide. If any of your personal information changes, you must go to www.slve911.org to update the information or call SLV E-911 at (719) 480-8469.

Will my contact information be shared with others?

No, the information you provide will be used for emergency purposes only. SLV E-911 will not give or sell your telephone numbers or email addresses.



SLV E-911
 SAN LUIS VALLEY EMERGENCY TELEPHONE AUTHORITY

U.S. DOE review results in \$84,000 liability to Adams State

ALAMOSA, CO (June 26, 2018) . . . A U.S. Department of Education program review of Adams State University's Title IV funding over a 10-year period has resulted in Adams State having to return \$84,351 in federal student aid.

The review focused on all federal aid administered by Adams State from 2007 through 2018, a period during which Adams State processed more than \$377 million in student aid. The funds that will be returned stem from a lack of internal control in processing student credit balance refunds, and Adams State has corrected and addressed the processes related to the findings.

The U.S. Department of Education review also looked at Adams State's compliance with the federal Clery Act and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, which require colleges to file comprehensive campus crime statistics on an annual basis and to develop a comprehensive drug and alcohol abuse prevention program for students.

Adams State was found to be

in non-compliance on two findings related to the Clery Act and Drug-Free Schools Act: An incomplete annual security report in 2013, and failure to develop and implement a comprehensive drug and alcohol abuse prevention program.

Since 2013, Adams State has added a Clery Act compliance officer and taken other steps to strengthen its federal reporting requirements. Adams State has addressed both findings and the Department of Education has accepted the University's response and considers the findings closed. The Clery Act and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act findings do not result in any financial liabilities to the University.

"Adams State takes seriously how it administers federal student aid," said Adams State Director of Financial Aid Phil Schroeder. "We work diligently to ensure full compliance with all federal and state regulations and have addressed the issues identified in the program review."

A copy of the DOE Title IV report is available at www.adams.edu.



FLIGHT WEEK: Unmanned Aircraft for Atmospheric Research
Community Open House

Saturday, July 14, 8 am-noon • Leach Airport, Center, CO
County Road 53 & County Road, Center, CO 81125



In mid July, two dozen small research drones will zip, hover, and soar over parts of the San Luis Valley, collecting data on how and where clouds form, storms start, and rain falls. Improving weather forecasts requires better observations from parts of the atmosphere where it can be difficult to make measurements. So to get instruments to the right place at the right time, researchers are experimenting with small, remotely-piloted drones carrying state-of-the-art weather instruments.

Please join us at the beginning of Flight Week to learn more about what atmospheric scientists from around the world hope to learn about the atmosphere and regional weather through research right here in the San Luis Valley.

Participants from the International Society for Atmospheric Research using Remotely Piloted Aircraft (ISARRA) will be present to:

- Explain their research and envisioned economic benefits
- Showcase Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
- Demonstrate technology and run test flights
- Answer community questions

Open House, 8 am-noon
Panel discussion, 9-10 am, with:

- Gijs de Boer, CIRES/University of Colorado Boulder and NOAA
- Suzanne Smith, CLOUD-MAP, University of Kentucky
- Brian Argrow, CU Boulder Aerospace Engineering Sciences
- CAPT Phil Hall, NOAA UAS program

Registration requested but not required: <http://bit.ly/flightwk2018>
 For more information, contact Constantin Diehl, cdiehl@uascolorado.com,
 or Katy Human, kathleen.human@colorado.edu.

Thank you to Flight Week supporters: ISARRA, Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder, UAS Colorado, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (including the UAS Program), National Center for Atmospheric Research, Saguache and Alamosa counties, San Luis Valley UAS Program, Oklahoma State University, University of Oklahoma, University of Kentucky, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Kansas State University, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Black-Swift Technologies, Alamosa County Economic Development, Heightened Path RV

Dealing with drought or high water bills? 20 ways to conserve water at home

—Becky Striepe, Care2.com

With more and more areas struggling with droughts, conserving water is more important than ever. Even if you're not living in a drought-stricken region, cutting back on water use also means a lower utility bill and helps conserve a precious resource.

Whether you're ready to cut back on your wvshowers or replace your lawn with water-wise plants, there are lots of big and small ways that you can conserve water around the home. Even a few small changes can add up to hundreds of gallons in water savings each year!

Here are 20 water-saving tips to get you going...

Water fact:
One in eight people worldwide does not have access to clean drinking water.

1. Shower Bucket. Instead of letting the water pour down the drain, stick a bucket under the faucet while you wait for your shower water to heat up. You can use the water for flushing the toilet or watering your plants.

2. Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth. Water comes out of the average faucet at 2.5 gallons per minute. Don't let all that water go down the drain while you brush! Turn off the faucet after you wet your brush, and leave it off until it's time to rinse.

3. Turn off the tap while washing your hands. Do you need the water to run while you're scrubbing your hands? Save a few gallons of water and turn the faucet off after you wet your hands until you need to rinse.

4. If it's yellow, let it mellow. This tip might not be for everyone, but the toilet is one of the most water-intensive fixtures in the house. Do you need to flush every time?

5. Fix your leaks. Whether you go DIY or hire a plumber, fixing leaky faucets can mean big water savings.

6. Re-use your pasta cooking liquid. Instead of dumping that water down the drain, try draining your pasta water into a large pot. Once it cools, you can use it to water your plants.

7. Head to the car wash.

If you feel compelled to wash your car, take it to a car wash that recycles the water, rather than washing at home with the hose.

8. Cut your showers short. Older shower heads can use as much as 5 gallons of water per minute. Speed things up in the shower for some serious water savings.

9. Choose efficient fixtures. Aerating your faucets, investing in a low-flow toilet, choosing efficient shower heads, and opting for a Water Sense rated dishwasher and washing machine can add up to big water savings.

10. Shrink your lawn. Even better: lose the lawn completely. Instead, opt for xeriscaped landscape that incorporates water-wise ground cover, succulents, and other plants that thrive in drought conditions.

11. Don't run the dishwasher or washing machine until it's full. Those half-loads add up to gallons and gallons of wasted water.

12. Keep an eye on your bill to spot leaks. If your water bill spikes suddenly, there's a good chance that a leak is the culprit. Call in a plumber to check your lines to save water and cash!

13. Install a rain barrel. Rainwater harvesting is a great way to keep your plants hydrated without turning on the hose or sprinkler.

14. Flush with less. Older toilets use a lot of water. You can reduce your usage by sinking a half gallon jug of water in the toilet tank. Do NOT use a brick, because it will break down and the sediment can damage your tank.

Water fact:
The average American household uses 400 gallons of water per day!

15. Water outdoor plants in the early morning. You'll need less water, since cooler morning temperatures mean losing less water to evaporation. It's not a great idea to water in the evenings, since this can promote mold growth.

16. Hand-washing a lot of dishes? Fill up your sink with water, instead of letting it run the whole time that you're scrubbing.

17. Use less electricity. Power plants use thousands of gallons of water to cool. Do your part to conserve power, and you're indirectly saving water, too!

18. Wash Fido outdoors. That way, you're watering your yard while you're cleaning your pup. Just make sure that the soap you're using isn't harmful to your plants!

19. Skip the shower from time to time. Do you really need to shower multiple times a day or even daily? Skipping even one shower a week adds up to big water savings.

20. Re-use grey water. Check to make sure that this is legal where you live, but in some areas you can do things like re-route the runoff from your clothes washer and use that water for things like flushing the toilet.

One Minute Wellness

The importance of hydration

by **Marybeth Van Horn**

During this time of year the weather can vary quite a bit, but no matter what the weather conditions, the need for proper hydration exists! Did you know that Colorado has one of the highest incidences of blood clots in the nation? This is due to our dry conditions, altitude and poor hydration.

Our bodies are composed of 70% water. The body's water supply is involved in muscle mass, digestion, absorption, circulation, waste removal and virtually every systemic need. Water is responsible for transporting nutrients, maintaining normal body temperature and carrying waste material out of the body. Replacing the water that is continually being lost through sweating and elimination is very important!

Most sources recommend water intake to be half of the body's weight in ounces, each day (ex: weight=160, drink 80 oz.) but that is a general rule. We have additional needs because we live at altitude and in a dry climate. Additionally, when exercising regularly, the need for water increases.

Signs of dehydration include dry mouth and skin, headache, fatigue, hunger, dizziness upon rising and decreased skin turgor (skin elasticity). One self-test you can perform to see if you are dehydrated is to pinch the skin on the top of your forearm. If it stays up for a second or more you likely need more water. Another easy way to tell if you are well hydrated is to check the color of your urine. It should be clear during the day!

Some tips on increasing water intake

- * Every time you go to the bathroom drink a small cup of water.
- * After brushing your teeth drink one or two small cups of water
- * Drink two full glasses of water as soon as possible after waking up
- * Drink a glass of water before and one during each meal
- * Carry a water bottle, put a case of water in the car
- * To keep track of water intake, put rubber bands around your water bottle and remove one each time you finish the bottle (you can put the rubber band around your wrist after you remove it from the bottle).
- * Place a gallon of water on the counter each day, pour from that.
- * Count how many gulps it takes you to finish an 8 ounce glass of water, then you will know at a water fountain how much to drink to get a cup's worth.
- * Lightly flavor your water with lemon, lime or a small amount of juice if you wish.

Remember to limit or eliminate water intake after 7pm if you don't want to be up at night going to the bathroom!

Marybeth Van Horn is a registered nurse, internationally certified personal trainer and certified specialist in performance nutrition. She resides in her home in the San Luis Valley and has been a part of the valley since 1978. Feel free to contact her with questions at 303-809-1134.



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HEART OF THE ROCKIES REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER



HRRMC adds audiology services

Audiologist Robert Furby, M.S., has joined ENT physician, Michele Streeter, M.D., in the HRRMC Ear, Nose and Throat practice, 920 Rush Drive, Salida.

Furby will provide hearing tests and evaluations as well as sales and servicing of hearing devices in the new hearing aid office located in Dr. Streeter's suite. He has extensive experience as an audiologist in both retail and clinical settings and has worked in Australia as well as across the United States. Most recently, he was employed at HEARINGLife in Canon City.

Furby earned his master's degree in speech and hearing science, with a concentration in audiology,

from the University of South Alabama. He is a lifetime fellow of the American Academy of Audiology.

An avid musician, Furby has played drums since age 12 and understands the damage self-inflicted noise can cause the ear. He personally understands the benefits of hearing aids, having worn them for more than three decades.

Prior to becoming an audiologist, Furby served in the U.S. Army as an electronics technician. Providing hearing services to local veterans is high on his list.

To make an appointment for audiology services, call the HRRMC Ear, Nose and Throat office at 719-530-2000, option 3 for ENT.

A change in cardiology services at HRRMC, Dr. Schmidt now in Buena Vista

Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center announced today a change in their cardiology services.

Beginning June 12, interventional cardiologist James Schmidt, M.D., will see cardiology patients at the HRRMC Buena Vista Health Center, 28374 County Road 317. Dr. Schmidt will no longer see office patients in the Specialty Clinic at the Salida hospital but will continue to provide procedures at the hospital.

Dr. Schmidt is a board-certified cardiologist. He earned his medical degree at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed his internal medicine residency at the Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati.

Dr. Schmidt was a postdoctoral fellow in pharmacology and cell biophysics at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine for three years before completing a fellowship in cardiovascular disease at Stanford University. He completed another fellowship in endovascular and coronary intervention at the Arizona Heart Institute and Foundation. He is a fellow of the

American College of Cardiology.

To make an appointment in Buena Vista with Dr. Schmidt, call 719-395-9048.

Physicians from Colorado Springs Cardiology will continue to see patients in the hospital's Specialty Clinic and perform procedures at the hospital. To make an appointment in Salida with Colorado Springs Cardiology, call 719-530-2482.



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

The Jokerster

What has four wheels and flies?
A trash truck.
 Why couldn't the bicycle stand up?
Because it was two tired.
 What do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back?
A stick.
 Why did the chicken go to jail?
Because he was using fowl language.
 How did Benjamin Franklin feel when he discovered electricity?
He was shocked.
 Why did the horse chew with his mouth open?
Because he had bad stable manners.
 What's a tornado's favorite game to play?
Twister.
 What do you give a sick lemon?
Lemon-aid.



Which is faster, hot or cold?
Heat, because you can catch a cold.
 Why couldn't the pirate play cards?
Because he was always on the deck.
 Why did the robber take a shower?
Because he wanted to make a clean getaway.
 What did the mayonnaise say when the refrigerator was opened?
Close the door! I'm dressing!
 What lights up a stadium?
A soccer match.
 What's bigger than an elephant, but doesn't weigh anything?
His shadow
 Which bus crossed the ocean?
Columbus.
 What do you call a pig that does karate?
A pork chop.
 Why was six afraid of seven?
Because seven eight nine.
 What do you call a fish with no eye?
A fish.
 What do gymnasts, acrobats, and bananas all have in common?
They can all do splits.
 What's a frog's favorite game?
Hopscotch.
 What dies but never lives?
A battery
 What day of the week does the potato look forward to the least?
Fry-day.
 What do you call a seagull that flies over the bay?
A bagel.
 Why do bees have sticky hair?
Because they have honeycombs.
 What did the stamp say to the envelope?
I'm stuck on you.
 What did the paperclip say to the magnet?
I find you very attractive.
 Why is the forest so noisy?
Because the trees have bark.

Lasher's Camp

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



Lasher, an evil magician, is about to invade fairyland. Poppy, Pierre and a human girl, Sarah were recruited to find his camp. A blue bird, Morning Song, was sent to relay information back to the fairies.

"EW!" Poppy covered her little pink bunny nose with her paws. "We've lost Sarah, and that sickening smell is covering up her scent."

"I think we're close to Lasher's camp," Pierre whispered. "The fairy said it was a terrible place. I bet that's what we're smelling."

"I wish we could find Sarah," Poppy blinked back tears.

"I know," Pierre was worried too, "but we have to keep going. The Fairies are counting on us."

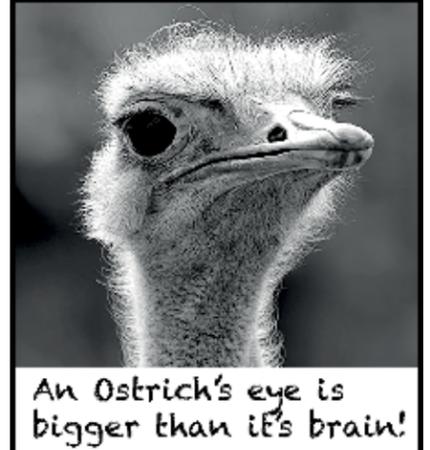
They were lost in an evil grey fog and had to depend on their noses. With every step the stench grew stronger and more foul.

"Listen?" Poppy whispered.

Pierre twitched his ears. There was clanging and banging and harsh voices ahead. The bunnies stood very still and

listened. A sound came from behind them. They turned slowly, squinted and sniffed.

"Sarah?" Pierre whispered.



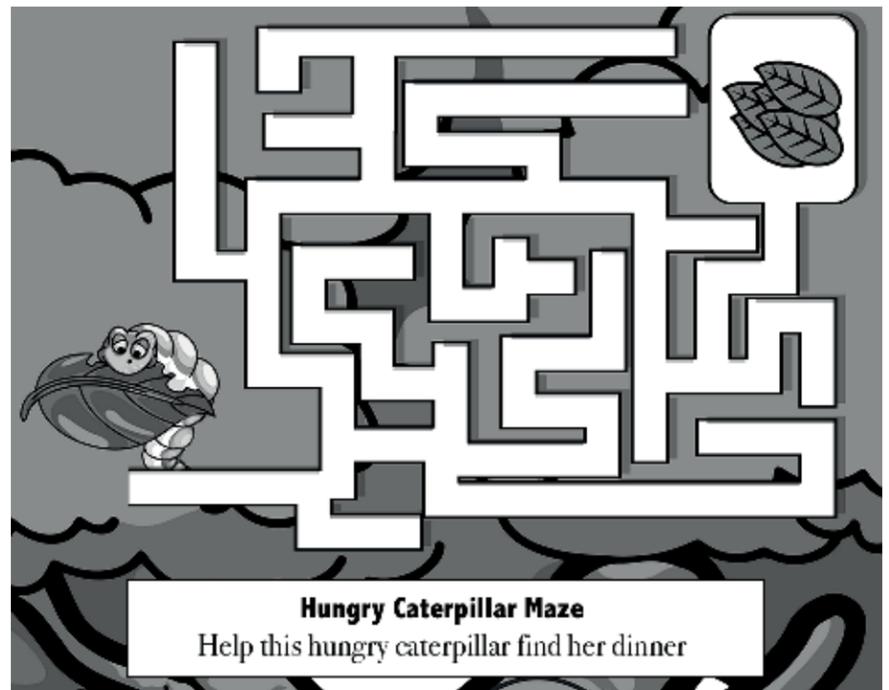
An Ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain!

"Poppy? Pierre?" They hugged and cried and were as happy as they could be in that terrible place.

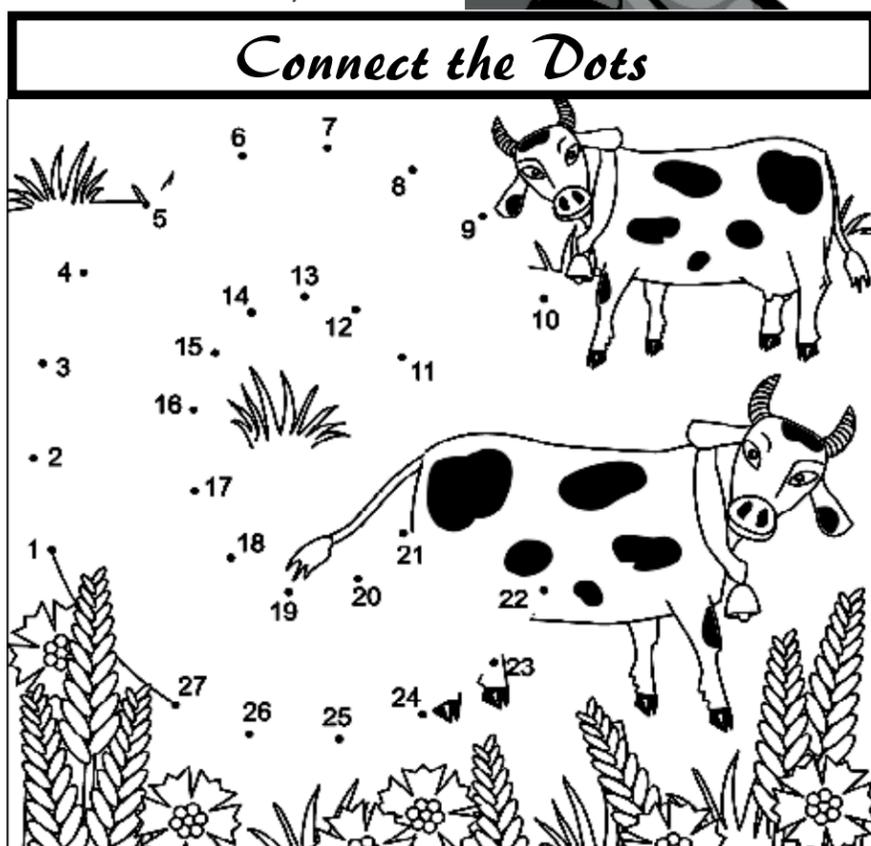
Crawling on their bellies, they reached the outskirts of the camp and hid behind one of the ancient trees the orcs and goblins had cut down just for the pleasure of killing. Two huge, nasty-looking orcs stood guard.

"Ho Tasmus!" One orc called loudly. "Hurry up with my supper, I've been here for hours and that bluebird was the only thing I've had to eat!"

Sarah gasped and put her hand to her mouth.



Hungry Caterpillar Maze
 Help this hungry caterpillar find her dinner



"At least that was tasty," Tasmus replied. "It's gruel again tonight."

"But tomorrow we dine on fairy! I hear their meat is sweet." The guard answered, and the orcs laughed loudly.

"Do you think that bluebird was Morning Song?" Poppy whispered

Sarah's heart was beating wildly. "I'm afraid it was. What are we going to do now?"

"Isn't that a magic wand?" Pierre asked looking at the stick Sarah had been carrying since she arrived in Fairyland.

"It's supposed to be," she answered, "if I only knew how to use it."



There are 24 known species of Dancing Frogs!

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A second home for my passion

by Mary Lyn U. Dominguez, Filipino Exchange Teacher, Crestone Charter School

Ten months ago, I made a decision to expand my horizon as an educator. I was granted an opportunity to participate as an Exchange Teacher at Crestone Charter School, Colorado. When I got the offer, Marie Louise (the school director) requested me to share my teaching philosophy for the school's website.

"Education is a matter of the heart (St. John Bosco). We can make a difference in the lives of our students when we teach from the heart and with love."

After one memorable school year in this wonderful school in this "strange place", it is time for

me to reflect on this teaching philosophy and teaching experience in CCS. I have these three words that would best describe my reflection: growth, blessing, significance.

Growth

A school year of: meeting generous and helpful people in a small provincial community; exploring and uniting with the beauty of nature; discovering myself more in living away from my family in the Philippines were indeed heartwarming experiences.

Teaching and living in Crestone made me grow not only because the community welcomed, guided and helped me but most of all because I found a place to be stronger and more fulfilled outside my comfort zone.



Lyn Dominguez with wings.

ferences were indeed overwhelming experiences.

Working with the administrators, staff, teachers and parents at CCS made me feel blessed not only because I have become part of an awesome and productive school community but most of all because they became a part of me . . . a family.

Blessing

A school year of working: in a welcoming ambiance in school activities; with smiling staff, students, parents and colleagues; productive and collaborative staff meetings and parent teacher con-

Significance

A school year of: facilitating individualized and differentiated instruction; executing experiential and proficiency-based learning; working in a flexible yet effective teaching-learning environment were all inspiring experiences.

The high school students at CCS made me realize that I am a significant educator not only because I taught them Math and Science but most of all because they have brought out in me a better version of myself as a teacher.

Truly educating the young is a matter of the heart and it crosses the boundaries of distance and culture. Crestone Charter School will always make me treasure this once-in-a-lifetime experience of realizing my teaching philosophy in this "strange place" where I found a second home for my passion to educate with love.



High School teachers Lyn Domingues and Rachelle Wilson with graduates Cailou Cleary and Mari Baca Welty.



Alicia Mancha, Lyn Dominguez, Drew McNulty, Cailan Boone.

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YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

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Come to Crestone's 4th of July celebration & parade

Soap Box Derby returns, 5k race, music, booths, fun!



Welcome to Crestone's parade. There's lots of fun for everyone. photo by Lori Nagel

by Nick Nevares,
Event Director

Dust off that red, white and blue shirt and come out to downtown Crestone for this year's 4th of July celebration!

With a variety of events, and music spread out throughout town, the party will continue all day into the afternoon. Starting with the 5K "Run, walk or crawl" race, the day's activities will continue with a variety of vendors lining the park area, a pie-tasting contest, a kids' zone (including the dunking booth and bounce house), our traditional parade (including a wet zone for the

water balloon fight—BYO water balloons) and the return of the soap box derby! Activity times are below, and everyone in the neighborhood community is encouraged and welcome to both participate and enjoy the event.

- 5K Race Start time: 8am
- Pie Tasting Contest: Drop 2 pies per entry. Location: the plaza at Little Pearl Park, by the fountain at 11am
- Parade line up at 11am on Copper Avenue; parade starts at noon
- * Water event and wet zone, grab your super soaker!



Allen LeMasters in his pirate soap box. We still remember that wipeout! photo by Martin Macaulay

- Soap Box Derby lineup at 3:30pm; race starts at 4pm. Helmets required, safety gear encouraged!
- Great local bands, food and art all day in the park. Please leave your dogs at home so everyone has a good time. For general event information and vendor reservations, as well as to sign up to be a volunteer, please contact Nick Nevares at crestone4th@gmail.com or come talk in person Tuesday, July 3 at the Town Hall from 10am-2pm. Come join the celebration!



Shumei's Taiko drummers put on a stellar performance at last year's 4th of July celebration in downtown Crestone. photo by Lori Nagel

CRESTONE'S 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Schedule of events:

8 am: 5K Run, Walk or Crawl Race

Starts at Cloud Station on Cottonwood Street. Entrants may register at 7:30 am.

11 am: Pie Tasting Contest

Enter two of your best baked pies for a chance to win the cash prizes! And if you want a piece of each pie entry, for \$1 you can become a judge!

Noon Parade "You Can't Escape the Vortex"

Celebrate our unique culture by showing the town what being in the vortex means to you! You may enter the parade by joining the line-up on Copper Avenue at 11 am. The route is shown on the event map. **Please remember—No water throwing or spraying on any of the parade route.**

After the Parade...

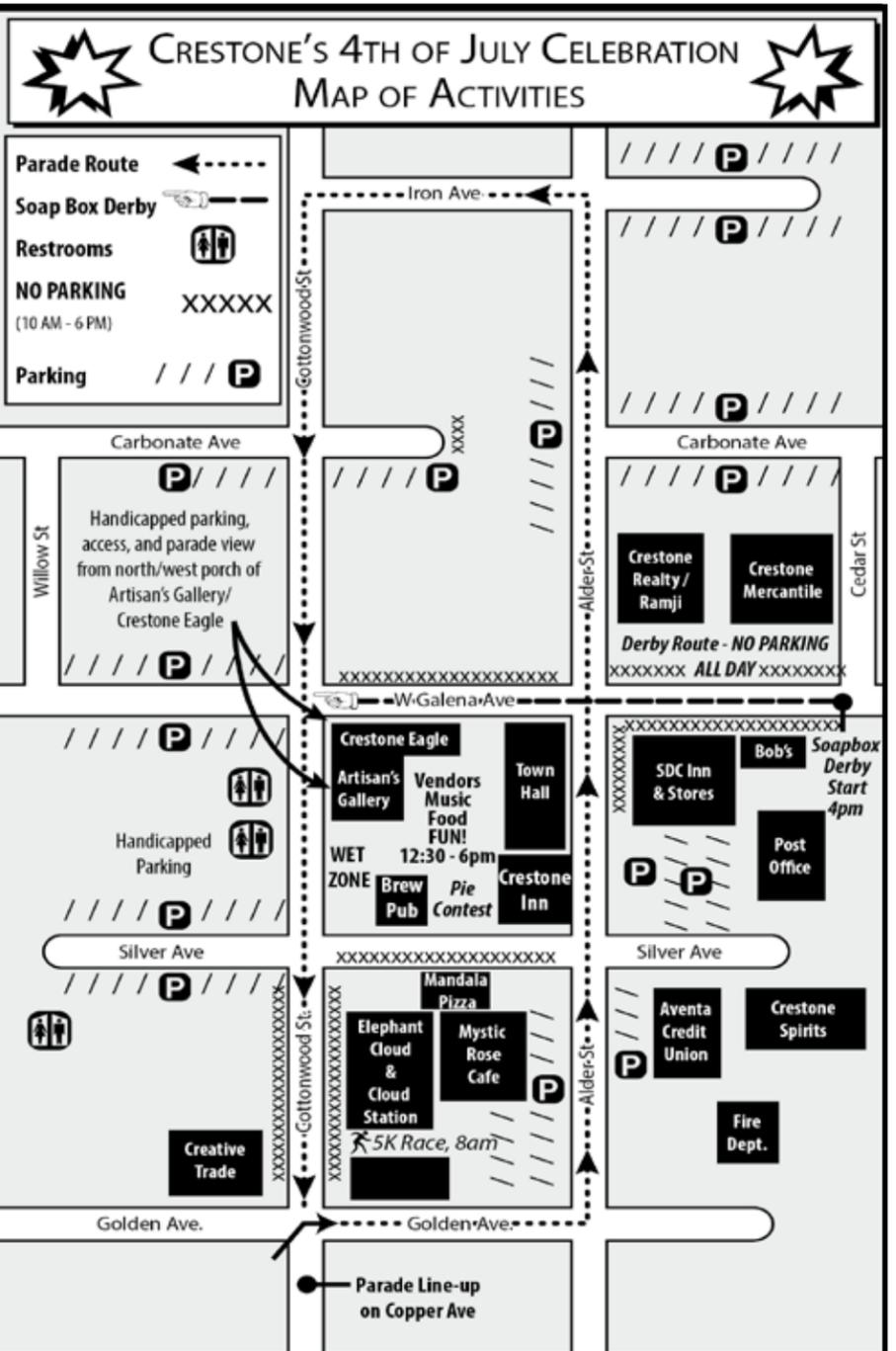
As the parade finishes up on Cottonwood, we invite you to have your arsenal of water balloons and super soakers ready for action...because when the fire engines roll up to the Wet Zone, the FIGHT IS ON!

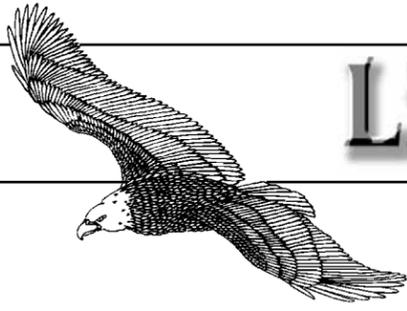
12:30 pm to 6 pm: Vendors and Entertainment

Exceptional Food, one-of-a-kind merchandise, and a variety of purposeful causes will be in the town park. Vendor booth fees have covered most of today's event expenses, so your purchase of a snack, meal or merchandise, or contribution to a nonprofit is a great way to thank them. Entertainment will be scattered throughout the park all day long, beginning after the Parade with a break for the Soapbox Derby.

4 pm: The Return of the Soap Box Derby

Show off your creations all day next to the Crestone Mercantile, and line up for the big race at 3:30 pm. The first race will start at 4 pm sharp, with design and speed categories for adults and kids. Winners will be announced at the main stage immediately after.





Living on the Earth

Hike up Comanche: letter to my father

by **Emmy Savage**

The following account talks about timing a hike to coincide with blooming flowers, and the tension between that timing and my optimum fitness which usually comes later in the summer, after the flowers have bloomed. In this case, I had to defer the harder Venable hike until the end of the summer and do the easier Comanche trail in early July. I should mention that when I hike I inform a friend when and where I will be hiking and alert them of my return; I start early—six or seven a.m.—so I will have returned below tree line before potential storms set in; and I carry a first aid kit, warm clothes and my phone.

July 9, 2017

Of all the hikes into the Sangres, the North Fork-Venable Pass-Phantom Terrace-Comanche Loop trail is probably the most difficult and sublime. It is especially transcendent when the early summer flowers are in bloom. But there is only a very narrow window when one can do this hike to see the flowers and do it safely. About a third of the hike is exposed above tree line

and so one must gauge when the pass will be free of snow and there will be no risk of thunderstorms. This puts the window at about the last week of June through July 4. After July 4, afternoon thunderstorms make this hike too risky and this situation pertains until about mid-August when the flowers are long past. This year I missed the window due to a myriad of annoying interruptions: a toothache, trail maintenance, the imperatives of my garden, threatening storms that never happened, and a general weariness about doing this very difficult fifteen-mile, four-thousand-foot-elevation-gain hike. I am in my seventies, but that shouldn't be an excuse. I have hiked with people older than I am who not only did this hike but scampered up to the tops of Venable and Comanche, both thirteeners, all in the same day. Well, more power to them. I am just afraid of letting the time come when I let a year go by and I don't do this hike. It's a slippery slope and so I tell myself I will do the Venable Loop later in the summer, when the thunderstorms are less frequent.



Entering the Comanche watershed.

photo by Emmy Savage



Blue Columbine.

photo by Emmy Savage



Peaks move into peaks.

photo by Emmy Savage



Blue Chiming Bells, Comanche Creek.

photo by Emmy Savage

The first leg of the Venable Loop follows the North Fork Trail to the San Isabel-Venable split, where it then moves to the east in a series of switchbacks up the steep face of the cirque and—at the point when I think surely my heart will burst—arrives at a narrow saddle, a ridge that often still has a substantial field of snow on the eastern side, and which sharply divides the western and eastern slopes of the Sangres. Last year, about two thirds of the way up this ascent, I came upon hundreds of sky pilots in bloom, their beautiful celestial blues and purples set against a black scree of flat rocks frozen in their relentless slide down the mountainside. Here, in a stop-action of forces too large to even contemplate, these gentle, ethereal flowers glowed at the very center of creation. So, this year, when a day in July presented itself with all the weather apps pointing to minimal risk of thunderstorms, I debated whether to try to hike up the Venable slope to see if the sky pilots might still be blooming, or to try to do the whole loop or to settle for the last third of the hike up Comanche, to see the columbine and chiming bells in bloom. I opted for the latter, simply because the Venable ascent is so exposed I didn't want to take the risk, apps or no apps.

The upper half of Comanche is beautifully constructed, with stone walls buttressing gentle switchbacks that swing leisurely down the mountain. As you descend from the saddle just below Comanche Peak,

you can see the whole of the southern part of the Sangre de Cristo Range as peaks move into peaks, folds fold into folds and recesses of water and mystery hallow the sound of empty space. But today, my aim is to only come up the lower trail, which is steep and rocky and runs parallel to Comanche Creek where the columbine and chiming bells will be in bloom.

We have had little rain down where I live and the heat has darkened my spirits. As I approach where Comanche forks off from the North Crestone Trail, it's as if I am stepping into a rain forest. The trees are dripping with moisture and hermit thrushes sing in the forest until the trail opens out onto the upper valley with its dazzling view of peaks and sunlight and shimmering rain drops. Clouds roll up from the eastern side of the mountains, casting shadows that move across the steep slopes. The trail and creek both move at a steep angle, perhaps forty-five degrees from the vertical.

This creek is like none other I've encountered in the Sangres. Narrower and shallower, Comanche Creek reflects the sky and the wind and the blue chiming bells that play along its banks and yet its swirl of movement is more intimate than the other creeks; its sound invites participation and its lively motion calls the whole landscape to dance. It is a landscape that sings with joy and I offer thanks that I

continued on page B-11



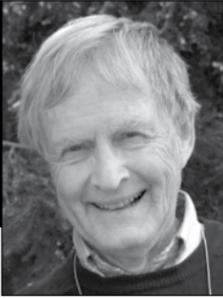
by Kim Malville

This is a great month for the brightest planets. Venus is that brilliant object to the west in the evening sky. It has two spectacular conjunctions during the month, first with Regulus, the brightest star in Leo, and then with the moon. Mars comes closer to the earth than it has in the past 15 years. It is in Capricorn, is red and bright, only slightly fainter than Jupiter.

July 9: Forty-five minutes after sunset look to the west and see the conjunction of Venus with Regulus. They will be only a degree apart and Regulus will be dominated by the hugely brighter Venus.

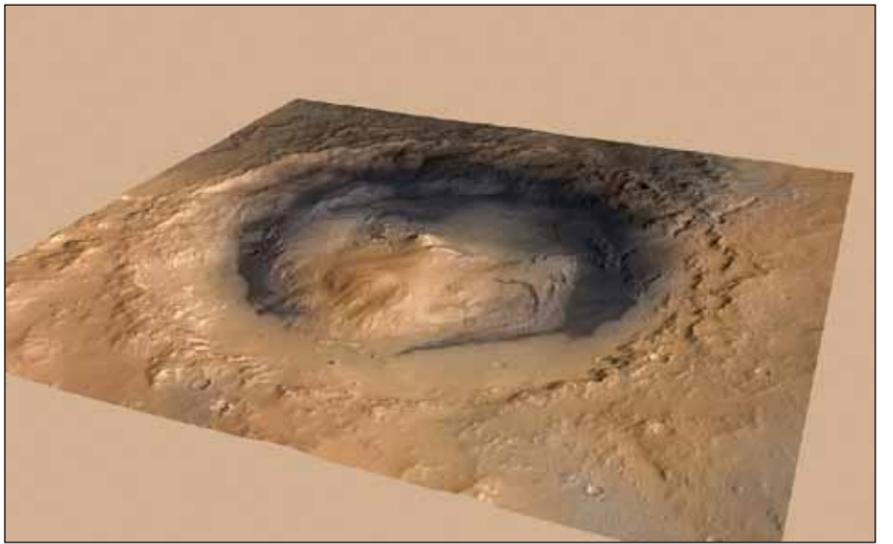
July 15: Venus will have moved upward from Regulus and will meet a beautiful crescent moon.

and rover Opportunity has shut down and gone to sleep because its solar panels are not generating any power. NASA expects that Opportunity will make a full recovery when the skies clear and light winds blow dust off its panels. The storm began on 10 June and covered more than 35 million square kilometers. By June 21 the dust storm enshrouded the entire planet in darkness. The situation is somewhat similar to the dust blanket that surrounded Earth when 65 million years ago an asteroid or comet collided with the Earth and threw up vast clouds of debris high into the atmosphere. The result then was that photosynthesis didn't work, plants died off, and those great creatures that



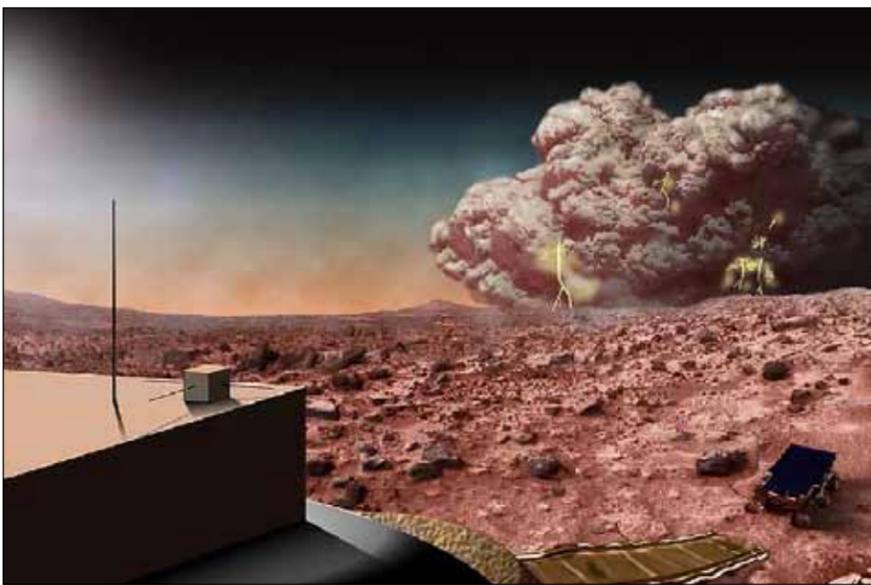
Mt. Sharp and Badlands in Gale Crater.

photo courtesy of NASA



Gale Crater showing path of Curiosity Rover.

photo courtesy of NASA



Dust storm on Mars.

artist's depiction courtesy of NASA

July 10: Jupiter ceases its retrograde movements and start moving eastward in the constellation of Libra.

July 24: Saturn has been visible from dusk to dawn in the constellation of Sagittarius, just above the top of the teapot.

July 20: The moon meets Jupiter.

July 24: The moon moves close to Saturn.

July 26: Mars reaches opposition to the sun and will be due south at midnight. The full moon will be totally eclipsed for viewers in Europe, Africa, and Asia. Sorry, folks, Crestone is on the wrong continent.

The tale of two rovers

1. Opportunity

Do you remember the terrific dust storm in the movie, *The Martian*? Mars is now experiencing one of the most powerful dust storms ever observed from Earth,

lived off of those plants, as well as many other life forms, became extinct. There is no photosynthesis on Mars and certainly no dinosaurs, but there may be methanogenic bacteria in Martian soil. If they exist they must be hardy bacteria, enduring pretty stressful conditions for 3 billion years. They will not become extinct due to a little dust. We just hope that Opportunity survives.

There's no doubt that the dust storm is very unpleasant. The winds need to exceed 70 miles per hour to lift dust into the atmosphere. But that atmosphere is so thin, 0.6% that of the earth, so there's not enough power in the wind to knock Opportunity over. For that matter, the winds could not have blown over the Mars Ascent Vehicle during the storm that stranded Matt Damon on Mars. The plot of the story needed it.

2. Curiosity

NASA scheduled a press conference on June 7 to reveal some new results obtained by the Curiosity rover. Three days later after the conference, Mars was hit by the huge dust storm that has incapacitated Opportunity. Curiosity, however, gets its power from 11 pounds of plutonium 238, a nonfissile isotope of plutonium which will continue to generate heat for at least 10 more years. Curiosity landed in Gale crater in August 2012, a crater as large as Connecticut and Rhode Island, which was produced by an asteroid impact some 3.5 to 3.8 billion years ago. Those were halcyon days for Mars. Its atmosphere was thick enough and warm enough, due to the greenhouse effect, to allow open water to flow in and collect in lakes inside the crater. Curiosity has been slowly making its way to the 18,000' mountain in its center, popularly known as Mt. Sharp. The geologists on the team wanted to name the mountain after Robert Sharp, a preeminent geologist who taught at Caltech. The International Astronomical Union vetoed that proposal and named it Aeolis Mons, in the belief that it had been formed over the past 3 billion years by intense wind in the crater.

The NASA press conference reported that variable amounts of methane have been detected inside Gale crater. Methane is broken down by ultraviolet light, and its presence means that it was generated recently. Curiosity found that methane in the crater has been going up and down with the seasons, some three times more abundant in summer than in winter. There are several interpretations for these methane fumes, one of which, of course, is the presence of methanogenic bacteria which become more active during summer. But, it's still only a possibility. One point of the conference was to announce that the possibility of life on Mars is still on the table.

The other purpose of the press conference was to describe the results of drilling by Curiosity into mudstones near the base of Mt. Sharp. Mudstones would have been formed by sediments that settled to the bottom of a lake some 3 billion years ago. They are ideal for trapping and preserving organic molecules. The results of the drilling were transferred to an oven inside of Curiosity, which baked the samples to temperatures around 1500° F. The hot gas was then fed to a mass spectrometer. A number of organic molecules were identified, some of which looked like kerogen on Earth, a goopy fossil fuel that is found in rocks such as oil shale. Earth's kerogen was formed when geologic forces compressed the ancient remains of algae and other beasties. Kerogen is certainly not as abundant on Mars as it is on Earth. No tropical forests grew and no dinosaurs roamed the surface of Mars so that its unlikely to be covered by fracking well pads.

Like the presence of methane, it's impossible to say whether or not these organic compounds were produced by life. Meteorites that contained kerogen-like compounds rained down on Mars. In addition, processes in the ancient volcanoes of Mars could have formed these organic molecules compounds from primordial carbon dioxide. The jury is still out, but life in the distant past or, perhaps, even in the present is still a possibility on our red neighbor.

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Starr Sightings

by Starr Sites 3-Eclipse Season

Every year we experience 2 eclipse seasons, 6 months apart, when the transiting Sun conjuncts the transiting North Node, and when the Sun conjuncts the South Node. This year there is a Solar Eclipse on July 12, a Lunar Eclipse on July 27 and a bonus Solar Eclipse on August 11—3 eclipses instead of the usual 2 per season.

Eclipse families begin at the North or South poles and appear at approximately 18-year intervals. After approximately 500 years of partial eclipses, each family expresses an eclipse of maximum totality near the equator before spiraling another 500 years toward the opposite pole, decreasing in totality until they disappear. Meanwhile new eclipse families are being created with some overlap so that these eclipses hold the same number, one being called “Old” and the other “New”.

The 18+ year period between eclipses of the same family is called a Saros Cycle, bearing an astrological eclipse numbering system from 1 to 19, either North or South, depending on the pole of origin. (NASA uses a different numbering system.) This July 12 we won't see the “2 Old North” Eclipse because it occurs close to Antarctica, about “to die”. Nor will we see the Lunar

Eclipse on July 27 in the USA, centered near Iran and Russia. Then on August 11 there will be the 2nd Solar Eclipse of this eclipse season called “2 New North,” just beginning to form in the Arctic, also invisible to us.

Even though we may not see any of the 3 upcoming eclipses, many of us will be affected. Thanks to the research of Bernadette Brady, who spent her lifetime studying the Saros Cycle of Eclipses, we now have a reference¹ that lists the key aspects for each Solar Eclipse family and analyzes its original “birth” eclipse. Each eclipse family carries the original frequency as well as that of the current eclipse. Thus, by comparing the eclipse Sun/Moon degree with the natal chart of their clients, astrologers can predict whether potential impacts are likely (or not) for their clients.

Eclipse predictions

For those born between the 8th to 15th of July, October, January or April (born in Cardinal signs), your natal Sun will be impacted, so watch for the following: The July 12 Solar Eclipse at 21° Cancer belongs to a difficult family (“2 Old North”) and brings “unfortunate news concerning friendships and relationships,” such as separations or breakups. However, “fast action can bring good results” according to Brady.

Prince William

Prince William, future King of England, was born on June 21, 1982 during a “2 Old North Eclipse”. This eclipse family will end in the year 2036 when King William will be 54 years old. Bernadette Brady postulates that since the 2 Old North Eclipse family is about separations of unions, she believes he will be the one to preside over the dissolution of the British monarchy, possible in 2036 when that Saros family dissolves into the South Pole.

The July 27 Lunar Eclipse at 5° Leo/Aquarius will impact people born near the end of those same months noted above (but born under fixed signs). Here unrealistic romantic notions may leave you disappointed. Feelings of love may be intense but compulsive. Emotional power struggles and selfish manipulations can yield unexpected consequences. Use discretion because deception is possible. However exploring the inner depths of your soul can be insightful.

Trump's birth eclipse

President Trump was born on a total blood moon Lunar Eclipse day belonging to the same eclipse family as this July 27 eclipse, 4 Saros Cycles after his birth! It signifies a uniquely erratic life's path (Sun conjunct Uranus in 1946 and Uranus

square the eclipse Sun and Moon in 2018). What's interesting about both Trump's birth eclipse and this July 27 eclipse is that the path of totality covers countries he favors: China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and UAE but excludes the Americas—Canada, Mexico, Central and South American countries he distains—including the USA (he prefers autocracies, despite claims of MAGA). The Korean Peninsula experiences a partial eclipse during both the 1946 and 2018 Lunar Eclipses.

The 3rd eclipse

The Solar Eclipse of August 11 at 19° Leo (“2 New North”) will impact people born around the 8th-14th of August, November, February or May. For those affected, a “sudden collapse of plans or lifestyles may occur. Confusion will reign for a while, but the long-term results are those of rebuilding and transformation. This reshaping will have far-reaching effects. It changes a person's direction through the sudden collapse of an existing structure.

Eclipses often impact and reshape the personal and political tone of events for the 6 months leading up to the next eclipse season—in January 2019.

¹Predictive Astrology: *The Eagle and the Lark* by Bernadette Brad.

PATIENT STORY

“Wouldn't go anywhere else! Traveled eight hours one way to see him. His attention to detail and understanding of the big picture is outstanding!”



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Who We Are

David Lee:

Studying plants and experiencing the world

by Gussie Fauntleroy

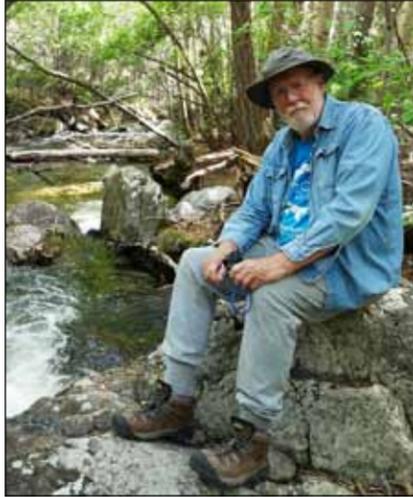
Who knew a fern could have leaves of shimmering electric blue? David Lee didn't, and was stopped in his tracks by the astonishing sight of vibrant blue fronds against the tropical forest's surrounding green. It was the early 1970s and David was hiking in the mountains of Malaysia, where he and his wife Carol had moved not long after marrying so he could take a position as lecturer in the botany department at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

Not every scientist is so moved by the sheer beauty of a species that the experience essentially sets the course for a decades-long area of research—in David's case, plant biology with a focus on tropical forests. Now professor emeritus of biology after 30 years at Florida International University in Miami, the 75-year-old Crestone/Baca resident has conducted and taken part in field studies in tropical forests around the world. He has published dozens of peer reviewed articles and book chapters and more than ten books, his latest being *Nature's Palette: The Science of Plant Color* (2007) and *Nature's Fabric: Leaves in Science and Culture* (2017, both from University of Chicago Press.) Yet as someone with an underlying artistic sensibility and spiritual open-heartedness, the beauty, history, and human cultures surrounding plants and their environments have always been as compelling as the plants themselves.

Budding biological interest

David's connection to nature began far from the tropical forests where he later spent much of his working life. He was raised in the central Washington town of Ephrata, the middle of three children of a couple who eventually owned and ran 20 movie theaters in that part of the state. David grew up watching as many as six movies a week in his father's theaters and reading voraciously, beginning with his first visit to a library in third grade. "It was a revelation that a book could open up a new world to me," he remembers.

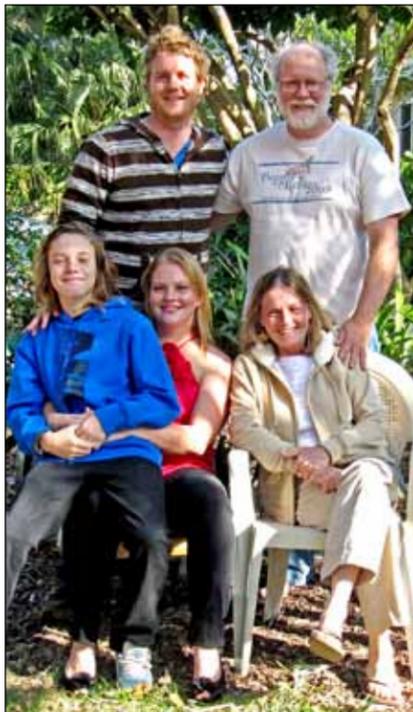
Spending days on end outdoors in summer, David and his buddies explored the dry, wide-open sagebrush landscape, often sleeping under the stars. He was interested in biology, but initially more in animals than plants. At the same time, his aesthetic appreciation for nature was kindled by camping and hiking trips to forests and mountain lakes in the Cascades. Later, during a year off from studies at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington (where in 1966 he received a B.S. cum laude in biology), his sense of awe was expanded exponentially by a sojourn amid the extraordinary natural beauty of New Zealand.



Relaxing on Cottonwood Creek.
photo by Katy Lee



David with a student at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1974.
photo by Carol Lee



David and family: Carol, Sylvan, Katy and grandson Shaun, Miami, around 2000.

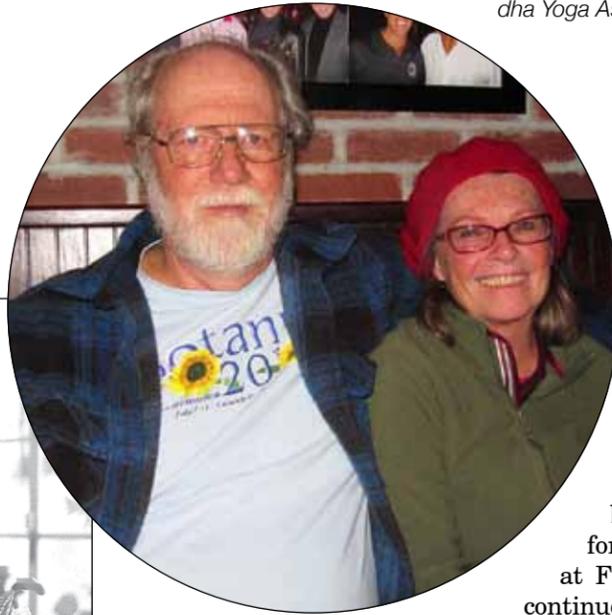
Escaping the lab

After earning an M.S. and PhD in botany from Rutgers University in New Jersey, David spent two years on a post-doctoral fellowship at Ohio State University as an instructor and research associate. The work was interesting, but it took place in a lab in a windowless building. He missed the outdoors.



The Lees with Sylvan and Katy at the Siddha Yoga Ashram, Miami, 1981.

photo by Ali Naderi



At dinner with Carol in Philadelphia, 2015.

"Nature inspired me to be a biology major, but this was the opposite environment," he says. Then he heard about a lecturer's position in Kuala Lumpur. Four years in Malaysia, first in the city and later in a village at the head of a forested valley, were pivotal. "It was a beautiful, exotic, amazing environment," he says. "All the scientific questions I worked on later really emerged from our time in Malaysia."

Following plants—and the heart

After leaving Southeast Asia, David and Carol spent nine months traveling in the Middle East, North Africa, India, Europe, and England, with David doing field research in many of these places. Living in southern France for two years, he served as a visiting university professor. The first of the couple's two children, Sylvan, was born, with Katy coming along in 1979.

Back in the United States, the Lees became part of an intentional community in Warwick, New York that focused on the spiritual teachings of the mystic philosopher, G. I. Gurdjieff. A year later they met Swami Muktananda, founder of Siddha Yoga, for the first time. "It changed my life," David says. "He broke my heart open, just by looking at me." It was time to leave the Gurdjieff community, and in 1980 the family moved to Miami and David joined the faculty at Florida International University.

Opened just eight years earlier, FIU had no post-graduate program or biology research structure

set up when David arrived. Over time he helped establish masters and PhD programs and helped develop a strong research area. He served as chair of the school's first environmental studies department and earned a number of awards, both for his accomplishments at FIU and his books. He continued doing tropical forest field research, working in Central America, Africa, India, China, and other parts of the world, as well as the Florida Everglades.

An expanding circle

In 1999, on the suggestion of a friend in Miami who owned property in the Baca, the Lees visited Crestone for the first time. The climate and landscape resonated with David's memories of boyhood in central Washington, and the quality of spiritual inquiry and openness among many here also drew them in. The couple eventually bought a house, and in 2016 they made Crestone/Baca their home.

Since then they've both become involved in multiple community activities. David, who occasionally writes about local plant life for the Eagle, is president of the Friends of the Library. After completing his latest book project, a collaborative effort on Asian rainforests, his next goal will be to spend more time on his art—producing handmade paper and using it to create landscape imagery. His cards incorporating handmade paper are already available at the Crestone Artisans Gallery, along with his books on plant color and leaves.

David and Carol's inclusive approach to spirituality makes room for such diverse activities as meditation, Ashtanga yoga, fire ceremony at the ashram, gathering with Siddha Yoga students for chanting and meditation, and attending services at the Carmelite chapel. At the core of it all, David says, "A really important part of our practice is simply gratitude." Gratitude for living here, for a long and loving marriage, children and a grandson, and decades of following his passion for learning about plants. "To be able to study something that's beautiful is a real privilege," he says.

San Luis Valley: Home to Colorado's first & oldest

by the SLV Museum Association

Cradled between the Sangre de Cristo and San Juan mountains, at the headwaters of the Rio Grande, lies the San Luis Valley. The diverse geologic and geographic features of this vast basin include lush river bottoms, an inland ocean of sand, and craggy summits which reach elevations over 14,000'. The SLV has enticed and enthralled people since the times of Ice Age hunters.

A cavalcade of characters, some famous, some infamous, and some downright notorious, have stepped across this landscape. Diego de Vargas, Juan Bautista de Anza, Zebulon Pike, John C. Fremont, Kit Carson, John Gunnison, Phil Sheridan, Tom Tobin, Bat Masterson, Soapy Smith, Bob Ford, Calamity Jane, Dario Gallegos, Poker Alice, Eppie Archuleta, Chipeta and Ouray, Otto Mears, Ulysses S. Grant, Alferd Packer—the names associated with San Luis Valley history read like a western epic.



Manassa's most famous figure is heavyweight boxing champion Jack Dempsey. A museum in his honor, dedicated in Manassa in 1966, is housed in the cabin in which Dempsey was born.



A display at the San Luis Valley Museum in Alamosa. American Indians were the first to settle the San Luis Valley. Members of the Catawba Tribe here became Mormons. The John Canty family from Sanford are the last Catawbans in the Valley.

Nomadic hunters, including Apache, Kiowa, Navajo, and Youth (Ute) tribal people sought out the valley's abundant wildlife. Spanish governors were the first to provide written descriptions of the San Luis Valley before the formation of the United States. During ensuing decades, explorers, pioneers, homesteaders, land speculators, prospectors, and travel writers were attracted to the valley's riches. Freely flowing clean water, comforting hot springs, verdant wetlands teem-

ing with birds, fish and wild game, expanses of natural grass hay, majestic mountain vistas, forest and upland meadows, plus mother lode deposits of silver and gold lured these newcomers. Today, as you travel any of the routes into the valley, you will be struck by the expansive landscapes, rugged mountains, and endless blue skies.

By the 1850s, Hispanic settlers from New Mexico had migrated into the San Luis Valley to establish small plazas with land grants issued by the Mexican governor in Santa Fe. These pioneers gave birth to the permanent settling of Colorado. Soon after, people from a variety of backgrounds seeking mineral wealth, free land, or frontier experiences joined the progression.

While much has changed within the valley, traditional values and cultural practices still endure. Well-preserved architecture and historic

downtowns evoke the past. Whatever your interests, exploring the San Luis Valley's colorful history and vast beauty can make its legacy part of your Colorado heritage experience.

Come out and step into Colorado history

- The oldest town - San Luis
- Earliest adjudicated water rights - People's Ditch
- Oldest continuously operated business - R&R Market
- Oldest church building - Mission of San Acacio
- Oldest parish - Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Colorado's first territorial governor - William Gilpin
- First military fort and one of the first weather stations - Fort Massachusetts
- Oldest still-standing fort - Fort Garland
- Colorado's first Lieutenant Governor - Lafayette Head
- First and oldest Veterans Home - Homelake Veterans Community Living Center
- First four-year institute in Colorado federally designated as a Hispanic Serving Institute - Adams State University
- The first commercial fish operations in Colorado Territory were started by Gordon Land in 1866 in Conejos County
- Colorado's first national monument - Wheeler Geologic Area
- La Puente - first established rural homeless shelter in the country
- Oldest Pro Rodeo - Ski-Hi Stampede
- Path of the oldest migratory bird - Sandhill Crane
- Oldest potato-growing area
- First History Colorado historic marker in Del Norte
- and the oldest hot-lead printing press - the *Saguache Crescent*.

For a map of San Luis Valley museums and historical places and information on regional events visit www.museumtrail.org.



The church at San Acacio, which was founded in the 1850s or 1860s, is generally considered the oldest continuously used European-American religious space in Colorado. Pick up a brochure for the Sacred Circle Tour of this and many of the other mission churches at the Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center, 719-672-0999.

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Tree watering is necessary during drought conditions

Persistent drought conditions have parched the soil over southern Colorado, stressing even irrigated lawns and larger landscape trees. During these periods of drought, homeowners should consider supplemental watering to keep their trees healthy.

“Adequately watering your trees is the best way to ensure optimum growth and vigor during the summer months,” said Donna Davis, CSFS community forestry program specialist for the Colorado State Forest Service. “Dry trees become susceptible to root and branch die-back and subsequent insect and disease problems.”

The most recent U.S. Drought Monitor map indicates that all of southern Colorado is currently experiencing some form of drought—with 50% of the state under “severe” or worse drought classifications.

The CSFS offers the following tips to keep trees healthy during summer drought:

- **Mulch.** Mulch is an inexpensive solution to retain soil moisture and save water. Apply 4 inches of organic mulch onto bare soil outward 2 to 3 feet from the base of the trunk (removing any grass first, if necessary). Do not allow the mulch to directly contact the trunk.

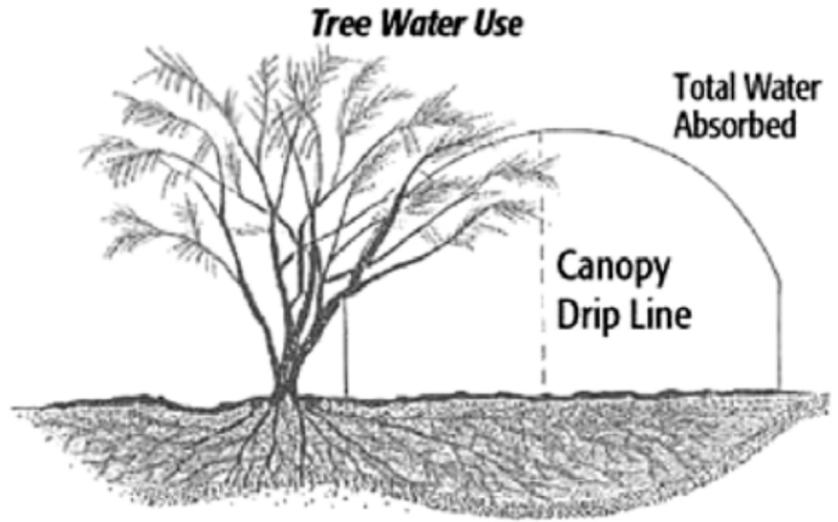
- **Water a wide area.** Tree root systems, unlike carrots, typically don’t dive downward but instead go outward—spreading two to three times wider than the height of the tree—and most ab-

sorbing roots are in the top foot of soil. Apply water to soak the entire area underneath the full span of a tree’s branches.

- **Water slowly.** To ensure soil penetration, use a deep root fork (inserted 8 inches or less), soaker hose on low setting or soft spray wand to apply water gradually to the full area.

- **Keep the yard green.** Trees located in irrigated lawns generally do not require additional water, as long as the area surrounding the tree receives adequate moisture. Conversely, a dry, yellow yard means the roots of any trees present are also dry.

- **Focus on smaller and non-irrigated trees.** Trees that do not receive water from sprinkler systems or irrigation require additional water. Every week, apply 10 gallons of water for each inch of tree trunk diameter. Water small and newly planted trees even more frequently, as they have less extensive root systems.



Tree roots can extend 1 1/2 to 4 times beyond the Canopy

Tree root drip line. This diagram demonstrates just how insufficient watering at a tree’s base is for its needs. *courtesy of LandscapeOnline*

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Crestone Energy Fair 2018: Earth-based arts & music celebration happening Sept. 7-9

Seven Generations— 7G Creating Our Energy Future

by Nathan Good

Come celebrate the 28th Annual Crestone Energy Fair: Earth-based Arts & Music Celebration from September 7-9 in the Town of Crestone's Little Pearl Park. This year's theme "Seven Generations—7G Creating Our Energy Future" recognizes the ancient Iroquois philosophy that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable and regenerative world seven generations into the future. This philosophy formed the political, ceremonial and social fabric which helped make decisions in regards to our energy, water and natural resources as well as relationships within communities.

One of the longest-running sustainability fairs in the country, this event was started by Ken and Tom Dessain in the early 90s as the Crestone Energy Fair which included musical performances. The Crestone Music Festival is not happening this year, but we hope to fill the void by bringing to life an attractive collaboration of our community's diverse talents, sustainability demonstrations, arts and music, restorative practices, as well as home tours, food and other presentations that community members wish to showcase.

The event will open Friday evening with a ceremony to honor past Energy Fair coordinators and volunteers for their contributions to building our healthy future. This evening reception will lead into a community discussion of our Energy Efficiency Guidelines and end with music, dancing and celebration. Saturday will be filled with our traditional smorgasbord of alternative energy and building demonstrations, solar-powered music stage, youth & family activities, along with a potluck-style home-cooked celebration for community and family fun. Activities will move into the Cloud Station on Saturday evening for our music headliners. Sunday will close the event with the educational and inspirational Home Tour throughout Crestone and the Baca.

Preparations are underway for this community-wide initiative and we would love your support. There are many ways to get involved from event production, teaching workshops, offering demonstrations, vending, sponsoring to performing. We want this to be a collaborative event that brings a new level of connection and healing to our relationships with nature and each other.

How can you be a part of the solution? To find out more information and get in contact with coordinators, please visit our Facebook page called Crestone Energy Fair. Contacts, progress and needs will be updated there or you may also connect with Nathan Good at 719-588-1067, email crestonehub@gmail.com, or with Lisa Bodey at 719-480-5925, or email flaminglotuscreations@gmail.com for more information. Thank you and have a happy and safe summer!



People come from all over to enjoy the annual Crestone Energy Fair.

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Garden Guru

Considering spinach & blister beetles



by **Matie Belle Lakish**

I have been pondering some aspects of gardening that are perhaps more esoteric lately. Last month I discussed the Biodynamic Movement, and how the Steiner philosophy and Biodynamic Preparations may impact the energetics of plants. Another field of study has been the subtle chemical changes that are just recently being analyzed and measured by plant chemists. You may have seen some of these changes in your own garden.

The relationship between plants and their chemical aromas and insects goes beyond the delightful fragrances some flowers use to attract pollinators. Some chemical interactions are so subtle that we humans cannot detect them, but insects pick up on them right away. Plants can apparently direct these chemicals to different parts of the plant and use them to their advantage. I have read, for instance, that fruit trees will use hormone-like substances, called "semiochemicals", to attract pollinators, but also to repel predators. And sometimes, they will vary the chemical release on different parts of the plant, sacrificing some parts of the plant to protect other parts, or to attract the invading insect's predators.

I saw this demonstrated vividly on a neighbor's peach tree. While three-fourths of the major branches of the young tree were growing vigorously and putting on small peaches, one major section of branches was covered with aphids and shriveled leaves and had no fruit. The owner said that happens most years. I could see no other



Ash Gray Blister Beetle.

damage on the branches to explain the difference. Ladybugs soon arrived to begin aphid harvesting.

The interplay of insect and plant can be fascinating! I recently discovered that some overwintering spinach was beginning to flower. Shortly thereafter, I saw some Ash Gray Blister Beetles, especially on the male plants.

Did you know spinach has male and female plants? The males tend to have more pointed leaves, and a plume of tiny flowers at the end of short stems. Females also have tiny flowers, but they are usually under a leaf. After pollination occurs, the females form small round seeds at the leaf nodule, which ripen into a cluster of hard tan balls. Eventually, they will fall off and start new plants if they are not collected and saved by the gardener.

The blister beetles seemed happy supping on stems and flowers. They like to congregate in groups, and their behavior is surprisingly sophisticated. If threatened, they will "play dead" and drop to the ground and be very still until the predator (the human)

leaves the area. However, if you try to pick it up, it will run quickly away and hide under debris. They vary in size from less than a quarter inch to about an inch and can easily disappear. If you do catch one, *do not squash it*. Its body contains a chemical, Cantharidin, that can cause blisters on the skin.

An invasion of blister beetles can defoliate a group of plants quickly if not controlled. If you see a group on a stem, put your hand under it and gently shake the stem. The beetles will fall off of the stem and you can put them in a jar of water where they will eventually drown. You can pick them off individually as long as you don't squash them. While cruel, it is a better choice than chemicals.

The balance in nature is interesting. While I do not feel I can ignore an invasion of blister beetles, their larvae feed on grasshopper eggs, and help provide control of this other plant predator.

So, I am bending over my spinach plants, patiently collecting blister beetles and putting them in water, while contemplating the interactions and communications between plants. Do the blister beetles prefer male flowers because they are more exposed? Because they have more attractive "semiochemicals"? Because the spinach plants are sacrificing the male plants to protect the females? Or did the blister beetle clan just decide that they are eating male flowers today? The wonders of nature!



Spinach plant forming seeds.



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There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root, RH (AHG)
Community herbalism Part 5



For those of you who have been following this series of articles, you know that we've talked about 30 different herbs that are easy to wildcraft anywhere in the country, easy to grow, and/or easy to find in a grocery store. All of these herbs are common, not exotic, and none are endangered or threatened. With a little effort one can learn what to do with them to take care of common health concerns.

Herbs are different from OTC and prescription drugs, in that each

Here are a few specific combinations that have been used over time:

Elder flower, yarrow, and peppermint, combined in equal parts and made into a hot tea has been used to reduce fever. It's beneficial for children and the dried herbs can be mixed in advance.

Thyme, mullein, oregano, sage (garden), and peppermint can be used singly or in combination in a steam for colds and flus.

Chamomile and catnip are both helpful for babies and children with colic. Dilute teas for small children. Strong chamomile tea is helpful as a digestive aid for adults.

Many of these herbs have nutritional benefits too. Nettles and dandelion leaf have more vitamins and minerals than any greens you can buy in a store.

So now here's a disclaimer: I count on common sense to be working when you're inexperienced with herbs (or children) especially because I'm talking about using herbs for kids. If your child has more than a passing thing, check it out, go to a MD or ND and get a diagnosis. Err on the cautious side, especially at first or when you have doubts. And although there are some truly fabulous books out there, partner with someone who knows herbs well while you're learning. I haven't said a lot in these articles about exact preparations or dosages for a reason, partly space, but also because these articles are meant to be educational but not a how-to manual. Enjoy and learn enough to be useful!

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.



Elderflower (*Sambucus nigra*).

herb has many uses. Because they have many constituents that work synergistically they act on multiple systems of the body. That being said, they can also be categorized into different broad systems. For instance, chamomile, peppermint, dill, fennel, ginger, catnip and basil are all helpful for the digestive system. For colds and flus we have: elder flower and berry, echinacea, yarrow, garlic, onion, ginger, thyme, horehound, pine, mullein, and sage. Motherwort, chamomile, and lemon balm as nervines are all helpful for anxiety and depression. Dandelion, burdock, calendula, and thistle benefit the liver.



Proper pruning is important for the health and productivity of a fruit tree.

Fruit tree pruning workshop July 17

The Colorado State Forest Service Alamosa Field Office is partnering with the Crestone Tree Board to offer a fruit tree pruning workshop this summer. The workshop will be from 9am-2:30pm on Tuesday, July 17, at the Baca Grande POA Hall on Road T. The morning session will be held inside and cover the science of pruning, while the afternoon will involve pruning trees outdoors.

Pruning and timing for fruit trees is different than for other trees in the landscape. Using good care and pruning techniques can help improve the potential for high quality and quantity of fruit. Fruit tree pruning is often neglected due to a lack of knowledge or fear that it can injure a tree. Fruit trees may be pruned for aesthetics and for maximizing fruit production.

"People often think that pruning a fruit tree for produce is more of an art than a science. This is not true. Similar to pruning other trees, there is science behind the proper techniques to minimize damage to the tree and maximize fruit production," said Vince Urbina, community forester with the Colorado State Forest Service. "A properly pruned fruit tree is more productive, healthy and aesthetically pleasing."

Topics to be addressed at the workshop include:

- Training young trees to grow properly.
- Pruning older trees.
- Yearly pruning practices.
- Different techniques for different trees.
- Selection of fruit trees.

The workshop will cost \$15, which includes lunch. Participants can register by calling the CSFS Alamosa Field Office at 719-587-0915.

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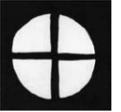


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499C Willow Trail - WAS \$389,000

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



Decks & Views

1596 Willow Creek Way - \$262,000
Lots of space in this passive solar 1857sf 3BR/2.5BA home with single detached garage on 2.794ac. Nice decks. Views to Blanca, Sangres and Valley. ETS & wood stove & trombe walls.



Log Home

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.



Large Lot

1659 Willow Creek Way - \$195,000
Lovely 3BR/1BA energy efficient ranch-style stucco home on a .65ac treed lot, easily accessed just off paved road. Private setting w/greenbelt on 2 sides. Built w/Nudura block & heated by Cosmogas On Demand Hot Water Heater. radiators.



Grow-Dome

1194 Hilltop - \$179,000
Strawbale 1BD/1BA, approx. 900sf built by Paul Koppa. Great details with high t&g ceilings, concrete floors, in-floor heat, woodstove, southern windows. Plus small office/studio rm. Great kitchen and built-in dining. Grow dome. Near paved road.

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Exquisite Contemporary

3665 Enchanted Terrace - \$375,000
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New Listings



Amazing Views!

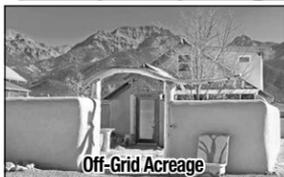
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New Listings



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Grants



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



WAS \$289,000

10.2 Acres

1201CR Wagon Wheel Road - \$259,000
Spectacular strawbale 3BD/1.75BA, 1510sf on 10.2 ac backing to Willow Crk. greenbelt. Updated stucco, driveways, two lg. sheds. Energy efficient w/passive solar, wood stove, thermal solar collectors, back-up propane w/in-floor heat. Well, septic&on-grid.

Chalets



Exquisite Views

1974CR Highland OL - \$675,000
Beautifully designed by Bodhgaiia Architecture and built by Teahen Construction, this one of kind 2005sf 2bd/2ba w/study maximizes the 2.651 acre site w/exquisite views and contemporary architecture. Priced under cost to build.



Private w/Views

780CR 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.



Panoramic Views

3681CR Enchanted Way - \$497,000
One of a kind custom built 2700sf cordwood 2-story 4bd/office/2bath/2 living areas w/greenhouse and storage on 1.354 acres. Master and great room upstairs w/ amazing views. Solar/electric hot water heating, passive solar, trombe wall.

Chalets



Private Paradise

4 Bed / 2 Bath

437C N. Chaparral Way - \$479,000
Built by Paul Koppa 2020sf 4 bd/2 ba strawbale home + detached oversized 2-car garage w/potential apt is designed non toxic materials and energy efficiency. On 2.09 Acres bordering greenbelt of Crestone Creek w/ Sauna & outdoor oven.



Indoor Exercise Pool

WAS \$435,000

1967C Rockyview Way - \$432,000
Luxurious 3BD/2.75BA/Office/3-car Garage 2953sf home sits on 2.374 acres & has a 2-room upstairs Master Suite. Beautifully landscaped courtyards & gardens with custom fence & deck, great views.



Private on the Creek

WAS \$429,000

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



Newer Construction

Reduced! WAS - \$265,000

3461 Splendid Way - \$259,000
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.



Large Space & Greenbelt

2210 Lone Pine - \$239,000
Well built, cheery 4BD/1.5BA 2-story adj to Spanish Creek greenbelt. 2 living areas, lg storage rm & xtra bonus rm. 2 wdstoves w/ elec basebd bkup. Extra lot avail. @ 2208. Fresh paint & stain. Private setting at end of cul-de-sac. Deer fence, chicken coop.



Contemporary

WAS \$229,000

1212 Chaparral - \$219,000
Ranch style 3BR/1.75BA 1272sf stucco home w/mtn views. Built in 2017 by Terrapin & Co. near paved road close to town. Great room w/hardwood floors & views. Passive solar. Modern kitchen, new appliances. ETS heater & baseboard heating.

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

380 N Alder St.	\$425,000	SOLD	1659 Willow Creek Way.	\$195,000	SOLD
120 W. Silver Ave.	\$399,000	SOLD*	2035 Lost Cave Way.	\$189,900	SOLD
786C Panorama Way	\$399,000	SOLD*	333 Palomino Way.	\$189,000	SOLD*
4519C Grayline Ct.	\$389,000	SOLD*	2715 Happy Hollow Way.	\$185,000	SOLD
499C Willow Trail	\$350,000	SOLD*	1194 Hilltop.	\$179,000	SOLD*
1038 Beaver Trail.	\$337,000	SOLD*	257 Baca Grant Way.	\$179,000	SOLD
4511C Ridgecrest Way.	\$312,000	SOLD*	635C Panorama Way.	\$179,000	SOLD*
56 Wagon Wheel.	\$299,000	SOLD*	1212 Chaparral Way.	\$175,000	SOLD*
999C Badger Road.	\$289,000	SOLD*	107 Pinewood OL.	\$172,500	SOLD*
223 Moffat Way.	\$289,000	SOLD*	1327 Badger Road.	\$172,000	SOLD*
147 Moonlight Way.	\$279,000	SOLD*	98 Skyview Way.	\$169,000	SOLD*
359 Chaparral Way.	\$269,000	SOLD	200 Evergreen.	\$169,000	SOLD
2145 Indian Well.	\$266,500	SOLD*	3705 Carefree Way.	\$165,000	SOLD
1596 Willow Creek Way.	\$262,000	SOLD*	4275C Fallen Tree OL.	\$164,000	SOLD*
1738C Willow Creek Way.	\$259,000	SOLD	3901 Rarity Way.	\$163,000	SOLD
207C Foothill OL.	\$255,000	SOLD*	415C Moonlight Way.	\$159,000	SOLD
535 Thornwood.	\$255,000	SOLD	35 Camino Baca Grande.	\$155,000	SOLD*
305 Palomino Way.	\$252,000	SOLD	1001 Badger Rd.	\$149,000	SOLD
21820 County Rd. 48X.	\$249,000	SOLD	34 Camino Baca Grande.	\$149,000	SOLD*
4376 E. Twinview OL.	\$245,000	SOLD	3735C Jubilant Way.	\$149,000	SOLD*
3760 Jubilant Way.	\$239,000	SOLD*	760 & 761 Panorama Way.	\$149,000	SOLD*
3481 E. Graceful Ct.	\$239,000	SOLD*	3708 Enchanted Way.	\$142,500	SOLD*
757 Rendezvous.	\$239,000	SOLD	354 Huerta Ct.	\$89,000	SOLD*
323 Holiday Way.	\$235,000	SOLD	4485 Ridgecrest Way.	\$74,500	SOLD*
999C Badger Road.	\$225,000	SOLD*	157 Moonlight Way.	\$69,000	SOLD
983C Peaceful Way.	\$224,500	SOLD	3665 Enchanted Terrace.	\$375,000	UNDER CONTRACT*
1202 Wagon Wheel.	\$219,000	SOLD*	274 N. Willow St.	\$299,000	UNDER CONTRACT
1867C Rockyview Way.	\$219,000	SOLD	22 Alpine OL.	\$279,000	UNDER CONTRACT
1541C Camino Real.	\$205,000	SOLD	542 Cottonwood.	\$275,000	UNDER CONTRACT
3762 Carefree Way.	\$198,000	SOLD*	776 Table Rock Trl.	\$265,000	UNDER CONTRACT
661 Camino Del Rey.	\$195,000	SOLD			

Comanche hike

continued from page B-1

am passing through it at a more leisurely pace, not rushing to beat a storm or encroaching exhaustion. I linger by the many clumps of columbine; they are a little worn, but still lovely, and I wonder if I will see them again. Each moment of this last mile I savor and soak into my soul. "Will I be back?" still haunts my thoughts. This landscape is so charged with beauty and at the same time I feel so inadequate to knowing it, seeing it, hearing, smelling, and remembering it. I once had a rather sour friend who used to grumble that "we live until we die." Well, yes, I hope I do. And I am living now on a mountainside with its flowers and crystalline water and feeling once more as if my heart will burst with happiness.

On the way back, the temperature rises as we drop in elevation. Past the fork it becomes uncomfortably hot. Sarah moves from shade to shade: it is her sole preoccupa-

tion. At the place where the trail opens to a view of the treetops and the whole North Crestone valley, I hear two singers. They sound like American robins but aren't. In addition, one of the singers is improvising with variations on his robin-like song, like a northern mockingbird but certainly not a robin. I am thinking western tanager and I search the treetops with my binoculars. Sarah can't believe her senses. "It's hotter than Hades here and you're stopping in the middle of the trail where there's no shade in sight?" She hefts her tired self with her heavy collie coat up the hill, looking for shade. She finds a small margin of it next to a Rocky Mountain maple and collapses while I continue to search the treetops. Finally, even though the singers are still full at it, I give up, intending to check birdsong apps when I get home.

But wait. We round the next bend in the trail and there is a bird singing the very same song at the top of a dead tree. I raise my binoculars and it's a western tanager!



Tree line.

photo by Emmy Savage

And then I see another in another dead tree further down the trail. These are magnificent birds with silky black wings, lemon yellow bodies and heads a bright orange red. Finally, near the trailhead, I see two, a female and a male: altogether I've seen four western tanagers! "Our patience has been rewarded," I say to Sarah. And I think, "That is something my father would have said." I miss him. He is the only person in the world

who I could have called and asked: "Guess what, Dee? Guess what I saw?" and whose response would have been sheer, uncomplicated joy. My father had many shortcomings, many of which came between us in the last years of his life. But his capacity for joy, for the extravagant gesture, for waiting for tanagers when other people would have pushed on, was the trait I am most grateful for. I miss him. I miss him so much.

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560 Grand Ave, Del Norte \$485,000. Rare opportunity! Live in beautiful Penthouse & run a successful B&B units & rentals. Downstairs Antique Store could be multi use.

187 W. Silver. \$475,000
Prime location in the center of Little Pearl Park. Currently Restaurant, Brewery 2 hotel rooms & Penthouse. Long term lease in place.

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

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

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



1356 Brookview Way \$299,500 3BD 2BA Lovely home with master loft & balcony. On 1 acre. Oversized garage with music studio & apartment.



894 Camino Real \$299,000
2BD 2BA Great horse property. 35 acres of nicely grassed rolling land & tremendous views. Library, Sunroom & Guest house.



18050 Highway 17, Moffat \$295,000 3BD 2BA Ranch property for the hobby farm or equestrian. Features hot tub, covered porch & utility room.



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



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



33 Sunset OL \$229,000
Charming 5BD 3.75 BA home with additional room off Master suite. Attached 2 car garage w/storage & extra bathroom. Screened porch.



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



1469 Horseshoe Tr, \$267,500
Fantastic views of Sangre de Cristos, The San Juan range, & valley views. One level 3 BD 2 BA lots of natural light. Kitchen features lovely granite tile counters, custom hickory cabinets, & panty



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



20498 County Rd 60, Moffat \$140,000. 80 Acres with artesian well, 1 acre pond, some small outbuildings, all within a few minutes of Highway 17.



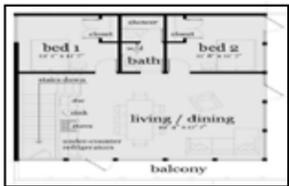
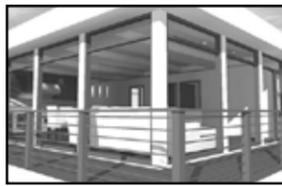
330 Palisade Ct \$60,000.
Investors, there is a shortage of rentals in this area! Front dining rm has built in fireplace, spacious kitchen & living rm also has wood stove. Large corner lot,



Lot 16 & 17 BLK 40 \$50,000. Unique opportunity to own town property with creek running through. Spectacular lots, building site, HUGE trees, across from town park.



County Rd 55, Moffat \$42,000. Surveyed 40 acre parcel, road access, nice views, secluded. Several other properties developing in this area. Domestic well & rights to drill.



610 Panorama Way \$249,000

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Our Spiritual Aspect, Part I

by Lee Temple

While it plays out most obviously in our urge to reproduce, the desire for immortality also interweaves with humanity's spiritual quest. From the spiritual perspective, immortality is not usually associated with living forever in one body. The emphasis is more commonly in belief in a soul or spiritual presence that continues beyond death. We also find the idea of immortality in a transcultural yearning to discover and unite with something eternal, transcendent, even divine—the wave uniting with the ocean, the part remembering its source in wholeness—a yearning built into our core.

This desire for what we could call inner immortality or perhaps immortality of the soul, living in and as the eternal continuum of Being, is the product of the evolution of the entire tree of life, but directly touches only its uppermost human-based branches. These branches emerged over the past several hundred thousand years, about the last 4% of humanity's total time on Earth. In this relatively short time, our first religio-spiritual impulses have expanded into a host of complex and diverse religions and belief systems, some influencing whole cultures and some remaining highly personal.

The world's major religions understand the soul in some remarkably similar ways. For instance, the concept of soul and the word used for it are frequently related to breath. The Hebrew word for soul, *nephesh*, means "life" or "vital breath." The Greek word derives from a verb meaning "to cool" or "to blow," also referring to life's vital breath or animating principle.

Interestingly, the Greeks used the same word for "alive" and "ensouled." For Plato, soul is our essence, the body's nonmaterial occupant that is reborn many times. The soul is immortal, while heaven is in part a reflection of the soul's nearness to God and hell a reflection of remoteness from God. In contrast, Buddhism teaches that since all things are impermanent, an abiding soul is impossible and the idea of one is a source of delusion.

Some segments of Christianity reject the soul's immortality, while others consider the soul our immortal essence on which God dispenses punishment or reward after death, depending on both our behavior and belief in God and Christ. Catholicism describes the soul as our innermost aspect, made most especially in the image of God.

Hinduism calls the personal soul *jiva* or *atman* or *jivatman*—the individuated soul, which through ignorance of its true nature, re-

gards itself as separate from Brahman, the uncreated wholeness or Oneness that is the true reality of the universe. When the personal consciousness or sense of identity reemerges with its infinite unbounded source, the individual soul or *atma* is fully one with the soul of the universe—the *Atman* or *Paramatman*. Until that point, the *jiva/atman* continues to reincarnate over many lifetimes. Sikhs likewise see the individual soul as an expression or part of the universe or God.

Increasing reports of near-death experiences (NDE) over the past several decades have renewed curiosity and debate about what follows physical life as we know it. Descriptions of NDEs date back to Plato, and contemporary books and surveys, including one conducted by *The Lancet* in 2000, yield highly similar narratives about the dying process. The typical NDE can include moving through a tunnel of some kind towards brilliant light; awareness of being out of the body; feeling oneself in the presence of God; and meeting people one knows, loves, or has heard about.

People from many disparate fields today—sociologists, neuroscientists, psychologists, philosophers, students of divinity, evolutionary biologists, experts on primate behavior, to name a few—have been drawn to investigate the origin of the spiritual impulse. This points to the centrality of our need to discover whether God exists, God's nature (if God does exist), and our relationship to God or any transcendent reality. Conclusions and theories are colored by the disciplines asking the questions.

Some scholars suggest that we are programmed for religion. Geneticist Dean Hamer called *VMAT2* the "God gene" when he discovered that its presence predisposes people to spiritual experience. He found the gene's correlation with spirituality using data from a smoking survey, which included questions intended to measure self-transcendence.

Sociology and anthropology look to our forebears for hints of incipient spirituality. Humanity's closest living relatives, chimpanzees and bonobos, though not spiritual by human standards, exhibit at least some of the traits necessary for religion to show up: intelligence, the capacity to communicate through symbols, and a sense of self or individuality, among others. Researcher Dr. Frans de Waal theorized that human morality grew out of primate social behavior adapted to group living. At some point, certain primates found that group living was a better way to go, from the points of



Hindu Pilgrims cross the Ganges River during India's 2001 Kumbh-Mela religious gathering. source: wikimedia commons

view of defense and finding food. However, group members had to alter their behavior to make a success of it. In this theory, pre-moral sentiments likely evolved out of the need to restrain selfishness and build cooperation.

Biologically speaking, the capacity for religiosity is a consequence of a brain large enough to formulate and communicate abstract or philosophical ideas. The hominid brain had tripled in size since some 500,000 years ago, with much of the expansion in the neocortex, the area of the brain that processes the higher order cognitive functions necessary for spirituality and symbolic communication. This development may have allowed early forms of religion to show up as much as 500,000 years ago, long before the human population wandered out of Africa. Translating nonvisible concepts into symbols enabled early humans to hold beliefs in abstract terms and pass them on.

Organized religion traces its roots to the Neolithic agricultural revolution. Agriculture utterly transformed human societies, precipitating, among many other things, the transition from small bands of huntergatherers to stable communities and eventually cities, states, and empires. Such large communities generated the need for more structured forms of religion to facilitate social and economic stability. As they developed, organized religions were used to justify a central authority, which

could collect taxes in return for providing social services and security. The merging of small kingdoms into one polity, frequently through conquest, meant the merging of beliefs and rituals or their synchronization. The Roman gods, for example, lined up with their Greek counterparts. The Neolithic revolution eventually gave rise to theocracies such as those that flourished in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, with kings and pharaohs holding political and spiritual power. Anthropologists have found that virtually all early state societies and chiefdoms around the world justified political power through divine authority.

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 119-123, together with other similar topics in Chapter Six, "Human Nature—Five Fundamental Elements That Unite Us." Learn more about Lee Temple, Awakening into Unity, and the Global Awakening series at award-winning www.primamundi.com.

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In Search of Economic Reality

Border tragedy solutions?

by Ed Lyell

The border battle grabs the headlines, yet the underlying causes are economic and very difficult to fix. It is a refugee problem, yet also linked to diminishing wages and jobs, and inequality of income, and our national safety and security. As I write this column the news is filled with the tragedy of children being separated from parents on our southern border. As a moral person I am torn by the tragedies and lives being destroyed hourly. I was placed with another family for a year when I was elementary-school age and we often had no food. I am now over 400 pounds with lifelong eating disorder problems that the psychologists trace back to that trauma, when I had no food and no parents with me.

Thousands of children are going through an even more tragic version of my story. Hope for a better life for your children is down in USA. This is also true of most developed nations who are also dealing with refugee pressures. The problems are driven by major changes, rising population beyond sustainability, living wages vanishing, and democracies crumbling. Much of the pain is being created by big corporations getting bigger while controlling govern-

ment helps the already wealthy get even more by destroying the working family. Global big business is about getting more profit to their worldwide investors. America is a country whose leaders focus on profit and their greed, not people. Even minimum wage is going away as more robots, artificial intelligence, and outsourcing eliminate jobs daily. Getting and keeping jobs with a living wage is very difficult.

According to the Pew Research Center, when adjusted for inflation, the federal minimum wage in America peaked at \$8.54 in 1968. If the federal minimum wage had kept up with increases in worker productivity, then in 2012 it would have been \$21.72 an hour. Those developed nations in Europe and Australia focused on helping people, not profit, have minimum wages in the mid \$20s per hour along with universal health care, low cost or free higher education, paid vacations and parental care days. Yet workers in Mexico might only get \$5.00 per day, and in most of Africa only about \$1.83 per day. These are the driving forces for people from around the world wanting into America. Poverty is actually going down around the world, yet misery is based on

relative pay and conditions. The increasing gap between America's working class and super-wealthy is driving anger and frustration. Countries with more income and wealth equality are friendlier and happier.

There is also the reality that over 400 million people want to flee their home country and go to a developed nation. "Globally, 20 people are newly displaced every minute. Overall, more than 65 million people around the world have been forcibly displaced. That's the most since World War II, according to the U.N. Refugee Agency (UNHCR)."

Trump is correct that we cannot just open our borders to the world.

Our immediate problem is migrants from central America and Mexico fleeing gang violence as well as poverty. We need to get tough on immigrant gangs coming from multiple countries. Yet the Central American gang, MS13 [originally formed in Los Angeles], is the worst. According to the 2009 National Gang Threat Assessment, "The gang is estimated to have 30,000 to 50,000 members and associate members worldwide, 8,000 to 10,000 of whom reside in the United States."

America is more at risk from

MS13 gangs than ISIS or the Taliban. We should declare MS13 a terrorist organization.

We should make it a crime to be a member or affiliated with that gang. We should round up members in USA and send them to Guantánamo. We might even need to invade Guatemala, Honduras and other nations and arrest or kill all gang members. In 2017 Homeland Security recorded 46 cases of "individuals using minors to pose as fake family units." In the first five months of 2018 there were 191 cases. MS13 gang members are stealing infants in Mexico then claiming the infant as family to seek asylum. We should just ban any known gang member getting into the country. Yet that is a slippery slope. How many other organized crime groups are also coming in from Asia, Africa and other places?

America has had difficulty accepting immigrants throughout our history. The fear is based on economic competition, and cultural, or religious differences. It has been a fear of anyone different. Yet people are more similar than different in their desire to live peaceful lives, raise families, and enjoy something like a middle class, or better, life. Our difficulty now is how to focus on the similarities when so many, including our President, want to divide and conquer, not seek peace and happiness for all.

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

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Perspectives

by *Tomas deMers*

On a trip out of town last week I found myself sleeping on a foam mattress at the foot of a bookcase. Serious literature: Thoreau, Hemingway, Vonnegut, Kingsolver, Carlos Fuentes, books I'd read and reread, some I only caught on Cliff Notes before the exam. Classics like Madame Bovary and Grapes of Wrath beckoned. I lay there each night in a kind of literary stupor, only needing to reach out and a volume was mine. I did that at first, tasting the masters as only a former English major might wish to do.

It was a library that wouldn't leave, and each night they were waiting for me, writers and the mob of characters they'd created, all clamoring that we read their book. All the people on that wall, creators and created, amounted to a few centuries of work (not counting the odd Shakespeare or Cervantes), millions of words, tons of trees, miles of typewriter ribbon, endless cups of coffee.

Each night my enchantment lessened. These were revered works and writers, but where had they taken us? Where considering the rising oceans, our rabid dog politics, our children murdered at school and our endless, mindless wars. I can still hear my college profs saying it's not the purpose of literature to solve our social problems, even as all the books we read dealt with problems of one sort or

another, issues that still trumpet from our headlines. The question of literature's purpose widened for me: What is the purpose of any human activity if all our energy, all our doing, even the best of it like the books on that wall, lead to our poisoning the oceans and sailing over the abyss? Even me writing these words or the carpenter framing a house or the lawyer arguing a case, are we simply arranging deck chairs on a ship of fools?

Like the song say, "Where are we going without even knowing the way?" It's clear that the act of going trumps the act of knowing, in other words vision.

The recent rebellion of young people against assault weapons and gun violence shows that miracles can happen; tactics will appear when situations appear hopeless. Us fossils can bring solutions in the wealth of our experience. We have lived in less toxic times. Not perfect times, but days when you went to school with no doubt as to whether you'd live out the day. And the notion of a president pardoning himself for his own crimes was something to find in The Onion. We can and should be the keepers of a flame that honors truth and common sense as core values of the Constitution, a document shredded by the gun lobby and the idea of corporate personhood. We can steady ourselves with the words of MLK and JFK, a King and a Kennedy. A wise old hand on the tiller trumps a border wall every time.



DISPATCH

from the edge 

by *Peter Anderson*

It is hard enough to explain the game to someone who does not know it. It is even harder for them to understand why you love baseball enough to watch it. It is soooo slowwww, they say, and they are right, but for me anyway, that is part of the game's appeal. What a waste of time, others say, and who am I to argue? For them, it may well be. But here at the end of the road, watching baseball on a slow summer evening is like drifting down the meanders of a familiar stretch of river—it's lazy and it's dreamy and it keeps calling me back.

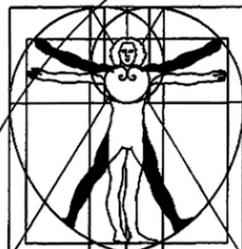
Outfielders, their uniforms transfigured white on green grass checkerboards tap leather in between pitches, a finicky pitcher fiddles with the resin bag and digs his cleats into clay to shape his mound just so, the third base coach sends hand jive signals to the batter, the manager jawbones a big wad of gum in the dugout where pinch hitters and utility infielders shred and spit the shells off sunflower seeds. If you are familiar with the game, you can picture this. And you know that these are just a few of the details that make up several of maybe 10,000 moments in any given game.

And then there's all the friendly chit-chat of the announcers in between pitches, like those familiar voices down at the café who make pleasant company, filling in silent spaces with amusing anecdotes and knowing when to back off and listen for a while. And they use lingo—duster, stuff, heat, breaking ball, splitter, retires the side—that you understand since you too like to hang around the ballpark. Over time, you have earned the status of a regular and the game, like your favorite café, has become a kind of home place.

And if you're lucky, your wife will come to understand or at least tolerate your habit on summer evenings. She may even sit with you for an inning or two, especially toward the end of the game when every pitch matters, and the closer (final pitcher) for your team, who is notorious in a good way for throwing nasty curveballs and fastballs approaching 100 miles an hour, only needs a few more strikes to lock down the shed (baseball lingo for saving the victory) for the rookie pitcher who only allowed one hit in eight innings against a first place team that you love to hate. And, finally, there it is...the great whapp!!! of the ball hitting the catcher's mitt leather after a roundhouse curve and a big windmill of a swing and a miss and it's all over but the high fives.

And then your wife pulls you over on the couch for a post-game interview. She asks you how you felt about the game and you will say, "Well everybody showed up to play baseball tonight. Jordy came through in the clutch. Felipe had good stuff. It's a great group of guys." And she will ask you about that winning streak and you will say, "Well . . . you know . . . it's a long season . . . lots of ups and downs . . . that's baseball . . . we just have to keep showing up, ya know? Take it one game at a time."

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by Kizzen Laki

It was summer mid-afternoon when my EMT radio went off. Jeep rollover, at least three injured. Conditions not known, exact location not known—somewhere way the heck up the Pomeroy Gulch 4-wheel track. Search and rescue also called. Was I available?

It was the 1970s and I was living in an old cabin up Chalk Creek Canyon in central Colorado. I was married with 2 kids living in a cluster of cabins kinda doing the back-to-the-land thing.

I had taken an Emergency Medical Technician class the year before. Since we lived very isolated and I was often home alone with the kids it was a very good thing to do. I was halfway through that class when I saved my toddler's life. We were visiting a cabin neighbor when he inhaled a marble. He was full on choking to death. I had just finished the choking part of the CPR training. I whipped that boy upside down across my arm, thumped his back real hard with my prayer being "this better effing work!" and it did. That marble shot out across the room. He cried. Sweet music to my ears. *Everyone* should take a CPR class.

After that, emergency first aid became my passion for the next 15 years. Since I lived 8 miles from town I couldn't be a regular part of the Buena Vista, Northern Chaffee County Ambulance Service. But I could be on call for any need in my region. I was given a fully-stocked first aid kit and a radio. Since I lived up a canyon surrounded by 14,000 ft peaks where summer tourists liked to play, I was often first on the scene when a vacation when bad.

And this call was bad. I quickly stashed my kids with a neighbor and waited alongside the Chalk Creek Road for the ambulance to pick me up. We knew this run was going to be a long one.

As we headed up the road to

St. Elmo I was filled in on the situation. There was a jeep roll over way up the Pomeroy Lake "road". Someone jeeped down and made it to the St. Elmo store to call it in while other people stayed to help. Three men were injured, one badly. They had gotten a tire off the track which then pulled it over the side and they rolled a couple of times—a long long ways from anywhere. Guys were called out from the informal Search and Rescue. One jeep was already on its way. We made St. Elmo our staging area. A pickup truck got some first aid equipment from us and also headed up. The Pomeroy Gulch road is strictly high clearance 4-wheel drive. It winds its way to above tree line high in the Collegiate Peaks. It's the sort of track that leans at an angle towards huge dropoffs as it hugs the mountain side, where you need low gear and good sense. Where it is too easy to roll. The sort of road that makes me get out and walk.

We settled in at St. Elmo to wait. A sheriff's deputy arrived to wait with us. Now and then we'd catch a rare radio transmission. They had finally reached the guys, three Japanese men. One had pretty bad back injuries, another head and multiple trauma, not sure about the third. When we knew they were finally on their way down we called for a second backup ambulance to come.

It was dark when they made it to St. Elmo. The first jeep came with the most injured and the other ambulance whisked him off. Head trauma.

When the pickup truck finally arrived, inching down the road, they had the patient with the back injury in the back of the pickup. These clever rescuers had strung ropes across the bed to make a hammock-like sling. Their patient was strapped to our padded back board and swinging with the move-



The entrance to Chalk Creek Canyon.

ment of the truck as it went over the very rough road. Very resourceful. Probably saved that man's ability to walk.

The three young men were Japanese tourists. A jeep rental place had rented them the jeep and sent them on their way. Crazy. The man with the back injury did not speak any English. Our other patient had been lucky and only had minor injuries, so he was able to interpret. I will never forget how stoic the man with the back injury was. I could see how much in pain he was. The accident and trip down must have been terrifying. But no crying or moaning. He held himself tight in order to endure. I tended his other minor injuries. My main job was to monitor and be reassuring. He was safe—in an ambulance on the way to the hospital in Salida, and from there by airplane to Denver. It was going to be a long night for those young men. I wonder how they fared. What they were doing in the wild mountains of Colorado?

Did they see the beauty before they rolled?

On the way back I was dropped off in Nathrop where my husband picked me up. Over that summer and the next year I'd do minor first aid at my house for people referred by locals—scrapes, or a fish hook in an earlobe (cut the line first). And the occasional serious ambulance runs—visitors climbing the Angel Falls or hang gliding off the Chalk Cliffs. A reminder always that the mountains are bigger.

Stay safe. Know when to seek shelter, wait out the weather, get out and walk, know what your limits are, and especially, when to just turn around and go back and be able to turn that into a story you can actually tell—maybe around the campfire on a starry mountain night.

In the 1970s Kizzen lived with her family in a cluster of cabins in Chalk Creek Canyon. They chopped wood and hauled water. This is a story from those days.

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Only people can prevent conflicts with bears. Please do your part to protect your home and property, and prevent conflicts with bears.

Keep Bears Out

- Many bears that enter homes do so through an unlocked or open window or door. Close and lock all bear-accessible windows and doors when you leave the house, and at night before you go to bed.
- If you must leave downstairs windows open, install sturdy grates or bars. Screens don't keep out bears.
- Keep garage doors and windows closed and locked at night and when you're not home. Don't leave your garage door standing open when you're not outside. Install extra-sturdy doors if you have a freezer, refrigerator, pet food, bird seed, or other attractants in your garage.
- Keep car doors and windows closed and locked if you park outside. Make sure there's nothing with an odor in your vehicle, including candy, gum, air fresheners, trash, lotions and lip balms.
- Bears are great climbers — remove any tree limbs that might provide access to upper level decks and windows.
- Replace exterior lever-style door handles with good quality round door knobs that bears can't pull or push open.
- Put on talk radio (not music) when you leave home; the human voice startles most bears.

Get Rid of Attractants

- Bears follow their super-sensitive noses to anything that smells like food, and can follow scents from up to five miles away.
- Don't leave trash out overnight unless it's in a bear-proof enclosure or container. Obey all local regulations.
- We recommend feeding birds only when bears are hibernating. If you want to feed birds when bears are active, please review the Attracting Birds, Not Bears fact sheet on our Web site.

- Don't store food of any kind in an unlocked garage, flimsy shed or on or under your deck.

- Don't leave anything with an odor outside, near open windows or in your vehicle, even if you're home. That includes scented candles, air fresheners, soaps and lotions.

Teach Bears They're Not Welcome

- If a bear comes into your yard or close to your home, do yourself and the bear a big favor, and scare it away. A confident attitude plus loud noises like a firm yell, clapping your hands, banging on pots and pans or blowing an air horn sends most bears running.
- If a bear enters your home, open doors and windows and make sure it can leave the same way it got in. Don't approach the bear or block escape routes.
- Never approach a bear. If a bear won't leave, call your local CDOW office. If a bear presents an immediate threat to human safety, call 911.

Visit www.wildlife.state.co.us/bears for more information or call your local Division of Wildlife Office.



Please Do Your Part to Keep Bears Wild

THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

—MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

1/ Grand Hotel: (2013/3 seasons) ★★★★★

This series is Uber Downton Abbey. It's setting is fin de siècle aristocratic Spain set in a gorgeous countryside. A historical drama that involves a family-owned hotel replete with love, blackmail, jealousies, crime, comedy, layered plots and counter-plots involving the owners, customers, detectives, its residential employees and even includes a mass murderer. Filled with secrets and mysteries. Definitely wished there was more.

2/ Iris: (2009/2 seasons) ★★★★★

Enjoyable series with action, mystery and romance. Akin to some of the uncoverings happening in USA political news, this series involves the National Security Service of South Korea, a secret black ops agency that takes on a secret terrorist organization called IRIS. A serious spy thriller.

3/ Anon: (2018) ★★★★★

A raw sci-fi thriller whose story is more actual than ever, well done without amazing effects. Anonymity is the enemy where everyone's entire existence is recorded and there is no privacy, private memories are recorded and crime is almost non-existent. In trying to solve a series of murders Sal stumbles upon a young woman who has subverted the system and "disappeared". . . no identity, no history, no record. Someone is always watching, off the grid, nowhere to hide. Clive Owens & Amanda Seyfried.

4/ A Man Called God: (2010/1 season/24 episodes) ★★★★★

A South Korean muted but sophisticated mystery, intrigue, romance, thriller of a story. A child witnesses his father's murder and comes back 25 years later as a very wealthy entrepreneur, expert martial artist and consistently 1 step ahead of the enemy in every situation.

5/ Manhunt: (2017 action, thriller) ★★★★★

Another South Korean film directed by John Woo. An attorney, working for a pharmaceutical conglomerate, is set up for a heinous crime and finds himself on the run. He is avoiding the police and then some hired killers. Finally a detective realizes he is innocent and begins to help him.

CROSSWORD

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THEME: THE 4TH OF JULY

ACROSS

1. Battle ____, pl.
6. Baseball Giant and hall-of-famer
9. Strikebreaker
13. Give out
14. What's old is new again, prefix
15. Money carrier
16. Floridian predator
17. Sin's and cos' partner
18. Don't just stand there
19. *Salad ingredient at a barbecue
21. *One of thirteen in 1776
23. Knighthood designation
24. "___ your keep"
25. Aladdin, for short
28. "The Nutcracker" outfit
30. Soft-boiled egg holder
35. Mark for omission
37. Torso
39. Salpae, sing.
40. Like a devoted fan
41. Bear Down Under
43. Mongolian desert
44. Honey wine, pl.
46. Russian monarch
47. Shakespeare's "at another time"
48. * ___ Continental Congress
50. Research facil.
52. One of Bo Peep's flock
53. Smidgen
55. Three strikes
57. *Celebratory events on the 4th
61. *"The Star-Spangled Banner"
64. *How you might find most drinks on the 4th
65. Have a cold, e.g.
67. Opposite of ecabatic
69. Step
70. ___ de Janeiro
71. Burnt ___
72. ___ in captivity
73. Canine command
74. Like yellow polka dot bikini

DOWN

1. Go low, as in jeans
2. Show appreciation
3. Choir voice
4. "___": The Saga of an American Family"
5. Gibraltar, e.g.
6. On top of
7. *Out-of-favor beverage?
8. Polynesian kingdom
9. Court petitioner
10. Rugged rock
11. Fungal spore sacs
12. Between Phi and Kappa
15. Fork tips
20. Lorry in America
22. Old-fashioned "before"
24. Europe/Asia portmanteau
25. *One of 3 Presidents to die on July 4th
26. "Drove my chevy to the ___"
27. Hipbone-related
29. Thomas the Engine's warning
31. Lady nEe Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta
32. Star Wars attacker
33. Violinist's stroke
34. *"Common Sense" author
36. Edible root of taro plant
38. Dashing style
42. Result of match play?
45. More than snide
49. Bambi's mom
51. Interjection for disapproval
54. Plural of #46 Across
56. Recurring melody
57. Fancy-schmancy
58. Initial stake
59. Iranian money
60. Opposite of base
61. A bunch
62. River in Bohemia
63. Demeanor
66. *Mad King George's number
68. "___, the Beloved Country"

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Public Notices

Veterans Assistance Grant

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

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NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATOR OPENING

Saguache County will be accepting applications for a county administrator, from June 20, 2018 to July 20, 2018. This position is responsible for the general administration of Saguache County's government day to day operation. This position is appointed and supervised by the three-member Board of County Commissioners. A copy of the job description and qualifications may be obtained from Human Resource Personnel Director, April Quintana or may be obtained from Administration office or www.saguachecounty.net. Mrs. Quintana can be reached at 719-655-2231. Administration office located at Saguache County Courthouse, 501, 4th Street, Saguache Colorado.

Saguache County is an equal opportunity employer and applicants will require the passing of a pre-employment drug test and back ground check.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Meeting Room located at 305 – 3rd Street, Saguache, Colorado, on the following date:

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018 at 6 PM

to consider proposed changes to the Saguache County Land Development Code changes

To view the proposed changes AFTER JULY 2, 2018, you may contact the Saguache County Land Use Department – PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov, or by calling 719-655-2321 or you may view the changes on our website at www.saguachecounty.net.

Written comments will be accepted until Friday, July 17, 2018 at 3pm, and may be sent to Saguache County Land Use Department at PO Box 326, Saguache, CO 81149 or email to wmaez@saguachecounty-co.gov.

By: Jason Anderson, Chairman
Chairman, Saguache County Board of Commissioners

Saguache County Sales Tax Grants now available!

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners will be taking Grant Applications for Saguache County Sales Tax Grants until 3:00PM, Friday, August 10, 2018.

To be eligible grant applications must be for either: Emergency Services/Public Health and Safety; Youth and Senior programs, projects, or organizations; or Renewable Energy projects/Business Opportunities and Job Creation.

Grant applications are available on our website at saguachecounty.net/administration – see "sales tax grant applicationform5" or you can contact the Saguache County Administration office at 719-655-2231 to request a copy of the grant application.



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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.

Recycling

Bring your recyclables to the parking lot across the street from Aventa the first & third Saturdays of each month, 10am-1pm. Waste Free SLV will be asking \$10 for the average household, less for small amounts, more for larger. We also do pick ups. Call or text 719-588-2703

Help Wanted

**Administrative Assistant:
\$20 – \$30 per hour**

The Crestone Creative District (CCD) seeks simpatico Administrative Assistant(s) for part-time opportunity with our

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

dynamic and growing organization. Liaise directly between the Board of Directors, membership, local arts and business groups, and the larger community. Please send us an email—along with a cover letter, references, resume / CV, and any other supporting materials—to hello@CrestoneCreativeDistrict.xyz. We look forward to hearing from you...

Please note your fluency in each of the following areas (not all are required):

1. Website design and maintenance
 2. Social-media support
 3. IT experience
 4. Bookkeeping
 5. Event planning
 6. Public relations
 7. Marketing and sales
 8. Traditional media outreach
 9. Membership outreach and fundraising
 10. Software experience: Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint; Final Cut Pro; Adobe Creative Suite; QuickBooks; WIX
- Compensation: \$20 – \$30 per hour, based on experience. Position available for immediate start.

Misc. Wanted

SPEC HOUSE-partner wanted

Foundation and utilities are in. Sec 1 lots 212 & 213. Let's talk! 520-297-1438.

Misc. for Sale

Firewood for Sale

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

For sale

-Brand NEW 10 cubic ft Magic Chef refrigerator, energy star rated. \$350 new, asking \$275. -Homemade hot tub, 6' diameter galvanized steel tub, 1/4" sheet of steel to protect the underneath & cinder blocks to raise up tub to build fire underneath. \$120 OBO. -Canon drum kit. Great starter kit \$80 OBO. -Peavy 200 Watt Keyboard Amp \$80 OBO. Call or text 719-588-0152

New Thrift Store!

"Phytology & Thriftology" In Sangre de Cristo Mall. Open Wed-Sat 11:00am – 5:00pm

Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales

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Free

Free to good home

Tripod cat (birth defect left her without one foot). Her name is Sookie & she gets around just fine. She is a very sweet & has a unique personality. Her people are moving & she'd rather stay in Crestone. call or text 719-588-0152

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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: What can I do to help bees back from massive die-offs in recent years?

—Bill Gorman, Albuquerque, NM

Major declines in populations of bees in North America and beyond is a big problem for farmers who depend on this free natural pollinator to help fertilize their crops that end up as food on our tables. According to the non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), \$15 billion a year in U.S. crops—including apples, berries, cantaloupes, cucumbers, alfalfa, and almonds among others—are pollinated by bees. Meanwhile, U.S. honey bees produce some \$150 million in honey annually.

Simply put, fewer bees means less food on our shelves and a major economic hit to the agricultural sector. “The global economic cost of bee decline, including lower crop yields and increased production costs, has been estimated at as high as \$5.7 billion per year,” reports NRDC.

While we still aren’t 100% certain what is causing the decline across the board for bees, most researchers believe a class of pesticides called neonics (short for neonicotinoids) are at least partially to blame. Designed to eliminate insect pests that most commonly afflict agricultural crops, neonics—which are now genetically engineered right into the crop seeds themselves—are wreaking havoc on so-called “non-target insects” like bees. The shifting habitat zones and crazy weather that has accompanied global warming is only exacerbating the bees’ survival issues.

NRDC remains optimistic that we can bring back bee populations if we each do our part to create pollinator-friendly habitat. For starters, you can welcome bees

to your backyard by laying off the intense landscaping and letting things go a little wild. A greater variety of plants—especially native ones—will encourage bees to set up shop nearby.

Researchers at Michigan State University (MSU) Extension report that bees especially love to forage on purple, blue, white, yellow, mauve or violet flowers that direct them via markings and patterns unseen by the human eye to a “landing pad” where they can get pollinating. Find more regionally appropriate plants that will work to attract bees and other pollinators by downloading the free Bee Smart Pollinator Gardener app, which helps users select pollinator-friendly native plants to use in landscaping projects large and small based on location, project scope, flower color and other options.

You can also encourage bees to move right in by creating habitats tailor-made for them. “Revisit how you approach a fallen tree or a dead limb: it’s not an eyesore; it’s a potential bee nest!” counsels NRDC. “Drill bee-inviting holes in that dead wood, build nest blocks, or simply buy a premade bee box.”

And be careful about the plants you bring home from the garden store. A 2014 report by the non-profit Friends of the Earth (FOE) found that more than half of plant samples purchased at top garden stores across North America contained neonics. NRDC advises to only buy plants or seeds that aren’t pretreated with pesticides, and to read the fine print on the label: “If a plant is marked ‘protected,’ that may mean it’s chemically treated.” Patronizing smaller, organic plant nurseries is the best way to avoid neonics.

CONTACTS: NRDC, www.nrdc.org; FOE, www.foe.org; MSU’s “Gardening for Pollinators,” http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/gardening_for_pollinators_choosing_smart_plants_to_support_pollinators; Bee Smart Pollinator Gardener App, pollinator.org/bee-smart-app.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit www.earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.



We finally got some much-needed rain on Father’s Day afternoon, complete with thunder, lightning, rainbows and of course, downpours! And it was awesome to see so much sun shining through the rain. *photo by Lori Nagel*

Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

May 21 to June 20

Total precipitation for period:

Liquid precip (includes melted snow): 1.64”

Snow: 0.0”

Measurable precipitation fell on 6 days.

Measurable rain fell on 6 days.

A trace of rain fell on 2 days.

One thunderstorm occurred.

One day with hail occurred.

No measurable snow fell.

Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1 : 2.79”

Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1 (for 2018): 13.7”

Snow Season*: 16.7”

*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

Temperatures for the period:

High temp: 85.2°F on May 12

Low temp: 33.9°F on May 22

Avg. high: 78.7°F

Avg. low: 45.7°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 80°: 17

Number of days with the low temperature below 40°: only 2

Winds for the period:

Avg. speed: 3.5 mph

Highest gust: 40 mph on May 28

Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the southwest during the day.

Weather summary:

Our extreme to exceptional drought continued, along with

very dry conditions, although if you only looked at the precipitation totals for the 31 days of this period, you wouldn’t know that at all, as precipitation was above normal. The problem was that out of the 1.64 inches that fell, 1.43 inches of that total fell on 2 different days, with the .70 of an inch recorded on June 3, and the .73 of an inch on June 17, both setting new daily rainfall records for those 2 dates. Had we seen this same amount of precip spread out over several days, the results would have worked out so much better for our dry conditions.

Just how dry was it? The humidity values were below 10% on 18 days during the period, including 11 of the first 13 days in June alone. A reading of only 3% relative humidity occurred on 3 different days during the period, tying the all-time lowest humidity reading for this area ever seen before. Crestone/Baca had never seen such low readings in the months of May and June before this year, as 3% values had only been reached in July in the past.

Temperatures were also very much above normal for the period, and we have now seen above normal temperatures for the last 9 months in a row.

Outlook for July:

July is both our hottest and wettest month of the year. Temperature wise, we see the average high around 81 degrees and average low of 49 degrees in the first week of the month, and by the last week, the readings don’t change too much, with average highs again of 81 degrees, and average lows of 49 degrees. The hottest July day and the highest ever temperature recorded in the Crestone/Baca was 98 degrees on July 20, 2005, while the coolest July reading of 36 degrees took place on July 4, 1995.

Precipitation averages 2.23 inches for the month, with the record high also being the wettest month ever seen in our area, when 5.74 inches fell in 1998.

The 30 day outlook for July from the NWS is calling for both near normal temperatures and precipitation.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno’s web site: www.keno.org/vws.

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