

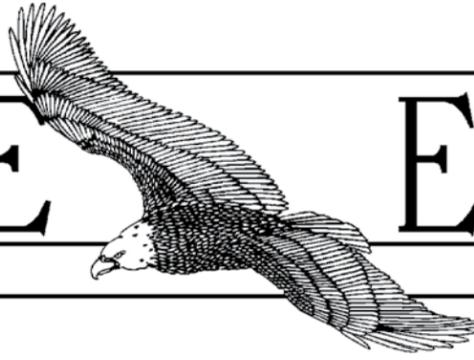
# The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 28, Number 2

February, 2017 \$1

28 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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**The Women's March.** Over 200,000 people converged on downtown Denver in coordination with demonstrations across the country to send a message to the new Trump administration demanding social justice, human rights, and equality. Shown is the Colorado State Capital Building and the Civic Center Park. photo by Rama Dennett  
See our feature story on regional Women's Marches on page B-1 To see this photo in color and more, visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

## Women's March in the San Luis Valley draws hundreds

by Lori Nagel

On January 21, 2017, the day after the inauguration of our new US President, millions of women and men around the world gathered to march, speak and collaborate in the pursuit of peace and equal rights, in what was known simply as the "Women's March." The message was one of equality for all, regardless of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, medical history, or bank account size.

While many San Luis Valley (SLV) residents went to Santa Fe, Denver, and even DC to march,

there were over 350 of us who marched down Hwy. 160 in Alamosa, near Adams State. Led by a group of drummers from the college, those who marched were in good spirits and carried their handmade signs with pride.

The organizers of the event stressed beforehand that this was not meant to be an anti-Trump protest so much as reinforcing topics we'd like to see promoted and ensuring our voices are heard going forward, especially with this recent transition in government.

One Crestone woman who at-

tended, Christine Canaly, said afterwards, "What the march meant to me was galvanizing energy to create more courage and insight, and consolidating our collective public power. What concerns me the most, and I know there are many issues to feel concern about right now, is the privatization of our public assets. The sign I made said 'Keep your privates out of our Public ASSETS.' This includes Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education, the military and of course, what I work to protect, our beloved public lands. Make no mistake, this

is a movement by billionaires in this country to privatize profits and socialize losses. They are coming in to assume control of our assets and redirect our collective wealth into their own pockets. We must fight them every step of the way."

Charlotte LeDonne, longtime resident and founder of the SLV Women's Conference, was the instigator for this local Women's March. Jan Oen, Shirley Atencio, Patricia Eagle and Alice Price were the main organizers of the event, which began at the corner of Hwy. 160 and Richardson Ave. in Alamosa, went down and around the hospital, and then back to the campus. Originally,

*continued on page B-8*

## SLV projects receive \$1.4 million in GOCO grants

by Rosemary Dempsey,  
Dir. Communications, GOCO

The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Board awarded three grants totaling more than \$1.4 million to projects across the San Luis Valley. San Luis Valley Inspire, a valley-wide coalition breaking down barriers for kids to get outside, received \$1 million in funding as part of the GOCO Inspire Initiative; Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust (RiGHT) received a \$376,500 grant to permanently conserve the La Garita

Creek Ranch near Del Norte; and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) received a \$25,000 habitat restoration grant for Rio Grande State Wildlife Area.

The \$1 million grant is part of GOCO's Inspire Initiative, which will invest in places, programs, and pathways to get kids outside in communities across the state. This innovative framework is being looked at as a national model, and each coalition's approach to the unique challenges of their community will serve as

examples to other rural, urban, suburban, or mountain communities across the country.

Youth have led the charge for the San Luis Valley Inspire coalition; this funding will put their plans into action over the next three years. San Luis Valley Inspire will put GOCO funding to work in Antonito, Creede and Saguache, building the Antonito Outdoor Education Center and investing in the creation of the Antonito Adventure

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## In praise of POA maintenance crew—Not so much the County

Dear Editor,

This morning as I lay in my bed before daybreak, I heard the unmistakable sound of the grader plowing the fresh snow off our streets. Wow, I thought, the crew reliably is out before we even get out of bed in order to make our lives more manageable and safer.

In contrast, the County maintenance crew predictably wait until after nine when our paved streets, T Road, Hwy. 17, and Hwy. 285 have been driven down to snow pack and ice before starting to snow plow. By that time the plow does little or nothing. I remember when they started at six and got ahead of it, making our roads safer for those who had to leave early for work or an appointment in Salida or Alamosa. What if the County Commissioners directed the crew to again start at six and quit earlier? The hazard would be greatly diminished, and our safety improved.

Whenever I hear the grader, I think, thank you POA maintenance crew; you have made my day safer. I cannot imagine a more courteous and helpful group of dedicated men. You make a difference!

Vince Palermo

## Horses defiled

Dear Editor,

Recently we had an another upsetting event at the stables. Between the afternoon of January 6 and morning January 7, our three oldest horses had their manes and tails cut. The hair had been chopped off just below the end of the skin and bone of the tails. All of us are outraged that anyone would do such a thing to violate the owner's feelings and our much loved equine friends' bodies.

Horses' manes provide warmth, insect protection and channel rain and snow off their neck and hind legs. It can take years for the manes and tails to grow out; seven years for a tail that has been cut just below the end of the spine. These are our oldest and most vulnerable horses. They likely will not grow out their tails in their lifetime. The horses are privately owned, not public property, but if they were wild or publicly owned, the damage to their wellbeing would be just as severe.

We cannot believe someone feels it is OK to defile someone else's pet or property, or defile and cause harm to a sentient being's body. Would these same people feel it was OK to cut the hair off their pet, cut limbs off the trees in their yard, or otherwise alter or deface their loved ones or property?

We feel this invasive and unfeeling selfish act should be made public. If anyone sees horse hair

pottery for sale anywhere locally, please let us know so we may contact the makers and discuss in person the situation. We have already contacted some potters in the area and made contact with retail stores. Our desire is to express our feeling about our horses and to also work with potters. If there is a need for hair, we can put in place a collection system to allow this ancient technique to continue while honoring the sanctity of our equine companions and our relationship with them.

If you do use or know of someone who uses horse hair in jewelry, crafts and pottery please be aware of where the hair you are using is coming from. The sheriff has been informed of our incident and informed us that this is now an epidemic at horse ranches and stables in Colorado.

Thanks so much,

The owners & companions of the horses at the Baca Grande Stables

## Help the Fire Dept.

Dear Editor,

It's rare to be given the opportunity to stand in another mans shoes. In my case, I have literally been standing in another firefighter's boots for the last three years. What an eye-opening experience this has been. I had been living in the Baca for 22 years before being asked to volunteer for the fire department. I must say here publicly that I lived in arrogance and ignorance of what was being asked of volunteers to do this job. I apologize for that.

Most of you reading this remember that our previous and well-trained firefighters quit in protest, primarily I think, because they were not seen or heard by the POA Board.

Hopefully, time has healed some of the injustices and hurt generated. Unfortunately, we can't go back and make it different. I am 67 years old now, too old to be a good firefighter. I am just filling in the best I can.

So now, we have a new and, I think, improved Board at the POA. Also, a new direction for the fire and EMS departments is envisioned. I know it's not the special district that many wanted, but it is what it is.

So, this is an appeal from an old cynic. Please, some of you younger and trained firefighters, as well as any new person willing to aspire to do some service, come and help protect the people and this beautiful Crestone/Baca. All it will take is a mistake or a lightning strike on a dry windy spring day and our beautiful Baca could go up in smoke. Believe me, I know how easily it could happen.

We have some great equipment at the firehouse that is interesting and challenging to train with. This equipment can be used to stand up against a wildfire, but without more trained people willing to put down at any moment what they are doing when the alarm goes off (it could be tomorrow or ten years from now) it won't be of much help.

This is not a small thing to ask of anyone, but please, before it's too late, come and help.

Sincerely,  
Steven Elliott

## Buy locally

Friends and neighbors,

I remember many years ago in Ireland they had a "buy Irish" campaign. It was a great success bringing money and jobs back into the country.

I have lived in Crestone for 18 years and think the world of this little community.

I feel very strongly about buying locally. In a small town that's how we keep businesses open and local people employed. Maybe for the new year we might buy a little more locally. If everyone did that it would make a big difference.

When friends and relatives are visiting from abroad they generally like to buy gifts. I usually invite them to look at our local hand-made stuff first.

We would all be very quick to complain if our local stores and restaurants close down. I know for a fact some of them are barely making it.

Let's keep our money in our town. What comes around goes around. If anyone has suggestions I would be interested to hear them.

Norah Tunney

Phone no. 588-1553

## Help with stuttering

Dear Editor,

For many people, ringing in the New Year brings hope and joyful anticipation. But for those who struggle with stuttering, the old fears of speaking and being teased remain the same—year after year. Many of your readers don't know that help for stuttering is available from so many places. Trusted information on stuttering is available at your local public library. Public schools have speech counselors, and children are entitled to free evaluation and help by law. Seek out a Speech-Language Pathologist in your area trained in helping those who stutter. Universities often offer speech clinics. Finally, the internet can be a wonderful resource on stuttering—with free books, videos, and reference materials. Visit our website as a starting point: [www.StutteringHelp.org](http://www.StutteringHelp.org). Make 2017 the year you find the help you and your family need.

Sincerely,

Jane Fraser, President

The Stuttering Foundation

## Bringing "The Work" to Crestone

Dear Editor,

I am a huge fan of "The Work" by Byron Katie! I am writing to ask if the folks in Crestone might be interested in bringing one of Byron Katie's workshops here during the spring or summer.

For those who are not familiar with Byron Katie, she experienced what she calls "waking up to reality" in 1986, and since then she has introduced "The Work" to hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world into business settings, universities, schools, churches, prisons and hospitals with uplifting results. She is the author of *Loving What Is, I Need Your Love-Is It True*, and others. "The Work" is a simple process of inquiry that teaches people to identify and question the thoughts that cause them to suf-

## Editor's Notes

### Women & Men March

"I agree", I said while talking to a man friend who was also going to attend the Women's March in Denver. He was saying that he felt that having it be a "Women's March" made some men feel excluded and that he thought many men weren't going because of that. In our conversation I agreed that it would be better for it to be called a "People's March". All the people, no division by gender.

Then I went to the march and realized we were both missing a point. The marches weren't about excluding men, they were about listening to, honoring and empowering women. Women have been taking hard hits for millennia—being property—raped and beaten. Not allowed to have civil rights until recently. In the last century there has been great progress. But in the past few years and especially now with Trump's election, women are again being stripped of rights and being endangered.

Women as a potent voice, as a political power, as half of the population, needed to be fully recognized. Not marginalized. Recognized by the world. But also recognized by women themselves. In the sea of pink hats, we saw each other.

The Women's March did not exclude men, it welcomed them, asked them to stand with them. And when the men did, when the men who understood the what and why of it showed up—stood beside their wives, mothers, daughters or simply stood up for women—it made it all the more powerful.

There will be future marches, many marches—for human rights, civil rights, for protecting Mother Earth, for labor, science and especially peace.

We will ALL be there, recognizing the strength of each other.

—Kizzen

fer. It's a way to understand why unquestioned thinking hurts, and to address the causes of underlying painful thoughts with clarity, to become more at peace. "The Work" consists of four questions and their turnarounds. Certified facilitators hold weekend workshops regularly, as listed on their web site at [www.thework.com](http://www.thework.com). There are also wonderful videos on You Tube.

Please call me with your feedback. If you think this is a good idea, (or not), or you want to help with this, my number is 469-271-7108. My email address is [Plinkgutierrez@icloud.com](mailto:Plinkgutierrez@icloud.com). I would be happy to give my time to bring a workshop here if there is an interest.

Sending peace and love,  
Alicia Gutierrez

## A letter to Saguache Co. Commissioners & voters

Dear Commissioners,

In November, voters in the County opted out of a 1% sales tax which would have gone to our underfunded sheriff's office and jail. A majority of voters did see fit to levy a 5% excise tax on the developing, job-creating marijuana cultivators in the county. This letter is not to admonish the voters who voted against our law enforcement. This letter is not to bemoan a double tax on a product, both wholesale and retail. This letter is not to decry the false information which the Commissioners gave the voters and local business owners. This letter is not about the fact that state election rules were broken by the Commissioners, two of whom ran unopposed. The purpose of this letter is to look forward. As the voters saw fit to levy the tax, I would like to ask them to hold our Commissioners accountable for how the revenue is dispersed.

There is a myth abounding. It is the myth of "the green rush." It's the idea that if you plant marijuana you get rich instantly, an idea obviously shared by our Commissioners and voters. It is simply false. Marijuana costs what it does for good reason. Lights, nutrients, labor, processing etc. are very costly. It is not an easy business. It's not easy money.

There was no allocation for the revenue. Understanding this, will they give themselves another raise? Will they get remodeled offices? Or will they spend the money on our inadequate jail and sheriff's

office? Did you know that all eight deputies are in one office? Did you know that there are no private interview rooms? Victims have come in contact with their offenders. Did you know that the jail has no bulletproof glass? Did you know that the prisoners have to be let out for air and walking time in an open area, not fenced, just a stone's throw from the school?! Pedophiles and violent criminals are in sight of our children! Did you know that officers routinely go into dangerous situations with no backup? I can tell you the Commissioners surely know all this, and have still consistently cut and minimized the budget for our devoted law enforcement.

Voters, let your Commissioners know that we will be watching. Will they line their own pockets, or will they show the care they should, and help our law enforcement, schools and infrastructure where its needed most? Better roads? Snow plows? After all, Commissioners, it would be nice to not have to drive on a treacherous road so that I can go to work to pay your salary.

Very sincerely,  
Andrew Floyd Davis

## Arvol Looking Horse: October 22, 2016 Protecting the Sacred

Mitakuyape (relatives)!

We are now up against dangerous decisions that are coming from the disease of the mind. We are dealing with minds that hold no values of respect and honor toward another Nation's Burials and Sacred Sites. Money has contaminated their minds to want the power to desecrate the sacredness of Mother Earth and allow my People's burial places to be destroyed in order to continue to erase our culture.

As Keeper of this Spirit Bundle of my People, we as the Buffalo People—Pte Oyate—have been able to keep our ceremonies and way of life for 19 generations intact, which every generation is 100 years. This Bundle has been with us for over 2000 years, which has guided us through massacres and hard times, even when it was hidden until the 1978 Freedom of Religion Act.

Tim Mentz—Tatanka Duta (Red Bull)—and his family lin-

ear knowledge are bound by this same woe—Creator's Law. This knowledge is based on sacred oral history that dictates the word is sacred and stands in truth. Tim's inherited knowledge in recognizing significant Sacred Sites holds the same value for our People as my position, this is why I am able to carry an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the University of SD. We both have been raised with traditional knowledge with the responsibility to protect and carry, on behalf of our People. A person that earns a Degree can never attain that same knowledge we carry for our People. The Responsibility that we care for is passed down and learned through our oral history.

For this oil corporation to destroy what Tim Mentz, a cultural historical tracker, identified as our burial mounds and sacred sites, is a violation to the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This also violates United States' own treaty with our people. What has now been allowed to happen is a violation in the highest level of disrespect toward a nation's ancestors. The support this corporation has are political leaders who have given themselves the power in their elected positions, to violate their own laws they are supposed to uphold; as stated in their own US Constitution in how religions are to be treated. Where are the keepers of their values?

The hearts of All People's faiths must now unite in believing we can change the path we are now on. We, from heart of Turtle Island, have a great message for the World to unite for our children's future. Already we have witnessed many Nations of life are now dying because of contamination; those that swim, those that crawl, those that fly, the plant nation, the four-legged and now the two-legged.

What we are being faced with is a dark spirit. All life cannot afford to allow the same mistakes to be made any longer, look what is happening to the four directions in the contamination of Mni Wic'oni—water of life. If we do not actively stand up as leaders and do Creator's work in uniting our concerns, it will continue to be a domino affect that our Ancestors have warned about in the Prophecies.

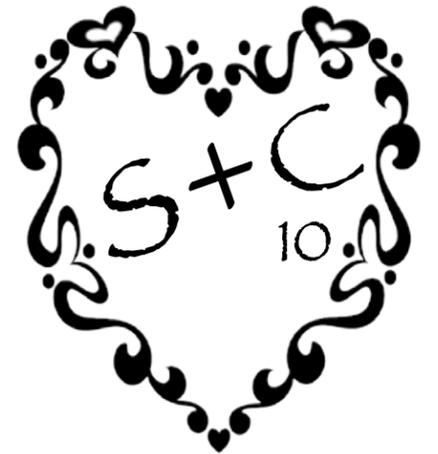
This is not a competition of who will lead and who should fol-

low, this is a very serious time we are in. I know in my heart there are millions of People that feel this is long overdue. It is time that all of us become Leaders to help protect the sacred upon Mother Earth—she is the source of life and not a resource.

In a Sacred Hoop of Life, where there is no ending and no beginning.

Onipiktec'a (that we shall live),

Nac'a Arvol Looking Horse  
19th Generation Keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe  
(Statement originally published at Facebook - Paula Horne - Arvol Looking Horse)



## Colorado's Senators & Representatives

Sen. Michael Bennet  
261 Russell  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-5852

Sen. Cory Gardner  
354 Russell  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
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Rep. Doug Lamborn  
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Rep. Ken Buck  
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Boulder, CO 80302  
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Rep. Mike Coffman  
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Aurora, CO 80014  
720-748-7514

Rep. Ed Perlmutter  
12600 West Colfax Avenue,  
Suite B-400  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
303-274-7944



## Tax valuation in Saguache County

### A response to Crestone Eagle article, December 2016

#### from the Saguache County Assessor's Office

An article, "Public entities question County tax valuation", was published in the December *Crestone Eagle*, written by Sandia Belgrade. The meeting was initiated by the Northern Saguache County Library District concerning their assessed valuation for tax year 2016 compared to their prior years of value since conception of the District. The Monday before the December 15 meeting, the Town of Saguache asked the County Commissioners to be included in the discussion. Twelve members of the entities, public members, and a past Saguache County Commissioner were in attendance in addition to three employees of the Saguache County Assessor's Office. The Library District was concerned that their preliminary assessed value reported in August of 2016 was the lowest value since the conception of the District. Saguache County Assessor Peter Peterson explained to those present that the value of the Library District was impacted by the loss in value reported by the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Company. The electric company is valued by the State of Colorado Division of Property Tax-

ation State Assessed Department and then passed on to the County. There was a \$360,000 assessed value loss for the Library District, not a tax loss as reported in the article. Also affecting their valuation was the transfer of properties in the Baca Grande Subdivision that were five years in arrears in taxes. Upon the transfer of those properties to the County, those accounts went into an exempt status. This transfer affected the Library District in the amount of \$152,000 in assessed value, not taxes as reported in the article. In total, the District suffered almost a half a million dollar loss in assessed value.

The Library District and the Town of Saguache expressed their concern about new construction value. Assessor Peterson explained to those in attendance that the boundaries of the Town of Saguache were landlocked and therefore the growth of the town is stunted. He expressed that he knew of only one new residence in the town that was constructed in the current tax year and could not be added to the town's valuation until tax year 2017. The Library District questioned why the new construction value for the overall county was much higher in value compared to the Library District's.

It was explained that a new poultry (organic chicken & egg) production facility was added to the valuation, which is not located within the District's boundaries. Assessor Peterson explained that the office is behind in the inventory of new construction in the county. This has been an ongoing issue for the office for many years. The lack of budgetary funds makes it impossible to keep current on the situation. Also affecting the staff's time to be updating the inventory in 2016 was the transition of computer vendors. The Assessor's Office is now in contract with Tyler Technology. It is felt the tracking of newly issued permits for construction from the Saguache County Land Use Office will be better processed. Assessor Peterson stated he has asked the County for additional funds to hire an additional employee to help process the new construction permits which has also been requested in the past. The County has not found the funds to fulfill these requests over the years. Assessor Peterson explained that new construction is found through the County permit process and by word of mouth. The article stated that the reporter had contacted the Baca Grande Property Owners Association Environmental & Architectural Committee (EAC) concerning the issue of new construction. The EAC expressed that when a new permit is issued it is electronically sent to the County and that they felt their communication with the Saguache County Land Use Office was up to par. It is unfortunate that permits issued by the POA but not reported to the County have been found, therefore making the discovery process difficult.

Assessor Peterson explained to the group that valuations for vacant land classified property and residential classified property were based on market analysis. The office uses a two-year time study period to establish values. The last time period of analysis was July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014. During that period, values in the Baca Grande Subdivision dropped, due to lower paid prices for property. Assessor Peterson was questioned about a

ranch within the District that had sold years ago for a hefty price, but the current valuation for the property seemed low. He explained that in the State of Colorado, agricultural classified property is valued based on the property's soil (agricultural) production, not the market value. This methodology gives the benefit to the rancher/farmer for taxation. Former Saguache County Commissioner Bill McClure, who was in attendance, assisted in explaining the methodology to the members. He stated there were many acres of ranch/farm ground on the records in Saguache County and that has a big effect on the County's valuation. He explained the valuation of circle sprinkler-irrigated property could sell in the Center area for multi-hundred thousands of dollars but was only given a low valuation based on its minimal soil capacity production. McClure explained that it was not an issue at the County level, but at the State level. Commissioner Jason Anderson explained to the attendees that it is always a gamble when taxing entities rely on property taxation for their budgetary needs. The market in any area can fluctuate in value, which the entities need to be prepared for. He explained there were going to be good years and bad years.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Saguache County Assessor's Office stated that the entities should have come to the Assessor's Office for resolution of their questions instead of taking the matters to the County Commissioners. At that time, if the entity felt there was no conclusion to its questions, then that was the time to take it to the Commissioners. The Assessor's Office staff hopes that the entities in attendance will work with them throughout the year to learn the processes of the Assessor's Office for valuation.

Please stay tuned for more information from the Saguache County Assessor's office concerning the 2017 reappraisal year and associated information. Also, feel free to call (719-655-2521) or stop by the office anytime you need information about property assessment.

#### Tibetan New Year -- Losar at the Tashi Gomang Stupa (KTTG)

February 27, 10am

Khenpo Jigme and Khenpo Lobzang from Vajra Vidya Retreat Center will lead us in a traditional fire offering or "lhasang" to bring down the energy of enlightenment and purify obstacles.

This event is free  
and the public is welcome.

Check our website for weather updates.  
[www.kttg.org](http://www.kttg.org)



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## Saguache County Crime Report

by Mary Lowers

Cold weather, icy roads, no work and hard times seem to come around every winter, bringing out the mean in people. Domestic violence and assaults were the top reasons for jailing folks in Saguache County in the past month.

A Center man, 32, was jailed for second degree assault, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. His bail was set at \$5000. Another Center man, 32, was sent to jail with no bail listed, on charges of domestic violence and harassment. Domestic violence, harassment, and a telecommunications crime landed a Center man, 29, in jail with no bail listed. There was no bail listed for a Center man, 47, jailed on charges including third degree assault, domestic violence, reckless endangerment, and child abuse. A Center woman, 29, was jailed with no bail listed, on charges of domestic violence and harassment.

A homeless man, 40, was summoned to appear in court for violation of a protective order. A Saguache man, 60, was summoned to appear in court over a vicious dog complaint.

People continue not to show up for court, and going to jail for it. Remember, half of life is just showing up. A Loveland woman, 37, was jailed with \$1000 bail on failure to appear charges. A Moffat woman, 29, was jailed and given \$500 bail on failure to appear charges. The same charges landed an Alamosa woman, 40, in jail with \$500 bail listed.

### Thanks to Deputy Clark

I would like to take a moment in this litany of crime in the county, to give a great big *thank you* to Deputy Wayne Clark who took time and energy to collect wood for an older couple who were out when their wood guy was snowed in. When the word went out to the Crestone community, Deputy Clark sat at the kiosk collecting wood donations and delivered the wood to the very grateful couple. It took up a lot of his day and it was his Saturday off, too. Let's keep on being kind and taking care of each other.

## Kuma Tactical held self-defense seminar

by Elianna

Kuma Tactical presented another fabulous "Women's Self Defense and Awareness Seminar" in Crestone, on Saturday, January 21, simultaneous with the National Women's March. Thank you to those who graciously sponsored this free event to empower women, including Crestone Youth Plaza, Kuma Tactical, and the Saguache County Sheriff's Department.

Please acknowledge gratitude for our public servants who donate their time: Deputy Wayne Clark, Fedrica Solano Clark, Deputy Richard Pascoe, and Ellen Cox.

Following pragmatic and effective self-defense techniques demonstrated by the deputies, the students had the opportunity to physically experience and engage these strategies. Other teachings included expanding awareness and learning how to avoid danger, personal safety tools, having confidence and trusting one's instincts. Subsequently, Ellen Cox, the Saguache County Victim Advocate coordinator presented beneficial information



A participant from Villa Grove delivers a side kick to instructor Wayne Clark during the hands-on practice portion of Kuma Tactical's Women's Self Defense class on January 21. photo by Elianna Krakauer

regarding the Victim Assistance Program.

Stay tuned for the next Kuma Tactical training which is invaluable for women of all ages.

Thanks again to Deputy Clark and Kuma Tactical's commitment to serve our community.

## Driver flees fatal crash

by Mary Lowers

At 9:30pm on January 16, the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) responded to a two-vehicle crash on US Hwy. 285 south of Alamosa. A 2008 Chrysler 300 was going north when the driver lost control of the car, which rotated into the southbound lane, hitting the front of a 2004 Ford Ranger. The Chrysler continued to slide off the left side of the highway where it came to rest on its wheels facing the road. The Ford Ranger came to rest on the highway close to the point of impact.

Before law enforcement or emergency personnel arrived on the scene, the driver of the Chrysler left his car and fled the scene. After running south along the road for a bit he was picked up by a southbound vehicle. His passenger, Marcie Quintana, 24, was unconscious when first responders arrived. She was transported to the SLV Regional Medical Center in Alamosa where she died. The driver of the Ford Ranger, a minor male, 17, received minor injuries.

CSP says alcohol was a factor in the accident and that speed excessive for road conditions may also have contributed to the crash. As we go to press CSP is still looking for the driver of the Chrysler 300 who fled the scene. If you have any information about this accident call the CSP at 719-589-5907.

## Monte Vista woman dies in crash

by Mary Lowers

Pamela Lucero, 70, of Monte Vista was killed in a five-vehicle accident which occurred shortly after noon December 28 on CO Hwy. 160 near mile post 274 on La Veta Pass. The domino effect, which sent Lucero's 2010 Toyota Camry careening back and forth across the highway, started when a 2003 Cadillac Escalade driven by Robert Greenlee, 75, of Lafayette, travelling west on CO Hwy. 160, pulled into the eastbound lane to pass.

The Escalade struck the Camry in the first eastbound lane. This caused the Lucero's car to slam into a 2015 Freightliner pulling a trailer in the second eastbound lane. The Camry then cut across the center line striking a 2006 Kia Spectra,

driven by Joseph Howe, 53, from Pueblo, travelling west. Both cars came to a stop on the west shoulder of the highway.

Meanwhile, the Escalade continued to travel west hitting a BMW X5 driven by Bruce Walker, 47, of Pilot, TX. Both vehicles went off the south side of the highway. The Escalade landed on all four wheels but the BMW rolled onto its right side. No one besides Lucero was seriously hurt in this accident.

Costilla County Coroner, Tommy Rodriguez pronounced Patricia Lucero dead at the scene. The Colorado State Patrol has the accident under investigation. Alcohol and drugs are not thought to be factors in this crash. Speed is a factor contributing to this accident.

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# Saguache County News

by Sandia Belgrade

The new year at the County started off with a ceremony. Judge Patti Swift swore in the two Commissioners who were elected to their second terms. The Commissioners are Jason Anderson, representing District 2; and Ken Anderson, representing District 1. And as usual the year began with a reorganization of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Tim Lovato will be the new chair of the three-person board, along with Ken and Jason Anderson.

## Meth use detected in Saguache County housing

On the darker side, Evan Samora, Housing Director, reported that the presence of methamphetamine (meth) was found after a tenant vacated an apartment at Blue Water Housing, one of two complexes run by the County. They used a product called DrugWipe@1 which is specific to detect meth residue. It indicated with a 95% rate of accuracy per test kit that there was meth on many of the surfaces of the unit. Fortunately, the level of residue indicated it wasn't cooked there. There was meth use, but not a meth lab, which would have left levels of meth residue so severe that it would work its way into the walls. If so, it could not be cleaned, potentially closing the public housing unit and resulting in the low income residents who live there losing their housing.

## Following protocol

The State of Colorado is one of the strictest with meth residue mitigation. The trigger for mandatory cleanup is .5 micrograms per 100 square centimeters in a composite test of four sample areas. Imagine cutting a one gram paper clip into literally one million pieces, and cutting one of those pieces in half, and spreading that one half of one millionth of one paper clip over an area one fourth the size of a piece of copier paper. When applied to meth, a person could

smoke meth in a space once, or just a few times, and leave enough residue to mandate the costly cleanup. After ascertaining the presence of the residue, the landlord must by law obtain an assessment by a State-certified industrial hygienist, which costs nearly \$2,000 per visit, then follow up with a hazardous materials-certified cleanup crew to clean the unit, and then follow up with another assessment to certify that the area has been cleaned. Meth mitigation in a one-bedroom apartment can cost \$5,000-\$20,000 or more, with the cost dependent on the areas affected and the levels of residue present.

So much for the reserves Samora has worked hard to build. By law he is sending out RFPs for the cleanup, as the job must go to a State-certified industrial hygienist. Contamination of homes is particularly damaging for young children and older residents who can suffer respiratory, skin and behavioral problems. Samora, who has been the Director of the Saguache County Housing Authority since 2010, had noted the unusual traffic going into the unit. Tenants are screened at the time of application processing, and applications have been denied due to previous criminal activity, but there must be probable cause to investigate a unit once it is leased to a tenant.

## Weather spotlight

Many residents in the Crestone area were wondering what happened when the heavy snow storms before and during the Christmas weekend left roads snow packed and dangerously icy. There were no signs of road crews from the County. This is what Elvie Samora, Assistant Road Supervisor, had to answer for when he reported in place of Road & Bridge Supervisor Randal Arredondo, who was on medical leave.

Commissioner Jason Anderson said his phone was flooded with complaints. Why weren't plows out? There were reports of snow measurement depths of 8"-11". Yet, most major thoroughfares were not plowed. Commissioner Ken Anderson stated that on the 23rd no one answered calls and there was no answering machine on. Was anyone on call? It turns

out everyone is on call, but no one pulled the trigger. The County did not follow its own policy. The reports Samora received indicated different information that did not show that level of snow or ice. He did not officially place anyone on call, which would have meant paying them. In Crestone the POA maintenance crew, however, was out blading and plowing every day. The combination of snow on a holiday and weekend may have contributed, but as the Commissioners noted, there can be consequences when public servants fail to make our roads safe.

To his credit Samora, a very responsible employee, apologized and took full responsibility. The irony is Samora himself was caught in the vortex of blinding snow and wind that occurred early January in the areas around Hwy. 17 and Hwy. 285, Road GG and Poncha Pass. It sent semis on their sides, stranded motorists, and even confused Valley View workers who know the area by heart but were temporarily lost trying to assist people. A few miles down the road in Crestone, there was nothing. The upshot is that we have micro climates in our county and those charged with public safety have a challenge when it comes to judging a situation accurately.

## Town of Crestone requests in-kind assistance

The mayor of Crestone, Kairina Danforth, accompanied by Project Manager Burt Wadman, requested in-kind assistance from the County to help complete the downtown beautification project. Phase 1 has been completed. This entailed laying sidewalks for the first time within the downtown commercial district. It has had a positive impact on the character of Crestone as well as encouraging a pedestrian-friendly downtown for residents and visitors. Alcon Construction from Alamosa was thanked for its work and partnership with the County's Road and Bridge Department. However, the Town did not receive all the funding it needed and it is now submitting a grant to complete Phase 2. This will entail putting in the remaining sidewalks but also addressing storm drainage to help with runoff. Water is running down Alder and Silver streets, affecting property owners. The Town is needing a match for a community development block grant (CDBG) for these pathways and drainage. Danforth said in-kind support of approximately \$20,000 from Road and Bridge would be helpful for



Saguache County Commissioners Jason Anderson and Ken Anderson are sworn in after being reelected.

their application, since now there are funding cuts and more competition. She inquired as to whether asphalt from Road and Bridge would be an appropriate in-kind, and requested a letter of commitment from the Commissioners. The Town is also raising money to complete the project through memorial tree donations and local business contributions.

## Hearing on fair campaign practices

A hearing was held on January 20 regarding the Fair Campaign Practices complaint filed by Lisa Cyriacks, a Crestone resident. Cyriacks maintains that the County Commissioners violated the law by writing only the pro statement for the excise tax proposal that appeared on the November ballot and not including both the pro and con sides of the question. Jason Anderson also spoke before the Saguache Chamber of Commerce. At the hearing each side put forth a statement. The judge has 2 weeks to respond.

## Social Services seeking bids

The Saguache County Department of Social Services is currently accepting bids for a snow shed awning for the front entryway to its Saguache office building. Social Services is also accepting bids on the purchase and installation of a replacement furnace for their building in Saguache. Interested residents seeking work can contact Linda Warsh, Director, at 719-655-2537 for more information.

## Land Use

The Commissioners approved a conditional use permit for Earth Positive Enterprises, LLC., owned by William Vessel for a medical marijuana grow area of 2.5 acres. With 2 greenhouses, the issue of water is a concern and Vessel has two wells. The Planning Commission previously approved it.

## County to take applications for sales tax grants

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners will be taking grant applications for Sales Tax Grants until 3pm, Friday, February 10. To be eligible, grant applications must be for emergency services/public health and safety; youth and senior programs, projects or organizations; renewable energy projects; or business opportunities and job creation. Grant applications are available on the County website at www.saguache-county.net, or interested residents can contact the Saguache County Administration office at 719-655-2231 to request a copy of the grant application.

## Wuji Tai Chi: Tai Chi for Liberation Retreat

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**Town of Crestone news**

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that. I have decided to stick to love . . . Hate is too great a burden to bear.”

-Martin Luther King Jr.

The Town of Crestone respectfully celebrates Black History Month. In 1976, the United States government officially recognized and began honoring the achievements of African-Americans. It was Gerald Ford who said that we must “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” However, Carter G. Woodson is considered the Father of Black History, who made it his life’s work to educate people on the contributions of African-Americans and was the cofounder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Due to his diligence and perseverance, we now have a more accurate compilation of our country’s history.

**January 9 Board of Trustees meeting**

The Town is submitting an application for a federal Community Development Block Grant to continue sidewalks and drainage improvements in the downtown commercial district. A public hearing was held for the Pedestrian Pathways Network Project (PPNP) Phase II, but no public comments were made during the hearing.

Several resolutions and an ordinance were approved and signed:

- Resolution # 001-2017, To apply for a CDBG grant for the PPNP Phase II downtown sidewalk project
- Resolution #002-2017 To adopt a policy against the use of excessive force as per CDBG application requirements
- Resolution #003-2017 To adopt yearly appointments and official posting locations for Board meetings
- Resolution #004-2017 To amend the Policy for Rules and

Procedures to include changing the order of meeting agenda items

- Ordinance #2017-001 An ordinance repealing previous Nuisance Ordinance 2003-005 and reenacting an ordinance identifying, making illegal and abating certain nuisances in the Town of Crestone

Please feel free to come in to Town Hall to view any of these documents in their entirety.

**Other news**

- The Board approved new office hours to begin on February 1. The office will stay open longer daily, from 9am until 2pm on Mondays through Thursdays and will be closed on Fridays.

- The Trustees adopted a new sidewalk policy as advised by CIRSA, the state agency that provides liability insurance to Colorado municipalities. Regarding all new sidewalks located within the commercial district, property owners need to be aware that if an adjacent sidewalk is not within the Town of Crestone’s right-of-way then property owners are responsible for clearing snow and removing debris off of their sidewalk sections.

- Architect Burt Wadman completed and presented a Master Trail Plan report to the Board after having held several public meetings. It includes a narrative and various maps showing possible trails and trailheads within the town limits that will connect to the Baca Grande Wildlife Refuge trail, which could in turn be part of a future 70-mile trail system in the eastern San Luis Valley. Copies of the plan are available for viewing at Crestone Town Hall.

- Many water customers have been using the secure payment drop slot next to the front entry of Town Hall at 108 W. Galena Ave. Look for the cream-colored box with an envelope slot.

- The Town of Crestone heartily thanks our snow removal team: Gretchen Nelson, Jim Holmer and Andrew Martinez for working so diligently to keep the streets clear.



Ice crack designs along North Crestone Creek.

photo by Kristi O'Haver

**For your information**

- Meet-the-Board-Mondays has been reinstated for 2017 on the first Monday of each month between 1 and 3pm. If you would like to talk to one of your Town Trustees and share ideas or concerns, please stop by the Town Hall meeting room.

- Regular Board meetings are still held on the second Monday of each month from 1:30-6pm, and there is always time for the public to share comments at the beginning of each meeting.

- All public hearings are published in advance in *The Crestone Eagle*, the *Saguache Crescent* and on occasion, the *Valley Courier* newspaper.

- Town of Crestone meeting agendas are posted in the locked bulletin boards at Town Hall and in the US Post Office. For anyone who would like to be included on the agenda, your requests and materials must be submitted one week in advance.

- The Crestone Planning Commission meets the first Monday of each month from 6-8pm at the Town Hall meeting room. All proposals and plan submissions for

review must go through the Planning Commission; please submit documentation one week in advance to the Town Clerk. The Commission makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

- A Certified Notary Public is available during regular office hours in Town Hall from 9am-2pm, Mondays-Thursdays. The cost to notarize each certificate is \$5 as per the Colorado Secretary of State guidelines. A current and valid ID must be presented.

- Other services available: the Town staff can make copies in limited quantities and fax or scan documents for a minimal fee, but we have very little space to collate and print large amounts of paperwork here in Town Hall, so please bring only small, simple copy tasks and when faxing, bring only 8”x11” documents unstapled and prepared for faxing or scanning.

We also offer table and chair rentals, and the “old schoolhouse” Community Building is available to rent for private events. For more information, call the office at 256-4313.

**Town of Crestone**

**New Office Hours**  
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# Baca Property Owners Association Board adopts measure to make Baca fire & ambulance departments self-supporting

by John Rowe

The first of two Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) Board meetings was a special one held on January 9 at the old Pro Shop for the purpose of resolving a dispute with the Crestone Baca Land Trust (CBLT) over dues assessment (this in the executive session portion of the meeting), and to establish a new department that will be a combination of the fire and ambulance departments.

The CBLT was notified last year without notice or explanation that the lots they held that enhanced conservation areas would start to be assessed POA dues effective immediately. This would have spelled the end of the land trust as the yearly bill would have been in excess of \$10,000. CBLT was created in 1998 for the purpose of enhancing open space within the Baca, mostly expanding the Spanish Creek Wetlands and the Cottonwood Creek Conservation Site, both in the western Grants section of the Baca. The non-profit group acquired about thirty lots and had the County designate them as open space, never to be developed for residential or commercial use. A previous board had decided that this project enhanced the local eco-system and the community and granted them dues-free status. The land trust folks has assumed this was in perpetuity and were much dismayed to find out otherwise. The current POA Board and the CBLT Board came to the same conclusion that the future of these easements would be more secure if the CBLT turned over ownership of the lots in question to the POA, thus solving the dues-paying issue. The County designation of these lots as open space cannot be undone by the POA or anyone else and they are now protected against changes in local politics or Baca ownership or administration. Community members familiar with these parcels are sure to be happy, as these wetland corridors are beautiful and well worth protecting. Kudos to all involved for the constructive resolution of this troubling issue.

## Fire & Ambulance

The POA Board has decided that the financial viability of the fire and ambulance departments will be much increased if they are combined, as this greatly helps the ambulance department to do lucrative transfers from area hospitals to larger health care facilities, mostly on the Front Range. These transfers pay about \$5000 each, are readily available throughout the year, and have been made doable by the acquisition of a new Baca ambulance last year. Derek Garcia, Ambulance

Chief, has been unable to take many of these, as his staff is very limited and usually cannot be spared to leave the community as this would result in insufficient personnel to take care of local ambulance needs that may arise. By cross-training all fire and ambulance personnel many more people will be available to take these calls and bring substantial income to the POA. Derek and the Board also will have the best trained staff in the valley, often a prerequisite in being considered to take these patients. An added benefit will be that there will be much better opportunity for all POA fire/ambulance personnel to make money, enabling Derek to attract and keep more and better trained staff in the future. Derek and the Board are convinced that by 2018-2019 the fire and ambulance services here in the Baca will be self-sustaining financially, relieving community members of a considerable burden that gets heavier every year.

This is very exciting news for our community and could open a lot of doors for us in the near future.

## Community Outreach person to be hired by POA immediately

The regularly scheduled POA Board meeting was held on January 19 at the Pro Shop. The Board is hopeful that by March, future meetings will be held in the new and improved POA Hall.

This new board shows promise to be able to work well and efficiently together as a long slate of measures to be considered and voted on was gone through in short order after a brief executive session. The rancor and bitterness that characterized so many POA Board meetings over the last two or three years was absent, and the board was friendly with each other and the audience as well. It is noteworthy that new President Steve Dossenback not only tolerated audience commentary but encouraged it. The membership attendance was light enough (4-5 people) that informal back and forth between Board members, audience members, and department heads took place easily and with good effect. Good ideas were exchanged and good communication between the Board and community members took place. This has often been sorely lacking in previous Board meetings.

The big news of the evening was an announcement by the Board that, effective immediately, a new key position will be created and filled, this to be that of Community Outreach Coordinator. It will probably be 32 hours a week and will be filled as quickly as quali-

fied candidates can be found, interviewed, and the best suited one selected. With urging from the audience, this position will be described and advertised on the POA website and in February's *Eagle*. All interested parties are urged to respond quickly as the Board is anxious to move on this exciting new development suggested by Westwind, the POA management consultant. The scope of this recommendation was described in last month's *Eagle* and the job will likely entail oversight of a revamped POA website, a regular

newsletter with a much better email list than currently, and various and sundry activities to get community feedback on what we would like to see Crestone and the Baca be like, now and in the future. Everyone hopes that the new spirit of activism sweeping our country will manifest here and many will involve themselves in this outreach process. This may be the most positive and exciting development in this reporter's ten-year involvement in our little corner of the universe. Stay tuned for more, hopefully, much more.



## POA NEWS

It's been approved!

*from the Manager's Office, by Ayla Hoevers*

The Board of Directors is excited to announce that the proposal to combine the Baca Grande Fire and EMS services has been approved! Instead of having a Fire Department and an Ambulance Department as separate entities we will now have one, unified, and amazing response agency. It will now be known as the Baca Grande Emergency Services.

What does this mean? By combining services, our first responders will increase their knowledge and experience, create more training and educational opportunities for our existing emergency crews, and create job/career and educational opportunities for our community members and our youth. Through doing this, we plan to implement many new services and ways in which a Fire/EMS service can positively impact our community and provide increasingly better health and fire protection services for everyone here. This in turn, will ensure that only the best health care and emergency response is provided to our community proactively and in times of greatest need!

We are incredibly excited about what's to come and we hope you are too!




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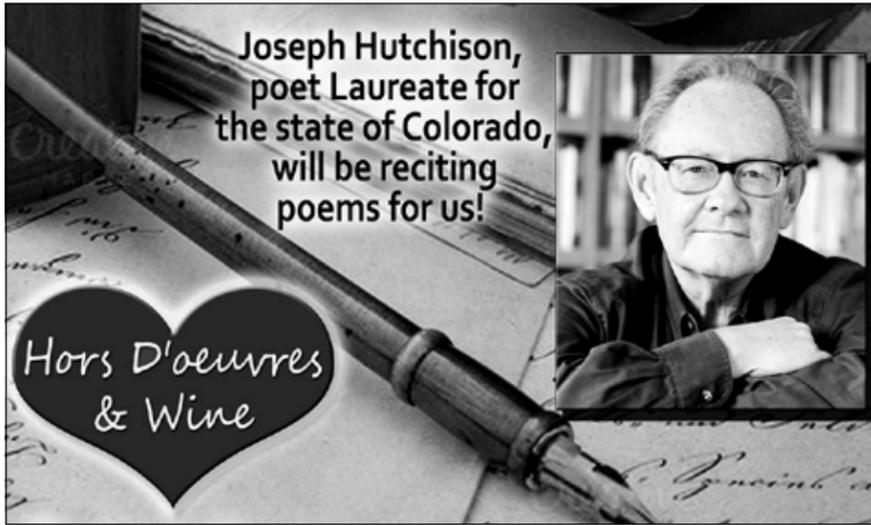
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## 2017 applications being accepted for Great Sand Dunes artist programs & residency

Artists have long been and continue to be a vital part of portraying the beauty and uniqueness of our national parks. Great Sand Dunes has welcomed traditional and contemporary artists, composers, and writers to share the beauty of this landscape with visitors through public programming and visitor center exhibits. These artistic public programs provide multiple perspectives and creative visions to share with visitors from all over the world. In 2017, Great Sand Dunes will offer three artist workshops during the summer season and one artist residency at the beginning of November.

### Summer public programs

Great Sand Dunes is currently accepting applications from artists—writers, photographers, musicians, composers, painters, just to name a few—interested in sharing their work and techniques with park visitors during a public program in the summer. The public program can be a demonstration, workshop, or presentation on the artistic technique, incorporating Great Sand Dunes' resources as the subject. The artist may be reimbursed for materials, mileage or lodging. In addition, the park will advertise the artist workshop through a press release and post on the park website and social media.

### Artist in Residence

Great Sand Dunes is also accepting applications for artists interested in completing a two-week residency during the first two weeks of November 2017. A residency gives an artist an opportunity to explore park resources, and spend quiet time developing work inspired by Great Sand Dunes. The park will provide lodging for the two-week session and reimburse the artist for materials for

any public workshop or demonstration. Park staff will work with the artist to schedule a workshop, demonstration, or program within the community. Upon completion of the residency, the artist will have the opportunity to exhibit a piece of artwork during one of the year-long fine art shows at the Visitor Center. Due to limited storage space in our facilities, the park cannot accept donations of visual artwork to our permanent collection. Composers and writers can present their work during a planned event at the park and/or have their work placed on the park's website and social media.

To apply to lead a summer public program or artist in residency, please submit a one-page statement about your work, proposal, and digital samples of your work or a link to a website via email to [patrick\\_myers@nps.gov](mailto:patrick_myers@nps.gov). You may also mail your materials to the Great Sand Dunes visitor center, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, 11999 State Highway 150, Mosca, Colorado 81146. Deadline for applications is January 31, 2017. For additional questions, please call Patrick Myers at 719-378-6343. Park staff will review applications and make selections by February 11. Thank you for sharing your creative vision with Great Sand Dunes! To learn more about artist in residence programs in the national parks, visit [www.nps.gov/subjects/arts/air.htm](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/arts/air.htm).

## Live, laugh & love at the Crestone Artisans Gallery

by Desi Faraci

There is plenty to intake through all our senses this month at the Crestone Artisans Gallery. Please join us for a very special Valentine's Day poetry reading which will be on Saturday, February 11 from 4 to 6. We will be serving wine and hor d'oeuvres. This event will showcase the Colorado poet, Joseph Hutchison, Poet Laureate for the State of Colorado, who will be reciting poems for us. This is a must-see event! Be sure to add it to your calendar.

New artist Terry Corcoran fills our walls with warming and vivid abstracts done with mixed media on board. Irish-born Terry attended the National College of Art in Dublin where he studied painting, metalwork and stained glass. He is now a resident of Crestone along with his very supportive wife and collaborative poet, Sharon. Be sure to also flip through Terry's rack in the back room of original matted watercolors when you stop by the gallery.

New, vibrant and textured paintings are available now at the gallery. We have recently added works on canvas as well as copper exhibited by Paula Hudson. Mae Green has a colorful display of art

custom framed by Bob Adler. Affordable and fun tiny canvases of local scenery and animals are now available by Beatris Burgoin. Desi Faraci had added some oil paintings of the Divine Mother and depictions of our native ancestors as well as some brightly palette-stroked scenes of the local SLV mountains. Patrick Moore has just displayed an impressive landscape created with acrylic on natural canvas called, "The Golden Hour."

Come see all the new works we have to offer from photography to pottery, fiber arts to jewelry and much more. Got winter gear? We are stocked with a variety of fun handcrafted hats made with fleece and faux feathers by Leslie Kane along with her colorful scarves. To keep your wrists warm, try the pulse warmers by Kirsten Scheiber. The crossover handwoven shawls by Kathy Strathearn are a must see.

Please remember that if you share a special message to your dear valentine, to consider giving a unique greeting card by one of our local artists. We have hundreds of cards in an array of themes from local scenery, spiritual, abstract, nature-inspired and more.

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# The People's State of the Union: Building community through Story Circle

by **Cristina Cabeza**

Been feeling it? The unprecedented opportunity disguised as challenge? Then you are in *great* company.

I have been asking myself like so many of us, "What can I do here, now, in the middle of nowhere?"

Then this opportunity came my way. And then I shared the opportunity with Allison Wonderland and we decided to conspire. And then I shared it with Kelly Crowley. And then . . .

The people-powered US Department of Arts and Culture (USDAC) is a grassroots action network inciting creativity in social imagination to shape a culture of empathy, equity and belonging.

In 2015, the USDAC asked, "What if the State of the Union wasn't a speech spoken by one but a poem created by many?"

The People's State of the Union has two main parts: Story Circles across the nation to share stories about the state of our union and a collaboratively composed Poetic Address to the Nation. Together, we'll build a composite picture of the state of our union, celebrating what connects us and bringing our creativity to healing all that pulls us apart.

On Saturday, February 4 from 2pm-4pm, at the Crestone Charter School, Allison, Kelly, myself and others will host the first part of #PSOTU2017Crestone: Story Circles.

At our Story Circle event, neighbors will gather in facilitated small groups, sit in a relaxed circle and listen to each other. We the people reflect together on the condition of our own culture and the state of our own union locally, nationally and globally.

Each Story Circle is shaped by a set of questions serving as story prompts inviting each participant to tell a story from direct experience that reveal something about the state of the union. Afterwards, participants will have the opportunity to share their story through a story portal to co-create a Poetic Address to the Nation on March 11. Stay tuned for details about our local Poetic Address on the same date.

We hope you will join us in this celebratory civic ritual during these *unpresidential* times!

This is a free event. Music and other refreshments provided. Engaged youth encouraged to attend.

When we unleash imagination and turn it into action, we can move the world.

For information and videos about the phenomenal USDAC, visit their website here: <http://usdac.us/about>.

If you would like to *volunteer*, send email to [cabezadelamor@gmail.com](mailto:cabezadelamor@gmail.com).



Ben Spriestersbach demonstrates "push hands" to Denise Peine at Tai Chi class.



Kristy Knight works on a painting at Andrea Long's "Crestone Dream and Create" gathering.

# The Knowledge Exchange: A Crestone community skill share

by **Winter Ross**

Join the fun and add your knowledge, too. Many of these classes are based on trade or free, others are negotiable. Call or contact the instructors directly for details on their classes. You can find descriptions and more on the Facebook Group: "Knowledge Exchange Crestone" or ask me, Winter Ross, to email you a list ([wintersweb@gmail.com](mailto:wintersweb@gmail.com)). The Knowledge Exchange is a Change Leader project funded by Colorado Creative Industries, but brought to you by the creative energy of your community!

**Andrew Harvey audio class re: Sufism**, Kate Steichen, 719-588-8602. Started Thursday, January 19, 2-5, and meets once a month for 8 months.

**Artist Cooperative**, Jane Kwan, 719-480-7167, [j7oceanstar@gmail.com](mailto:j7oceanstar@gmail.com). Art for social and political action.

**Basic Solar Energy**, Paul Shippee, [info@paulshippee.com](mailto:info@paulshippee.com)

**Blacksmithing & Welding**, Will Bartley, 970-279-1302 or 719-588-2474

**Crestone Dream & Create**, Andrea Long, 719-937-1331, Saturdays, 11am

**Encaustics Choices**, Ish, 719-256-4848, weekend and 2-hour classes, Firstthought Studios.

**Haiku & Flash Fiction**, Winter Ross, 505-423-3098, [wintersweb@gmail.com](mailto:wintersweb@gmail.com). Sunday afternoons 1-3pm

**Meow Wolf**, Winter Ross, 505-423-3098, [wintersweb@gmail.com](mailto:wintersweb@gmail.com). Field Trip to Santa Fe to see the Meow Wolf Art installation.

**Nonviolent Communication**, Paul Shippee, [info@paulshippee.com](mailto:info@paulshippee.com). Practice the methods of NVC developed by Marshall Rosenberg.

**Nora's Floor Exercise**, Nora Vivian, 719-937-7930. Mondays February 20-April 3, 10am, Carmin's

**Papermaking**, Carmin Teeple, 719-256-4511

**Qigong and Women's Body Temple**, Prana Regina Barrett, 719-345-6007

**Quilting (Knitting or Crochet)**, Pat Tullos, 719-937-766, [patullos@hotmail.com](mailto:patullos@hotmail.com). February 6 & 13, March 6 & 20. Flexible.

**Spanish Conversation**, Estela de Colores. Call Denise: 719-256-4644. Little Shepherd Fellowship Hall, Wednesdays 6-8pm.

**Tai Chi**, Ben Spriestersbach, 719-256-4531, [benspr@cox.net](mailto:benspr@cox.net), Tuesdays 10am, Thursdays 2pm, Little Shepherd Fellowship Hall.

**Water Aerobics**, Hooper Pool, Jolene Robinson, 719-378-2202. 10-11am Mondays & Fridays through February. Free with a pool pass or \$4 per class.



**Crestone End of Life Project**  
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*How can we love a god who we cannot see,  
When we can't love our neighbor, who we can see?  
- asked by an atheist*

Monthly open meeting **Wednesday, February 8**, at 7pm, at the Fellowship Hall of the Little Shepherd Church, Crestone. Call 719.588.7415 for information/directions.

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## The Knowledge Exchange

Want to take some classes or workshops with your Friends for Free?  
Want to teach something for trade or maybe a little cash?  
Join the Knowledge Exchange and meet the amazing and talented folks who are your neighbors. Find out how it works by joining the FaceBook group: "Knowledge Exchange Crestone"  
Email Winter Ross: [wintersweb@gmail.com](mailto:wintersweb@gmail.com) or call: (505) 423-3098

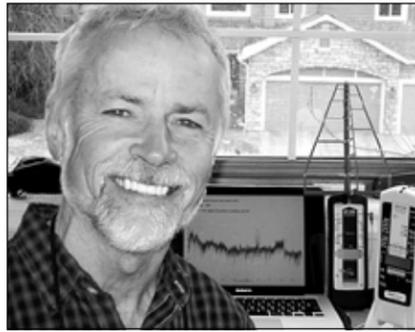
## Electromagnetic radiation— dangers & solutions

“Optimal health is derived from the ability of your body to feel safe and not in a state of constant stress,” says Riun Ashlie, a certified Electromagnetic Radiation Specialist from Lafayette, CO.

Ashlie will be speaking at the Crestone Charter School on Friday, February 24 at 6pm on the subject of our electromagnetic field and radio wave-saturated environment—including the effects in the home from wifi, cell towers, smart meters, smartphones, etc.—and what we can do about it. There will also be demonstrations showing the range and effects of some of these devices. He recently spent two days in Crestone assessing places in and around town, with a focus on the Crestone Charter School.

Ashlie’s credentials in the assessment and remediation of EMFs (electromagnetic fields) are extensive. He’s certified by the International Institute for Building Biology and Ecology (see his website [www.neuralvitalitynetworks.com](http://www.neuralvitalitynetworks.com) for details).

Dark field microscopy reveals the negative effects of EMFs on red blood cells, even when people don’t think they can “feel” anything. The



Riun Ashlie, Electromagnetic Radiation Specialist.

American public is only just beginning to wake up to the dangers of these unseen forces on our physical and mental health.

The current situation is comparable to the dangers of smoking, which tobacco companies denied for years. We’re in the “vociferous denial” phase of this familiar pattern, which has happened many times before: think about thalidomide and asbestos for starters. The major difference is the number of people exposed. EMFs are now everywhere, 24/7, whether we want them or not.

Riun Ashlie will be available for individual home evaluations both before and after the time of his upcoming Crestone visit on Friday, February 24. He can be reached directly at [riun@neuralvitalitynetworks.com](mailto:riun@neuralvitalitynetworks.com) for fee-based private consultations.

To learn more, come to the February 24 meeting sponsored by the local group Stop Smart Meters-Crestone, contact Riun via email above, or email Kathi McCallum at [azurelene@gmail.com](mailto:azurelene@gmail.com).

## Baca Crestone Resiliency Conference

by John Loll

Momentum is building around the upcoming Resiliency Conference to be held at Colorado College over the weekend of March 24-26. Many of you have already said yes to attending. We’re expecting approximately 120 invitees to attend. Conference participants will search for how Baca/Crestone can increase its resiliency by becoming more self-sufficient now, so we’re better able to bounce back from future shocks such as: climate change; economic chaos; governmental dictates; transportation, energy and electric interruptions; food or medical disruptions.

By becoming a more cohesive and connected community we’ll also benefit by being able to better help one another in the small ways that make living here a joyful and rich experience. For as we’ve all seen before, when this community comes together there’s nothing we can’t do.

Resiliency also means resistance, so we’ll also explore how spiritual, social, and environmental justice traditions can ground and

assist us in resisting government excesses.

This conference is a community-driven bottom-up process that assures those attending are heard and assumes that our community has the experience and wisdom that intimately knows our problems and wants to work actively on solutions. This is not a conference at which to just talk and go home and wonder why nothing happened. Participants will vote with their feet and join work groups tasked to find and implement strategies and solutions to increase community resilience.

A limited number of spaces may still be available, so if you think this work is vital and want to work your heart out for a better community, call Peter or Roland Gyallay-Pap at 719-937-7757 to inquire about attending. We’re especially interested in increasing the number of youth and millennials attending.

Please join us if you can, and stay involved with us as we discover the power of community in action.

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**COLORADO CENTRAL TELECOM** Get connected at **719-937-7700** or visit us at 116 S. Alder, Crestone.

**ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION**

*A Presentation on the Dangers and Solutions with Riun Ashlie, EMRS*

Crestone Charter School, Friday, February 24, 6PM  
Donations Gratefully Accepted

Riun is available for fee-based consultations, schedule now for individual home evaluations before or after 2/24

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Tiantong addressed the monks, saying, “The clouds mindlessly drift past the mountains. Four years ago, or just yesterday, is today. In due course, water returns to its source. Four years hence, or just today, is yesterday.” Tiantong then raised his whisk and moved it in a great circle, saying, “If I must present this to you here, then I say that every year is a good year. Every day is a good day. So tell me, how can this be verified? Where clouds and mountains meet, they laugh, “Ha, Ha!” Their laughter spontaneously fills the wind and sunlight.”

Happy season turning fall to winter, happy to honor my old teacher’s life. I laugh, “Ha, Ha!”

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Dragon Dreams again... to wake we know not when... 4/1/1907 — 7/27/2014

## 34th Annual Monte Vista Crane Festival happens March 10-12

Its nearing that time again when tens of thousands of sandhill cranes descend upon Colorado's scenic San Luis Valley to feed and rest up for the journey further north to their nesting grounds. It's a wildlife phenomenon akin to the celebrated march of the penguins in Antarctica. But instead of the penguin's gakkering and growling, birdwatchers hear the trumpeting of five, six and ten thousand cranes, whose rattling call sounds something like a cross between a tiger's purr and pigeon's coo.

"When you have 5,000 cranes all making their rattling calls, it can be deafening," says Scott Miller, wildlife biologist for the Monte Vista national Wildlife Refuge, where most of the 25,000 cranes congregate in early spring.

The silver-colored cranes stand 4-feet-tall and don a distinguishing red forehead and russet-flecked wings. They feed in the nearby fields by day and roost in the refuge's wetlands by night. Sandhill cranes mate for life, Miller says, so festival visitors often see the birds ritual courting dance. "They jump up and down, flapping their wings and moving their necks," he says. "They're these big

lanky birds yet their dance is so graceful."

Folks who arrive early to the wetlands are often privy to another amazing spectacle when the cranes launch en masse at daybreak and head to their feeding grounds. "When they liftoff, it's pretty incredible," Miller says. "You can hear their wings and the sound of rushing wind."

This year's Monte Vista Crane Festival includes sunrise and sunset tours, photography workshops, raptor tours, fieldtrips to the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Penitente Canyon and more. There's a daily craft and nature fair with local artists and Friday night's movie is "Hoot," about a group of young friends on a mission to save burrowing owls. This year's keynote speaker is avid birder and Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas illustrator, Radeaux (johndeauxartgallery.com).

For details and registration, visit [www.mvcranefest.org](http://www.mvcranefest.org). Registration deadline is March 8, 2017. For more information, call the Monte Vista Chamber of Commerce at 719-852-2731. For media requests, contact [mvcfpub@gmail.com](mailto:mvcfpub@gmail.com).



Sandhill cranes in flight.

photo courtesy of the Monte Vista Crane Festival

## Photo contest for Crane Festival Awards for all types of subject matter

It's been said that it's near to impossible to take a bad picture in Colorado's scenic San Luis Valley. So, this year the Monte Vista Crane Festival (March 10-12) is hosting its first annual photo contest, with a theme of "What you love most about nature in the San Luis Valley."

Send in your pictures and let the Crane Fest judges see what you've got! Your submission could capture the moment when a deer peered curiously through your window. Or when you spotted a dragonfly perched on a cattail. Or perhaps it was a cyclist with the majestic Sangre de Cristo Mountains looming in the background, or that wonderful moment when your child was transfixed by the velvety pink globes of a milkweed plant.

Winners will receive prizes, including the display of their photograph at the Monte Vista Visitor's Center, their printed and framed photo and the possibility for publication in a national magazine. There will be one winner and one runner-up in the categories of People & Nature, Wildlife, Adventure and Young Photographer (ages 10-20 years old). There will also be Honorable Mentions and a People's Choice award. There is no fee for entries. All photos must have been taken in the Rio Grande watershed.

Photo entries will be accepted until February 15. For more information about contest rules and how to submit a photo, visit [www.cityofmontevista.com/2266/Media](http://www.cityofmontevista.com/2266/Media).

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## 7th Annual San Luis Valley Seed Exchange SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2017, 10a-2p



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### Speakers:

12 noon Mary Walsh from the Nielsen Library in Alamosa  
1pm Jeff Wishmer - hegelkultur demonstration

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All proceeds will be donated to  
Mountain Valley School's Community Garden



**CEOLP free training day Feb. 4**

The Crestone End of Life Project (CEOLP) is offering a free training day Feb. 4 from 10am to 3pm at the Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church in downtown Crestone. The training is open to anyone interested in becoming involved in CEOLP's volunteer service activities.

The morning will focus on a review of the implementation manual for cremations. Following a sack lunch, training will continue with care-of-the-body at the fellowship hall, while those interested in fire team, hosting, and parking will go to the cremation site for training. For more information email ceolp.info@gmail.com.



Ayla Sirois displays an encaustics painting she created during her fine arts mentorship with artist Stephen Futral. photo by Stephen Futral

**CEOLP cautionary advice concerning electronic implants**

Please be advised that all electronic implants are potentially explosive when exposed to high temperatures, i.e. during cremation. Even when the battery in the implant is no longer functioning, the device itself remains explosive.

The force of an implant explosion can destroy the interior of a conventional crematory oven. In the case of open-air cremation, the debris from an implant explosion can harm those attending and ruin the pyre structure.

If you have an electronic implant it is important that you notify family and indicate in your CEOLP Registration Paperwork that you have an implanted device. It must be removed before a cremation can take place. The cost for this procedure is assumed by the client's estate or family. The procedure can be done by funeral home staff or qualified medical personnel. CEOLP volunteers are not authorized to remove implants.

If you have further questions, write to ceolp.info@gmail.com or contact CEOLP Registrar, Lorraine Cazier at 719-937-7802.

**Democratic Central Committee meeting Feb. 4**

The Saguache County Democratic Central will hold its biennial reorganization meeting on February 4, 11am, at the Saguache County Road and Bridge conference room, 503 3rd St. in Saguache. The Central Committee will elect party officers and discuss plans for the 2018 election. The Central Committee consists of Democratic County elected officials, precinct committee persons and current party officers. For more information contact Kevin Noland, Vice Chair at Nolandkk@gmail.com.

**Crestone/Baca Village members' annual potluck Feb. 5**

This will be an important potluck as new board members will be voted in. The potluck will be hosted by Don and Pat Tullos at 383 N. Chaparral on Sunday February 5, from noon-3pm. For more information go to www.cbvillage.net or call 480-8757.

**Veterans' benefits explained**

Veterans, learn about your benefits at the Crestone Town Hall on the third Friday of the month from 1pm to 3pm.

**Beaver Creek Youth Conservation Camp counselors invited to apply**

If you are interested in strengthening your leadership skills, enjoy spending time outside, love hanging out with kids, and are between the ages of 14 and 18 years, the Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative invites you to apply for a junior or senior counselor position for this summer's Beaver Creek Youth Conservation Camp. Camp takes place June 20-22, 2017 in South Fork. Counselors receive a small stipend and lots of experience! Applications are available online at www.rgwcei.org or email rgwcei@gmail.com. For more information, email or call Bethany Howell at 719-480-4864.

**Nonviolent Communication**

Working with Others is an ongoing class for learning and practicing the skills of Nonviolent Communication & Compassionate Communication. The next series starts March 1. Skills include deep listening, clarifying and living your values, and mindfulness practice. These skills help build a relationship with yourself that you can trust. In a world that often supports indirect communication and manipulation, the skills and practice of Nonviolent Communication embrace emotional intelligence, loving presence and empathy - priceless inner resources that contribute to peace, happiness and authentic connection. This new class/workshop begins Wednesday, March 1st 4:30-6:30. Class fee is by donation. For information, location and directions please call Paul Shippee 719-588-5521.



Looking up Rocky View Way the morning of January 23 in the midst of one of many of our January snowstorms. Snow-packed and icy roads made for some tricky driving and walking. There were several reports of cars sliding off roads, and many more of people getting stuck in their driveways. Some days it was best to just stay home by the fire. Many thanks to the snow plow drivers who put in extra hours clearing the roads and digging us out! photo by Lori Nagel

**New location for a new Crestone Baca library? Fundraising happening**

by Megan Riley

First of all I know many of you are wondering about the new Crestone Baca Grande Library. The library board, with many changes in the board, did not procure the funding to purchase the property a previous board has designated as the perfect location. Now, with an active marketing committee we are committed to finding a new location, writing grants and fundraising efforts to purchase a new piece of property, and design a library that is perfect for the community of Crestone.

If you know of potential land or would wish to donate please email me at meganriley@nclslibrarydistrict.org.

My image, and why I serve on the library board and on the marketing committee, is that by the time my niece graduates we will have a local library which is also a gathering place for the town.

There are a few events coming up I would like to mention. On February 3 one of our many talented musicians, Scott Swartz, and his friends are donating their time for a library fundraiser at Crestone Brewing Company. Deadhead or not, please come out and enjoy world class music in our little town.

Crestone Brewing Company has brewed a beer called the Sexy Librarian, and a portion of every beer is being donated to the new library.

Crestone Creamery is re-opening under new owners and will have a Library Ice Cream. Please welcome the new owners, Jake and Haley Markus and Richard Adams and savor the Library Ice Cream.

Staffing the CYP Thrift store will become a regular thing, and CYP has graciously offered their thrift store for our Library Building Fund. Please stop in, say hi and buy things!

If you have any questions, our incomparable librarians can help, or you can email me at meganriley@nclslibrarydistrict.org.



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**Crestone Brewing Co. Upcoming Events**



- Friday, February 3rd: Scott Swartz and Friends 9PM
- Sunday, February 5th: Super Bowl Party
- Friday, February 10th: DJ Auracodec 9PM
- Tuesday, February 14th: Valentines Prix Fixe with beer and wine pairings
- Friday, February 24th: Fresh Off the Train 9PM
- Friday, March 17th: St. Patrick's Day Party

Check out our new menu!  
A new beer tapped this month will benefit Friends of the Library

Temporary winter hours:  
Monday-Wednesday 5 PM-close with Chile Verde (veggie, chicken, or pork), Soup of the Day, Chips and Salsa  
Thursday-Sunday 12 PM-close with Full Kitchen (kitchen closes at 9:00)

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# Community Calendar—February 2017

Get the details at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com) // NOW UPDATED DAILY ONLINE!!!

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

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

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

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

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

## Monthly Events

### Tuesday, January 31

- Deadline for Dunes Artist application, Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Park & Preserve 719-378-6343
- Qigong for Energy Balance & Longevity, Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007

### Wednesday, February 1

- Hunters' & Anglers' Teleconference – 6:00 pm-8:00 pm 970-375-6708

### Thursday, February 2

- Qigong for Women's Health & Sexual Vitality, Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007

### Friday, February 3

- Library fundraiser – Crestone Brewing Co. 6pm [nslibrarydistrict.org](http://nslibrarydistrict.org)

### Saturday, February 4

- Free the Hips! Yoga Workshop – Crestone 9:30 am-11:30 am 310-924-9223
- Crestone End of Life volunteer training, Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 10am-3pm 719-588-7415
- Crestone Dream & Create Andrea Long's House 11-3pm Free - cost may vary for supplies
- Democratic Central Committee meeting – Saguache County Road & Bridge Building 11am
- Story Circle – Crestone Charter School 2-4pm

### Sunday, February 5

- Crestone/Baca Village members' annual potluck – Tullos residence 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Sunday Eucharist, Little Shepherd in the Hills 2-3pm

### Monday, February 6

- Meet-the-Board-Monday – Crestone Town Hall 1:00 pm-3:00 pm 719-256-4313
- Peace Is Present workshop – Susan Fey's Home 2:00 pm-4:30 pm Free 719-496-0977
- Crestone Planning Commission Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 6-8pm 719-256-4313
- Guru Rinpoché Tsok (Vajrayana communal feast) – Choying Dzong 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Tuesday, February 7

- Qigong for Energy Balance & Longevity, Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007

### Wednesday, February 8

- Crestone End of Life Project/IFC Open Meeting – Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 7:00 pm-9:00 pm 719-588-7415

### Thursday, February 9

- Qigong for Women's Health & Sexual Vitality, Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007
- Andrew Harvey re Sufism audio + dialogue – 2-4pm [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-588-8602
- Free Kinship Caregiver Clinic, Alamosa Colorado Legal Services 4-6:30pm Free <http://bit.ly/2eRyn9E719-589-4993>

### Friday, February 10

- Full Moon – All Day
- Full Moon Fire Ceremony – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am-noon [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 719-256-4108
- Riwo Sangchö: Buddhist smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-11:00 am
- Friends of the Library Annual Members' Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 1:00 pm 719 298-3007

### Saturday, February 11

- Crestone Dream & Create Andrea Long's House 11-3pm Free - cost may vary for supplies
- Joseph Hutchinson Valentine Poetry Reading – Crestone Artisans Gallery 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
- Backcountry Film Festival – Carson Auditorium, Adams State U. 6:30 pm-9:00 pm \$10 - \$12 [cmc.org/bcff](http://cmc.org/bcff) 303-996-2764

### Sunday, February 12

- Shumei's Monthly Sampai – Shumei Sanctuary 10:30 am-12:00 pm Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284

### Monday, February 13

- County Commissioner hours in Crestone – Downtown 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Crestone Board of Trustees Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 1:30 pm-6:00 pm 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, February 14

- Valentines Day
- Qigong for Energy Balance & Longevity, Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007

### Wednesday, February 15

- Photo contest deadline – All Day [www.cityofmontevista.com/2266/Media](http://www.cityofmontevista.com/2266/Media)
- Free, Monthly Legal Clinic at Saguache Library – Saguache Public Library 5:00 pm-7:00 pm FREE

### Thursday, February 16

- Qigong for Women's Health & Sexual Vitality,

Prana Regina Barrett 9:30-10:30am \$10/class; 6/\$55 or 12/\$100 [www.pranahaals.com](http://www.pranahaals.com) 719-345-6007

### Saturday, February 18

- Short, Sweet, Strong & Sweaty Yoga – Crestone 10:00 am-11:00 am \$10

### Monday, February 20

- Presidents' Day

### Tuesday, February 21

- Dakini Tsok (Vajrayana Communal Feast) – Choying Dzong 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Thursday, February 23

- SLV KBowl preliminary competition – Adams State University All Day 719-745-0500
- Sufi Dhikr. All welcome. – 2:00 pm-4:00 pm [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-588-8602
- Free Monthly Legal Clinic at Saguache Library – Saguache Public Library 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free <https://coloradolegalservices.org> 719-655-2551

### Friday, February 24

- Stop Smart Meters meeting – [neuralvitalitynetworks.com](http://neuralvitalitynetworks.com)

### Saturday, February 25

- Maha Shivaratri – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 pm-4:00 am [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 719 256-4108

### Sunday, February 26

- New Moon – All Day
- New Moon Fire Ceremony – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-12:00 pm [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 719 256-4108
- Riwo Sangchö: Buddhist smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-11:00 am
- Qur'an Class & Potluck. All welcome. – 2:00 pm-5:00 pm [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-588-8602

### Wednesday, March 1

- Nonviolent Communication class starts – 4:30 pm-6:30 pm By donation 719-588-5521

### Monday, March 6

- Meet-the-Board-Monday – Crestone Town Hall 1:00 pm-3:00 pm 719-256-4313

### Wednesday, March 8

- 2nd Weds. Class Series – BeBop Studio 5:30 pm-6:45 pm no charge 719-298-0360

### Thursday, March 9

- Free Kinship Caregiver Clinic, Alamosa Colorado Legal Services 4-6:30pm Free <http://bit.ly/2eRyn9E719-589-4993>

## Daily/Weekly Events

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

### Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7-8am, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery and Jyorei, Shumei, 9am-5pm, 256-5284.
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6-7pm. Sanskrit & Hindi chanting. All welcome. 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)

### Sunday

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

### Monday

- Anam Thubten Weekly Recorded Dharma Talks & Meditations 5-6:30pm, small donation appreciated

### Tuesday

- Yoga & iRest Yoga Nidra Class Crestone 9:00 am-10:30 am \$15 drop in, 6 for \$75, 310-924-9223
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca Grande Library back door 7:30-8:30pm 970-309-0710

### Wednesday

- Seniors Gentle Yoga Class 11am-noon 310-924-9223
- Spanish Conversation Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 6:30-8pm free 719-256-4644

### Thursday

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church, noon-1, [www.slvaa.org](http://www.slvaa.org)
- Tai Chi & Baqua class Little Shepherd in the Hills 2:00 pm Free 719-429-2125

### Saturday

- 12 Step Recovery Group NA & AA Fellowship Hall, Little Shepherd Church 9-10am 719-256-5728
- Dorje Trolo Practice White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge 719 480-5403

Do we need weapons to fight wars?  
Or do we need wars to create markets for weapons?  
-Arundhati Roy

There is far too much law for those who can afford it and far too little for those who cannot.  
-Derek Bok

# Out & About with Lori Sunflower

What improvements would you like to see in Crestone?



**Kyle Grote**

Well, I think we could really use some kind of Rec Center, a place for kids to go—a gym that's open all year 'round. We're kind of seasonal here. You can't be outside all the time, ya know? And more opportunities for kids. I moved my kids out to the middle of nowhere, thinking it's a safe, nice place, but I didn't quite realize there might be a lack of opportunities. More classes—drama class, art class—more things they can get into. I think there's always a concern about safety and people breaking into things and vandalism and obviously we need to keep tackling that. But for the most part we bring quite a few visitors here and I think we need to keep doing that in a balanced way. I mean, we never want this place to quite be like Sedona! And we all kind of agree when we're here that you do without some things. But I think the biggest thing to focus on is really for the kids. More families would move here. Keep improving the schools—I'm not saying anything bad about the schools!—but keep improving them, make 'em better, make sure education is top of the line. And however way we can keep creating more jobs. It's one of the things that I think is the hardest thing about living out here is you have to work 2-3 different jobs.



**Kirsten Schreiber**

First of all, I want to say that this is a really fine community with so many resources and there's so much that we can do here, I think. And I love your question because it makes me think of what my priority is. And I probably have several areas I'm very interested in but the one I'm working on is the Living Wisdom housing project for elders, for our wise people to live in community together. I hope more people will come

and want to be part of that. We're having a community gathering party, by the way, on the 27th of January. Hopefully, Living Wisdom will be very close to town. I'm a nurse-aid, and I've seen how difficult it is to help older people that live out in the Baca and in the Grants. That's what I would love to see happen here—that we put more energy into taking care of each other's needs, supporting each other in projects.



**Sharon Landrith**

Well I just want to preface that I love Crestone and I love living here. I think it's beautiful, it's totally unique—maybe on the planet—I enjoy the people. It takes kind of a tough constitution, I understand that, but I feel it a privilege to live here. What I would want to see improved would be that these amazing personalities, individuals, that are brilliant and intelligent and leaders and visionaries, that those voices could be spoken freely. That we could actually listen to each other, from that place that we're all in this together. Because sometimes I think when there's such brilliance and leadership and we're kind of independent personalities and we choose to live in this really remote area, that the individual then becomes primary . . . but underneath it is how can we act as if and function as if we're all actually connected. Which we are, of course, right? We've come from the same roots, we have the same essence, we share the same body as the earth—our body and the earth are the same thing. And I think that gets kind of shoved under the rug with our amazing individual visions and voices and independence. I'd like a swimming pool! (laughing) I love Hooper and I think it's a wonderful place, but I'd like a swimming pool—that'd be an improvement I'd love. And I know Crestone really loves their children, but I would like the kids to be not just cared for and entertained and educated, but I'd like us to be able to listen to the kids—they're remarkable. They're remarkable all over, I think, but especially in Crestone, I think it's quite a concentration of amazing young people. And the young people are going to inherit what we've given them. And many of the children I've met, they haven't just skipped a generation, they've skipped a lot of generations. They've come in with a certain wisdom and strength and connection to the earth and each other that it's just been so

heartening to travel like I do and to meet these young people—they're amazing humans. And I don't know how we could create some kind of a forum or include them in a way that we benefit and listen to their wisdom and hear their wisdom instead of always try to "take care of them and do something for them and educate them." I mean, all of that of course is our job, but you know what I'm saying. They have a tremendous wisdom and they're inheriting whatever it is that is forming itself right now.



**Dorje Root**

I would love to see some kind of healing center/clinic. A place where people could go, and—I'm just going to give you my ideal here—where there would be an MD, and all kinds of alternative healers, herbalists. People could just come in and it'd be like a little clinic, and it wouldn't have to be like you drove all the way to Alamosa or Salida. There would be an herb school and maybe some other healing schools associated with it so the students could be learning about herbs and they could be working with people while they're learning and whatever other modalities we could incorporate there. And it would just be the place to go if people needed any kind of health care. I had this vision before I even came here. It would be sort of like a hub—the clinic and the different schools. The way I see Crestone, it's kind of like a microcosm. It's like you can do things here that you might like to do in the whole world but the whole world is too big. The whole country's too big. The whole state is too big, but Crestone is just right. So, you can do things here, and make them work here, and then you take them out into the world, and that's how I see a lot of the things here. Including the Spiritual Centers, and there are a lot of ideas that people have here that can work in a microcosm.

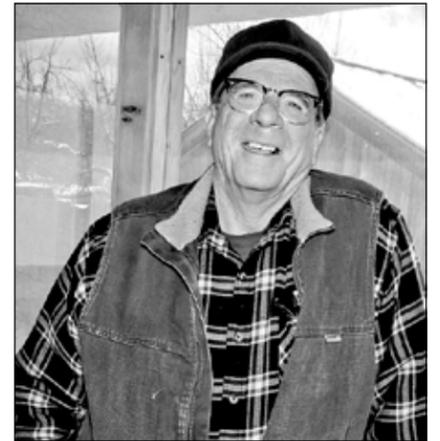


**Michael Pacheco**

I think the biggest improvement would be for recognizing that this isn't sort of a retirement community anymore, it's a community of people that like to do and create things rather than just the idea of something tangible. And if we can unite behind that idea and create things that help people create, then I

think we'll all be a lot better off. Crestone has the opportunity to reach out to the world. A lot of people who come here then go on to do other really cool things in other places of the world and are making a big impact and this seems to be like a hub for really big ideas and I think we can do the best we can to support that.

I think the second thing, too, would be affordable housing. It's really, really hard for people to make a living. There are ways to make money here, but there's not ways to make enough money to pay outlandish retirement home rents. And it would be really neat to see something where people of normal income could actually sustain a life here. I think that could help a lot—just make everyone happier, make everyone healthier, to have a stable place to live that was affordable would be huge for a lot of people. And, I don't have the answer to that, but definitely a need.



**Tim Brenner**

Mostly, I would like improvements in understanding and communication. I remember having moved here in '88, and it was a much smaller town then. And it seems there was some kind of fellowship of meeting of some type that's been going on all the time either at what was then Curt's store, or the Post Office, or whatever small restaurant, Road Kill [Cafe], or whatever was in town at the time. And it seems that as the society has kinda split a little bit, our culture in general, that has happened somewhat in Crestone. I know I fall into the habit sometimes of trying to put out too much on Facebook when there's issues and discussions and conflicts going on. And I realize that it's not going to happen there very well, it's gotta happen somewhere eye to eye. You gotta be able to look at who you're talking to and resist any temptations to be screaming, yelling, accusing. Yet another thing that's gotten really strong in our culture these days, it's so much more divided. And I think that we have an opportunity in Crestone with the small amount of people who moved here with the specific purpose of getting out of the city, getting out of all the craziness that's in cities and coming to a place where something can be different, and even when you come to something different, you still have brought along with you everything that you had there, so it takes awhile for all that to undo before you can start doing something else that is more positive. And I don't even know how to ask or how to suggest or recommend for them, other than for people to truly look at having the desire to live peacefully with their neighbors, and even when there's conflict, to find ways that we can either accept those differences or to have a way that we can discuss them and work out a different synthesis of thinking beyond just this one against that one.

# Dakota Access Pipeline—Standing Rock

## Chief Arvol Looking Horse calls on religious leaders

by Lisa Cyriacks

“We’re asking the religious leaders to come and support them [the young people standing in prayerful protest], to stand side-by-side with them because they are standing in prayer.”

-Chief Arvol Looking Horse

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day water protectors battling the controversial Dakota Access Pipeline attempted a peaceful prayer walk to the drilling site alongside the Missouri River.

Before that day, Chief Arvol Looking Horse said the police and National Guard were moving in on the protesters and he believes an influx of religious leaders could help keep the peace.

“If you can find it in your heart, to pray with them, and stand beside them . . . the police department and the National Guard would listen to each and every one of you,” he said. “The hearts of all people’s faiths must now unite in believing we can change the path we are now on.”

In December the US Army Corps of Engineers denied an easement for drilling under the Missouri River. The Corps is launching a review of alternate routes. Any re-route is likely to cost Energy Transfer Partners billions of dollars.

Industry and pipeline proponents are hopeful that President Donald Trump will reverse the Corps’ decision.

For months, Native American tribes from across the country and their supporters have been gathering in North Dakota to protest the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. Since August, the news media has been reporting on events, taking the movement from anonymity to international news coverage.

While dramatic developments make headlines, the solemnity of the struggle to protect water and culture is being missed. The Standing Rock Sioux nation has been joined by thousands of people making this protest the largest gathering of Native Americans in over 100 years.

On December 3, veterans began arriving from all over the country ready to join the fight opposing the pipeline. Most arrived in response to online videos and reports of riot-clad police using water cannons in subfreezing weather, of masked police using tear gas and mace on Native people standing with their hands up, and the use of attack dogs.

The veterans came for many reasons. Some saw it as a homeland security issue, naming corporate greed as the enemy. Others spoke of the oath they had taken to defend their country from enemies—foreign and domestic.

In a historic victory, on December 4, the Army Corps of Engineers made the announcement of the decision to deny Energy Trans-

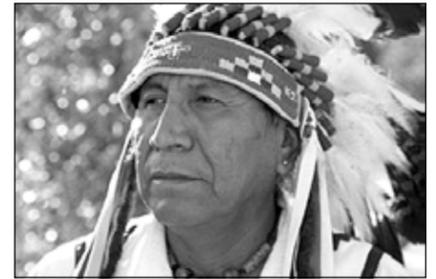
fer Partners the easement under the Missouri River.

On December 5, Native Americans conducted a healing forgiveness ceremony, giving the veterans the opportunity to atone for actions conducted against Native Americans and indigenous peoples throughout history.

Wes Clark Jr., son of retired U.S. Army general and former supreme commander at NATO, Wesley Clark Sr., in an apology: “Many of us, me particularly, are from the units that have hurt you over the many years. We came. We fought you. We took your land. We signed treaties that we broke. We stole minerals from your sacred hills. We blasted the faces of our presidents onto your sacred mountain. When we took still more land and then we took your children and then we tried to make your language and we tried to eliminate your language that God gave you, and the Creator gave you. We didn’t respect you, we polluted your Earth, we’ve hurt you in so many ways but we’ve come to say that we are sorry. We are at your service and we beg for your forgiveness.” (published by Salon)

Chief Leonard Crow Dog, in a historically symbolic gesture, offered forgiveness and urged for world peace, “We do not own the land, the land owns us.”

Oceti Sakowin, or Seven Fires, is the encampment on the



Chief Arvol Looking Horse.

Standing Rock Sioux Reservation where tribes are gathering. History is a living force for the Lakota way of life. It is impossible to speak of what is occurring now at Standing Rock without an understanding of the history and the spirituality underlying the confrontation happening at Standing Rock.

For the Standing Rock Tribe, the resistance to DAPL is more than oil, or water—it is about that spiritual connection to the landscape.

In the words of Chief Arvol Looking Horse: “In a Sacred Hoop of Life, there is no ending and no beginning.”

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Happy Valentine’s Day ~ come see us for all your holiday needs!



This month’s pictures are “Then” ..  
 If you want to know the “Now” ~  
 see us at the Mercantile!



Hardware is getting ready for spring planting. Come see us for all your gardening needs

## 'Here never ends', a story of us & society

by Jennifer Hotchner

Society is an expansive wing span of human connection, a force beyond us and within us. It is a never-ending story of survival, evolution and possibility, and of failure, disappointment and grief.

Society is always on the edge of describing and defining itself. No one can escape their role in contributing to this ongoing definition. Every interaction reflects both how we feel about ourselves individually and how we feel about ourselves as a whole. How we feel about ourselves individually and how we feel about others ventures out into the design of society, then boomerangs back to us to shape our perception of ourselves and the outer world. The grand "I" swirls around and around in a whirlpool of human connection—we walk the Earth but bounce off each other in the ether of our minds' perception.

Society is scary. It hangs people and cuts off their heads. It pushes people out, and lures others into a place of security in which it attempts to manage the uncontrollable yet cannot prevent sickness or a flood or keep your daughter or son alive.

Society has kept us alive. We have turned to each other over and over again for comfort and safety. We have shared our stories around campfires and find that we feel for each other and can't help but want to support one another. We have shared ideas and tools to bring each

other along toward the horizon. We didn't want to go alone.

Society has never stopped. It has never not been. And your place in this massive "I" all began with you as a quivering fleshy question mark, with no fur, unable to stand or walk. You scanned the environment for contact, building your society right then and there with this basic need. Without this contact from others you grimaced in pain, squirmed, kicked, cried, and were unable to adjust. The minute the humans in your environment, your mother, father, grandmother, whoever your caretaker may have been, looked in your eyes and started making googly sounds, those eyes, those smiles sent messages of relief, safety and a sense of I'm here, I'm allowed. Those sounds of care, the rocking and soothing washed over your entire being like an internal song of okayness.

Perhaps we can call this the kindness instinct, the inheritance of a driving force held in every exchange since beginningless time—the desire to be happy and free of suffering.

Every hello since, every conversation, every glance across the way started here with this initial conversation. But here never ends. Even if you did not have this type of affection and reinforcement as a child, your very structure, which is relational and malleable, is still presently in communication with your environment and others. Your beating heart softens and slows in

the safe arms of another. Your eyes benefit when in contact with the eyes of another. Your need for touch in order to feel your own skin both as an infant and adult, all made this world possible and still does.

Society is what happens when this thing in us reaches out to other. Our eyes face outward, our hands and arms are designed to reach out. Every aspect of human design is meant to communicate with other, whether other is animal, human or sky. Our limbs and extremities do not grow inward. Even our toes reach out to balance and grip the world of other. We come equipped with an inner ear muscle that can drown out exterior noise just to hone in on a human voice. All our senses—hearing, seeing, touching, all of it—belongs to other and it doesn't end there. Look around you. All our inventions are meant to serve other—desks, cars, music, TV. Painted yellow lines on our roads, telephones, and internet—this all has the purpose of being in relationship.

And our suffering is no different.

One of my clients described to me a particular gang fight he was in as a young man. "There's a crowd around us. We're enemies. We hate each other. My heart is beating so fast in my chest so fast. Every cell in my body is anticipating and fearing pain. A punch, a kick, a knife. It already hurts. There is no difference between fear and anger, our eyes pop out at each

other like we're, like we're, looking to tear each other up or save each other. I hear everyone in the crowd waiting for something to happen, for us to hurt each other. It's like something has to happen cause no one can handle the pressure. I hear my cousin and brother clearly but everyone else sounds like they are in bubbles of water. My bros are telling me to put the fucker down. I forget what that means. I can tell I'm not alone but I feel very alone."

At this point he looks up at me, an adult man with three kids, a wife, and a good job. His eyes are wet and his nose is running. I feel like I am standing in that crowd with him. Even though I know he survives I sense that uncertainty still a question in his eyes. "What no one realizes when they hear about gang fights, what no one wants to admit, is that there is something in us that wishes someone out there would just break up the fight. That someone would just please break up the fight."

He allows a few tears and wipes his nose with his fingers on his jeans as he looks away. I imagine the fight plays out in his mind. He makes barely audible sounds of pain, echoes of a past moment ricocheting off the cells, muscles and bones. I ask "When did you know you were OK?"

He takes a deep breath and looks around my office. His eyes keep landing on the bottom shelf that is dedicated to toys. "I guess right now. I'm realizing I'm OK right now." He looks up and smiles at me. "My son likes to play with that same car."



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# Who We Are

## Nate Scarritt:

*Outdoorsman & inventor seeks the 'perfected pattern'*

by Gussie Fauntleroy

Of all the outdoor activities Nate Scarritt has enjoyed over the years, one stands out most powerfully in his memory: windsurfing in the dark. On moonless nights on a Kansas lake, it was the most intimate experience of wind and water he had ever known. "It was pitch-black and you had no idea where you were on the lake. You just had to wait for the wind, feeling all the sensations, feeling for a breeze. Then a gust would come and you'd lean back, pull it in, and off you'd go," he remembers. "I loved the dance with the wind and water. It was kind of a combination of sailing, hang gliding, and surfing—all the things I loved."

During his 40s and 50s, the things Nate loved, which also included kayaking, canoeing, and exercising his highly inventive mind, were the inspiration and foundation for successful businesses that made it easier for others to also enjoy the natural world, especially on the water. While working as a lab technician in plastics research for a chemical company in the late 1960s, Nate designed and patented a special tubular closure device to seal any kind of waterproof bag for camping and boating equipment. That led to designing, manufacturing, and selling waterproof bags from the basement of his home outside Kansas City, Kansas, which led to opening and running Voyageur's Pack & Portage Shop and an adjoining manufacturing facility. For many years he produced and sold his own designs along with other camping, canoeing, backpacking, climbing, and hang gliding gear—and in the process met such adventure sports luminaries as Jim Whittaker, the first American to summit Mount Everest, and climber and Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard.

### Learning to fly

In many ways Nate's life as an outdoorsman, inventor, and entrepreneur was as different as imaginable from the old-family society world into which, in 1930, he was born. The great-grandson of a Methodist missionary who helped found Kansas City, Missouri in the mid-1800s, Nate was always more at home in nature than in a formal parlor. After attending William Jewell College and the University of Missouri, he took a municipal airport job with Braniff Airlines and then joined the U.S. Air Force as an aviation cadet. His dream was to eventually become a commercial airline pilot. But an eye exam following air force pilot training relegated him to a desk job, so after two years of service he returned to civilian life.

It was during his 13 years at Spencer Chemical Company that Nate discovered a passion for canoeing and kayaking. He also found that few of the "waterproof" bags and closures available at the time actually kept things dry. So



Nate trained as an aviation cadet in the US Air Force.



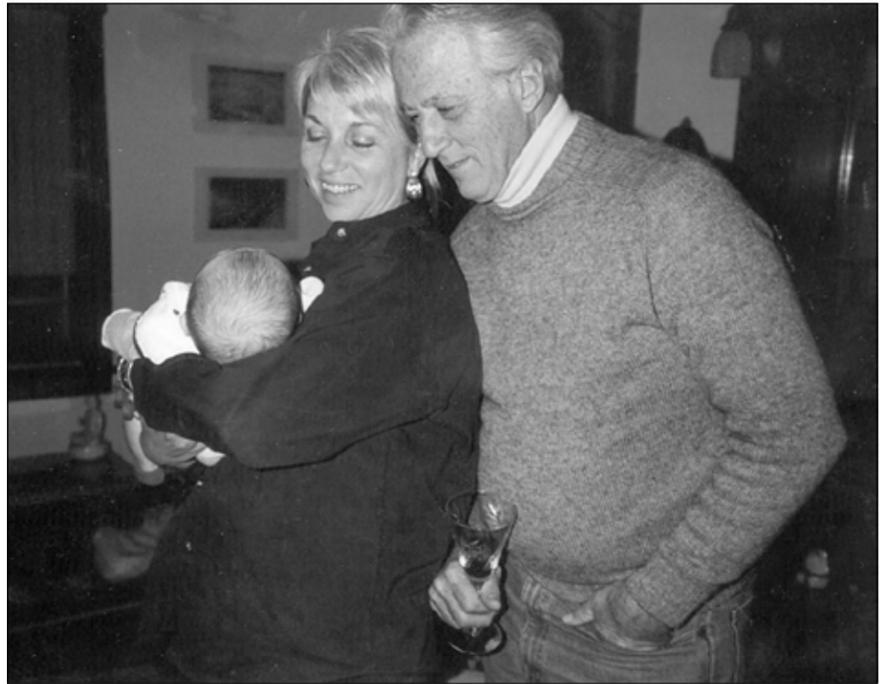
Nate founded and ran an outdoor and camping equipment retail and manufacturing company in Kansas for 20 years, here featured in a Kansas City newspaper business article in 1984.

he got to work in his off-hours using lab equipment to perfect the ingenious closure that sparked his retail and manufacturing career. In the mid-1970s he began hang gliding, and established a hang gliding school through his store. "Now that was real flying," he says, smiling. In 1979 he sold the store but kept the manufacturing business, freeing up more time for hang gliding and water sports, including windsurfing at night.

### Into the high country

A few years later Nate began an apprenticeship with a Native American medicine man, and at a sweat lodge in 1985 he met Sharon Landrith. They were married in 1989. The following year Nate sold the manufacturing company and retired from the outdoor equipment business. He and Sharon lived on lakes in Kansas for years, spending part of each year at a cabin at 11,000 feet near Pitkin, Colorado. From there they began visiting Crestone, and in 2005 they bought their home and moved here.

Nate worked for the US Forest Service in the San Juan Mountains for a time, gaining knowledge of beautiful, out-of-the-way spots that could be accessed by Forest Service roads. For two years in Crestone he put this knowledge to use by offering back road



Sharon Landrith and Nate Scarritt with Sharon's granddaughter Skyler in 1993.



In 2012 Nate opened the Matrix Interdimensional Light Chamber to offer individuals a transcendent experience involving sound, vibration, color and light. photo by Ron Sitts



As a young man, Nate loved sailing. Later he added canoeing, kayaking, windsurfing, and hang gliding to his outdoor passions.

travel tours. Then, with David Hill, he started a company called Real-i-tees, which made and sold "contemplative tee shirts" with such sayings as "What you resist persists; what you accept, you go beyond." While the business didn't last long, Nate's own contemplative path included retreats he and Sharon had been attending since 2000 with California-based spiritual teacher Adyashanti. In 2003 Adyashanti asked Sharon to become a teacher in his lineage.

### Moving toward the 'zero point'

Two decades earlier, Nate's spiritual inquiry had led him to the Upanishads and Vedas, ancient texts of India, and to a powerful curiosity about the spiritual and healing potential of sound, color, and light. He recalls an ex-

traordinary experience of listening to music through headphones. "As I listened I would go back toward silence between the notes until I got to the point where I heard an equal amount of silence and notes. When that became seamless, my body became ecstasy and every cell in my body became the sound, the music." Later he was also able to reach that "zero point" through light. "So I knew that light and sound share the same point of origin, which was sacred, and was repeatable."

For several years after moving to Crestone, Nate funneled this understanding into researching audio and light equipment and building a small, carefully designed space intended to produce certain qualities of sound, vibration, and illuminated color, replicating what he describes as the "perfected pattern of the source of creation." The goal is to offer individuals an experience of "mind stabilization, sacred sound, living color immersion, and deep silence." He calls it the Matrix Interdimensional Light Chamber.

"I'm bringing what was sacred to me all together in one place, as an expression of gratitude for what's been given to me," he says. "After four years it's finally coming into what it's all about. I didn't want to repeat what's been done before, I wanted to explore, to see where it works and where not. That's been fun." This last word is key for Nate, and has been all his life, even when he's working intently on a project aimed at helping facilitate spiritual transcendence. "I try to remain in my 'enjoyment body' as much as possible," he says. "Enjoying people and having fun."

Gussie welcomes ideas for this ongoing series on Crestone area residents: gussie7@fairpoint.net, gussiefauntleroy.com.

# Blue Earth Designs: A touch of the world economy in Crestone

There's a little wood shop out on T Road doing big things.

Co-owners Adam and Cristina Cabeza-Kinney put together a remarkable team of local residents, including Peter Van Horn, Travis Rinaldis, and Julian Wade. Together they have taken on the seemingly impossible task of designing and building 300 maple spice dispensers for the Sprouts Farmers Market chain.

It all started one year ago when Adam drove out to Iowa to meet with a new client, Frontier Co-Op. The meeting was a success. Several months of design work and prototyping resulted in a contract to manufacture these custom laser-engraved units for a private label contract with Sprouts.

As Rinaldis once said, between endless rounds of sanding and lacquer, "To get to be part of the world economy and live here in the San Luis Valley is living the dream." This contract has enabled the Blue Earth team to create and maintain up to five winter time jobs for young families and to move a substantial sum of outside money through our local economy. Sourcing jobs like this may prove to be essential to the future growth and stability of such a rural economy.

It hasn't all been a walk in the park though. Besides the sheer magnitude of organizing, plan-

ning, ordering materials, boxes, pallets, stain, lacquer, glue; all the cutting, sanding, and assembling of over 15,000 pieces in total, one could add to this the innate challenge of living in Crestone. Getting materials here takes a lot of forethought. Negative temperatures freeze the compressor lines and sometimes even the lacquer as it sprays from the gun.

And there's the work itself. The team has essentially put in seven days a week for the last two and a half months.

These difficult aspects are what really make this such a beautiful undertaking. Each and every person involved played a crucial role in the process. And through the insurmountable odds, they each displayed a level of perseverance and commitment that is hard to come by in times like these. The result is something this crew can stand behind, even feel proud of, and certainly know that they are a part of something bigger than just having a job. And even more important, they never stopped laughing, and



Production Engineering duo Julian Wade and Adam Kinney.

they never stopped learning from their mistakes, which only goes to show that, with just the right amount of hard work and dedication, almost any error can be remedied.

Cristina expressed this when she said, "This whole process has made me less afraid to mess up." She also noted, "Imperfections are the things that get noticed and the things that bring the most beauty."

This perspective is the result of the hands-on touch and sight of thousands of pieces of maple, and the Blue Earth team wishes to express their deep gratitude and acknowledgement for the beautiful nature of this tree and the gift of be-

ing able to work with it in this way.

So, it may be safe to say that there are great things in store for Blue Earth Design. With the completion of this job, they have successfully leveled up to the next round and are ready for just about anything. Keep your eye out for new LED-lit signs popping up around town, and maybe even a local retail gift shop that specializes in Crestone souvenirs.

Sometimes, when the world gets too strange, and everything is up in the air and unknown, all you can do is get together with a couple of good friends and make beautiful things . . . as many as you can. And really try to make the most of the days off.



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## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

January began cold and icy but ended with Prem and me in Florida, warm and nourished by the moist sea and good friends that we visit each year at this time. We chanted, did fire ceremonies, shared Real Love and stories of Shri Babaji. It was a wonderful time.

This year Maha Shivaratri is the last Saturday night of February, the 25th. It is the night that Lord Shiva's energy is said to be most present on the earth. It is a night that we do pujas to the Shiva Lingam throughout the night and that we chant to Shiva from 10pm until 4am. It is a sacred and profound time and we ask that all who choose to attend respect the profundity of the night and the deep experiences of the other participants.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Friday, February 10, and the new-moon fire ceremony the morning after Shivarati, which is Sunday, February 26. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am and evening aarati is at 6pm. At 8am there is generally a small indoor fire ceremony after morning aarti. We do not have one on the days we have a large one. Please call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 or email us at [info@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org) for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies and any other questions.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is full and ready to serve you and if you mention this article, we will happily give you 10% off as our gift to you. We have lots of beau-



Maha Shivaratri, the Night of Shiva - Saturday, February 25 from 10pm - 4am.

tiful new singing bowls in many sizes. We also have a huge array of incense and diffuser oils. We recently received shipments of hanging crystals, deity candles, prayer flags, malas, oils, yantras, soaps, bells, mandala purses, bracelets, om curtains, murtis, Babaji 2017 Calendars, beautiful greeting cards, fine prints by Rita Beralt, and many other items, so stop by or give us a call about these.

We are offering 50% off all of our gently used saris, Punjabi suits, and blouses. We just received a huge new batch of them. The shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and look around, it is sort of like going to India! We deeply appreciate your support. You may view some of what is in our shop on our website at <http://mahalakshmiashram.org>.

For more information about the Ashram, please visit our website at [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org) where you will find a calendar of upcoming events, many stories by devotees, writings about Shri Babaji and the Divine Mother, and the Ashram schedule. We also invite you to visit the Ashram any time. We love to share Shri Babaji's and Mother's home with others. Just drop by or give us a call at 719-256-4108.

## Sri Aurobindo Learning Center The ideal

by Rod Hemsell

If we are going to envision a society, such as Hegel and Sri Aurobindo envisioned, in which every human being is fulfilled on the basis of freedom, the freedom to be, and the freedom to express in infinitely diverse ways the truths of ourselves and existence, then we must also see that many of the structures of society and human behavior that exist now will have to change. But for that to happen, the human being must change. The outer and relational is a product of the inner. Changing the outer structures on the basis of the rational mind will not change their essential constitution, which in human society is fundamentally mental. It is an order based upon the ethical mind, actuated by the practical mind. The limitation of Hegelian and Marxist thought was that, for them, the structures of society could be changed and the ideals of freedom and right could be realized by the rational will.

Sri Aurobindo saw that until there is a transformation of this mental consciousness into something higher, nothing in the external material world can change significantly. Radical change can happen only after the new consciousness becomes a norm, at least among a few. This follows the evolutionary law. Change always begins with one, and then a few, then a family, and a society, until the new type finally fills a niche. First there must be the ascent, the spiritual elevation of consciousness; then the descent of the new principle and power; and then, finally, a transformation that makes possible the advent of the "other", which is not a mental being, but a supramental body, life, and mind. This ideal is symbolized in Savitri by Satyavan, the human soul, and Savitri, the force of illumination that descends to transform consciousness. Satyavan speaks:

Once were my days like the days of other men:  
To think and act was all, to enjoy and breathe;  
This was the width and height of mortal hope:  
Yet there came glimpses of a deeper self  
That lives behind Life and makes her act its scene.  
A truth was felt that screened its shape from mind,  
A Greatness working towards a hidden end,  
And vaguely through the forms of earth there looked  
Something that life is not and yet must be.  
I groped for the Mystery with the lantern, Thought.  
Its glimmerings lighted with the abstract word  
A half-visible ground and traveling yard by yard  
It mapped a system of the Self and God.  
I could not live the truth it spoke and thought.

But now the gold link comes to me with thy feet  
And His gold sun has shone on me from thy face. . . .  
A strange new world swims to me in thy gaze  
Approaching like a star from unknown heavens;  
A cry of spheres comes with thee and a song  
Of flaming gods. I draw a wealthier breath  
And in a fierier march of moments move.  
My mind transfigures to a rapturous seer.

For information about the activities of the Sri Aurobindo Learning Center, please call 719-256-4917.

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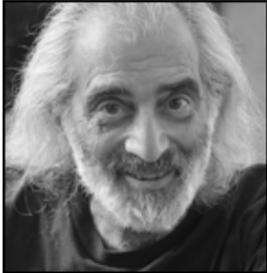
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# Aging as an art

by Ammi Kohn

## Uncle Omelet

Do you have a favorite uncle(s) or aunt(s)?

I especially loved and was loved by my Uncle Louie when I was very young. He taught me chess during the time when he was confined to his room with trigeminal nerve problems. In my memory he talked to me as a person, not as a small boy or from the perspective of a parent. When I visited Boston from Utica, New York (and travelled by myself at 9 with the help of Traveler's Aid, a trip which would not happen today), he would watch me from the window as I played and then discuss with me what I did when I come up to his room to visit.

How so very different from life with my parents when I realize now, as children do not realize, the roles that parents assume when they raise their children. Uncles and aunts don't have to assume the responsibility of parents. Their love can more easily be unconditional.

Adam, my sister's son, visited me for a few days several weeks ago. He doesn't call me Uncle Omelet any more, as he did four decades ago. But we do have a special relationship.

I love Adam. He grew up with difficulty because for his first years no one realized that when he was ill (and for a while that was fairly often) he was deaf so his speech development was delayed and his early behavior often difficult and not understandable. He grew up in a family that prized intellectual achievement but he had difficulty with reading . . . though he was a whiz in figuring out how electronic gadgets worked.

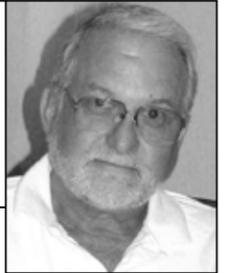
The family did not think he would be "successful." But, at twenty-two, he left for Florida and was happy as an entrepreneur, working with an assortment of trades and deals. People love him because of his sweet simplicity born, I imagine, from a very different early viewpoint of parents and adults. What you see is what you get. He may not completely understand people and life as his family does, but he is the happiest and most successful of the three children. Who would have thought!

So I love this child man, my sister's son, as only an elder uncle can. He confides in me in a way unthinkable with his parents and I enjoy my nephew for who he is, as well as being a family member.

What a pleasure, being an older Dutch Uncle!

## Messages from the heart of God

Free Spirit Christian Church



## Forgiveness

Pastor Earl LeRoy seeks the Lord's guidance through prayerful meditation for special messages he shares with the Church and the surrounding communities. This message was received from His Holy Spirit.

"Humans commit errors every day. Some mean nothing and some cause catastrophes. Some are caused by neglect and others are just bad judgments, but the only constant and the only remedy is forgiveness.

"People can deny Me, but they cannot deny My mercy and forgiveness. When someone forgives another it is because I Am, and I Am Love, and only love forgives. My love can be tapped into by anyone whether they believe in Me or not because it is a constant and it is the force that holds everything in place and the reason everything exists. Without My love the universe would be non-existent because I Am Love.

"We created man to be perfect just like Us, but sin created death and caused man to be imperfect, thus the need for mercy and forgiveness. The person who does not forgive and forget will suffer the torment of not receiving love. Unforgiveness puts up a roadblock to love and denies its power to put everything back on the right track to joy and happiness in love.

"Love makes everything right again through forgiveness. Real forgiveness says, 'Nothing can hurt me because I choose to love and I let love overpower my desire to remember and hold onto anything that comes against me.' Forgiveness is a product of love and mercy, and without it mankind would be totally destroyed and unredeemable.

"People come against Me constantly everyday. I choose to love them. I offer them forgiveness and I want to embrace them. When I laid down to be nailed to the cross

I knew it would hurt. The pain was intense but My love said, 'Forgive them Father because they do not know what they do.' That is true love. That is My mercy, and that is forgiveness. My love is greater than any hurt that they can inflict on Me.

"Forgiveness is not an occasional thing but a constant ongoing attribute that My love provides to anyone and everyone who will receive it. When anyone is conformed to My image and My love, mercy and forgiveness will be evident to everyone around them. My love is greater than any hurt. My mercy and forgiveness flowing through you will heal even the greatest hurt you can imagine.

"To walk in My power you must walk in My love. My love is merciful and My love forgives everyone who receives it by receiving Me. My Spirit gives you power and that power is available to everyone who is conformed to My image. Love God, love your neighbor and love your enemies. There is no greater sacrifice than to lay down your life in love, and there is no greater reward than to walk in My love, mercy and forgiveness."

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



CPI's YEP program brings performances like Gabriel and Soriba's African drum and dance to schools.

## Crestone Performances Inc. shifts focus to serving schools with YEP program

Party on! It has been decided to push forward this year with a combined carnival and music festival. We are crunching numbers and gathering info to determine the best route to take, but there will be an event. The main differences will be smaller headliners, smaller sound, smaller price and greater focus on family fun with all age activities increased. We will still bring quality music of an eclectic array plus bands, demonstrations and workshops that participate in our Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) during the school year. Dates haven't been decided on, but we're looking at the end of July or beginning of August. Wanna weigh in? Go to [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) and tell us what you think.

Shift happens! Crestone Performances Inc. is changing the primary focus of our organization from the festival to YEP. Our YEP program has grown to be the heart of our organization. YEP already provides a service that is unique, affordable and extremely rewarding for students and schools, and we are expanding it. Supplemental education through assembly presentations and in-residence programs are limited or non-existent in the San Luis Valley schools. With 35 schools in over 14 school districts, the need and opportunity is tremendous. Crestone Performances Inc., through YEP, has addressed this underserved region since 2002. Over those years we have brought a myriad of culturally and educationally diverse presentations to thousands of stu-

dents. A few examples are: a portable planetarium, a robotics troupe, a falconer, Celtic music, flamenco dance and music, singing plants, Cuban music, marimbas, taiko drums, African kora, positive/bilingual hip hop, Bhutanese dance and music, circus workshops, steel drums, Australian bush poets and many more. As of January 1, we have provided 36 different presenters totaling 193 shows. We are usually able to subsidize the cost 50 to 100% to schools, and we handle all aspects of administration, management and production.

Though our program is impressive, we have only scratched the surface. We want to accommodate more schools (we've served 22 of 35) and provide a wider scope of services. We are working with schools to complement current curricula, provide free instruments and place artists and educators in residence. This would include the sciences as well as the arts.

YEP provides a service that is unique, affordable and extremely rewarding for students and schools. If you would like to help, please send your donation to "YEP" P.O. Box 6, Crestone, CO 81131. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt and a pile of warm fuzzies knowing that you are enhancing the education of youth all over the San Luis Valley. With your help, we can do more! Keep checking [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) for more updates and, as always, feel free to call or email with questions, comments or concerns. 719-256-4533 [info@crestfest.org](mailto:info@crestfest.org).

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

### —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

#### 1/ *The Last Stand*: ★★★

Sheriff Owens, having a bungled final op with the LAPD, feels him a failure and is wracked with defeat. He heads out to a small border town to be their sheriff. The most notorious wanted drug kingpin escapes from the FBI and is heading for the sheriff's town with hostages and a small army. At first Owens is reluctant but eventually accepts full responsibility. Stars Arnold Schwarzenegger, Luis Guzman and others.

#### 2/ *China Strike Force*: ★★★

Team 808, the elite crime fighting unit, teams up with top Chinese security officer Darren, to hunt down an international drug cartel, and Darren teams up with Norika, a beautiful Japanese agent, to take down the smugglers who are trying to bring a shipment of cocaine into China.

#### 3/ *Ballistica*: ★★★

A terrorist organization uses a just-developed experimental bomb to threaten the lives of millions. The CIA must move quickly to remove the problem. They call on Damian, qualified in all aspects of combat, to do the job. He has to save the life of the only man alive to disarm it.

#### 4/ *Violet & Daisy*: ★★★

A bold and compelling film with humor and pathos. The teen assassins accept what they believe to be a quick and easy job, until an unexpected target throws them off their plan. Stars Saoirse Ronan, Alexis Bledel, James Gandolfini, Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Danny Trejo.

#### 5/ *Absolute Zero*: ★★★

A shift in the earth's polarity, which Dr. David Kotzman discovers was the cause of the last ice age, is now upon us again. As the temperature plummets, evacuation routes are jammed and they go to -450°, so cold that energy and light don't exist. They are holed up in a special chamber at Inter Sci as a desperate race for survival ensues. Stars Jeff Fahey, Erika Eleniak.



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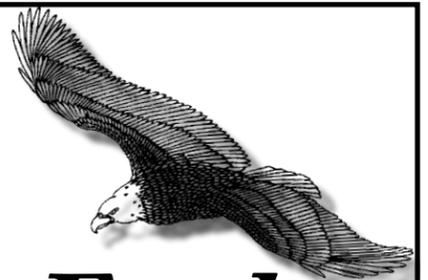


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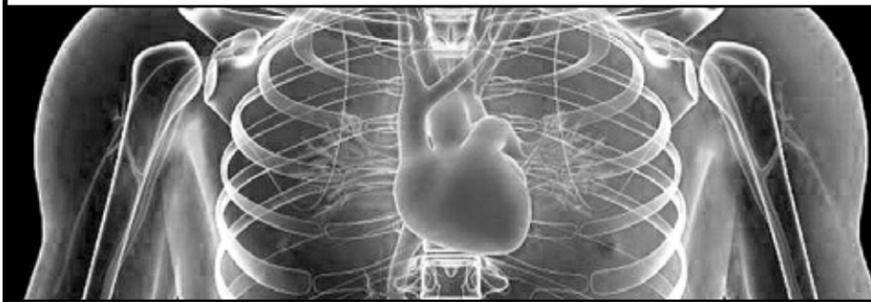
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## WizKid Quiz

Approximately how many times a day does a human heart beat?



- a. 50,00
- b. 100,000
- c. 1,000,000
- d. 500

## The Jokester

What did the caveman give his wife on Valentine's Day?  
*Ughs and kisses!*

What did the stamp say to the letter on Valentine's Day?  
*I'm stuck on you!*

What did the boy squirrel say to the girl squirrel on Valentine's Day?  
*I'm nuts about you!*

How can you tell the calendar is popular?  
*It always has a lot of dates.*

What does a vampire call his sweetheart?  
*His ghoul-friend.*

What did one oar say to the other oar?  
*How about a little row-mance?*

Where do burgers take their Valentine's Day dates to dance?  
*To the meatball.*

What do you call romance in a tropical fish tank?  
*Guppy love.*

What do you call two birds in love?  
*Tweethearts.*

Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?  
*No, but they had an apple.*

What did the light bulb say to the switch?  
*You turn me on.*

What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?  
*Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?*



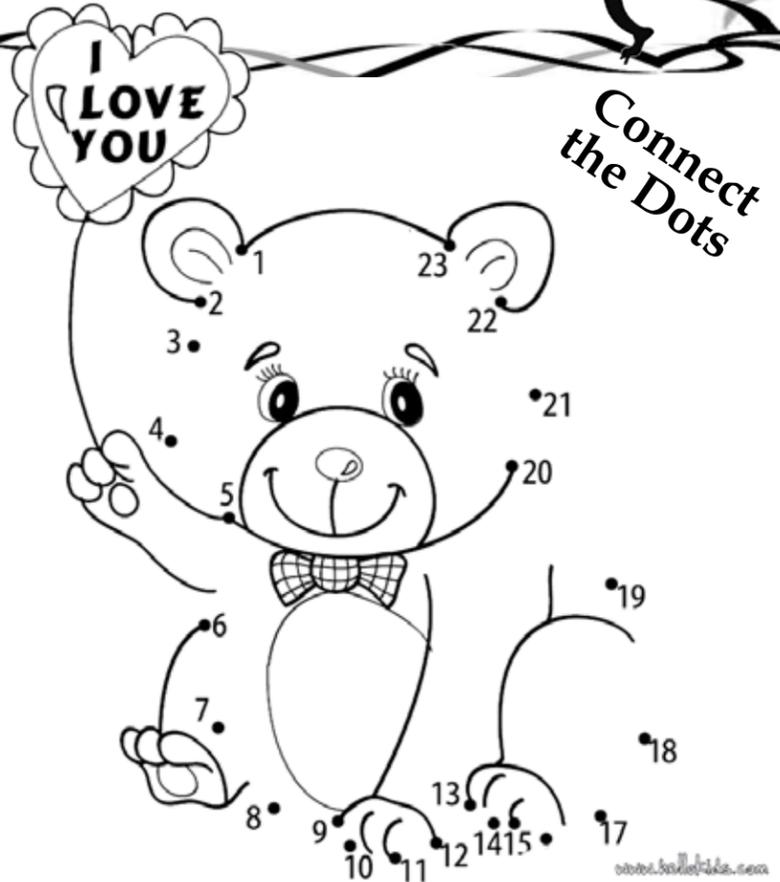
What flower should you never give your Valentine?  
*A cauliflower!*

What did the girl cat say to the boy cat on Valentine's Day?  
*You're purrr-fect for me.*

What did the chocolate syrup say to the ice cream?  
*I'm sweet on you.*

What did the paper clip say to the magnet?  
*I'm so attracted to you.*

Knock, knock.  
*Who's there?  
Howard.  
Howard who?  
Howard you like me to stop telling these silly Valentine's Day jokes?*



page by M. Diane Bairstow www.gypypoetproductions.com

## Poppy's Valentine Lesson

by M. Diane Bairstow



drawing by Ginny Ducale

"I do not want to give valentines to the Badger twins!" Poppy, a young white bunny, pouted. "They pull my ears and make fun of me!"  
"It is the kind thing to do Poppy." Madam Colette, Poppy's human mistress, said as she cut out red paper hearts for Poppy to decorate. "If you give everyone a valentine, no one will feel left out."

"Humph!" Poppy muttered and kept coloring the valentines.  
The next day at school, all the valentines went into a big bowl, and after lunch Miss Blakely handed them out.

Lucy Longwing, the class favorite, got three before Poppy even got one. Then Miss Blakely put a card on Poppy's desk; it was from Amanda Sue. Poppy watched as Lucy got two more. She felt like crying. Was she only going to get one? But then she got one from Janie Jones and one from Sammy Skunk.

The very last two valentines were for Poppy. She opened them carefully and sighed. They were from the Riley and Ralphie—the Badger twin! Being polite, she turned and smiled at them, and they both waved happily back. Poppy glanced down at their desks and saw that her valentines were the only ones they had.

After class, Riley and Ralphie came running after her. "Poppy, wait for us!" they called.

Oh No! Poppy thought, here they come to torment me.

"Can I carry your books?" Riley asked.

"And walk you home?" Ralphie added.

"OK." Poppy said hesitantly and handed her books to Riley.

The boys talked her ears off as they walked home, but that was much better than pulling them, and Poppy thought about what Madam Colette often said, "A small kindness makes a big difference."

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## Special needs a special occupation: *An invitation to be aware at the present moment*

My name is Roberta Rosa-Snyder and I would like to share with you my adventure and experiences in teaching special needs children in the school of Moffat. I originate from Brazil where I was a professor at Faculdade de Interaçao Americana. I also worked for many years teaching Portuguese (my mother's tongue) speaking employees of companies, such as Mercedes and Volkswagen, English as a second language.

I have worked with children when I was much younger, but the bulk of my experience has been with adults. Throughout my life, like most people, I have had a wide range of experiences and challenges from which I have learned much. Nothing compares however to what I face now in this new place and occupation. Life is full of surprises, changes, and adventures. Mine has led me here to America to live in the beautiful San Luis Valley where I have had the most fortunate opportunity of working at Moffat School teaching special needs children. I have found this to be a fascinating and challenging new world for me.

The students of Moffat receive loving and abundant support of multidisciplinary professionals with whom I have the pleasure of sharing my experiences. As my peers, the other staff members, have warmly helped me prepare and develop my skills in lesson planning, which has indeed been a whole new universe to me. There are three aspects of my career I have learned much from and would like to share with you: Awareness, Improvisation, and Multi-Sensorial Learning.

**Awareness:** I discovered how to focus and be aware of details of each student and discern what difficulties each individual child faced so that I could address each one singularly. Each one of them have different amounts of time that they can dedicate to study, based on after-school schedules and varying home lives. I have to factor in emotional reactions, both good and bad, from daily life that affects their attention spans, or ability to concentrate. Things like not being well rested or illness for example.

I make myself aware of the look in their eyes, breathing, and tone of voice to ascertain how they are feeling in every small detail. This way I can create an environment most conducive to each student's learning needs in the most positive way possible. While the average student is also affected by these factors it is minute in comparison the highly sensitive

student body that blesses both my classroom and my life.

**Improvisation:** In Brazil we are known for our ability to improvise, a fact that has prepared me for the obstacles I have come to face in the classroom. I have applied this knowledge and found myself learning even more than I was teaching. I have used this now freshly honed ability to make math more relatable to my students. I improvised a plan to use the simple matter of grocery shopping to do so. Bringing in products, I set up a "Grocery Store" in class. I then have each student make a list and go shopping, step by step from picking the items on their list, noting the prices, to checking out and discussing purchase totals. In this way the math became a real and viable part of their lives as well as making it an adventure they immensely enjoyed.

**Multi-Sensorial:** Using different techniques to teach, such as when I brought in a book to teach them about different professions with many pictures (of professionals) with little actual text allowing for a more open discussion and an exploratory session of learning. They could look at a picture of a police officer, firefighter, or doctor asking and expressing ideas more fluidly. It was a blessed day that they and I have never forgotten. If learning is not fun it is uninspiring, uninteresting, and perhaps unabsorbed. I try also to record most of my classes and have found that the children are responsive and enriched by the reviewing of them. They take notes of their own reactions and behaviors. They ask questions like "Why did I say that like that?", and evaluate on their own how they look and sound, playfully making remarks like "I sound like a baby." This method gives them a tool for self-reflection in a very powerful way as well as giving me a tool I can use myself to improve upon lessons.

In conclusion let me say that when I have succeeded in teaching something new to my students I have the happiness of knowing each of their lives are made brighter by me in a small way. The feeling I get from this achievement is priceless. In the way of smiles and hugs I am repaid with something far more precious than money. Just knowing that they will carry the experience attained through the time they spent with me through their whole lives is an honor. I am grateful for this opportunity and love each of them very much.



## Moffat Knowledge Bowl prepares for Regionals

Moffat School District's Knowledge Bowl team is practicing and preparing for the San Luis Valley KBowl Regional Competition on Thursday, February 23. The meet will be held at the Adams

State University campus and will include only the varsity team as they vie for a spot at the state championship in March at Colorado State University. Scores have been very close this year with ups and downs throughout the four rounds at each competition. We expect it to be a very close race to secure the 1st, 2nd or 3rd place position, thus earning a trip to Fort Fun.

Last year we initially missed qualifying when we were edged out by Creede by just one point in a dead heat tie-breaker. Fortunately, our collective score was enough to gain the attention of the State KBowl Board and we were one of 12 teams in the state invited to compete in Fort Collins anyways due to our close score at the Regional Meet. Team members this year include: Captain Joedeelee Rigdon, Nico Anzelc-Tolian, Ryker Poor, Mikey Richardson, Holly Fuller, and Alyssa Chavez.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the anonymous donor who has contributed once again this year to our club. It means a great deal to our students to be supported for their endeavors in an academic competition. We truly have enjoyed an amazing team for many years with an incredible collection of fine minds. This is quite a feat for such a small school district and it is really something to see our students compete and hold their own against much larger schools. Your support is greatly appreciated! Any other donors who would like to give a similar tip of the hat to some of our top scholars may contact the school at 745-0500. Thanks!

## Colleges visit Moffat School

Two colleges will be coming to visit Moffat High School seniors and juniors. On January 17, Colorado State University in Pueblo will be visiting the students and discussing the CSU-Pueblo campus, majors and all it has to offer our great students. Grand Canyon University will be visiting with the seniors and juniors on January 24 to also discuss the GCU campus, areas of study and other topics that might interest our students.



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# Crestone Charter School offers mentorships

One of the many things that makes the Crestone Charter School a unique place to learn and grow is its high school mentorship program. CCS mentorships open a window for students to explore exciting subjects and gain valuable skills and experiences that would otherwise be out of reach in such a small rural school. In addition, the program offers a way for our diverse Crestone community members to share their knowledge and professional experience with the younger generation. The CCS mentorship program, like the Crestone community itself, is dynamic, creative, and always evolving. This past semester high school students completed mentorships in herbalism, music performance, sound engineering, fine arts, silversmithing, culinary arts, electronics, martial arts, law enforcement, foreign languages, and more!

For some CCS students, mentorships offer a valuable way to pursue their personal passions and interests. Oliver Benavidez, a CCS junior, has always had a passion for writing, drawing, and storytelling. He also had an idea for a graphic novel that he'd been wanting to write and publish: "What I needed was the extra motivation to help make my dream a reality." So Oliver enrolled in a book making mentorship taught by Winter Ross. He's now well on his way to publishing his first graphic novel. "As a student," says Oliver, "the mentorship program offers a way for me to easily learn unique subjects that can help me when I graduate from high school, and it's a program that helps community members be part of something greater than themselves."

Other students found themselves gaining hands-on experience in unusual skills they may never have been exposed to otherwise. CCS junior Rosalea Anderson recently completed a silversmithing mentorship with jewelry artist Rocky Hedstrom, and reflected on what she learned: "While torching copper until it was red hot I learned a lot about how the atoms within the metal behaved in a pretty intuitive way. We worked with a technique called mokume, which gives metal a layered, wood-like look. It was awesome to play with a technique that was originally used to make strong swords, and has been passed down for hundred of years."

CCS seniors Ryder Miller and Isaiah Garcia jumped at the opportunity to immerse themselves in a law enforcement mentorship



Ryder Miller and Isaiah Garcia practice their crime scene investigation skills during their law enforcement mentorship. photo by Wayne Clark

under the guidance of Saguache County Deputy Wayne Clark. "It was really valuable just to be able to ride along and see what the life of a cop is really like," says Ryder. "Everything from paperwork and making sure they understand domestic violence law, to how they train their dogs, to tactical techniques for detaining suspects." Although Ryder is not planning on going into law enforcement as a career, the mentorship opened his eyes to what police work is really about: "I have a lot more respect for what police officers do, how much work is involved, and how they risk their lives every day to keep the community safe."

Some CCS mentorships offer very practical, and even potentially life-saving know-how. One of the fall semester's most popular mentorships was a crash course in local herbalism, taught by Tovia Safford. Students learned to identify and sustainably harvest a wide variety of edible and medicinal plants,



Elementary students bring the BFF Revolution to Crestone's Town Hall. photo by Daya Scheide



Ryder Miller, Andre Claudio, Cailan Boone, and Maori Baca rehearse during their music performance mentorship with Tom Dessain. photo by Daya Scheide



Kailou Cleary, Drew McNulty, Mackenzie Martinez, and Sabian Storm display herbal medicines they gathered during their herbalism mentorship with Tovia Safford. photo by Daya Scheide

and gained the skills to turn those plants into tinctures, salves, and other medicines. In addition to memorizing the healing properties of dozens of local plants, students learned to look at the natural world in a new way. According to Kailou Cleary, a CCS junior, "Maybe more useful than any one particular skill is the mindset of looking for better and more natural ways of healing your own body. This class helped us understand the relationship between plants and animals, as well



Oliver Benavidez displays a draft of his graphic novel, created during his book-making mentorship with Winter Ross. photo by Daya Scheide

as how we can heal ourselves, mentally and physically, with plants." Or, as sophomore Drew McNulty puts it, "One thing that will stick with me forever is that nature has all the answers."

## Other Crestone Charter School news

On Friday, January 13, CCS elementary students took to the streets to celebrate the BFF (Best Friends Forever) Revolution! Under the guidance of early elementary teacher Lyndsay Duebber, the students started their revolution to help people all over the world become friends. Carrying banners and flowers, students sang and paraded through the town of Crestone, visiting local businesses and collecting signatures from neighbors willing to pledge their support. According to Nisa Scheide, second grade, the BFF Revolution is "all about making friends." Third grader Claire Dessain explained that "if enough people decide to join the BFF Revolution, then there will be no more wars and no more people will go hungry." You too can help CCS students spread the BFF Revolution by promising to use the virtues of kindness and respect towards all people!

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## The Washington Beat

### *The Trump era begins: Life in Hell*

by David Nicholas

Before “The Simpsons”, TV series creator Matt Groening created a cartoon strip called “Life in Hell.” The strip used to appear in the free and alternative press weeklies around the country. It presented a bleak, dark mood on life full of foreboding while trying to find light out of a mundane suburban lifestyle. Now, that sense of things has been resurrected. The Trump machinations since November 8 have moved “Life in Hell” from a peripheral perception to a mainstream American condition. He’s only just been formally on the job since January 20. But it doesn’t matter where you are in the world; people are on edge and feeling wary, nay, very afraid.

Uncertainty is a dangerous condition at the best of times, but when you mix it with fear and loathing anything can happen and it probably will. So are you ready?

There is nothing good about a President who thinks he knows more than you do, when you know that outside of his business dealings, Mr. Trump doesn’t know much at all. But in so short a time Mr. Trump’s braggadocio and stupid, careless remarks have made him lots of enemies out of people whose help he needs to make his presidency work.

Maybe this is a cunning divide-and-conquer strategy Mr. Trump has devised, because he is cunning. However, as I said last time he does not possess the political smarts. Basically he is a reactionary of the sensitive hip pocket nerve, a shyster always looking to fill his purse. When you run circuses this is an advantage. P.T. Barnum—whose circus closed its doors over Christmas—always knew a good angle to make money, but as president, this can get you into all kinds of hell.

Thus, it appears he is ensuring that the nation will never come together while he is president, unless something dramatically unforeseen changes the national mood.

Historically speaking, Mr. Trump has created a schism between strongly opposed sections or parties. What that means is, rather than giving Mr. Trump a break starting out in an administration that looks to be adversarial at every turn, there will be no mercy. In short, make a mistake and the reaction will be bloody. And it’s begun.

#### **The Inauguration as spectacle**

The shot from the top of the Washington Monument looking down the Mall to the Capitol was notable for the large white spaces set aside for spectators. The ones way back were empty and those closer to the Capitol had folks but were never full. If you compare it to 2009 when two million came to President Obama’s inauguration and there wasn’t a space to be found anywhere, 2017 was tepid. I guesstimated half or maybe less than half of Obama’s numbers came to see Mr. Trump. Also many of the stands for the inauguration parade

along the route had nobody in them. I was looking for exactly that to begin with because I was curious as to how many of the Trump supporters would come to the place which means to them Gomorrah.

In fact, it later turned out that the lack of enthusiastic crowds had not gone unnoticed by *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post* and comparison photos of 2009 v. 2017 appeared on the Park Service’s website (later Friday afternoon had been ordered suspended by the incoming masters of the Trump administration). So even crowd size matters to the White House.

True, it was raining from time to time which probably helped keep numbers down, but even the close shots of folks on the Mall of Mr. Trump’s forgotten people were depressing.

Had this stopped there it would have been enough, but on a trip to CIA headquarters at Langley, Mr. Trump waded into this cesspool of nonsense. Please see below.

#### **The Inauguration: The swearing in**

President Trump took the oath at noon precisely, administered by Chief Justice John Roberts, who got the oath right this time. Mr. Trump took the oath right after Mike Pence was sworn in by Associate Justice Clarence Thomas, who probably said more words in public than since he was sworn to the bench in 1991.

#### **The Inauguration: The President’s speech, declaring war**

If you were looking for inspiration and you were among the 65 million who didn’t vote for President Trump, the speech had nothing to give you. He never spoke to unite the country in clear and concise terms, but the opposite appeared to be true, to keep it divided. In fact it sounded pretty hostile.

It still addressed his base of support with the use of fighting rhetoric, and they probably really loved it. The tone was strident and determined to continue conflict against enemies real or perceived.

Mr. Trump slighted Hillary Clinton by ignoring her and her contribution to this American democracy. Something was clearly said to Mr. Trump just before the inauguration luncheon got under way in the Hall of Statues some 3 minutes later, and the President made a point of acknowledging her there, but that was later. It was not really the national stage.

The speech appears as a declaration of war on the very people Mr. Trump is going to need to govern. But several paragraphs should give us pause and the excerpts are mine:

“For too long, a small group in our nation’s capital has reaped the rewards of government while the



people have borne the cost. Washington flourished, but the people did not share in its wealth. Politicians prospered, but the jobs left and the factories closed. The establishment protected itself, but not the citizens of our country. Their victories have not been your victories. Their triumphs have not been your triumphs. And while they celebrated in our nation’s capital, there was little to celebrate for struggling families all across our land.

“That all changes starting right here and right now because this moment is your moment, it belongs to you.”

Also this:

“For many decades, we’ve enriched foreign industry at the expense of American industry; subsidized the armies of other countries, while allowing for the very sad depletion of our military. We’ve defended other nations’ borders while refusing to defend our own.

“And spent trillions and trillions of dollars overseas while America’s infrastructure has fallen into disrepair and decay. We’ve made other countries rich, while the wealth, strength and confidence of our country has dissipated over the horizon.

“One by one, the factories shuttered and left our shores, with not even a thought about the millions and millions of American workers that were left behind. The wealth of our middle class has been ripped from their homes and then redistributed all across the world.

“But that is the past. And now, we are looking only to the future.

“Every decision on trade, on taxes, on immigration, on foreign affairs will be made to benefit American workers and American families. We must protect our borders from the ravages of other countries making our products, stealing our companies and destroying our jobs.”

The problem with all these grand words is that Mr. Trump is guilty of all those things he says other people do. He’s one of the abusers he so much decries now. So as his administration begins we have to see if much of the threatening ambiguity in these paragraphs comes to fruition. It doesn’t auger well for the future. We shall see what he does. To other major nations on earth this may seem a prelude to war.

#### **The women’s marches, January 21**

Day Two of the Trump administration women marched in Washington, DC and across the country to protest the threat to women’s rights his administration poses. Women’s issues, as Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) said, were national security and well-paid jobs, as well as health issues.

These were massive marches marking a beginning of a major domestic conflict that’s not going to go away. Watch the aerial shots around the country of marches in Boston, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, Seattle and DC. To my eye the crowds in each of those cities outstripped the number that turned up for the Trump inauguration. The fight is on. There are personal reports from these marches to be read elsewhere in the *Eagle*. In solidarity!

#### **Trump visits the CIA**

The thing about Donald Trump that I like very much is

that the longer he talks the more vain, crass and stupid things he utters. His very first engagement on January 21 was a visit to Langley, CIA headquarters. He was there to make nice with people he had chided throughout his campaign and all through January as traitors out to get him. In short, he screwed the pooch.

You go to speak before the memorial wall to honor the 117 stars for their service, but Donald Trump gave it minimal lip service and then went on to talk about him and the lying media. He even went on to claim that the crowds at his inauguration stretched all the way back to the Washington Memorial when it clearly didn’t.

So did the 200+ crowd of CIA employees who gave up their Saturday to hear him come away with confidence in the Commander-in-Chief? More likely he turned many of them off him. They probably thought that Mike Pence, just by what he said before the wall, would make a better Commander-in-Chief.

I can say that Mr. Trump’s enemies in the intelligence community are generally not folks who currently work in intelligence. Rather, it is the retired ex-intelligence officials. If they don’t like you then you need to be worried; people will tell you in DC that there is no such thing as a spy who retires. They are always on the job and are always on call to do something the CIA officially cannot. Which is why Mr. Trump will be dealing with this issue in the future.

#### **Was the President groomed by the Russians?**

This is not as surprising as it would initially appear, to ask this question, given the intelligence communities’ assessments that Russia worked to influence the outcome of the election.

The question comes from the BuzzFeed memo containing unsubstantiated descriptions of conduct by Mr. Trump, which at his first press conference—such as it was—he lambasted and ridiculed in the extreme to try and make the whole episode get lost in the other muck. The memorandum unveiled by media outlets such as CNN and BuzzFeed, and subsequently by *The New York Times*, was authored by former British MI6 spy Christopher Steele. Mr. Trump labeled it as fake news in a tweet just hours after the news broke, and he doubled down on this at his press conference. But hold on a moment.

As unverified as the claims in this “dossier” appear to be, every former CIA official who knows Mr. Steele claims that he is not only legitimate, that he has sources who he can stand by as being “highly reliable.”

According to the British newspaper *The Independent*, Mr. Steele was so worried by what he was discovering about Donald Trump’s alleged Kremlin links that at the end he was working without pay. More, say security sources, Mr. Steele became increasingly frustrated that the FBI was failing to take action on the intelligence from others as well as him. He came to believe there was a cover-up, that a cabal within the FBI blocked a thorough inquiry into Mr. Trump, focusing instead on the investigation into Hillary Clinton’s emails.

It is believed that a colleague of Mr. Steele in Washington, Glenn Simpson, a former *Wall Street Journal* reporter who runs the firm Fusion GPS, felt the same way and at the end also continued on the Trump case without being paid.

Why I give this the time of day when so many have bent to the will of Mr. Trump and his surrogates and have chosen to not deal with the allegations, is that the President doesn't shut up about this. He doesn't understand the Shakespearean adage, that "he doth protest too much, methinks."

The President says, "It shouldn't have been written," and those things described in the memorandum, it just "never happened." Un-huh.

However, he let the story run for nearly twelve hours, other than the tweet, and the longer he left the allegations formally unanswered, the more the story had legs. What that tells me is that there was a crisis meeting held at Trump Tower as to how to handle the bombshell and that it took hours for a response to be formulated.

The smart move would be to have a spokesperson come out and deny the allegations outright within minutes of the story surfacing, but it wasn't soon enough. Kellyanne Conway, special advisor to Mr. Trump, tried to play down the allegation on Jimmy Kimmel's Tonight Show, but it was not the ironclad rejection one would expect from her. In short, she was stalling.

Instead Ms. Conway seemed uncertain on the position she needed to take. This was so unlike her; in most everything else, she always delivers a strong answer—no matter how outlandish the narrative. This is her forte.

At the press conference on Jan 11, Press Secretary Sean Spicer slammed the memorandum as an introduction. Then Mr. Trump took the microphone and attacked the media sources for reporting the story. But he never denied the specific charges. No one at the press conference ever got to ask him a question about the content.

He made sure the question couldn't be asked, refusing to take a question from CNN or BuzzFeed, but the sharp and crazy interaction just made the memorandum more of a focus. Mr. Trump was angry at not being able to make the media kowtow to his authority.

Mr. Trump does a lot of bombast to distract from any narrative he doesn't control, which automatically makes me circumspect, so where there is smoke there appears to be some fire.

I have read the 35-page memorandum BuzzFeed made available for download on its website, and while the content is as yet unsubstantiated some of Mr. Trump's personal details fall in line with the "Access Entertainment" video revealing Mr. Trump's predatory sexual nature. If the details in this "dossier" are a fiction, then it is unerringly close and very familiar to the video documentation on Mr. Trump's extreme sexual behavior.

#### **Is he a Manchurian Candidate?**

This memorandum has set this idea in motion. The Manchurian Candidate comes from the Richard Condon novel of the same name

published in the 1950s about a captured US Korean War prisoner in a Chinese indoctrination program, who is programmed/brainwashed to assassinate the President when shown a particular playing card by his mother.

Without going into the symbolism that this engenders in Mr. Trump's conduct, the memorandum states in its opening paragraph that Mr. Trump has been groomed over the last five years to take a pro-Kremlin stance on Russian/US affairs. That certainly looks to have been the case during the presidential campaign. This is a pro-Kremlin stance forced through blackmail, if the memorandum is to be believed. During the campaign he acted as a fawning sycophant to and mouthpiece for the Kremlin. This doesn't look good.

The problem for Mr. Trump is that this isn't over. In fact, this is just beginning. I referred earlier to Mr. Trump's penchant for making enemies he doesn't need. The intelligence services he has offended will now make it their mission in life to destroy this presidency.

If Mr. Trump isn't paranoid now, he soon will be. This type of things can take years to surface, but the truth always outs at some point.

#### **The 'illegitimate president' comment**

Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) made this comment just a week before the inauguration and he pretty much knew that the comment would draw fire from Mr. Trump, and it did. The weekend before the inauguration, President Trump engaged the revered civil rights proponent in a back-and-forth that was designed from Mr. Lewis' point of view to draw out Mr. Trump's racist views. The narrative was serious enough to get Mr. Trump's Chief of Staff Reince Preibus to go on the Sunday talks shows on January 15 to deflect the fire, using a righteous indignation narrative that Mr. Lewis should apologize to the President.

But it didn't work. Mr. Trump's tweet attack on Mr. Lewis incensed so many Democratic lawmakers that 63 of them boycotted his inauguration.

What this says to me is that despite the aggressive narrative of professed confidence, the Trump administration is truly afraid that the nation will remain divided over his presidency. Generally at the time of the inauguration the nation comes together to welcome in the next president, but Mr. Lewis has killed that feeling of bonhomie and now more than half of the voting public won't be buying his shtick.

Mr. Lewis came and said what he did after receiving the intelligence briefings on the "dossier."

#### **So how can we get rid of him? Indivisible**

Yes, thoughts run wild but a peaceful solution has been preferred.

Short of the this 70-year-old senior dying in office, or one of his fanatical devotees finding him to be a paper tiger and exercising his particular version of his right to bear arms, this strategy could well end his term in four years. MSNBC's Rachel Maddow drew my attention to this one: a brilliant strategy in a document you can read called

'Indivisible, A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda,' and this could provide you with grist for your mill if you have the urge to revolt without taking up arms. This is a how-to guide to fight, taking a page from President Obama's foes. The introduction says:

"Donald Trump is the biggest popular vote loser in history to ever call himself President-Elect. In spite of the fact that he has no mandate, he will attempt to use his congressional majority to reshape America in his own racist, authoritarian, and corrupt image. If progressives are going to stop this, we must stand indivisibly opposed to Trump and the members of Congress who would do his bidding. Together, we have the power to resist—and we have the power to win.

"We know this because we've seen it before. The authors of this guide are former congressional staffers who witnessed the rise of the Tea Party. We saw these activists take on a popular president with a mandate for change and a supermajority in Congress. We saw them organize locally and convince their own members of Congress to reject President Obama's agenda. Their ideas were wrong, cruel, and tinged with racism—and they won." You can download this at <https://www.indivisibleguide.com>

#### **General James Mattis confirmed as SecDef**

The business of the Senate continues, inauguration notwithstanding, and late January 20 the Senate voted to confirm General James Mattis as Secretary of Defense. It is the first time a former military officer was picked to run the department since 1950 when General George C. Marshall headed it. President Truman tapped him because of the failing Korean War. Since then the Secretary of Defense has always been a civilian.

The bill President Trump signed into law was a waiver for General Mattis, exempting him from a current law that limits the appointment of a Defense Secretary within seven years of relief from duty. The vote was 98-1 in favor to confirm the General, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) being the only dissenter, citing her concern for the waiver.

#### **General John Kelly confirmed as Head of Homeland Security**

On January 20, the second appointment gained Senate approval. General John Kelly was confirmed 80-11 in the Senate as Secretary of Homeland Security. The former Marine general will be in charge of securing the nation, including overseeing the construction of a wall along the border with Mexico that President Trump has said he will build. Kelly will oversee a sprawling entity of more than 240,000 employees who do everything from protecting the President to safeguarding the nation's electrical grid.

#### **Senate fights for Trump nominees**

Treasury Secretary pick Steve Mnuchin along with Health and Human Services nominee Tom Price have been flagged and ran into the Senate buzz saw.

Senator Clair McCaskill (D-MO) took Mr. Mnuchin to task. The Senator raised the possibility that foreign entities holding Trump's

debt could attempt to influence policy. While the Senator appeared insistent, she was laying a trap by getting Mr. Mnuchin to go on the record now, so if Mr. Trump's financial holdings come under Senate review at some point, which could be soon, this can be quoted back to him.

Congressman Tom Price, Mr. Trump's pick for Health and Human Services Secretary, it appears, is tainted with controversy.

#### **Filling the remaining Trump cabinet positions**

Last time I noted that four positions remain to be filled which require Senate confirmation. These positions were the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the US Trade Representative.

Former Indiana Senator Dan Coats has been nominated for the DNI; the current Undersecretary for Health at the VA, David Shulkin, is to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, a position that requires Senate confirmation; and the US Trade Representative pick is former Reagan appointee Robert Lighthizer. Former Georgia Governor Sonny Purdue has been nominated for Secretary of Agriculture.

#### **The gutting of Obamacare begins**

A very busy bee was he on Friday night after the inauguration. True to his election pledge Mr. Trump gave the perception that he has begun to repeal Obamacare on day one. In a staged photo op in the Oval office, he signed an executive order late Friday, January 20, which gives federal agencies broad powers to unwind regulations created under the Affordable Care Act. Unconfirmed as yet, this might include enforcement of the penalty for people who fail to carry the health insurance that the law requires of most Americans.

The executive order directs agencies to grant relief to all constituencies affected by the sprawling 2010 health-care law: consumers, insurers, hospitals, doctors, pharmaceutical companies, states and others. It does not describe specific federal rules to be softened or lifted, but it appears to give room for agencies to eliminate an array of ACA taxes and requirements.

However, some of these are embedded in the law, so it is unclear what latitude the executive branch will have.

#### **Alternative facts—1984 foreboding**

"Alternative facts" looms as a threat when reporting stories which speak truth to power. This phrase was set up by White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer when he came out on Saturday to reflect Mr. Trump's displeasure about the crowd size story, with Mr. Spicer saying that the crowds were the largest ever, period. Of course it was a lie, Orwellian double speak to be precise. But then Special Advisor to the President, Kellyanne Conway, came on NBC's MeetThePress on January 22 and tried to argue that there were "alternative facts" about the crowd size. Moderator Chuck Todd confronted Ms. Conway, stating that "alternative facts" were falsehoods—or lies—and so they are. This will carry on in the future.

And the beat goes on.

## CDHS requests funding to improve treatment of Coloradans with mental health & substance use issues

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) this week requested \$9,645,018 from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund (MTCF) next fiscal year to address behavioral health needs as they relate to the criminal justice system. The department's request follows recommendations from the Mental Health Hold Task Force and the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ).

The Mental Health Hold Task Force, which was created in 2016 to evaluate Colorado's mental health hold process, released eight recommendations earlier this month to ensure that people who are experiencing a mental health crisis receive proper treatment and constitutional protections.

A mental health hold is a legally authorized involuntary civil detention intended to hold people who have not committed a crime but who are exhibiting behavior that is a danger to themselves or others. Persons who meet the criteria for an involuntary hold may be detained for up to 72 hours to be evaluated by a mental health professional.

Primary among the Mental Health Hold Task Force recommendations is that the General Assembly pursue legislation prohibiting the use of jails to hold persons with mental health issues who have not been accused of crimes. The task force was created at the direction of Gov. John Hickenlooper last year after he vetoed Senate Bill 16-169, citing concerns about the due process rights of individuals experiencing mental health crisis.

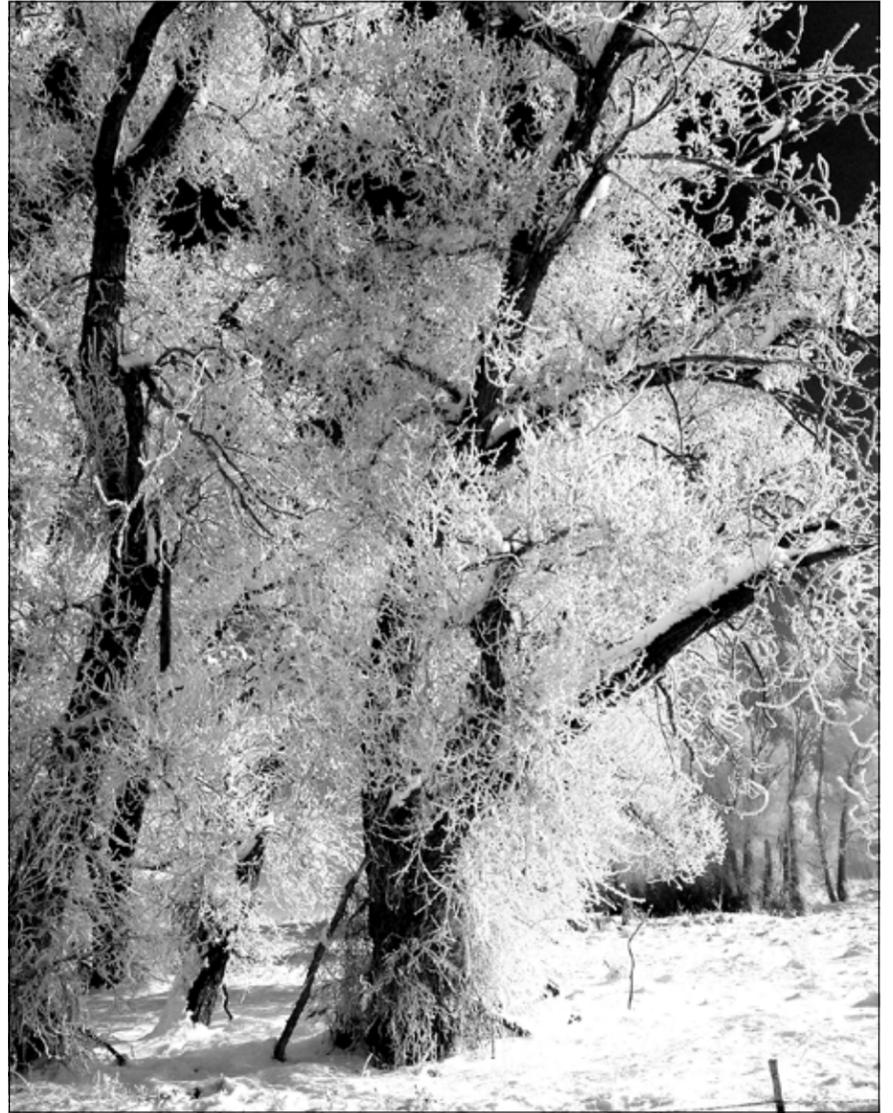
CDHS is requesting \$3,580,318 in Fiscal Year 2017-18 and \$3,744,438 in Fiscal Year 2018-19 and subsequent years to address five of the eight recommendations—all of the recommendations that can be addressed by the Department through a budget request. The complete list of recommendations, which also include statutory and administrative recommendations, is available here.

Following recommendations from the CCJJ on Jan. 13, CDHS is requesting \$6,064,700 and 2.3 full-time positions in FY 2017-18 and \$6,100,591 and 2.3 full-time positions in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to support local partnerships between law enforcement and behavioral health service providers.

Criminal justice systems in Colorado commonly handle low-level offenders with mental health or substance use issues. Often these low-level offenders are more of a threat to themselves than to others. The dollars requested seek to decrease the number of arrests for low-level offenses related to substance use or other behavioral health issues and instead route these individuals to more appropriate treatment and services. The money would also be used to increase access to co-responder models where behavioral health professionals ride along with police officers.

"People experiencing mental health crises need access to treatment and care, not a jail cell," said Reggie Bicha, executive director of CDHS. "We're grateful for the hard work of these task forces in coming up with recommendations to ensure that Coloradans get the treatment they need. We encourage the legislature to approve these budget requests, so we can put these recommendations into action."

The funding requested is in addition to the governor's November 1 budget proposal, which included another \$4 million from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund in the Department of Local Affairs to develop service-enriched permanent supportive housing units for people with behavioral health needs.



Hoar frost coating cottonwood trees.

photo by Timothy F. Allen

## SLV grants

*continued from page 1*

Program, improving connections along Creede's Willow Creek Corridor, the Headwaters Youth Conservation Corps, the Saguache Backyard to Backcountry Program, and the Saguache Youth Conservation Corps.

RiGHT's grant for La Garita Creek Ranch was part of GOCO's open space grant program, which funds public and private land conservation. Projects sustain local agriculture and economies, give outdoor recreationists a place to play (or simply enjoy the view), protect wildlife habitat, and safeguard the state's water supply.

La Garita Creek Ranch is a 460-acre guest ranch outside of Del Norte near Penitente Canyon, an international climbing, hiking, and mountain biking destination. The ranch is also adjacent to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land and the Rio Grande National Forest.

Conserving La Garita will protect critical water access and habitat for a variety of wildlife species as well as Ute pictographs and other archaeological evidence of early Native Americans. The conservation project will also create new climbing and bouldering access.

CPW's grant is part of GOCO's habitat restoration grant program.

In 2016, GOCO doubled funding for the program, which restores habitat through projects that remove invasive plant species, protect Colorado's water supply, mitigate fire fuels, and perform other critical restoration work.

Restoration of the Rio Grande in Rio Grande State Wildlife Area will protect water infrastructure, local agriculture, and wetlands that support threatened and endangered amphibians, fish, birds, and mammals.

To date, GOCO has invested \$42 million in San Luis Valley projects and has conserved more than 90,000 acres of land in the valley. GOCO funding has supported Alamosa's ice rink and Rio Grande Farm Park, Faith Hinkley Memorial Park in Monte Vista, and Center's Town Park, among other projects.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts, and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a Constitutional Amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 4,800 projects in urban and rural areas in all 64 counties without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

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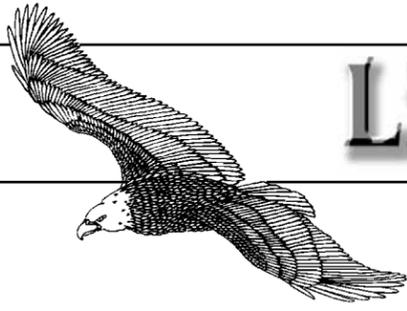
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# Living on the Earth

## The Women's March January 21, 2017

Crestone women report

### Women's March on Washington DC: The people speak!

by Jan Foster Miller

Pink hats abound. My friend Rita and I have come to D.C. for the Women's March on Washington. We soon discover it is not just a women's march but a people's march: all genders, ages, races, ethnicities, often in pink hats—the theme of the day! We quickly join the movement flowing to the rally. "To" is a key descriptor as we and much of the crowd never get close enough to see or hear the speakers or projection screens. The turn-out has long since overflowed into surrounding streets and open spaces. For me, it is about the people. There is a *joie de vivre* and feeling of jubilation

throughout the crowd that spreads through the day.

The theme for the march is "Women's Rights are Human Rights" under which a number of issues from ending violence to environmental justice have been included. But the signs people carry speak in their own voices. There are strong themes of women's and reproductive rights, the character flaws of Mr. Trump, and concerns of respect and dignity for all, pockets of concern for other issues including gay and trans rights, disabilities, immigration, health care, and Trump's relationship with Putin. There are a few X-rated signs and a couple of mean-spirited ones but mostly the signs reflect people's earnest quest for equality and respect for all. One young girl dancing in front of her family held a sign saying, "I shouldn't have to hear those words!" Another sign read, "No matter what happens, Donald J. Trump will lie about it."

We have the opportunity to speak with many who have traveled from all over. There are family groups, grandparents marching for their granddaughters, women my age carrying signs reading "I can't believe I still have to march for this!" a few elders tottering on their walkers or supported by family members, and groups of young people with a lot of energy. The crowd is incredibly self-organized and good-natured.

When it comes time for the march, we first hear it is delayed for 1/2 hour and then that it is cancelled. I think, "That is not going to happen!" Then people begin to march. We hear another route has

*continued on page B-8*



Marchers in Denver, Colorado.

photo by Rama Dennett



Indigenous prayer circle in Santa Fe, New Mexico at the Women's March where it is estimated that 13,500 people marched — including people from Crestone and the San Luis Valley who travelled to attend.

photo by Sandia Belgrade

### The Women's March in Denver, Colorado 'I'm with her!'

by Kizzen Laki

On January 21, 2017 many people from Crestone and the San Luis Valley attended Women's March events. Some went to Alamosa, others to Denver and Santa Fe, and some made the trip to Washington, DC and even places beyond to join with friends and family on this historic day. The Women's March on January 21 was the largest single demonstration in our nation's history, in the world's history. Millions attended in the United States and thousands more around the world—from the Arctic to Antarctica they marched in solidarity with America for women's rights, human rights and to express their concern for the world's future.

Myself, Janet Woodman and friends and family members went to Denver to be a part of history, to make signs and send the message that "we are here".

The mission statement from the promoters of the Women's March on Denver said:

"We are women and men from all over Colorado and many of the surrounding states. We come from all walks of life. We represent all kinds of political and religious

ideas. We are professionals, stay-at-home parents, and retired. We are all different and yet, we are all the same. We are all concerned about the world we live in and seek to make it better—for everyone."

And it was true. All types and ages of people showed up at the Denver Civic Center Park to support the Women's March on Washington. Over 200,000 people came from all over to join the march despite the chilly day. The

*continued on page B-8*



Crestone youth Naiya Cabeza Kinney, 6, gazes upon Dream Tags as a part of a project called "Que Será Tu Historia" at Civic Center Park during the Women's March in Denver.

photo by Cristina Cabeza-Kinney



Women on the march in Washington DC.

photo by Jan Foster Miller



Kizzen Laki & Janet Woodman at the Denver Women's March.



by Kim Malville

**Jan 31:** Close approach of the moon to brilliant Venus, which will be first visible soon after sunset around 5:40pm. Venus will set around 9pm, depending on your horizon.

**Feb 3:** First quarter moon

**February 10:** Full Moon and partial eclipse of the moon. It will be a very subtle darkening of the moon, getting darkest at 5:45pm when it is close to setting, about two moon lengths above the horizon. See if you can detect it.

**Feb 15:** The moon and Jupiter are close in the morning sky

**Feb 17:** Venus achieves its greatest brightness tonight, visible as the sky darkens, it should first become visible in the western sky at around 5:55pm when it is 35° above the horizon. Venus should set around 7pm.

**Feb 18:** Last quarter moon.

**Feb 26:** New Moon and annular eclipse (when the moon appears too small to cover the sun entirely), visible in the southern hemisphere, Chile, Argentina, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Vera Rubin installing equipment on the 2.1 meter telescope of Kitt Peak in 1965. NSF

**Dark matter & Vera Rubin**

Most of the matter in the universe has never been seen. Dark matter reigns supreme in the universe. The best measurements of the effects of dark matter were made by Vera Rubin and her colleagues in the 1960s. For these fundamental measurements she truly deserved the Nobel Prize in Physics, which she never received. She born was on July 23, 1928 and died aged 88 on December 25, 2016.

Vera Rubin received her PhD in astrophysics in 1954 at Georgetown University working under George Gamow. I first met Vera Rubin in the summer of 1960 when I, joined by my new bride, attended an International Summer Course on the structure of the galaxy at Nijenrode Castle in Breukelen, south of Amsterdam. For me as a graduate student it was a heady experience, a feast of astronomy (and Dutch chocolate) that lasted for three weeks. We heard lectures from some of the world's greatest astronomers and learned about the vexing problems that cried out to be solved. Inspired by and energized by this remarkable conference, Vera took the torch and decided to measure the speeds of stars as they revolved about the centers of galaxies. Everyone thought they knew what she would find. The central regions of a galaxy rotate like a solid ball because of the tightly packed stars and speeds increase outward. Beyond that central region the stars would travel slower and slower due to weakening effects of gravity. It was so obvious, it hardly seemed necessary to measure.

A galaxy behaves like a solar system: planets move quickly in the central regions and slowly at the edge. Mercury zips around the sun at 29 miles per second while lonely non-planet Pluto plods along at 3 miles per sec. If Pluto were to travel faster, it would fly off like sparks on a grinding wheel. But that is not what Vera found. She and her colleague Kent Ford measured the rotation rates of stars in some 60 galaxies, and the results were always the same: their speeds didn't drop off with increasing distance from the center but they stayed the same. It was very, very puzzling and disturbing and a wonderful example why every well-established "fact" needs to be verified. Vera had estimated the gravitational mass of the galaxy by counting visible stars and clouds of glowing gas. Two things were wrong: (1) there wasn't enough mass embedded in the center and (2) missing mass had to be distributed about the gal-



Rotation curves of galaxies.

Worldpress



Vera Rubin receiving the National Medal of Science from President Clinton and Vice-President Gore in 1993. Emelio Segre Archive, American Institute of Physics

axy, not concentrated in the center. She and her colleagues speculated there might be many small stars, too faint to be visible. However, the required number of these dim stars was huge, some six times more than all the visible stars, which was completely at odds with studies of stars in our own neighborhood of the galaxy. Another possibility was that Newtonian gravity was significantly in error, but that would just open a terrible can of worms. Something different was required: particles of matter that couldn't be seen were needed. If a halo of these dark particles surrounded each galaxy, she realized, the observed distribution could thus be explained. But what is this dark matter?

Today, after more than 35 years, it remains an enduring mystery. We have given a name to these dark particles, WIMPS (weakly interacting massive particles) but we don't know exactly what they are. The mass-energy of the universe contains 5% of ordinary matter (people, planets,

stars, visible galaxies), 27% dark matter, and a whopping 68% dark energy (which pushes the universe apart). The bizarre and uncomfortable meaning of all of this is that we don't understand the nature of 95% of the universe. We and everything we see with our eyes and through our telescopes are truly in the minority.

Most astronomers feel that Vera's evidence for dark matter was a fundamental discovery in astrophysics and deserved the Nobel Prize. She was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1981, the first woman to receive the Royal Astronomical Society's Gold Medal since Caroline Herschel in 1828, and was awarded the National Medal of Science in 1993. But for three decades she was passed over by the Nobel committee. Rules of the Nobel Prize prohibit posthumous awards

Only two women have ever received a Nobel Prize in physics, Marie Curie in 1903 and Maria Goeppert-Mayer in 1963. In 1978 Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson (who was also student with us at that extraordinary summer in the Netherlands in 1960) received the Nobel Prize for their accidental discovery of radiation from the big bang. In 2006 another pair of male astronomers got the prize for mapping the same background radiation. In 2011 the prize was given to three men for discovering dark energy. No one yet, man or woman, has received the prize for dark matter. Usually the Nobel committee gets it right and rewards truly great scientific accomplishments. They missed this opportunity.

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# Living in service: Paititi Institute

## *A journey deep into Peru*

by Lisa Bodey

Sitting deep in the mountains of the Macchu Picchu region of Peru, I am coming to the close of a 7-week volunteer service project with the Paititi Institute for the Preservation of the Environment and Indigenous Cultures ([www.paititi-institute.org](http://www.paititi-institute.org)). “Paititi”, in Quechua, is an enlightened realm manifested through the awakening of our shared human heart. Through the awakened spirit of the individual comes the greatest potential for the transformation of the planet. From 2012-2014, I organized workshops and retreats for Paititi in Crestone so it is a deep honor and humbling experience to support this month-long Embodying True Nature retreat.

The journey began with a winding and weaving ride through the Andean mountains. Such pristine land and clean running waters. Then my stomach dropped as I was having a flashback to Standing Rock witnessing the active construction of a pipeline. Another black snake slithering alongside quaint villages, past wild alpacas and over mountain ridges. What naïvety to think I had left that dense energetic vibration of the desecration of Pachamama back home in the States! The World Bank is funding a fracking project and pipeline from the Amazon to Lima, once again leaving local indigenous peoples with the potential devastation to their local waters and land.



Lisa Bodey chopping wood & hanging out with the new puppy Halpa.

photo by Astaria Aquarius

Next we hiked deep into the Larapata Mountain where we set up camp and prepared for the retreat participants’ arrival. We are completely off-grid with limited solar power due to the rainy season. We bathe in the babbling creek and cook our community vegan meals on a wood fire. Horses, dogs, cats and chickens roam the base camp with howls, meows and clucks while we chop wood, plaster huts, garden and clean. My experience with firefighting and emergency evacuation plans came into service



Paititi volunteers hanging out at the ruins on Apu Hualla.

photo by Adam Jewell

when an out-of-control field burn consumed the entire neighboring mountainside where we hiked in. Mother Nature’s spectacular display ended when fire met water at the Rio Mapacho below us, becoming a symbol of our own inner fires of transformation along the spiritual path.

Paititi supports self-healing and spiritual growth through the indigenous and ancestral wisdom of the Andean, Amazonian and Tibetan lineages. Introductory practices of Qi Gong, breathwork and dreamwork along with transpersonal psychology all support us in facing our fears, challenges, habitual patterns, repressed emotions, traumas and other obstacles blocking our path to becoming free, luminous beings overflowing with universal love and compassion.

Another main component of the process is developing relationships with local plants such as Chuchuasi, Chanca Piedra and Uña de Gato. These are personalized to each person’s diet to accelerate tuning in to subtler energies and taking responsibility for our own healing. Traditional indigenous ceremonies with master teacher plants Ayahuasca, San Pedro, Coca and Cacao tune us in to divine source. Sharing circles around these medicines help us to develop greater empathy for each person’s path and understanding of the shared collective human experience.

The foundation of healing while being in service at this mountain sanctuary is built on seven agreements that our community shares and co-creates. These agreements guide us to: be in integrity, own our experience, be transparent, honor our true selves, practice heart-centered presence, and to take initiative and be engaged while holding the confidentiality of the container.

This opportunity is a reminder of how grateful I am for my teachers, mentors and our Crestone community and the gifts that we can share with each other. We are blessed to be on life’s journey together learning how to be human and serve with love and compassion for all sentient beings—Om Mani Peme Hung.

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668 Crocus Rd. \$420,000 2BD 1BA 41 pristine acres in the Grants. Great retreat property. Solar system. 3550 sq.ft, with home and meeting/retreat building. Creek runs through property.



253 Golden Ave. \$375,000 Partially finished construction, this property is part of an estate. Taking offers-price reduced \$100,000 for quick sale! call Crestone Realty for details.



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



1390 Wilderness Trail. \$325,000 Spacious 3BD 2BA home with passive solar. Majestic views, low-E windows. Custom detail throughout, high ceilings, lots of natural light, large master shower. On 3.2 acres.



661 Camino Del Rey. \$235,000 Lovely off grid home, attention to detail, high ceilings, custom kitchen, excellent views, fenced in yard. Green house, amazing views.



170 E. Golden Ave. \$229,500 Cozy 3BD 2BA 1500 sq ft beautifully situated Victorian Ross Chapin cottage. ETS & baseboard heat. High ceilings, sky lights & fenced-in back yard. Close to charter school and



24248 CR. 41-G \$225,000 Preppers, Hunters, those that like indoor gardening and seclusion-Here it is! This home is on 40 acres, completely off grid, surrounded by BLM Owner financing available.



2664 Happy Hollow, \$219,000 Beautiful spacious home for extended family. Could be nice in law apt., on one end. Master Suite has 5 piece master bath, walk in closet. Karstan home, 30 yr. roof.



388 Starshine Ol. \$199,900 3BA 2BA, attached garage. Home for large family; spacious rooms, vaulted ceilings, 6 panel doors, tiled floor, fenced yard, deck. Sits on 3 lots, on private cul-de-sac.



3435 Graceful Ct. \$199,900 3BD 2BA, spacious, light home. Fireplace, vaulted ceilings, new carport; sits on 3 consolidated lots, at the end of the street. Downstairs has own entrance.



2035 Lost Cave Way \$194,900 Special little hide-away Deltec home in Chalet 11. Features art studio, sauna, beautiful little fenced garden & deck, all one level.



3949 Cheerful Way \$194,500 Cheerful-Great builders home near Cottonwood creek, contemporary styled 2 story, oversized carport, mtn. views and balcony on 2nd story.



370 S. Alder St. \$189,500 Recently remodeled, bright, spacious, cozy duplex with private patios 5BD 2BA. Conveniently located on the edge of town. Close to Charter School & grocery store.



3528 Enchanted Way \$184,500 Cozy 2BD 1BA one level living and wheel chair accessible. Large bathroom, comfortable living area w/ wood stove, private fenced back garden area.



909 Lincoln \$179,000 Spacious store/shop with large garage door, located on 1.5 acres. Artesian town well, commercial kitchen. 2BA & laundry room. Quonset hut, plenty of storage & garages.



345 S. Cedar \$179,500 3BD 2BA 1434 sq ft cute Victorian Ross Chapin cottage home. ETS & baseboard heat. High ceilings, skylights, private balcony with amazing views. Convenient to town.



3901 Rarity Way \$175,000 Motivated seller! 2BD 1 1/2BA. Backs to greenbelt & creek. Passive solar, year-round warm earth mass floor. Custom kitchen. Bathroom with garden tub, screened-in porch.



3705 Carefree Way \$164,000 This home includes all the extras you are looking for! Spacious 3 BD 2BA, garage, greenhouse, 2 lots, mountain views, backs to greenbelt, open floor plan, spacious bathrooms.



40 Crestone Overlook. \$171,000 2BD 2BA close to Crestone Charter school. New paint, newly remodeled kitchen features stainless appliances, Brazilian granite counters. Lovely sunroom, and workshop/studio.



250 S 2nd St. \$169,500 2BD 1BA Last century feel! Private, mountain views. Home sits on 1 acre, has a deep well, landscaped, with new roof, new paint. Wood shed, partial fencing, woodstove.



2024 Lost Cave Way \$165,000 2 bedrooms/ 1 bath with den/ office/extra sleeping area on upper level. This home backs to greenbelt with close, easy access to paved road.



107 E. 9th St. \$159,000 Unique home on 1.5 acres, 4BD 2BA. Beautiful wood walls, spacious living room with sunroom. Large, fenced-in yard, carport. Adj. shop with commercial well also for sale.



17 E. 10th St. \$159,000 An adorable café with commercial well on 3 acres. Excellent views. Commercial kitchen & appliances, spacious dining room, 2BA, office space and storage room.



3860 Cordial Way \$139,500 Great getaway home near Cottonwood Creek. Builder's own home, great room with vaulted ceilings, quality craftsmanship; loft could be guest area.



6 Baca Grant Way \$136,500 2BD 1 1/2BA vacation home, high up on the mountain, unsurpassed mountain & valley views. 1 car garage, all appliances, chest freezer, washer/dryer. Large windows, solar.



17580 HWY 17 \$139,000 7.71 acres, town artesian well, 1352 sq ft. 2BD 2BA, great views, plenty of storage. Detached garage, storage container, shed. Commercial/residential zoning.



4440 Rarity Way \$89,900 Creative cozy Earth Ship privately located at the southern most border to the Baca Grande Chalets next to National Wildlife Refuge.



400 Paseo Ct. \$89,000 Gorgeous unencumbered views of the Sangre De Cristos. 3 spacious bedrooms, and 2 full baths, with Master Suite 5 piece bath.



51952 CR T. \$49,500. 5 acres, DOMESTIC WELL! outbuilding/garage, our own little mini farm, move-in ready. 3BD 2BA



349 Huerta Court \$25,000 This property is a garage & lot for mobile. Would be great for someone with an RV that wanted to store, and have garage storage space. Backs to greenbelt.



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- 1176 Golden Eagle Trail - great neighborhood \$5,500
- 2139C Big Ranch OL - 1 acre cozy cul-de-sac \$20,000
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Flight for Life helicopter.

## Search & Rescue volunteers had busy season

by Mary Lowers

Saguache County Search and Rescue (SCSAR) completed nineteen missions in 2016 with “one fatality and one very close call” according to Warren Stephen, long-time SCSAR volunteer. This is just one mission more than at this time last year. Once hunting season is over and winter sets in, search and rescue missions diminish.

SCSAR has fifty volunteers on its roster. Stephen tells me there are twenty regular participants on calls for help. As he put it, “most likely the same people show up as in any organization.” Volunteers for the group include one member from Salida, one from Center, two from Villa Grove and one from Saguache. The remaining members come largely from Crestone and the Baca Grande.

Stephens said missions this year have been “very diverse”. SCSAR has participated in rescues “over Poncha Pass and then back again into the county south of Monarch Pass, on the Colorado Trail west of Saguache, two missions to Penitente Canyon . . . one rescue and then to help with the mountain bike race . . . and we worked a hand glider fly-in at the north end of the valley.” In fact SCSAR’s Dan Wheeler spent the entire week of the hand glider event at the site. As in every year, there were several missions around the Crestone Needles which many climbers feel is the most dangerous of Colorado’s Fourteeners.

Stephen says mutual aide among search and rescue groups is vital. “We use lots of mutual aide, most often with Custer County S&R and with the specially trained Gunnison Western Mountain Rescue

team. We also help and have been helped by Rio Grande County S&R, Alamosa County S&R, Center Fire and Ambulance, Saguache Fire Department, Villa Grove Fire Department, Baca Fire Department and Crestone Fire Department.” Most of these groups are made up of volunteers who give up hours and days helping with rescue missions. Stephen told me, “Flight for Life, the Air National Guard and Reach Air out of Buena Vista are helpful in getting the injured out.”

SCSAR is working on fundraising but is still “very short on funds. Dan Wheeler has secured more grants in his tenure with SCSAR then we have had in my eleven years as a SCSAR member.” Stephens said. One grant received was able to reimburse Wheeler for funds he put up for a litter. The hang gliders who participated in the fly-in event near Villa Grove made a generous donation to SCSAR.

There are ways you can help SCSAR to continue to do a great job. One is to make a tax-deductible donation, or you may purchase the Colorado Hiker’s Card, which also comes with most state hunting and fishing licenses. It helps defer S&R costs. You can call the Saguache County Sheriff’s Office, 719-655-2525 to volunteer or donate to SCSAR. You can also learn more at the SCSAR Facebook page or at their website, [www.saguachesar.org](http://www.saguachesar.org).

Stephen said, “SCSAR is thankful to everyone who helps in their efforts, from local restaurants which help feed S&R members to organizations such as the Saguache Fire Auxiliary who support us and donate to our group.”

## SMOKE COLUMN COMMUNITY INFORMATION ON FIRST RESPONSE

by Capt. Tad Crawford,  
Baca Grande Emerg. Serv.  
Winter Driving

We all know that living in a winter state and traveling in adverse conditions are an inevitable and unavoidable pairing. The Baca Grande Emergency Services would like to give you a few tips on how to stay safe and prepared during travel in winter months.

One of the most important tips for winter travel is, if you do not have to travel in adverse conditions, please don’t. However, if travel is necessary the best way to prepare is, as we say in the emergency service industry, “hope for the best, but prepare for the worst”. In the event that you must travel and risk finding yourself stranded, here are a few important things to remember.

**1. Pre-plan:** Planning ahead and having items to keep yourself safe, warm, and dry in the event of an unplanned amount of time in the elements is one of the best things you can do.

**2. Never leave home without a winter survival kit:** Being prepared is always the best course of action. A winter survival kit that can be stored in your trunk or somewhere easily accessible in your vehicle should contain a battery-powered radio, flashlight, extra batteries, blanket, booster cables, bottled water and nonperishable high-energy foods such as granola bars, raisins, and peanut butter. A few other things that could be very useful to add to your winter kit are: a fire extinguisher (5-lb ABC type), first aid kit, maps, shovel, spare tire and tire repair kit, snow brush/scraper, extra clothes/boots, and a bag of sand or snow chains to help with traction. Additionally, there are many cheap ways to add items that would allow you to start a small fire for both warmth and signaling emergency responders in the event of an emergency.

**3. Bundle up:** At a minimum, keep extra dry clothes and blankets with you and readily available at all times. It may also be useful for other stranded motorists that you may encounter in times of need.

**4. Huddle together:** Huddling together in a small space or refuge from the elements can increase the amount of heat you conserve until help arrives.

**5. Don’t forget to move:** From time to time, move your arms, hands, legs, feet and toes to improve

your circulation and increase your overall body temperature. Be careful not to do so much activity that you sweat and increase your heat loss by being wet!

If you become stranded in your vehicle, please consider:

**1. Snow can help insulate your vehicle and help keep you warm:** Although it may seem strange, snow can be a great insulator. If there is enough snow in the area, you can bury your vehicle to keep winter winds from stealing your vehicle’s trapped heat. Just make sure to keep a path to fresh air and a door free enough to get out of so that you could signal a rescuer if your vehicle is hidden in the snow.

**2. Run your vehicle for 10 minutes every hour:** Use this time to heat the vehicle compartment and charge any necessary electronics while the vehicle is running. Make sure to also keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow or debris. Harmful gases can enter your vehicle if the pipe is clogged or blocked with snow, mud, or debris.

**3. Don’t attempt to venture out walking for long distances without proper gear and seek help by any means necessary.** Please consider carrying a cell phone charger, or ensure that your mobile devices are charged prior to leaving your home. Turn off the Wifi function and utilize texts instead of calling to conserve battery. Dialing 911 from a cell phone is a function that can often reach help even in areas where normal cellular service is not available.

The more you can prepare yourself before a situation occurs, the safer you will be when the unplanned occurs. We hope to bring more awareness, seasonal tips, and proper safety precautions to all through the Smoke Column and social media. More to come soon. We hope you all stay warm and safe during this winter season.



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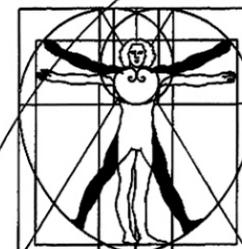
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# Garden Guru

Selecting for nutrients



by **Matie Belle Lakish**

Seed catalogs are piling up and the days are beginning to lengthen. It's time to make some tough decisions about how to use that precious garden space. Some of us may be looking at recent social and political changes and deciding that we want to become more food self-sufficient.

Most gardeners have limitations to consider. It may be time, or fenced-in area or greenhouse space, or financial constraints, or water, fertile soil, or pests, or likely, a combination of the above. For whatever reason, we make choices about what to plant, and how much of each precious commodity to give to each type of plant. How can we get more from our gardens?

A number of strategies have been used by gardeners to increase yields. Among them, of course, are traditional strategies such as growing two crops in a year by planting an early crop and following it with a late summer crop. In our short growing season this is not always effective. Inter-planting is another strategy. I like to plant radishes with the carrots, both to mark the rows of slow-germinating carrots with the faster radishes, but because I can harvest the radishes early just as the carrots are needing more space to fill out their roots. Early spring

greens can often be inter-planted with root crops such as beets and parsnips. When the greens are finished, the beet tops can grow and fill out their roots.

Another well-known strategy is to increase food and water to the plant to encourage faster and more vigorous growth. This is a strategy used by many commercial farmers, and has led to the overuse of commercial fertilizers. However, achieving optimum growth of each plant is certainly a winning strategy, even if you are growing organically, and soil health and fertility is a major factor that has been addressed in previous articles.

A third strategy is to choose plants that deliver the most nutrient density. In other words, plant more nutritious fruits and vegetables. There is a small revolution going on in the food world. It is not the genetic modification movement, but the research into micro-nutrients and their effects on human health. I reported on some of this research with the Brassica family in the November issue. The Lycopene content of tomatoes has received some press for its powerful antioxidant action in the body. The Lutein and Zeaxanthin content of leafy greens such as kale and spinach may well protect our eyes from cataracts and macu-



Umbelliferae flower, the family of parsley and carrot.

lar degeneration. Beet roots provide glycine betaine which offers protection against harmful homocysteine levels, helping to prevent heart disease, as well as good amounts of folate, which has been demonstrated to improve cardiovascular, neural, and psycho-emotional health.

I plan to go into more detail on some of these health advantages in future articles, but the point is that each vegetable in our garden has something to offer to our good health, but some may be real powerhouses of nutrition.

Please take a look at the chart of nutritional values for some of our commonly grown vegetables. I developed the chart based on some of the vegetables that are easily grown in our area, and took the information from the USDA Composition of Foods charts found on the USDA website. All values are for 100 grams, or about 1/2 cup, of densely packed raw vegetables.

Vegetable	Protein (gr)	Calcium (mg)	Vit. C (mg)	Vit. A (IU)	Vit. K (mg)
Beet Roots	1.61	4.9	33	0.2	16
Broccoli	2.82	89	623	101	47
Cabbage	1.28	36.6	98	1640	138
Carrots	0.93	5.9	16,706	13.2	33
Chard	1.8	30	6116	379	51
Corn	3.27	6.8 1	87	0.3	2
Green Beans	1.83	12.2	35	43	37
Kale	4.28	120	9990	704.8	150
Parsley	2.97	133	8424	1640	138
Peas, green	5.42	40	765	24.8	25
Potatoes	2.05	19.7	2	2	12
Purslane	2.03	21	1320		65
Romaine Letuce	1.23	4	8710	102	33
Squash, winter	0.95	12.3	1367	1.1	28
Tomatoes	0.88	13.7	833	7.9	10

The values are averages, and can vary considerably depending on the nutrition of the soil and other factors related to the growth of the vegetable. However, the values for some plants stand out.

Notice the high values for kale and parsley. Kale has gotten a

lot of press lately for its superior nutrition, but parsley is rarely at the top of anyone's garden favorites' list. Usually it is relegated to the side of the plate as a garnish, and yet it is fairly tasty in salads, smoothies, and as an ingredient in many main dishes. In my household, we often cut the stems with leaves and put them on the table in a glass of water, like a bouquet, to be eaten with almost any meal.

Both kale and parsley are well suited to growing in our cooler climate. Seeds of both can be planted outdoors early, almost as soon as the ground thaws, and will last long into the fall, providing nutrients and flavor well into November and December. As I write this article in mid-January I know there are live kale and parsley plants under the snow, which will send up green shoots early next spring. Both are biennial here, meaning they send up flower and seed stalks their second year. These flower stalks and their leaves can provide early spring greens while we wait for the new crop to sprout and grow to a reasonable size to pick. What I often do is wait until mid-summer when the seed stalks appear on the parsley, then pick the remaining leaves and stems and dry them for seasoning soups and other dishes in the winter. By that time, the new crop has attained enough size to begin harvesting the outer leaves for fresh use.

Both parsley and kale are also ornamental. I like to use parsley, the curly leaf varieties, as edgings along the borders of my beds. Kale now comes in so many varieties that they can be interspersed with flowers to liven up the colors and textures of ornamental beds. They follow tulips and daffodils especially well. While there are a few insects that will bother them, they are quite easy to grow.

Like other members of the brassica family, kale can be attacked by aphids, both in the garden and the greenhouse. My favorite remedy for aphids is a soap solution with garlic. A diluted spray will deter the little sap-suckers, and can be easily washed off with water when you are ready to eat the leaves.

Parsley, like other members of the Umbelliferae family, may attract small green caterpillars that eventually turn into beautiful Black Swallowtail butterflies. For that reason, I try not to spray them and just plant extra for the caterpillars, who rarely do much damage.

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A group of enthusiastic marchers briefly pause for a photo, while walking along Hwy. 160 in Alamosa at the Women's March. photo by Lori Nagel

## SLV March

continued from page 1

they were planning to have the after-gathering at McDaniel Hall, but relocated to Richardson Hall as a result of the large number of people in attendance.

The march itself was incredibly inspiring and upbeat, and the auditorium gathering built on that momentum. They reiterated that the goal is not to focus on what we're against, but what we're for. They discussed humanity finding a deep genuine solidarity, and that our colors and creeds are not a threat to who we are, but actually make us who we are.

It was educational as well, as Alice talked about many equal rights movements over the past century that have either made real differences or have not been enforced. A quote from Dr. Martin Luther King was cited: "Now let us begin. Now let us re-dedicate ourselves to the long and bitter, but beautiful, struggle for a new world."

Someone talked about local social justice issues, and Dr. Elizabeth Kinney spoke about healthcare and overcoming the barriers to healthcare access for all. Congress is moving to abolish the Affordable Care Act as well as stopping any funding of Planned Parenthood, where abortion constitutes only 3% of its services and is not funded by the federal government.

The SLV Immigrant Advo-

cate spoke about the separation of families, how children are terrified they'll be separated from their undocumented parents. The Student President of Immigration Affairs announced they're presenting on Monday to make Adams State a sanctuary campus, and are planning a postcard campaign to block bills that defund sanctuary campuses.

They quoted Margaret Meade: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has." That's the very energy that engulfed that entire auditorium, including the balcony!

After all the planned speakers, participants got a chance to speak and/or make announcements. Sharing their feelings and announcing events, people talked about solid actions we can all take to create real change in our communities and in the world. KRZA pledged their willingness to be a part of it by encouraging any future event organizers to email news@KRZA.org, and they will help spread the word.

The gathering concluded with a beautiful singing meditation, repeating, "We are the people, the people of love. Let us people love today." All in all, a very beautiful and positive experience of which everyone seemed genuinely inspired and glad to be a part.

Lori Nagel is a professional photographer. She also is a writer for The Crestone Eagle.



A group of Crestonians getting ready for the Women's March in Alamosa on January 21. photo by Lori Nagel

## Washington DC

continued from page B-1

been negotiated. This mass of people that has been casually enjoying an afternoon in the park suddenly becomes a river moving down the street.

The energy changes, no less good-natured but forward-moving and determined. Chants are frequent, a favorite being, "Welcome to your first day! We will not go away!" After an hour of high-spirited marching, I need to leave for the train station. Only when I step out of the stream am I able to see the immensity of the march spreading before and behind me. I see neither beginning nor end. I look for a place to photograph the scene and meet a woman who tells me, "I'm a D.C. native. I've been here through four presidents and I've never seen anything like this!"

In the two miles I hike across the city to the station, even with the immensity of the march in progress, the streets and sidewalks are filled with people in pink hats

or carrying signs. Only when we get on the train and start talking with others do we get news about the the marches all over the world and the huge turnouts!

In the next two days there is opportunity to talk with many others. I am surprised by the number who traveled from various states to meet family members and march together and the mothers and daughters of all ages who came together. When I ask women why they came, I hear the same story that led me. Many have never done anything like this before but when hearing about the march knew they had to come.

My sense is there will be many stories told for many years of the day we all marched. As a high school girl from Texas with glowing eyes said to me, "We made history!" In the meantime, there is much work to do. I feel graced to have been in Washington on this day.

Jan Foster Müller is an 18-yr. resident of the Baca Grande. She works as a Classical Five-Element Acupuncturist and is starting to become a political activist.



The Colorado delegation was in Washington at the capital building. photo by Rita Bowman

## Denver March

continued from page B-1

huge crowd filled the park and filled the nearby streets. We had no idea how vast the crowd was until we were able to look via smart phones at the view the news helicopters, circling overhead, were broadcasting.

Women, men, children, families carrying signs about what was important to them. Some adamant: "Respect Existence or Expect Resistance!" and "Hands off public lands!" Some humorous: "His hands are too small to build a wall!"

Many, of course, were about women's rights, to have control of their own bodies, to make their own reproductive health decisions, to have equal pay, and to reject the normalization of sexual assault. "Keep your tiny hands, out of my underpants!" There were many signs with arrows pointing in all directions that said "I'm with her!" Others: "They tried to bury us, but they didn't know we were seeds." And a favorite, "Science is not a liberal conspiracy." Held by a man: "Quality men love strong women."

The mood was one of celebration rather than anger despite some angry signs. How can someone be angry when faced with a sea of pink pussy cat hats worn by women, men

and even police officers? Thousands of pink hats were handmade in response to Trump saying "I just grab them by the pussy." Women were reclaiming their bodies. "This pussy grabs back!"

People talked to each other, smiled, shared food. There was a happiness, a celebration in all being together, marching together for a common cause. Chants rolled from one end of the vast crowd to the other in a call and response. "This is what Democracy LOOKS like! This is what Democracy LOOKS like!"

Guest speakers came to the heart of many issues: women's rights, human rights, LGBTQ rights, workers rights, concern about climate change, minority safety and immigrant rights, how to protect public lands. People were encouraged to resist, to participate, to vote, to be an activist, to hold fast to their ideals and, very importantly, "to get to work!"

The marches were organized and led by women, helped by men. When Women's March reports came in from across the country, despite there being over 3 million people out marching, not a single arrest was made. Historic. Herstoric.

Kizzen Laki is a 33-year resident of Crestone and the publisher of The Crestone Eagle.

# In Search of Economic Reality

*Change—for good or bad?*

by Dr. Ed Lyell

As I write this column on the evening of the inauguration of President Trump, I sense more uncertainty and fear in America than any time in my 72 years. The Trump ascendancy is likely to fulfill one major request of voters, that of no more of the same. Yet what is not clear is whether this major shift in US policy and practice, domestically and abroad, will turn out to be good or bad for the majority of Americans.

I am told that one Asian symbol represents crises and opportunity, opportunity and threat. For decades I have taught this to my students in getting them not to fear change, but embrace it for its opportunity. Now I must remind myself of the potential for good to come from this period of great change. For many decades the western world has had economic progress and relative peace. Yet even as the economy grew almost none of the gains were given to the working class 99% and only further enriched the 1%. The new OXFAM wealth report shows that 6 men have the same wealth as the poorest 3.6 billion people on earth (<http://bit.ly/2jerset>). Furthermore the US has the highest level of income and wealth disparity of the developed world.

Now we have a billionaire president whose policies and leadership team look like they will ac-

celerate this disparity and discord between the wealthy and the worker class. Yet Trump campaigned upon and won the support of the disenfranchised working class who believed his promise to help them. High school dropouts and low-paid workers drove his election success. Yet from the repeal of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) to new tariffs on imported goods, the burden and pain of Trump's policies are likely to fall primarily upon the working and non-working 99% while the tax cuts and favored treatment will accrue to the already rich and powerful 1%.

Just over 100 years ago America had a president, Teddy Roosevelt, who also came from the billionaire class. Yet he stood up for the working class and made the rich 1%, including his own family, pay high taxes to create infrastructure, jobs, promote unions and pay raises for the working class, stop child labor, and break up the monopolies and trusts of his time. If Trump's election seems strange today, Teddy acquired the presidency as an elevated vice president who had been put in that office by the controlling powers of his era to sideline him. Yet Roosevelt became president and dramatically changed government and America.

My inherent optimism permits me to anticipate that dramat-

ic changes will break up the status quo mediocre education system, unjust justice system, and higher education unaffordability. Trump could follow Roosevelt and empower workers to demand and get better benefits. Wiping out the current Obamacare could succeed in showing the inherent flaws in a for-profit health care industry that is focused on profit, not healthcare, for all. As Obamacare is dismantled perhaps even the Republicans will see that only a universal health care system funded by all and serving all can be both better and cheaper than the current system that kills people so someone else can make a few more bucks.

America's world leadership position has been diminishing for decades. Trump is already causing other countries to want more power. Giant multinational corporations have been gaining power for decades and that will increase under Trump, but not because of him. Strong economic forces, including the zero marginal costs of a digitalized world, means that big gets much better and many existing and new corporations will be more powerful than any nation states. Whether this is good or bad is best answered by examining good or bad for who, where, when, how. The potential for good outcomes is there, yet enlightened leaders with good

morals and values will be necessary to form these more powerful entities in ways that help the majority and not just feed the unlimited greed of many current billionaires. We must see the current opportunities and threats as needing spiritual revival as much as economic changes.

Trump was elected because almost everyone knows of some part of government that is inefficient, wasteful, overpaid, or just plain lazy. Neighbors see it. Parents see bad teachers keep teaching for decades. Federal government employees now make more money, have better health care and better pensions than the majority of private sector workers. It is not as much federal pay and benefits going up as it has been private sector conditions getting much worse. So the question now is whether the dramatic changes Trump promotes will actually occur, and be implemented in a manner to make things better not worse. I await the show.

*Ed Lyell PhD, Professor of Business and Economics, Adams State University (<http://www.adams.edu/academics/business/lyell.php>)*

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FEBRUARY 2017 Listings

<p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p><b>Fantastic Views!</b></p> <p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p><b>WAS \$159,000</b></p> <p><b>760 &amp; 761 Panorama Way - \$149,000</b> Built in 1996, this Pueblo-style 1172sf 2BR, 1.75BA Rastra home features an open living space w/ fabulous protected west views &amp; lots of light. Energy efficient w/ on-demand hot water heater, woodstove &amp; passive solar design.</p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p> <p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p> <p><b>Was \$249,000</b></p> <p><b>1564 Wagon Wheel Road - \$229,000</b> A 2,192sf beautiful single level ranch style home built in 1997 on 1.66 acres. 3bd/2ba, great room, living room &amp; 2 car attached garage. Well and septic. Great value!</p>	<p><b>New Listing</b></p> <p><b>Amazing Views!</b></p> <p><b>354 Huerta Court - \$89,000</b> 1,984sf 2BR/1BA home on .347 acres (2 consolidated lots) in Casita Park. Open floor plan &amp; lots of light. Propane forced air heat, kerosene Toyostove &amp; 2 wood stoves. Lg yard w/stucco walls &amp; fencing, patio, landscaping, &amp; storage shed.</p>	<p><b>Moffat</b></p> <p><b>Willow Springs - NOW \$289,000</b> Fully restored former historic Forbes Hotel. 9bd/3BA 3600sf; detached 22x24 studio, 500ft artesian well. Great business potential for B&amp;B, hotel/retreat center.</p>	<p><b>Chalets</b></p> <p><b>780 Palomino OL - \$585,000</b> Built by Lee Mitchell to capture mtn &amp; valley views, elegant 3 BR/2.5BA home w/2-car garage on 2.787 acres. Fantastic landscaping &amp; flowing water. In-floor radiant heat &amp; Hearthstone woodstove w/stone surround. Expansive Master balcony.</p>	<p><b>4519C Grayline Ct - \$449,000</b> Elegant 2BR 2BA 1932 custom strawbale built in 2003 by Paul Koppna. A refined Asian/Southwest blend. On private cul-de-sac 5.35 acres backs to greenbelt. 30' yurt w/kitchenette &amp; bathroom.</p>	<p><b>Private on the Creek</b></p> <p><b>3959 Cheerful Court - \$429,000</b> 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.</p>
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<p><b>Chalets</b></p> <p><b>Castle in the Woods!</b></p> <p><b>Was \$459,000</b></p> <p><b>2795CR Brook Terrace - \$425,000</b> Built 1993, remodeled 2008. 3-story, 2 or 3BR/1.75BA 2182sf home on 2.765ac cul-du-sac, backs to greenbelt. Artistic stone &amp; stucco offers feeling of antiquity, privacy &amp; uniqueness. A must-see home in a special location!</p>	<p><b>Magnificent Views</b></p> <p><b>New Construction!</b></p> <p><b>22 Alpine OL - \$295,000</b> CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch &amp; wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!</p>	<p><b>Fantastic Views!</b></p> <p><b>2720 Happy Hollow Tr. - \$279,000</b> This meticulous, 4BR/2.5BA 2000sf home has magnificent valley views from the living spaces, including a large sw-facing deck. Excellent condition, flexible floorplan, nice outdoor space, located near Dharma Ocean.</p>	<p><b>Guest Cottage</b></p> <p><b>Reduced from \$275,000</b></p> <p><b>3481C E Graceful Ct - \$259,000</b> Beautiful property w/ 2BR/1.5BA ~1228sf home, guest cottage &amp; detached one-car grg on 1.44 acres. Great passive solar, w/mountain views. Walled tiled front courtyard &amp; landscaping. In-floor radiant heat, tile floors, T&amp;G wood ceilings in LR</p>	<p><b>Private/Views</b></p> <p><b>4376C E Twinview OL - \$249,000</b> Beautiful 2BD 1.75BA 1359sf home on 1.015 acre backs to greenbelt w/ Cottonwood Creek. Custom contemporary design built by Steve Elliott. Magnificent views. Screen porch &amp; balcony. Very private &amp; quiet location up high.</p>	<p><b>WAS \$289,000</b></p> <p><b>Gracious Living</b></p> <p><b>757 Rendezvous Way - \$249,000</b> Very lovely 1868sf 3-or-4BD/2BA + dining screen porch, sunroom w/ fireplace, yoga/exercise room, deck w/amazing views &amp; hot tub. Private, but close-in. Beautifully landscaped.</p>
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<p><b>Reduced from \$249,000</b></p> <p><b>Non-Toxic, Great Value \$113/sf!</b></p> <p><b>207C Foothill OL - \$239,000</b> 2-story 3BD/2.5BA/Study 2192sf home on .965 acres built with non-toxic materials &amp; energy efficiency. Lrg kitchen, bamboo floors, pine ceilings. Spacious master suite w/Jacuzzi tub, sep. shower, marble counters. Views/Deck.</p>	<p><b>WAS \$237,000</b></p> <p><b>Garage &amp; Studio Apt</b></p> <p><b>983C Peaceful Way - \$229,000</b> 3BR/2.5BA 1894sf main house w/ studio apt, oversized 1-car garage &amp; grow dome on 1.36 acres in Chalet I. Passive solar design w/ two adobe brick walls &amp; curved back wall, concrete kitchen counter tops, in-floor radiant heat &amp; wood stove.</p>	<p><b>New Construction: Paul Koppna</b></p> <p><b>Reduced! - Was \$229,000</b></p> <p><b>1867C Rockyview Way - \$219,000</b> 3BD/2BA 1520sf New Construction by Paul Koppna, energy efficient design. Active solar hot water sys thru radiant floor grid + domestic hot water. Very insulated, triple pane windows &amp; heat recovery ventilation, airtight construction.</p>	<p><b>Creekside!</b></p> <p><b>Tract 2 Lindisfame - \$199,000</b> Creek-side 2 BR/1 BA 812sf home on 2.74 acres w/812 sf partially finished basement w/electric baseboard heat &amp; concrete floors. New roof w/architectural shingles, new windows, new interior &amp; exterior paint.</p>	<p><b>New Construction</b></p> <p><b>1911 Lone Pine Way - \$195,000</b> This 2BD/1BA, 1200sf New Construction by Art Reeves. Efficient, great design &amp; views. Rustic wood &amp; metal siding, hrdwd floors &amp; vaulted ceiling in Great Room. Modern kitchen w/stainless appliances. Spacious Master bdrm, &amp; bath.</p>	<p><b>Energy Efficient!</b></p> <p><b>958 Meditation OL - \$189,000</b> Beautiful 3BR/1.5BA 1363sf energy efficient home w/solar hot water system, passive solar, &amp; well-insulated ceilings &amp; walls. On private cul-du-sac in Chalet I w/ organic garden &amp; storage shed. Full bath w/soak tub. Spacious kitchen.</p>	<p><b>Southwest Style</b></p> <p><b>1479 Badger Road - \$182,000</b> Custom 3BD/1.75BA home, built in 2004, backs to open space. Immaculate condition. Beautifully crafted w/diamond plastered walls, wood ceilings, wood floors, in-floor radiant heat, &amp; wood stove.</p>
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<p><b>3/1.75 on 1.013ac</b></p> <p><b>635C Panorama Way - \$179,000</b> Lovely 3 bd/1.75 ba home on 1.013 acres. Open floor plan, custom kitchen cabinets, hardwood floors, lots of light. Bonus studio room. Passive solar design, propane HWBaseboard heat, honeycomb blinds. Landscaped courtyard.</p>	<p><b>Immaculate</b></p> <p><b>107 Pinewood OL - \$172,500</b> Well maintained, spacious 3 BD/2BA home, built in 2006 w/lg covered front porch &amp; back deck, 2-car garage w/ built-in storage &amp; landscaped garden. Energy efficient w/ETS, propane fireplace, wood stove &amp; electric baseboards.</p>	<p><b>Reduced! Was \$155,000</b></p> <p><b>3735 Jubilant Way - \$149,000</b> 3BD/1BA 1094sf home located on 1.152. Protected views. Large loft BR w/balcony. 2BD/1BA downstairs w/ clawfoot tub. Woodstove &amp; back-up baseboard heat. Aspen T &amp; G ceilings, pine floors &amp; wood exterior.</p>	<p><b>3708 Enchanted Way - \$142,500</b> 2 BR/1BA 1088 sf energy efficient home w/ ETS heat &amp; water heater on ETS, woodstove, honeycomb blinds, &amp; solar heat collector. Lovely views from open living space, roomy master bedroom, backs to greenbelt. Many new windows.</p>	<p><b>Small Home, Small Price!</b></p> <p><b>4485 Ridgecrest Way - \$74,500</b> Unique, small 394sf home, with 2nd structure in Chalet 3. Fixer-upper, but can be a home in the Baca at an affordable price. Woodstove, loft sleeping area w/wood ceilings. Full kitchen w/cookstove, fridge &amp; combo w/d. Shower bath.</p>	<p><b>GRANTS</b></p> <p><b>Off-Grid Acreage</b></p> <p><b>1381 Saddle Rock Trail - \$280,000</b> Light-filled 1902 sf 2BR/1BA strawbale off-grid home w/stunning views. Radiant in-floor heat &amp; heartstone woodstove. Open living space, private gardens, walled patio, greenhouse, shed &amp; heated garage. 8+ ac incl. lots 1381, 1444 &amp; 1445</p>
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## Jump in on an Active Market! 719-256-4198

### 2016 & 2017 HOME SALES (\*denotes listed & sold)

150 & 152 Silver.....\$569,000.... SOLD*	705 Rendezvous.....\$220,000.... SOLD*	3732C Cordial Way.....\$162,500.... SOLD*
1311C Spanish Creek.....\$499,000.... SOLD*	624 Panorama Way.....\$219,500.... SOLD!	635C Panorama Way.....\$159,500.... SOLD*
340C Palomino Way.....\$389,000.... SOLD*	2145 Indian Well Way.....\$209,000.... SOLD*	3376 Genial Way.....\$159,000.... SOLD*
4262 Serene Way.....\$299,900.... SOLD*	144 Rain Dance Trail.....\$199,000.... SOLD*	1573 Kings Hill OL.....\$159,000.... SOLD*
557 & 560 Panorama Way.....\$299,000.... SOLD*	909C Brookview.....\$190,000.... SOLD*	719 Rendezvous Way.....\$159,000.... SOLD*
3615C Splendid Terrace.....\$275,000.... SOLD	4417 Twin View Ct.....\$189,000.... SOLD	1202C Wagon Wheel Road...\$152,000.... SOLD*
288 Allott Trail.....\$269,000.... SOLD*	1447 Chaparral Way.....\$189,000.... SOLD*	760 & 761 Panorama Way....\$149,000.... SOLD*
1202C Hilltop Way.....\$269,000.... SOLD	3949C Cheerful Way.....\$189,000.... SOLD	2784 Carefree Way.....\$139,000.... SOLD
3919 Cordial Way.....\$269,000.... SOLD	1927C Lone Pine Way.....\$185,000.... SOLD*	123C Skyview Way.....\$139,000.... SOLD*
765CRR Heatherbrae Road...\$269,000.... SOLD*	Townhome #16.....\$179,000.... SOLD*	4370 W Twin View OL.....\$138,000.... SOLD
1234 Laredo Trail.....\$265,000.... SOLD	600 Heatherbrae.....\$175,000.... SOLD	20510 CO Rd 59.....\$99,000.... SOLD*
1453C Wagon Wheel.....\$259,000.... SOLD*	1649C Willow Creek Way....\$169,000.... SOLD*	226 Staghorn.....\$50,000.... SOLD*
149 Moonlight.....\$259,000.... SOLD	190 Cascade OL.....\$169,000.... SOLD*	253 Golden.....\$375,000.... UNDER CONTRACT
418 Moonlight Way.....\$249,000.... SOLD	3704 Carefree Way.....\$169,000.... SOLD*	1564 Wagon Wheel.....\$229,000.... UNDER CONTRACT*



## Mountain Mamas Tell Tall Tales

*Crazy Larry, part 2  
The Great Smoke Out*

by **Kizzen Laki**

I woke in the middle of the night to a man leaning over me, hot breath on my cheek. "What do you want, Larry?" I asked. But I knew.

Crazy Larry was a dangerous man. In the mid-70s he and his wife Darla and young son moved into the cluster of old cabins up Chalk Creek Canyon where a group of assorted young people had taken up residence, 12 miles up the mountains from Buena Vista. In those days, it was the second-to-last stop before the winter-closed road to St. Elmo.

Crazy Larry was an ex-con, having spent 8 years in the Illinois State Penitentiary. As I wrote in the last story, he was so scary that we never asked what for. He was a big guy. Mean. We all figured he somehow found his way to our cabins because it was a long way away from anywhere, to hide out. He and family would take off now and then, go back to Peoria, IL, do some scam, deal some drugs, pimp his wife, then come back to the camp. We all hoped that when he left, it would be for good. But no, he'd show back up.

The armed cowboys and Viet Nam vets weren't afraid of him, and he didn't mess with them—or their wives—but I, armed only with a big stick I used for smacking geese, sure was. My husband Earl,

a nonviolent sensitive New Age guy, didn't garner enough manly respect to be a threat to Crazy Larry, so I was on my own in the self-defence department.

We'd had our run-ins, but mostly he didn't hassle me too much. But after I ran him off with a crazy woman act during a confrontation, I could see that he had to regain the manly upper hand. I tried to avoid him. But my cabin was the only one with a telephone, on the wall, just inside the kitchen door. Other campsters, including Larry, would occasionally use it. The camp phone was in our name, with no long distance allowed. Right. Another story there about why I'm still burned about "communal" anything.

My husband, and many of the guys in the camp, found winter work at the developing ski areas along I-70. Vail, Silverthorn, Breckenridge were all booming and there was plenty of work building homes and condos. The guys would be gone for the week, camping in unfinished rooms, doing carpentry, hanging sheetrock, making good money and only coming home for the weekends.

It was a cold mid-week winter night with my husband gone when I woke to a heavy breath on my cheek. A large man was leaning over me in the darkness. Adrenalin



Kizzen's Chalk Creek cabin in the snow.

hit. I knew instantly who it was and why he was there. Rape.

Before he could grab me I quickly sat up and calmly asked "What do you want, Larry?" while turning on the bedside light. He paused in the light, looking at me in my unappealing long-sleeved flannel granny nightgown. What did he expect on a cold winter night? That I'd sleep naked? He looked. Deciding. Deciding. Momentum briefly lost. "Ah, I want to use the phone" he replied, biding time, rebuilding courage. "It's in the kitchen" I said, getting up and quickly getting past him. Leading him to the kitchen, away from the bedroom, away from where my toddlers were sleeping in the back room.

But he had no interest in the phone. Still trying to decide whether to tackle me or not. Predator in his eyes. Standing between me and the door. Oh shit.

Yelling for help would do no good, the cabins were too far apart and it would only wake the kids up, putting them in jeopardy. I couldn't get past him and I wouldn't leave the kids.

Stand there in the kitchen, stand off. Act normal, move slowly. I added some wood to the kitchen wood cook stove, making sure the hand axe was close to hand. I'd use it if I had to.

"Want some tea Larry?" I asked as if it was a sunny afternoon and it was oh so normal for him to be there. "Ah sure," he said. I made Sleepy Bear tea with an added dose of camomile and valerian. He watched me. I wasn't vulnerable enough yet, not scared enough to excite the predator to action. "Want to smoke some pot?" he asked, "Sure," I said. Larry always had potent pot. He was going to try and get me bombed. Okay, this I can do.

So we smoked at the kitchen table, drinking tea. It was after midnight and we smoked rolled

joint after joint. Powerful pot. I was used to pot. We talked, I asked him questions about himself, avoiding the obvious. I fed the fire. Trying to dampen his. Several hours passed that scary dark night. Drinking tea, smoking pot. Both of us wondering when he was going to make his move.

He got more and more stoned in that great smoke out, while my adrenaline just pumped that THC right out of my system as fast as it went in. Maybe it was the pot or the tea, maybe it was having someone listen to him, maybe it was the granny nightgown, maybe it was just being up all night, but as the sky started to lighten I was able to ease him out the door. Praise to my angels.

One day not long after, we saw Crazy Larry and Darla packing up their truck in a great big hurry. Motorcycle in the back. Out of that camp like a cat with its tail on fire! What?

The next day two men showed up in a fancy black car with Illinois plates. Men too well dressed for the neighborhood. Very scary men whose looks said "MAFLA" in big letters. Men looking for Larry and asking questions we were only too happy to answer. No, we don't know where he was headed—but he went that-a-way. Yep, a white pick up truck travelling fast. Sure hope you find him!

Don't know if they ever caught up with Larry or who he had ripped off big time. But Crazy Larry never ever returned.

For me, a lesson learned. That kitchen door was never left unlocked at night again and the goose stick got bigger. Please knock if you need to use the phone.

*Kizzen and her family lived in a cabin in the Collegiate Range of Colorado in the 1970s. They chopped wood and hauled water. This is a story from those days.*

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## There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root, RH (AHG)

Herbs for Aging Gracefully—Part 2



Matters of the Heart. There is nothing more important when talking about aging than heart health. There are many herbs that affect the heart, and three gentle ones in particular that I'd like to talk about.

Hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp.) is probably the most well known heart tonic that we have. Not an emergency remedy for when the heart is suddenly in trouble, Hawthorn's magic is in slowly strengthening the heart over time. It's a great herb to take on a daily basis for anyone over 40. Hawthorn has been used to reduce high blood pressure, relieve anxiety, and benefit pretty much any heart condition. Hawthorn is in the Rose family, the same as apple. Hawthorn grows as a small tree or bush that blooms in the spring and is characterized by long "thorns" on the branches. The part used is the white flowers and young leaves in the spring, and the red berries in the fall. Tinctures are often made with the combination

of all three parts. Hawthorn is completely water soluble and so is perfect as an infusion (if the dried berries are ground).

Linden (*Tilia europa*) is another beautiful heart tonic. The flowers and inner leaf or bract are the parts used. Linden trees bloom in early summer, filling neighborhoods with a strong fragrance. Interestingly, both Hawthorn and Linden are also considered to be "relaxing nervines", herbs that soothe the nerves and relax stress.

One of my favorite herbs is Motherwort (*Leonurus cardiaca*). Motherwort is not only a heart tonic herb but, like the other two, is also a nervine. It's in the mint family, but is much more bitter than other mints, so is not really suitable as an infusion or tea. Better taken as a tincture. Motherwort has been used to calm heart palpitations. One afternoon I was leading an herb walk up a rather steep mountain trail and started to have heart palpitations. Luck-

ily, I remembered that this particular class had had an herb walk that morning in an area where Motherwort grew. I asked if anyone had taken a sample, and one generous student untaped her sample leaf from her notes and offered it to me. I ate the leaf and was fine for the rest of the walk. Motherwort grows near the creeks in Crestone and in many gardens.

Here's to keeping our Elders healthy enough to be able to thrive at our sometimes difficult altitude!



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

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# Baca Grande Library News



by Suzanne McGregor

For years, the library has had the good fortune of being able to offer a morning reading and crafts program to the youngsters in our community, led by the incomparable master storyteller Penny from the Saguache Library. However, we are putting this program on hold due to lack of participation in the last few months. In order to get it going again, we need a show of interest from parents and caregivers. If you would like to participate and bring your youngest ones to Story Time, please let us know. There is an "I'm Interested" form for you to sign at the front desk so we know the direction to take with the program in the near future. Let us know.

February is the month for presidents and valentines! For the latter, we have some great books and videos that bring out that romantic side—how about

great classics like *Pride and Prejudice*, *Doctor Zhivago*, *The English Patient*, *Anna Karenina* or *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. Or watch *Moonstruck*, *Love Actually*, *The Notebook*, *Casablanca*, *The American President* or *Love Among the Ruins*. These offerings go straight to your heart!

Ever wonder why boxes of chocolates are the traditional Valentine's Day gift? Science tells us that chocolate boosts the mood-affecting chemicals in our brains including serotonin and phenylethylamine. "As the normal levels of these chemicals are increased, feelings of excitement and energy are heightened and sensations of love and romance are enhanced." So how about a homemade chocolate "love offering" like brownies or a fudgy chocolate cake? We have the cookbooks, with options for high-altitude, low-calorie, vegan or gluten-free recipes. As the old jingle goes, "Nothin' says lovin' like something from the oven!" Hope to see you in the library soon.

Notice: The library will be closed on President's Day, Monday February 20.

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

CROSSWORD														
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1. The Mamas & the \_\_\_\_\_
6. Clingy plant
9. Half of Brangelina
13. Poem at a funeral
14. 2nd largest bird in the world
15. Palm grease
16. Abraham's original name
17. \*Columbia introduced the 33 1/3 \_\_\_\_\_ record
18. Painting support
19. \*Originally known as safety cushion assembly
21. \*Penny Farthing, e.g.
23. G in music
24. Damp and musty
25. Teacher org.
28. Locus, pl.
30. Opposite of cantata
35. Tiny leftovers
37. Jimmy Kimmel, e.g.
39. Fat cat in the Orient
40. \*You can do this from afar with a telescope
41. Certain saxes
43. Org. headquartered in Brussels
44. Not Doric nor Corinthian
46. Novice
47. Ponzi scheme, e.g.
48. "\_\_\_\_\_! This is the police!"
50. Trunk extension
52. Priestly garb
53. Sound of a bell
55. Deadeye's forte
57. \*Aid for the blind
61. Inquirers
64. Soup dispenser
65. \_\_\_\_\_ of war
67. Homeric epic
69. Like Tower of Pisa
70. North American country
71. Incessantly
72. Risky business, pl.
73. p in mph
74. Coastal feature

**DOWN**

1. "The Princess and the \_\_\_\_\_" fairy tale
2. "Fantastic Four" actress
3. \_\_\_\_\_ wig or \_\_\_\_\_ winkle
4. Petri dish jellies
5. It can be a mark, sign or word
6. Cause of Titanic's demise
7. Strike caller
8. Cuban dance
9. Donkey cry
10. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
11. Cain's unfortunate brother
12. Mark for omission
15. Call with a wave
20. Hello in 50th state
22. Departing agency
24. Make moonshine, e.g.
25. \*Jonas Salk's conquest
26. Group of apes
27. Do penitence
29. \*Early gun maker
31. Grannies
32. Manila hemp
33. Bottom line
34. \*Manhattan Project invention
36. Largest organ of human body
38. Reality TV's Spelling
42. Technical term for human bodies
45. Veal serving
49. Neighbor of Ger.
51. \*Clothing named after a site of A-bomb testing
54. Reduce pressure
56. Cantaloupe, e.g.
57. Spill the beans
58. Relative speed of change
59. Miners' passage
60. Misfortunes
61. #4 Down, sing.
62. Cambodian currency
63. Not loony
66. Put into service
68. \*Nobel Prize-winning insecticidal, now banned

SOLUTION ONLINE: WWW.CRESTONEEAGLE.COM/CROSSWORD

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### Houses & Property for Sale

#### House for Sale

fixer upper house for sale on half acre in chalet 2, baca grande, crestone colorado. electric and water and sanitation hookups, needs plumbing and electric work 1600 square feet enclosed with great views \$69,000. call 719-480-4662

#### BUY YOUR SACRED LAND NOW.

Now is the time to make sure you have a place in this amazing location. Beautiful building lots in Chalet II. Tap fees paid. Secure your spot in Crestone, Colorado – this amazingly powerful energy vortex. 719-256-5768

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### Houses for Rent

#### Short Term Rental

Odin's Lair BnB. 1 bedroom, \$75/night single, \$125 double. Full bath, laundry, hot tub. 719-580-4094.

#### Gorgeous 2-BDR, furnished house for rent

Gorgeous 2-BDR, furnished house for rent. Includes heated garage, storage, decks. Short term lease only 3 – 6 months. \$950, includes utilities, plus \$950 deposit. Available March 1. 520-282-1294

**Enchanted Forest & Sacred Space**  
Amazing opportunity to experience the powerful energies of this very unique property. 6 month lease or longer. 3 bed/2 bath + Sacred Space. Spectacular views. Superior quality home. Call Anne – 719-256-5768

#### Studio Cottage for Rent in Chalet II

Cozy, comfy & quiet Enchanted Cottage. 6 month lease or more. References required. All utilities & wifi included. Great location, just off of Camino Del Rey. \$850/month. 719-256-5768

### Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent

#### COZY DOWNTOWN APARTMENTS!

Cozy, Downtown Studio Apartments in Heart of Crestone. Second Floor Units, Kitchenette, Private Bathroom, all Utilities & Internet Included. Month to Month Lease – \$560.00 per month. 1st & Last Month Rent due upon signing of lease. Please Contact Renee Hill, Property Manager, leave message at 719.256.4741

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### HEALING or RETREATIVE-MEDITATIVE SPACE:

"The Place of Silence." 800 sq.ft. of private space with indoor soaking tubs along with crystalline-positive energy and grounding environment. 5-Star Kiva on property. Isolated and quiet. Natural contact with wildlife. \$275 by weekend and \$555 by the week. 719-588-1666. (No smoking or pets please)

### House Rental Wanted

#### Seeking Roommate

Raw foods female seeks same for roommate to rent home. This female reflects me-practices a raw foods diet, sees home as Sanctuary, removes shoes at door, cleans and blesses often, enjoys creating

### 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, February 10, 2017.

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 or you can contact the Saguache County Administration office at 719-655-2231 to request a copy of the grant application.

### Services

#### Recycling

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

#### RELIABLE CARPENTRY & HANDYMAN SERVICES

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#### Crestone Acupuncture

Terry Goergen LAC. DIPLAC. CrestoneAcupuncture.Com

#### SKYHAWK CONSTRUCTION

Are you interested in energy efficient construction and indoor air quality? Call Paul for remodels or new homes. 256-4505. paulkoppna@yahoo.com

#### Seamstress for Hire

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### ADVERTISEMENT OF San Luis Valley Fair Board Appointment

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners is accepting letters of interest for appointment from an individual who would like to serve as the Saguache County representative to the San Luis Valley Fair Board of Directors.

Letters of Interest may be addressed to the Board of County Commissioners and submitted to the Saguache County Administration office in the basement of the courthouse or mailed to PO Box 100, Saguache CO 81149 by 3pm on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017.

The deadline for letters of interest is THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017 at 3PM. The Board of County Commissioners will review comments and make a decision on this request at their regular meeting on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017.

# WOODMAN DESIGN

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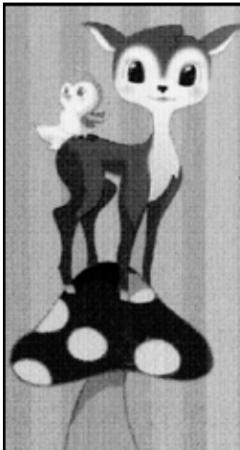
## The Balancing Act

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**...Classifieds**  
continued from  
Page B-14

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**Computer Service/Repairs**

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

**Please Note: Change in Road and Bridge Office Hours**

Monday-Friday 7:00 A.M.-3:30 P.M. From November to March Monday-Thursday 7:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M. From March to November Hours change with Daylight Savings Time.

**Electrician**

Electrical? How may I be of service? W Bob 719-937-3052

**Help Wanted**

**POA Community Outreach Coordinator**

The Baca Grande POA is looking for a full time Community Outreach Coordinator. The job requires excellent writing skills, general knowledge of the Baca POA, its purpose, Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, Covenants, and surrounding areas. Must have great communication skills, show enthusiasm, have a positive attitude and be able to demonstrate great work ethic. Please visit our website (www.bacapoa.org) for the job description and application or call the office at 719-256-4171 for more information

**Road and Bridge Operator I Position Available**

Saguache County Road and Bridge Operator I position- Employee must be able to operate light and heavy equipment and perform manual labor in the maintenance, repair, and minor construction of roads, streets, bridges, signs, markings, and related facilities. A class A CDL license with heavy semi-truck endorsement and current medical certification is required. Prospective employee must pass a pre-employment drug test and criminal background check. Employee must be physically capable of periods of sustained physical exertion and may be required to lift and move up to 75 lbs. to 150 lbs. Applicants should have a High School diploma or GED and six months relevant experience. Applications are available at the Road and Bridge Office or on the Saguache County website under the Road and Bridge Department. Please use the Driver operator application www.saguachecounty.net. A complete job description is available at the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office, P.O. Box 476, 305 3rd Street, Saguache, Colorado 81149, 719-655-2554. Applications must be received by Friday February 3, 2017 at 3:30pm. Saguache County is an EOE

**Baca Grande POA**

The Baca Grande POA is seeking a FT Maintenance Assistant. Must be 21 years of age with a valid Colorado Driver's License. Ability to perform heavy manual labor under any type of weather conditions. Working knowledge of mowers and golf course equipment, turf watering systems and maintenance is desirable. Prefer someone who has a current CDL, and able to operate a variety of heavy equipment regularly. Some carpentry, plumbing and electrical skills are required. Please visit our website (www.bacapoa.org) for the job description and application or call the office at 719-256-4171 for more information.

**Seeking Business Manager**

Moffat School District is accepting applications for a business manager. The successful candidate must be detail oriented with the ability to multi-task and work under the pressure of multiple deadlines. Assignments will include accounting and secretarial tasks. Duties may include but are

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

not limited to payroll, accounts receivable & payable, state & federal reports, budgets, grants and meeting attendance. Candidates should be self-motivated with great public relations skills. We're looking for a person who is computer proficient with advanced training in accounting and willing to make a commitment to a great District that can provide long term employment. BA in accounting or related business field required. Full-time position with benefits. \$48,000.00 annual salary. To apply call 719-745-0500 or visit our web page at www.moffatschools.org. Applications close February 9, 2017. EOE

**Accounting Clerk**

Clerical person is needed from 11am to 3pm Mon-Fri \$400 weekly. Computer skills are a must. Need to be detail oriented and possess good customer skills. Must be able to do small errands. email: adeleemmanuel@gmail.com

**Seeking Website Designer**

Saguache Tourism Council is currently accepting proposals for website design and development. The ideal firm or individual will have an extensive knowledge and experience related to website design; including but not limited to: hosting and domain management, WordPress configuration and themes,

graphic design, responsive design principles, CSS 3, HTML 5, and Google Analytics. The project would involve creating a WordPress implementation of saguachetourism.com. The completed website must be user friendly; work on all desktop browsers as well as mobile phones and tablets; and, be easy for council member(s) to update and modify. All interested parties should submit a letter of interest and a proposal of services including proposed cost for this project by February 9, 2017 at 5:00 PM to: Theo Boudreaux, C/O Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa, 28640 County Road 58 EE, Moffat, CO 81143; or by email: manager@jjhotsprings.com.

**Misc. for Sale**

**Grass/Alfalfa Grown Beef**

Grass/Alfalfa Beef – SLV grown and produced -Ranch to you value priced. All Natural-no chemical food. Purchase 250 side or 25# box. 719-298-1894 for questions and local orders.

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**Free Manure**

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

**NOTICE of ORDINANCE**

The Town of Crestone Board of Trustees adopted and approved an ordinance on January 9, 2017. To read the ordinance with the Nuisance Code Exhibit in its entirety, please come to Crestone Town Hall, 108 West Galena Ave., Crestone, Co. Submitted by Allyson Ransom, Town Clerk.

Published January 11, 2017

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-001**

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCES 2003-005 (AN ORDINANCE IDENTIFYING, MAKING ILLEGAL AND ABATING CERTAIN NUISANCES),

2006-12 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2003-005),

2011-004 (AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE STORAGE OF GASOLINE AND OTHER FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS) AND

2013-010 (AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO 2009-005 (AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING DOGS "RUNNING AT LARGE" AND RE-ENACTING SAID ORDINANCE WITH ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS),

2014-001 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2003-005 TO REQUIRE BEAR-PROOF DUMPSTERS)

2014-007 (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO.2003-005)AND 2015-001 (AN ORDINANCE CORRECTING THE ENUMERATION OF A SPECIFIC SECTION RELATING TO ORDINANCE 2003-005) AND REENACTING AN ORDINANCE IDENTIFYING, MAKING ILLEGAL AND ABATING CERTAIN NUISANCES IN THE TOWN OF CRESTONE, CO

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees of the Town of Crestone, with the suggestion of the Town Clerk, has examined various provisions of the existing ordinances pertaining to nuisances within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees believe the existing nuisance ordinances are in need of updating; and

NOW THEREFORE, The Board of Trustees hereby repeals Ordinances above referenced and re-enact the Ordinance herein identifying, making illegal and abating certain nuisances set forth in the attached Exhibit A, Nuisances.

Introduced, read in full, adopted, approved and signed on this 9th day of January, 2017

Karina Danforth, Mayor

Published the Crestone Eagle, February 1, 2017

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# EARTH TALK

*Questions & Answers About Our Environment*

## Dear EarthTalk: What are environmentalists doing to prepare for a Trump presidency?

—Robert Eckholm, Washington, DC

Many different interest groups are worried about what Donald Trump's ascendancy to the White House will mean for their causes, but perhaps none are as concerned as environmental and climate activists. The new administration has vowed to gut the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), cancel the carbon-busting Clean Power Plan, and pull out of the landmark Paris climate accord. And environmentalists are bracing for attempts by the new White House to lift off-shore oil and gas drilling moratoria and restart the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipeline projects across the nation's heartland.

In the face of these likely assaults, what are plans to counteract Trump's anti-green moves? The Sierra Club kicked things off in December by projecting a huge image of rising seas and the words "Don't Trump the planet" onto the side of the Trump Building on Wall Street in New York City. The group has attracted more donors in the weeks since Trump's election than in the previous four years, and is focusing in the short term on derailing Scott Pruitt as Trump's pick to head the EPA.

The Sierra Club has also kicked its Beyond Dirty Fuels campaign into high gear, given Trump's hints that he would try to green light more oil and gas development projects. Sierra Club activists have helped organize and staff protest camps along the proposed route of the Sabal Trail



Activists with the Sierra Club's Beyond Dirty Fuels campaign are stepping up efforts to fight oil and gas pipelines given Donald Trump's intentions to increase fossil fuel development. *Nakhon100, FlickrCC*

Transmission, an oil and gas pipeline slated to cross through sensitive natural habitats in Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

Meanwhile, 350.org, an advocacy group committed to building a global grassroots climate movement, has pledged to spend January fighting to derail Trump's anti-environment cabinet picks. The group organized a "national day of action" on January 9, targeting key Senators who say they recognize the threat of climate change, but haven't yet come out against Trump's EPA nominee Scott Pruitt and other climate change deniers in the cabinet. 350.org is also delivering petitions to the Trump transition team signed by tens of thousands of Americans opposing Pruitt as well as Exxon's Rex Tillerson, Trump's Secretary of State nominee. Come spring, 350.org hopes to turn out even more sympathizers at the People's Climate Mobilization, a march on Washington, DC scheduled for April 29, 2017.

Another way activists are rallying support for the environment is by ramping up efforts to get universities across the country to divest from fossil fuel investments. The Fossil Fuel Divestment Student Network is organizing student walkouts at college campuses across the country on January 23 "to resist and reject the climate denial" of the incoming Trump administration.

Indeed, Trump's very an-

tipathy towards environmental regulations might be just the kind of spur needed to get people excited about environmental and climate activism. Let's not forget that memberships, funding and influence swelled for green groups when another conservative Republican, George W. Bush, moved into the White House in 2000; groups like the Sierra Club leveraged this backlash to successfully lead the charge against the development of dozens of new emissions-spewing coal-fired power plants at the time, sparing the nation a huge carbon burden down the line. Activists hope to build on this type strategy in leveraging the support of the vast majority of Americans for increased environmental protections and greenhouse gas emissions cuts to convince the Trump administration to do the right thing.

CONTACTS: Sierra Club, [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org); 350.org, [www.350.org](http://www.350.org); Fossil Fuel Divestment Student Network, [www.studentsdivest.org](http://www.studentsdivest.org).

*EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of the non-profit Earth Action Network. To donate, visit [www.earthtalk.org](http://www.earthtalk.org). Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org).*

*Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/vws](http://www.keno.org/vws).*

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

December 21 to January 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip: 1.82"

Snow: 21.6"

Measurable precipitation fell on 12 days.

Measurable snow fell on 12 days.

A trace of snow fell on 2 days.

No rain, thunderstorms or hail occurred.

Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1: 0.86"

Final Liquid Precip (for 2016): 13.40"

Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1: 10.8"

Snow Season\*: 29.6"

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

**Temperatures for the period:**

High temp: 41.2°F on January 9

Low temp: -10.8°F on January 7

Avg. high: 31.2°F

Avg. low: 13.5°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 40°: 1

Number of days with the high temperature above 32°: 13

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 32°: All days

Number of days with the low temperature at or below zero°: 4

**Winds for the period:**

Avg. speed: 1.8 mph

Highest gust: 33 mph on January 10.

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

**Weather summary**

Daytime temperatures were slightly below normal for the end of December and slightly above normal in January up to Jan. 20, while at night, temperatures were average for the end of December, but almost 7° above normal on most nights in January. Precipitation was above normal.

2016 ended up with 13.40" of total precipitation for the year, which is almost exactly what we should see in a normal year.

**Outlook for February**

February is our driest month of the entire year. We can expect to see on average only .52" of total precip fall, along with just 8.9" of snow, making it only the fifth snowiest month out of our 6 snowiest months of the main snow season. The snowiest February was in 2003, when 24.4" fell.

Temperature-wise, this is our third coldest month of the year, with the average high and low temperatures being 36° and 9° at the start of the month, and by the month's close, it warms up to 42° and 17°. The warmest temperature recorded in February was 63°, reached in 1986 and also in 2006, with a very cold -26° being the coldest reading, set on February 1, 1985. That is also the coldest reading ever recorded in Crestone, with the first week in February seeing 5 of the 6 coldest days ever recorded in our area (-20° or colder). It should be noted that for that -26° reading, it was recorded at the old weather station, which was located at 8500'. Our current station sits at about 8085'.

The 30-day outlook for February, put out by the National Weather Service, is calling for average temperatures and precipitation for our area.

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