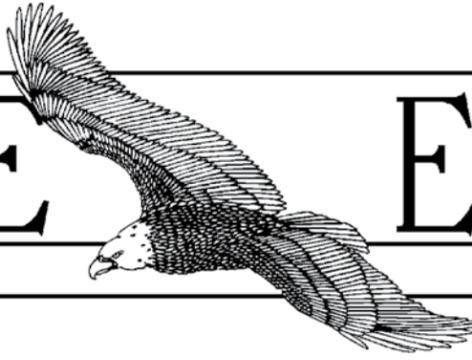


# The CRESTONE EAGLE



Crestone, Colorado Volume 24, Number 6

June, 2013 \$1

24 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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Summer sunflowers carpet a meadow in the Baca Grande under Kit Carson and other Sangre de Cristo peaks. To see this photo in color (really, go see this in color!) and more, visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

photo by Linde Waidhofer, [westerneye.com](http://westerneye.com)

## Oil/gas exploration still possible in the San Luis Valley

by Bea Ferrigno

Area residents remain concerned about the possibility of oil and gas development near Del Norte. Several attended a presentation there on May 11 by a couple from the San Juan basin area of New Mexico whose large ranch was devastated by oil and gas wells: the subsurface rights had been sold before anyone knew what the consequences might be.

Tweeti Blancett said that income to states from severance taxes is one matter, but that collateral damages can take several lifetimes to repair. It seems that oil/gas ex-

traction on privately held lands is not subject to environmental regulations. The Blancett ranch had no difficulties with conventional oil wells, but from the 1980s onward, "cracking" wells multiplied along with evaporation ponds that concentrate heavy metals, illegal dumps, and unpaved roads through the desert to serve as many as 32 wells in each section. Each of those wells consumed some half-million gallons of fresh water that emerged contaminated. The Blancett ranch was ultimately sold to Philips Conoco and the couple purchased another property with intact subsurface rights.

Locally, the First Liberty well near Del Norte turned up dry and has been plugged, but the Hughes well on San Francisco Creek is still on track for exploration, though an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be required. Our thanks to Mike Blake-man for clarifying that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) owns only the mineral rights there, rather than the land itself, which is leased to the Dan L. Hughes company of Texas. Andrew Archuleta, BLM Field Manager, told the May 14 meeting of the Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable (RGRT) that a draft EA

*continued on page 4*

## Crestone revitalization approved as SLV Enterprise Zone Contribution Project

Efforts to improve Crestone's economy received a boost with recent approval by the Colorado Economic Development Commission of Crestone Revitalization as a certified San Luis Valley Enterprise Zone Contribution Project. With the state designation comes the ability for contributors to the project to receive a state income tax credit worth 25% of their contribution.

Crestone Revitalization is a locally driven initiative by the Town

of Crestone to improve the downtown district by beautification, pedestrian pathways, safer intersections and access and landscaping. Additionally, a goal of the Crestone Revitalization project is to attract customers and new complementary business to Crestone. The town will be working with residents to understand the potential impacts of being part of the Enterprise Zone.

The income tax credit, called an Enterprise Zone Contribution

Tax Credit, is part of the San Luis Valley Enterprise Zone program, which is one of 16 enterprise zones in Colorado.

"The Enterprise Zone program has proven to be the best incentive tool that the six counties and 18 communities of the San Luis Valley have to support the retention, expansion, attraction and creation of jobs," said Michael Wisdom, executive director of the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group.

Enterprise zones are designed to encourage job creation and business investment in regions of the state with high unemployment, low

*continued on page 4*



Surfing the Great Sand Dunes! Now that looks like fun! This month The Crestone Eagle offers a special "Summer Fun" section. See it for information on events, things to do, and places to go in our beautiful region of Colorado.

photo courtesy Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Park

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## The Crestone Eagle

**Publisher & Editor:** Kizzen N. Laki

**Copy Editor:** Janet G. Woodman

**Advertising:** Dee Rudoff

**Classifieds & Accounts:** Daleth McCoy

**Production & Tech Wizardry:**

Erin Lakai, Diane Bairstow, Mark Talbot

**Contributing Writers:**

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| David Nicholas       | Matie Belle Lakish |
| Diane Bairstow       | Kim Malville       |
| Larry Calloway       | Gussie Faunteroy   |
| Ananur Forma         | Earl W. Sutherland |
| Keno Menechino       | Sandia Belgrade    |
| Lisa Cyriacks        | Paul Shippee       |
| William Alder Lakish | William Howell     |
| Bea Ferrigno         | Susan Pierce       |

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

**Contributing Photographers:**

Bill Ellzey, Matthew Crowley

Lori A. Nagel, Wendi Shattil/Bob Rozinski

**Digital Subscription Rate:** 12 issues \$15 digital.pdf

Paper Subscription Rates: 12 issues \$20 Bulk mail.

For 1st class postage \$32. For foreign 1st class \$75.

Canada \$50. Back issues \$3.50 each by mail.

The Crestone Eagle is an independent monthly publication. POB 101, Crestone, CO 81131.

Telephone (719) 256-4956

Email: info@crestoneeagle.com

www.crestoneeagle.com

No junk mail or solicitations please!

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

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Deadline for copy: 18th of the month.

Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less.

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



## Wonderful decades

Dear Editor,

Curt's store was the heart of Crestone way before we moved here in the nineties and moved back again in 2008. The old "Tilted Floor" hosted the community's daily impromptu gatherings, with DogMan outside, his watch set at "NOW", the black and white cow and just a hug-you vibe of country sweetness, that supplied this community with beautiful food—rare even then.

After the old building truly started sliding into the earth, Curt went larger and with cafe hang too, accommodating a growing community—a beautiful structure, artfully complementing the treed street. Soon after, we were amazed to see all the competitive pre-fabs quickly pop up (lower mortgage properties able to set prices lower) but more amazed at how a community that declares itself unique opted for the pre-fabs! Was this one of those times when the word "progress" had come to be synonymous with mediocrity? That's how Wal Mart thrives, our need to save those few bucks here & there.

One way or the other we want to thank Curt & Bernadette for all the wonderful decades of a great and soulful place that was the heart of the town.

May you move on to the more loving energy you deserve,  
Theano & Chuck Lamb

## Support Senate Bill 13-252

Dear Editor,

Loren Howard, CEO of SLVREC, in the May Eagle wrote "Help Defeat Senate Bill 13-252" claiming it would triple the cost of electricity. Every time an official or politician says defeat a bill, instincts say look deeper and examine the issue more closely. That claim is exaggerated and on the face of it unsupported. The bill was thoughtfully crafted by the Senate, and supported by Senator Gail Schwartz, with the intent to encourage renewable energy development. Mr Howard is saying let's play ostrich, ignore global warming, business as usual, and full steam ahead.

Coal is a transitional fuel, and thank God for it. It helped develop the modern world. But it also helped bring on global warming, and now is the time to transition into renewable energy sources. To think coal can be made clean and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> on the cheap is to ignore the facts.

We say support SB 13-252 and also support SolarReserve. The SunCatcher was a flawed technology, but SolarReserve is proven, stores energy, and has sustained electric generation which interfaces more easily with conventional electric generation. Sure solar electricity costs a little more. But it is time to take our heads out of the

sand, and move into sustainable energy generation for a cleaner future. This is a sensible path to begin to mitigate the more costly and catastrophic consequences of global warming.

Vince and Mary Palermo, Lee Temple, Bill Sutherland, Kelly Hart

## Our congenial neighbor, thank you Saguache

Dear Editor,

Last week I had the pleasurable experience of spending the day in downtown Saguache, doing errands, having lunch and visiting Eagle advertisers.

Downtown Saguache is looking lovely and spruced-up since its new makeover; but I was even more impressed with how nice everyone I encountered was, whether I knew them or not.

From Esther at the 4th St Diner to the gentleman who jumped my truck after I left the headlights on, to strangers in the street, everyone was friendly & cordial.

Thank you, Saguache, for a lovely visit!

Janet Woodman

## We need your input on new library facility

The Northern Saguache County Library District (NSCLD) is made up of two library branches: one in the Town of Saguache and one in the Crestone/Baca area. The NSCLD board has recently passed a resolution recognizing the need for a better library space in the Crestone/Baca area. To this end, the board has asked the NSCLD Facilities Committee to begin the planning process. The first step is a needs assessment, which will include a survey and other forms of information gathering (such as focus groups, meetings, and interviews)—all directed to the Crestone/Baca community and its members.

It is the intention of the library district to fund any future library construction through grants, individual donations and other fundraising activities. While there are no plans to ask the voters for a mill levy, this is an avenue that may be considered in the future if financial conditions change for the library district.

The first survey will be available throughout the Town of Crestone beginning June 1 and will be open until August 5. Please stop by the post office, Baca Grande Library, Crestone Mercantile, Desert Sage or Aventa Credit Union in early June to fill out a survey. There will be surveys and collection boxes all these locations.

If you would prefer to take the survey online you can go to survey-monkey.com/s/FJ6H8F3.

Contact: Kim Smoyer, Chair, NSCLD Facilities Committee & Board Members, 719-655-0104 or kimsmyer@nsclibrarydistrict.org.

"Bees do have a smell, you know, and if they don't they should, for their feet are dusted with spices from a million flowers."

—Ray Bradbury, *Dandelion Wine*



**Jim Davidson**

July 3, 1943-April 21, 2013

Jim Davidson, 69, died Sunday, April 21, 2013, surrounded by his family in the home he built in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains above Crestone, CO. Born July 3, 1943 in Cortez, CO, Jim was raised in the southwestern Colorado mining towns of Rico and Telluride. Jim graduated valedictorian from Telluride High School and went on to Colorado State University, completing a BS in Journalism in 1964. He then attended the New York University School of Law, where he studied for one year under the Root-Tilden Scholarship.

He was a man of many talents and careers in his 69 years. His early years were spent working in ski area marketing in Steamboat, Winter Park and Telluride, but writing was his true passion; starting two newspapers, the *Winter Park Manifest* in 1976 and the *Telluride Times Journal* in 1986. After moving to Kansas with his wife Tracee in 1995, he went on to publish two books. He was awarded the Western Writers of America Spur Award for his first novel, *Mine Work* (Utah State Press, 1999). This was followed by his second novel *Post-marked Calexico* (Western Eye Press, 2011).

He is survived by his wife Tracee Sporer of Oakley, KS as well as his two children; Eric Davidson, Winter Park, CO and Greta Bloomfield (Jonathan), Golden, CO. He is preceded in death by his parents, Margaret and Allen Davidson, and father-in-law Arlo Sporer.

A Celebration of Life will be hosted by the family on Saturday, July 13 from 1-4pm at their home at 556 Panorama Way, Crestone. Donations in Jim's memory can be made to Hospice del Valle, 514 Main, Alamosa, CO 81101.

## Calvin Tibbs alleged drug charge dismissed

In Saguache County Courthouse on May 22, Calvin Tibbs asked Judge Martin Gonzalez that he not be returned to the Community Correctional Facility in Alamosa. After an accusation of drug use (a packet of Equal in his locker was thought to be heroin) had been fully dismissed, it was presented that Calvin was "doing well". Calvin was remanded to finish out his sentence (less than 3 years remaining) at the Community Correctional Facility.

## Editor's Notes

### To life with love

This past month I received word that a good friend was diagnosed with cancer. It was a shock. She is far too young, too full of life and vitality for this. Her world dramatically shifted. All the projects and plans are put on hold while she strives to recover her health. We send her love.

Last week I got a call at the Eagle from a man who has been a long-time subscriber. He was dying from stage 4 cancer. He called to tell me how much he enjoyed reading the Eagle over the years. He was saying his goodbyes. He cried, I cried—very touched that he would call.

Life is so precious. So dear. Both strong and very fragile. These two recent events remind me on how important it is to tell those that we love, that we love them. To enjoy life every day and think about what is truly important.

I know that I sometimes bog down with trivial details, small aggravations that seem oh so important at the time. But really? Really?

I look out upon a blue sky, green summer trees, apples in bloom, bees on the buzz, grandchildren playing in the yard and snuggled on a lap, laughter of friends, love of a partner and beauty all around and give thanks for life.

There is a saying something to the effect that we should have compassion for others as we don't know what battles they may be fighting. That saying has renewed meaning for me. So, I give thanks to you, and wish you good health and joy on this fine summer day.

—Kizzen

This issue and for July and August the Eagle is featuring "Summer Fun" activities. We hope you find fun things to do. Please send us info on your events, or tips on places to explore. Write, info@crestoneeagle.com

## Guest Commentary: Our POA: From the inside looking out; The present

by **Lonnie Nichols,**  
former Community Manager,  
Baca Grande POA

(Note: this is a two-part series on the perspectives of the current situation and future possibilities of our Baca Grand Property Owners Association. After a brief tenure as Community Manager, I offer my insight from the inside looking out—a much needed perspective in light of what I consider misperceptions and often false assumptions which target the Baca Property Owners Association [POA] and the management team.)

Being a resident here for six years and a landowner for twenty years, I feel compelled to share my insights on the Baca Grande Property Owners Association after holding the title of Community Manager there, even though my tenure in that role was relatively brief. Like many others who have not worked there or donated their time, I had some perceptions and preconceived notions about the operations and the organizational dynamic, though they were clearly topical and “prismed” by the input of a variety of others who also had not worked there. Now that I’ve been on the “inside” in a most intense, dynamic role of “community manager”, my perceptions are much clearer. I’d like to share my brief experience, as well as offer some thoughts on possible future scenarios of our POA. Obviously, I can’t speak for the past history of the POA, though stories and tales abound concerning the conflicts, agendas, and original intentions that occurred there. I can only speak to what I experienced recently.

Before going into some of the specifics of these viewpoints and perspectives, I’d like to briefly share an experience of a few years ago with our community, which was a combined, “communal effort”—one much different than what I experienced as the community manager. Late in 2007, I was asked to participate in writing a rebuttal to a very weak environmental assessment (EA) as provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (US-FWS). The EA was necessary prior to performing exploratory gas drilling in the Baca. My point in bringing this up is simple: the various, diverse, and sometimes embattled groups here coalesced as one front. We came together, put our differences aside, and joined forces against a company that was from Canada—a company which had not done an adequate job in assessing the risks and all the potential impacts to our community . . . from the environmental risks, to the social engineering, and even to the potential aesthetic impacts. When I entered the position of community manager at the POA, I naively assumed that some, if not all, of the same “sense of community” would prevail. I sorely missed the mark; the dynamics of the two roles contrast greatly.

I hope the following will help the community become more aware of the dynamics at work at our POA. Many whom I’ve spoken with are not even aware of the size and scope of the POA. I’d like to first lay down some information to that end, as well as discuss the role of the manager and the management company. I’d also like to provide some detail on the opposing forces, as I see them, with some specific examples. I am certainly not the first to experi-

ence such a dichotomy of energies that contributed to a resignation, and I am clear that I’m only one person providing this perspective. My hope is for an increased awareness to those who are unaware of the opposing forces that vector through and target the POA, and specifically to the board and to the manager.

### Overview: Infrastructure and organization

Much of what I’d like to lay down as basic organizational structure is not new for many here, yet I’ve discovered that the majority of our residents are not well informed as to the workforce, the services provided, or the real scope and quantity of tasks required to sustain operations here. Before I get into the human dynamics, the board, and some of the opposing forces, here’s an overview of our POA.

Indeed our POA is a small city, unlike any other Home Owner Associations (HOAs) I’ve ever been associated with, or know of, in Colorado. Short of a police department (or any type of law enforcement) we have a city/municipality. We have fire, ambulance, road maintenance, insurance requirements, taxes, budgets, legal needs, accounting needs, land use operations (building permits and extensions), assessments to collect, fines to levy, payment plans, and tax audits to coordinate; and, the manager needs to set up agendas and take minutes for board meetings. The manager is directed by the board and takes assigned actions from the board. Yet we manage and operate our “city” with just three people in the front office. I understand that our past staff included five to six employees.

The operating budget at any time ranges from \$400K-\$600K, and the reserves (amount for capital improvements/upgrades and/or emergencies) is approximately \$960K (with an added 105K this year). These reserves are required by law to be used only as I mentioned. We have a full time staff of seven employees and two part-time employees. The POA provides a complete fire department, emergency services (EMS), and road service for approximately 75 miles of dirt roads. That doesn’t include the five common areas, such as the golf course, Casita Park, two parks, etc., which are all maintained by the maintenance department. We also have nine leases that we track for income/expenses. (Note: the only significant losses on the leased property is the golf course, which loses anywhere from \$25,000-\$30,000 annually, mostly due to watering costs). All the other leases break even, with the exception of the Rod and Gun Club (a 50-year lease for \$10, signed in the ‘70s), or provide a profit to the POA. The stables is a good example in which much of the public perception surrounding the costs are not accurate. The stables’ income (lease amount) far exceeds the costs to the POA.

The POA manager processes payroll for nine regular employees, plus any/all of the volunteers’ costs during a fire or an ambulance run. For some pay periods the payroll includes up to 15 people. Additionally, the management team processes anywhere from 40-60 checks a month for vendors, such as costs of gasoline, diesel, vehicle repair, insurance payments, etc. Processing and approving

those checks is not as simple as it may sound—there are nearly 400 sub-accounts and each check must be tagged with the proper account number for budgeting/tracking, approved by the manager, and finally the checks are signed by two board members.

The maintenance department, along with the fire dept. and EMS, provides many services above and beyond what we are paid to do. For example, did you ever notice that when you get up at 7am after a large snow storm that your road is already plowed? Did you notice that most of the time, just when you are about to call about your “wash boarded” road, the crew comes by and levels it back out? Or that they flush out your culverts? Additionally, we still get a person or two/week who are out of gas. What do we do? Technically, we are not licensed to sell gas. Due to board and member consensus, we do not turn our back on them, we simply offer a little on a one-time, donation basis. How about those tires? There are many people who show up with flats—what do we do? The staff there takes care of those emergencies, never asking if those in need have their assessments paid. We even take care of flats when there’s an “anti-POA” sticker on the car.

The proof is in the pudding for the fire department and ambulance service. They have done their job as well as any comparable municipality, and done it through smut and dirt thrown at them for years. The employees do the best they can, put their heart into their work as a service to the community, and tolerate a small group of people who make a full time job of cutting them down, plastering condescending posts on facebook, and making personal slanderous remarks to them on a daily basis. I know of no other POA or HOA that manages a full fire department and ambulance service. For the fees we pay here, we as members receive a nice package. Is there room for improvement? Absolutely. Can we communicate better? Absolutely. It is a work in progress.

### The Community Manager

The Community Manager is required to oversee all of the above tasks and responsibilities, and even in the “ideal environment”, this role can be one of a “thankless job”. HOAs and POAs, in general, witness and address primarily the problems, late assessments, fines, covenant violations, lawsuits, etc. Nearly all serious problems, including dealing with lawsuits, go through and engage the manager as well.

When I arrived in the office the first week, in addition to catching up from two months of not having a manager on site, along with the long list of tasks (listed below), I encountered a few massive issues: a lawsuit hit the POA the first Friday, I discovered past due assessments and fines owed to the POA in the amount of nearly \$670,000, and realized we had leases, addendums, and policies that that were grossly behind and/or needed to be put in place.

I’d like to list below the responsibilities of the community manager at this point, because not only was I unaware of the full scope of the tasks, but I feel a need to inform our community --- some of whom want the POA gone and target the manager as the “bullseye” of the problem. As a project manager for many years, I’ve learned that so much of what we do is “behind the scenes” in order get things done, and I’ve also learned that level of responsibility nearly always supersedes

what the perceptions the customer (in this case, the members) projects onto the manager. The other wildcard element in our association is the minority of folks who want Hammersmith, the community management company, out of the picture. Here’s an overview of the responsibilities our POA manager:

Oversee and manage eight employees;

Oversee the maintenance of all the common areas; 2 parks, golf course, tennis court, library property, park at Casita Park, 75 miles of roads, noxious weed control, ambulance facility, fire department facility;

Oversee ambulance and fire service;

Manage, maintain, and report on annual budget of approximately \$1,000,000;

Perform payroll, coordinate tax audits, review all charges to an account of over 350 accounting line items. Approve all check requests. (Note: bi-monthly payroll includes tracking any/all PTO/vacation/sick, as applicable per employee);

Schedule all meetings, with approved agendas by the board, post to members on Eblast, post newspaper articles when/where appropriate;

Take minutes at all business and special meetings, post on website;

Provide 7-8 page monthly Management Report and approximately 160-page Board Packet to the board, which includes approximately 135 pages of financials;

Address past due assessments of nearly \$670,000, sign all letters on fines, and all major violation letters—some members owe over \$40,000;

Write all leases and addendums, receive legal opinion on them, and attain board approval. Track all leases; income vs costs;

Recently, acted as liaison between legal counsel and defendants of lawsuit. I personally spent 52 hours of my own time (I did charge for 3 of these hours) in this role. If I spent 2 hours on a day in a meeting on the lawsuit, that meant I had to stay 2 hours late to get the regular duties accomplished. I personally averaged about 55 hours a week the first 4 weeks, and was in the office the first 5 weekends on my own time;

Resolve/address all policies, such as the “dog policy”, “construction extension policy”, or even whether or not the POA should sell gas to those in need—all very difficult issues to manage and issues that often have no black/white answers. More on the gas issue below.

The manager addresses any/all of the members who are abrasive, or simply rude to the staff. Clearly, community management can be very rewarding, providing a necessary service to the community, but it is often a thankless 24/7 job in which a large number of members encountered are either not in compliance with the covenants, or are blatantly arguing, debating, or opposing every attempt to move forward with policies and daily operations. More on these opposing forces below.

### Hammersmith Management, Inc. (HMI)

I have heard so many comments about HMI, for which our local manager works—comments based on rumor, innuendo, or simply false assumptions—that I feel compelled to provide some objective input on this company as I see it from the inside. Keep in mind the manager works for the POA and is directed by the board.

*continued on page 26*

## Moffat School gets ready for grant presentation

by Kirk Banghart,  
Superintendent of Schools,  
Moffat Consolidated  
School District #2

Moffat staff and parents are getting ready for their 16 million dollar grant presentation on May 29. Superintendent Kirk Banghart, Parent Suzanne Ewy and Wold Architecture, with the support of the district's Facility Master Planning Committee and the Board of Education, will be presenting to the Capital Construction Assistance Board in Denver.

The format for the presentation is set by the Capital Construction Assistance Board (CCAB). After introductions, each applicant is given two minutes to address the CCAB. After the two-minute dia-

logue, the CCAB has the opportunity to ask focused questions of the team. Questions are focused on areas such as: health/safety concerns, assessment findings, urgency, compliance, and planning.

The team is focusing their two-minute open dialogue with the board by informing them about how the Moffat PK-12 School has such a close knit family feel. The team will also discuss the critical roll that the school fills for students and families. Currently 72% of the Moffat PK-12 School students are below the national poverty level and 27 out of 127 are considered homeless by state definition. The school is the critical link for these students to access food, shelter and a caring environment during the day.

This is the last cycle of funding for the CCAB unless the state legislature allots more funding in the upcoming year and removes the statutory cap. In this cycle the CCAB will recommend \$130 million of repair and replacements to the Colorado State Board of Education. Currently there is \$300 million worth of requests in this last cycle. "It is a 1-in-3 chance if you look at the dollars available, but I think we have a 50/50 chance of being funded" said Job Gutierrez for Wold Architecture. Wold Architecture helped the Moffat district complete its facilities master plan over the past year.

The process started in February of 2012, when the board of education hired a firm to build a facilities master plan. That plan was

completed along with the grant application in March 2013. During the process of building the master plan it was discovered that the current facility is in need of 9 million dollars of repair, which includes a severe foundational issue that was discovered in the 1921 building.

"The team has been working very hard to make sure that we are ready to represent the children of Moffat/Crestone at this critical time," said Kirk Banghart, Moffat Superintendent of Schools. "We are excited to get the opportunity to talk about our facilities issues".

If awarded the grant, the district will ask the voters to approve a match in November. With the grant, the voters will only have to pay for 27% of the construction cost while the state will fund the other 73%. The district will be informed if they receive the grant by July 1.

## Crestone Energy Group seeks to close energy & financial loops

by Nick Chambers

There are a few things that take our money out of our community, never to be seen or recirculated again, including coal-powered electricity, propane, gasoline, and the service of trash hauling. Our money eventually gets invested in large national/global corporations, in which many of us would prefer not to invest.

The purpose of the Crestone Energy Group is to take small bites of a couple projects that could ben-

efit the community as a whole by keeping some utilitarian expenditures more local and providing more opportunities for local employment.

**These projects include:**

**1) Fuel station investment.**

Not having access to gas in town has meant the danger of commuter cars transporting gas cans, gasoline spills, a loss of tax revenue for Town of Crestone, and a loss of local business revenue.

The Crestone Energy Group would be interested in providing assistance in setting up future fuel sales to partially re-invest back into the community.

**2) Biomass resource inventory.** Biomass is stored solar energy that can be made into compost and/or fuel, and other products. We are surrounded by forests where sensible mitigation efforts fill up the POA slash pit a couple times

per year. This material's energy is then burned up for no beneficial use because we don't have any systems, procedures, or infrastructure to deal with it. This inventory would provide potential mass ratios of biomass mitigated from piñon/juniper lands, cottonwood riparian lands, and aspen conifer lands. Moisture analysis, costs per acre, costs per million BTUs, costs per yard of compost, and long-term yield questions would be answered.

**3) Downtown District Energy.** District Energy is like small mini-grids supplying many different businesses and/or homes with energy from a centralized source, such as insulated underground water lines supplying heat, or an electric source providing net-metering

to several different meters. Combined heat and power (CHP) is one of the few approaches for attaining above 80% efficiency in energy generation. The viability of pursuing a Crestone Energy District will be assessed and questions will be answered regarding potential energy sources, technology options, cost/benefit analyses, and overall feasibility.

*The Crestone Energy Group is supported by Saguache County's Sales Tax program and is composed of Nicholas Chambers, McGregor Gaines and Benjamin Byer. A big thank you goes out for the advice, input, and community service of Curt Ward, Lee Temple, Vince Palermo, Kelly Hart, Chuck Tidd, Ben Brack, and Peter May.*

## Enterprise Zone

continued from page 1

income and slow population growth. Businesses in the designated zones can take advantage of a slate of tax credits as incentives to invest and improve their operations. All six counties of the San Luis Valley—Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache—and 18 communities are within the San Luis Valley Enterprise Zone, meaning any business located in the region is eligible for the available tax credits.

In 2012, businesses and individuals contributed over \$2.2 million to qualified non-profit projects in the San Luis Valley through the Enterprise Zone Contribution program. Some of the projects that received contributions through the program include Adams State University Foundation, Creede Repertory Theatre, Valley-Wide Health Systems, and La Puente Homeless Shelter.

To learn more about Crestone Revitalization, or make a contribution to the project, contact the Town of Crestone at 719-256-4313, or by e-mail at crestonemgr@fairpoint.net.

## Oil & gas

continued from page 1

should be released during the week of May 19. A 30-day comment period would follow, but no public meetings were planned. The well operators would also have to obtain a conditional use permit from Rio Grande County, which could contain conditions similar to those agreed to by First Liberty, including casing to greater depth than required by the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Members of the RGRT discussed the possibility that it might be better to let the well itself determine how much casing should be installed, as drill cores and logs would indicate soil conditions and whether or not any groundwater is present.

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Renee Hill in her "tractor finest" at last year's 4th of July celebration. Come join the fun! This year's theme is "The Lone Ranger & Tonto Ride Again!"

## Get ready to ride for Crestone's 4th of July celebration

by Leanna Bradbury,  
Deputy Town Clerk

This year's 4th of July celebration is already shaping up to be a fantastic downtown-wide celebration with a variety of events to please everyone. There will be a 5km "Run, Walk, or Crawl Race," opportunities for kids to decorate themselves to join the parade, vendors and music in the park, the noon parade with the theme as "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Ride Again," a water event after the parade, and the Sixth Annual Crestone Indie 600 [foot] Soap Box Derby. We already have a wide selection of vendors providing delicious food. Our \$30 vendor fees provide the money for porta-potties, garbage carts, and entertainers, enabling the event to be free for everyone else. Here's what you can do to get involved:

- Volunteer to coordinate or assist for one of the many aspects of the event.
- Rent a booth space for your merchandise, ideas, or services.
- Contact music coordinator Tom Dessain if you'd like to provide music.

- Get in shape for the race (if you want a prize ribbon, that is).
- Make a parade float, defined as any decorated vehicle.
- Organize or be a parade marching unit, anyone costumed and walking.
- Be a parade equestrian unit, any animal(s) leashed, controlled and poop-scooped for the ten-block route.

• Build your soap box racer, including brakes.

To join the parade, just show up at the lineup area on Copper Avenue at 11am on the 4th. The Soap Box Derby requires pre-registration and a \$5 youth, \$10 adult entry fee which will be used as prizes for adult and youth design and speed. Several posters this month will keep you updated on the events, where to register for the Soap Box Derby, and what volunteers are still needed. Gretchen Nelson at Town Hall, 256-4313 or crestone@fairpoint.net, is the 4th of July celebration coordinator. Please contact her for information, to volunteer, rent a booth space, or present an evolutionary new celebration idea.



by Leanna Bradbury,  
Deputy Town Clerk  
**Crestone Botanical Garden awarded grant**

A \$6,000 Saguache County sales tax grant for youth, seniors, and disabled has been awarded for this year's expanded greenhouse project on Alder Street at the south end of the Crestone Town Center. Two teens have been employed to help operate the shop where you can buy potted plants, plant starts, potting soil, and organic fertilizer, or donate your unhappy or extra plants for rehabilitation and resale. New this year is a selection of youth art sold on consignment. Many of our community's young people are talented artists who make fine gift and décor items. Stop in to the lush greenhouse 11 to 4 Monday through Saturday to see a really nice addition to our downtown business district.

**Museum opening & donations from Saguache Museum**

The Crestone Historical Museum is once again open on summer weekends with several new displays. The Saguache Museum has formally returned hundred-year-old portraits and diaries of Crestone pioneer Nellie Emerson, some of its holdings acquired when Crestone had no museum. Lonny Roth has lent his gem and arrowhead collection, and more acquisitions and loans are in process. Museum Director Jim McCalpin and a crew of friendly volunteers will staff the museum on weekends. They also sell books, maps, gold, and chocolates.

**Two new ordinances & a resolution**

Last month the Town of Crestone Trustees approved minor amendments to the ordinances that created the municipal water and sewer systems. Ordinance 2013-005 makes customer-paid sewer extensions an administrative function that does not require Board of Trustee approval, and permits waiver of a performance and main-

tenance bond for small construction projects. The Town's sewer system was originally constructed in only the west half of town where septic systems could contaminate shallow private wells, but upslope residents are increasingly inquiring about sewer hookups. Ordinance 2013-006 amends the water system ordinance to permit placement of water meters and pits in the commercial district in locations other than the property line. Installing meters next to or inside commercial buildings can keep the future sidewalk area clear and protect the expensive pits from being driven over and broken.

Resolution 007-2013, "A Resolution Adopting a Policy Regarding Access to Public Records," updates procedures, types of media, and fees for public records requests.

**No driving around stop signs**

Some drivers have been cutting across the Secret Garden parking lot to avoid the stop sign southbound on Alder Street at Golden Avenue. This intersection was made a four-way stop after a couple of near-collisions, and to make it safer for vehicles and pedestrians travelling to and from the Crestone Charter School. Cutting the corner creates a hazard, so as a matter of public safety the town trustees have approved blocking Golden Avenue at the south end of that parking lot. Patrons of Secret Garden businesses still have about 200 feet of access from Alder Street and Silver Avenue.



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## POA monthly meeting report

by Earl W. Sutherland

The Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) held its regular monthly meeting on April 25 and held work sessions on May 6 and May 9. Several important issues evolved during the three meetings.

### New manager

Lonnie Nichols, the current Community Manager, resigned at the business meeting and made his last official appearance at the May 6 meeting, a mere three months after his first. At that meeting he expressed his appreciation of his employment and offered that he had done his best. Director Suomi voiced concern over the frequency of managerial turnover and hoped that discussion will occur to delve into the causes of this instability. (see additional article) Meanwhile,

an interim manager from Hammersmith Management, Amanda Funck, was introduced and will provide managerial leadership until a permanent community manager is aboard. Expressions of appreciation for Mr. Nichols were forwarded.

### Election Task Force

The Election Task Force was formed by the board to improve the balloting process and to revise if necessary other components of the election process, action prompted by widely disliked last ballot for POA board election. At the meeting of April 25, Director Schreiber reported that 4 of the 6 members of the Task Force had resigned in the previous two days. The reasons for the resignations were not stated in the meetings. However, revision of the guidelines for the nominating

committee (for candidates for the POA Board of Directors) was accomplished by the intact group and will be included in the application package for candidates as well as to nominating committee members. Volunteers for this work are needed and one may contact the POA at 719-256-4171.

### The maturing library

Two issues were presented at the May 9 meeting by Peter Anderson, a member of the board of the library district. The chief one was the presentation of a plan to survey the community's opinion of the existing library and its needs for the future, including the possibilities of refurbishing the existing or other structure or even constructing a new building. The Town of Crestone has been supportive of the library relocating into town, and advised the library that there is town land near

the Crestone Charter School that could be considered for potential development. The Northern Saguache County Library District Board is asking for the Baca Grande Property Owners Association to extend a gesture of support by forgiving part or all of a remaining debt of nearly \$28,000. This indebtedness was incurred during the first months of operation of the library district before it received revenues from taxes. The Baca-Crestone Library overwhelmingly serves members of the POA, yet, now that the library is no longer a part of the POA, it appears that monies cannot be disbursed from the POA to the district's support, as noted by Director Garnett. It is planned to assess further if it is legal for the POA to pardon the debt and also whether the members want to. A painful predicament for a popular amenity to our community.

## POA board directors investigate frequent manager resignations at special session

by Sandia Belgrade

In a very short time, two competent Baca Grande Property Owners Association Community Managers have resigned from the POA, Alison McClure and Lonnie Nichols. Board of Directors President Treat Suomi noted it's a problem the board needs to deal with, and soon. The special session of May 6 looked at the responsibility of board members and managers to determine how to prevent another repeat. It was said during the discussion that "an unhealthy atmosphere has developed". Staff employees have reported they felt threatened by undesirable interaction with Director Garnett concerning the performance of their work and have stated, "this is a hostile work environment."

Hammersmith Management, Inc. hires managers to serve as the liaison between the board, employees, and the membership. However, recent managers have found themselves in untenable positions because of board member actions. Director Matie Belle Lakish, who has served on a number of boards and has covered the Saguache County Board of Commissioners for many years, observed that the POA board functions quite unlike other boards she has experienced.

What triggered the most recent conflict was a decision to sell gas after Curt's Store pumps closed, in an effort to be of help to the community. Matie Belle directed her comments to board member Bob Garnett, who had correctly recognized selling gas was not an appropriate action for the POA. However, it appeared he told an employee that he was going to turn him in to the state for doing so. Community manager Nichols addressed Garnett, saying employees should not be threatened by saying you're going to turn them in to the state or the EPA. A key point of the board discussion was that matters must come to management and the board first, and not be directed to employees. Garnett said that people call him and he tries to take care of the problem. He either denied the allegations or explained his role as a natural response to inquiries from membership.

### Appropriate board behavior

There is protocol that governs any board. One must serve the membership—which also includes some staff—while following appropriate procedures. The board is responsible for policymaking, while the manager is responsible for day-to-day management of staff and implementation of board policy. The role of the Community Manager is to be the voice between the Directors and POA staff. Director Moats said that in a small community such as this it's sometimes difficult to operate only through sanctified channels, so that direct interaction of a director and staff or member may occur. However, Suomi pointed out, all directors should come to the board when there is a problem and not address employees directly or micro manage them. As the discussion went on, it became apparent that the entire board could benefit from clearer guidelines, a more defined chain of command, and a consistent way of relating between the board, employees and the membership. The board discussed their intention to follow guidelines and implement training on board protocol. They noted that with a more defined role and adherence to policies, the board could communicate better and there would be more transparency and less stress.

### Interim manager

Amanda Funck, from Hammersmith Management, will serve as the acting interim manager and be on site 3 days a week. She endorsed a policy of following explicit guidelines for interactions among personnel and will bring in a handbook for the board. Amanda has managing experience and an understanding of fiscal issues. It is anticipated there will be a new permanent community manager by July. Amanda noted we're all human, but the role of board managers can be put into a format so it's clearer and all are better informed and aware of procedures.

### What managers face

Nichols at this work meeting stated that in the first six weeks as manager, he received over 40 negative emails, even when he was

responding with knowledgeable, researched answers. Disgruntled residents would often engage in unseemly diatribe rather than acting in a friendly manner. Nichols said he was being drowned under a ton of back work while being besieged by these calls and emails and trying to "put out fires." Hence the burnout.

### Community input

Ben Brack, the Crestone and Baca Fire Chief, said so much turnover is not workable and results in an unstable situation, such as with the fire department. Given the inconsistencies, he pointed out that employees must sign a personnel agreement and follow policies laid out in the employee handbook for acceptable verbal and written actions. He noted that the board doesn't sign an agreement—is this a double standard? Director Schreiber suggested that certain of the guidelines in the Employees Manual may also be pertinent to Board members and a review of that document is planned. Suomi said that if the board did something similar it would be a sign of solidarity with employees.

### Opportunity to look at bigger picture

With a limited employee pool of qualified residents in a small

town, it was noted that it's in every one's best interests not to lose qualified people. The membership might reconsider how they communicate with the POA staff and board. The ultimate responsibility for the association, however, rests with the board, so a more consistent policy could be one substantive thing they leave behind.

## Assessor to be in Crestone to hear property valuation protests

After the recent property value reassessment of Saguache County mandated by the State of Colorado, many people are seeing higher property assessments. If you wish to protest your tax property valuations, you need to do so before 4 pm on June 10 at the county assessor's office.

Assessor Jackie Stephens will be hearing protests in Crestone at the town hall on Thursday, June 6 from 1-5pm; and on Monday, June 10 from 9am until noon. You may call the assessor's office at 655-2521.

## Restorative Justice Pilot Project (HB 13-1254) passes in Colorado!

State Representative Pete Lee has just shared a huge victory with advocates and constituents in Colorado with the passage of House Bill 13-1254, The Restorative Justice Pilot Project. This bill now becoming law is only the second of its kind in Colorado and represents a significant jump in restorative processes and practices becoming possible for post-offense cases. The bill originated in the past year on the tails of the steadily growing efforts to bring to forefront the success rates, cost savings, and stakeholder satisfaction that restorative justice provides—in this case within the juvenile system.

This new law will initiate an RJ fund via a \$10 surcharge on offender fees. These dollars will help seed new pilot projects, one of which is focused in Alamosa (The four districts are Alamosa, Weld/Larimer, Boulder, and Pueblo) and develop research and evidence on the value of restorative justice. The money will also support a position for a state RJ coordinator that supports the State RJ Council and RJ programs around the state.

And as Longmont Community Justice Partnership Executive Director Deb Witzel says, "Perhaps most importantly the new law will provide the opportunity to almost all juveniles referred to the justice system."

Here in Crestone, plans are in the works to bring representatives from the region for talks and training opportunity/ies. Take part in the ongoing free webcast/telecouncil series, *Restorative Justice on The Rise* (and be sure to tap into over 70 free audio archives with Arun Gandhi, Kay Pranis, Howard Zehr, Azim Khamisa, Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, and many others.) More at [dopeace.us](http://dopeace.us) and click on Restorative Justice.

# Saguache County News

by **Matie Belle Lakish**

The Saguache County Commissioners followed the path that many counties have chosen to put a six-month moratorium on sales and commercial processing of marijuana, while they wait to see what rules the state will place on those activities. Recent state legislation removed some restrictions that tied recreational facilities to medical marijuana facilities. Some counties have banned facilities, but Saguache County chose a wait-and-see approach. Personal use, and the growing of up to six plants for personal use are not affected by this moratorium. Recent state legislation also provided for some experimentation on the growing of industrial hemp, a low THC variety which was used extensively in this country prior to World War II, and which is grown and sold in Canada and other countries, but which is still illegal at the federal level. (See article elsewhere in this newspaper.)

## Assessor

Notices of Valuation are being mailed to property owners and protests are being scheduled for owners who wish to protest their assessments. Many Baca property owners are seeing reductions in their valuations, and therefore will see some reduction in taxes when bills are mailed later in the year. Exceptions will be those owners whose properties have recently been added to the rolls or whose homes were not previously taxed. Such owners will be billed for two years of back taxes.

Assessor Jackie Stephens said another group of taxpayers that are feeling the crunch are Crestone businesses and owners of lots and homes that are zoned commercial. She regrets that they will see a relatively huge increase in taxes because commercial lots in the Town of Crestone were previously valued at \$2000. Recent lot sales, however, have changed that significantly. Currently, most lots zoned commercial will be valued at around \$40,000. Property valuations are based on sales of similar property within the eighteen-month period previous to the assessment. Business properties are also taxed at a substantially higher rate of 29%, whereas the assessment rate is

projected to be 7.96% for residential property. The Crestone Town Hall has maps indicating which town properties are zoned commercial. Protest Hearings of valuations will be held through June 10 from 8am to 4pm at the Saguache County Assessor's Office. Call 719-655-2890 to schedule.

Stephens also asked commissioners for permission to hire Peter Peterson as a full time employee of the assessors office. She said that Peterson has put in many unpaid hours learning the tasks of the assessor and worked long hours to help with the recent re-assessment. Commissioners asked for a job description for the position, as the county has not had a full time employee in that position for a number of years.

## Treasurer

After assessments are mailed, most owners' contact with the county is through the County Treasurer, Connie Trujillo. Tax Notices for 2013 were mailed at the beginning of 2013, and taxes are due to be paid by June 15.

If taxes are not paid, the property becomes subject to sale at the annual Tax Lien Sale, which is held in November. Frequently, properties will be purchased by an investor who is interested in holding the property for the three years required by law before title can be granted, in hopes that the owner will redeem the property and pay the Lien Holder (investor) the interest and fees required by law. If the owner does not redeem the property within three years by paying the taxes and interest and fees, then the Lien Holder can become the owner by Quieting the Title. Typically, the new owner will then sell the property. If the title is not quieted, the previous owner may still reclaim the property within the next ten years by paying all taxes, fees and interest.

Many lots in the Baca have changed hands through this process. If you have any questions about the tax process or about purchasing lots for back-taxes, contact Connie Trujillo, [ctrujillo@saguachecounty-co.gov](mailto:ctrujillo@saguachecounty-co.gov).

## Solar Reserve

The county's newsletter, *Eye on the County*, has the following quote from Adam Green, Senior Development Manager for Solar Reserve, who recently updated Commissioner Jason Anderson:

"We recently submitted The Saguache Solar Energy Project to Xcel for their consideration in the Electric Resource Plan, through a pre-defined RFP process. They will

analyze our bid and present the results of their analysis to the Public Utilities Commission on September 9, at which point the PUC will start to decide whether to approve various projects, including ours . . . and the PUC's final decision will be released on December 9th. If they approve our project, then we will be able to finalize a Power Purchase Agreement with Xcel . . . we commissioned a new economic impact analysis of our project. The analysis found that we would create over \$900 million in economic benefit for Colorado and almost 1,500 jobs (direct, indirect, and induced) in the state. Most of those benefits come from the construction spending, but there are significant benefits from the long-term operations, increased tax base, investment in private land, avoided carbon emissions, eco-tourism, etc. There are also many benefits that we couldn't quantify, like enhanced electric reliability in the San Luis Valley, or the value of water conservation, or the particular need for economic development in the area due to low average incomes and high unemployment. What we could say, however, is that among those quantified benefits, the San Luis Valley will see approximately \$330 million in economic benefits and 800 jobs in total. Hopefully, that will carry some real weight at the capitol. Overall, I'm feeling optimistic about this, but we still have a long road ahead of us."

## Trails

There is also some exciting work being done on trails in valley. Jason Anderson is also representing the County on the San Luis Valley Trails Coalition, which is engaged in developing a master plan for the valley's amazing trails systems.

Jason writes, "Even in our diverse county, it seems there are some things most of us agree on. We would all like to see our economy improve for everyone in the County and Valley; how to do that can lead to some disagreement, except notably, for one area—Tourism. One of our County's, and the Valley's greatest treasures is the abundance of opportunities for outdoor recreation around us.

"The Trails Coalition is a forum of diverse stakeholders collaborating to create and help the community implement a long-term plan for increasing physical activity and access to trails and recreation in the San Luis Valley."

"Over the next year, the coalition plans to gather information about the trails in our communities and Counties across the SLV, to begin the SLV Trails and Recreation Master Plan updating. Much of this will be done through public forums, and we encourage everyone who values our recreational assets to please take the time to help and contribute your input. We believe this process will benefit those of us that live here, as well as attracting and benefitting visitors, and the boon to local economies, which comes with them to our Valley. Watch for news and notices as this project progresses. For more information, please contact Saguache County's representative on the Coalition, Commissioner Jason Anderson: [janderson@saguachecounty-co.gov](mailto:janderson@saguachecounty-co.gov) or phone: 719 285-5878."

## Social Services, Clinic, & Veterans Services

Commissioners are visiting various departments to give the

new commissioners an opportunity to see what's going on at the county level, and to give employees a chance to meet the two Andersons. In May, they toured Social Services, as well as the Saguache County Clinic and the Veteran's Services Office. I especially enjoyed seeing the upgrades to the Social Services building, as I used to work there before the county made significant improvements. What used to be a dreary building with cracks around the windows so large that birds could fly in has become a cozy, relatively cheery place with a focus on client privacy.

The county offers the usual services of income assistance for families with children and seniors, heating assistance in the winter, and child protection. They also provide food assistance to eligible families. Unfortunately, most seniors do not qualify, and many other citizens occasionally need extra food, so Director Jeannie Norris has worked hard to eliminate hunger in the county through two local food distributions and a food bank. A recent upgrade to the building is the new food bank, which is now housed just inside the door of the Social Services building. There are also distributions at the Crestone Town Hall. Seniors may receive commodities once a month now, up from six times a year. For more information call 655-2537.

The Hazard family has long provided the county with one of the corner buildings in downtown Saguache, so long as it is used for medical purposes. Dr. Arnett, who runs a clinic in Salida, has also staffed the clinic in Saguache for the last decade. Over the last several years he has applied for and received National Health Service grants to upgrade the building, which dates to the 1920s. Now the clinic, which was originally a general store, has had a major makeover, including new plumbing, electrical, phone, and heating systems. The result is a bright, pleasant clinic with privacy for patients and staff with a state-of-the-art electronic medical records system. They can handle minor surgery, such as the removal of skin lesions, and have a room for casting broken bones. For more information, call 655-2531.

Also housed in the clinic building is the Veterans Service Office. Baca resident Jim Sheeran was recently appointed the VSO for Saguache County, and he is bringing the recordkeeping system up to speed and trying to contact the many veterans that live in Saguache County. About 10% of county residents are former military persons, and Jim says many do not take advantage of services. He suspects that they may not be aware of some of the opportunities that have come up for veterans in the last few years.

Valley veterans are banding together to ask for better local medical services. As a result, some of the routine medical tests that used to require a trip to the Front Range are now offered locally. Jim sees this as a positive model for the state, as other regions are now requesting these local services.

He also noted that widows of veterans may be eligible for benefits and pensions. Jim Sheeran is in the office in Saguache on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 4pm, and on Friday from 9am to 3pm. Phone number is 655-2680.

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# 15<sup>th</sup> annual Crestone Music Festival

by Tom Dessain

The 15th Annual Crestone Music Festival will be held August 2, 3, & 4. The festival is a three-day, two-stage event held at Challenger Golf Club in Crestone Colorado. It features over 25 multi-genre, multi-cultural acts. We have camping, a kid's zone, contests, arts & crafts, gourmet cuisine and Colorado libations.

Friday's headliner is the eclectic Haunted Windchimes. These three guys and two gals have just had a prestigious appearance on "Prairie Home Companion." They have amazing honeyed harmonies and spirited pickin'. Opening for the Haunted Windchimes is Rebecca Frazier and Hit & Run Bluegrass. They are past winners of the "Best New Band" contests at both the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and Rocky Grass.

Saturday features bayou blues artist Tab Benoit. Born and raised on the Louisiana bayou, this self-proclaimed "new kid from the old school" is the standard bearer for a new generation of Cajun blues musicians. Tab is a traditionalist and an innovator at the same time, grafting elements of rock and soul to the indigenous sounds of the bayou.

## New vendors to add a touch of class & lots of fun!

by Robin Rosenberg

We have several new vendors this year who will add a touch of class and lots of fun to your festival experience! From

Fort Garland we have "The Fudge Lady" bringing over 100 kinds of chocolate fudge, so bring your sweet tooth! In the Arts & Crafts category we have Front Porch Guitars creating folk art guitars from cigar boxes; Spin & Burn, an artist co-op from Del Norte bringing pottery, hand dyed wool yarn and hand blown

glass beads; Alex Colville with hand turned wooden vessels; local textile artist, Deanna Elliot will show her hand made clothing; Ann Tindell Designs from Texas will show her exquisite silver, copper and precious metal jewelry; Manna Stone locally made metal drums; and Mexican artist Estela Carmora with her incredible fine art prints and t-shirts.

In the Health and Healing area several new and exciting practitioners will

be present! Grace Woods from Santa Fe will do facials, reflexology and Spirit Mapping; Sharon Cheney, also from Santa Fe, will do psychic readings; local Kathleen



Jennifer Gurd returns with her Asian Bazaar.

Willow will be selling Floracopia Essential oils; Winter Ross & Mae Green will be offering Art Therapy & Spirit Guide Drawings!

We have Craft Adventure who will sell beads and findings for you to create your own artwork, and Vibrational Medicine with an eclectic combination of precious stones, fossils and crystals, sacred geometry T-shirts and tapestries.

These new folks will be joining our returning favorites who always offer their best, so be prepared to shop, smile and experience the creativity and opportunity they bring to the festival! Check the July issue of *The Crestone Eagle* for a complete vendor list.



Fun shopping at the fest with Passions for Living!

Our Sunday night headliner is the "Hendrix of the Sahara," Vieux Farka Touré. He is the son of the late legendary Malian guitar player Ali Farka Touré. Vieux gives new versions of the West African music that is echoed in the American blues while adding elements of rock, Latin music and other African influences. Vieux is known for dazzling crowds with his speed and dexterity on the guitar.

Other acts include: Atomga (Afrobeat); Shel (original songbirds); Logo Ligi (Ghana drum & dance); Chimney Choir (eclectic folk); Futaba (funk); Nokuthula (Zimbabwe marimbas); Savor (Cuban); Sweet Radish (folk grass); Crestone Kaminari Taiko (Japanese taiko drums); Red Bandana (teen Indie rock); and Sandy Wells (country rock). Please check-out this year's cast of local artists in this month's eagle.

### Advance ticket prices

Adults: \$25 Friday, \$35 Saturday and \$25 Sunday; Seniors \$15 Friday, \$20 Saturday and \$15 Sunday; Teens 13-18 \$10/day; Kids 12 and under are free. Advance weekend passes are \$70 for adults, \$45 for seniors and \$25 for teens. Camping is \$20 per person for the weekend (4 nights). It's easy & secure to order tickets on line at [www.crestfest.org](http://www.crestfest.org), by phone at 719-256-4533.

*Crestone Performances Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit community service organization that annually produces the Crestone Music Festival; subsidizes and produces cultural and educational presentations in San Luis Valley area schools; and provides free consulting and technical assistance to other worthwhile community endeavors.*

## Become a member & support Crestone Performances!

This year we are excited to announce our 2nd Annual CPI Membership Drive. Memberships are helping to stabilize and grow our organization. Please consider becoming a member and help us continue our community services. There are levels of support that have great perks, including an "All Access Pass" to this year's festival, so check them out below.

### Our community services

We produce the annual Crestone Music Festival, now in its 15th year. The festival is a three-day, two-stage, multi-genre, multi-cultural event featuring local, regional, national and international performers as well as international cuisine, arts and activities for children and adults.

The heart of our organization is our Youth Enrichment Program, now in its eleventh year. YEP serves several thousand students annually with educationally and culturally diverse presentations. We subsidized the cost 100% at most locations as well as handle all booking, lodging, sound and production. With 35 underserved, budget-tight schools, the need is huge.

CPI's third program is our community service program which provides free consulting and technical assistance to other worthwhile community endeavors. CPI books bands, does promotions and provides sound and lighting equipment and/or runs the sound and lighting systems for seven to ten community events each year at no charge.

We hope this has given you an idea of what we do for community. Please consider becoming a member. To say thank you to our supporters, members will be recognized in the Crestone Music Festival program, and on our web site.

### We have four levels of membership

**1. Copper Member** - \$50, receives a Crestone Music Festival Compilation CD.

**2. Bronze Member** - \$150 single/\$250 couple, the above plus an invitation to be on the guest list at schools for our Enrichment Programs.

**3. Silver Member** - \$250 single/\$350 couple, all above plus a one-day ticket and backstage pass to the Crestone Music Festival.

**4. Gold Member** - \$400 single/\$500 couple/family, all of the above plus all-access passes to the Crestone Music Festival.

We have a new, fast, easy & secure way to become a member! Go to [www.crestfest.org](http://www.crestfest.org) and click on MEMBERSHIP-DONATE! You can also mail your Membership/Donation Form to CMF, PO Box 6, Crestone, CO 81131, or call 719-256-4533 for more information. Please remember how important your contributions are, and know that you are investing in community by investing in Crestone Performances. Make checks payable to CPI. All donations receive a tax-deductible receipt. Thanks and stay tuned!

# Local musician lineup for the 2013 CMF

by Tom Dessain

This month we're showcasing our local musicians. We have a cool assortment of very talented musicians that we get to enjoy and whoop-it-up with. Please start your days at the festival with our local bands, and show them you love them. Exact scheduling is still in process so be sure to look in the July *Eagle* for the full festival schedule.



Adam Kinney will be playing this year in "Plan Be."

## Nikki Z Band

This year brings the return of a newer local favorite. It's exciting to have them back rockin' it at the fest. They are a little bit of rock, a little bit of funk and a whole lot of soul. Come get wowed with an earful of serious rock.

## Wonder Bob & Conscious Vibe

The Wonder Bob band plays songs with a taste of rock, the friendliness of folk and a New Age appeal. From peace dances to peace songs, these guys keep it friendly; a nice way to start your day.

## Plan Be

Plan Be is the coalescence of four gypsy soul dirt-loving men who really know how to tap in!

Adam Kinney, Nick Chambers, Jacob Pesqueira and Tom Hart enliven what it means to be fathers, husbands, workers and seekers as they jam their gypsy mountain rock 'n roll.

## Meadowlark Quintet

Meadowlark Quintet offers a unique blend of poetic lyrics woven with melodic roots. This rich tapestry of Bluegrass Americana & Celtic Folk combines original and traditional music with enchanting strings and vocals. Their newly released debut album, *Meadowlark* is now available. Come hear the sweetness.

## River Bottom Blues Band

The River Bottom Blues Band is long-time Crestone residents River Burt, Jim Sheeran and Dee Rudoff, delivering upbeat blues, old time rock & roll, and jazzy originals for your dancing pleasure. Fresh takes on popular classics a specialty. Blues you can use!

## CB Jazz

CB Jazz is Dennis Neuhaus, Dean Lloyd, Nick Chambers & Al Sutherland, playing older jazz classics with horn, bass, keys and drum. You hear swing, bossa, blues and standards! They enjoy playing and are seasoned musicians.

## Therapy Cats

Cheap Therapy and Tom Cats have joined forces to become the Therapy Cats! Combined, they bring unique originals with a tropical funk, white-boy reggae, blues shuffling kind of thing dishing out harmonies sooo smooth you can ride 'em like a slide. The folks are: Barry Monroe, Tom Dessain, Isadora Storey, Bill Smith, Jim Price and Tim Brenner. This band will give you a smile with style.

## Zumba

Zumba is an exhilarating, red-hot dance party that blends international music (Latin, Brazilian, African, Caribbean & popular music) and gets the crowd cheering and moving along. Zumba's exotic rhythms and contagious choreography gets the crowd's attention & their energy levels soaring.

## Strange Lights

Lonny and Deb have been playing folk-pop and alternative music as Strange Lights since 2000. Their music has garnered over 2 million song downloads from their website *strange lights.net* since then. *Colorado Music Buzz* magazine describes them as "Psychedelic Pop with nice gothic undertones, they end up wailing the pop-modernist Moody-Blues-meets-Glee/Psychedelic Furs sound."

## The Wind-walkers

A father/daughter duo singing fine original songs and conscious cover tunes, spanning 6 decades. Two genetically blended voices trading melody and harmony with an inspiring male/female father/daughter sound. Tim plays enthusiastic acoustic guitar and their originals are very compelling.

## The Sacred Arts Club

Experience the magic of ancient dance, music and poetry. Sacred Arts Club brings together local artists Signe Ramstrom, Kathk, Rumi, Kelly Hosner and Matthew Crowley. They incorporate elements of yoga, Middle Eastern dance, poetry and original works and chants of the ancients into a presentation that transports the viewer with a visual sensuous flow of dance, music and poetry.



Wonder Bob, Bill Smith & Brian Chi perform in 2012!



Taiko drummers are always amazing and a big crowd pleaser!



Bill Smith and Tom Dessain will join Cheap Therapy this year as Therapy Cats!



Nikki Z will rock us again!



Jim Hollmer, Ann Nita Betts, Akia Tanara and Virginia Sutherland with photos of Ellie Emerson's parent, Charles and Ellen Emerson.

## Saguache County Museum donates historic items to the Crestone Museum

Now that the Crestone Museum has been up and running for several years, the Saguache County Museum has made a donation of items that had originally belonged to Crestone area residents. On May 10, Crestone Town Manger Akia Tanara and Jim Hollmer, along

pendence Mine. Her descendents later lived in Crestone.

Her diaries, spanning approximately 20 years starting in the early mining days of the 1880's, are a real treasure of the day to day life of the pioneering days here. After Nellie Emerson's death in 1967, local Crestone resident and historian Jack Harlan along with Evelyn Curtis boxed Nellie's historic items and donated them to the Saguache County Museum.

It was with great appreciation that the Crestone Museum received these items. Many thanks are given to Virginia Sutherland who was a founder of the Saguache County Museum



Virginia Sutherland and Akia Tanara reading the over 100-year old diaries of Charity Bugsby Strong. The diaries were donated to the Crestone Museum.

with several Crestone citizens, visited the Saguache Museum where Virginia and Lynn Sutherland presented the town with photos, diaries, and dish and glass wear that had belonged to the grandmother of Nellie Emerson, Charity Bugsby Strong. Charity and her family had lived in the long-gone town of Cottonwood, near the old Inde-

and has been the director there for 55 years. The Saguache Museum is a great place to visit—and with ever increasing displays and donations, so is the Crestone Museum.

The Crestone Museum is open on weekends during the summer. See article on page 14 for information on museum events and lecture series.



Tribal Treasures in Poncha Springs along Highway 50. The non-profit store is full of wonderful Native American art and hand crafts. Next time you're in Salida, make a point to stop in and visit. Native American Research and Preservation works to preserve First People historic sites as well as helping several Native American tribes.

## Tribal Treasures in Poncha Springs assists Native Americans —plus, has a great store!

by Becky Donlan

Native American Research and Preservation, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of its store, Tribal Treasures, located near Poncha Springs, CO. NARP began working with the Forest Service in 2008 doing site monitoring—checking on historic and prehistoric sites to evaluate and report any damages and vandalism. In order to understand these places better, we consult with tribes for help with interpretation. We work with the Forest Service, BLM, the State Archaeology office, and the Smithsonian Institution. We have prepared educational powerpoint presentations for the public and grade-specific ones for schools. We stress the importance of not vandalizing these sacred Native American sites because once they have been destroyed, they are gone forever.

In the process of visiting reservations, I was asked by many of the peoples if I knew of a place they could sell their handmade items year round. And so, in Feb. 2012, the store Tribal Treasures was opened. I buy directly from the Oglala Lakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, the Dine' (Navajo) and Hopi in Arizona. Reservation conditions are as bad as Third World countries and only 5 hours from Denver. Because the store is a non-profit, all proceeds from sales go back to the people. This is helping many families afford heat and food. For some children, the only meal they get is lunch at school. We lose elders every winter to starvation and freezing conditions.

Items for sale in Tribal Treasures: medicine bags, dream catchers, flutes, Kachinas, pottery, jewelry, drums, Lakota Star quilts, fine art prints, t-shirts, Navajo-

made moccasins, Nuwati Herbals, Navajo Tea, Tanka Bar products (bison jerky), Ledger Art, rattles, white sage, sweetgrass, smudging fans, books, notecards, Navajo dye charts, bison skulls, Navajo rock art, CDs by Brule', Robert Mirabal, Arvel Bird, Carlos Nakai, skin care products . . .

What we need: donations of non-perishable foods, blankets, survival-type gear (sleeping bags, candles, tents), clothing in good condition, material (the Lakota women make beautiful star quilts), sewing notions, yarn, children's clothes, baby items, diapers, feminine hygiene products, cleaning products, soaps, toothpaste—these people need pretty much everything. I ask that your donations be clean and in good shape and that you check expiration dates on foods. And please do not donate opened food items.

Cash donations to help with travel expenses to deliver donations to the reservations is very much appreciated. Our website, [www.stonequest.org](http://www.stonequest.org), has a PayPal "Donate" button on the page "support us—donate now" for anyone who might like to help this way. In 2012 deliveries were made to the Navajo Nation in Canyon de Chelly, Hopi Land, Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota and the Crow Nation in Montana.

Tribal Treasures is located at 9996 W. Hwy 50, 7/10 mile east of the intersection of Hwys. 50 & 285 in Poncha Springs. Look for the bright yellow building with the blue Quetzalcoatl (feathered serpent) painted across the top. The store phone is 719-539-2264, or call my cell at 719-221-2861 for more information. Store hours vary with the season, but we are usually open Tues.-Sat. 10-4. Closed for lunch. Come browse and learn more about how you can help us help the First Nations peoples.



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**Funds from all purchases go back to the people on the reservations.**

Food, clothing, blankets, survival supplies, etc. are needed. Cash donations to help with delivery expenses appreciated.

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Four Shillings Short at Shumei on Friday, June 14.

## World Music at Shumei Friday June 14

On June 14 at 7pm come on up to Shumei for an incredible night of music from around the globe.

Four Shillings Short returns to Shumei. Don't be fooled by the name. This is not your typical Celtic show.

Having toured full-time since 1998, native Irishman Aodh Og O'Tuama and Californian Christy Martin play traditional music from Ireland and Scotland, Indian ragas, original songs & folk ballads, medieval & renaissance instrumentals and a *cappella* numbers on a fantastic array of instruments (over 30) including hammered & mountain dulcimer, medieval and renaissance woodwinds, tinwhistles, recorders, mandolin, mandola, bouzouki, north Indian sitar, charango, bowed psaltery, banjo, bodhran, guitar, percussion, vocals and even a krumhorn.

Aodh Og O'Tuama grew up in a family of poets, musicians and writers. He received his degree in music from University College of Cork, Ireland and received a fel-

lowship from Stanford University in California in medieval and renaissance performance. He plays tinwhistles, medieval & renaissance woodwinds, recorders, doumbek (from Morocco), bowed psaltery and spoons, and sings in English, Gaelic & French.

Christy Martin grew up in a family of musicians and dancers. From the age of 15, she studied north Indian sitar for 10 years, 5 of them with a student of master sitarist Ravi Shankar. She began playing the hammered dulcimer in her 20s and has studied with Maggie Sansone, Dan Duggan, Cliff Moses, Robin Petrie, Tony Elman and Glen Morgan. In addition she plays mandolin, mandola, bouzouki, banjo, guitar, bodhran (Irish frame drum), charango, and bowed psaltery, and sings in English, Irish, Spanish and Sanskrit.

The concerts starts at 7pm, with a \$10 suggested donation at the door. Contact Shumei at 256-5284 or visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org).

## Zienna Stewart June artist at Shumei in Crestone: Art Symposium June 9

An art symposium for local painter Zienna Stewart will be held Sunday June 9 from 3 to 5pm. Her work will be on display for the month of June.

Zienna attended elementary school at our local Crestone Charter School. She mentored with local painter Marika Popovitz during her first few years of high school at the charter school, and then completed her high schooling at Idyllwild Arts Academy, a boarding arts school in southern California.

"In painting portraits I ultimately strive to create more than just an objective likeness. I would like to record and convey to the viewer the multidimensional facets of the individual's overall being through imagery."

Come see Zienna's work and learn more about her journey into art. Refreshments will follow the presentation.



Zienna Stewart to be featured artist for June at Shumei in Crestone.

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Session Two: July 8<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>  
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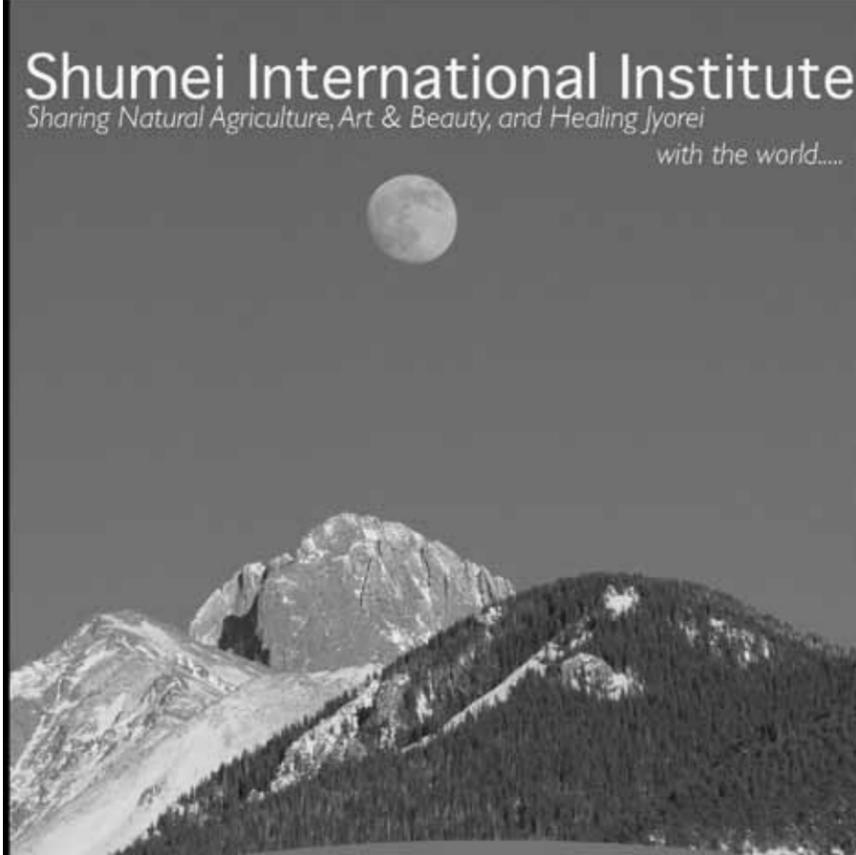
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Sona Trio, left to right: Sarah Off, Anne Sorensen, Chunyang Wang.

## Concert by the Sona Trio at CCS, June 23

Sara Off is returning to Crestone, this time with the Sona Trio, featuring herself, Anne Sorensen, and Chunyang Wang. We remember Sara's many performances at the Hazlerig Music House as she progressed from a talented teenage performer to an accomplished violinist. She gave a wonderful Christmas concert here at the Colorado College last December. A native of Del Norte, she is currently pursuing her doctorate at Arizona State University, Phoenix. She has served as Concert Master at ASU and performs as soloist and in chamber groups. She has played in Durango, Chicago, Lincoln Center, Latvia, and recently Iceland. Her passion is to bring concerts to rural towns in the American west.

Anne Sorensen began playing the violin at five, and obtained her degree in music at the University of Nebraska. She obtained her Masters at ASU and pursues her goal of teaching and performing. She has performed in Italy, Russia, Canada, and the US.

Chunyang Wang is a double bass virtuoso who was born in Harbin, China and studied at the National Conservatory in Beijing. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees at the Julliard. He has won many double bass competitions, and is now in the doctoral program at ASU.

The concert will feature works by O'Connor, Mozart, Gliere, Schnittke, and others. It will be at 2pm in the Crestone Charter School, Sunday, June 23. Admission is \$15, and \$10 for seniors and students. Contact 256-4135.



Highlighted Artist Karl Grose, Hand turned Redwood Platter with Inlay & Butternut Bowl.



Highlighted Artist Jane Adorney, Collage entitled "Grow Little Angel".

## The Crestone Artisans Gallery has great ideas for Father's Day

The Artisans Gallery is extending its hours for summer: Wednesday through Saturday 11-5, Sunday 10-4, and closed on Tuesday. New this year, we will be sponsoring "Second Saturday Artwalk!" and will have a reception from 3-5 where patrons can visit with the artists, enjoy refreshments and relax with some local live music in Artisans' Park. Think of the gallery for that special gift for Father's Day on June 16! Our highlighted artists for June are Karl Grose & Jane Adorney.

Karl is a craftsman who specializes in custom furniture and hand turned wood vessels. "I've been working with wood for over 40 years, beginning in the construction trade. Eventually I realized that my passion for creative work was better served by building furniture, cabinets, turnings and household accessories." Karl moved to Crestone from Maine 3 years ago and is pleased with the local appreciation for his work. "I draw my inspiration from the wood I use; most times I begin a "turning" and allow the wood grain and texture to influence the piece within the parameters of the design. I try to use local woods that are already blown down or need to be cut. My inspiration comes from Warton Esterick, Shakers, nature, and life in general." Karl has many lathe-turned wood vessels at the gallery in a variety of woods, including local aspen and cedar.

Jane is a jeweler and collage artist. Originally from England, Jane has been a Crestone resident for 2 years. She says of her creative process; "I'm a collector of beautiful things and a lover of color, shape and texture. I like the tactile quality of my materials, from found ob-

jects, to paper, paint, precious metals and beads. My paintings are created in layers; scraps of paper, splotches of paint, words that have meaning to me." Jane says "It's a playful and intuitive process, and I love creating jewelry that is colorful, not too serious and unique. I hand cut copper and silver, apply patina, rubber stamps, collage, and resin. My creative time is my coming-back-to-me time. I love the solitude, the imagining and the child-like playfulness of the process."

You can meet both Jane and Karl, and artists currently showing at the gallery at the June "Second Saturday Artwalk!" reception on June 8 from 3-5pm. Artisan's Gallery is located in downtown Crestone, on the corner of Galena & Cottonwood. Lots of great items for Dad: local photography, pottery, fine art, art glass, fine wall art, turned wooden vessels & birdhouses!

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## July's Friday Fun Series

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11am-2pm - Bring a lunch - \$25

July 12 - Fibers Intensive  
10am-3pm - Bring a lunch - \$35

July 19 - Medicinal Herb  
Tea Party

in the Crestone Curve Co-Op Garden  
Wear a fancy garden hat!  
11am-2pm - Bring a lunch - \$25

July 26 - Fire Making  
10am-3pm - Bring a lunch - \$35

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CrestoneTribal dancers Hillary Semanski, Beatris Burgoin, Deana Wilfong, Aoife Kelly and Amulya Beechwood share their love and passion for dance.



CrestoneTribal dancer Katie Getchell studies and teaches Odissi Classical dance in addition to bellydance.

## CrestoneTribal Bellydance Project offers a summer full of events

In its fourth year, CrestoneTribal Bellydance Project offers dance education and community-building through classes, workshops, childrens' programs and performance opportunities. Its mission is to encourage personal and collective creativity through the art of dance, to impart strong basic skills and practice habits, and to support dancers of all ages and abilities. While rooted in tribal and improvisational bellydance, its repertoire and class offerings include other dance forms reflecting classical, contemporary, folkloric, Flamenco and North African influences.

Last year brought exciting creative growth and evolution. After a summer of performances, CrestoneTribal spent the fall rehearsing Winter Plumage, a showcase of dances that brought together friends, families and dedicated supporters for a theatrical production in November. Deana Wilfong, Teanna Grote and Deborah Easley kept the dance fires burning during a long cold winter, teaching American Tribal Style (ATS), Children's and Foundation classes. Lyndsay Dueber brought her passion for dance to the Crestone Charter School

mentorship program. The Yak N Cracker Café and Salida First Fridays hosted CrestoneTribal shows. Katie Getchell, founding member of CrestoneTribal, spent three months studying classical Odissi and Rajasthani dance in India, and will share those traditions in special classes and workshops this summer.

Crestone Tribal dancers will be performing locally, beginning in June with Alamosa Summerfest and the Wildwoods Sounds Benefit in Del Norte. Regular drop-in and series classes continue several times a week, including Foundations (for all levels) and Children's Bellydance (emphasizing group dynamics and musical awareness) and Odissi (Indian Classical.) Workshops in Flamenco stylization, Mudra & Gesture, ATS and a special Children's Immersion are planned. In August, CrestoneTribal proudly hosts internationally-acclaimed dancer Colleena Shakti for a weeklong retreat on Indian Fusion Dance at Joyful Journey Hot Springs.

Crestone Tribal thanks the community of Crestone for its support and invites you to visit crestonetribal.com for its updated listings.

## 'Gifts of the Father' special event at the Ghost Horse Gallery, June 15

Ghost Horse Gift Gallery at the corner of County Road T and Highway 17 in Moffat invites you to attend a special arts demonstration on Saturday, June 15, from noon to 5pm. The free public sharing is a tribute to the creative male psyche in honor of Father's Day. Several local male artists will be selling their crafts and talking about their processes. All proceeds will benefit the artists. Enjoy browsing and shopping for glass pipes and glass sculptures for sunny windows, fine intaglio jewelry, Native American flutes, hand-crafted wooden boxes, metal drums, and much more! Jan Murphy will be demonstrating chainsaw sculpture in the parking lot as well. The nearby S&S Tavern will be serving a Saturday Lunch Special and cold beer. Enjoy the afternoon with your Dad!

The creative male psyche is an important, productive aspect of human culture. Help us celebrate the restoration and nurturing of planet Earth by focusing on the regeneration of positive father role models. We appreciate the goodness and

creative side of men.

Spend a little time this Father's Day weekend at Ghost Horse Gift Gallery, where you can meet some wonderful artists and craftsmen.

Contact gallery manager Vince Larson for more details at 719-256-4177. Several of these artists are represented at the gallery throughout the year. Ghost Horse Gift Gallery is open six days a week. Closed on Tuesdays. Look for our new green and white sign painted by a local artist! Thanks Jeff! The new sign features a spot for local events, such as the Crestone Music Festival.

Ghost Horse Gift Gallery is very grateful for the support of the San Luis Valley community. During our first few months in operation, we have been blessed with customers and friends that have stopped by in celebration of the restoration of the gateway to Crestone. Our goal is always to uplift prosperity in the valley for everyone. Thank you for such an enthusiastic response!



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**How to repay.**

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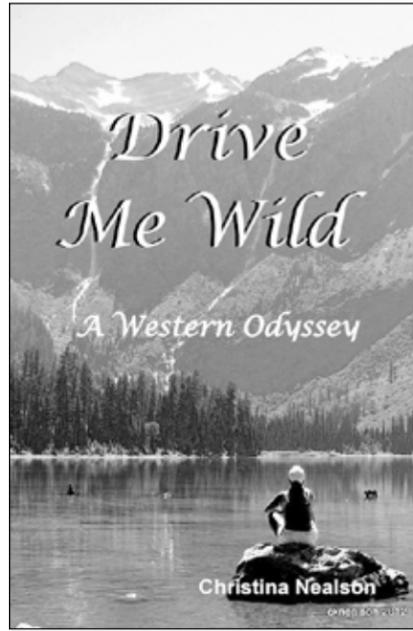
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## Crestone Historical Museum open through Labor Day; lecture series starts in June

by James McCalpin

The Crestone Historical Museum (SW corner of Alder St. and Galena Ave.) opened on Memorial Day weekend and will be open weekends and holidays through Labor Day. The Museum occupies the lobby of the old San Luis Bank building and contains the original massive Diebold safe that housed gold dust and other valuables back in the mining days. Displays emphasize the early mining history of Crestone (1880-1938) and ranching in the Baca Land Grant No. 4 that lies south of west of Town. This 100,000-acre property became one of the great cattle ranches of the West and passed into Federal ownership in 2004, becoming (mostly) the Baca National Wildlife Refuge. Historic items range from prehistoric, to a 100 year-old tree-ring “calendar”, to tools and household items from the late 1800s and early 1900s (see photos at <http://www.museumtrail.org/Crestone.asp>)

On Saturday June 8 the first talk of the Summer Lecture Series will be given: “The Fault in Our Backyard; the Sangre de Cristo Fault, Colorado’s Most Active”, from 5-6 pm at the Crestone Community Center (the Old Schoolhouse). Recent mapping of the fault through the Crestone-Baca area, using very high-resolution digital elevation models from USGS, shows many more fault strands that previously recognized. This ongoing research is being done by the Crestone Science Center in conjunction with the USGS Middle Rio Grande Rift project.



## Colorado Book Award finalist gives reading May 31, indie publishing class June 1

Author Christina Neelson, a former resident of the San Luis Valley, will be in Crestone May 31 for a reading of her book, *Drive Me Wild: A Western Odyssey*, a finalist for the 2013 Colorado Book Award. Many valley residents know Neelson as author of her classic, *Living on the Spine: A Woman’s Life in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains*, written during her five-year solitary retreat in the SLV.

*Drive Me Wild: A Western Odyssey* is a tale of revelation and response to un-lived dreams. Upon shedding 95% of her possessions, Neelson pointed her travel life to the back roads of the west, from British Columbia to the tip of the Baja, where her five-year journey evolved into odyssey. Neelson’s life as writer, her marriage and the very essence of the wild—her own and the planet’s—are the questions at the heart of this page-turner.

Christina Neelson is author of four books and photographer for four others. She has followed assignments to Africa, Central America and across the back roads of the U.S. west, Canada and Mexico. Her articles have appeared most recently in *High Country News* and *Arizona Wildlife Views*. As the author of traditional and indie-published books, she is elated that her indie book, *Drive Me Wild: A Western Odyssey*, has been named a finalist for the Colorado Book Award.

Neelson will be in Crestone at the Elephant Cloud Tea Shop for a reading and signing at 6pm May 31. She’ll follow that up with her popular class, “Going Indie: An Introduction to Self-Publishing” from 1-3pm the next day, also at Elephant Cloud. No registration necessary.

Visit her at [www.christina-neelson.com](http://www.christina-neelson.com). Call 970-560-2771 for further information. Her books are available through local bookstores or on Amazon, ebook or paper.

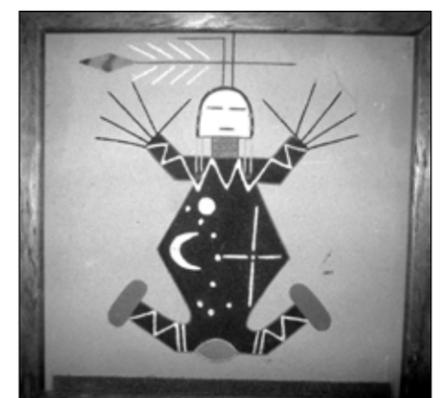
## Diversity of Native American Arts display at Rio Grande County Museum

by Caren Kershner

The month of June will bring a wonderful and varied display of Native American arts and local artists’ interpretations to the Rio Grande County Museum, 580 Oak Street, Del Norte. The works of various cultures will be represented through paintings, carvings, weavings and other media. There will be also an extensive display of photographs of local rock art.

A reception will be held on Sunday, June 16, which will provide a ‘meet & greet’ opportunity for those interested in these works. Guests will include those who have contributed to the display- Yvonne Halburian, Sue Bentley, David Montgomery, Becky Donlan, Ken Frye, myself, and the museum director, Louise Colville. The museum, usually closed on Sundays, will open at 4 PM on that day. At 7 PM that evening, Ken and I will present a powerpoint show and discussion of rock art styles found throughout the southwest.

Normal museum hours are



Above, Katsina Sand Painting. Below, Anasazi Design Bowl.  
photos by Caren Kershner



10-4, Tuesday—Friday, and 10-2 on Saturday. \$1/person or \$2.50/ family admission fee is a bargain any time, but an especially good deal when you get to see a compilation of art across the ages. If you have further questions, call Louise at the museum, 719 657 2847.

## Ever heard of Pickleball? Now coming to Crestone!

by Lorraine Cazier

How would you like to have an exercise that is something you would love to do, something fun, exciting and great, especially for those over fifty and everyone under fifty that can walk.

If you haven’t heard of Pickleball, you will soon. In senior centers across the country people are addicted to Pickleball. Addicted, they can’t get enough of it sometimes playing five days a week.

It’s a pretty easy-going game compared to tennis unless you happen to be, say a 55-year-old male playing another 55-year-old male, when it can get pretty competitive.

Think of a giant ping pong game, only you’re standing on the table (court). The ball is a whiffle ball, the paddle is bigger but similar to a ping pong paddle, the net is lower than a tennis net and the court is shorter and narrower than a tennis court.

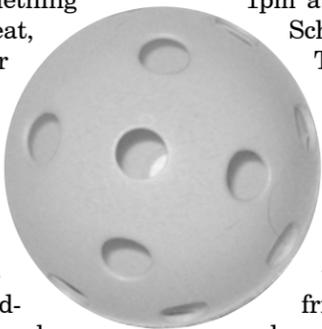
The game is easy to learn and play. Of course the more you play the better you get but you will get addicted not just to the game but to the health benefits of increased

strength, balance and mobility.

Crestone will be introduced to Pickleball on Saturday, June 8 at 1pm at the Crestone Charter School basketball court.

To get to the court, park in the upper east lot, walk south and follow the road down to the court. We will have a net set up, and balls and paddles; wear tennis shoes, bring a friend, or come alone and be prepared to have fun.

For further information contact Lorraine Cazier, 937-7802.



Welcome Miwa!

**Rahula**  
COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Vicki Matthews 719/256-5020

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### Happy Father’s Day Dad,

You are no longer in this physical world, but I can still see you when I look at the shape & color of my own eyes, and even a grandchild’s eyes. I hear you when I say things a certain way—and laugh. I can still feel your strength, passed down to me. Thanks.  
with love from “that kid”



**24th Annual Crestone Energy Fair August 24 & 25**

Events on Saturday the 24th will consist of educational presentations by industry leaders, back-dropped by the melodies of local musicians, surrounded by vendors promoting sustainability of life on Planet Earth. Saturday night's live performance is sure to set your happy feet free via the funky sound inspirations created by . . . (I can't tell you yet, but your "groove thing" will be goovin').

Sunday will complete the cycle by showcasing the incredible diversity of sustainable and architecturally interesting structures in our community. For more info or to help, contact Donovan at 303-868-6352.

**Summerfest on the Rio May 31-June 2**

Kick off the summer with Summerfest on the Rio in beautiful Cole Park in Alamosa.

Events include art & craft booths, food, music, activities, the first annual poker run, a beer garden, fireworks and dancing. Visit [www.summerfestontherio.org](http://www.summerfestontherio.org) for more information.

**Creekside Kitchen  
Gluten-Free Dairy-Free snacking  
by Daleth McCoy**

Okay, I'll admit, these have a bunch of white sugar in them. However, they are the best dairy- and wheat/gluten-free cookies I've ever made. They are perfect for a high-protein sweet snack, need no refrigeration, and taste even better if eaten at the park. Please feel free to experiment as much as you desire in terms of replacing sugars, nut-butters, etc. I use regular peanut-butter and white sugar, but I look forward to experimenting with some nice, fresh almond butter next time.

**Picnic Peanut-Butter Cookies**

**CREAM WELL:**

- 1 Cup of creamy peanut-butter
- 1 Cup white sugar

**ADD, and CREAM:**

- 1 Teaspoon Baking Powder
- 1 Large Egg

Gently roll into 1" balls, roll in sugar (optional), and press with a fork. Bake on parchment paper at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Be careful! These babies are very sensitive when you first take them out, so let them cool on the pan for about 1-2 minutes before transferring to a rack. Once cool they solidify up very nicely.

**Introduction to Tribal Style Bellydance June 15-16**

1-4pm at Birch Street Studio  
Entering the Circle: Introduction to Tribal Style Bellydance.

All levels of experience are welcome. Please contact [katie@crestonetribal.com](mailto:katie@crestonetribal.com) for more information on how to join the Crestone bellydance community.

**CYP Thrift offers fundraising Ts, Senior Tuesdays, Fathers' Day & Solstice specials**

New at the CYP Thrift Store: Special T-shirts will be available to raise money for Crestone Summer Adventures Day Camp scholarships. We want every child to be able to attend camp—come on in and support our children!

Remember, Tuesdays are Senior (60+) Appreciation Day, when seniors receive 20% off their purchase.

Come in to the CYP Thrift Store for Father's Day gifts! June 14 & 15 we will be having a 20% off sale to help you celebrate Father's Day on the 16th.

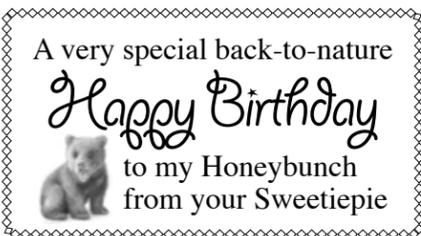
June 21 is the First Day of Summer. Come in to the Thrift Store to celebrate. Mention this "Hap", and you'll receive 21% off of your purchases on the 21st.

**Forest Service Road 949 to S. Crestone Trailhead closed until July 3**

The Saguache Ranger District plans to close Forest Service Road 949 (accessed via east Galena Avenue in Crestone) and the South Crestone/Willow Lake Trailhead from May 29 through July 2 while construction workers make improvements to the road and trailhead. In order to ensure public safety, the closure extends 300' on either side of the road and 300' around the trailhead. The road and trailhead may be opened earlier than July 3 if the work is completed sooner than anticipated.

The planned work includes upgrading the rough FSR 949, modifying the trailhead area to improve parking and vehicle flow, installing a new ADA accessible toilet, improving drainage around the trailhead and installing a new information kiosk. The work is mostly being paid for through Title II funds from the Secure Rural Schools Act.

For more information concerning the closure and the planned improvements, contact David Hosack at 719-655-6122.



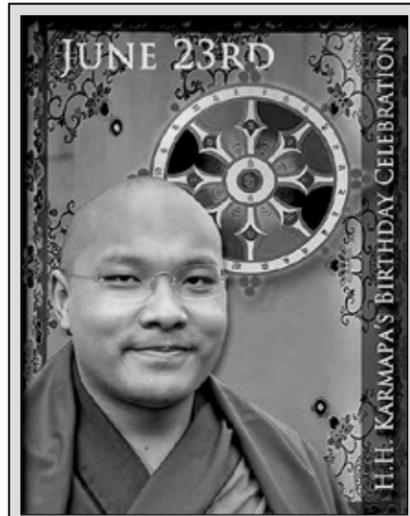
**Crestone Summer Adventures Day Camp coming in June**

The first session of Crestone Summer Adventures Day Camp runs June 10-27 and will be held at the Community Building in downtown Crestone. Camp is designed for children ages 4-10. Registration forms can be picked up at the CYP Thrift Store, the YES office or at Saturday Market before sessions begin.

Children will experience an exciting, fun-filled day, with many educational activities, directed by Patte Reaves-Smith, Supervisor. Camp will include: Dancing, Yoga, Movement and Discovery, Spanish Language Immersion, Crafts, Painting, Water Fun, Nature Exploration, Cooperative Game Activities, Tumbling, Music & Song, Storytelling, Sharing, and much, more! If you have any questions please call Patte Reaves-Smith at 256-4712.

**Temporary closure at Joyful Journey**

Joyful Journey Hot Springs pools will be closed June 10, 11 and 12 for pool resurfacing. They plan to reopen on June 13, but people may want to call to make sure.



**17th Karmapa's birthday celebration June 23**

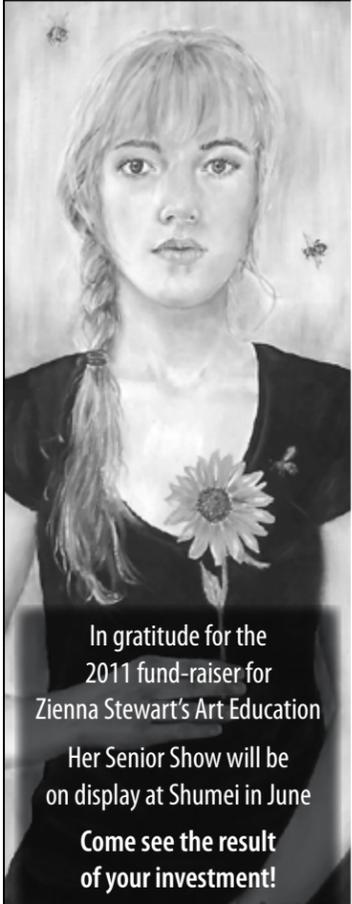
Please join KTTG at the Tashi Gomang Stupa to celebrate the 17th Karmapa's birthday on Sunday, June 23 at 10am. There will be a fire offering (Riwo Sangcho) and long life prayers lead by Khenpo Tenzin Lobzang, followed by birthday cake and refreshments. People of all ages are welcome! For more information contact Kelly Noskov at 719-286-3210.

**Shumei Free Movie Night: Ansel Adams: American Experience June 21**

The timeless photographs of Ansel Adams have made him one of the most recognized names in art. This intimate look at his life and work details his position as an environmentalist and how his art reflected his strong worldview. David Ogden Stiers narrates this profile produced for the PBS series "American Experience," which was directed by Emmy-winning documentarian Ric Burns. Refreshments provided, 7pm, 256-5284.

**Vacation bible school**

Crestone Baptist Church is holding their vacation bible school June 19 thru 21 5-7:30pm. This years theme is Western Roping. They will have cowboy dinners and roping, horse back riding, games and prizes. All are welcome. Call Lynn Ertle at 580-9146 for more information.



It Takes a Village

SYMPOSIUM  
JUNE 9

In gratitude for the 2011 fund-raiser for  
Zienna Stewart's Art Education

Her Senior Show will be on display at Shumei in June

Come see the result of your investment!

**CRESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**VBS**

June 19 thru 21 ~ 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Western Roping • Campfire Singing  
Horseback Riding • Cowboy Dinners

Games and Prizes!

For more info call 256-4845



**4<sup>th</sup> of July Multimedia Special**

Buy one **print** display ad\* in July's Crestone Eagle, and get a **web** ad for 1/2 price!

Go to [crestoneeagle.com/web](http://crestoneeagle.com/web) and use coupon code **fireworks**

or call Dee at (719) 256-4956 for more details

\*Must be equal to or greater than a \$40 value display ad. Discounted web ad prices only apply for 1 month.



# Community Calendar—June 2013

visit us online at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com) // NOW UPDATED DAILY ONLINE!!!

## Monthly Events

There is a \$5 charge per calendar listing for for-profit classes/events, with a discount for display advertisers. For more information contact us at 719-256-4956.

To list your event, (print or online) please submit via our website:  
<http://crestoneeagle.com/calendar> (preferred)

~or~ e-mail to: [calendar@crestoneeagle.com](mailto:calendar@crestoneeagle.com) ~or~ submit in writing to PO Box 101, Crestone CO 81131 by the 22nd of the month. To list calendar items online (between print issues), please fill out the form at [www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar](http://www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar).

### Friday, May 31

- Opening: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum – Creede Repertory Theatre 12:00 am [www.creederep.org](http://www.creederep.org) 719-658-2540
- Summerfest on the Rio – Cole Park All Day [summerfestontherio.org](http://summerfestontherio.org)
- Reading by Christina Neelson, Elephant Cloud Studio 6pm [www.christinaneelson.com](http://www.christinaneelson.com) 970-560-2771

### Saturday, June 1

- Yogic Cooking Workshop – Shakti Sharanam 3:00 pm-8:00 pm sliding \$40-60 [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) 719 256 5668
- Sangres Art Guild Featured Artists Reception – 3rd St Gallery 4:00 pm-6:00 pm <http://www.sangresartguild.org/> 719-783-0886

### Sunday, June 2

- Potluck following church service, Crestone Baptist Church, 580-9146

### Monday, June 3

- Zumba Toning, Birch street studio 9:00 am-10:00 am [www.angela108.zumba.com](http://www.angela108.zumba.com) 719-256-4040
- Town of Crestone Planning Commission Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-9:00 pm no charge [townofcrestone.org](http://townofcrestone.org) 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, June 4

- CCC Artist Gatherings – Community Building 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free 7194805925
- BGF D Trainings – Baca Fire House 5:30 pm-7:30 pm 7194805925
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U. – Zacheis Planetarium 5:30 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U. – Zacheis Planetarium 6:15 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)

### Wednesday, June 5

- Zumba Fitness – Birch street studio 9:00 am-10:00 am [www.angela108.zumba.com](http://www.angela108.zumba.com) 256-4040
- Summer Reading Program – Baca Grande Library 10:30 am-11:30 am free 256-4100

### Thursday, June 6

- CCC Council Meetings & Open Hangouts – Community Building 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free

### Saturday, June 8

- New Moon – 10:00 am
- Free Car Wash – Crestone Mercantile Hardware Parking Lot All Day free 719-480-5925
- New-moon Fire Ceremony Followed by a meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-11:00 am [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 719 256-4108
- Pickleball Demonstration at CCS – Crestone Charter School 1:00 pm free 937-7802
- Second Saturday Crestone Artisans Artwalk – Crestone Artisans Gallery 3:00 pm-5:00 pm
- Museum Summer Lecture Series – Crestone Community Center 5-6:00 pm free 719-256-5227

### Sunday, June 9

- Dorje Trolo Practice – White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge [www.whitejewelmountain.org](http://www.whitejewelmountain.org) 719-256-5773
- Zienna Stewart in Art Symposium – Shumei International Institute 3:00 pm-5:00 pm free
- Live music at Villa Grove Trade, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm [villagrovetrade.com](http://villagrovetrade.com) 719-655-2203

### Monday, June 10

- Crestone Summer Adventures Day Camp – Crestone Community Center All Day
- Town of Crestone Board of Trustees Meeting – Crestone Town Hall 1:30 pm-5:30 pm no charge [www.townofcrestone.org](http://www.townofcrestone.org) 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, June 11

- CCC Artist Gatherings – Community Building 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free 7194805925

- BGF D Trainings – Baca Fire House 5:30 pm-7:30 pm 7194805925
- Crestone End of Life Project Open Meeting – 33 Sunset Overlook 7:00 pm-9:00 pm [crestoneend-oflifeproject.org](http://crestoneend-oflifeproject.org) 719.256.4247

### Thursday, June 13

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. – 3:45-6:00 pm Free/Donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290
- CCC Council Meetings & Open Hangouts – Community Building 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free

### Friday, June 14

- Ashram On-Line Fundraiser Auction – 1:15 pm-8:00 pm [www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram) 719 256-4108
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U., 3:45 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U. – Zacheis Planetarium 4:30 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)
- World Music Concert, Shumei International Institute 7-9pm \$10 Suggested Donation [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284

### Saturday, June 15

- Horse Shoeing and Handling Clinic – Horse Shoeing and Handling Clinic 10:00 am-2:00 pm [www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com) 256 4909
- Gifts of the Father – Ghost Horse Gallery 12:00 pm-5:00 pm free
- Intro to Tribal Style Bellydance, 1-4pm, Birch St. Studio, All levels welcome, [katie@crestonetribal.com](mailto:katie@crestonetribal.com)

### Sunday, June 16

- Fathers' Day
- Beginner Blacksmithing Class, Earth Knack All Day \$135 [earthknack.com](http://earthknack.com) 719-256-4909
- Dorje Trolo Practice – White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge [www.whitejewelmountain.org](http://www.whitejewelmountain.org) 719-256-5773
- Reception for display of Native arts & artists' interpretations, Rio Grande Co. Museum 4pm 657-2847

### Tuesday, June 18

- CCC Artist Gatherings – Community Building 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free 7194805925
- BGF D Trainings – Baca Fire House 5:30 pm-7:30 pm 7194805925
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U. – Zacheis Planetarium 5:30 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)
- Free movie at Zacheis Planetarium, Adams State U. – Zacheis Planetarium 6:15 pm free [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)

### Wednesday, June 19

- Church Vacation Bible School – Crestone Baptist Church 5:00 pm-7:30 pm 580-9146

### Thursday, June 20

- The 23rd Annual Earth Knack Family Gathering – Earth Knack School Site / Blankenship Residence All Day adults \$265/ 8-15 yrs \$175/ 4-7yrs \$95/ 3 and under free <http://www.earthknack.com> 719 256 4909
- CCC Council Meetings & Open Hangouts – Community Building 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free
- Summer Solstice – 11:00 pm

### Friday, June 21

- Alamosa Artwalk – Alamosa 10:00 am-5:00 pm Alamosa Artwalk Facebook page
- Shumei Free Movie Night – 7pm free 256-5284

### Sunday, June 23

- Full Moon – 5:30 am
- Full-moon Fire Ceremony followed by a Meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram noon [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 719-256-4108
- Percussion Camp at ASU – \$120/student before 6/10; \$135 after 6/10 [jameswdoyle.com/press.html](http://jameswdoyle.com/press.html) 719-588-8806

- 17th Karmapa's Birthday celebration – Tashi Gomang Stupa 10:00 am free 719-286-3210
- Dorje Trolo Practice – White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge [www.whitejewelmountain.org](http://www.whitejewelmountain.org) 719-256-5773
- Concert, Sona Trio with Sarah Off – Crestone Charter School 2:00 pm \$15, Seniors & Students \$10 256-4135
- Live music at Villa Grove Trade, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm [villagrovetrade.com](http://villagrovetrade.com) 719-655-2203

### Tuesday, June 25

- CCC Artist Gatherings – Community Building 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free 7194805925
- BGF D Trainings – Baca Fire House 5:30 pm-7:30 pm 7194805925

### Thursday, June 27

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. – 3:45-6pm Free/Donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290
- CCC Council Meetings & Open Hangouts – Community Building 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free
- The Science of Weather Modification: Presentation and Discussion – Crestone Charter School 7:00 pm-9:00 pm 719-655-6107

### Friday, June 28

- Salida Artwalk – Downtown Salida All Day [www.salidaartwalk.com](http://www.salidaartwalk.com)
- The Science of Weather Modification - Presentation and Discussion – Saguache Road and Bridge Meeting Room 7-9:pm 719-655-6107

### Sunday, June 30

- Dorje Trolo Practice, White Jewel Mountain 10am-noon free [www.whitejewelmountain.org](http://www.whitejewelmountain.org) 256-5773
- Restorative Yoga - Special Workshop – Shakti Sharanam 3:00 pm-5:00 pm sliding \$20-40 [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) 719 256 5668
- Symphonic Salida – Riverside Park 3:00 pm \$5-\$25 719-530-0933

### Thursday, July 4

- Independence Day – All Day
- Celebration in downtown Crestone

### Sunday, July 7

- Muddy Mtn. Orch. at South Fork Summer Concert, Visitors' Center 5pm free [southforkmusic.org](http://southforkmusic.org)

### Saturday, July 13

- Celebration of Jim Davidson's life – Davidson Residence 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
- Second Saturday Crestone Artisans Artwalk – Crestone Artisans Gallery 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

go to:

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

Current News

Classifieds

Digital Editions

Past Issues

Calendar

The  
**CRESTONE**  
EAGLE

### Daily/Weekly Events

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

**Sunday**

- Mass at Nada Carmelite Hermitage 9:00 am 719-256-4778
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm 719-937-7769
- Sunday School, Crestone Baptist Church, 10am, 580-9146
- Sunday service, Crestone Baptist Church, 11am, 580-9146
- Studies in the Kena Upanishad Sri Aurobindo Learning Center 10:30 am-10:30 pm sriurobindo.org 256-6100
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm 719 937 7769

**Monday**

- Dorje Trolo Practice White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge www.whitejewelmountain.org 719-256-5773

**Tuesday**

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- CCC Artist Gatherings Community Building 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Free 7194805925
- BGF D Trainings Baca Fire House 5:30 pm-7:30 pm 7194805925
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome Baca library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

**Wednesday**

- CoDependents Anonymous Meeting Crestone Town Hall 7-8pm www.coda.org 720-352-2078
- Feldenkrais ATM (Awareness Through Movement) lessons (from prerecorded lessors). 5:30 pm-6:30 pm 719-256-4480
- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668

- Zumba Fitness Birch street studio 9:15 am-10:15 am www.angela108.zumba.com 719-256-4040
- Pot luck & Bible study, Crestone Baptist Church, 6pm, 580-9146
- Communion across Spiritual Boundaries Dharma Ocean 6:00 pm-7:30 pm free

**Thursday**

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation 719-256-5668
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. 3:45 pm-6:00 pm nurashkijerrahi.org 719-256-4290
- CCC Council Meetings & Open Hangouts Community Building 5:00 pm-7:00 pm Free

**Friday**

- August 9 thru 13 Art Retreat sun studio in Crestone All Day \$335.00 www.jenniferthomson.net 719-937-7694

**Saturday**

- Crestone Saturday Market Silver Ave. 10am-3pm



Alycia Chambers sings her heart out, with a full band, in a moving vehicle, as a part of the Dragon & Fairy Festival Parade on May 11. photo by Lori Nagel



Alison Wonderland performs at the Dragon & Fairy Festival on May 11. photo by Lori Nagel



Jo DelAmor and Satya tell a story through dance at the Dragon & Fairy Festival on May 11. photo by Lori Nagel



The beautiful, ornate Dragon makes his way through town with the Parade during the Dragon & Fairy Festival on May 11. photo by Lori Nagel

Advertisers ☀ Event Coordinators ☀ Musicians ☀ Fun People

Are you doing something fun this summer and want to let everyone know about it? Advertise your event or business, and to be included in next month's Summer Fun Guide, please contact Dee Rudoff, Crestone Eagle Ad Manager at: ads@crestoneeagle.com (719) 256-4956

Summer



Fun

With a minimum \$60 ad, you can submit a 100-word write-up and a photo for no extra charge!

The Crestone Eagle's guide to regional events & activities

July, 2013

## Is it possible to be hydrated in the desert?

Do you feel sluggish and tired? Do you feel that you are aging too quickly? Cracked skin, dry lips? Perhaps you are not getting enough water. Even if you drink a lot of water every day, it may not be truly hydrating your cells as needed. The molecules in most water tends to "clump", making it difficult for the water to enter the cells. GIA's i-Water is activated to create a unique molecular structure: a single-file alignment, which occurs naturally in certain mountain streams in the world. This allows the water to easily enter the cells and completely hydrate the body. Nothing is added and the pH is not changed.

i-Water can offer great health benefits whatever your current state of wellness. It's known to benefit skin issues such as eczema and psoriasis, and to reduce recovery time after chemotherapy treatments. People's experiences include increased energy, clearing long-term health issues, and increased joy.

For more information about i-Water, contact a GIA Wellness consultants. **See ad below.**



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| <b>Cindy Reinhardt</b><br>719-937-7801 | <b>Dorje &amp; Don Root</b><br>719-937-7786 | <b>Lanelle Lovelace</b><br>719-937-7758 |
| <b>David Burrill</b><br>719-588-6961   |   | <b>Geneva Hollyer</b><br>719-429-2776   |

*Water hasn't been water for a long time  
... how refreshing to find it again.*



## Alamosa Grow Store opening in June

Charlie Stewart and Sean Gall are proud to announce the opening of their new grow store at 0711 W. Highway 160 in Alamosa. "We have so many folks here who depend on growing their own fruits, vegetables, and herbs. It's time for us to have a full-service local source for all of our growing needs" says Sean. "Greenhouses are really popular here so providing lighting systems, hydroponics, and climate control supplies is really important too" says Charlie. "We also plan on offering free seminars on all aspects of growing and free delivery to Crestone every Friday" he added.

## Southwest Title, serving the SLV

Southwest Title Company, with its 8-person office, has been serving the San Luis Valley for 37 years. They can provide you with Title Insurance, Real Estate Closings and Real Estate-Related Legal Services. Give them a call at 719-589-2780 at their Alamosa office, or 719-655-2611 in Saguache. They'll be pleased to help you out.

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Crestone, Colorado 81131-1104  
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## Collegiate Peaks Bank, ready to serve

Collegiate Peaks Bank is proud to be able to serve the residents of the San Luis Valley. The bank is headquartered in Buena Vista and has branches in Salida, Denver and Aurora. They are scheduled to open a new office at North Denver in August. The of-

fices in the Upper Arkansas Valley are currently going through major renovations in order to serve their customers better. Call them for all of you loan or deposit needs. They are a community bank, locally owned and managed by your friends and neighbors.



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The beautifully stocked shelves at the Valley Food Co-op

## Valley Food Co-op in Alamosa

Come visit us as we open our renovated and expanded facility offering more variety of the natural, organic, and local products that you expect from the Valley Food Co-op. There will be coffee and tea; along with grab and go sandwiches and salads. We will also be offering hot soups daily. We are still located in the Villa Mall at 3211 Main Street. The new location will open Monday, June 24th at 8:00 A.M. For information on purchasing owner shares, please contact [info@valleyfood.coop](mailto:info@valleyfood.coop)



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June 11, registration starting at 6 pm

Visit [www.adams.edu/about/location.php](http://www.adams.edu/about/location.php)  
for a map to the Student Union Building and parking lot locations.

Attendees will have an opportunity to vote for directors, hear interesting presentations and win door prizes. Prizes include an iPad, iPods, bill credits, half beef and half a pig. Additionally, a special drawing of three \$76 bill credits will be held for digital *Newsboy* subscribers (need not be present to win). Dinner will not be served; members who choose to dine out prior to the meeting and who present a receipt for their meal at registration will be reimbursed \$25 per voting membership. Please RSVP.

**719-852-3538**  
**800-332-7634**

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## Good potential for growing industrial hemp in the San Luis Valley

by Caren Kershner

Area residents were offered a rare glimpse into Colorado's budding industrial hemp industry on the evening of May 17 at Moffat School. About 40 people attended a "hemp-luck" dinner, and enjoyed both traditional potluck fare and several hempseed offerings. Dinner was followed by an in-depth presentation of the regulations, applications and agricultural requirements of industrial hemp crops. Dr. Erik Hunter, Research and Development, and Jason Lauve, Executive Director from the non-profit Hemp Cleans, provided an informative and comprehensive overview of this potential resource.

The primary focus of the Hemp Cleans group is advocating for growth of industrial hemp in Colorado through drafting and promoting legislation to make hemp agriculture practical. Their vision includes regional cooperatives that would benefit individual farmers by giving them access to shared equipment, provide a standard and fair

price for all, and lend voice to individuals through a common group. To this end, they have contacted farmers throughout the state, and continue to work closely with Colorado legislators and the Rocky Mountain Farmers' Union.

On May 6, the Colorado state house voted to approve SB13-241, a bill that would legalize the farming and production of "industrial hemp" within the state. This was a unanimous vote on a slightly amended version of a bill already approved by the State Senate, 34-1. The single "nay" vote came from a house member who felt the bill was too restrictive. Obviously, the time for growing hemp in Colorado has come.

Hemp and marijuana, although closely related, have extremely different properties. Both are in the family Cannabaceae, as is another cousin, hops. But marijuana is high in the psychoactive compound THC, while industrial hemp, by definition, contains less than 0.3% THC. The plants can cross-pollinate, however, which could be

problematic for both medical marijuana growers and industrial hemp growers. The Hemp Cleans group recommended that medical growers keep their plants indoors as more and more hemp fields are planted.

Most of the cultivation of hemp thus far has been for phytoremediation studies. One study showed that industrial hemp will remove copper from tailings and another is presently observing how well hemp can stabilize the soil in burn areas. Because it is a fast-growing, annual crop, it shows potential in these, and other, areas of soil science. The potential of hemp is not limited to phytoremediation studies, however. It can provide foods, plastics, textiles, biofuels, building materials

and much, much more.

The State Department of Agriculture continues to develop regulations as to the cultivation of hemp, but one farmer, Ryan Loflin, in Springfield, has decided not to wait. He and 6 of his neighbors have combined their 10-acre hemp allotments into a 60-acre hemp field in southeast Colorado. This is the first time hemp has been grown in the state since WWII. The farmers have obtained a press and plan to produce hemp oil this year.

Other farmers wishing to grow hemp this season are advised to contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture to obtain information on the current regulations.



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**Nature never repeats herself, and the possibilities of one human soul will never be found in another. - Elizabeth Cady Stanton**

Attend our meeting Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, at the Topping house, 33 Sunset Overlook (first left past the Century 21 office). Call Wayne at 256.4247 for directions/information.



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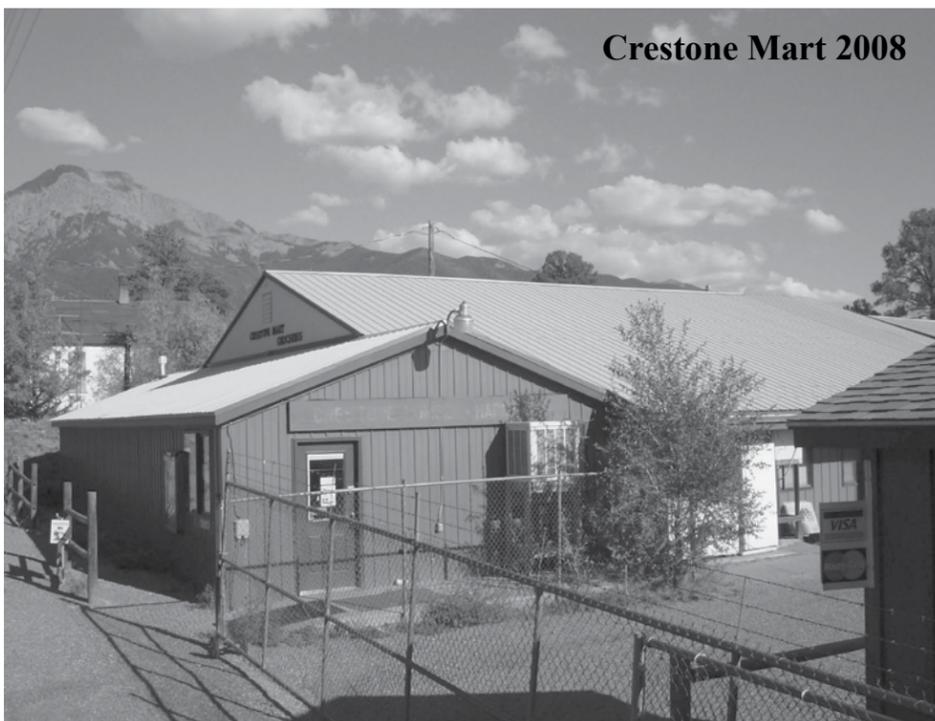
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# Who We Are

## Kyle Grote:

### Feeding families, preserving water & land

by Gussie Fauntleroy

Kyle Grote has wanted to help feed people for as long as he can remember—maybe even before that. His father, who started and owns Ohio-based Donatos Pizza restaurants, recalls Kyle as a very young boy asking why the family couldn't raise animals and vegetables for the meat and veggie toppings on the pizzas they sold. "I'm not a farmer, I'm a pizza man," Jim Grote (pronounced like Grotie) told his son.

Now Kyle is becoming a farmer, and his vision has expanded well beyond providing food. The 38-year-old Crestone/Baca resident provides high quality, "happy and healthy" organic, non-GMO food for the local market. At the same time, he is passionate about protecting the land and water on the 2,400-acre Chokurei Ranch near Moffat, powering the ranch/farm with renewable energy and "living in harmony with our surroundings and all of life." It's an elevated ideal, which on the ground means "dark-to-dark" chores for 10 to 20 hard-working employees keeping up with Chokurei's large greenhouse, outdoor gardens, yak herd, poultry and egg operation, Farm Store and Yak N Cracker Café.

#### Pizzas and comedy

Long before purchasing the ranch in 2007, Kyle was no stranger to work. As a boy in Columbus, Ohio, his dreams ran more along the lines of professional basketball than pizza, but he began working for the family business at age 9. He also envisioned becoming an inventor like his father, who came up with an inspired pepperoni slicer design. Kyle's fifth grade science project was a motion-detector-op-

erated recorded device for doors. When activated by movement from a cat, the device would loudly command: "Let your cat in!"

The entertainment business also interested Kyle, who as a young man ran a video store and worked as a doorman for a comedy club. In 1999 and 2000 he took to the road in a van, traveling around



Kyle Grote with his daughter Soraya and son Elijah among the kale in the Chokurei greenhouse. photo courtesy Chokurei Ranch

the west. Along the way he read spiritual and philosophy books purchased at his mother's metaphysical bookstore, ate in soup kitchens with other "travelers," and got up on stage a couple of times to see if he wanted to do stand-up comedy—"I decided I needed more life experience," he says in his earnest, good-natured way.

Back in Columbus, Kyle started a video production company, Enlightenment Studios, creating promotional videos for businesses and non-profit organizations he believed in. In 2002 he and Tenna were married in a ceremony officiated by his mother, while 15 ministers from different spiritual traditions stood in a heart-shaped formation, each blessing the couple. It was a fitting sacred ritual for a pair who soon would make Crestone/Baca their home. They now have a 10-year-old daughter, Soraya, and son, Elijah, 5.

#### Growing a farm

Chokurei Ranch grew out of Kyle's desire to preserve intact an expansive piece of land, with its magnificent 360° views and warm-water artesian springs whose life-giving resource he did not want to see diverted. In developing his vision for the property, he recalls, "I asked myself why I had wanted to do comedy. It was because I wanted to help people be happy. The same with



With warm artesian spring water flowing into a heat-sink pond, Quan Yin watches over the Chokurei greenhouse at night. photo by Autumn Brooke Grinath

the ranch and farm—I wanted to feed my family and as many families as possible."

Jim Grote's strong work ethic and core business philosophy took root in his son early on. "He believes in always doing business in a good way, a win-win way," Kyle says of his father. "His main point was never try to get one over on someone else; it's not good business." Kyle also credits his mother, Annie Upper, "for teaching me about unconditional love and being my biggest supporter to make Chokurei a reality."

A core team including individuals with expertise in high altitude farming, construction, and poultry management, among other

not transporting and selling leafy greens farther than 60 miles from the farm. His dedication to the local community is reflected as well in his service as an elected member of the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District Board.

Outdoors at Chokurei, two acres are cultivated—with a greater emphasis this year on root crops—while organic eggs and meat come from more than 300 free-roaming, mama-raised chickens, along with turkeys and ducks. The ranch's yak herd started at 12 and now numbers more than 200. Never mixed with cattle, the winter-hardy Tibetan yak are well adapted to the valley's altitude and provide yak



Chokurei's 3-bay greenhouse on a stormy night. photo by Autumn Brooke Grinath

talents, has been key to Chokurei's development, Kyle notes. While a couple of the initial team members have moved on from Chokurei, "I sincerely appreciate all their hard work and knowledge they put in," he says. "Chokurei's amazing staff really believes in organic, clean, healthy food. It's more than just a job to them, it's a way of life."

#### A model of sustainable ranching/farming

Today in the greenhouse, a massive, virtually smokeless GARN wood boiler burns beetle-kill logs and boosts heat through a radiant-floor system, allowing for early starts and year-round growing. A 19-kilowatt photovoltaic array provides electricity and contributes to Chokurei's goal of minimal fossil fuel use. On a mild spring day the greenhouse was alive with the sound of water cascading into an indoor heat-sink pond amidst rows of thriving kale, tomatoes, basil, peppers, cucumbers, flowers and rainbow chard. Kyle's commitment to retaining freshness and vitality in food includes a policy of

meat for the café and for sale at the Farm Store. Yak hair fiber, hides and heads are also available, and the public is invited to visit and hand-feed yak; call the Chokurei office for details.

With summer warming up, the Yak N Cracker Café has opened its outdoor seating on the deck overlooking Challenger Golf Course, where Frisbee golf has been added to the options on the course. The café offers local wines and beer, along with a full menu of GMO-free, never-microwaved field-to-fork food. A number of summer events are planned at the café, including live music on the deck and lawn. Kyle has other dreams for various aspects of Chokurei's operations, but for now his goal is to continue improving what he and his team have begun. "We're going to keep putting out good food and treating animals good and learning more and more," he says. "We're really grateful for the support we've had from the community."

Visit [chokureiranch.com](http://chokureiranch.com) or call the ranch office at 256-4599.



A yak and baby, two of Chokurei Ranch's growing Tibetan yak herd. photo courtesy of Chokurei Ranch



Soraya and Elijah Grote among the tomatoes in the Chokurei greenhouse. photo courtesy Chokurei Ranch

# Aventa Credit Union. . . In Your Interest

Aventa has made a commitment to continue to communicate with Saguache County on a monthly basis through The Crestone Eagle. With the intent to keep open communication as to Aventa's direction in Saguache County, we encourage you to email us your financial topics of interests, questions or comments to [feedback@aventa.com](mailto:feedback@aventa.com).

## Find the Path to Home Ownership

The prospect of owning your first home stirs lots of excitement...and lots of questions. Here are a few that may be on your mind:

### Is buying a house a smart move for me?

Don't let the mortgage crisis of recent years scare you away. Buying a home is still a good investment, if you buy and borrow smart. That means not getting in over your head. Aventa can help you determine what you can handle financially.

Financial readiness is only part of the equation. Are you personally ready to be a homeowner? Only you can answer that. Home ownership devours a chunk of your free time. If you can't live with that, you may be happier renting.

### When should I talk to a lender?

Too often first-time buyers start by shopping for a house. That's like going out to look at Cadillacs when you should be shopping for a Chevrolet. Know what you can afford before you start house shopping by visiting or calling Aventa Credit Union. We can tell you how much of a mortgage you qualify for.

### What is a fixed rate mortgage loan?

A fixed rate mortgage loan is where the interest rate stays the same throughout the life of the loan, typically 15, 20, or 30 years. Your monthly payment will remain the same during that time. A fixed-rate loan gives you the security of knowing your payments won't rise.

Talk about these or any other questions over with a mortgage loan officer at Aventa Credit Union. Stop by or call us today at 800.555.6665.

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What is shared branching? Credit Unions have joined together and created "shared" branches. Aventa is part of the shared branch network which means you can access your Aventa accounts at any of the thousands of credit union locations nationwide. You can make deposits, withdrawals, transfers and more.

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## Unveiling Our New Summer Blockbuster

Aventa is rolling out the red carpet for our new Saguache Branch. Our new, full-service branch is located at 311 4th Street in Saguache.

Watch for details on our website for opening date.

**Premiere Party  
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Bring the entire family out for food, fun, entertainment, and more. Try to grab as much cash as you can with our money machine or spin our prize wheel to win a fabulous prize.

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Ramloti shows some of the 120 items available on the Ashram on-line auction from June 14-23. See them all at [www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram)

## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

May has been a busy month despite fluctuating weather. We had a chanting evening/fund raiser in Colorado Springs mid-May that was well attended and blissful. Memorial Day was, as always, one of our biggest weekends with a couple hundred visitors.

Our big event for June is our 5th Annual On-line Fundraising Auction. This auction has been strongly supported by our local friends who have donated many items including bodywork, healing, accommodations, artwork, restaurants, hot springs visits and so much more. The funds raised over the years have been so valuable for helping to keep the ashram alive and well. We pray that this year's is as successful. The Auction will run for only 10 days, from Friday, June 14 through Sunday, June 23.

Don't miss out on getting many wonderful items at great bargain prices while supporting the ashram as well. This year we even have get-a-ways to John of God in Brazil, a famous healing spa in Thailand, and many others. Please visit the website at [biddingforgood.com/babajashram](http://biddingforgood.com/babajashram) to see the many wonderful items available. It is not too late to donate an item or be one of the auction sponsors as well. Just call at 719-256-4108. Please tell your friends, and thank you for your support.

Our new-moon fire ceremony this month is on Saturday, June 8 and the full-moon fire ceremony is on Sunday, May 23. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am with evening aarati at 6pm. Each morning at 6:30am there is a paduka puja (washing of Shri Babaji's sandals) in His kutir (just to the west of the temple), followed by chandan.

This year our Family Week with our children's program will be from Tuesday, July 30 through Friday, August 2. The program runs from 10am until 1pm. A parent or guardian is required to be on the premise at all times. The children's program is a free gift to the community from the Ashram.

This makes it convenient for folks to take Sofia Diaz's workshop on "Stillness", which will be running at the same time. The suggested donation for this workshop is \$108 with partial scholarships available. Please call the Ashram at 719-256-

4108 with questions or to reserve a space. For more information on Sofia, go to [Sofiyoga.com](http://Sofiyoga.com).

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and if you mention that you are an *Eagle* reader, we will happily give you



Long-time ashram supporter, Maureen DeCosta, has donated a 1- or 2-week tour to John of God in Brazil for the Ashram on-line auction running from June 14-23. Go to [www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram](http://www.biddingforgood.com/babajashram) under get-a-ways to view item.

a 10% discount on your purchases, excluding sale items. We are continually receiving new supplies in the shop and we deeply appreciate your support. You can view most of our shop inventory on the website at [mahalakshmiashram.wazala.com](http://mahalakshmiashram.wazala.com) in its inviting new format.

Please visit our website at [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) to find out more about the ashram and its schedule. We also invite you to visit the ashram at any time. We love to share Shri Babaji's and Mother's home with others. Just drop by or give us a call at 719-256-4108.

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## The Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

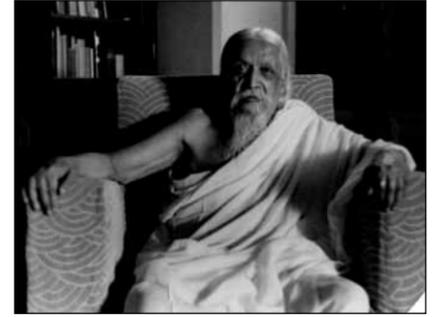
In 1958, The Mother described to the sadhaks and students in the ashram how Sri Aurobindo visualized the gods. In this column, Sri Aurobindo has described some of the qualities and powers of the Divine Mother. The Mother speaks more generally:

"You know, don't you, that in India particularly, there are countless categories of gods, all on different planes, some very close to man, others very close to the Supreme, with many intermediaries.

"You will understand better what I want to tell you if I mention the gods of the Puranas (like those we saw the other day in the film) who, in many ways, are I must say worse than men (!) though from the point of view of power they are infinitely greater.

"There are the gods of the Overmind who are the great creators of the Earth – so far. There are the gods of the Vedas who are mentioned in everything transmitted to us from the Rishis. And there are the gods of the Supermind, those who are going to manifest upon Earth, though of course they exist from all eternity on their own plane.

"Here is what Sri Aurobindo tells us. Briefly, it is a prayer:  
*Be wide in me, O Varuna;  
be mighty in me, O Indra;*



*O Sun, be very bright and luminous;  
O Moon, be full of charm and sweetness.*

*Be fierce and terrible, O Rudra;  
be impetuous and swift, O Maruts;  
be strong and bold, O Aryama;  
be voluptuous and pleasurable, O Bhaga;*

*be tender and kind and loving and passionate, O Mitra.*

*Be bright and revealing, O Dawn;*

*O Night, be solemn and pregnant.*

*O Life, be full, ready and buoyant;*

*O Death, lead my steps from mansion to mansion.*

*Harmonise all these, O Brahmanaspati.*

*Let me not be subject to these gods,  
O Kali"*

"So Sri Aurobindo makes Kaki the great liberating power who impels you earnestly towards progress and leaves no ties within you which would hinder you from progressing.

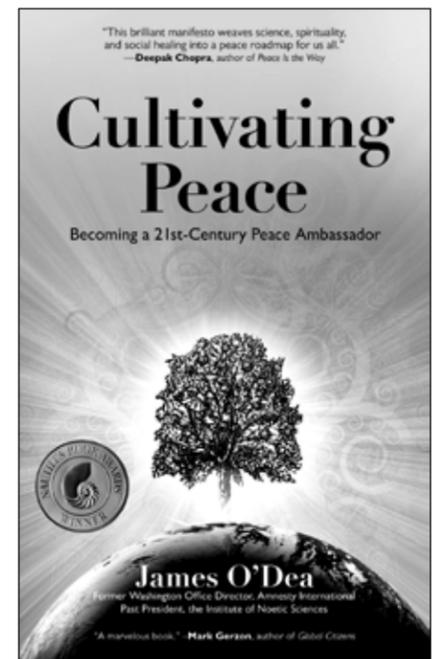
"I think this will be a good subject for meditation." —The Mother, Questions and Answers.

## Local author James O'Dea wins Nautilus book award

James O'Dea has received a Nautilus Book Award for Social Change for his bestselling book *Cultivating Peace: Becoming a 21st Century Peace Ambassador*, published in June of last year. James teaches an online Peace Ambassador Training for the Shift Network and has a lifetime's experience in human rights, peace work and social healing. *Cultivating Peace* engages in mapping peace work from the inner to the international. His writing is both passionate and poetic. He combines spiritual, psychological, activist and whole systems perspectives. And as you might expect from his Irish background, he is a great storyteller.

Prior to *Cultivating Peace* he wrote *Creative Stress: A Path for Evolving Souls Living through Personal and Planetary Upheaval*, which is available at his website as a free audiobook download. He has also written numerous published essays. He is currently writing prayers, meditations and invocations.

James finds it increasingly



satisfying to work with individuals and small groups in areas of soulful renewal, personal transformation, life purpose and service in the world and is now offering individual as well as very small group 2-day residencies at his home in Crestone. He offers Crestone residents special rates. For more information on James and his local residency and coaching programs visit his website [www.jamesodea.com](http://www.jamesodea.com)

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# Colorado Bio-regionalism with SOURCE Local Foods

by *Nicholas Chambers*

In considering how to build healthy and sustainable, thus local, food systems, it's hard not to think of what makes "local" local. There is a time when local means your backyard, a time when local means your neighborhood, and a time when local means your larger bioregion. For that next degree of menu stability, culinary diversity, and overall beneficial socio-economic impact, SOURCE Local Foods is about defining local as the great state of Colorado.



Dawn Jump, proprietor of Jumping Good Goat Dairy, showing off some aging Colby Goat Cheese in a walk-in cooler.

Within the boundaries of Colorado, we are blessed with a cornucopia of ecosystems and micro-climates that give rise to a complementary array of meat, dairy, vegetable, and grocery producers. These products are harvested and/or prepared fresh by Colorado families for SOURCE to deliver to Colorado restaurants, grocers, and hospitality groups with the minimal amount of handling and transportation.

We also have many excellent entrepreneurs, cooks, and chefs that have developed Colorado-owned businesses that produce unique, healthy, and socially-responsible grocery items. Yes, some

ingredients may not grow in Colorado, but what locavore doesn't enjoy an occasional cup of tea, coffee, or a good chocolate? In support of these businesses SOURCE looks at the entire supply chain back-story of non-Colorado ingredients. In this light, SOURCE is supporting businesses, such as Nova Mondo Chocolate out of Lafayette, that are redefining Fair-Trade to be Direct Trade where these Coloradan proprietors are going to these Nicaraguan and Ecuadorian farms and establishing direct relationships. This is no commodity chocolate with a charity label, but rather a true vertically-integrated small, Colorado business.

Right here in the San Luis Valley, where some of the farms and ranches are as old or older than the state itself, we have the Salazar Ranch near Manassa. This family ranch not only gave rise to our former Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar, but also John Salazar who is now the Commissioner of Agriculture in Colorado. Now their nephew Lucas Salazar is running Salazar Natural Meats where he free-ranges his hogs. Soon they will be able to process their sausages on-site with a new USDA-certified facility.

Stay tuned as other San Luis Valley producers get their products on the SOURCE distribution network, but to go find some of the best in Colorado food today check out Elephant Cloud, the Desert Sage, Chokurei Ranch & Farm Store, Hooper Pool's Mile Deep Grille, Orient Land Trust, Bliss Cafe, Farm Table, Crestone Mercantile and the one-of-a-kind Peace of Art Café and Organic Peddler in Del Norte.

The Upper Arkansas River Valley to the north is home to Jumping Good Goat Dairy near Buena Vista operated by Dawn Jump and her daughters. This passionate family business operates a 4200 square foot state-of-the-art goat dairy, complete with underground cheese-aging caves and a country store that caters to the hundreds of people that stop in every year.



Elephant Cloud proprietors: (L to R) Michelle Beelendorf, Michelle's granddaughter Shoshana Beelendorf, Benjamin Byer, Shannen Beelendorf and Mike Byer.

They produce your basic Chevres as well as a Ruby Wine Soaked Aged Cheddar, and one of their classics that bears a more bioregional name: First Snow.

To SOURCE Colorado food in the Upper Arkansas area, try Ploughboy and the River's Edge in Salida as well as Nature's Pantry in Buena Vista. If you might be traveling throughout Colorado yet want to stay eating within your Colorado food-shed, you might want to try the recently launched SOURCE the FOOD app brought to you by SOURCE. With this tool fit for the 21st Century, you can find real-time information about where to get Colorado food, how many miles it traveled, and much more.

SOURCE Local Foods is the brainchild of recycOil, which is an innovative used vegetable-oil recycling company founded in 2005 to address the nascent biodiesel industry's need for recycled feedstocks.

RecycOil is now one of Colorado's premier feedstock suppliers, sourcing used cooking oil from about 1600 restaurants and grocery stores and supplying commercial biodiesel producers like Blue Sun, Renewable Energy Group and High Plains Bioenergy. To buy biodiesel made from this used vegetable oil, check out Alta Fuels in Alamosa or any of their retailers statewide.

SOURCE Local Foods was a natural evolution for RecycOil as their relationships with restaurants segued into organizing Colorado's local food inventory into a regional distribution network focused back at the restaurants, grocers, hotels and entertainment venues. When it comes to putting biodiesel-blended trucks on the road and providing excellent customer service, recycOil/SOURCE is the outfit that puts organizational efficiency into "sustainable."

May the SOURCE be with you!

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## Moving Up Higher Enjoying everyday life

by Joyce Meyer  
**Prisoners of hope**

God is good. And He has a good plan for each of our lives. No matter what may be going on right now, God's plan is unfolding. In the meantime, Romans 12:12 tells us to "rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying" (NLT).

I think that's good advice, especially in times when it feels like we've been waiting and waiting . . . and waiting for something to happen in our lives. Hope is vital in times like these and it will keep us looking ahead, anticipating, expecting whatever it is we're hoping for.

Over the years I've learned how to lock myself up in a prison of hope, knowing that God has nothing but His best planned for me. He promised me things concerning my ministry and my life. And hope is what helped me hold on in those early years when it got hard.

Anticipation I remember. It was just three weeks into my marriage to Dave, when he asked me one day, "What's wrong with you? You have such a negative attitude!" And I said, "Well, if you don't expect anything good to happen, then you won't be disappointed when it doesn't." That was how I felt based on my feelings about past experiences. I had a very negative outlook on life, so I spoke negatively about it.

This is the way I used to live . . . before I became a prisoner of hope. Today my outlook on life is completely different from what it was many years ago. Now I enjoy my life and I encourage others to enjoy theirs as well. Jesus died for us to live an abundant, fulfilling life. And hope is the confident, favorable expectation of this life.

Now, I do realize there are many things that can happen to us that aren't so enjoyable. And that can make it difficult to grasp the idea of enjoying life. So, think of it this way: What are you hoping for?



What are you expecting in life? What are you looking forward to? Focus on that.

My negative outlook was due to my attitude about all the bad things that had happened in my life. I was stuck in the pain of my past, so I didn't believe anything good would happen in my future. Because of all of the negative things that had happened, I was programmed to believe that negative things would always happen. I lost hope.

Well, God was there and He knew that. But over time He kept loving me and dealing with me, promising me what Isaiah 61:7 says: "Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours" (NIV). Now doesn't that inspire hope in your heart?

When you walk it out in everyday life, there will be times when doubt, fear, unbelief and weariness will come against you. It's in these times you will need to fight a good fight of faith. You will need to guard your mind against negativity about your situation.

The Bible tells of many times when people encountered Jesus and He touched their lives, they wanted to stay with Him and follow Him . . . understandably so. But He sent them home—back to everyday life—to live out and share with others what He'd done. They had to hold on to what He had done for them. In the same way, we must hold on to whatever He promises us and be confident that He is working in our situation. Hope releases the power of the Holy Spirit in these times.

I want to encourage you to make a decision to cultivate an attitude of hope in your life. Speak positive things about your future and refuse to be negative. You may not always feel hopeful but don't give in to your feelings. Catering to bad feelings feeds and empowers them. But standing our ground and not giving in to negative feelings starves them and causes them to lose their power over us.

Just ask the Holy Spirit to lead you. Line your will up with His and get excited about serving God. You could even be one who inspires others to become prisoners of hope!



Kelly and Arthur telling stories at the zoo.

## A Company Of Players interview with Kelly Hosner

by Ammi Kohn,  
producer of past StoryVilles

Local poet and storyteller Kelly Hosner Delamor talks about her return to The Company of Players after tending to her most important production so far, her son Arthur, born February 2012. Kelly will return to the stage this September in the Company's latest production for which rehearsals are already under way. With possible working titles "Stories Out of the Envelope" or "Postcards from Crestone," the upcoming show will be the fourth in the StoryVille series. See this

month's *Eagle* for more information about the Company's new direction.

**AK:** How does it feel to return to the Company?

**KH:** Great! It's a wonderful outlet for my creative energy. Now that I'm a full-time mother, having this space for expression in my life is even more nourishing. I think the sharing of creative work is so important for women. We give so much to our families it is essential that we continue to imagine ourselves as well. The collaboration we (The Company of Players) are experimenting with is also very exciting to be a part of.

**AK:** Are there differences between now and two years ago?

**KH:** There is still sweetness between all of the players. Working within a new model where there is not just one "leader," but many, can be difficult; I feel it is more fertile. I mean, we are all being called to be more innovative not just in our art form but in our relations.

**AK:** What was your storytelling experience before StoryVille?

**KH:** Not much. But I did participate in poetry slams for a few years and that was a comparable combination of performance and storytelling. Actually, it was more intense sometimes. Thank goodness the Crestone audience doesn't hold up scorecards at the end of each story!

**AK:** How did you get interested in poetry and storytelling?

**KH:** Well, my favorite times in elementary school were when we would have guest storytellers. I can remember a few times, just getting lost in stories. Totally taken away with the characters. I also had a very inspiring high school English professor who taught us punk rock lyrics as American Literature. He was really into the beat poets. I remember one of the poems I wrote being read aloud anonymously in class. First there was an awesome silence, then, someone said, "Wow, that was good." I don't know if it was the power of that thoughtful silence or the flush that followed the compliment, but I was hooked!

**AK:** Anything else?

**KH:** Just my name. My name is Kelly Hosner; Delamor is a moniker I took on for poetry slams. (Thanks to Jo and Luna who let me borrow it.) To me its numerology means "Mother of the World." I like that idea of speaking from the stage as a World Mother archetype. It is helpful for me to remember that we can change how we view ourselves at any moment. That transformation is what my next story is all about.

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## POA commentary

*continued from page 3*

I have worked for General Motors, Abbott Laboratories, and Motorola . . . all long-lasting, established corporations. And even though I am not a “corporate” person in the sense of life-long duration, I’ve learned excellent processes from these companies—both in the testing of products, and in the respect, behavior, and professionalism in the workplace. I found Hammersmith to be a very good company, with excellent trainers and excellent managers in the Denver office. They have been developing their community management processes since 1983, and I don’t know of any other company in this line of work/genre that would compare.

To the best of my ability, I believe that by reducing the staff of 5-6 to a staff of 3, and hiring Hammersmith, the Baca POA saves approximately \$150,000 annually. Most of the accounting is handled by HMI, through a well-defined, auditable process through accounts receivable and accounts payable (separate departments). Every deposit, withdrawal, and check is not only processed through a refined audit system, but is also reported to the board monthly in their financial report. There is no room for error. I am confident our money is safe with HMI. I would not say that if I did not believe it.

The managers and directors at HMI offer great assistance to the manager here, though the distance is not always our friend. Nevertheless, I know of no other community management organization that spends the time and resources to set up a 5-week training course for their new managers, set up specific, documented set of policies, and track a variety of forms and filing systems which documents all key activities. All forms and reports generated by the manager are automatically saved in a “hard drive” in Denver, so nothing is ever lost, including emails.

With HMI’s experience in community management and the savings the POA realizes by reducing staff, I believe that, for the present, using them as the management company is the best way to go. Other options have proven not to work. I would say, “don’t fix what is not broken”. Is there room for improvement? Absolutely. Even the President, John Hammersmith, states the same. But taking into account all factors, including the larger issues needing some attention, I believe HMI is the solution.

### Current lawsuit

At the time of this article, I understand the most recent lawsuit has been dismissed by the court. Essentially, the lawsuit claims that the last board election (November 2012) was flawed and fraudulent. In short, yes, the election had many flaws, primarily due to conflicting covenants and by-laws. The annual membership meeting was not held in a very professional, objective manner, which in turn opened the door for the suit. However, being flawed and being fraudulent are two completely different issues. I went through the process several times, and questioned those who handled the ballots several times, and I’m convinced there was not a fraudulent election. No ballots or votes were tampered with illegally.

From the manager’s perspective, the suit caused much added time, resources, and aggravation to a position that already has enormous responsi-

bility and added tasks. I logged over 52 hours just in litigation, all of which I could have charged to the POA. (I charged just three hours. The suit also cost the POA \$5000, which is the insurance deductible. Those who would say (primarily the plaintiffs and those in that circle) the defendants should pay the \$5000 don’t understand the state statutes or the by-laws (Article XIII, para 7), which provides insurance for present and past board members, regardless of indemnification. Being the liaison and acting on the litigation committee by appointment was not easy task—I logged many extra hours, as did the litigation committee—it is no laughing matter.

I had one of the POA board members tell me there are two ways to solve conflict: “. . . violence or through the courts . . .” That’s the culture a manager often contends with down there. (from past experience, I’m clear there’s many other avenues for resolution, violence or the courts being the last resort.) I looked, but could not find, a fraudulent intent or a fraudulent action by any of the current board members named in the suit as defendants. The ballots came in, got locked up, and were only opened and counted the night of the election. A flawed process that needs improvement—yes . . . fraudulent—no. Key challenges of the POA

I see several looming issues that the membership will need to resolve, if the current structure of the POA is to stay intact (in Part II, I’ll discuss what I see as possible futures for the POA). In my opinion, the following two issues are the most important to address:

1) Personal responsibility and accountability. As an intelligent, and largely spiritual, community, there is a growing population of individuals who seem to lack both of these elements. Examples are: the large number of unpaid assessments (mentioned above), the extreme use of the extension process in building a home (some are 8-10 years in duration), and the lack of responsibility of keeping pets on the owner’s property. Without a strict enforcement policy—one that has real repercussions—responsibility and accountability are severely compromised by this minority. I hear quite a few folks saying that we (POA) better not raise the annual assessment of \$270/yr. Yet the average HOA fee in other areas averages from \$600-\$1200/yr, and those fees do not include fire, ambulance, or the maintenance of most of the roads (the county maintains the paved roads). The \$270/yr is quite a bargain by any standards, yet many refuse to pay it. That amount does not keep up with the cost of inflation for fuel, vehicle repair, or even cost of living increases for the employees.

Without active law enforcement in our county or in the Baca, the POA

has little power. The good news is that the vast majority of owners do indeed pay and follow the covenants, and are very responsible individuals. The bottom line, in my opinion, comes down to personal responsibility—responsibility to your neighbor, to your fellow members, and even in taking proper care of your pet. Clearly, there is no easy solution to this dilemma. However, it is also becoming clear to many that we are becoming more and more divided here; those individuals who are responsible, and those who are not. Again, only my opinion, but only a greater degree of enforcement will solve the problem. Perhaps more public discussion of this situation will help.

2) Individuals with the intent of tearing down the POA without a solution or better system. This is a more difficult situation because of the arbitrary and sometimes chaotic approach by a minority of members. We live in a country with freedom of speech, but that doesn’t always equate to facts or good intentions. These people are persistent in their efforts, but persistence doesn’t equate to correctness. Like so many of our freedoms in this country that are exploited (examples: 1st and 2nd Amendments, capitalism as a monetary infrastructure, and the general “freedom of expression”), where do we draw the line? Do we file lawsuits when we are not happy, lose an election, or assume fraudulence? Do we seek legal counsel as a result of a majority vote because we don’t agree with the decision? In the first two months of employment at the POA, I received no fewer than 50 abrasive emails—some easily classified as “hate letters”.

Those working at the POA experienced frustration and anger from some of the members daily. There are hundreds of examples. I’d like to share just a couple.

One of the board members was nothing but condescending at every turn. I would produce a new spreadsheet or an analysis of one sort or the other, only to be ridiculed for even making the effort toward improvement in any way. This board member even told me at a meeting that . . . “the board could vote that I do nothing on the task list . . . and I would be directed to do nothing . . .” (remember, the manager works at the direction of the board of directors). This statement told me everything I needed to know about this board member’s intentions for success at the POA.

Most of the people I mentioned this behaviour to in the membership were quite shocked to hear of this attitude. The list of emails, comments, and abrasive behaviour is indeed endless and the motive is unclear. It is one thing to protest, file a lawsuit, or express one’s viewpoint when there are clear and verifiable injustices. It

is quite another to block, antagonize, or to dismiss one’s efforts just because one can . . . with no accountability. Thank God this is just a minority here.

I must say, unfortunately, those working at the POA have experienced frustration and anger from some of the members daily.

After being asked by a member why the POA doesn’t take minutes at a work session (one in which no board decisions are made), I took about 45 minutes to an hour and did some research. I re-read the state statutes on minutes, called my management in Denver, and discussed with no fewer than two attorneys who are experienced in community management. I responded, basically, that minutes are only required at business meetings and special sessions to document decisions for future reference. Here is the response I received from the member (this member had sent me over 25 emails of a similar nature):

“Well, blown off again. Big surprise. This has nothing to do with what is “typically done” Lonny . . . I can’t tell you how tired I am of the never ending excuses for not following the law and never ending distortions to justify it. Very disappointed Lonny.” (note the misspelling of my name)

One of the board members, in justifying why he would not attend a training session designed for better communication in the functions of a board, wrote me a 4-part email. I’ll provide just a small portion of it:

“. . . Illegal leases, illegal elections, pending litigation and possible litigation, excessive expenditures of membership assets, a department of the corporation trying to run the corporation, a rogue board, are much more pressing issues than some that are taking up excessive time and money. There being no enforcement agency, we are left with only the courts and I am confident that we will be visiting them until these issues are settled. Since HMI became involved there has been continual dissension and the membership does not want outsiders interfering in their lives . . .”

Really? A rogue board? Possible litigation? (Based on what?) Excessive expenditures? (All expenses are approved by the board) Visiting the courts again? Continual dissension? Other than this minority who seem to complain about everything, where’s the dissension?

This same board member threatened to turn the POA into the state on several occasions and the EPA for burning in the burn pit. This serious of an issue should be brought to the board for discussion.

There is a minority of members here who block success in any form, use the POA for all of their anger venting, and have little sense of what it

*continued on page 27*



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takes to manage, maintain, and provide services here. It seems, neither logic, professionalism, planning, integrity, nor clarity in communications can bring them into a more objective position. I am still mystified by the intentions of this group. To my knowledge, no one from that group has defined what their ultimate goal is. Needless to say, the toxic and constant negativity toward the POA and the manager's position played a part (though other key factors, such as a nice offer from another company) in my decision to resign. The employees, as well, often feel the negativity, and I've had more than one come into my office stating, "We are working in a hostile environment". I must say, after working for Motorola, Abbott Laboratories, and General Dynamics for many years, not one iota of the treatment the POA receives would last for a minute.

But, from a management/process perspective, the issue really is not about these few individuals or specifics. It's about personal responsibility, accountability, and process. On the issue of selling gas or even an EPA violation (if indeed there was merit to this assertion), the issue should be brought to the board for discussion and vote. At a minimum the board should direct the manager to further investigate. There should be no intimidation of the employees, and there should be no threats that imply someone will lose their job because they are doing what they've been instructed to do. Common courtesy and professionalism dictates that a true representative of the membership would take a serious concern to the board for discussion and a possible decision, resulting in a majority vote. Of lesser, but nevertheless powerful, importance are the toxic emails sent to the manager. The most serious of these should go to the board for resolution, discussion, or even reading aloud to the membership so some level of accountability can be established.

**Summary**

I don't pretend to have identified the entire overview of our POA, its status, and its issues, much less have the solutions at my disposal. However, I do hope I covered some of the high points and basic infrastructure/operations of our POA. Much of this was new to me and most of the details are only revealed when one is working there on a regular basis. It is a large POA, by nearly all standards, and provides great services for the price.

If we can reign in some of the scattered responsibility and accountability issues, the community will benefit greatly and the need for law enforcement will be reduced. If those who are focused on "tearing down the POA" could stand back and see the positive work that it supports, along with the high stress operations required for such a large area, perhaps their smaller agendas could be seen in perspective. If we are to hold members accountable for their actions, should not the board be held to the same level of accountability? The approach should be "how do we resolve the problem?", not, "how can we keep finding problems?" We must address the issues on the table now and pursue solutions in the present.

I am reminded by my good friends that the vast majority of the membership here supports our POA—that is a refreshing reminder. Most of us came here to enjoy the aesthetics, the spiritual environment, and the peace of the mountains as opposed to the pace of city life. I only suggest a heightened or re-energized level of "respect, responsibility, and accountability" for those who came here for other reasons. In my mind and heart, the biggest disappointment is witnessing the vast potential of our wonderful community being stymied by an unhappy minority.

The future of the POA? I am not a visionary, but in Part II, I'll offer some suggested possibilities and probabilities of what could be. "Our POA ~ Part II; From the inside looking out—Potential futures"



Savor, Cuban Dance band, gets the kids up and moving at CCS!

## Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) creates smiles across the valley with fabulous school performances

Schools across the San Luis Valley and the Boys' and Girls' Club of Alamosa enjoyed fun and unusual presentations this spring from YEP. YEP is eleven years old and stands for Youth Enrichment Program. This is a valley-wide project implemented by Crestone Performances Inc. CPI is also home of the annual Crestone Music Festival and provides free consulting and technical assistance to valley-wide community organizations.

Presentations this spring were varied and excitedly received. The band from Salida "Red Bandana" performed for the Crestone Charter School for their Valentine's Day Dance. This act is an all-female, four piece, original pop/rock band with 12-, 13- and 14-year-old performers doing the writing and playing. The idea is to encourage elementary and middle school age kids to believe in and pursue their dreams! They will also appear at the 15th Annual Crestone Music Festival, August 2-4.

Our most popular ensemble "Crestone Kaminari Taiko" performed at Monte Vista Middle School. Taiko drums are the very large Japanese drums that date back thousands of years. The shows are always lively and as a special treat, the kids all get to play the drums themselves. This was, however, the first time kids wanted autographs and the drummers were unexpectedly mobbed by middle schoolers

A new act in our stable is a Cuban-born band called "Savor." The music they perform includes Cuban and Afro-Cuban sounds and rhythms based on the original Cuban "Son"; which is the grandfather of the modern 'Salsa' rhythms. They performed at the Boys and Girls Club in Alamosa as well as at La Jara Elementary and the Crestone Charter School. They will also be performing at the Crestone

Music Festival on Sunday, August 4 as well as more school shows in the fall.

Another new act for CPI is "Four Shillings Short." Four Shillings Short are multi-instrumentalists and vocalists who play a variety of musical styles on over 30 instruments from around the world. They present traditional music from Ireland, Scotland, England, Medieval & Renaissance Europe, the Americas and India on 30 instruments including hammered dulcimer, mandolin, mandola, bouzouki, Medieval and Renaissance woodwinds, recorders, tinwhistles, banjo, North Indian sitar, Medieval psaltery, the charango from Bolivia, bodhran, doumbek, spoons and vocals. Their program is tailored to fit the audience and specific music educational curriculum where appropriate. During the program they introduce each instrument, talk about its history, introduce musical concepts and follow with a demonstration in the form of a song or instrumental piece. They performed at La Jara Elementary and will do more shows in the fall.

All presentations were sponsored, produced and subsidized by Crestone Performances Inc. and a grant from Saguache County. All Boys and Girls Club shows are sponsored by a collaboration between The Alamosa Live Music Association, Crestone Performances Inc. and The Boys and Girls Club.

If you know of any interesting acts you think would be good for local schools, please don't hesitate to call CPI at 719-256-4533. If you would like to contribute directly to these presentations or learn more about us, please call us at 719-256-4533 or visit our web site at [www.crestfest.org](http://www.crestfest.org). Our mailing address is CPI, P.O. Box 6, Crestone CO 81131. Thank you and stay tuned.

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## A successful year for the Moffat Key Club

by Sarah Fox

"Key Club International is the high school organization sponsored by Kiwanis International. Key Club assists Kiwanis in carrying out its mission to serve the children of the world. High school student members of Key Club perform acts of service in their communities, such as cleaning up parks, collecting clothing and organizing food drives. They also learn leadership skills by running meetings, planning projects and holding elected leadership positions at the club, district and international levels." ([keyclub.org/discover/whatwedo](http://keyclub.org/discover/whatwedo))

The Moffat Key Club had 7 dedicated student members this year. One of the projects that the students focused on was the "Eliminate Project." They raised money to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. "Neonatal tetanus kills one baby every nine minutes—nearly 60,000 newborn children every year. A significant number of women also die due to maternal tetanus. The effects of the disease are excruciating—tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and extreme sensitivity to light and touch." [www.keyclub.org/service/TheEliminateProject](http://www.keyclub.org/service/TheEliminateProject) The Moffat Key Club Donated \$150.00 to



Moffat elementary students enjoyed an end-of-year outing to the Sand Dunes National Monument where they enjoyed time playing in the mud, hiking the dunes, eating a picnic lunch and best of all . . . there were no sand storms! These students are enjoying the calm weather and warm sunshine. photo by Sarah Fox

the cause and the Rocky Mountain District (Key Clubs all over Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska) raised over \$29,000 this year!

A lot of our fundraising went towards sending members to the Key Club District Convention. We served dinners for the governing council, we had a prime rib dinner (We thank you, Tina Freel, for all your help with this!), we sold baked goods, Rada Cutlery and Women's Bean Project items. The district convention was at the Sheridan Denver West Hotel. Students had workshops to attend about ideas to improve their club, and there was even a dance!

If you have any needs you see in the community that you would like to have the Key Club help with please contact the school and we will be happy to help!

## Moffat 2nd-5th grade annual fishing trip

by Dale Smith

It was a great time on our Russell Lakes fishing field trip. Our Moffat School (2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders) students were great little troopers. They showed they were tough, on an incredibly full day that ran the gamut, with: snow, sleet, rain, and sunshine. It was amazing! About half of our kids caught fish and some caught more than one, although, it never was a competition. Our students showed what it meant to be team players, as they were always cheering each other on when their fellow classmates were successful at catching a fish.

I'd like to thank Jason, Matt, and the other fine officers of the Colorado Division of Wildlife. They have always been there for our students and have enjoyed teaching them the facts about fishing in Colorado. This year they set up 4 learning stations that the students rotated through during morning. The first station had an officer explaining the different native species that occupy the lakes, streams, and rivers of Colorado, the second explained the laws and regulations of fishing, the third station is where students got to practice tying the clinch knot for their hooks and finally the last station and best of all, they taught the students how to cast from the lake bank.

The officers of the DOW also ran along the shoreline assisting the kids with snagged lines, lost bait, re-casting, and, of course, cleaning the captured fish.

At the end of the day, there was nothing but smiles when the kids turned in their borrowed fishing poles, because the officers of the Division of Wildlife handed each student their own brand-new rod and reel as they load the bus. With some well-cemented memories, that will last a lifetime, the students of Moffat School ended the fun-filled day with a very excited and appreciative, "Thank you!"



Four new members were inducted into the Moffat Schools National Honor Society Chapter on May 9. Members are selected based on those who demonstrate outstanding performance in four areas: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Once students are identified they must go through an interview process with the faculty council which then evaluates each student's performance in the above four categories to determine whether or not the students individually meet the criteria set forth. 2013 new members: 12th grade Shaulin Rinaldis, 10th grade Renee Freel, 10th grade Sierra Swartz, 10th grade Marquis Baker and 10th grade Ellyon Williamson. 2013 graduating members: Randi Black, Megan Black, Rebecca Drake and Shaulin Rinaldis. 2013-2014 returning members: Megan Gillespie, Brandon Garcia and Shania Taylor.

## Fort Garland rendezvous

by Sherri Garcia

The 4th/5th grade class at Moffat participated in the rendezvous at Fort Garland. While there, they met up with other 4th grade classes from schools throughout the valley.

The day started out with the flag ceremony, where some of the students helped raise the flag. After the flag ceremony, the students were able to make new friends and interact with those they already knew from other schools as they learned about the history of the San Luis Valley. There were many activities that the students were able to experience hands-on, which included making butter, square dancing, throwing a spear and making pottery. They were even lucky enough to meet real calvary men. No doubt, they all had an amazing time learning alongside their valley peers.



"Under the Sea" Prom in conjunction with Mountain Valley was a huge success. Many students from Moffat & CCS were in attendance and a great time was had by all. This year's Prom King was Shaulin Rinaldis and Queen was Randi Black. Congratulations to both of you!

**Good-bye Ms. Fox**  
Thank you to our dear K/1 as she finishes her last year at Moffat School. You've helped so many students over the years. We'll miss you!



Moffat School senior, Megan Black and freshman stand-out, Gallian Roberts, both competed at the state level track meet in Denver May 16-18. Megan earned her trip to state by placing during the season meets in the discus and the shot put, where she got a chance to throw against the best of the best in the state of Colorado. In the shot put Megan placed 7th overall and in the discus 6th place overall. Congratulations as graduate, Megan! The track team is certainly going to miss you

next year! Freshman stand-out Gallian Roberts is one athlete to keep an eye on! During his first year of high school competition he earned his trip to state in the long jump and the 300 hurdles. At state he placed 6th overall in the long jump! Way to go Gallian! Looking forward to another great season next year! A big thank you goes out to head coach, Larry Chacon and assistant coach, Colleen Doss.

## Knowledge Bowl in review

by Taru Gouldberg

This was a great year for Moffat's Knowledge Bowl Team! We had so much fun with all the things we did. One thing that I am thankful to have been a part of was going to the Knowledge Bowl competitions.

The students who were a part of the 2012-2013 team were Marlon Jacobi, Jamyoung Dorji, Kristin Tran, Sierra Swartz, Gallian Roberts, Stohry Rinaldis, and myself, Taru Gouldberg. We all had such a good time practicing as well as competing.

Once a month on a Thursday we would all meet at the school and then drive to the competition in Alamosa. We would arrive at Adams State University where we would get to see many, many other students from all over the valley and nearby regions who came

to challenge their own thinking skills. First each team would take a written multiple choice test which would rank all the competing teams so everyone was evenly matched. Next we would compete in Oral Rounds with two other teams at the same time. The teachers were the readers and they would ask us questions from every subject area including grammar, literature, math, science, and history. All the questions that we answered correctly in each round added up to points that would show where we ranked amongst the other student teams after each of the four rounds. Our JV team took third place on two separate occasions.

I think that Knowledge Bowl was extremely fun and I would definitely do it again. I strongly recommend at least trying it.

## Congratulations to Crestone Charter School class of 2013



Crestone Charter School honored its 2013 graduates in a ceremony held for the first time in the school's history inside its own building. Seniors include Huitzi Diaz, Laura Enzer, Molly Roth, Zac Potter and Trevor Storm. photo by Jessica Martinez

## Crestone Creative Council rockin' out 70s & 80s style!

by Lisa Bodey, Youth Programs Coordinator

The old 1970's song "Car Wash" by the band Rose Royce (not to be confused with Rolls Royce) seems to be the Crestone Creative Council's (CCC) summer theme song. We are planning a free car wash for Saturday, June 8 to thank the community for their support of our trip to Denver. The Crestone Mercantile is offering the new hardware store parking lot as our washing station and will be supplying us with the water and cleaning materials. Please drive in between the hours of 10am-4pm to get your wheels squeaky clean. Donations will be accepted.

To continue on with the retro theme, CCC will host a 70's & 80's costume party in late June or July. Start getting your costumes ready now for this will surely be one of Crestone's finest boogie nights! So, what's your style?

- Leisure suits & platforms
- Leg warmers and ponytails
- Mulletts and cut-off shirts
- Beads and bellbottoms
- Glam Rock or Punk Rock

If you need help getting inspired or feeling creative, then you may want to join us for one of our Artist Gatherings on Tuesday evenings from 4-6pm at the Community Building. Youth and young adults are sewing, wire-wrapping, jewelry-making, painting and costume creating! We are also still accepting artists, 13-24-year-olds, to sell artwork on consignment out of the Crestone Botanical Garden (location behind the CYP thrift store). Congratulations to Quincy Meisman and Taru Gouldberg who will be our new youth employees for the garden. Be sure to stop by and see the beautiful array of houseplants and youth artwork that are

now for sale. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday from 11-4pm and closed on Sundays.

Youth can also be hired for your home or work projects through the Youth Work Force. Past jobs have included: moving projects, gardening, computer help, weed pulling, raking, planting, firewood stacking and much more. Hourly rates typically range from \$8-10/hr depending on the project. Worker's compensation and insurance are provided through the Town of Crestone.

The Crestone Creative Council is a Town of Crestone youth program for 13-24-year-olds which focuses on job creation, artistic expression, community service, and special events to instill a sense of purpose and positive self identity for participants. If you would like more information, please feel free to call me at 719-480-5925 or bodeycrestone@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page.

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Thanks for all the sweet dreams and pre-bedtime gushy stuff. We love you Papa!

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

~ From Mica, Samuel and the one always on the other side of the camera

# The Washington Beat

*“Mired in Scandal” —  
So now it’s payback*



by David Nicholas

Those were the days my friend. Actually, it was last month. A simpler time on the surface but below, the seething of angry politicians, Republicans, who hate the Prince.

Initially, the first term of President Barack Obama was meant to be his only, according to Republicans. The GOP Congressional leadership was rabidly angry and envious of him. They consider politics to be the preserve of white people, and were going to teach the black upstart what was what.

Not only did Obama outsmart the Republican leadership, he beat them at their own game. The 2012 Presidential election was a particular humiliation because their candidate had Republican pedigree from the patrician class and he tanked. He spoke candidly about the American people with contempt and derision to his wealthy backers, and he was caught saying it on video. The 47% and then some taught the elite you could lose it all when you hold them in contempt.

At first the GOP was diminished and cowed by the humiliation that Obama handed out to them. They searched their souls, and apportioned blame, wrongly, as it happens. They faulted the messenger and the presentation of the message, not the content of the message. So as time supposedly heals all wounds, and memory conveniently fades, Republicans are not inclined to recant their

view of the world which favors white men and seniors over 55; nor to see that they are unlikely to be in government until 2028, if they’re lucky. By government, I mean winning the Presidency, the brass ring.

Maybe Republicans are content stymieing attempts by Democrats to make life better for individual Americans and gamely offering shock and awe economic austerity mixed in with frugality of early Christian martyrs, but nobody is listening except the GOP Tea Partiers that scriptwriter Aaron Sorkin’s series “The Newsroom” aptly describes as the American Taliban.

That said, we find the administration “mired in scandal”. This surfaced in early May with Republicans seizing on any mistake or failure to disclose. Some consider these crises to be at the level of President Nixon’s Watergate. To hear it from the GOP leadership, there is no case against President Obama personally, but it’s the people around him who are tainted. What a difference four weeks makes.

**Where there’s smoke there maybe fire—or not**

Benghazi. A clear case of lying, and administration officials generating an alleged cover-up, during a Presidential election, according to the

GOP. The pre-hearing narrative was that this was as bad as Watergate, so tune in for the juicy details.

Who said what to whom, and when did they know it? Essentially when did the administration know that the attack on the embassy annex in Benghazi was a terrorist attack, and who knew it? The alleged cover-up (note the word “alleged”) was in the talking points generated by the State Department for the Sunday talk shows on September 16, presenting the Obama administration’s official point of view and uttered by UN Ambassador Susan Rice. Ambassador Rice appeared on all the major talk shows stating that it was a popular protest that got out of control rather than a concerted attack by alQaeda on the 13th anniversary of 911, which is what it turned out to be.

The hearings, which began mid-May, became a steady drumbeat, with State Department employees marched in to testify and bare their souls about the last conversations they had with people who died.

Questions arose as to why the annex did not have sufficient Marine protection, as a full embassy does. The answers are: a) the annex in Benghazi was a CIA facility under embassy cover; and b) previous budget cuts in embassy protection funds by a Republican House stretched the funding pretty thin, limiting protection to full embassies only, not the outliers.

The other questions, which the GOP has preferred to focus on (because it’s easier to throw mud), are the talking points leading up to Sunday talk shows. At time of writing, the administration released 100 pages of emails between the State Department and the CIA; the back and forth, as to what should be said in a public statement made generally not only for domestic consumption but also for the ears of foreign governments. Generally, this is a normal procedure. The emails show State Department and CIA working out the details while the White House monitored the process, making minimal input.

How far will this go? As long as the Republicans can stretch it out, in the hope that something damaging will be uncovered. To me it is beating a dead horse. But this can go for months and create a steady drumbeat to discredit former SecStat Hilary Clinton, frontrunner for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 2016.

**IRS loves the Tea Party**

Perhaps the stupidest act that

has happened in quite a while was this one. The Internal Revenue Service’s facility in Cincinnati, which reviews non-profit applications, decided to fully investigate GOP-leaning Tea Party organizations filing for 501 (c)4 status. Normally, this can take anywhere from 60 days to 6 months minimum. Doing this specific examination deliberately, as a matter of coordinated policy, takes the cake. Why would you do it, as it would create a shit-storm if it were ever found out, which it was.

The IRS is generally a law unto itself, set up that way under the Treasury Department so it can’t be tampered with by arbitrary political interference, with changes only made by congressional amendments to the law. Of the two officials who have been identified over this, the one political appointee was the Acting IRS Commissioner Steven Miller. President Obama ordered his resignation on being made aware of the violation. The head of the Cincinnati facility is selected through the Government Executive Service and as such cannot be fired directly. So Joseph Grant, the commissioner for the agency’s tax exempt and government entities division in Cincinnati, will retire early on June 3.

The White House has indicated that further terminations of IRS officials is forthcoming, but at time of writing, nothing further has happened.

On NBC’s Meet The Press on May 19, House Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) tried to make something more of this, as did Congressman David Camp (R-MI) who chairs the House Committee looking into the IRS controversy. Both admitted that they lacked evidence that the targeting of conservative organizations was ordered by the White House.

“We don’t have anything to say that the President knew about this,” said Mr. Camp.

Senator McConnell tried to state that a “climate of intimidation” existed in the administration.

He said, per the Meet The Press transcript, “Actually, there is a culture of intimidation throughout the administration. The IRS is just the most recent example. Let me just recount a few for your audience. Over at HHS, back during the Obamacare debate, Secretary Sebelius sent out a directive to health insurance companies telling them they couldn’t inform their policyholders of what they thought the impact of Obamacare

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would be on them. Now she's trying to shake them down for contributions in effect to a group to go out and try to convince the public that they should love Obamacare. Over at the FCC, there have been efforts by Obama appointees to—to shut down or make difficult people who are seeking to buy advertising to criticize the administration.

"Over at the SEC, the Obama appointees have been engaged in an effort to make it difficult for corporations to exercise their First Amendment, political rights. The IRS—coming back to the IRS. The head of the union at the IRS gives 99% of her campaign money to Democrats. She openly criticizes the Republican House for trying to reduce government spending and has specifically targeted Tea Party groups in her public comments. It's no wonder that the agents and the IRS sort of get the message."

If it seems a little whiney, it is that these are accusations without foundation, without fact. But that the Senate Majority Leader tried to have a shot at this before being called on it by presenter David Gregory, is telling of the desperation the GOP is facing in trying to smear the President with something that sticks.

Why desperation? The latest CNN/ORC poll has the President's overall approval rating at 53%. The scandals so far don't have traction with the American public.

#### The AP subpoenas for phone records

This is pretty sticky and the administration, specifically the Department of Justice, is under fire for ordering phone records without sufficient reason. Federal statute necessitates a very specific request when the media is subject to a subpoena, and indicates that doing so without telling the media outlet should be done only in certain circumstances. Justice did neither, which the Associated Press has loudly protested.

The Associated Press is suggesting that the reason the agency's reporters and lawyers were the targets of a sweeping records seizure by the Department of Justice is not that national security was at risk, but rather the publicity the administra-

tion was seeking.

In a move familiar to reporters covering covert operations, the CIA had asked the AP to hold off on the May 2012 scoop about a foiled effort by Islamist militants in Yemen to try another underwear bomb, like the one botched in 2009.

The problem is no one really knows what the Department of Justice powers are in obtaining information from the media under national security. Since the Patriot Act passed in the middle of the night in October 2001, no one has really questioned the powers granted federal agencies under the law, and given that the War on Terror is still in effect, no one has really had the courage to question it. That may change, if the AP decides to push back.

But the Department of Justice, under Eric Holder, is one tough customer. He was hostile to House Committees probes of snafus, such as the Fast and Furious arms debacle, which was about selling US-made arms to Mexican law enforcement but which ended up in the hands of the drug cartels.

On the hearings on the Attorney General's conduct in Justice's handling of the AP, he took on Representative Darrell Issa (R-CA), member of the House Judiciary Committee. Mr. Holder lashed out at his chief antagonist Wednesday, May 15, when the attorney general was aggressively questioned, telling Issa at the end of a tense exchange that his conduct is "shameful."

Mr. Holder's comments came after Congressman Issa accused him of purposely and repeatedly keeping information from Congress. "No, that's what you typically do," Mr. Holder responded.

Following heated back and forth, the Attorney-General added, "That is inappropriate and is too consistent with the way in which you conduct yourself as a member of Congress. It's unacceptable and it's shameful."

Watching this hearing, I get the impression that the Attorney-General is taking on the mantle of J. Edgar Hoover (in attitude at least), implying that he knows where the bod-

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

**1/ Black Widow:** In this well crafted thriller. Debra Winger is a federal investigator, intrigued and then fixated in a possible pattern of deaths by seeming natural causes. The common thread is all the victims are rich, reclusive and sultry young widow. Includes Dennis Hopper, Diane Ladd, Theresa Russell and others.

**2/ Evidence of Blood:** A successful true crime author played by David Statharn returns to his home town and is quickly drawn into a murder case from 40 years previous. He works with the convicted man's daughter to begin to uncover evidence of a possible long-buried conspiracy, a cover-up that may lead to his own family.

**3/ 10 Items or Less:** While researching a new role for an independent film, an aged actor, Morgan Freeman, strikes up an unlikely and life-changing friendship with a feisty young Latina store clerk, Paz Vega in this inspiring comedy. Stranded at a tiny market on the edge of Los Angeles he accepts a ride from the sassy clerk, and this odd couple winds up on a road trip with surprising revelations.

**4/ The Courier:** An action film where a courier, who's never failed to deliver his package, tries in vain to deliver to an elusive mobster while other thugs are trying to kill him. The courier this time is also up against corrupt cops. Stars Jeffrey Dean Morgan and Mickey Rourke along with others.

**5/ Bringing Out the Dead:** A strange yet intriguing story based on a book of an ambulance driver on the verge of a nervous breakdown. He stumbles through three sleepless nights on the job accompanied by a callous crew while he finds humanity in an unlikely friendship with a heart-attack victim's ex-junkie daughter. Stars Nicolas Cage, Patricia Arquette, John Goodman, Ving Rhames and others.

ies are buried. At the very least, he knows who his enemies are and that they are afraid of him.

Aside from that, the issue is: what are the standards for the press reporting covert operations, operating under national security conditions? One thing that could be done is to clarify the existing standards more thoroughly. Another is the creation of a broad "media shield" law, which would give the First Amendment rights of the press to report without government interference stronger emphasis over the government's right to prosecute internal leaks.

But that's for the future. More on this next time.

#### Syria

The United States, United Kingdom and France want a conference in Geneva, Switzerland to find a way to broker a peace in the Syrian conflict/civil war. Russia said yes, it would attend as long as Saudi Arabia and Iran could attend. Then there are Turkey, Jordan and Israel who want in with strategic interests. All are interested parties, as well as are the Syrians.

First, the meeting was meant to take place in early May, then it was re-scheduled to June and now it's whenever it can take place. But the chances of it happening at all get more remote day by day.

This is a can of worms. On the face of it, nobody wants Iran anywhere near this negotiating process, except Russia. Saudi Arabia is wanted because it has money to finance the opposition for the years it would take to return Syria to a functioning state, if that's possible.

Then, what passes as a Syrian opposition is factionalized and blurred. Who aligns with alQaeda and who makes up the Syrian National Council? The SNC claims to be the voice of the opposition, but they will not negotiate in good faith with the Syrian government if Assad attends. If that won't work, picking leaders from the Allawites, Christians and Kurds adds to the confusion.

SecStat John Kerry travelled to Russia in mid-May to meet with Rus-

sian President Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov to see if they would pressure Syria's Assad to attend the conference and whether they would stop supplying the Syrian army with weapons and armaments. So far, to no avail.

Turkey's Prime Minister, Tayyip Erdogan came to DC to seek US support and relief for handling Syrian refugees flooding across the border. The bombing in the Turkish border town of Reyhandi in mid-May added a further resolve to Turkey wanting to get militarily involved against Assad.

The UK's Prime Minister David Cameron, hiding out from an antagonistic electorate, was making a shrill war noise in the hope President Obama would relent and get involved to aid UK ambitions in Syria. So far, to no avail.

To add to this, Israel has attacked Syria twice this month on the pretext that it was destroying missiles and arms destined for Hizbullah on the southern border of the Lebanon, Israel's northern border. Israel has warned Syria that it will conduct further attacks, and woe betide Assad if Syria retaliates. This was the usual Bibi Netanyahu stupidity. Assad might just retaliate in a fit of pique and that blows the fine lines of this mess.

Everyone above hopes that President Obama will reverse himself and go all out in Syria militarily. The US is giving humanitarian aid and supplies, which is about all the President wants to do right now and which is right. Wise is he who lets it play out for now without getting involved in this nest of vipers. There is no good outcome that I can see at this point and really another four weeks.

As for Syria's Assad, no one cares what he wants, but he's winning against the opposition and he may well regain complete control of his territory, which would have consequences the western powers have not foreseen. I have an idea but that can wait for next time. The game is in play and we will see how it plays.

And the Beat goes on.

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# 2013 Colorado general assembly took a hard left

by Lisa Cyriacks

**The historic 2013 legislative session is over.**

Democrats, in control of both legislative chambers again after two years of split control, went big and bold, taking action on civil unions, gun control, immigration reform, changing how Colorado manages elections and enacting landmark new laws to regulate and tax legal marijuana.

In a hard-fought victory, a bill permitting same-sex civil unions was signed into law. This was a sweet victory less than a year after House Republicans filibustered the bill in the 2012 session. Gay rights activists are now eyeing same-sex marriage laws.

More than any other issue, gun control defined the 2013 legislative session and the Democrats who presided over it. Polling shows public support for the new laws, especially for background checks; but Republicans were energized as well and promise to hold Democrats accountable in next year's elections. A handful of Democratic lawmakers are facing possible recalls based on their votes on the gun measures.

On May 17 Colorado sheriffs upset with gun restrictions as adopted by the legislature, filed a federal lawsuit challenging these new regulations as unconstitutional. The lawsuit involves sheriffs from 54 of Colorado's 64 counties, most representing rural areas of the state. The lawsuit targets the new laws that limit size of ammunition magazines and expanded background checks. The new regulations are scheduled to take effect on July 1.

Immigrants were big winners in this legislative session. After many years of defeats, 2013 finally saw the passage of legislation allowing those in the country illegally who have graduated from Colorado high schools to attend college at the in-state tuition rate. A 2006 law requiring the police to notify federal authorities of people suspected of being in the US illegally was also overturned.

Colorado lawmakers also approved a bill allowing immigrants in the country illegally to obtain driver's licenses, making Colorado one of only a handful of states to have passed such a measure.

For immigrant-rights advocates and their Democratic allies in the legislature, these victories are as much symbolic as practical.

The Colorado County Clerks Association spearheaded a highly contentious election reform bill. Liberals touted the bill as about enfranchising voters and increasing voter turnout by expanding use of mail ballots in addition to early

voting and polling place votes. Election integrity advocates point to the measures included in the bill such as eliminating residency requirements, allowing for same day voter registration, and eliminating the category of inactive voter as pathways to election fraud. Inactive voters are typically people who have moved away or died. The new law will flood the mail with ballots.

Under the new law, voters could register to vote on Election Day with nothing more than a utility bill to prove their identity. Furthermore, they could vote in any jurisdiction they choose since residency requirements, currently 30 days, are erased. There are no more provisional ballots—every ballot when cast, counts.

### Marijuana laws

In another historic move, Colorado became the first state in the nation to enact regulations for the legal sale of marijuana. These new laws included House Bill 1318, which imposes a 10% tax on the sale of retail marijuana and related products in a store. The measure specified the 10% tax was in addition to a 2.9% state sales tax. An additional excise tax of 15% was also included in the bill for sales of unprocessed marijuana to retail stores.

The new taxes, which will help fund the new marijuana regulatory structure in the state, will be subject to a statewide ballot referendum.

A second measure delineated how marijuana will be sold legally in the state. Licenses for retail stores will only be given to Colorado residents, and in the initial three months of the law will only be distributed to current operators of medical marijuana dispensaries. Owners of stores selling marijuana must have been Colorado residents for at least two years prior to applying for a license, and their employees must also live in the state, according to the law. Non-residents will be permitted to purchase marijuana in the state, but only a fourth of an ounce at a time.

Colorado lawmakers also passed legislation setting a legal limit for driving under the influence of marijuana. Drivers with 5 nanograms or more of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in one milliliter of blood would be in violation of the law. THC is the main psychoactive element in cannabis.

In November, voters in both Colorado and Washington state approved ballot measures allowing for the personal, recreational use of marijuana. The new laws put Colorado at odds with the federal government, which classifies marijuana as an illegal substance.

In addition, the General As-

sembly enacted legislation governing the cultivation, processing and sale of industrial hemp. The Colorado Department of Agriculture will be working on final regulations to be finalized on March 1, 2014. Until that time, cultivation, for either commercial or research and development purposes, is not authorized unless the grower first registers with the Department of Agriculture.

Legislation passed enacting stricter renewable energy standards for rural electric companies—also increasing rates for consumers.

Governor Hickenlooper has not yet signed this bill into law.

Democratic leadership acknowledged that their ambitious oil and gas agenda was not nearly as successful as they would have liked. They say the key is empowering citizens to rise up against the massive oil and gas lobby. Convincing the governor is also key to their agenda.

Hickenlooper said he is open to a discussion, acknowledging that he would continue to have a voice on oil and gas bills. The governor also expressed his faith in the industry.

## Is it time for a reality check on tar sands development in Canada?

by Lisa Cyriacks

As President Obama and the State Department face a controversial decision on the TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline, a new chapter in the long history of indigenous struggle to protect their lands and their rights is underway.

The rapid expansion of tar sands planned by the Canadian government and big oil will have wide-ranging effects on climate, land, and water.

Canada ranks among the world's top 10 greenhouse gas polluters, and one of its most significant pollution problems is its tar sands industry. Pipelines transporting Canadian tar sands bitumen, also carry toxic chemicals such as natural gas, hydrogen sulfide, benzene and toluene. This same substance would be transported through the controversial Keystone XL pipeline.

The proposed route of the Keystone XL will cross hundreds of indigenous sacred spiritual sites and burial grounds, as well as two major sources of drinking water, the Ogallala Aquifer and the Mni Wiconi water line for the Pine Ridge and Rosebud reservations.

In January 2013 Protect the Sacred, an international treaty gathering, was attended by indigenous leaders from many nations. A document rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline, along with all other tar sands infrastructure was drafted and signed by indigenous leaders in Canada and the U.S.A.

The signing of this new treaty was done in commemoration of an historic 150-year-old peace treaty between the Pawnee and Ihankawon Oyate nations and the U.S. government. Neither indigenous nation has ever broken this treaty. But the same cannot be said of the United States.

From indigenous communities which border the tar sands mines in Alberta, Canada, to those along the route of the pipeline to the refinery community in Ponca City, Oklahoma, the Keystone XL is connecting communities for a massive stand of resistance.

In May eleven First Nations leaders walked out on a meeting with State Department representatives in protest. The State Department has, so far, failed to address legitimate concerns raised by these leaders and leading scientific experts on the expansion of the Keystone Pipeline across the border.

Meanwhile, the U.S. is demonstrating it has a strong potential to meet its international climate target—a goal that President Obama has committed to meeting. Consequently, Canada and the U.S. are on very different paths to combat the international problem of a changing climate.

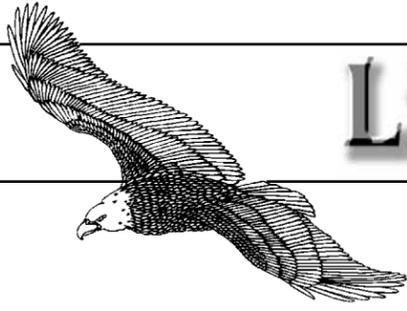
The failure of countries like Canada to meet near-term international climate targets should be a concern to the United States who views climate security as an issue of international significance.



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# Living on the Earth

## One month of mystery in the Maha Kumbha Mela

story & photos by William Howell

Eons before archeology, deep in the mythos of Mother India, the goddess that is the River Ganges requested the saints of Bharata to restore her waters to purity. Since then, such melas every third year have drawn saints, sadhus and sannyasins to bathe at four time-honoured sites in northern India. This year was the Maha (Great) Kumbha Mela, occurring only every 144 years. Always “the world’s most massive act of faith,” this January 14-February 25 was the largest gathering of people ever on the planet: 100,000,000! Extra trains, buses and planes brought pilgrims to Allahabad, where the Ganges, Yamuna and Saraswati rivers converge at the Prayag. For the main snan (sacred bath), 30 million souls hoping to be purified gathered on February 10.

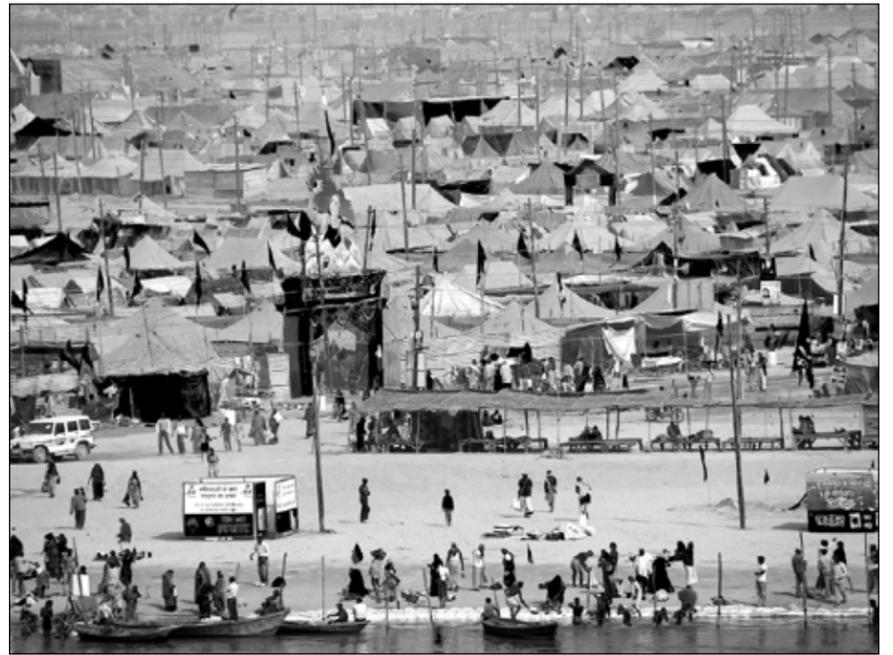
Brahmi and I were at “the Kumbh” an entire month, invited by our Ashram to help provide a free medical camp (general medicine, orthopedics, homeopathy, ayurveda, emergency medicine and eye clinic, even providing eyeglasses). In 20 days we saw 8000 patients (some who’d likely never seen a doctor), ages 3 to 95, our open-air “waiting room” filled with every degree of orange, red, yellow, pink and ochre (sun colors) from tatters to silks . . . if they wore clothes at all. We smiled when an ash-covered Naga Baba received eye drops. Twice a day we also fed saints/sadhus Gujarati snacks and great chai and coffee. Late afternoons were for satsang and spontaneous meditation. Dinner, always vegetarian, came late . . . then a 2.5 km. walk back to

our guesthouse for welcome sleep.

We’d seen cities and hill stations, evergreen heights of Dharamsala, jungles of Mount Girnar and palm-swaying coasts of Kerala . . . but we’d never touched the throb of India as in the Kumbh, a vast tent city (20 square miles) all on sandbar. The government had set out roads (boulevards, avenues, side-lanes) defined by steel planks, plumbed all 15 sectors and provided free electricity. On these desolate streets rose flashy entry gates with swirling lights, decorations and posters on edifices of bamboo and tacked cloth. It’s a huge chance for bearded and beaded spiritual leaders to attract new followers, though how capable any of these “gurus” were is hard to say.

Our ashram’s offering, all designed by Maiyashri (enlightened consort to “Bapu”, the one who’s taken us to India every year since 1997), was unlike any other in the Mela. No whirling extravaganza, our entrance was a field of silverized pink roses on lavender cloth. Employing elegant white tents with gold stars housing burgundy sofas with matching rugs—more 5-star hotel than tent city—we had 8 small medical pavilions, 2 large tents merged for our ashram (meditation, satsang, gatherings of saints), a tent for Maiya and another for Bapu (who came for 9 days). She (and our 20-person crew) had come solely to serve, our posters advertising “Free Medical Clinic” and “Sahaj Siddha Yoga” in Hindi and English.

In speaking with sadhus and film makers, with Europeans and Orientals, with poor folk and assertive photographers, with old



Kumbha Mela on the banks of the Ganges.

and young, Brahmi and I met some stalwart souls, though most were just looking. Who could not be curious amid this most vivid display of humanity? On Kali Road, just outside our door, elephants, camels and every type of conveyance, from handcarts to BMWs, went dreamily by, including silver chariots drawn by festooned horses carrying saints to see the Shankaracharya, head of all of India’s ascetics. Our favorite “show” was the daily parade of 30 new renunciates (all decked ash-faced in their weirdest finery) who marched by our camp at 3:15, shouting Ahalakh! over and over, their begging bowls out . . . and often led by a young boy dressed as Krishna (he’d been rented out by his poor family so the lad could have decent schooling).

Yet the Kumbh was a course in profound disillusionment. The spiritual politics—really just politics—was eye-opening, and beyond our encampment we found little authentic spiritual draw. Many sadhus just do the lifestyle; they like to be considered “holy” and sport “the look”—silver beard to the ankles, cocked dreads coiled twice the size of their head, hair the length of a bridal train if untwined. Yet what made up for it all were the faces. O the faces! Hardened, wrinkled, sweet, dark, painted, noble, harsh, inviting, imposing—all of humanity lined up while I recorded their names in our medical-camp book: simple ones (like “Ram” and “Shiv Giri”), entitled ones (like “Mahant Swami Shri Rhadekrishananda Saraswati Maharaj”) and arrogant ones (like “Avatar” or “Bhagavan”). Women sadhus (maybe 5% of the renunciate population) were often gorgeously wreathed with wrinkles. One carried a brown blanket in a pouch on her back (it was actually her hair, carded like a bolt of

cloth)! We definitely delighted in interacting with some saints, eyes bright with acknowledgment, even in a brief moment of passing. And, of course, our highlight was Bapu’s arrival—to be in his simplicity, power and humble radiance.

We always felt safe, even when walking “home” at night. Our concern were coldfronts down from Kashmir and morning fogs capturing the smoke from all-night dhuni fires, plus the ever-present dust. Leaving the best air in America for the worst air in India, we predict-



Our medical camp—finest at the Kumbh.

ably got bronchitis (as did countless others). The Mela did prove dangerous for those involved in railway station stampedes, or two fires near our camp, or a crashed busload of pilgrims driving to the Prayag.

The Kumbh is no freak show, though strange-looking dudes abound (and we were shown a floating rock, a cow with five legs). It’s not Mardi Gras, despite rivers of people hoping for a sacred glance, a blessing, a marigold from the procession of “floats” to the Prayag. Nor is it Vegas, despite flashy entrances lining every road and who knows how many betting their souls on a spiritual leader who, hopefully, is true. We must agree with Maiyashri, who, in response to a film director’s question about rising spirituality, responded, “. . . Nowadays spirituality is a mess,” which suggests that anything can be found in the spiritual marketplace, and that people seem to exercise little



A parade of renunciates.

continued on page B-9



## Astrologically Speaking ... with Ananur (mountain time zone calculated)

by Ananur

During the entire month of June 2013 Saturn in Scorpio will be in a positive aspect to Neptune in Pisces. This is big news for all of us. No matter how awful it seems, there are invisible Higher Forces at work here, more than we know, with our five senses. Our brains can't stretch enough to understand. Sometimes things have to be accepted for being facts, period. I'm referring to that which is intangible. All life is like "a Divine Symphony," my Sufi teacher said during a guided group retreat. Each one of us is responsible for bringing our own harmonious or inharmonious note to, "the Divine Symphony." The more each one of us works on clearing out our karma or personality issues the more the Divine Symphony can regulate what is taking place here on this blessed blue-green planet of ours. Healing is taking place.

**June 1** the Sun is awkwardly aspecting Pluto yet at the same time the Sun is nicely aspecting Uranus! What does that mean? You've got the freedom to be yourself as long as you don't manipulate other people or get mad at them (blame and shame) if they act independently of how you think they ought to behave.

**June 1-23** Saturn is in a positive aspect with Neptune, which actually began May 27. Higher actions are taking place. Example: Congressperson Tim Ryan of Ohio was interviewed by New Dimensions Radio, discussing the fact that there are interns and congresspeople doing mindfulness meditation before bills are discussed. That's a good example of what this planetary aspect is offering us. There's even a YouTube of him from CBS. Check it out.

**June 1-3** Mercury is in a favorable aspect with Neptune and Saturn, bringing you in touch with

your sensitivity and using that as a springboard to allow your creative self to further unfold.

**June 2** Venus enters Cancer and remains in this nurturing sign until June 27. Your cat or dog is going to like this phase. No kidding, some people treat their pets better than their mate. Why?

**June 5-7** Venus in Cancer will be in a positive aspect to Neptune in Pisces and Saturn in Scorpio. Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces are known as the "water signs," of the zodiac. The water signs are naturally known as "feelers," who perceive their inner knowingness through feelings. They usually tend to be more moody, emotionally aware of their environment, observant, psychic, caring, nurturing, responsive, and tend to hold grudges & resentment unless they work super hard at letting go of the past. That is truly difficult for "water sign" people. The fact that this configuration (all 3 planets involved are in water signs) is taking place will bring about a frequency which opens up the energies for real healing to take place. Those who pray for healing with a sincere heart will have their prayers answered. Music and singing also brings healing if "healing," is set as, "an intention." Also at this same time Mars is uncomfortably aspecting Neptune. Stay focused. Don't over extend yourself. You need to relax and slow down. Mercury is opposite Pluto which makes your mind fall into an obsessive track, like getting stuck on a record groove. However, not groovy.

**June 6** Venus is in a friendly aspect with Mars which is good for romantic relationships.

**June 6-8** Mercury is harshly aspecting Uranus which tells me that you could be outspoken and not polite during this phase.

**June 7** Mars is in a difficult aspect with Saturn which will find you

thinking that nothing is happening fast enough. There are obstacles to be dealt with. Neptune turns retrograde until mid-November. This is an ideal time to focus on your inner work: therapy, writing, meditation, studying metaphysical wisdom, relaxing and allowing yourself to be receptive rather than trying to "make things happen," your way. Ask your "Higher Self," to guide you.

**June 8** the New Moon takes place at 9:57am with the Sun and Moon at 18° of Gemini. According to Dane Rudhyar (famous astrologer) this New Moon is about, "the need for the mind to retain its independence from its physical environment in order to concentrate on its special problems." Rudhyar goes on to explain that, "individuals who have entered into a new realm of activity usually find themselves alienated from their social environment. In a sense they "live in the world (the world of ordinary men/women still bound to common earthly and biological pursuits) but are not of the world." They normally seek companions who can speak their "language."

**June 9-11** Venus will be opposite Pluto which is known to set off obsessive thoughts of jealousy. Chances are these feelings go way back and are being triggered by someone's behavior in the present. It wouldn't bother you if you didn't have old suspicious feelings stemming from a hurtful situation in your past.

**June 10** the Sun is awkwardly aspecting Saturn which will bring out depressive thoughts which will then create despairing feelings. This too shall pass, as they say.

**June 10-12** Venus is in a difficult aspect with Uranus which finds you in a flirtatious mood. Hopefully you aren't being mis-read because you're just foolin' around, nothing serious. Gotta watch out for those "Fatal Attraction," people. Remember that film with Michael Douglas and Glen Close? Whoa . . .

**June 15-17** Mars is nicely aspecting Uranus offering you physical energy to be utilized. If you don't act on it you might end up with a headache or back pain. You need to be active. Dance, hike, jog, zumba, swim, work in your garden, go to the gym. There are plenty of good choices to choose from.

**June 17-19** the Sun in Gemini is now conjunct Jupiter in Gemini at 28°. What does Dane Rudhyar say about this? "The release from unbearable pressures, freeing you up for taking on new tasks."

**June 18-20** Mercury & Venus are conjunct in Cancer. Mercury & Venus together can bring about the urge to write or sing. Enjoy it.

**June 20** is the summer equinox at 11:03pm which means that the Sun enters the cardinal sign of Cancer. All the zodiacal signs which have to do with the changing of the seasons are called, "cardinal signs." This is when there are new experiences within the family or issues come up that need to be faced honestly. More responsibility is felt and decisions will need to be shared within the family. It's time for an important discussion. Yes, feelings will come up.

**June 23** the Full Moon takes place at 5:30am with the Moon at 2° of Capricorn and the Sun at 2° of Cancer. Revelation brought on by conflict or difference of opinion with family members will bring you closer,

even though the process could be uncomfortable. You might have a wake-up call ignited by a situation within your family. An old belief or prejudice that has been in your family for eons of time no longer makes sense to you. It's time for change.

**June 24-26** the Sun is favorably aspecting Saturn and Neptune, ushering in patience and concentration. You're able to trust that the Divine Symphony is for real and that the part you are playing in it does matter. Refer to what I wrote at the beginning of this column. These energies are being activated, again. You're feeling stable.

**June 26-July 20** Mercury will be retrograde starting at 7:04am. Anyone born between July 15-18 of any year will find this retrograde phase personally frustrating. Make sure your computer is operating correctly. Don't put off taking care of it. Remember to be especially attentive during conversations to avoid misunderstandings.

**June 25** Jupiter enters Cancer and will remain here for about a year, until July 2014. Life just got more interesting and comforting for us. Social Security is secured. We find out more about the healing benefits of the food we grow and how to keep them clean from pollutants in our atmosphere. Also the healing powers of ocean water will make the news. The importance of specific "food combining" which aids in digestion will become common knowledge. Trusting your intuitive knowingness becomes easier at this time.

**June 27** Venus enters into romantic, look at me, cherish and adore me . . . none other than the one and only fixed fire sign . . . Leo. And proud of it. Venus remains in Leo until July 22. Let your Leo pals know how important they are in your life. They need to hear it, often. With Venus in Leo we tend to be concerned with how we look and also making sure that we're having more fun.

**June 30** the Sun is opposite Pluto, known to stimulate competition and power plays. It can be a time when emotions surface in order to be purged. Someone might really annoy you. Can you possibly see this as a gift to be faced? There's something going on in you, that needs to be changed. That's why your feelings are intensified. Venus is harshly aspecting Saturn until July first. Your relationship is disappointing you. You need and want more or something different. Are you willing to discuss this with care?

*Ananur Forma lives on the rocky coast of Maine in Rockland. She lived in Crestone (and proud of it) from 1996-2003. 207-594-2565 www.AstrologyWithAnanur.com.*

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by Kim Malville  
This month's sky

**June 1-13:** About 45 minutes after sunset look to the northwest for Mercury and Venus. This will be the best opportunity to view Mercury this year, which will be above the brighter Venus. Mercury will be highest in the sky on June 6 and 7. A few days later, on June 10 and 11, the new crescent moon will move past them. Look upward to see Castor and Pollux of Gemini, the Twins.

**June 17:** The moon will be to

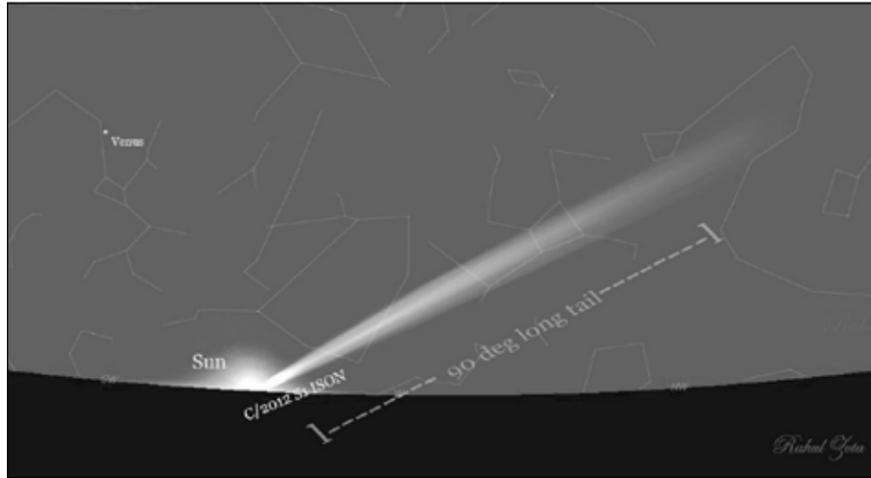
the sun was warming the comet's surface, causing it to release gases and dust from its icy nucleus, which is relatively small 3 or 4 miles across, perhaps a quarter the size of Halley's Comet. If the comet survives its close approach with the sun in late November, it could be a stunning sight, as bright as the moon with a huge tail. No promises however; its close approach to the sun may cause much of its ice to evaporate, leaving us with a dead comet head.

**Explosion on the Moon**

For the past 8 years, NASA astronomers have been monitoring the Moon for signs of explosions caused by meteoroids hitting the lunar surface. Lunar meteor showers have turned out to be very common, with hundreds of detectable impacts occurring every year. On March 17, the biggest explosion in the history of the program was detected. A small boulder, perhaps 12" across, hit the lunar surface with a speed of 56,000 miles per hour and produced an explosion equal to 5 tons of TNT. That's a lot of TNT, but small compared to the 60' diameter meteor that passed over Russia last February. It exploded in the air, producing an explosion equivalent to 440 kilotons of TNT, damaging 7200 buildings beneath its path.

**Living on Mars**

If NASA is to land humans on Mars by the 2030s, as President Barack Obama has directed, there's not much time to settle on a plan and develop the technologies required. In the 1960s, America seized the opportunity to go to the Moon, and we succeeded. A second opportunity for a leap forward in space awaits us now. Sending people to Mars and getting them back is far more complex and expensive than Moon landings. The program will require at least three interde-



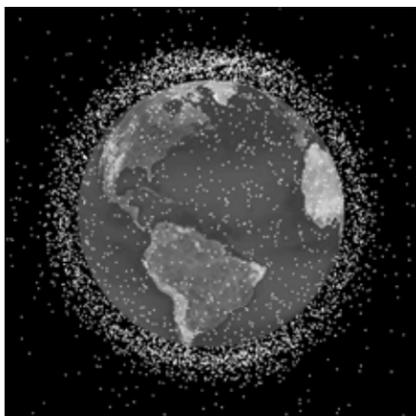
Comet ISON as it may appear on November 28. photo courtesy of Rahul Zota, Bunj, India

pendent missions: (one) launch the crew and the vehicle that will take them to Mars, (two) launch the habitat the crew will live in to the planet's surface, and (three) launch the vehicle that will lift off from Mars to take the crew home.

Some 200 to 400 metric tons of equipment will have to be launched from Earth's surface for the project, and 40 metric tons of that will have to be delivered to the surface of Mars at one time. So far, NASA has been able to land only 1 metric ton at a time, recently accomplished when Curiosity landed on Mars last summer.

Hopefully those who land on Mars will be able take advantage of some of its resources such as water

tion from flares, the Martian astronauts will need to dodge space junk. NASA estimates there are more than 21,000 pieces of space junk larger than 4" in diameter orbiting the earth, some 500,000 smaller particles down to half an inch, and another 100 million tinier fragments. There is growing fear that this debris is approaching a tipping point, a threshold for collisional cascade, producing billions and billions more small objects. Once that threshold has been crossed, space will become even more dangerous. Today, hundreds of near-misses occur each year between orbital debris and operational satellites. NASA scientists have proposed to inject some 40 tons of titanium dust into this realm of



Space debris in 2013. photo courtesy of NASA

the right of Spica

**June 18:** The moon will have moved between Spica and Saturn

**June 19:** The moon lies between Saturn and the brightest star of Libra, Zubenelgenubi.

**June 20:** Summer solstice 11:04pm MST. The shortest night of the year.

**June 23:** The largest full moon of the year rises around sunset.

**Comet of the century?**

The possible "comet of the century" is hurtling toward a rendezvous with the sun in November, currently at a speed of 47,000mph. The Hubble Space Telescope photographed it for the first time on April 10. At that time the comet was 386 million miles from the sun. Even at that great distance,



The British Antarctic Base at Halley Bay. This could be a Mars habitat in 2030. photo courtesy of British Antarctic Survey

and oxygen for breathing, drinking and other needs. Not the least problem is that there must be a means of shielding astronauts from the dangerous radiation produced by solar flares, both during the journey to the Red Planet and on the Martian surface, which lacks a strong enough atmosphere to protect from these damaging particles. A rover would be sent to the landing site first, to drill a couple meters down to locate fresh water (good luck), and serve as a beacon to guide the crew down. It will be a great adventure but an expensive one. An alternate adventure is to become a scientist and explore the Antarctic.

**Junk in space**

Besides dodging the radia-

orbiting junk, moving in opposite direction, which would collide with the debris, slow it down, and cause it to plunge to earth. Most of the dust as well as the small orbital debris will incinerate while reentering the Earth's dense atmosphere. The larger pieces will eventually be slowed down and drift down to earth. Seventy percent will fall into the ocean. Astronomers hate the idea since it will increase the sky brightness. People who fear the falling sky should be petrified. Somehow, we need to clear the skies. What mischief we humans have wrecked upon this warming planet of ours! Hopefully we'll do better with Mars, if and when we get there.

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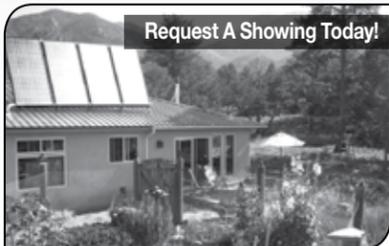
**208 FOOTHILL OL:** 3 br, 2.5 bath, 2228 sf. Large office or 4th br, carport. Lots of space! Consciously & green built. Built for the future! Great views! Includes adjacent lot. \$289,000



**4195C CAPRICE WAY:** 1 br, 1 bath, 1200 sf. Delightful creekside adobe-style home. Many windows, in-floor radiant. Must see. \$147,000



**512 E. MICA:** 1 br, 1 bath. Own a piece of paradise with this adorable off-grid cabin in town. Private location, 2/3 acre. Well, garage. \$116,000



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**635C PANORAMA:** 3 br, 2 bath, 1504 sf. Great floor plan, single-level living, high ceilings, beautiful natural light, quality-built, well-cared for, excellent location. \$195,000.



**4327 TRANQUIL WAY:** Sweet custom 2-story hexagon log home, private greenbelt/creek location. Upstairs master, expansive views, adjacent lot. \$189,000



505C Arrowhead Wy \$149,000. Representing the Buyer. Sold!

1967 Rocky View Wy \$425,000. Listing Agent. Sold!

1230C North Indian Bend Trail \$375,000. Working for the Buyer. Sold!

2676C Happy Hollow \$215,000. Representing the Buyer. Under Contract!

Lot 4402 Twinview Terrace \$9,000. Under Contract!

Lot 1552 Forest Hills OL \$4,000. Sold!

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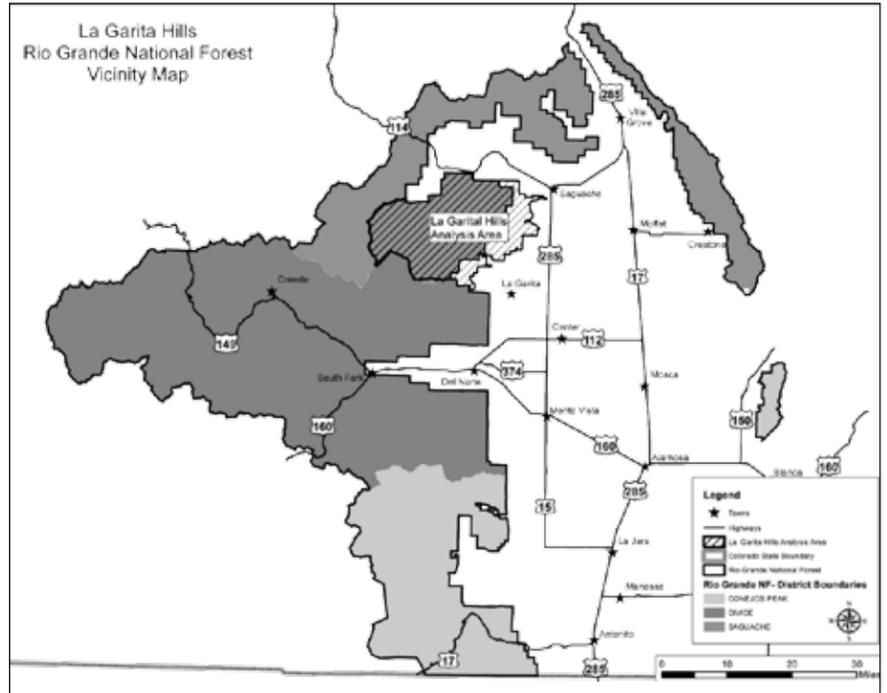
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**Spruce bark beetles and the  
La Garita Hills Restoration Project**

by Bea Ferrigno

At its May 14 meeting in Alamosa, the Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable (RGRT) heard from several representatives of the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management about the La Garita Hills Restoration Project. Over the past several years the endemic spruce beetle population has increased and wiped out huge stands of spruce in the Rio Grande National Forest. At present, the beetles have reached every pass in the area except Poncha and, according to a recent Colorado Field Institute lecture by Mike Blakeman, they have also appeared at the crest of the Sangre de Cristo Range. The beetles are carried on winds and thrive in blown-down trees and those stressed by drought. This is a natural occurrence that has not been observed on such a large scale since Colorado was settled.

The ongoing die-off has left trails littered with fallen trees and visitors to campgrounds at risk from standing deadwood. Trail crews clear their way in and often have to clear debris again on their way out. While it will not be possible to eradicate the beetles, a comprehensive plan to be executed over 10 to 15 years is being developed to protect visitors and staff and mitigate the environmental effects of widespread loss of trees. According to a May 9 press release on the Forest Service website, the plan will cover some 188,000 acres west and northwest of La Garita. The plan is still being developed but will include provisions to improve safety for the public and staff and protect infrastructure; reduce erosion and restore native plants in riparian areas; and salvage dead and dying trees for re-use and job creation.

An open house with presentations was held at the Saguache Ranger Station on May 23; information is also available from the Saguache Public Lands office at 719-655-2547. The Forest Service invites public input and has put up a user-friendly website with extensive details, maps, and a "reading room" for comments at: 1.usa.gov/16KwqUz

**Gov. Hickenlooper orders statewide water plan**

For the past few months members of the RGRT have been hearing that Governor Hickenlooper wants to develop a statewide water management plan. In mid-May at the meeting of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) the Governor ordered the actual work to begin, with a draft to be completed by December 10, 2014 and the plan to be in final form by the end of December 2015. According to a report by Chris Woodka in the *Pueblo Chieftain*, the plan will be compiled with input from several state agencies, the Interbasin Compact Committee and the basin roundtables "because they have developed a grassroots approach and a framework for discussing water issues." As Hickenlooper noted in his executive order, "other water plans have been created by federal agencies or for the purpose of obtaining federal dollars," but this plan will be the first to be "written by Coloradoans, for Coloradoans." The kickoff of planning to address a widening gap between water supplies and municipal, agricultural, and non-consumptive needs comes at a time of transition at the CWCB whose director is departing in June, and in the context of increasing concern about climate change, the ongoing drought, and the complexities of Colorado water law. Each basin roundtable has been directed to develop implementation plans for incorporation into the statewide plan.

**Crestone Botanical Garden**

Crestone Botanical Garden is open at Crestone Town Center, Mon. – Sat., 11am to 4pm. Shop locally for beautiful houseplants, garden starts and supplies, and quality youth artwork. Donations of plants, containers, etc. are welcome. This project is sponsored by the Town of Crestone and Saguache County to promote economic development for youth and disabled adults.

Your support is appreciated!

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION FROM  
THE BACA GRANDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Fire mitigation  
by Lisa Bodey,  
Public Education Officer**

While you are wrapping up your spring cleaning, consider spending a moment to tend to your property's accumulation of dead branches, debris and grasses to assist our community's fire mitigation efforts. There are lots of easy maintenance tasks that you can take care of to reduce your risk of loss in the event of a catastrophic wildfire. Choosing to live in a Wildland Urban Interface, we should *all* choose to take extra measures to do what is best for ourselves, our neighbors and entire community which includes being educated, aware and taking personal responsibility for our own property. Besides, you'll make way for fresher greener sprouts to rise up!

The FireWise ([www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)) program offers the following steps to reduce home ignition risk:

- Prune low hanging limbs to reduce ladder fuels
- Clean decks, porches, roofs and gutters of pine needles and dead leaves
- Keep flammable plants and mulches at least 5 feet away from your home's perimeter
- Use low-growing, well pruned and fire-resistive plants around home
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire screening no larger than 1/8" mesh
- Move woodpiles away from the home during non-winter months
- Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration
- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8" to prevent sparks from

entering the home

- Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry

The Colorado State University Extension Service ([ext.colostate.edu/pubs](http://ext.colostate.edu/pubs)) also offers FireWise materials and an extensive list of plants and vegetation which are considered fire resistant or will decrease the intensity of an encroaching wildfire. The moisture content of a plant is the single most important factor governing its volatility. Our area contains a high concentration of firs, pines and junipers which are part of the Conifer family and are very flammable due to their oil and pitch content, regardless of their water content. Deciduous plants are ones that annually lose their leaves, petals or fruit and they tend to be more fire resistant because their leaves have higher moisture content. Also, when deciduous trees are dormant, there is less fuel to carry fire through their canopies. Mulching your trees and plants with organic material such as wood chips can also help to conserve moisture content in the soil. Finally, remember to remove annual plants after they have gone to seed and dried and prune your plants and bushes to keep them more vibrant and succulent.

If the amount of work and material collection is feeling overwhelming for you, please consider hiring local youth through the Crestone Creative Council's Youth Work Force. They can bring additional rakes, shovels and jumbo sacks to help you collect tumbleweeds, dead grasses and small sticks. It will make your job easier and you will be helping the overall community with fire mitigation and employment.

## It's bear season again

by Colorado  
Parks & Wildlife

As inevitable as the sunrise comes the return of Colorado's black bears to the Crestone area. Another dry winter means that the ursines will be on the move looking far and wide for sources of food.

While there is enough food in the wild for bears, the animals will follow their noses if they pick up the scent of food. That will likely bring them into Crestone where they'll likely find garbage, food scraps, compost piles, chickens, goats, barbecue grills, pet food, bird feeders and unsecured trash cans. For a bear, all of those provide sources of food and, unfortunately, an easy opportunity to come into conflict with residents.

The good news in Crestone this year is that more and more residents are taking precautions to secure their trash, said Ron Rivale, District Wildlife Manager for Colorado Parks and Wildlife. More businesses than last year are now using bear-proof dumpsters, more residents are taking care to secure their trash cans and several people who own fruit trees have set up electrified fences to protect their orchards.

"We're seeing that more people are being diligent about their trash and watching out for bears -- that's great," Rivale said. "Every action taken by anyone to secure garbage is going to help reduce conflicts with wildlife."

But there is always more work to do, Rivale said. Everyone who wants to protect fruit trees should install electric fencing, and there are still too many old dumpsters in town with flimsy plastic covers. Homeowners should obtain bear-resistant trash cans.

People who are keeping small livestock such as chickens and goats should build secure enclosures which allow the animals to graze during the day, but the animals should be taken inside at night.

"Odors from small animals will attract bears from long distances. So it's important to keep pens and cages clean," Rivale said.

Bird feeders also are a major attractant to bears and are the cause of many conflicts.

"It's easy to attract birds to your yard naturally with hanging flower baskets and a simple bird bath. Birds don't need to be fed during the summer, so we encourage people to take down their bird feeders," Rivale said. "Bears are very smart and have good memories. Once they've gotten food from one bird feeder, they'll know that any other feeder offers a big food reward."

Because many visitors come to Crestone every year who are not familiar with wildlife, local

residents are also asked to talk to guests about being "bear aware."

Bear conflicts are prevalent throughout Colorado's mountain communities and ongoing public education efforts have not been effective in convincing many people to take care of their refuse. Consequently, wildlife officers will be strict about enforcing rules that protect people and wildlife, said Rick Basagoitia, area wildlife manager for the San Luis Valley. That means that residents who repeatedly attract bears to their property will be warned, instructed on how to eliminate the attractants and told of the consequences of receiving a ticket. Repeat violators will be ticketed; the fines: \$100 for the first offense, \$500 for the second offense, \$1,000 for the third offense.

"If just one person in a neighborhood is allowing bears to get into their garbage, that will affect everyone and could put many people and properties in danger," Basagoitia said. "Parks and Wildlife must provide public safety. We don't like to write tickets, but we will if problems continue at a business or residence."

Crestone residents, like people in most mountain towns, love local wildlife and know the thrill of seeing wild critters in a natural setting. Indeed that's what makes this area special and unique. However, just because wildlife can co-exist with humans doesn't mean that we can treat them the way we do our pets, Basagoitia explained.

A bear with cubs that finds easy sources of human food sets up an even more complicated and dangerous situation. "Cubs are taught by their mother. If they learn to eat from garbage cans they'll never learn to find food in the wild and they'll cause conflicts in town and be dangerous their whole lives. Feeding them hurts them, it doesn't help them. It's inevitable that those bears will eventually be euthanized," Basagoitia explained.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife also recommends that residents not allow bears to become comfortable in a neighborhood, around town or near residences. Admire their beauty, but then yell at them, make noise, throw rocks at them to let them know that their home is in the wild, not in the town of Crestone.

Everyone is also encouraged to report problems such as a neighbor feeding bears or other wildlife, or bears exhibiting aggressive or dangerous behavior.

For more information, call the Parks and Wildlife office in Monte Vista at 719-587-6900.

Check out tips on living with bears, plus links with more information at [crestoneeagle.com/bears](http://crestoneeagle.com/bears)





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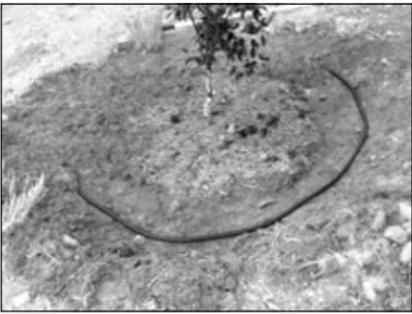


# As the Worm Turns

## Irrigation install

by Leigh Mills

Even though we've received some wonderful moisture lately, we might have another dry summer here in the San Luis Valley. It's challenging enough to grow plants without having to water them every day, too. Due to financial constraints and personal enjoyment, I've been hand watering our gardens for many years. When I was working with the Saguache Community Garden, I designed and installed a drip irri-



This shows the irrigation lines around the cherry tree while I was testing the water delivery. Half of the tree's mulch has been replaced and you can see the water coming out of the lines where they haven't been covered.

gation system for their raised beds. The first time I turned on the water, set the timer and walked away was life changing. I knew I had to get the Heyokah garden hooked up.

The initial financial investment for a drip irrigation system can be large. We definitely spent a few hundred dollars getting all the lines and accessories for our large garden. It took a bit of time to design the system and a couple of hours picking out the parts at Murdoch's in Salida.

Installing the system was a large task. Our garden is varied and each bed has a different watering requirement. I started with something easy and hooked up the cherry trees first. I set out the delivery lines and weighed them down with rocks until I could tack them in place with homemade metal "U" pins. I used parts like "T" couplers and "Y" nozzles with on/off switches. The Dripworks website helps describe the many different irrigation parts and how they can be used, (Dripworks.com). I ended up creating my own design for a lot of the beds.

The cherry trees have a 1" delivery line that is split with a "T" couple. I decided to just poke holes in the line and see how that worked instead of using expensive, fancy spray ends. First I removed some of the mulch around the tree. Then I set the delivery line and poked holes into the tube. I turned on the water to see the results, and enough water was being allowed to soak in without drowning the tree. Last, I covered the lines up with the mulch so the water would be delivered next to the soil and protected from the sun's evaporative power.

The next section I installed went to a raised bed with mature squash and bean plants. I used a multi-headed adapter and secured four 1/4" lines on one post. I used a variety of delivery tubes. There was a soaker hose design and I wove that around the bush beans, anchoring the hose with lots of those "U" pins. I used a solid 1/4"



Here's a faucet with some of the "Y" couplers, and the timer for one section. It was wonderful to turn on the water and timer and walk away! The garden sections that had the irrigation lines got watered very well and efficiently. It saved me time and I got to do other garden tasks like harvesting, weeding and just enjoying life.



This quad head attachment was a bit expensive. Once I got the hang of installing the other parts of the garden's system, I really didn't need the other three I bought. It works well, for what it is, though.

line for the squash and installed little spray heads to deliver the water right at the base of the plants.

The finishing touches were putting plain timers at the faucets so all I had to do was turn on the water, set the timer and walk away. I plan to get the rest of the Heyokah Homestead garden hooked up to the irrigation system this month. It really helps with the work load, especially when there's not much rain from Father Sky.

Leigh Mills has lived, gardened, preserved food and saved seeds in the San Luis Valley for over 10 years. She's written the "As the Worm Turns" column for three years and has started a gardening blog called *The Infinite Bee*. If you enjoy reading her monthly, visit her daily



This is a picture of the parts I bought before I started installing the system. I suggest researching online or talking to other folks who have drip irrigation systems to see what works for them. It can be a bit intimidating and very expensive to just walk into the store and try to figure out what to get.

at *TheInfiniteBee.com*, where she welcomes your comments, questions, and suggestions about gardening, saving seeds, and practicing life.



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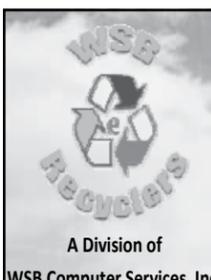
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# In Search of Economic Reality

*Student achievement matters more & more, except in the valley*

by Ed Lyell PhD.

The Colorado State Board of Education just changed requirements for awarding high school diplomas away from just seat time in school to measurable student achievement in reading, writing, science and mathematics.

Many of us pushed for this change since the 1980s, knowing that what really matters is what students know and can demonstrate, not how many hours they spent in school. The new requirements require high level ACT scores and other demonstrations of actual knowledge learned as Europe and Asia have done for decades. All state funding should be awarded only for the demonstration of skills, not seat time. Schools would have incentives to teach smarter, use more technology, and create student-engaged learning systems.

Major improvement only comes when we abolish the standard one-teacher-to-one-classroom model. We need smarter teachers using more technology with multiple active learning projects. "The most important pre-collegiate indicator of your success in college is the academic intensity of your high school curriculum . . . "One step beyond Algebra 2 in high school will

double the odds that you will finish college," (Institute for Higher Education Policy). Schools like the Denver School for Science and Technology and the Crestone Charter School have proven that with better methods you can educate even low income students to qualify for top level university admissions, without need for remediation.

The 14 school district superintendents in the valley have again come out against higher standards for high school graduation. The state board has proposed ACT or national testing standards higher than current valley averages. In the *Valley Courier* one superintendent said: "Let's be honest . . . How many kids would end up with a diploma the way that is structured?" Yet districts now dishonor the good students who meet these higher standards when diplomas also go to the lazy and illiterate. A recent op-ed from the Adams State University president focused on the need for students to take more personal responsibility. Yet giving students passing grades and diplomas for limited achievement fails to teach personal responsibility and encourages a culture of entitlement without work.

Valley schools currently have

high graduation levels only because they count seat time, which districts keep reducing, without concern for what students actually learn. Universities, including Adams State, let these ill prepared students start college even though more than half need remedial courses. We also know that less than half of the poorly prepared students will graduate even with massive amounts of student support and remedial courses. Since the taxpayers and students pay these extra costs, weak diplomas are a form of consumer fraud. This fraud starts when a district gives diplomas that falsely label students as competent when they are not, except in age and perhaps sports performance. New incentives could require students to be proficient in each subject to be eligible for sports. Why not make the high school pay the cost for the remedial education?

In an ever increasing globalized world, what matters is intelligence. Jobs for the poorly educated have gone away and will never come back. (For more information on massive world changes read Al Gore's new book, *The Future*). So we must improve the

quality of our human workers or continue to lower the quality of our economic lives. Higher levels of unemployable adults is already moving America to Third World levels of living. Americans work more hours for half the income of better educated northern European and high performing Asian countries.

School boards and superintendents continue to be wrong when they blame their failures on community poverty or a lack of funding. Utah spends the least money per student and has the highest student achievement. Finland has the world's highest student performance with less time and days in school. Our problems are not money or time issues, but a failure of expectations, ideas and a willingness to model what we know works.

*Ed Lyell, PhD, is professor of business and economics at Adams State University, and a former member of the Colorado State Board of Education and State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education.*

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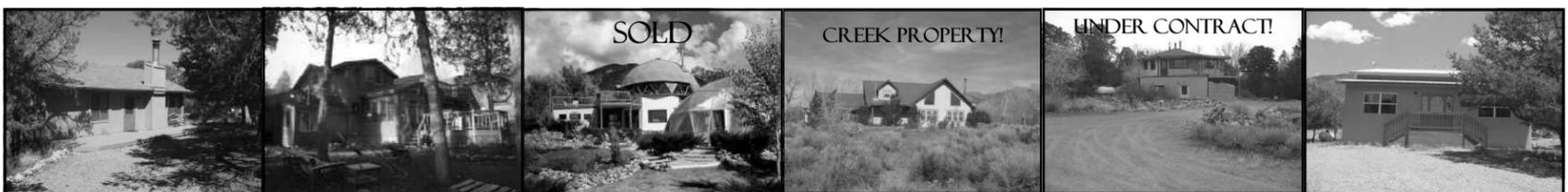
780 Palomino Overlook  
\$520,000



1453 Wagon Wheel Road  
\$319,000



401 C Chapparral Way  
\$195,000



31 Sunset Overlook  
\$139,000



400 W Galena Avenue  
\$275,000



4179 Rarity Way  
\$347,400



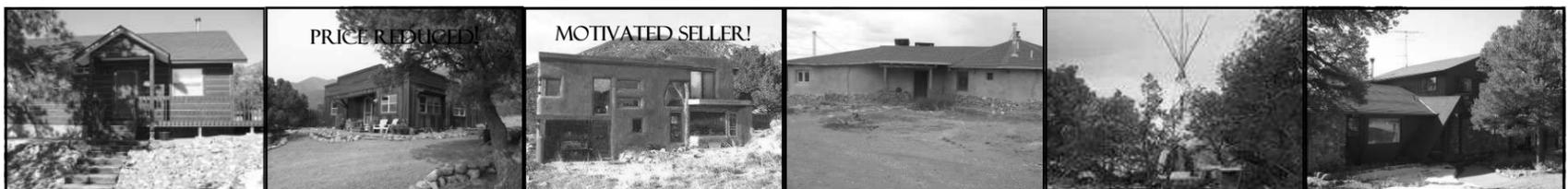
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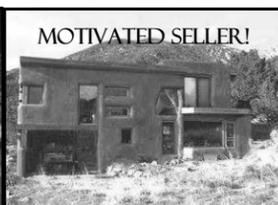
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Kumbh crowds.

## Maha Kumbha Mela

*continued from page B-1*

discrimination. She later called the Kumbh “a volcano of spiritual energy,” seeing with her “astral eyes” the mandals (patterned celestial worlds) of the spiritual traditions represented there. Yet to experience the politics behind the Mela, we cringed for Maiyashri, one of few women in this male domain, being at its mercy. Yet to all eruptions, she merely replied, “It’s the Kumbh!”

I did bathe in the Prayag twice, fearful of melted Himalayan waters on February mornings when breath was visible. But the river, once I entered, had been warmed to coolness by millions of bodies. And to behold

them spread out like a sea! Then to be in the thick of that humanity, often not knowing how motion was possible! My experience, both times, was more joyful, actually glorious, than I can explain. Something of the goddess nature of these rivers must have been communicated, for afterwards my body felt peaceful, deeply at ease.

We marveled at the Kumbh’s fabulous temporality, even temples 64’ square and 40’ high. Like a sand-painting pains-takingly completed that Tibetan monks then sweep away, monsoon-like storms erased the Kumbh earlier than planned in a month that never sees rain. To see dozens of people taking shelter under a lorry, anywhere they could find. Yet it was the Kumbh! Barely getting out of Allahabad (we’d pondered trains, but heard how one man, 1st-class ticket in hand, resorted to a taxi at scalping prices because 30,000 people on the railway platform prevented his reaching his train). We made it out by bus, then barely got out of Delhi—that the Lord was “at our side”, we’ve no doubt.

The Kumbh was awesome, fantastic, overwhelming, ancient, strange, spectacular—any of 1,000 adjectives will all be accurate. So what remains? A lifetime experience unique in all humanity, profound and wild, disconcerting and deified, unforgettable, unrepeatable . . . now tucked into the vast corridors of time. We could say, “We’ve seen it all!” which wouldn’t be true. But it’ll not stop informing us.

One day the walkway up to our guesthouse got paved (during our time at camp). Returning that night, we stode up not-quite-dry cement. Somewhere on Allahabad’s Ganges shore our footprints stand as evidence of our month-long continuing mystery in the timeless Maha Kumbha Mela.



Prickly pear cactus

## There’s No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

Prickly Pear (Opuntia spp.)



One plant that is in great abundance in the Crestone area is Prickly Pear. As you carefully step over these cactuses on your hikes, did you realize that Prickly Pear is not only a medicinal herb but also a great first aid plant and a wild edible?

Prickly Pear pads (which are the stems) of course need to be harvested with care! The spines can be burned off, or scraped off with a knife or a stone. The tiny spine hairs or glochids can be more of a problem than the larger spines! The pads can then be sliced in half or skinned and filleted for use as a poultice.

For first aid use, the pads as prepared above can be used as a poultice for rattlesnake bites, spider bites or scorpion bites. Place the cut side down on the bite and wrap it in place. The poultice should be changed every several hours. Prickly Pear has a great ability to draw poison out of such a wound! The pads can also be used as a poultice for any burns, including sunburn, or any type of inflammation. The Spanish New Mexicans have baked or heated Prickly Pear pads and used them as a poultice for any kind of swelling, including swollen glands due to mumps, and breast infections in nursing mothers.

The juice of Prickly Pear pads can be useful as an anti-inflammatory diuretic in bladder infections. As our late, beloved, colorful southwestern

herbalist, Michael Moore says, “For Honeymoon Cystitis, when two frenzied folks have partaken of each other in such giddy abandon that they both waddle crablike and bowlegged for days, the juice helps sooth irritated urethral tissue; take a teaspoon or two every two hours until both can walk at full height for fifty feet.”

The fruits of Prickly Pear have traditionally been used for lowering blood sugar levels in diabetics. I haven’t noticed any fruits large or succulent enough to be used this way here in Crestone. Perhaps a patch could be cultivated and given extra water if that was a concern.

As far as edibility, in places where the fruits are larger they are eaten raw, or can be made into jelly or syrup. The pads can be seasoned and fried; some say boiling in salted water first helps the flavor.

So enjoy our abundant Prickly Pears! And perhaps this knowledge will give them some well-deserved respect!

Dorje will be leading several herb walks in June. Stay tuned to the *Eagle* calendar, Facebook and Dorje’s website for dates.

*Dorje Root 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*



Brahmi on our guesthouse roof.



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JUNE 2013 Listings



**Under Contract**



**3615C Splendid Terrace - \$239,000**  
This spacious & bright 1938sf, 3bd/2.5ba, southwestern style home sits on 1.79acres. Guest house w/full bath + kitchenette.



**233CR Sweetgrass OL - \$219,000**  
This strawbale 1792sf 2bd/1ba home plus loft built in 1995 on 2.24 acres close to town with lovely fenced garden area. Radiant floor heat + woodstove. New Listings!



**2676C Happy Hollow Wy - \$215,000**  
Great value on this 2bd/2ba/office home on .927 acre w/sustainable systems, grow dome, yurt, orchards & watering systems. Very nice.



**3435C W. Graceful Ct - \$184,999**  
Private 3bd/2ba, 1872sf 2-story newer frame home on 1.467 acres in CH2 w/ wood floors, wood stove, good views, & 436sf wrap-deck.



**3486C Graceful Way - \$179,900**  
3000+sf, 5bd/2.75ba home w. separate studio apartment, sun-room, radiant floor heat, oversized garage, courtyard/garden, an AMAZING \$83/sf!



**2721 Happy Hollow Wy - \$149,000**  
This ~1000sf, 1-1/2 story, 2bd/1ba cottage has a beautiful front rock exterior. Amazing views in quiet neighborhood close to retreat centers.



**294C Palomino Way - \$159,000**  
1 or 2 bdrm, 1ba, 1141sf home on 1.1 acres. Close to town, private w/ bamboo fenced yard & custom iron gates. Cherry woodwork, stained glass windows, window seats.

**New Listings**



**3919 Cordial Way - \$299,000**  
Two story, 3BD/2.5BA ~2400 sf home has a walled courtyard & 4 intimate decks w/ great views. Southwest style home gracefully adorned with fine details and finishes.



**1447 Chaparral Way - \$212,000**  
This 1440sf 2bd/2ba home-complete remodel with bamboo flooring, Jenn-Air stainless appliances, maple cabinets, granite countertops, travertine bathrooms, ma ba soak tub.



**3356C Camino Del Rey - \$210,000**  
2 story, 1981sf, 2bd/1.75ba home w/ passive solar sunroom - great views on .864 acres. Master suite w/ clawfoot tub, pine floors, pellet stove. Propane heat, great appliances.



**2747CR Easy Way - \$180,000**  
A unique 2 story, 1768sf, 3bd/2ba home in Chalet 2, 1.86 acres. Brick floors, rock walls, wood ceilings. Passive solar w/ ETS heater, propane heater & woodstove. Detached shed.



**364 E Birch Trail - \$89,900**  
**Was \$115,000**  
1207sf + Greenhouse on 10+ acres (Lots 362-365). Horse property, strawbale, solar off-grid.



**Townhouse 6 - \$199,000**  
Renovated & furnished 3bd/3ba 1622sf single-level townhouse w. granite tile counters, pantry, arch & walled courtyard.



**Townhouse 9 - \$159,000**  
2-story 2bd/2ba 1480sf corner townhouse with mountain views. Wrap around patio and balcony. Peaceful & relaxing. Immaculate condition.

**Town of Crestone**



**345 S. Cedar, Crestone - \$189,000**  
1434sf 3bd/2ba Cottage Neighborhoods. Downtown Crestone, walk to the grocery stores, Post Office, bank, shopping, restaurants & new school.



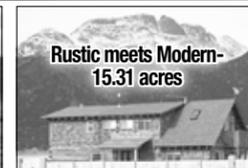
**370 South Alder - \$187,500**  
Flexible space with 5 BD/2BA or two separate units. 1950sf. Part of Cottage Neighborhoods downtown Crestone.



**375 S. Cedar - \$142,500**  
Charming 2-story home filled with light, 1100sf, 2bd/1ba Conveniently located in downtown Crestone. Easy walk to stores, restaurants, bank, post office and Charter School.



**573C Cottonwood Creek Tr \$324,000**  
1855sf 2bd/1.75 on 8.59acres. Garage 808sf. Fine finishes. Open floorplan. Views. Additional land available. Exquisite!



**358 Birch Road - \$289,000**  
Off grid home with 3bd/2ba, office, 2nd living room, modern efficient kitchen & elegant bathrooms-an inspired renovation. Natural light, expansive & unobstructed views.



**1381 Saddlerock Trail - \$159,000**  
Cute 1100sf 2bd/1ba strawbale home. Solar hot water, radiant heat bamboo floors, sunroom, views, courtyard. Garden and Shed



**1234C Brookview NOW - \$459,000**  
Lee Mitchell custom home. 2400sf 3BD/2.5BA/Office/attached 2 car garage, balconies. Magnificent Views.

**Baca Grande Properties**



**786C Panorama Way - \$427,000**  
This Lee Mitchell custom 3bd/2ba/ SR/library/balconies ~2400sf home with fabulous gardens sits on 2.14 acres w 2-car garage/studio.



**1342 Badger Rd - NOW \$325,000**  
2bd/1.75ba/office/screen porch/ 864sf 2-car garage. SW-style home on 13.5 acres. Backs to creek/trees, 2 stalls/paddocks/pastures. Expansive views.



**1540C Willow Creek Wy \$315,000**  
This classic farmhouse has 3bd/2.5ba, large deck w/hot tub, 2 screen porches, hardwood floors, large studio w/bath & kitchenette.



**4262C Serene Way - \$299,900**  
Immaculate 2500sf 3-level home on .98ac, 5bd/2.75ba. Walkout basement includes den/yoga room, radiant floor heat, bricked patio.



**733C N. Rendezvous OL - \$295,000**  
This 1972sf 2bd/1.75ba/large studio/office Southwestern style strawbale home is located on 1.14 acres at end of secluded cul-de-sac. Adjacent lots avail.



**1202 Hilltop Way - \$295,000**  
Lee Mitchell custom-built, 3bd/2ba home on 5-Chalet 1 lots. Fine finishes, radiant floor heat & framed views.



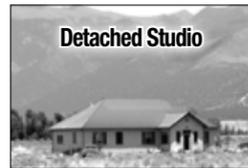
**22 Alpine Way - \$295,000**  
CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch & wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!



**1647C Willow Creek Way - \$269,000**  
Brand New Terrapin Construction. 1780sf 3bd/2ba home on 1.98 acres with 2 decks + flagstone patio/walkways. Backs to Greenbelt Views.



**1216C Chaparral Way - \$259,000**  
Immaculate 3bd/2.5ba custom home built by Keith Teahen on 1.132acres. Beautiful master suite w/ elegant master bath. Located on quiet street.



**1234 Laredo Trail - \$265,000**  
This strawbale 1831sf 3bd/2ba home has detached studio on 1.86 acres with magnificent views. Fine finishes, diamond plastered walls, open floorplan. Master suite with soak tub.



**1738C Willow Creek - Way \$239,000**  
New Paul Koppa strawbale eco-friendly home high in Chalet 1. 2bd/2ba, 1532sf on .91acres. Strong passive solar. Solar radiant floor heat & domestic hot water. Energy efficient.



**3869C Jubilant Terrace - \$235,000**  
10 sided two story home on 2.08 acres on greenbelt w. creek. Private cul-de-sac. 360° views/large deck. Possible Owner Financing



**764 Indian Hill OL - \$232,000**  
This sunny 3 bedroom 2 bath ~1800+ sq. ft. home. 2 living areas- with magnificent views from interior & deck. Detached 576 sq.ft garage & studio. Open plan & energy efficient.



**4511C Ridgecrest Way - \$239,000**  
Straw bale home 1.59 acres Backs to greenbelt and national park. 2 adjacent building lots available. Built by Paul Koppa.



**4114C Cordial Way - \$217,000**  
2171sf 3bd/2ba w/loft and extra room up on 1.021 acres of wooded lot. Decks and 2 car garage. Rastra walls. Spacious open floor plan. Adjacent lot available.



**2664 Happy Hollow - \$215,000**  
This spacious 2356sf home On 1.041 acres with 4bd/2ba, 2 separate dining areas + gardens, carport & workshop! Large windows-sunshine & awesome views. Passive solar & woodstove.



**451C Chaparral - \$209,000**  
1543-sf 2BD/1BA w/ sunroom, great room, patios. Roof top balcony with exquisite tree-top views. On 1.921 acres..



**3713 Enchanted Way - \$195,000**  
Beautiful Southwest style 1460sf 2bd/1.75 ba. Feat: jetted tub & shower in m-bath, aspen ceilings, radiant floor heat, wood burning stove, terrace & pond. Adj. lot incl.



**1740C Willow Creek Way - \$185,000**  
This 1 1/2 story home located on 1.32 acres has 3bd/2ba with a downstairs studio. In addition it has a glassed-in sunroom with magnificent views. Wood floors downstairs.



**2681C Happy Hollow Wy \$179,000**  
Custom 2000sf home on 1.427 acres. 3bd/1.75ba/study or 4th bd w/separate entrance. Flexible open floor plan. Hot tub, gardens, carport.



**1573C Kings Hill OL - \$169,000**  
Bright 3bd/2ba renovated 1480sf 1 1/2 level home with large south-facing windows & view deck on .84 acres. Easy access, paved roads.



**3485 E. Graceful Ct - \$159,000**  
Open floor plan - 2bd/1.75 ba w/lrg eastern deck Oversized kitchen, ETS heater, wood stove. Spacious ma bdrm/ba w/long soak tub. Views.



**3736 Jubilant Way - \$149,000**  
Lovely 3bd/1ba home on 1.152 acres, protected views. Large loft master bedroom. Tongue & groove aspen ceilings, honeycomb window coverings, wood stove, garden & shed



**151 Moonlight Way - \$119,000**  
Greenbelt/creek setting. 3bd/2ba 1456sf home w/2 car garage. Open floor plan, large deck, close to paved roads.

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# DISPATCH

from the edge

by Peter Anderson

Consider the following story I heard recently. As an old Wyoming storyteller used to say, "it may not have happened *exactly* like this, but that don't mean it ain't true." In other words, what follows is fiction.

A climber had just come down from a day on the rock. It was a good day. He had scoped out a new route and cleaned off the loose rock to make it safe for other climbers. When he came down, he went over to the creek where he had stashed a few beers. He popped open a cold one and looked back up at the route with a new appreciation for all the minute crevices and ledges that his hands and feet had found, contours of the rock that no one else would likely notice. Lost in a moment of reverie, he was surprised to hear a voice from the other side of the creek: "What were you doing up there?"

"Excuse me?" he said, slightly startled.

"That place where you were climbing is sacred," the man said. "You shouldn't be up there moving the rocks around."

"I am pretty sure this is public land," he replied.

"Well, it may be, but it's also sacred." The man went on to describe a shamanic vision he had experienced while spending the night in a nearby camp, which had altered his understanding of the world. The canyon wall where the climber had been was energetically unique, he claimed, and for that reason should be left as is. In other words, no moving the rocks around.

"Climbing is a kind of prayer for me wherever I am because the whole planet is sacred," the climber said. "On the rock, I often feel clear and connected to something bigger than myself. Maybe even transformed. Up there," the climber said, pointing back at the rock, "I was just clearing a way for other climbers to have that experience."

As I've been thinking about this story, I've been led me to three questions:

1. What makes a place sacred?

2. Who decides that it is?

3. How should we respond?

These are big questions for a short essay. Nevertheless, here are a few thoughts.

Are some places energetically charged, as the camper in the previous scenario suggests, so that they are inherently sacred? Maybe. I was a big fan of Carlos Castenada's books many years ago, in which he described his encounters with a Yaqui shaman named Don Juan.

(By the way, I think my Wyoming friend's words also apply to Castenada's books.) His stories convinced me that certain places can have a particular spiritual resonance. I've certainly had experiences in wild places that I consider significant, if not spiritually transformative, but does that mean they are sacred or they should be thought of as such way by anyone else? Not necessarily.

On the other hand, many sacred places begin with an individual's transformative experience. Almost any religion bears that out. If religious stories have anything to offer us, shouldn't we keep that in mind? Yes. Does that mean we need to cordon off any place where someone has had such an experience? I don't think so.

Personally, I like the old Celtic expression that in certain places, "the veil is thin," meaning that the atmospherics in a given place may encourage awareness of bigger realities than we usually encounter in our daily routines. Pretty quickly though, the idea of uniquely sacred places leads me into a philosophical quagmire. Since I believe, like the climber, that the entire planet is holy and, as such, deserves our respect, I run into problems if I say that one piece of the earth is more sacred than the rest of it is.

Focusing too much on especially beautiful, unique, or otherwise spectacular places as sacred, I believe, can cause us to miss out on the magic of the mundane. Victor Frankl taught us that even a homely tree in a concentration camp courtyard can electrify one's

perspective and offer hope in a hopeless place. In other words, the quality of experience I think of as sacred can happen anywhere. To believe otherwise, I believe, is to limit our experience as humans.

In my mind, there's an innate holy quality in the natural world (ie air, water, soil, etc.), and therefore the earth. We (and I mean "we" to include all life forms, not just humans) can't live without it. If life is precious and holy, then so are the elements that support it. Simple. What's not so simple are the ways we name the sacred, based on individual and cultural experience, and the ways we respond to that. That leads me into questions two and three.

Who decides a place is sacred? Well, anyone can, but unless others agree with them, it remains sacred only to that individual. An individual belief becomes a community or cultural designation only when a larger group of people decide that it is. In the previous scenario, the camper's belief that a particular canyon wall is sacred may be his own, or may be held by others in a group that shares his particular shamanic orientation. The climber's view, that any rock face is sacred because it is part of a much larger sacred place, the planet, is a more widely held view. That's not to say that one person is right and

the other is wrong. It's only to say that there are more people who would understand the climber's notion of what's sacred and why.

Still, the way we respond to the claim that a place is sacred comes about as a result of consensus. Should we, for example, prohibit the thinning of trees in a greenbelt because all of life or a particular tree is sacred and should therefore be left untouched? I don't think so, but there are those in our community who might make this argument. I think that taking out old trees makes room for new growth and also lessens the likelihood of a catastrophic fire. If you believe in wildlife biologist Aldo Leopold's land ethic as I do, sometimes death may be as sacred as life if it "tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community."

So where does this leave me with respect to the camper and the climber? I certainly feel empathy for the camper's perspective. I can think of numerous places that I revere based on personal experiences. Should these places be left unaltered? I don't think so. The world we live in is more dynamic than that. We have our impacts no matter what. The key, I believe, is to do so with all the care and respect we can muster.



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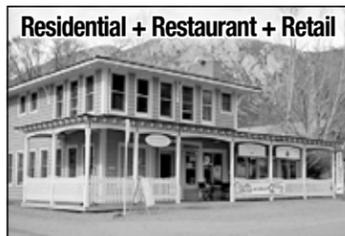


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by **Suzanne McGregor**

Calling all youngsters! The summer reading program at the library will start on Wednesday, June 5 from 10:30-11:30am and will continue every Wednesday

for eight weeks. The program, "Dig Into Reading," is for toddlers through grade school age and will be presented by Penny from the Saguache Public Library. She has been doing the reading program there for many years and has lots of stories, arts and crafts projects, and a reading contest (with prizes!) to share with our youngsters. There is no charge for the program, and registration forms are available in the library. Drop-ins are welcome, and healthy snacks will be served. Parents are welcomed to stay for the program if they choose to do so. The Friends of the Library

(FOL) is always seeking new community members for input and direct involvement in developing fundraising projects and planning activities for a new library. Folks have been asking, "When do we move to our new library?" but please ask, "How can I help?" The FOL needs the participation of many community members to move it forward successfully. Please ask at the library for meeting schedules and for more information on this group.

If you have time for volunteering for this very worthwhile community service, there is a spot for

you here. Folks are needed for our fundraisers on July 4 and at the Crestone Music Festival, the first weekend of August. Also, please fill out the survey available at the library—there will be drop boxes around town.

Remember Margaret Mead's famous quote—"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

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

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you can link to these lodging websites online at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

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# Classifieds

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\$12 for the first 175 characters + \$1 for 25 additional characters + \$2 for live link online from our website to your website or email. This fee includes 30 days online (from date of approval), and 1 month in the Eagle print version. Payment must accompany ad. Pay online or send to: The Crestone Eagle, Box 101, Crestone, CO, 81131. Deadline: Ads & payments must be received by the 22nd of the month to be included in the print version.

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

### Houses & Property for Sale

#### BEAUTIFUL CREEK LOTS

Baca Chalet II Cottonwood Creek, 3 contiguous lots, near Caprice/Camino Baca Grande. Tap fees/taxes paid. Heavily wooded, deep greenbelt. \$74K. Terms possible. 719-937-1039

#### For Sale – Great Views!

For sale by owner, 3 BR, 2 BA home in chalet I on 2.79 acres (5 consolidated lots) with detached 1 car garage, fantastic views of both mountains and valley, \$240,000, call 588-3243 for details.

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

#### House for Sale

house for sale: chalets 2 baca grande, crestone, co.; as is, u finish, needs work; call Boone at 719 429 9502; must cell quick to get tons of chia for colorado kids

#### Baca Homes/Lots

1)35A + 2 victorian homes 2) strawbale 2bd/2b Spanish Creek green home 3) new custom built Cottonwood Creek green home 2-3bd/1&1/2b. Choice lots. soularquest@fairpoint.net// 719-256-4645.

#### Stupa House for Sale

5 Bed 3 bath Eagle view next to mountain, 2.5 acres 2700 sq feet Owner financing, realtors welcome 345k, 719-256-5439

#### Best lot in Saguache

For sale by owners. Last, Best, Large lot in Saguache. SE corner of 2nd St and San Juan Ave. See to enjoy. Call for details. Jeremy @303 818 8362 or email: uhlenbrockj@yahoo.com.

#### Priced to sell!

Lot #873 Baca Grants. Incredible views of Sangre de Cristos, Sand Dunes and Mt. Blanca. 3.38 acres. All taxes & dues current. \$5000. woodmandesign@fairpoint.net; 719-937-3767.

#### Great house for Sale

For Sale: 3 BR, 1.5 BA 1600 sq ft home in Chalet I, recently remodeled completely including laminate flooring, carpeting, plumbing, electrical and stucco exterior, \$170,000, call 719-588-3243 for details.

#### Commercial Property at the front door of Baca Grande

For Sale by Owner, Camino Baca Grande Professional Center – Income producing. Serious inquiries only. (719)256-5798, (719)480-9929 or (808)255-4046.F

#### Chalet I House for Sale

For Sale, 2 BR, 2 BA home in chalet I near park with attached two car garage, \$140,000, call 719-588-3243 for details.

#### 3 PRIMO VIEW LOTS IN CHALET 1

Lots 459/460/461, 1/2 acre each w/ separate tap fees paid. Beautiful quiet neighborhood. #461 \$15,000/#459 & 460 \$25,000/all 3 lots \$35,000. lynele@gmail.com or 303-785-8995

#### Strawbale House in Town

Strawbale house in Town, 1BD, 1BA, 840sf plus basement, zoned commercial/residential, non-toxic healthy materials, solar electric, passive solar and wood heat, many trees, 375 E. Galena. Now \$120K. 719-256-5670

#### GREAT LOTS FOR SALE

Chalet II, lot 2212, Spanish Creek Frontage! Tap paid, WS, \$13,000. Chalet I, lot 574, greenbelt, spectacular views, WS, \$6,500. Lot 528, Panorama & Moonlight, WS, \$3000. OBO. Call 588-8727.

#### passive solar home

Beautiful Split level passive solar home in Saguache. 4 bedrooms/4 bathrooms . Professional stainless appliances in commercial kitchen. Vaulted ceilings, straw bale walls surrounding and completely fenced. Private courtyards and new paver patio for entertaining. Water features, garden beds and fruit trees. 2 car attached garage with additional 2nd kitchen in back for canning. Sun room, wood stove and gas heat. Tool shed. New copper metal roof Newly remodeled. Views of the mountains and cliffs. Can be used as a B and B. Recently appraised for 235,000. Best offer over 200,000. by owner 970-210-2726. See on greenhomesforsale.com Click on Colorado and then Saguache.

### Houses for Rent

#### Spacious Rental with Great Amenities

Lovely, quiet, thoughtfully furnished strawbale home. Retreatant & family friendly, large loft w/ 1 King + 2 twins, sleeps 4 + 1.r. futon couch/bed, sundeck views, WiFi, TV, stereo. Nightly, weekly. 719-256-4498. kaibeetch@gmail.com, www.beetchhouse.com

#### Housesitter wanted

Housesitter wanted to care for cats and gardens for 3-4 months while I am away. Catherine 256-4248

#### Spacious house for Rent

3 BR, 2 BA, 1600 square foot home w/ storage shed. Wood stove, ETS unit, EBB backup. W/D, D/W. \$700/month plus utilities. First/last/deposit. 1 year lease. Pet negotiable. www.crestonegenie.com photos. 719-937-7786/7796

#### Stupa House for Rent

Stupa House 5BD 3BA home Chalet II, near upper stupa & Vajra Vidya next to the mountain. ELF efficient heaters. Can be rented fully furnished/\$1290 or unfurnished/\$1190. Lease 719-256-5439.

#### NATURAL STRAWBALE HOME

2 BDRM, 1 bath off-grid strawbale home. Beautiful natural light, bamboo floors. Solar electric and well water. \$775 electric and water included. 256-4393. Available immediately.

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#### Retreat Home, Great Views

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### NOTICE OF VACANCY

#### MOFFAT SCHOOL BOARD

There is a vacancy on the Moffat Consolidated School District #2 Board of Education At Large District #1. Persons interested in being considered for appointment by the present Board to serve as a Board member until the next regular election in November 2013 should submit a letter of intention to serve along with a brief résumé to:

Board of Education, Moffat Consolidated School District #2  
P.O. Box 428, 501 Garfield Avenue, Moffat, CO 81143

Letters and résumés may be directed to Moffat School by one of the following methods:

- Faxed to the District Office at 719-256-4730
- Email to khazard@mof-fatschools.org
- U.S. Mail to the address above
- Delivered in person to the District Office at the address above during regular business hours of Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

All letters and résumés to be considered for the Board must be received in the Office of the Superintendent by Monday, June 17, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

To be appointed by the Board, you must be at least 18 years of age, be a citizen of the United States and a resident of School District and be registered to vote for at least one year. This is a great opportunity to serve your community.

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*continued to  
Page B-14*



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### Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent

#### TOWN OF CRESTONE PUBLIC NOTICES

**Ordinance #2013-005**, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2002-2 (An Ordinance Adopting A Sewage Collection System For The Town Of Crestone, Colorado)"

Approved: May 13th, 2013  
Kairina Danforth, Mayor

**Ordinance #2013-006**, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2008-006 (An Ordinance Creating A Municipal Water System For The Town Of Crestone)"

Approved: May 13th, 2013  
Kairina Danforth, Mayor

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

**...Classifieds**  
continued from  
*Page B-13*

**The Dome Home: Rooms to Rent**  
Beautiful Shared Women's Space in a Private House, Full Kitchen-Laundry-(2), Shared Baths-WiFi, No Contract, Utilities Included, Non smoking, Quiet, No Pets. Call for rates by day, week or monthly rental. Contact Sophia at 719-256-5825

**Cozy Cottage for Rent**  
Cozy Comfortable Cottage nestled in the trees in a very peaceful setting w/amazing valley & mountain views. Close to all spiritual centers. Nightly, B&B, weekly & Long-term. 719 256 5768 Enchantedforestcrestone.net/annekellycrestone@yahoo.com

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Crestone Talks! Email Discussion Group for Crestone. Events, perspectives, queries, and the uncategorizable. To subscribe, send a blank email: [crestonetalks-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:crestonetalks-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

**Food Sovereignty**  
Earthwork • Foodscape • A-300 Bobcat; new resident 20 years regional experience; Bob Pedersen – Local references • info at [tierralucero.org](http://tierralucero.org); Email – [growfoodnow@gmail.com](mailto:growfoodnow@gmail.com)

**Honeybee Removal**  
Free honeybee removal in the northern SLV. Give us a call; if they are honeybees and accessible, we'll take them away. Sorry, no wasp, yellow jacket or other sort of insect removal — we're just in it for the bees. Please call Janet at 719-937-3767 or email [woodmandesign@fairpoint.net](mailto:woodmandesign@fairpoint.net).

**American Legion**  
Veterans, the American Legion in Saguache is here to serve you. Come join us. Call Dave 719-282-5839 or Jim 719-937-7769.

**Looking for a Healthcare Practitioner?**  
Looking for a health care practitioner in Crestone? Massage therapists, herbalists, energy healers, doulas, and more. Also lodging, hot springs, gift certificates. [www.crestonehealers.com](http://www.crestonehealers.com).

**Recycle-Creede Recycling Services**  
Recycle-Creede provides drop-off recycling services in Crestone the 3rd Saturday of every month in The Laughing Buddha parking lot. We take almost everything! For more details call 303-503-9975; visit us on Facebook and at [www.creede.org](http://www.creede.org).

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DirecTV For Sales, Installation and Service call Dennis at 256-4110.

**Housesitting Position Wanted**  
Looking for long term housesitting. Senior male, no pets. Bill Buehler 256-4016, or 937-1910 (cell).

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**Misc. Wanted**

**Drafting Table Please?**

Artist seeks to gently borrow/rent drafting table, t-squares, templates. Crestone June-July. 720-371-1743 Karen lolygagn@yahoo.com

**Wheels**

Looking for a matched pair of wheels, 10"-16" diameter. Contact Janet at 719-937-3767 or woodmandesign@fairpoint.net.

**WANTED OWNER FINANCE REAL ESTATE**

WANTED: Owner finance home w/acreage. Prefer country, not subdivision in Saguache county. CALL 970-404-1886 DENA

**Golf Partner Sought**

Seeking golf partner for elderly gentleman. Just for fun. call Kris 719 256-4786 LM

**WANTED: Straw Bales – New or Old**

Straw bales: New & golden or old & moldin', our garden needs 'em. Please call Janet at (719) 937-3767 or stop by the Crestone Eagle office.

**Misc. for Sale**

**Used books**

USED BOOKS – CARDS AND JEWELRY BY CARMIN: Sangre de Cristo Inn. Off central hallway next to the pottery shop. Open Wed – Sat 12-4. Also buy or trade books. Info 256-4511.

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**Misc. For Sale**

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Excellent condition/white: 2012 Kenmar, gas range model 22 72402 extended 3 yr warranty \$200; side-by-side refrig ice maker \$150; dishwasher \$75. 719-256-4774 or 316-619-3177

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**Vehicles for Sale**

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**Community Service**

**Need a Caregiver?**

I can help you find a local caregiver for you or a loved one. I have several names and numbers of individuals with a variety of skills and experience. (I am also looking for more trained caregivers/CNA) For in-home assistance, elderly care, ongoing illness, etc. call Kris at 719-256-4786; LM—Please speak clearly, I'll return your call.

**Emotional and Spiritual Counseling**

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**CB Village – Local Help, Give & Receive**

CB Village is a local time bank where you can help others and gain credit for future help when you need it. Go to www.cbvillage.net or call 480-8757 to join for free.

**Need Food? Emergency Food Supply-**

Need Food? The Moffat Food Bank will provide an emergency supply of food for 3 days to anyone in need. Open 2-4 Tuesdays. Call for information at 256-4226.

**Need Food? Crestone Food Bank is now Open**

Crestone Food Bank is now open in the Crestone Town Center, SW corner of Galena & Alder. Open Wednesdays from 1-3pm, and as needed. Call Denise 256-4644.

**Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales**

**Estate Sale – June 15**

Estate Sale. Furniture, beds, chests of drawers, dining table and chair sets, bedding, some clothing, large oriental rug, and more. Location 3436 West Graceful Court, Crestone CO. Saturday, June 15, 2013. Hours 10am-4pm. Come prepared to remove what you buy, please.

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Loren Howard  
 CEO San Luis Valley REC

Cooperatives represent a unique business structure in the larger corporate world. First, most cooperatives run on a not-for-profit basis. Rates for electric service at SLVREC are set to collect enough revenue to cover operating expenses, provide for capital improvements and sufficient cash to cover unexpected expenses and the usual fluctuations in cash flow. If the collected revenues exceed the required amounts, refunds, "capital credits," are returned to cooperative members after evaluation by the Board of Directors. Cooperatives, by definition, are member-owned and the elected Board of Direc-

tors represent the interests of members because board member are cooperative members themselves.

When SLVREC's Board makes decisions—like when to pay back capital credits—they keep members in mind. They consider the Valley and the communities we serve by looking at the financial impacts of each and every investment we make. For example, the expense of capital improvements to improve the electric system reliability is weighed against the expectations of members. The newly-proposed Valley Corridor Transmission Project recently announced by Tri-State is a great example of weighing capital improvements, system reliability and member expectations.

Tri-State is a not-for-profit cooperative just like SLVREC. Tri-State's Board of Directors weigh every investment in the electric transmission infrastruc-

**Ensuring Reliability**

ture carefully before making any investments. They make decisions with the interests of their member cooperatives in mind. So, when Tri-State evaluated the Valley's power needs they weren't looking for a way to increase revenue. Instead, Tri-State looked at the electricity our members use, the lack of redundancy in power delivery to the Valley and the needs of our neighboring electric cooperatives. Their decision to investigate options for a new transmission line into the Valley was based upon their assessment of our area's needs and the strength of their regional transmission network.

Over the next several months, you will likely hear news about Tri-State's proposed new transmission line to serve the Valley. As you hear and read about this project, I encourage you to keep in mind the cooperative difference. This project will help our members in the Valley

and it will help the members of our neighboring electric cooperatives. It isn't a grab for revenue by some big corporation. It's people like you and me, making decisions to improve our lives and to help our communities. That's the co-op advantage.

One final note—cooperatives are governed by a member elected board of directors. On June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, SLVREC will hold its 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at Carson Auditorium, Adams State University. All current members of SLVREC are encouraged to attend. Information on the Valley Corridor Transmission Project and SLVREC's Broadband Initiative will be presented. See you there.

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by Keno  
Is it true that Crestone and the rest of Colorado see 300 plus days of sunshine each year, and that our state sees more sunshine in a year than most other states see?

Although Colorado doesn't make the top 10 list for states with most days of sunshine in a year's time, we do see more sunshine days here than most folks living in other states experience.

As far as Crestone and the rest of Colorado seeing 300 days of sunshine each year, it would only be true if you stretch things. I should note that there is actually no official definition of "days with sunshine" anyway, but there are other ways to keep count of this.

Here is why I say this "300 days of sunshine" claim is false:



This is one big dust devil!

a study was done about 15 years ago looking back on several years of weather records in Denver and found that if they counted every day when the sun came out for at least one hour, then the average was around 300 days of sunshine each year (and where the Colorado Chamber of Commerce came up with that number). But most people, if they heard "day of sunshine", would assume that meant it was a sunny day all day long, and not for just one hour. The National Weather Service agrees and does have a criterion for determining clear, cloudy and

partly cloudy days based on sky cover. Any day with an average sky cover of 30% or less is considered a clear day, while if the sky cover was 80% or more, it is considered a cloudy day. Anything in between counts as a partly cloudy day. So based on this definition, in an average year for Denver, there were actually only 115 clear (or truly sunny) days, with 130 partly cloudy days, and 120 cloudy days, in the days/years that study covered. For the record, the sunniest city in America, Yuma, Arizona, only sees 242 days of sunshine a year going by these criteria, and also falls short of this magic 300-sunny-days-a-year mark.

Of course, some areas of Colorado do see more sunshine than Denver. No such study has ever been done in the greater Crestone area, but since the town of Crestone is in the foothills, it sees a lot more partly cloudy days than sunny days, and nowhere near the 300 plus days of sunshine some might think. But out in the middle of the San Luis Valley, where the mountains are much farther away and clouds don't build up as much, is where Colorado's sunniest city is located, that being Alamosa, with 148 days a year of sunshine.

So overall, one could say that for most of the state, making a claim that Colorado sees 300 plus days of sunshine each year, is very much misleading.

For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/uws](http://www.keno.org/uws).

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

April 21 to May 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip: 1.32"

Snow: 3.5"

Measurable precip fell on 6 days.

Measurable snow fell on 3 days.

Measurable rain fell on 4 days.

A trace of snow fell on 2 days.

A trace of rain fell on 7 days.

1 thunderstorm occurred.

No hail occurred.

Total precipitation year-to-date

Since Jan 1: 3.55"

Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1: 31.3"

Snow season (7/1-6/30): 52.4"

**Temperatures for the period:**

High temp: 74.4°F on May 13

Low temp: 16.8°F on May 2

Avg. high: 61.9°F

Avg. low: 31.4°F

Days with the high temp at or above 70°: 5

Days with the low temp at or below 32°: 18

**Winds for the period:**

Avg. speed: 4.5mph

Highest gust: 41mph on May 13

Main direction: Out of the east

**Weather summary**

Temperatures were near normal, with precipitation slightly above normal. The only new records set all took place on one day, May 9, when a record low high of 44° was set (old mark was 48°), along with record snowfall for the date, at 3" (old record was a trace), and the .62" of precipitation was also a record for the date (old record was .32"). The first thunderstorm of 2013 didn't occur until May 18, and still no hail had fallen yet, which is the longest into the year that Crestone has seen no hail fall since these kind of hail records have been kept (be it only 12 years).

**Outlook for June**

We normally see .93" of precipitation fall in June. The wettest June was in 1988, when 3.20" fell. Measurable snow in June has only occurred 2 times in the last 30 years, with 1" the record, set in 1983.

Temperature-wise, the normal highs and lows for the first week in June are around 72° and 40°, with those averages warming up to 80° and 47° by the month's end. The highest temperature ever reached in June was 95° on June 30, 1990, and the lowest reading was 24°, set on June 2, 1990.

The 30-day outlook from the National Weather Service for June is calling for well above normal temperatures, along with well below normal precipitation. However, so far this year that outlook has been proven wrong in all but 2 months.

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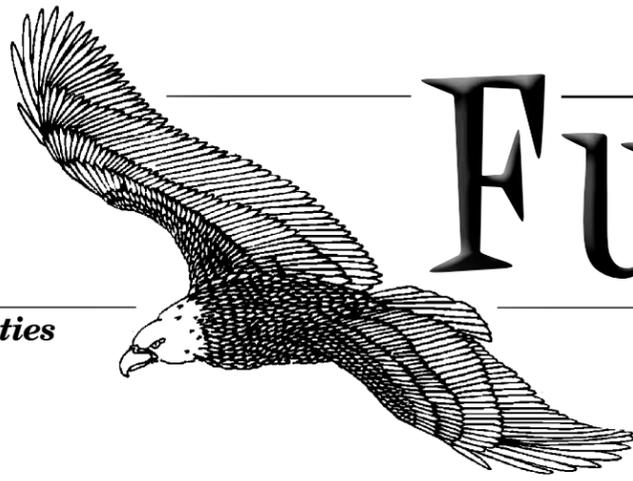
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# Summer



# Fun

The Crestone Eagle's guide to regional events & activities

June, 2013

## ElementsCamp for Kids offers educational and fun activities this summer

This summer, E3/KFM will be offering ElementsCamp for Kids. This Camp is an educational program that works with the outer elements, and the inner elemental life forces, while engaging in environmental and ecological service projects, including stewardship and restoration activities. Lyndsay Duebber, Peter May, and Frederick Dunets, as well as guest instructors and presenters, will team up to host this Camp. By fostering the camper's relationship with the natural world, the campers begin to realize their roles in the ecological web of life. This value creates a healthy foundation for the individual, which is then reflected to the greater planetary community.



ElementsCamp for Kids gives campers the chance to explore the elemental life forces in fun, safe, and educational ways. Highlights include element & 5 sense games, leadership and team building initiatives, Adventures in Sound Play, centering exercises, intuition

games, ecosystem awareness, junior alchemy, and backpacking skills. This is a 5-day overnight camp, including an overnight backpacking adventure.

There are 2 sessions. The first is for ages 12-15 and runs from July 15 through 19, and the second is for ages 8-11 and runs from July 29 through August 2. Sign up deadline for these camps is June 15. For more information see our ad in this month's Eagle or contact us at [elementscamp1@gmail.com](mailto:elementscamp1@gmail.com). Family camps are also planned for July 22-26, and August 5-9 to help accommodate visiting families who'll be here on retreat and needing rustic daycare assistance. Sign up deadline for family camps is July 8.

Nature is composed of elements and so are we. There is magic in nature, and there is magic in us, provided that we learn how to recognize it. Learning this and coming to know this at a young age can help benefit us as well as our planet, in ways beyond the collective imagination.

E3/KFM Kundalini Fire Management, a nonprofit, began as a fire department. It has since expanded its original focus of providing fire management services to the spiritual groups near Crestone, Colorado, to elemental experiential education, through its various programs and camps, and environmental stewardship and restoration projects. One of these programs is ElementsCamp for Kids.



## Free Programming at ASU's Zacheis Planetarium for June

The Adams State University Zacheis Planetarium will continue to present free shows in June.

The following programs are free and open to the public. Tickets are required due to limited seating and will be available at the planetarium when the doors open 1/2 hour before the first showing.

Tuesdays, 5:30 & 6:15pm:

- June 4: Robot Explorers & Into the Deep
- June 18: Dynamic Earth & Black Holes

Fridays, 3:45 & 4:30pm:

- June 14: Tales of the Maya Skies
- June 21: Two Small Pieces of Glass

Movie descriptions may be found on the planetarium's website [blogs.blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.blogs.adams.edu/zacheis). Click the "Movie Library" link.

According to Dr. Robert Astalos, Zacheis Planetarium director, the planetarium will close the last week of June. During the closure, computers will be upgraded and new software, "The Layered Earth" (TLE), will be installed. TLE will allow the planetarium to show a globe on the dome with a variety of geological data displayed graphically on it. "It will also allow us to zoom in on any part of Earth to examine geological structures at a very high resolution," Astalos said. "It is going to be a huge step forward in our ability to present earth science in the planetarium."



Planetarium. photo courtesy physics.sfsu.edu

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### Beginner Black Smithing Class

Sunday, June 16th

9am - 4pm

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Limit five students

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# SAGUACHE

## Saguache County Museum



A visit to the Saguache County Museum is historic, nostalgic, memorable and educational. In its 55th year, the museum displays the memorabilia of our forebears in the homey atmosphere of an 1870's adobe building—originally the old county jail. In contrast to our “throw away” society, earlier generations created almost everything they needed for survival and comfort.

This museum is known worldwide for its varied collection and old time atmosphere.

Over half a century ago, the Saguache Women's Club was assigned the job of starting this little museum, and it stands today as a monument to what dedicated people can do to save their heritage.



# Saguache Town Market

Saguache Town Market is a full-service grocery store. We have all the

amenities of a grocery store, which includes produce, dairy, meat market, and deli with a pizza shop. We also sell hunting and fishing licenses, fill propane bottles, and have four gas pumps. We also have a limited supply of hardware, and hunting and fishing supplies. We are located right on Highway 285 in Saguache. We have daily lunch specials Monday through Friday and make pizza every day but Sunday. Our hours are: Monday through Saturday 8am-7pm, and Sunday 8am-6pm. We look forward to serving you.

# 4th Street Diner



The 4th Street Diner in Saguache is open seven days a week from 7am to 3pm all summer. Our food is prepared with fresh, local, real foods without the use of artificial ingredients or preservatives. We also feature organic beef burgers from Blue Range Ranch, as well as scrumptious homemade pies. Stop in for lunch or our customers' favorite breakfast, Potato Supreme! We're located at 411 4th Street in Saguache. 719.655.6411

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# MOFFAT

## Ghost Horse Gallery

Ghost Horse Gift Gallery would like to thank the San Luis Valley Community for all the enthusiastic support during our first few months of operation. The Williamson family and Gallery Manager Vince Larson really appreciate you!

Please join us for our first summertime event:

Gifts of the Father, Saturday, June 15, noon to 5pm.

Gifts of the Father is a celebration of the male creative psyche in honor of Father's Day. S&S Tavern will be serving a lunch special and cold beer. Enjoy meeting local craftsmen as they share their talent.

The event is free. Crafts will be for sale.



# Mirage Trading Co. and Roasting Co.

The Mirage Trading Co, in Moffat Colorado, is a true oasis on Hwy. 17, in the middle of the San Luis Valley. The Mirage has “the best coffee in the Valley,” roasted right here under the name of Mirage Roasting Co. Stop in for a fabulous latte made from our freshly roasted organic fair-trade beans! While sipping your coffee, check out the art produced by our many talented local artists! Buy a bag of our beans and take “a little bit of the Valley” home with you! Log on at: [www.miragetradingco.com](http://www.miragetradingco.com). or [www.mirageroastingco.com](http://www.mirageroastingco.com)

Hours are  
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**GHOST HORSE Gift Gallery**

“Gifts for the Joyful Spirit”

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**GIFTS OF THE FATHER**  
A Celebration of the Male Creative Psyche  
Father's Day Weekend  
Saturday, June 15 • Noon to 5pm

Meet Local Craftsmen & Enjoy Demonstrations!

Free Public Art Event. Crafts Available for Sale. All proceeds benefit the Artists.

Nearby S&S Tavern will be serving a Saturday Lunch Special!

Corner of T Road and Highway 17, Moffat, CO  
[ghosthorsegiftgallery@gmail.com](mailto:ghosthorsegiftgallery@gmail.com)  
719.256.4177

# VILLA GROVE

## Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa & Lodge

Traveling north on Hwy 17, about 5 miles south of Villa Grove is Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa and Lodge. Also known as Mineral Hot Springs by the locals, it features three geothermal soaking tubs varying from 99°-108°. The water is renowned for its healing and restorative qualities. Relax with an awesome view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Enjoy herbal wraps and massages. There is a large conference center and yurts available for overnight stays. Open 7 days a week. Summer hours: Sun-Thurs: 9am-10pm; Fri & Sat: 9am-11pm. Call 719-256-4328 or visit joyfuljourneyhot-springs.com.

Prices start at \$12 for a soak.



# Villa Grove Trade

After soaking and swimming at the hot springs, food and accommodations await at the Villa Grove Trade. A small town general store since 1882, it features live music and dinner specials every 2nd and 4th Sunday 6-8pm. Villa Grove has several oldwest buildings that date back to the railroad days. The Trade offers mighty fine meals, home baked desserts, wi-fi, local art, general supplies, ice, snacks and beverages, specialty coffees and espresso.

There are also a couple of quaint rooms for rent. \$55 for single, \$65 for double, pets \$10 each. Location: 34094

U.S. Hwy 285,  
Villa Grove. 8am-4pm  
daily. 719-655-2203,  
www.villagrovetrade.com.



## Steel Horse Grill

The Steel Horse Grill, located on Hwy 285 in Villa Grove, Colorado, is all about enjoying the beauty of the Rocky Mountains, exceptional food, and taking a break with friends along your journey. The Steel Horse Grill offers casual patio dining with views of the stunning Sangre de Cristo mountain range. We know you'll enjoy relaxing to some good music and filling up on delicious food like our signature 1/2 lb. RibEye Burger, BBQ Ribs, Sweet T Chicken, and a host of tasty appetizers and sides. We have a nice selection of wine, and ice cold beer. Open May-October, Thurs-Monday (Closed Tues & Weds), Noon-8pm, 719-655-2004, www.steelhorsegrill.com

**Don't Miss a Trip to The Saguache County Museum**  
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9am to 4pm  
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# SALIDA

## Salida ArtWalk

Art lovers and collectors, it is time to get ready to enjoy Salida ArtWalk's 21st Anniversary art event on June 28, 29, 30. Three days of touring through the 50+ art galleries and venues in Salida's Historic Downtown Art District will interest the tastes of all: fine art, paintings, photography, jewelry, pottery, sculpture, fiber art, printmaking, collage, glass art and more. Over hundreds of locally and nationally known artists, great restaurants, entertainment, music, art demos, Mini Masterpiece Fundraiser, and fun for all.

Friday, June 28: 10am-9pm Galleries Opening Day; Mini Masterpiece Fundraiser Preview/Silent Bids/Buy-it-Now at Salida SteamPlant, 220 W Sackett St, 5-6:30pm

Saturday, June 29: 10am-9pm Gallery Art Abounds Indoors & Outdoors; Mini Masterpiece Final Bidding 8-11am; Gallery Receptions 5-9pm

Sunday, June 30: 10am-4pm Galleries Open, Denver Symphony at Riverside Park 3pm

Find out more at our website: [www.salidaartwalk.com](http://www.salidaartwalk.com)



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Owners Jim & Nicole Balaun established Su Casa! in February 2009. "Thanks to an amazing community, it's been a great success!"



# Kaleidoscope Toys

Visit Kaleidoscope Toys in downtown Salida for all your summer adventures. We have lots of fun and unique outdoor toys to take to the park or river. We'll be roasting nuts in our entryway during the Fibark parade, Saturday, June 15. Art Walk is the last weekend of June and we'll be doing fun crafts with the kids all day Saturday. Look for our booth in Riverside Park on July 4 for sweet treats and light-up toys. Join our email list, like us on Facebook or check our website ([kaltoys.com](http://kaltoys.com)) for details about sales and events throughout the summer.

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# Symphonic Salida

Celebrate visual and performing arts during the annual Salida ArtWalk, June 28-30. Sample locally produced libations and foods as you relax and enjoy the Sounds of Summer in Salida's Riverside Park on Sunday, June 30, featuring the finest brass and percussion of the Colorado Symphony with special guests from the Alpine Orchestra. Music begins at 3pm. Reserved VIP seating is available for \$20 (advance purchase) or \$25 at the event. Lawn seating for \$5 will also be available. Call the Salida SteamPlant office, 719-530-0933, for further information and reservations.

# Get natural - Salida & Crestone

Enjoy camping, fishing and hiking. Our area abounds with opportunities to breathe fresh, clean air, eat fresh-caught trout and sit around a campfire telling tall tales. The Arkansas River is a great fishing treasure, but is also world-renowned great rafting and kayaking.

There are numerous campgrounds throughout the valley. Here in Crestone we have North Crestone Creek Campground and four popular hiking trails: North Crestone Creek, Willow/South Crestone Creek, Spanish Creek and Cottonwood Creek. Take time to relax and smell the piñon.

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



# ALAMOSA

## Sand Dunes Pool

On Highway 17, north of Hooper, turn east on Road B (the water bill-board). Follow the signs 2.5 miles to the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool. Heated by geothermal water, this pool has diving boards, a kiddies' pool, toys, a therapy pool and a concession stand that was voted "Best in Colorado." RV & tent camping as well as cabin rentals available year-round. Visit our website for details. Admission: \$12/adult, \$8/child (3-12yrs), children under 2 are free. Seniors 65+, students with ID and military are \$10. Reserve dining tables for free. Last Hour of the Day Deal: Arrive 1 hour prior to closing to receive half price discount. March 1-November 30. 10am-10pm. Closed every Thursday for draining and cleaning. For more information and to learn about passes, punch cards and group discounts, call 719-378-2807 or visit sanddunespool.com.



## Alamosa Artwalk

Two days of art in Alamosa. Join the excitement in Alamosa June 21-22, as the 11th Annual Alamosa Artwalk presents 40 artists at more than 20 venues throughout the downtown area. All featured artists are talented residents of the San Luis Valley from Moffat to Antonito and all across the valley.

From fine arts to fiber arts and jewelry, paintings, photography, ceramics, sculpture and more will be on display both days from 10am-5pm. Many artists will spend time with their art to explain or demonstrate their techniques to visitors. You'll love the Alamosa Boys and Girls Club colorful group exhibit!

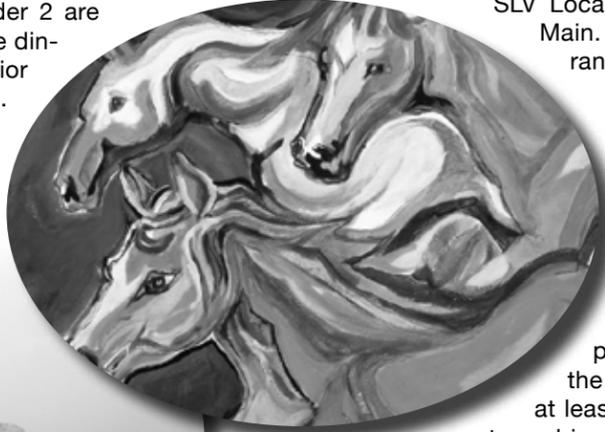
Enjoy poetry and other spoken word performance, music, ceremony and urban sketchers as well as scrumptious edibles from SLV Local Foods Coalition vendors at State and Main. New this year, several downtown restaurants will be serving up "Artwalk Specials".

Other things to do in Alamosa the same weekend include Rio Grande Scenic Railroad's Rails & Ales on Saturday, the Alamosa PRCA Roundup Rodeo from June 18-22, a Friday night Rodeo Street Dance and "Jazz on the Ave." Saturday evening.

Displays and activities will inspire and entertain all ages. Pick up a map, plan to spend June 21 and 22 exploring the arts in downtown Alamosa. If you visit at least 12 art venues, have them stamped and turned in, you may have chance to win door prizes and a \$200 gift certificate towards purchase of Artwalk art

of your choice.

For more information, email: artwalkalamosa@gmail.com and visit the Alamosa Artwalk Facebook page.



## Splashland

Splashland is excited to announce we are getting a 26' waterslide for summer 2013. Splashland is a 150' x 60' geothermal artesian swimming pool. Our pool ranges from 3' to 10' in depth. Lap lanes are available all day, as is an 8' drop slide and a diving board. There are large grass areas with a concession stand nearby. Lockers are available for your convenience. We also offer toys and floats for rent.



Lifeguards are on duty at all times, and group swim lessons are available throughout the summer. Private lessons are available by appointment. We are also available for after-hour private parties throughout the year.

## UFO Watchtower

The UFO Watchtower will host the 2013 UFO Conference July 27 & 28. Speakers will talk about valley cattle mutilations, sasquatch, abductions and stories from indigenous people.

To date, sixty-seven UFOs have been seen, spotted from the tower's observation deck. It is said two energy vortices draw UFOs to our area!

You can peruse a gift shop full of books on the subject, and shop for out-of-this-world souvenirs.

Just 3 miles north of Hooper on Highway 17. Admission is \$2/person or \$5/car. Primitive camping is available. Call 719-378-2296 or log on to ufowatchtower.com for full details. For conference reservations call Judy at 719-378-2296.



## Hey You!

Are you doing something fun this summer and want to let everyone know about it?

Advertise your event or business, and to be included in next month's Summer Fun Guide, please contact Dee Rudoff, Crestone Eagle Ad Manager at: ads@crestoneeagle.com (719) 256-4956

With a minimum \$60 ad, you can submit a 100-word write-up and a photo for no extra charge!

## Treasure Alley

Treasure Alley will be showcasing watercolors, oil paintings and Always Azul pottery for the 11th annual Alamosa Artwalk the weekend of June 21 and 22. The PRCA rodeo, Rails and Ales, street dances and the expanded Artwalk will all coincide for a fun and busy weekend in Alamosa and Treasure Alley will be right in the heart of it. Artists Coni Grant, Charles Ewing, Barbara Forrest and Lara Marie Demlo will be displaying their work for the event in Treasure Alley. We welcome you to visit and take advantage of Trollbeads and Vera Bradley specials as well as an artist demo by Lara Marie Demlo.

Treasure Alley located at 713 Main Street is open Monday through Friday from 9 to 6 and Saturdays 10 to 5.



## Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve

This summer, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve offers something for everyone. Expect new ranger programs, and summer events at the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. The park is open 24 hours and the Visitor Center is open 8:30am to 6pm. Visitors are encouraged to stop by the visitor center and watch the park movie, explore the interactive exhibits, or visit the park bookstore. You can also find information on daily ranger-led programs.

# SPLASHLAND

Open Tuesday ~ Sunday 10am-5pm • Closed Monday

Group swim lessons with sessions starting June 4th and continuing through the summer!

Lap Swim Tuesday ~ Friday 6pm-8pm \$5

Adults 12 & up \$8 • Kids 3-11 \$4 • Waterslide Pass \$4.50

Follow us on Facebook!

Private Lessons After-hours Pool Parties

5895 Highway 17 719.589.6258

alamosa artwalk

11th Annual Alamosa Artwalk

June 21-22 ~ 10am - 5pm

Downtown Alamosa

Fine Arts  
Fiber Arts  
Jewelry  
Photography  
Sculpture  
Ceramics

Live music and poetry

Food vendors Restaurant specials

Visit at least 12 venues for a chance to win door prizes and a \$200 gift certificate for Artwalk art of your choice!

For more information e-mail artwalkalamosa@gmail.com or visit the Alamosa Artwalk Facebook page.

# CREEDE

## Creede Repertory Theatre

Visit the Creede Repertory Theatre for the best of classic and contemporary plays from June – September. Opening May 31 is *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart. Forum is light, fast-paced, witty, irreverent and one of the funniest musicals ever written. In exchange for his freedom, Pseudolus, a crafty slave, struggles to win the hand of a beautiful courtesan for his young master, Hero. The plot twists and turns with cases of mistaken identity and slamming doors—culminating in musical theatre’s funniest farce. For tickets and a full season line up call 719-658-2540 or visit CRT online at [www.creederep.org](http://www.creederep.org).



# CRESTONE

## Earth Knack

Have fun this summer at Earth Knack! Visit [www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com) for a full summer listing and pricing info.

### Beginner Black Smithing

June 16 • Sunday 9am-4pm • Limit 5 students

Join fourth generation blacksmith “Papa” Dean Smith. Learn forging techniques and basic metallurgy. Make several useful items.

### 23rd Annual Earth Knack Family Gathering

June 20-23 • Thursday-Sunday

Spend time in the outdoors learning fun and useful nature, pioneer, homesteading, ancestral and survival skills, fire making and fire pit cooking and medicinal and edible plants. Camp out by the creek and enjoy dinners, stories and songs around the fire.

## Spiritual centers

Crestone is home to numerous spiritual centers of myriad practices and beliefs. There are Buddhist temples, a Hindu Ashram, a Sri Aurobindo Learning Center, Shumei International, a Catholic monastery, a Baptist church and an Episcopalian church in town in an old log cabin. To learn more, check out the Crestone Spiritual Guide which can be found in all the stores and most of the restaurants.

## Walking tour

For fun and education, take a walking tour of downtown Crestone. On the town’s website [www.townofcrestone.org](http://www.townofcrestone.org) there is a detailed “Walking Tour” with a map showing all the historic sites and places of interest. Learn where the center of town was back in the gold mining days, see the “hangin’ tree,” find out where the brothel was and learn the history of all the town’s historic buildings.



**EARTH KNACK**  
**Stone Age Skills**  
 for the  
**21st Century**

Robin Blankenship  
 719-256-4909  
[www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com)  
 PO 508 Crestone, CO 81131



**Primitive Skills Family Camp**  
**June 20 - 23rd**  
 (Thursday - Sunday)

Visit [www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com) for more info & pricing  
 Special rates for local residents!

**Alamosa Artwalk**  
 Friday, June 21 & Saturday, June 22

Treasure Alley is hosting the works of:  
**Charles Ewing**      **Coni Grant**  
**Barbara Forrest**   **Lara M. Demlo**  
 and  
**Always Azul Pottery**  
 9am ~ 6pm • Closed Sundays  
 713 Main Street, Alamosa  
 719.587.0878

**Treasure Alley**

THE WORLD FAMOUS WATCHTOWER IS AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY WHICH PROVIDES INSIGHT TO THE UFO PHENOMENA.

CALL US OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT  
 719-378-2296  
[WWW.UFOWATCHTOWER.COM](http://WWW.UFOWATCHTOWER.COM)

LOCATED ON HWY 17,  
 2 1/2 MILES N. OF HOOPER, CO.

Grounds admission  
 \$2 per person or \$5 per car

PHOTO BY RUSS BURTON

**CREEDE REPERTORY THEATRE**

2 THEATRES      7 SHOWS  
 18 WEEKS      1 SPECTACULAR SETTING FOR 48 YEARS!

*toast true rep*

“ONE OF THE STATE’S TOP 5 COMPANIES” - THE DENVER POST

AWARD-WINNING THEATRE / NEW WORKS / NAT’LLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL TOURS / [CREEDEREPO.ORG](http://CREEDEREPO.ORG)

**sand dunes swimming pool**  
**New 10-person cabin available-give us a call for more information!**  
**FULL FOOD MENU & WEEKLY SPECIALS**  
 Open 10am to 10pm, Closed Thursdays.  
 Phone: 719-378-2807  
 Address: 1991 Co. Rd. 63, Hooper, CO 81136

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

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

CRESTONE continued

Baca Grande Stables

Come visit the Baca Grande Stables (next to the Town of Crestone). Boarding and lessons available. 719-256-4756. info@baca-grandesta-bles.com.



Chokurei Ranch

Summer is a great time of year to come see our yak. Our herd of 200 majestic Tibetan yak increases daily with the arrival of new babies. Native to the Himalayas, yak thrive in our Colorado high country. Bring your friends and family to enjoy these magnificent animals from our unique tour vehicle! Being in the middle of a field on your tour surrounded by the Sangre de Cristos, you'll feel like you're in the Himalayas. Take lots of pictures. Have fun!



Each Yak Tour is unique. Call Chokurei Ranch ahead of time for reservations: 719 256-4599.

We are also happy to announce "Frisbee Golf" at The Yak N' Cracker!

Make a day of it! Enjoy our home-made organic cuisine and play in the sun! :)

Saturday Night Music Night @ Sunset 6-8:30pm! Every Saturday night!!

Please see our ad on C-1 for more information.



Clay Art Center

As Crestone's community pottery center, Clay Art has a working studio for artists and students and a retail gallery. Monthly memberships are available for studio use for established and new artists.

Classes from the beginner to those

who want to fine-tune their skills are taught by artist Lynn Drake and are available throughout the summer. The gallery exhibits items for sale including small gift items to fine art ceramic sculptures. Conveniently located in beautiful downtown Crestone in the Sangre de Cristo Inn, Clay Art has something for everyone. Stop by and visit to see what's new!



Crestone Saturday Market

From May through October, a portion of Silver Street in downtown Crestone is home to the Crestone Farmer's Market. An eclectic assortment of vendors offers everything from plant starts to handmade jewelry to natural cosmetics. You can browse stalls selling raw milk, spelt bread, jewelry and a wide assortment of local seasonal veggies. It's also a great place to have a cinnamon roll or a smoothie; then lunch on grilled paninis, home made tamales or other goodies that change weekly. The market goes from 10am Sat. morning to around 3pm in the afternoon.



Bliss Café  
Bistro Pizzeria & Gift Shop

Yummy food, simple food, organic food, gourmet cuisine. Pizza, beer, wine, cocktails, champagne. Internet.

Private party parlor for special events, additional outdoor seating with wonderful mountain views & heartfelt, caring service.

Plus ~ the only waterfront café in town. Oh, it's just a tiny little stream. Never mind.

Plus! Shop the variety of gifts galore!!

Butterflies, buddhas, boxes. Candles, jewelry, art work, yoga mat carry bags, journals, rose oil, incense, picture frames, cards, silk scarves and so much more!

Bliss Café! A fun place to be!

Crestone Artisan's Gallery

The Crestone Artisan Gallery represents over 20 local artists working in jewelry, pottery, glass, wood, paper, leather, textiles, photography and fine art in oil, acrylic & watercolor.

Second Saturday Artwalk!

Mark your calendar for the second Saturday of the month from June through August. CAG will be hosting our monthly artist reception from 3 to 5pm.

Enjoy art, live music, food & drink and meet the artists! Make the Second Saturday of the month your day to visit downtown Crestone, The Artisan's Gallery, Saturday Market and our local shops and restaurants!

Summer hours: Weekdays 11-5, Sunday 10-4, Closed Tuesday  
Please see our ad on page C-2 for more information.



**SATURDAY MARKET DAY**

**Crestone Saturday Farmers Market**

Every Saturday @ 10:00am in downtown Crestone

Featuring:

plant starts, jewelry, baked goods, farm eggs, energetic healers, sock monkeys, fresh milk, delicious hot food and local live music!

Enjoy Crestone's Local Charm...COME HUNGRY - 256-6400

**Clay Art**

You never know what you might find...stop by!

**Downtown Crestone**  
Open Wed-Sat 10am-5pm  
588-1681

**The Bliss Café**  
Pizzeria, Bistro & Gift Shop

*a fun place to be!*

**Now open for breakfast!**  
New Menu! New Chefs!

Make dinner easy - Grab dinner or Pizza to Go!  
Open 7 days a week from 8am-10pm  
Serving food until 9:00 256-6400

**The Baca Grande Stables**

**BOARDING ~ LESSONS**

Badger Road  
Post Office Box 478  
Crestone, CO 81131

www.baca-grandestables.com  
info@baca-grandestables.com

**(719) 256-4756** Joanna and Eli Dokson