

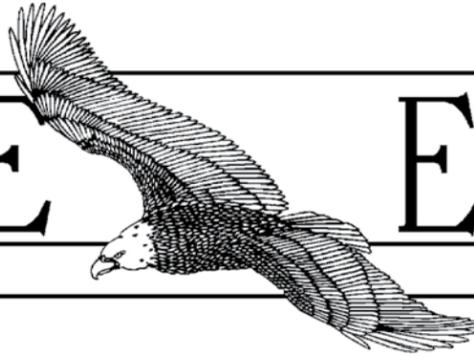
The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 24, Number 8

August, 2013 \$1

24 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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The Crestone Music Festival is Crestone's premier festival event! Music, booths, fun and games happening August 2, 3 & 4 See stories and event schedule on pages 10 & 11. To see this photo and more in color, visit our website at www.crestoneeagle.com Festival sunset rainbow photo by Lori A. Nagel; other photos courtesy of Crestone Performances Inc.

Crestone residents question property assessments

by **Matie Belle Lakish**

At the end of June, Saguache County Commissioners met in special session to receive training from State of Colorado Division of Property Taxation, Saguache County Project Manager, Curtis Belcher, and Saguache County Assessor, Jacquelyn Stephens. Town of Crestone residents, Town Clerk Akia Tanara and other interested citizens attended, hoping to learn about the County Board of Equalization's role and function, and to register their concerns about the new assessment

values of property, particularly in the Town of Crestone.

County Assessors are required to reassess all properties once every two years. Because of a number of issues discussed in previous *Crestone Eagle* issues, the state Division of Property Taxation took over the reassessment of Saguache County for the years 2012, and the beginning of 2013. Assessment notices have now been sent to property owners, and approximately 150 owners, primarily from Crestone and the Baca, appealed their assessments. The offi-

cial last date to appeal was June 10. However, Assessor Stephens agreed to try to informally address concerns up until July 15, at which time the state required issues to be sent to the County Board of Equalization, so that commissioners, acting in that capacity, would have time to study the complaints. Because the commissioners are acting in the capacity of the Board of Equalization, which is authorized to hear those appeals, because two of the commissioners have recently been elected,

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Looking for something exciting to do? See our special Summer Fun section full of information on great regional places to visit and fun activities.

photo courtesy of CPI

Hiker dies from mtn. climbing fall

Saguache County Sheriff Mike Norris reported that on Friday, July 19, at approximately 8:41pm, the Sheriff's Office dispatch received a call reporting an overdue climber. The caller stated that Michael Cormier, age 56, from Aurora, Colorado, had said that he was going to camp at Willow Lake above Crestone on Thursday night July 18, and then on Friday July 19 he would climb Challenger Point and Kit Carson Peak. Cormier had planned to either come out on Friday evening or Saturday morning. The caller stated that he was sup-

posed to call when he was off the mountain and back at his base camp, but he never called.

On Saturday, Search & Rescue was activated and a hasty team was sent up the mountain. After an all-day search and conversations with other climbers it was determined that Cormier was descending via the climbing route and was last seen at the northeast end of Kit Carson. The hasty team was unable to locate Cormier and a helicopter search was scheduled for Sunday.

The helicopter search on Sunday was not successful in locating

Mr. Cormier, and another helicopter search was scheduled for Monday.

On Monday morning, search and rescue members aboard the helicopter located Cormier. It appeared that Mr. Cormier had fallen approximately 200 to 300 feet while descending the mountain. Search & rescue made it to Cormier and reported that he died from the fall. The weather could have been a contributing factor in this incident. Mr. Cormier's body was recovered and turned over to Saguache County Coroner Tom Perrin.

Mr. Cormier was an experienced climber and had climbed many 14ers.

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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

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No junk mail or solicitations please!

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

but are solely those of the writer.

Deadline for copy: 18th of the month.

Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less.

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730 bonus days

Dear Editor,

Every day is a bonus day for me since August 7, 2011. That was when my main coronary artery clogged. I was a goner! But at the Music Festival were Pam and Chris ready for an emergency call. They got me to the ER in a hurry. Meanwhile the helicopter was dispatched and on its way. My heart stopped once in the copter, and I arrived in Denver for removal of the clot with no time to spare. They and everyone along the way, starting with the EMS, saved my life, and gave me a second go around.

How anyone here would not support the Emergency Services District I cannot comprehend. If your house were on fire, you know who you would call, and if you had a life-threatening health crisis, you also know who you would call. Like a thief in the night these things happen unannounced.

This August 7, 2013 I will celebrate bonus day 730. These last two years have been the most important and rewarding years of my life. The meaning and purpose of life have come more into focus. I love my wife, my friends, and Crestone. I am grateful and happy to be alive here in Crestone enjoying another bonus day.

Vince Palermo

Emotional reactivity

Dear Editor,

We have been told that we have as our basic nature intelligence, wisdom, basic goodness and compassion. So, why is there so much war—personal war, inner conflict, relationship problems, world war?

What is the main obstacle for humans to reliably connect with our basic goodness and empathy? We seem to know a lot about our basic nature, especially if we are following a genuine spiritual path. But we do not seem to know much at all about the primary obstacle . . . emotional reactivity. Non-violent Communication (NVC) teaches how to identify, own, embrace, work with and overcome emotional reactivity . . . which is about us, comes entirely from us, and obscures our vision in clouds of blindness and confusion. Emotional reactivity is often a painful hook that tells us to attack or run away or shut down. Happily, it is also an opportunity for learning—whenever we can stay with the discomfort and get curious instead of defensive, look inward instead of blaming someone else, or ourselves. This blaming can fool us and be so subtle in our being that we are simply convinced that we are right. Blame, in this way, is actually an obstacle, a convenience that tricks us into taking the easy path. Well, it feels good to be right! But in contrast to this short-term choice of easy blame and false comfort, becoming one with,

and opening to, our own energy in the moment of painful emotional reactivity is difficult. Becoming conscious of which choice we make between blame and openness is a good first step toward dispelling obstacles and connecting with our basic intelligence, wisdom, empathy and compassion. Becoming conscious, in this way, of our inner choices is subtle work; it leads us into unfamiliar territory that can challenge our fixed identity and question who we are. But it can also soften us and lessen our self-created mental suffering. Psychologist Stan Grof observed during an all-night Indian peyote ceremony that, "In the crucible of ritual, a man comes to recognize the hated Other as a long-buried part of himself."

Paul Shippee

If it's not broke don't spend tax dollars to fix it

Dear Editor,

Many Baca residents have no doubt noticed the new asphalt paving that that occurred recently on both Badger Rd. and Wagon Wheel Rd. Like me, many of you have probably wondered why our tax money is being spent on repaving two perfectly sound county roads when other road sections such as the southern two miles of Camino Baca Grande and the western unpaved section of Camino Del Rey are in dire need of paving. Did the county road supervisor give bad information to the county commissioners who made the final decision on the new paving, or did these politicians do, like many politicians do, simply exercise little if any sound judgement on spending our tax dollars unless, of course, it directly benefits them.

Garin Biester

Library clarification

Dear Editor,

Many of you have told me you've heard that the Baca Grande Library will be moving to the former Curt's Store. Let me set the record straight.

The Northern Saguache County Library District is in the middle of a process to determine what the community would like to see for the library. There are surveys at 5 locations, which will be picked up until August 6. At that time, the results will be tallied and the Library District will determine what the next steps are, whether that is renovating an existing building, working through the steps of a capital campaign, or keeping the library where it is—if that is the expressed wish of the community. This decision will not be made without the input of the community.

Additionally, the entire portion of property taxes the Library District receives is used for day-to-day operations of the two district libraries, with none left over to pay rent on a large space. If the surveys indicate that the majority of the community wants the Baca Grande Library to move to a location in town, then the District will need to determine two items: first, where the money will come from to rent or purchase a new facility (perhaps if 100 people pledge \$25

per month to the library indefinitely!); and second, what the best location is to meet our needs. The former Curt's store location will likely be considered when we get to this point in the process, but we are not there yet.

We are at the very beginning of this process. Please allow us to move forward in a fiscally responsible way, which will ensure the Baca Grande Library serves you well into the future.

Sincerely,

Sarah Koehn Frey, Director
Northern Saguache County
Library District

We cannot live without water

Dear Mr. Tigan,

Thank you for receiving comments about this crucial issue.

The San Luis Valley is a very special place. Each of us is blessed to live here where there is clean air, ample water, and a sane pace of life. I believe fracking anywhere in the valley would change everything. My greatest concern is the risk to the quality of our water. We all know that extremely toxic chemicals are used in the fracking process and that the water which is used becomes irreclaimable.

My second greatest concern is the amount of water which is consumed in the fracking process. My understanding is that between 2 and 8 million gallons of water are used per day per well. This is simply unacceptable. In an area which already receives minimal rainfall, we cannot afford to use—and lose!—that much water. When we run out of water—especially potable, pure water - we are all doomed. We absolutely cannot live without water.

There are other reasons why I think fracking is extremely unwise, but frankly the only reason that truly counts is that we cannot afford to both irredeemably pollute the water we have and simultaneously consume such massive amounts of it. Our grandchildren will be left with no water to drink. We absolutely cannot afford this risk.

We need clean water. That's the bottom line. We cannot afford to jeopardize our water supply.

Thank you for hearing me. I beg you all to be wise. We need water more than we will ever need oil. We cannot live without water.

Most sincerely,

Cynthia Greb

Practice being magic

Richard Deyo is a poet and a brilliant, radical nonconformist I knew 20 years ago in Santa Fe. A tall, powerful man, he lived year-round in a tent, didn't own a car and always wore a dress, for comfort, he said. (His preference would have been no clothes.) He walked everywhere, including the 60-some uphill miles to Los Alamos to protest the national laboratory's activities. Years earlier, after studying math and science at Iowa State University, he walked from Iowa to the East Coast and then across Europe on the "Great Walk to Moscow" for world peace.

In Santa Fe Richard was

Editor's Notes

Ode to summer rain

Sometimes, I just really love living here.

Stepped outside this morning to the vista of the rocky cliffs above my home being shrouded in foggy clouds. Every surface was wet with last night's rain and the air had that wonderful wet smell—earthy with a hint of pine, overtones of cottonwood.

I wandered out to the garden to enjoy the lush beauty. With the recent rains, everything is in its glory. That lushness makes up for the gritty spring winds, or the blistery, smoky pre-monsoon June. On days like this, everything is all right with the world. July is rich with rain and "August" is most aptly named.

For us desert dwellers, the monsoon season has to be our favorite. After living for months on full alert for the slightest hint of smoke in the air, praying for rain, it is such a relief to sleep to the sound of rain and wake to misty mornings. Mountain meadows have abundant wildflowers, life is in full swing.

We have a relationship with the places we live. There are the good and bad days. We see our places, and each other, at our best and at our worst. The bitter cold nights have brilliant stars. The hot summer days give way to double rainbows. Makes me feel a sense of deep optimism and thankful joy.

Oh, I know there are lots of problems in the world that need attention. And I'll get to them on some gray November day and tell you all about them. But right now, it somehow seems more important to admire the full pollen sacs on our bee's hind legs. Or look forward to the music fest weekend full of music, good friends, family and saying hello to a community that I love. For now, I'm making time for rainbows.

—Kizzen

Commentary: Closed Basin Project & delayed water administration

by **Peggy Godfrey, Moffat rancher**

Since comments on the San Luis Valley BLM's Blanca Wetlands expansion are available to the public, I present my comments here:

I would love to see natural wetlands restored to northern Saguache County and the eastern side of the valley (Saguache and Alamosa counties), an area which includes the Blanca Wetlands. All of this area historically had interspersed playas and intermittent marsh habitats. Satellite data has shown a drying trend since 1985 in this area, as does testimony of owners and managers of private, state and federal lands.

Designation of the Great Sand Dunes National Park and the purchase of a 100,000 acre private ranch with some of the north valley's oldest and best water rights, now known as the Baca Wildlife Refuge (USFWS), was touted as the best solution to save the valley's water from development and export. Underneath this conversation has been a different agency of the Department of Interior—the Bureau of Reclamation's pumping project. Since the late 1980s over 550,000 acre feet have been pumped and flushed to the Rio Grande from the San Luis Creek watershed which

once contained wetlands as an expression of its natural hydrology and history. More recently, most of the pumped and exported water has come from the aquifer underlying the Baca Wildlife Refuge and north valley ranchlands. With the project intercepting and flushing these good waters down a lined canal, project wells as well as farm and domestic wells further south in the valley's "sump area" have water quality and quantity issues. The project is required to divert mitigation water to both Blanca Wetlands and the Alamosa Wildlife Refuge, though this water does not have to meet the same standards as that introduced to the Rio Grande. Mitigation waters are permitted to exceed maximum contaminant levels. Twenty-five years of mitigation applications have likely created toxic concentrations of soluble salts as these waters evaporated, and the aquifer may also be affected.

The Closed Basin Project was conceived to "salvage" waters inundating the eastern side of the valley north of the Rio Grande in the early 1900s when flood irrigation and canal diversions provided the excess. By the 1970s, when project legislation passed and the 1980s when federal funding came through, excess waters were no

longer a problem with pivot sprinklers proliferating and pumping groundwater. But the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD), which had been created in the late 1960s, lobbied for legislation and funds to proceed with the archaic plan and since the late 1980s have continued to pump our drought-stricken watershed.

RGWCD attorney David Robbins says that right or wrong, good or bad, the court ruled (1985) in favor of the federal project (prior to the first gallon of water being pumped), and we'll pump til that ruling is overturned in court. Of course he doesn't live here. All the pumping limitations set forth in the legislation have been reinterpreted to justify the degradation of aquifer levels and ecosystems dependent on it. Former wetlands are now occupied by ground-burrowing rodents, ant colonies, and noxious weeds.

The agencies of the state of Colorado have, over the past decades, in the San Luis Valley, worshiped at the shrine of the pivot sprinkler, sacrificing the treasure of healthy watersheds, aquifers, wetlands and wildlife habitat by issuing an excess of well permits and failing to manage groundwater pumping, resulting in an extreme decline of aquifers and flowing streams. Landscape conservation values have been sidelined to preserve an "economy" based on the

overuse and poor stewardship of a limited resource.

Until the state of Colorado owns its responsibilities with action instead of a litany of intentions, there's very little any of us—even conservation-minded federal agencies and projects—can do to change the desertification and desecration of this beautiful sanctuary.

Currently a 100-million-dollar Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Program (CREP) has been authorized to retire groundwater pumping for fifteen years on agricultural lands adjacent to wells being pumped by the Bureau of Reclamation's Closed Basin Project. Taxpayers fund these opposing goals. The CREP program has a system of accountability; the federal pumping project appears to lack ethical oversight.

If the BLM and Dept. of the Interior really want to see wetland restoration, terminate the very expensive ecosystem devastation being perpetrated by the Closed Basin Project. Contact Mike King, director of Colorado's Dept. of Natural Resources and suggest that he end decades of delayed water administration in the San Luis Valley by motivating the state engineer to implement rules and regulations based on Colorado's doctrine of prior appropriation. Then pray for rain and snow. Federal dollars won't create water.

known for free recitations of his poetry, which he wrote in calligraphy on large sheets of good quality salvaged paper, rolled up like scrolls. When asked "why" about anything, he would smile and say, "Sometimes there are more reasons for things than there are stars." Recently I found an online article on him, published in the Iowa State University student newspaper in February. Now in his late-50s, he's living in Ames, Iowa and is known there for wearing a red skirt and Santa jacket, opening city hall doors for people and offering free hugs. This poem of his is one of my favorites. He gave it to me on a scroll untitled, but it could be called "Practice."

Gussie Fauntleroy

Untitled ("Practice")

by **Richard Deyo**

Practice being trees for a while.
It'll do you good
to plant roots, spread limbs,
grow leaves and fruit or nuts
we squirrels nibble on.

Practice being rivers for a while.
It'll do you good
to roll, rinse the ground,
stumble between rocks and pebbles
we bubbles float on.

Practice being clouds for a while.
It'll do you good
to crown the sky, blow thunderstorms,
hail, snow, winds
we sunbeams dance on.

Practice being magic for a while.
It'll do you good.

Big Bear Blues

In mid-July it was reported by the Colorado Division of Wildlife that a large male black bear had been shot and wounded in the Town of Crestone by someone protecting their mules from the bear who was threatening them. Townspeople were told to be on the lookout for the bear.

A few days later it was reported that it was only a warning shot that had been fired to scare the bear away. The bear has since been seen several times in town and appears to be uninjured. This bear however, doesn't seem to be afraid of people or dogs. There are also reports of bear problems in the Baca. Bears have broken into sheds, back porches and even houses going after stored trash or food.

To report a bear problem, Call the DOW 719-587-6900.

Cancellation of fire restrictions

Welcome rains have caused the lifting of fire restrictions. On July 15, Saguache County Sheriff Mike Norris lifted the fire ban restrictions. The regional national forests have also lifted their fire restrictions. The Town of Crestone has returned to its normal "no open fires" ban and the Baca Grande Property Owners Association has their own fire notification inspections and guidelines in place. People are urged to continue being careful with fire as annual rainfall is still running below normal and trees are still drought-stressed.

Commentary: Our POA ~ Part II

From the inside looking out—potential futures

by **Lonnie Nichols**

(Note: this is the second of a two-part series on the perspectives of the current situation and future possibilities of our Baca Grande Property Owners Association by Lonnie Nichols. After a brief tenure as Community Manager, Lonnie offers his insights from the inside looking out—a much needed perspective on the Baca Grande Property Owners Association [POA] and the management team.)

First of all I'd like to say "thank you" for all of the positive and encouraging emails and editorials I received as a result of Part I of this article (June 2013 issue). I was pleasantly surprised that so many read it and received some sense of clarity, or at a minimum, some information that was not previously at your disposal. Before I go into some potentials that lie ahead of us as a community, I just want to say that I do not consider myself clairvoyant, nor much of a fortune teller. I often sense intuitive insights, like many others, and have a "sense" of a beautiful potential, a picturesque vision of our Crestone community.

As I implied throughout Part I, there are a few obstacles that seem to be hindering this "group expansion," but I believe "one with God is a majority" and that as individuals and as a group, we only limit ourselves as to what is possible. In the end, engaging at any level of our being toward a positive, harmonious outcome is important. Negative and destructive discussions—in this case, the POA—only

fuels disharmony and the ever-present false reality of what is. Here are some thoughts. The reality of any "future" can be based only on probability and possibility. Here are just a couple:

1. Do nothing. This not a bad or wrong action. I totally understand why folks do not engage at any level with our POA. Most of us move to the Crestone for peace and the glory of the mountain views. Who wants to move here and engage in conflict? We all have free will, and choosing to do nothing is a clear choice—I know, that was my choice for many years.

What will happen? Who can really say? Most likely things will stay the same, with some minor adjustments here and there. A minority of people could possibly manipulate the board's actions and agendas. And manipulation takes many forms, one being the continual changing of agenda items, the continual mis-directing and scattering of the key issues, long, fruitless discussions, etc. However, the situation could, by natural evolution and the "osmosis-effect" of more light beings, improve magically. But, if one is to make a comment or form an opinion about the POA without inserting himself or herself into some activity there, that mindset would not be based on facts—it would be based on the continual rumor mill, enhanced by past events and personalities who have been involved there. Additional negative fueling is ever-present as a result of a few people who

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Saguache County News

by **Matie Belle Lakish**

Taxes and Sage Grouse seem like an unlikely combination, but these two topics predominated at July's Saguache County Commissioners meetings. County Assessor Jackie Stephens has been working to bring assessments up to date under the direction of the Division of Property Taxation. Now it is the commissioners' turn, as the County Board of Equalization, to have input in the process. Appeals hearings are scheduled for August 1, 2 and possibly 5, beginning at 9am. These hearings are under the jurisdiction of the County Clerk's office, and Clerk Carla Gomez has been sending notices to all those taxpayers who asked for a hearing. Approximately 20 minutes will be allowed for each hearing. For more information on this matter, see the additional article in this issue of the *Eagle*.

County Treasurer Connie Trujillo told the board how she is handling tax billing and payments, both from 2011 for Omitted Properties, ie. those structures that were recently added to the tax roles whose owners must pay back taxes, as well as the current 2012 taxes. The sequence goes something like this: 1) Owner receives notice from Assessor 2) Owner has 30 days to respond to Assessor before it is transferred to the Treasurer 3) Treasurer sends two letters, first is a notice, second is a payment plan letter for 2011, which allows the owner to pay the back taxes interest-free. However, 2012 taxes, which are currently due, must be paid in full by October to avoid interest charges. So far, of the 452 letters sent, many owners have paid in full. 130 owners have received payment plans. About 2% of owners have not responded, and their properties may go to tax sale in November.

Grouse

Gunnison Sage Grouse have been proposed for Endangered Species listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Saguache County has two historic populations, a larger one on the Gunnison side of the continental divide, and a smaller population north of Villa Grove. The bird, as the name implies, prefers sagebrush habitat. The males do complicated dance routines for the females on special dancing grounds called leks. The leks in northern Saguache County were not used this year. In addition, the Ox Cart Fire staging ground was in Gunnison Sage Grouse territory, and any birds using the area may have been disturbed. For whatever reason, no breeding pairs have been observed in the Poncha Pass population, causing concern that no birds may be left. The population on the western slope, however, seems to be holding its own, raising hopes that, with 10-county cooperation, a listing can be avoided.

Commissioner Linda Joseph, who has taken the lead on the county's participation in this process, says the cooperation around protecting the bird is unprecedented. Gunnison County, particularly, which has the largest population of the grouse, has been supporting participation by counties in Colorado and Utah to develop a plan to protect the bird and avoid Endangered Listing.

Commissioners joined other counties and lawmakers in requesting a six-month extension from F&WS to allow local collaborative efforts to be further developed. That extension has now been granted. Senator Mark Udall said, "An Endangered Species Act Listing for the Gunnison Sage Grouse could affect a wide swath of ranchers, businesses and residents throughout Western Colorado. I am proud the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has heeded our calls to take a measured, careful approach on this important decision." Commissioners have funded Jenny Nearing to do some of the studies and conservation work on the Poncha Pass population. Nearing has been working to monitor and conserve that population for a number of years.

Landfill closed

Most residents are now aware that the Saguache County landfill has been closed. Randal Arredondo, Road and Bridge Supervisor, who is in charge of the landfill, has been trying for months to get approval from the Colorado Dept. of Health to open a new cell. The old cell, or pit, has reached its capacity. Arredondo has dug monitoring wells and agreed to a number of other stipulations by the state, but has still not received the needed permit. Commissioners have worked through Arredondo, but have decided to contact the Colorado Board directly to express the county's need for the landfill to avoid random dumping on public and private land. Commissioners also discussed options for citizens to dispose of trash, either by solving the landfill issues or putting in transfer stations. Arredondo is doing research on these options.

Airport purchased

After many months of negotiations with owners and family members, the Leech Airport has now become county property. At the request of the family, the airport will retain the Leech name. Mr. Leech was a well-known figure in valley aviation for decades, and the county airport will be a tribute to his love of flying. Former Commissioner Mike Spearman also deserves thanks in bringing the deal to completion, as does R&B Supervisor Arredondo. Both worked hard to get the needed grants and arrange for the purchase.

Another infrastructure piece in the works is a deal to site the county's first Solar Garden on a portion of the county's gravel pit near Saguache. Previous site discussions were with John Baxter, who owns the sawmill near Saguache. However, technical issues with roads and boundaries made that site unfeasible.

Flood issues is not a usual con-

cern for Saguache County residents, especially in such a dry year as this, but new FEMA regulations were causing concern for some homeowners regarding financing their homes. There are a number of components of the new directives including mapping of flood zones and changes in insurance rates. Due in part to low danger of flooding, Saguache has mapping for only one area, that around Saguache Creek. However, acknowledging the importance of cooperating with FEMA on disaster funding, commissioners resolved to join the National Flood Insurance Program and appointed the Land Use Department to maintain the maps and do the paperwork needed.

Emergency planning

Smoke and fire has been on everyone's minds, and Della Vieira, Saguache County Public Health Director, spent most of her monthly report time talking about PH's preparations for emergencies. Air quality was a concern during recent fires, and an air quality monitor, on loan from the State Health Department, was installed on the lawn outside the sheriff's office to gather and report data. Thankfully, only seven people needed to be treated for smoke inhalation.

The updated emergency response plan includes a community communication plan involving media and a local health alert network and calling tree to check on vulnerable citizens. There is also an epidemiology plan in case a major communicable disease outbreak occurs, a community resilience plan to involve local leaders in emergencies, a multi-hazard mitigation plan involving emergency responders of all types, and an evacuation plan. There is also a Unified Command Chart, which describes who has jurisdiction in emergencies, that is available on a DVD. All governmental entities, officials and county workers, as well as emergency responders would have a role to play in such incidents.

Faith O'Riley gave a quarterly Tourism Council report. The council is not funding any organizations or events this year, but will put its funds into promotion of the county in general and into re-development of the tourism website, www.saguachetourism.org. Contrary to current web posting, there will be no grant cycles this year. Organizations wishing to call attention to events through the mid-week paper, *SLV Lifestyles*, can email their announcement to vpadvertising@amigo.net by the Thursday before printing. Specify that it is to go in the Saguache County ad.

Akia Tanara and Kim Smoyer presented the progress that has been made on the Crestone Re-development Project. Included in plans is a pathway project and a trail system. They have applied for

about \$750,000 in grant funds, and have \$80 to \$100,000 in community backing. They asked the county to consider a match of \$20,000 if the grant-writing is successful. Commissioners discussed possible funding through a sales tax grant, the Conservation Trust Fund and in-kind work from Road and Bridge Department. Grants are due Dec. 1.

This month's Eye on the County features "Local Food Assistance—the Needs and Services."

"One of the major services that the Department of Social Services in Saguache County provides for its citizens is the administration of food programs. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly known as food stamps) currently assists 694 households in Saguache County. Qualification for food assistance is calculated upon the number of persons and total income of the household. The formula for assistance award is established by statute, and implemented through the automated computer system known as Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). The DSS technicians gather documentation of income and enter the information into the automated system, which in turn delivers the assistance via an EBT card. Food assistance benefits must be used for food, and cannot purchase tobacco or alcohol.

"Food Assistance caseloads increased dramatically after the great recession began in 2008. Saguache County began to feel the impact in 2009, and June of that year saw 407 cases in Saguache County. Now at 694 food assistance cases, we've seen a 58% increase.

Saguache County currently serves more people with more program benefits, with five fewer employees than in 2008.

The State of Colorado recognized the impact of significant downturns in the economy combined with rising unemployment. They realized that people could own property and a home and still be challenged in the ability to provide food for their households due to the unavailability of work. In response, they removed the requirement that resources such as a home and property be considered in the calculation of benefits to families.

"Social Services also administers the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Commodities are distributed bi-monthly to those who qualify in the communities of Center, Saguache, and Crestone. The last TEFAP distribution served 178 households with a combination of non-perishable items and meat."

To find out more about any of these programs call Saguache County Social Services at 655-2537. Both Crestone and Moffat have food banks, as well. Call 256-4110 in Crestone, or 256-4226 in Moffat.

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Assessments

continued from page 1

and because this appeals panel meets so infrequently, the State Division of Property Taxation provided the special training on the Valuation Process. Hearings on the issues are scheduled for August 1 and 2, and if need be, August 5. Commissioners will meet again as the Board of County Commissioners on August 6.

Curtis Belcher said there are three approaches the Assessor uses to determine the Actual Value of property, each used for a different type of property: Cost, Income and Market. For residential and retail business property, the Market Approach, or Comparable Sales Approach, is used. The basic steps are: Compare the property to similar properties that recently sold; Inspect the subject property and comparable sales; Adjust the sales properties for characteristics that are superior or inferior to the subject; and Reconcile the adjusted sales prices to determine an indication of value. Commercial property assessments would also consider the Potential Gross Annual Income.

The County Board of Equalization's role is somewhat different. According to Belcher's training handout, "Assessment deals with an individualized valuation of a certain property, while equalization, a leveling function, considers whether the particular property assessment is in balance with assessments of other similarly situated properties as a collective group within the jurisdiction."

What has caused concern within the town is the perceived excessive valuation placed on lots zoned commercial, and the increased valuation of residential lots. It is clear that valuation in the

recent past has not kept up with growth and sales in the town, and most lots have been valued much lower than market sales would suggest. However, most residents and property owners, especially those whose lots are zoned commercial, feel that \$40,000 for a 50 ft. lot is excessive, and that the Assessor, acting under the state's direction, has increased the Actual Value above true value. Objectors point to the small number of sales used to arrive at that valuation and the fact that other, lower-priced sales were not added in to achieve an average value.

County Assessor Stephens contends she also did not agree with the assessment arrived at by Mike Kerrigan of the Division of Property Taxation, Department of Local Affairs. However, Kerrigan insisted on using the three properties with a higher price tag to set values for all the other commercial lots in town.

Elaine McDowell presented an eleven-page document stating her reasons for objecting to the high assessment on commercial property. She notes that, "Use of the market approach requires a representative body of sales sufficient to set a pattern. Two sales in three years is not a pattern." She continued, "The lack of sales is, however, indicative of the fact that there is virtually no market at this time for the sale of properties in Crestone." She also objected to the uniform reclassification of all properties that are shown on a map as being zoned "commercial" being taxed at 29%, even though many are vacant land or residential in use. With the increase in valuation of some of these lots combined with the increase in tax rate, she fears many people, especially older residents, may be forced to sell their property because they can't pay the taxes.

Another objection voiced is that all "commercial" lots are assessed the same, even though they have very different characteristics. Some, for instance, have limited access, ravines, or no utility access, yet are valued the same as premium locations on main thoroughfares. Akia Tanara, Crestone Town Manager, stated that a little town that was showing some sign of recovery will likely be thrown back into recession with taxation at this level.

Commissioners also expressed concern with the high valuation and asked a number of questions about their role in the equalization process. According to Belcher's handout, after receiving from the assessor an updated list of the total assessments of real and personal properties, and a list of those who have protested, "The County Board subsequently reviews the Assessor's valuation of all taxable property appearing in the assessment roll; directs the Assessor to supply any omissions which comes to its attention; corrects any errors made by the Assessor; and may raise, lower, or adjust any valuation appearing in the assessment roll, 39-8-102C.R.S."

Regarding Hearings on Appeal, "A taxpayer may seek review of only the total valuation for assessment, not a portion or component of the value. In other words, even if the taxpayer agrees with the Assessor's value of the land but disagrees with the Assessor's value of the improvement, the value the taxpayer offers as the correct value must include the value of both the land and the improvement. The value the taxpayer offers as the correct value must appear on all real property appeals filed with the CBOE, 39-8-106(1.5) C.R.S." The county board, which has allotted about 20 minutes per owner for the hearings, "grants or denies the petition, in whole or in part, and notifies the petitioner and the Assessor in writing." The board has about one week to render a decision. "Each written decision should

State reps here to hear tax complaints July 31

Our Colorado State Senator Larry Crowder, and House Representative Ed Vigil plus other officials from Denver will be coming to Crestone on July 31 at 6 pm at the Community Building to hear complaints about the property tax increase. Whether you live inside Crestone or outside the town limits, you are encouraged to attend the meeting and let your concerns be heard. The tax increases, especially in our commercial district, have an impact on the whole community.

include a statement of findings and conclusions on all of the material issues of fact or law presented at the hearing and the appropriate order, relief, or denial."

If the property owner is still dissatisfied with the assessment, he/she may appeal to the State Board of Assessment Appeals, and beyond that, to the District Court. However, no new evidence will be considered at these appeals, so evidence should be gathered and presented before the County Board of Equalization.



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by Deputy Clerk
Leanna Bradbury

4th of July thank yous

Town staff members have received many compliments from area residents and visitors on how well this year's 4th of July celebration went and how much people enjoyed the parade, the entertainment, the fire department spray, the soap box derby, and the friendly people. There are far too many volunteers and participants to name, so thank you all anonymously, and please bask in the glory of having made several hundred people happy that day.

Resolution objecting to property assessments

Last month the town trustees adopted a resolution objecting to the extremely large increases in property valuations that followed a reassessment conducted by the Saguache County Assessor. The trustees voted to publish the entire text of this resolution so that area residents can see the extent of the problem. A citizens' group is formally protesting the increases. The town government cannot directly participate in the protest, but it can and has taken a political position on this matter to protect the economic viability of our community and its residents.

New bear-proof Freebox dumpster

Thank you to all donors and volunteer fundraisers who contributed to obtain a bear-proof dump-

ster for the Freebox. It was put into use at the beginning of July, and Freebox trash problems have been considerably reduced. There have been no tip-overs, although other downtown dumpsters have been spilled. There have been fewer deposits of food directly into the dumpster, but they continue in the barrel inside the enclosure. Food and food containers are always a problem at the Freebox. Bears, dogs, and raccoons make quite a mess while eating things that aren't good for their health. The new dumpster has a larger capacity, but a smaller lid that cannot accommodate unclaimed large items such as armchairs, mattresses, sofas, TVs, and monitors. To keep trash removal costs within budget, the town has an agreement with its contractor not to collect items left outside the dumpster. Do not bring large items to the Freebox and please gently dissuade others from doing so. A note on the bulletin board can often find a new home for these items. Alternatives for inappropriate donations while the Saguache County Landfill is closed are electronics recycling in Alamosa and a landfill near Monte Vista.

Downtown development progress

The survey necessary for downtown development is complete, and architectural design is nearly complete. A task force of town trustees, planning commissioners, business owners and area citizens has met nearly every week since April. Their exciting plans will be presented to the public by Architect Burt Wadman and Project Coordinator Kim Smoyer at the Community Building, 240 N. Cottonwood Street, August 7 at 6:30pm.



Crestone town trustee Jim Hollmer riding his tractor in the 4th of July parade.



The cars park where people should walk, and the people walk in the street! One of the reasons for the Crestone Pedestrian Pathways Network Project.

Public meeting to share the plan for the Crestone Pedestrian Pathways Network Project August 7

The Town of Crestone; Burt Wadman, Project Architect; and the Project Task Force are hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, August 7, 6:30pm at the Crestone Community Building, 240 N. Cottonwood Street, for anyone interested in learning more about the design plans for the Pedestrian Pathways Network Project in Crestone. This is your opportunity to see some visual images outlining the design plans and to become better informed on the details of the first phase of the Crestone Redevelopment Project (CRP).

Please join us at the Crestone Community Building on August 7 and learn about this exciting project for the Town of Crestone!

Contact: Kim Smoyer, Project Coordinator, PPNP, 719-655-0104 or kim@smoyerandassociates.com

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Town of CRESTONE Colorado

Interested in learning more about the design plans for the **Pedestrian Pathways Network Project (PPNP)** in Crestone?

This is your opportunity to see some visual images outlining the design plans and to become better informed on the details of the first phase of the **Crestone Redevelopment Project (CRP)**.

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Wednesday, August 7, 6:30 PM
at
Crestone Community Building
(240 N. Cottonwood St.)

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POA monthly news & reports: Ecklund introduced as newest community manager

by Sandia Belgrade

There are more comings and goings to report from the Baca Grande Property Owners Association June Board of Directors meeting. Kristin Ecklund was introduced as the new Community Manager to the those in attendance. She is the 3rd person to be named for this position in a relatively short time. Treat Suomi resigned as board president. He will remain serving on the board. Russell Schreiber was named to succeed him as president. Ecklund, who has trained with Hammersmith, replaces Amanda Funck who was on temporary assignment and assisted with the transition.

Fire prevention highlights department reports

Pam Gripp, Administrator of the Baca/Crestone Ambulance, reported that the grand opening celebration of the new ambulance headquarters was postponed because of the dangerous fire situation. The new headquarters will be at the old charter school near the library.

Even with all the smoke from area fires, there had been only one call about breathing difficulty.

Shawn Holmer, Administrator of Maintenance, discussed the secondary evacuation road, noting its significance as an access.

The covenants' policy for 4 wheelers states no motorized vehicles going into the green belt. He will put up signs.

Holmer said his crew will put down red lava rock at the entrance to Casita Park.

With regards to insulation of the POA building, Schreiber recommended hard insulation, not foam. The board will decide whether to bring in Teahen Construction to put

in hard insulation.

Fire department

Of particular interest in this dangerous fire season, Chief Ben Brack discussed information on reverse 911 and their annual operating plan.

With the seriousness of drought conditions, the question on the minds of residents is whether the fire department has enough resources in the event of a fire. Brack noted that instant command coordination is in place, and he feels confident that all resources are at the ready. In an initial attack, Sheriff Mike Norris is Crestone's Fire Marshall. We have mutual aid agreements with Northern Saguache County Fire District, and if needed he'll call in larger resources. Brack sought a resolution from the board indicating they are willing to allocate funds in the event of an emergency to support the need for large equipment, tankers, and slurry. Norris assured us they could summon resources including a landing field for a single engine (747) air tankers out of Alamosa. At that point it will be identified if we're candidates for state or federal funds. The fire department requested the backing of the POA because in order to allow time for evacuation, a temporary pre-approval of \$25,000 would assure all resources be in place if fire is threatening the Baca. The board will clarify fire insurance status from the insurance company to determine where funds would come from. There will be a review by a lawyer after to next official meeting. Brack will need to get approval from at least three board members in an emergency. This measure was

approved by the board with only Bob Garnett opposing.

Banking

While the details of the banking were more intricate than can be reported here, the board was making an effort to straighten out accounts. Some money was moved from Aventa to Southwest Bank because of an incompatibility with Aventa's record keeping. They've also moved \$97,000 in operating funds from US bank to Southwest Bank checking, made a motion to roll over a CD and moved operating funds into Southwest Bank. Nearly \$60,000 in membership dues is owed, money which is needed to operate. The new manager will provide a report of the banking accounts to clarify finances.

Employee performance

The Employee Performance Policy was reviewed and changes were approved. These changes will provide clearer guidelines for employees and management regarding job performance reviews. These reviews will be conducted by department heads or the community manager. It remains to be clarified if the conduct review of a manager is done with Hammersmith or the board does its own review.

Shorts (or briefs)

- The board addressed issues with the upcoming Crestone Music Festival including the use of carts and compensation for use of equipment.

- There are many overdue payments. Until there is a policy in place regarding overdue dues by members, the board is considering payment plans and allowing members in good standing to pay off debt by December. The amount owed is considerable—over \$60,000. Some

late fees may be waived because statements were mailed to at least 100 incorrect addresses.

- Director Matie Belle Lakish, along with two other property owners, is looking into an equestrian and dog policy as a way to prevent more accidents caused by dogs such as the one involving dogs that spooked horses and sent a rider to the hospital on a Flight for Life.

Elections

The attorney will review election materials and procedures. Schreiber has been working on the election materials and ran them by the other board members with show-and-tell materials. By the annual meeting it will be decided who chairs and how to get items on the agenda or ballot. Nominating Committee guidelines were approved as well as four volunteers: Parvin Johnson, Ken Nelson, Judith Gilbert and Diane Dunlap.

Watershed council

Noah Baen and Cyndi Santi offered a presentation regarding the comprehensive conservation plan of the Baca National Wildlife Refuge. The efforts of the Watershed Council are intended to get citizen participation during the input period on the conservation plan, which will probably be this fall when the draft is released. A water management plan that will protect and restore our watershed needs to be implemented. Baen and Santi urged the board to get information to the membership. An informed public, according to Baen, can assure that the appropriate water flow is maintained to restore, enhance and maintain wetlands, and riparian habitats for native wildlife, plant, and fish species. The board's action at this time was to issue an e-blast informing residents so they can add their name to the Council's petition at petitions.moveon.org/sign/protect-our-local-watershed.

POA property owners witness futility over indemnification issue

by Sandia Belgrade

The sole stated purpose of the Special Meeting of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (BG-POA) meeting on July 24 was an indemnification vote. However, given the different perspectives presented and the combative mood, it was also a demonstration of the frustrating realities of democracy for the many property owners in attendance who filled the room.

Some concise background is needed. Diane Dunlap, Janie Thomas, Bruce McDonald, and Nigel Fuller filed a lawsuit against the BGPOA and named several directors and a former director as defendants. Their primary contention is that the previous POA election was done in an illegal manner last November as well as there being issues of divided loyalty related to the CrESD vote. They have singled out Bill Folk, former director; and Treat Suomi and Russell Schreiber, current directors, in the lawsuit, but in effect they are legally suing the association. The term indemnification also may need clarification: it means security against hurt, loss, or damage and exemption from incurred penalties or liabilities. Colorado law states that there must be mandatory indemnifica-

tion for members of a board.

At the very beginning, Schreiber moved no vote to be taken on indemnification because there was no justification for it. Since no one has suffered any loss and no one has requested indemnification, there was no reason to take a vote and the meeting can adjourn. No one on board has asked for indemnity because insurance has already paid costs with \$5,000 deductible insurance and a judge has dismissed the case because a dispute resolution hearing wasn't held. Why then did the meeting go on for two hours? Part of the back and forth discussion was about whether bylaws could be invoked which might disallow indemnification and block some directors from voting. Schreiber and Director Matie Belle Lakish repeated several times that state law has primacy over the covenants and the covenants take precedence over the bylaws. Community Manager Kristin Ecklund passed out the Colorado revised non-profit act which clearly states mandatory indemnification of board members is required. So with the state laws having primacy and requiring indemnification, was this meeting an exercise in futility? People got to voice their opinions, not all of them in a friendly way,

but there was no serious confrontation or need for the officer of the law who was present. With such a large number attending, a sample of statements given offers an indication of where the community leans.

An exercise in democracy

Bruce McDonald seemingly acted as a primary spokesperson for the plaintiffs. He contended that the present directors were not duly elected, and that's the primary dispute. He said he just wanted a judge to make a decision. Several in the room felt the meeting was called so it might serve as a required indemnification determination hearing to clear the way for a refiling of the lawsuit. McDonald waved a paper saying the board was costing the community \$20,000. Others responded saying further litigation would only cost more as the POA has to use members dues to pay \$5000 for the insurance deductible every time they are sued.

Ken Nelson, chair of the nominating committee, noted it's hard enough to get people to run for the POA board. Who would give 40+ hrs/month if they couldn't be indemnified? It's frightening, for if anyone decides to sue, it puts the board member in jeopardy.

Several in the audience stated that the board was acting in good faith. No one deserves to be sued and why sue? Take positive action. These comments are supported by the Common Interest Ownership Act which urges mediation. Many present voiced the opinion that they weren't happy with election procedure, but they wanted constructive efforts to get something changed.

Some in attendance asked why the plaintiffs are only focused on litigation. The response was that laws were broken and they should be held responsible. One community member said this is a small group who because they lost the election are suing, but they have chosen a damaging path for our community, and they are not representational of the members. One woman stated strongly, "Stop using hypotheticals and just tell the real truth." Many of those present voiced the opinion that they weren't happy with the election procedure, but want constructive efforts to get something changed.

Finally, many rewordings later, the vote to indemnify named parties was called. Bob Garnett and Diana Moats voted no. Matie Belle Lakish and Russell Schreiber voted yes. The motion failed.

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.



You may have heard that politicians in Washington are considering an overhaul of the federal tax code. We want to alert you to an idea being discussed that could greatly harm Aventa Credit Union and each one of our over 21,000 member/owners.

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including working families, small businesses, and the local community. Because we return benefits to our member/owners, we are able to offer higher returns on savings, lower rates on loans, and most importantly, low or no fees. That's why your credit union is not-for-profit and tax exempt.

Now banks and some politicians in Washington are talking about taxing credit unions like Aventa Credit Union, despite the fact that we are not-for-profit. They say we can balance the budget by taxing credit unions, even though credit unions hold only 6% of all financial assets nationwide while banks hold the rest. Because credit unions are not-for-profit, taxing credit unions could even destroy credit unions as we know them, eliminating an important financial choice for consumers.

Moreover, taxing credit unions won't even scratch the surface of our budget deficit. For every \$1 in new taxes on credit unions, the government would wipe out \$10 in benefits to credit union members and consumers. So taxing credit unions is not only bad for our nation's economy, a tax on credit unions is really just a tax on you, the member/owner.

TAKE ACTION

To preserve credit union tax-exempt status, we must ensure our voice is heard loud and clear. We must tell Congress that a tax on credit unions is a tax on 96 million Americans, and therefore unthinkable! Now is the time to mobilize and deliver a strong message to Congress: "Don't Tax My Credit Union."

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Visit www.donttaxmycreditunion.org and click on the "Take Action" link to register and contact your Member of Congress. Or you can also call the toll-free number 877.642.4223 and you will be directed to your Member of Congress. For updates:

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Stop by Member Appreciation Days and Make Your Summer Sweeter

Aventa wants to make your summer a little sweeter. Stop by the Crestone Branch on Thursday, August 29, 2013 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. as we celebrate you, our member, during Member Appreciation Days. Our Management team will be on hand to answer your questions and to hand out ice cream treats as a way to say thank you.



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The Crestone Fire Protection District today—a report by the board

by the Crestone Fire Protection District Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors of the Crestone Fire Protection District are pleased by the spring vote of nearly two-to-one against the dissolution of the district. We infer from this overwhelming support a mandate to bring into operation the activities of your emergency services in the co-coordinated and focused way that only can be achieved through a special district. A special district is an entity created by our state legislature, which assures management by a dedicated group of locally elected local individuals operating under well-defined rules. The Crestone Fire Protection District is governed by Colorado Revised Statute Title 32 (the Special District Act). There are many special fire districts in Colorado, but virtually no fire management systems residing in a private organization like the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA). Special fire districts are funded by taxes and bond-indebtedness approved by local voters.

Barriers

While voters here have strongly approved the operation of the Crestone Fire Protection District, they have neglected to approve funding through taxation at the level requested. In view of our responsibility to the voters to create the kind of emergency services they desire, we are rethinking our assumptions about our budget. Additional concerns have been raised about the use of equipment and facilities owned by the POA. Also, some individuals may be concerned about the emergence of what they view as an additional governmental bureaucracy.

Funding

Our preference as a board is to retain our original structure and budget, but our first priority is to be able to provide our community with the heightened services of the special district. Accordingly, we are trying to reduce the costs of the district. Our discussions with Fire Chief Ben Brack have indicated that his budget could be reduced. This is not to say that the current budget is too fat, but rather an ac-

knowledge that compromise should be made to gain approval for the mill levy in these times. Our service plan currently incorporates the ambulance service as part of the district rather than retaining it within the POA, but in many communities the ambulance service is wholly separate from the fire management service. If this came to be the case in our service plan and the ambulance service remained within the POA, the mill levy request could be reduced. To emphasize, any future changes in the level of taxation can only occur through the will of the voters.

However, in addition to long-range financing of the district, several vital current issues require funding if your district is to continue. The soonest feasible vote on a mill levy would be May 2014. Because of TABOR requirements, such an election may cost up to \$10,000. Also in May the positions of two members of the POA board are up for election; as an economy those elections could be concurrent. Moreover, it is possible that revisions to our service plan may be necessary, which could entail significant legal expenses, perhaps as much as \$10,000. We are currently seeking to fund these expenses through grants and donations. Donations are happily accepted and can be mailed to Crestone Emergency Services District, PO Box 1254, Crestone, CO 81131.

Equipment

While the equipment and facilities for fire management located in Crestone can be used by the district, it would seem obvious that optimal service could best be that which also involves use of the equipment and facilities housed in the POA. At present two issues have concerned the board of directors of the POA in its considerations of the conveyance of this vital material to the district. The first is the unfeasibility of gaining the approval of such action by 67% of the members in good standing, infeasible insofar as that fraction of our internationally dispersed membership has never even voted in any election. Arguably, judicial relief could be obtained in this situation if it could be established that the



Out in the Baca—a 4 yr. old buck sheltering under juniper.

photo by Kate Steichen

rule requiring the 67% approval could be legally established as unobtainable; this could be an arduous task. However, the POA Board of Directors apparently may lower the number required for approval if the transfer involves only non-residential property, as it would be in this case (Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act, 38-33.3-.312). These possibilities bear further exploration.

A further concern was raised by the insurance agent of the POA in the case the equipment was leased to the district, with the POA retaining ownership. The agent felt that such an arrangement would not relieve the POA of liability and might even increase it. It seems likely, though, that if leasing proves the better solution to the district's use of the POA's resources, there are good insurance alternatives to the one currently employed by the POA and which many operating fire districts in the state use. It should be noted that a major consideration for undertaking the establishment of this Fire Protection District was the acquisition of important limitation to liability, as a governmental agency. This "immunity" (not including criminal acts, of course) would be incredibly valuable should a severe fire incident befall us, requiring the assistance of state and federal responders, whose fees could easily exceed tens of thousands of dollars. Currently, such massive expenses would need to be charged to owners in a special billing.

In regard to liability, our personal fire insurance is likely to become less expensive (or in some cases, even obtainable in the first place), due to the known benefits of a better-organized system of fire management conferred by a special district.

Governance

Our community is justly famous in the Valley for the variety of life-perspectives we hold and

honor. A prominent voice among them might be characterized as libertarian if that means a general abhorrence of central governance. While the Crestone Fire Protection District has been enabled by Colorado statute, it is wholly a creature of the citizens of the District. These citizens have clearly expressed the majority's view that the special districts form of governance of emergency services delivery is preferable to that of the private corporation which has managed these services in the past. Given the dedication of the Fire District's Board solely to issues of emergency services, one's voice expressed before that Board could have more impact than an expression before the POA Board, which has scores of unrelated issues to juggle.

Your Crestone Fire Protection District Board of Directors is committed to making this project work. We've outlined the barriers we face and some current ideas of how to tackle them, but we are only five and our wise community is many. Come, give us your help.

The members of the Board are: Frederick Dunets, president; Eli Dokson, treasurer; David Hillman, secretary; Peter Taylor, and Bill Sutherland.

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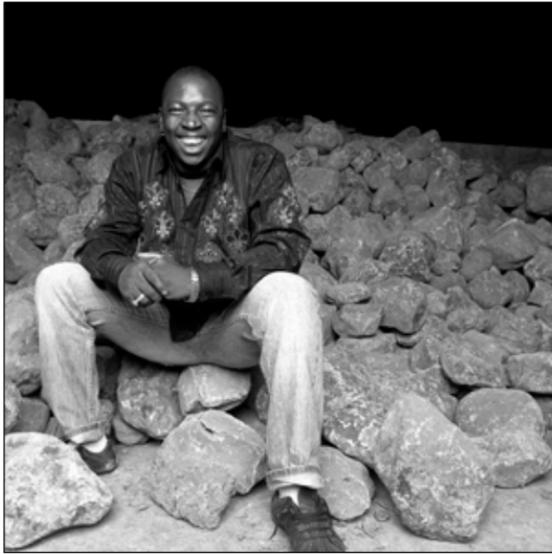
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15th Annual Crestone Music Festival

August 2-4

It's time, it's time, it's time for the 15th Annual Crestone Music Festival August 2-4. We are past excited! We have cool acts, tasty food, tempting libations, giggly activities and a fabulous raffle. That combined with friendly camping, a beautiful setting and sweet green grass for everyone to frolic upon has us licking our chops. Can't wait to go at it. Here's a review.

Friday's headliner is the Haunted Wind Chimes. These three guys and two gals have just had a prestigious appearance on "Prairie Home Companion." They have amazing honeyed harmonies and spirited pickin'. Their sound draws from traditional folk and American roots music. The songs have a vintage quality, as if they might have been written yesterday or 75 years ago. Opening for the Haunted Wind Chimes is Hit & Run Bluegrass. They were formed in late 2001 with the mutual desire to play authentic-yet-modern bluegrass. Called the "most exciting bluegrass act in Colorado" by *Westword Magazine*, they have been able to harness a style of bluegrass that has both young kids and older folks lining up in the streets for their shows, each and every time they play. They are the only band to ever win first place in the Festival Band Contest at both the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and Rockygrass!



Vieux Farka Touré will be the Sunday evening headliner for the 2013 Crestone Music Festival.

Tab Benoit was such a huge hit three years ago that folks are still talking about it and so we are bringing him back on Saturday August 3. Tab is the real deal. 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. Opening for Tab will be last year's big hit, Atomga! Besides great singing, there is a pile of instruments played including a full percussion section and a very cool horn section that includes a bass trombone. This band uses authentic Nigerian Afro-



Haunted Wind Chimes. photo by The Gazette, Christian Murdock

beat as its foundation, then branches out into styles including funk, jazz and world beat, utilizing inspirations of each of the 11 musicians in this eclectic project. Providing all the elements of an authentic, deep grooving, booty-shaking, Afro-beat dance party.

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 he remains true to the roots of his father's music, he adds elements of rock, Latin music and other African influences. Vieux is known for dazzling crowds with his speed and dexterity on the guitar. Opening for Vieux is Nokuthula. A big hit from last year! Nokuthula (pronounced "No-Koo-Too-La") means "Mother of Peace" in the Ndebele language of Zimbabwe. They play contemporary and traditional music from Zimbabwe, South Africa and beyond. The band's roots are in Zimbabwean-style marimba and mbira, but their music is also influenced by jazz, blues, Latin, Afro-Cuban, Haitian, and other world music. The band's music is joyous, energetic and upbeat with driving



Tab Benoit, Crestone Music Festival's 2013 Saturday night headliner.

Fun & games in the Kids' Zone!

The Crestone Music Festival is family friendly with lots of great activities planned for kids of all ages. Start your day off with yoga. Everyone can benefit from a morning movement and stretch class offered by Chris Sartain. Carolina Sartain will offer a special yoga workshop during the day geared towards little ones. Both Chris & Carolina are certified Yoga instructors.

During the day, the Salida Circus returns with parades, stilt walkers, acrobatics & costumes. This is a people circus so there will be no monkeys on your back, but, there will be plenty of fun and laughs. Kid's workshops are planned for Saturday & Sunday afternoons so your little performer can learn real circus arts! The Kids' Zone will see the return of Rosario with "We are the drum" presenting drumming workshops.



New this year we have Allison Wonderland who will be our Family Tent Coordinator and storyteller. Allison will be providing lots of opportunities for fun with "Wiggles & Giggles" a guided time of songs, games and activities that invite the kids to move and laugh, A "Pied Piper Parade", and a "Story Telling Circle." There will be a "resting and nesting" area for families to relax in the shade and possibly take a quiet moment alone or even a little nap!

There is no fee for workshops sponsored by CMF in the Family Tent. Our Family Tent is located on the west end of the festival. Have fun!

Crestone Music Festival t-shirt design winner!

The 15th Annual CMF t-shirt design was created by Crestone artist Robin Rosenberg. This is Robin's first t-shirt design for the Crestone Music Festival and was taken from the centerpiece of our new stage backdrop! Robin grew up on the east coast and graduated with an arts degree from Rowan University where she studied glass blowing and color theory. She moved to the San Luis Valley in the late '70s and has been a long time community member, opening her studio in Crestone in 1987.

Robin is best known for her kiln-fired art glass pieces. She has been recognized nationally, winning over 6 awards in juried art exhibitions throughout the west and is a two-time ribbon winner for "Artistic Excellence" from the "Glass at the Gardens" yearly

exhibition at the Denver Botanical Gardens. Robin was also selected as a highlighted artist for Rocky Mountain PBS in 1999. She is currently showing at Firedworks Gallery in Alamosa, and is a member of the Crestone Artisan's Gallery in Crestone. Robin does commissioned pieces and can be reached at 719-588-5066 or rosemountain@fairpoint.net.



rhythms and mesmerizing vocals. Other regional acts include: Shel—original songbirds; Logo Ligi—Ghana drum & dance; Chimney Choir—eclectic folk; Futaba—funk; Savor—Cuban street dance; Sweet Radish—folk grass; Crestone Kaminari Taiko; Red Bandana—Teen Idie Rock; and Sandy Wells—country rock. We also have a great slew of local acts. Please see the full schedule in this edition of *The Crestone Eagle*.

Advance ticket prices for this year are: adults \$25 Friday, \$35 Saturday and \$25 Sunday; seniors \$15 Friday, \$20 Saturday and \$15 Sunday; teens 12-18 \$10/day; and kids under 12 are free. Advance weekend pass discounts 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, by phone at 719-256-4599.

Crestone Performances Inc. is a 501c3 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 community endeavors.

Five Crestone artists donate to CPI raffle; grand prize value at over \$2,000!

The grand prize for the Crestone Performances, Inc. raffle this year has been donated by five nationally known, award-winning Crestone artists: Lynn Drake, Ron Dessain, Estela Carmona, Karl Grose, and Robin Rosenberg.

Lynn Drake is the owner of "Clay Art Gallery & Studio" in downtown Crestone. She studied with master potter Bertha Gotterup before

to photography in the darkroom of a small engineering company in 1969. These days he enjoys a snowbird lifestyle, traveling between Colorado in the summer and Texas and Florida in the winter. Nature and wildlife photography are his main interests as he looks for those glimpses of magic in wild places. He won 1st Place in the 2010 "Mountain Shoot Out" exhibit and his work is sold in Colorado and

ceremonies, which put her in contact with indigenous cosmology and living ways. Then she met painter and medicine man Aurelio Diaz Tekpankalli, who shared his instruction and insight. She later helped him with his mural work in Tekpankalli Tamoanchan. Since then, she has been working on her own acrylics collection called "Universal Creation," and began a series of murals called "Special Places." She paints her own visions and experiences, a re-connection with Nature and her own nature. Estela has donated a piece entitled "Offering for Life." This is a giclée fine art reproduction printed on archival canvas with ecofriendly archival ink. Of this piece Estela says, "Putting life for life, every day, every action, every gesture, all my work . . . to put life for life and simply to live."

Karl Grose moved to Crestone three years ago from Bath, Maine where he has been working with wood for over 40 years, beginning in the construction trade. Karl is a craftsman who specializes in custom furniture and hand-turned wooden vessels. Many of Karl's pieces are turned from local woods that are already blown down or need to be cut. Karl has donated three lathe-turned candle sticks in a classic yet contemporary design.

He has won numerous awards and been acknowledged for his clean sense of design in relationship to material. His work is currently shown locally at Firedworks Gallery and Crestone

Artisans Gallery. Karl was a founding member of the Guild of Maine Woodworkers, board member on Maine Wood Workers and a member of Maine Wood Turners. His furniture is represented in the fine art collection at Westminster Abbey, in England. He won Best of Show at the Maine Festival furniture division and his work has been shown around the country in the Thomas Moser Galleries (Maine, NYC, DC, San Francisco and Chicago.)

Robin Rosenberg moved to the San Luis Valley in 1979 after receiving a degree from Rowan University in New Jersey where her studies concentrated in glass blowing and design.

While there, she worked as a teaching assistant and glass blower at Wheaton Village, a glass foundry which is well known for its preservation of traditional and exploration of contemporary techniques in the fine art of glass. Robin opened her studio in Crestone in 1987. The process used in the 20" platter she has donated to CPI is called "kiln-fired art glass."

"I use a very high quality fusible art glass, cut and design my pieces and then fire in a large glass kiln. The combining of different glasses, trapping air in between layers and a precise firing schedule with multiple firings gains me the desired results." Robin's work has been recognized nationally and she is a two-time award winner for Artistic Excellence from the "Glass at the Gardens" exhibitions in Denver, CO and has been a highlighted artist for Rocky Mountain PBS.

Moving towards Zero Waste, from the CrestFest Greenification Team

by *Cristina Cabeza-Kinney*

Can you imagine a festival where virtually every piece of "trash" is either recycled, reused or composted? Eco-Cyclers can. These are the people who actively seek to recycle, reuse, or compost everything they buy and use. They are the ones with their own bags, water bottles and can be seen voluntarily sorting recyclables. Does this sound like you? Thank you! Does this sound like something you are working towards? Awesome . . . welcome to the team! Does this sound like a lot of work? Yes, it can be and oh so worth it!

Festivals all over the country are moving towards a Zero Waste model. The Telluride Bluegrass Festival, our neighbor to the west, is one of the first big events to go Zero Waste.

So, what is Zero Waste?

"Zero Waste is a philosophy and a design principle for the 21st century. It includes 'recycling' but goes beyond recycling by taking a 'whole system' approach to the vast flow of resources and waste through human society.

"Zero Waste maximizes recycling, minimizes waste, reduces consumption and ensures that products are made to be reused, repaired or recycled back into nature or the marketplace," says Grassroots Recycling Network.

Here at the Crestone Music Festival, we have been moving in this direction in incremental steps. From starting a recycling program, to directing waste to the recycling stations, to meticulously sorting, we have joined the movement! Last year, we awarded prizes to the most eco-conscious food vendors. Thanks to all the vendors who naturally grew in this direction and kept the tide moving forward.

A very important key to Zero Waste is community participation. When we take steps towards this whole system approach, it becomes a reality. The Greenification Team encourages you to join us with these 5 eco-tips:

- Bring your own water bottle!
- Use the stations provided for recycling and compost.
- Minimize the waste you buy and bring.
- Find ways to reuse before adding to the waste bin.
- Campers: Pack in, pack out, and unpack at the Recycling Center by the north entrance.

Thank you so much for helping us take our festival to the next level! May the beauty of the Crestone landscape be reflected in the way we take care of our consumption. One step at a time . . .

For more info: ecocycle.org and grn.org



opening her own gallery and studio. Lynn is currently working on a series called "From the Earth" which incorporates classical shapes, textures and mineral-based natural stains. She gets her results from stretching the clay at the right moment to create fissures and crevices in the body, giving a sense of dry desert or cracked earth. A highly skilled craftsperson, Lynn has captured the perfect balance between contemporary art and traditional craft. Her work is in private collections worldwide, she has won numerous national awards, and she is currently represented at Galerie D'Art in La Jolla, CA.

Ron Dessain was introduced

Austin, TX. Ron currently has an exhibition hanging at Joyful Journey Hot Springs & Conference Center. The photograph he has donated to CPI is a panoramic photo of "Crestone Rainbow" taken in 2012. This photograph has been framed by Firedworks Gallery.

Estela Carmona started drawing naturally as a child, and has dedicated herself intensely to painting since retiring from a dancing and acting career due to injuries. With her first technique teacher, Moises Diaz Jimenez, she started painting stage sets. While looking for ways to help her physical conditions, Estela began to participate in pre-Hispanic

2013 CMF Schedule

w=west stage
e=east stage

Friday, August 2nd

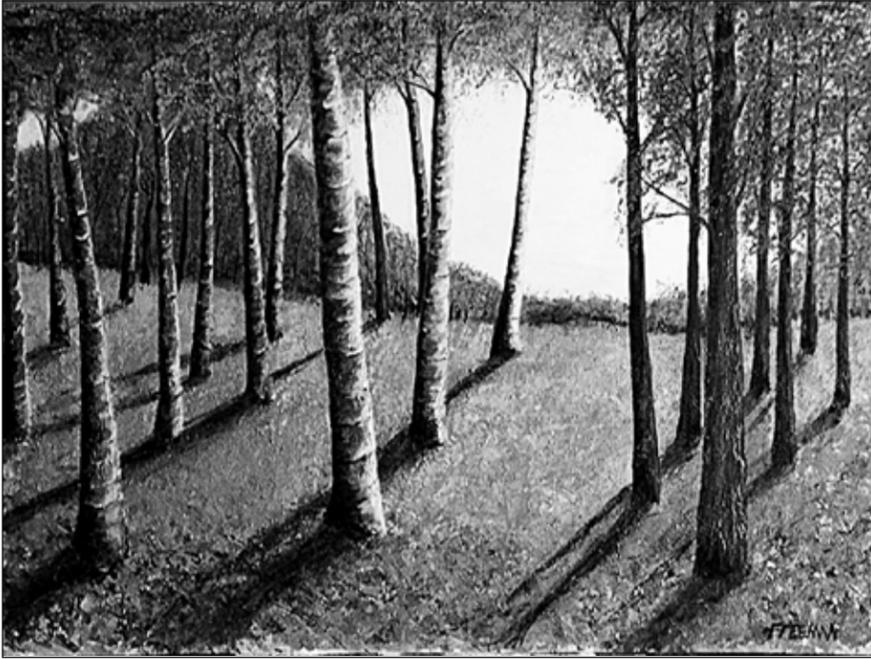
1:00 – 1:45 - (w)	Strange Lights – Indie Rock
2:15 – 3:00 - (w)	River Bottom Blues Band – Sweet Blues
3:30 – 4:15 - (w)	Plan Be – Gypsy Mountain Rock
4:45 – 5:30 - (w)	Therapy Cats – Friendly Folk Funk
5:45 – 6:45 - (e)	Sweet Radish w/ Gordon Burt – Folk Grass
7:00 – 8:15 - (w)	Rebecca Frazier Hit & Run – Double Hot Bluegrass
8:30 – 10:00 - (e)	Haunted Windchimes – Americana Roots Folk

Saturday, August 3rd

10:00 – 10:30 - (e)	Conscious Vibe – Peace Dances
10:45 – 11:15 - (e)	Zumba Crestone – Zumba Dance Party
11:30 – 12:15 - (w)	Nikki Z – Funk Rock Roar
12:30 – 1:15 - (e)	Sandy Wells – Kick It Country
1:30 – 2:30 - (w)	Chimney Choir – Unique Eclectic Folk
2:45 – 3:45 - (e)	Shel – Original Songbirds
3:45 – 4:05	Break - Women's Wood Chopping Contest
4:05 – 4:35 - (w)	Crestone Kaminari Taiko – Booming Taiko Drums
4:35 – 5:00	Break – Men's Wood Chopping Contest
5:00 – 6:10 - (e)	Futaba – Fabo Funk
6:20 – 7:30 - (w)	Atomga – Big Afro Beat
7:30 – 8:00	Break –
8:00 – 9:30 - (e)	Tab Benoit – Bayou Boogie Blues Man

Sunday, August 4th

8:00	ScSeed Pancake Breakfast
8:00 – 8:30 - (e)	All Y'All – Family Folk
8:45 – 9:30 - (e)	Meadowlark Quintet - Americana Eclectic Folk
9:45 – 10:30 - (e)	CB Jazz – Jump Back Jazz
10:45 – 11:30 - (e)	Sacred Arts Club – Middle Eastern Dance, Poetry, Chants
11:45 – 12:30 - (w)	Two Weeks in Fiji – A Smooth & Soulful Stampede of Rock
12:45 – 1:30 - (e)	Red Bandana – Teen Rock Pop
1:45 – 2:45 - (w)	Logo Ligi – Gahna Drum & Dance Troupe
2:45 – 3:00	Break – Pie Eating Contest
3:00 – 4:00 - (e)	Savor – Throbbing Cuban Street Dance
4:00 – 4:15	Break – Limbo
4:15 – 5:30 - (w)	Nokuthula – Amazing Zimbabwe Marimbas
5:30 – 6:00	Break – Raffle Drawing
6:00 – 7:30 - (e)	Vieux Farka Toure – Malian Maestro Guitarist



Grant Freeman's new work will be on display the whole month of August.

Painter Grant Freeman to be featured artist at Shumei International; Symposium August 11

Local artist Grant Freeman's works will be on display at the Shumei Gallery in Crestone for the month of August. A symposium with Grant will be held on Sunday August 11 starting at 3pm. A reception will follow.

Grant began painting professionally eleven years ago when he was offered a show if he could produce twelve art-worthy paintings in two months.

In his words, "I thought it would be easy to throw some paint on the canvas and enjoy the pat-

terns enough to call it my art but I couldn't complete one. Just as I was about accept failure I saw a face in the current swirl of colors on my canvas and began intuitively to fill in the shadows. Automatically a knowing took over turning my inept attempt of chaos into a lovely flow of appreciation, while tears rolled down my laughing face, I soon completing my first of twelve portraits for the show. The intuitive part of me always does things better than I do."

Grant continues to produce new works and sells them worldwide. This show will be highlighting his recent expressions of landscapes.

Meet with Grant and learn more about his work on Sunday August 11, 3pm to 5pm. This event is free to the public. Please visit www.shumeicrestone.org or call 256-5284 for more information. The Shumei gallery is open every day 9 to 5pm.

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Please contact the POA office ASAP to let us know of your interest in volunteering.

719-256-4171
or
info@bacapoa.org

Lets try this again! Jerry Barlow to perform at Shumei August 23

Shumei International Institute welcomes back acclaimed Celtic guitarist Jerry Barlow on Friday, Aug. 23 at 7pm. Barlow's expressive arrangements have been described as music to soothe the soul, warm the heart and lift the spirit.

Unfortunately due to technical difficulties, Jerry had to cancel at the last minute in January. But he is back and ready to show off his new work. Barlow is a warm, accessible performer and storyteller. His unique and skillfully delivered repertoire incorporates favorite traditional pieces as well as his own Celtic-inspired compositions. His expressive arrangements of lively jigs, spirited reels, and haunting airs have been described as music to soothe the soul, warm the heart and lift the spirit.

In concert, Jerry brings traditional Celtic tunes alive by sharing the history, humor, and legends behind the music. "Jerry Barlow . . . a performer who is skilled, funny and riveting. Out of the many musicians performing today, the vast majority are skilled in either performing on their instrument or in entertaining an audience. It's very rare and extremely enjoyable to see a musician at the very top of his craft in both areas," says Scott Beach, Director of Colorado Celtic Entertainment.

Barlow's latest CD, *Fields and Fences*, was released in late October to excellent reviews and a nomination by the Independent Music Association for Instrumental Album of the Year (2011). The Indie Acoustic Project, an international award that celebrates the best independent acoustic music, selected the title song from Jerry's CD,

Bring Down the Storm, as "one of the best songs of 2006." Songs from all three of his CDs have been featured in PBS documentaries and Landlocked Films features.

Barlow's music can be heard regularly on many National Public Radio stations. He has been featured in *Fingerstyle Guitar* magazine, and was profiled in the February, 2011, issue of *Celtic Connection*. He has performed in the Gates Auditorium for the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music, the Arvada Center for the Performing Arts, and is a favorite of High plains Public Radio's Living Room Concert Series in Amarillo, TX.

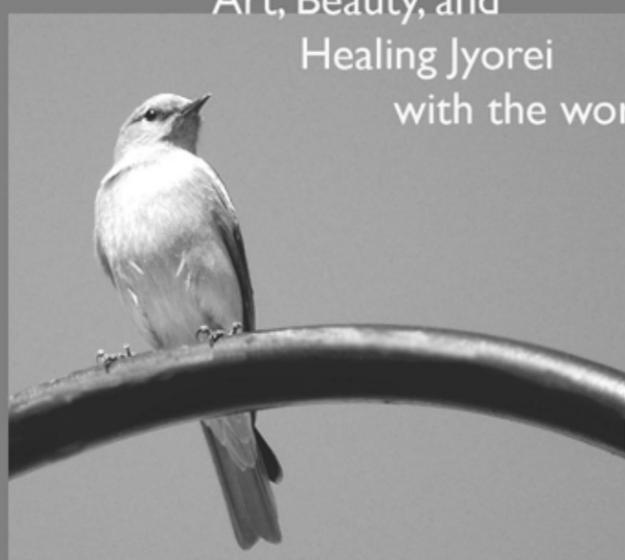


Jerry Barlow, acclaimed Celtic guitarist.

Barlow is a consummate performer who has been on the A-list of concert musicians in Colorado for years. Shumei International Institute is happy to be hosting this award-winning guitarist all the way from Denver to perform in Crestone. Tickets for the concert are a \$10 suggested donation, and all proceeds benefit the artist directly. For more information visit www.shumeicrestone.org or call 719-256-5284.

Shumei International Institute

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Art Symposia, exhibitions, concerts and special events. See the community calendar or visit www.shumeicrestone.org for an up to date schedule

Shumei International Institute - PO Box 998, Crestone, CO 81131 - 719-256-5284



Lightening Over the Sand Dunes, photograph by Autumn Brooke

New photography artist at the Crestone Artisans Gallery revels in Crestone's inspiring landscape

2nd Saturday Art Walk August 10

by Amy Myszko

If you live in Crestone, you probably resonate with the special gifts that our pristine wilderness has to offer. The Crestone Artisans Gallery strives to support local artists who are inspired by our natural surroundings, and one of our newest artists—Autumn Brooke Grinath—possesses that perfect combination of skill and creativity expressed through her photography.

Autumn Brooke was born and raised in rural Maryland. She developed a love for nature at a young age. In 2005, she graduated from York College of Pennsylvania, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art, focusing on photography and figure drawing. Autumn's eye for contrasting colors and balanced compositions combine to capture scenic photographs that evoke a sense of serenity and beauty. Her artistic aspiration is to share the connectedness that she feels when she's alone in nature through the physical manifestation of her unique perspective.

Autumn was first drawn to our beautiful mountains and town two years ago, while traveling around Colorado in search of a place that felt "divinely, undeniably home." She knew she had found it

when she was driving down T Road after her first visit here, glancing at the Sangres in her rear view mirror in awe, humbled, and deeply immersed in gratitude. "I could feel the certainty in my bones . . . It was a sense of clarity that I had never quite experienced before. I really had no choice but to listen." Here she finds an abundance of inspiration as she explores and admires the land's many natural gifts.

The Artisans Gallery is happy to feature Autumn's original photography along with her prints, which complements our other unique artwork. Remember to come on out and support all the local artists at the monthly Art Walk, the second Saturday of every month through the summer. August's Art Walk will be held on Saturday August 10, from 3-5pm. We will have refreshments and live music, and many of the artists will be available to talk about their work.

The gallery is thriving this summer and would like to express gratitude to all of the local folks who have been coming in to support valley artisans. Feel free to check out our website, www.crestoneartisansgallery.com, and to "like" our Facebook page if you'd like to stay up-to-date with events and new artists.

Sold! Curt's Store sells to local buyers, now '200 Cottonwood' —gas pumps to open soon!

The moment the "Sold!" sign went up in front of the Curt's Olde Country Store building, the town has been a-buzz with speculation, rumors, and excitement. Gas? Back in Crestone? The anticipation is tangible.

The building and property, now styled "200 Cottonwood", was recently purchased through collaboration between Benjamin Byer, Michelle Beelendorf-Byer, McGregor Gaines, and a silent partner.

With gas on the front of everyone's mind, reopening the gas station is the top priority. McGregor, Michelle, and Benjamin hope to have it running as soon as possible.

Plans to move the current Elephant Cloud Teashop and Market into a portion of the building continue to unfold. Benjamin and Michelle aim to open the relocated business this fall. "We plan to keep our current pricing structure and style of grocery market. The move reflects an intention to continue serving our community with increasing excellence."

Other ideas and concepts for maximizing the potential of the large and centrally located building are being considered. The goal is a multi-purpose space that houses multiple functioning business entities that will draw energy and commerce to downtown Crestone.

Benjamin comments, "We would like to have the library move in but right now it's too soon to tell." Anyone with input can fill out the library survey that is circulating town. Community members with suggestions, questions or concerns are welcome to send a letter to PO Box 430, Crestone, CO, 81131.



Officials from the town of Saguache and Aventa representatives cut the ribbon for the newest branch in Saguache, CO.

Aventa cuts ribbon on new branch in Saguache

Aventa Credit Union officially cut the ribbon at their newest branch in Saguache, CO. Distinguished guests of the Saguache community joined Aventa representatives for a ribbon cutting and block party.

During the block party celebration, tours were given of the branch, hamburgers and hot dogs were served by the local youth group, residents spun the prize wheel, and grabbed cash in the money machine. Plus, there was entertainment for the children.

The new full-service branch is the first credit union to be located in the town of Saguache. "We are proud to be part of the Saguache community; they have welcomed us with opened arms and we hope to serve them for years to come," said Karin Kovalovsky, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communications.

About Aventa

Aventa Credit Union was founded in 1957 by the Colorado Springs Utilities Department. Today, Aventa has grown to more than 21,000 members and \$150 million in assets. The credit union offers a wide variety of financial products and services throughout their branches in Colorado Springs, Pueblo and the San Luis Valley.



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46 Camino Baca Grande

Local dancers invited to participate in Indian dance retreat Aug. 22-28

International performing artist and master dance teacher Colleena Shakti returns to the San Luis Valley for the third year in a row, hosted by the CrestoneTribal Bellydance Project. An exceptional dancer, fluent in both classical and folkloric forms, Colleena is also a dedicated scholar of Indian cultural traditions.



Colleena Shakti teaches and performs Rajasthani folk dance to audiences worldwide.

From August 22 to 28, Colleena will offer an Indian Fusion Dance Immersion at Joyful Journey Hot Springs. Dancers from around the country attend this retreat to deepen their study of Indian aesthetics, art, music and philosophy through the medium of classical and folkloric forms of dance. With an emphasis on the use of Indian dance motifs for fusion, the rich curriculum will include yoga, traditional Indian training exercises, numerous creative drills and combinations, choreography work, personal assignments, theory classes and more.

CrestoneTribal is happy to announce that three modules of the program have been opened up to those unable to attend the entire week-long program. These are:

Friday afternoon, August 23: Rajasthani Dance Intensive. This fun 3-hour workshop will begin with an introduction to the history and essence of Rajasthani folkloric rhythm, gesture and style. Teaching the Khalbelia gypsy dance of the Thar desert and

the Ghoomar dance of the Rajputi women, Colleena will lead us on a lively exploration of Rajsthani culture. This class is perfect for all ages, and no experience is necessary to join in this folk dance immersion.

Saturday & Sunday, August 24 & 25: Indian Fusion Dance Intensive. This two-day, ten-hour workshop will offer a deep immersion into classical, folkloric and tribal movement through a variety of dance drills, creative exercises and short choreographic combinations. With a focus on the gestures, arm and foot patterns, musical rhythms and classical modes of Indian expression, Colleena will guide us in developing and integrating an Indian dance "flavor" into our personal style. Some dance experience is helpful but not required. Theory class and discussion will complement the dance classes.

Wednesday, August 28: Odissi Classical Dance Intensive. This one-day intensive will introduce the fundamentals of the two-thousand-year-old classical temple dance known as Odissi. Structured around traditional training exercises, instruction in basic steps

and practice, with a theory and history component, the Odissi Intensive offers a rare insight into the exquisite art form which Colleena has studied for twelve years under a traditional lineage in India. This class is open to all who are curious to know more about classical Indian dance. The evening of August 28 will conclude with a classical Indian dance performance and feast.

For the all-day dance workshops, three catered meals and a soaking pass at Joyful Journey are included. For more information and to register for any part of the Indian Fusion Immersion, please visit www.crestonetribal.com or contact katie@crestonetribal.com



Come see what's growing! Get tips & get inspired at the garden tour.

Garden tour grows again Aug. 17

Gardeners will again share their experiences with the soil on Saturday, August 17. We will meet at the Kiosk to carpool to the gardens. We'll begin at 10am, visit the first three gardens, then proceed to the Baca Park, by the firehouse, where we'll discuss garden-related topics while eating the sack lunches we bring. After lunch, we'll visit the remaining gardens. Local food production is our goal, but flowers can also feed the soul. If you would like to have your garden considered for the tour, call Matie Belle at 256-4252.

The focus this year will be on learning about the uniqueness of each garden. Each gardener has his/her own style and way of growing, and each garden location has its own set of challenges in this climate. This year we'll take more time at each stop and let the gardener explain more about what they are doing and why. What are their goals for raising more of their own food, and what strategies are they using in the garden? Since water is key to growing food in our climate, what type of irrigation are they using, and what advantages does it have for their situation? The solutions will be as creative as the gardeners, and we can learn from each other what has worked and what not. Join us by meeting at the kiosk with a sunhat and lunch and prepare for a "bloomin' fun day."



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ESPERANZA


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CHILDREN'S DANCE

CRESTONETRIBAL.COM
community art ritual strength

TRIBAL & FOLKLORIC FUSION

FOUNDATION CLASSES

WORKSHOPS & PERFORMANCE





Baca National Wildlife Refuge tours

The Baca National Wildlife Refuge invites to take a tour so you can know *your* wildlife refuge. Reservations required, first come, first served. Limited seating available. Tours are approximately 4 hours long and leave from the headquarters near the Yak 'N' Cracker on County Road T promptly at 9am.

Thursday, August, 8 (Invasive Species), Thursday August 22 (Fall Management). For reservations call 719-256-5527.

Cy Twombly art presentation

A very inspired artist with childlike observations and a strong individuality, Cy Twombly's life and work will be presented by Jennifer Thomson, and his sculpture by Robin Ross, on Saturday, August 10 at 7pm at Elephant Cloud Studio.

Sunday softball Aug. 11

How about a fun afternoon of Softball in the Park (Baca park next to the fire station) at 2pm on Sunday, August 11. The Ashram has plenty of equipment and even watermelon at the end of the game. Skill range is varied but a good sense of humor is important. Call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 for more information.

CYP special events

The Crestone Youth Project Thrift Store will be open until 3pm during the Music Festival. There will be Flash Sales daily, so stop in & see what deals are happening each day!

Come in to the CYP Thrift Store August 20 for the Full Moon Sale!

Remember that Tuesdays are special at the CYP Thrift Store because they are Senior (60+) Appreciation Day! Seniors receive 20% off their purchase every Tuesday!

Shumei Free Movie

On Friday, August 16, at 7pm, Shumei Free Movie Night hosts: *At Close Range*. A fascinating profile of National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore, this documentary chronicles all the adventure and dangers of his job, along with the conflicts that arise for him as a husband and father often away from his family. Refreshments provided, 7pm, 256-5284.

HUA garage sale

The Haidakhandi Ashram is having a benefit garage sale on Saturday, August 10 from 9am until noon at 1540 Willow Creek Way (down Two Tree road, turn right on Willow Creek Road, on left a few blocks down, follow signs). Call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 if you have questions or want to contribute to the garage sale (or help with it!). See classified ads for more info on items for sale.

The Sanctuary of Sound & Silence

Malina is proud to debut her meditation CD *The Sanctuary of Sound & Silence* this month for the special Crestonian price of \$10. On the CD, Malina chants in a variety of languages and after each cut there is one minute of silence. At the meditation circle the same format is utilized. The purpose of this unique design is to assist the listener in experiencing the sound of her voice and the space of silence to achieve a deeper altered state of awareness.

The CD will be available at the Crestone Music Festival at the Windhorse Botanical booth and at her meditation event being held Sunday, August 18 at the Elephant Cloud Studio at 4pm. See ad for details.

If you miss these events, Malina will honor this sale price if you call her before the end of the month at 719-256-4211.

Telluride Film Festival coming to Crestone!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is pleased to announce the second annual Telluride Film Festival coming to Crestone this fall. Please mark your calendars for October 5. You will not want to miss this inspiring all day fundraiser.

Salida K-9 Cancer Walk

Online registration is now open for the Salida K-9 Cancer Walk at www.MorrisAnimalFoundation.org/salidawalk The walk benefiting the Morris Animal Foundation will take place on Saturday, September 7, 2013 at 8:30am in Alpine Park in Salida. The walk is approximately 2 miles and the registration fee is \$30.00. Cancer is a disease that touches many of us, that is why Morris Animal Foundation is dedicated to finding a cure. An estimated 50% of all dogs will battle cancer. It is the No. 1 cause of death in dogs over the age of 2.

All dog lovers are invited to walk with their dogs to celebrate the life of their canine best friend or to walk in memory of dogs that have lost their battle with canine cancer. Register or donate (virtual walk) online. Registrants can also form or join a team. Volunteers are needed. Please call Suzanne Vieth at 539-6773 or Laura Bussing at 239-0553. The event is sponsored by Wag N Tails, Salida Mountain Sports, Animal Care Center, Gone to the Dogs, Spirit Mountain Antler & Log, First Colorado Land Office, Sally Mather & Conrad Nelson.



2 horses, a pony, and a burro on a summer day along the T road photo by Lori Nagel

Barn dance & bluegrass

The Crestone Youth Project presents "Sunshine Sue's" Old Dominion Barn Dance at the Crestone Community Building Thursday, August 1 from 7-10 pm, with Live Music by "Perfesser Banjo" (Eric Karlstrom) and the Good Ol' Country Folk Bluegrass Bose. All ages are welcome! Sodie pop, cookies & coffee will be available. Adults (18+) \$10; Youth (7-17) \$5; 6 & under free. Y'all come join us for good music, good fun, good dancin', good refreshments!

Spanish Trail talk in Saguache Aug. 25

For those of you who missed the excellent presentation by Angie Krall on the new information on The Old Spanish Trail, which was presented at the Crestone Town Hall, here is another opportunity. Angie will be making a presentation at the Saguache County Museum on August 25, Sunday at 1:30pm. This is fascinating historical information, and we invite anyone interested to come listen. There is no admittance charge, refreshments will be served, and donations are welcome. We hope to see you there.

Crestone Creative Council
Youth program for 13-24 year olds

Support Local Youth Art!

Items for sale at the
Crestone Botanical Gardens
Monday-Saturday 11am-4pm
Saturday Artwalk, 8/10 3-5pm

Coloring Sunday

At the Desert Sage Sunday, August 25. Get your *free* page to color from the *I AM the GODDESS Coloring Book*. Crayons and colored pencils available! Come between 9:30 and 11:30 to feel the energy. All ages invited!

Indian Fusion Dance Immersion Aug 22-28

The Indian Fusion Dance Immersion at Joyful Journey August 22-28 welcomes master teacher and performer Colleena Shakti back to our region. This intensive dance program offers shorter workshop options for local residents wishing to learn more about Indian folkloric, fusion or classical dance styles. Please visit www.crestone-tribal.com for more information and to register.

Social media business classes

Grow your business through constant contact emails. Learn more about this effective marketing strategy by attending the free Social Media Workshop sponsored by the SLV Small Business Development Center and Alamosa Chamber of Commerce. There will be two separate dates the workshop will be held:

Presented by Cheri Ruskus
August 7, 6-8pm
August 8, 9-noon

At the Bistro Rialto in Alamosa. Both workshops are free. Please RSVP to SBDC at 589-3682.

Joyful Journey's birthday

On August 17 Joyful Journey Hot Springs will be celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the opening of the hotel and conference center, offering \$5/soaks for the entire day as well as light refreshments and music in the conference center beginning at 4pm.

Drawings are being held, giving away two day passes each week until August 17. Also, overnight guests can register to win a night's stay in either a yurt or hotel room. Overnight lodging certificates will be drawn at the August 17 event.

For more information please visit the website at www.joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com or call the front desk at 719-256-4328.

The Sanctuary of Sound & Silence

Sunday, August 18th, 2013 - 4:00 pm

Elephant Cloud Studio

Donations graciously accepted

Call Malina @ 256-4211 or email at mountainflower6@gmail.com

Please find **Dee Rudoff** on August 4 and wish her a Happy Birthday!

We sure will.
~with love, from the rest of the Eaglettes

Community Calendar—August 2013

visit us online at 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 ~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.

Tuesday, July 30

- “Stillness” Workshop with Sofia Diaz – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-1:00 pm \$108 www.babajashram.org 719 256-4108
- Ashram Annual Family Week – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-1:00 pm www.babajashram.org 719 256-4108

Wednesday, July 31

- CCAA Potluck Feast & Party – Zuki & Nick’s Place 6-10pm free facebook.com/events/170953376406893/ 7194801622

Thursday, August 1

- Del Norte Covered Wagon Days – Downtown Del Norte All Day free CoveredWagonDays.com and www.Facebook.com/CoveredWagonDays
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. – 4:30-6:30pm Free/Donation nurashkijerrahi.org 256-4290
- Unveiling of CCC Mural – Little Pearl Park 4:30 pm 719-480-5925
- “Sunshine Sue’s” Old Dominion Barn Dance – Crestone Community Center 7-10pm Adults (18+): \$10; Youth (7-17): \$5, 6 and under: free

Friday, August 2

- Crestone Music Festival – Crestone Golf Course All Day crestfest.org 719-256-4533

Saturday, August 3

- Crestone Music Festival – Crestone Golf Course All Day crestfest.org 719-256-4533

Sunday, August 4

- Dee Rudoff’s birthday all day free
- Crestone Music Festival – Crestone Golf Course All Day crestfest.org 719-256-4533
- Sunday Fellowship & Potluck – Crestone Baptist Church noon
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting – Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Monday, August 5

- ElementsCamp for Families – All Day 719-480-0822, 588-1888, 588-0102
- Baca Grande Stables Summer Children’s Riding Program, 8:30-11am \$125 719-256-4756
- All Levels Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 5pm \$10 walk-ins www.crestoneyogainstitute.com 706-429-4781

Tuesday, August 6

- New-moon Fire Ceremony Followed by a Meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-noon www.babajashram.org 719-256-4108
- Moffat School sports physicals – Moffat School 1:00 pm-4:00 pm \$25.00
- New Moon – 3:45 pm
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome – Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

Wednesday, August 7

- Toning Yoga – Elephant Cloud Studio 5-6:00 pm \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com
- Crestone Pedestrian Pathways Network Project public meeting – Community Building 6:30 pm free 719-655-0104

Thursday, August 8

- Baca Nat’l Wildlife Refuge Tour (Invasive Species) Baca National Wildlife Refuge 9-1pm 256-5527
- Sufi Dhikr – 4:30 pm-6:00 pm Free or by donation nurashkijerrahi.org 256-4290
- Crestone Tribal Belly Dancers @ Yak N’ Cracker Cafe – Yak N Cracker Cafe 6:00 pm-8:00 pm www.chokureiranch.com 719 256 4700

Friday, August 9

- Gentle Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 10:30-11:30 am \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Saturday, August 10

- Rhythms on the Rio, east side of South Fork www.southforkmusic.org 719-873-5466

- Prayer Breakfast, Crestone Baptist Church 8am
- Garage Sale to Benefit Ashram – Dyal Singh’s home 9am-noon www.babajashram.org 256-4108
- 2nd Saturday Artisans Artwalk – Crestone Artisans Gallery 3-5pm crestoneartisansgallery.com
- Eric Karlstrom Banjo Playin n’ Singin @ Yak N’ Cracker 6-8:30pm www.chokureiranch.com 256-4700
- Cy Twombly art presentation – Elephant Cloud Studio 7:00 pm free

Sunday, August 11

- Shumei’s monthly Sampai, Sanctuary 10:30am-noon free www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284
- “Adventures in Belize” presentation – Saguache County Museum 1:30 pm free
- Shumei Art Symposium with painter Grant Freeman, Gallery 3-5pm Free www.shumeicrestone.org 256-5284
- ALMA presents Bone Orchard in Alamosa – Cole Park 6:00 pm free almaonline.org
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting – Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Monday, August 12

- Moffat School Registration – Moffat School 8:00 am-4:30 pm
- All Levels Yoga – Elephant Cloud Studio 5pm \$10 walk-ins www.crestoneyogainstitute.com 706-429-4781

Tuesday, August 13

- Crestone End of Life Project Open Meeting – Topping House 7:00 pm-9:00 pm www.crestone-end-of-life.org 719-256-4247/588-7415
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome, Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

Wednesday, August 14

- Toning Yoga – Elephant Cloud Studio 5-6pm \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Thursday, August 15

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. – 4:30 pm-6:30 pm Free or by donation nurashkijerrahi.org

Friday, August 16

- Gentle Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 10:30-11:30 am \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com
- Introduction to Sufism & Dhikr – Crestone Charter School 6:30 pm 719-256-4290
- Shumei’s Free Movie Night, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm Free www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284

Saturday, August 17

- Joyful Journey Hot Springs 5th Anniversary celebration All Day \$5/day joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com 256-4328
- Crestone Garden Tour – Kiosk 10:00 am free 719-256-4252
- Funky Chickens Funk N’ Soul Band @ Yak N’ Cracker noon www.chokureiranch.com 719-256-4700

Sunday, August 18

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting – Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Monday, August 19

- First day for Moffat middle & high school students – Moffat School All Day
- All Levels Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 5pm \$10 walk-ins www.crestoneyogainstitute.com 706-429-4781

Tuesday, August 20

- First day for Moffat elementary students – Moffat School All Day
- Full-moon Fire Ceremony Followed by a Meal – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am-noon www.babajashram.org 719-256-4108
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome, Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710
- Full Moon – 7:45 pm

Wednesday, August 21

- CCAA Potluck Feast & Party – Zuki & Nick’s Place 6-10:00pm free facebook.com/

- events/170953376406893/ 7194801622
- Toning Yoga – Elephant Cloud Studio 5-6:00 pm \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Thursday, August 22

- Indian Fusion Dance Immersion – Joyful Journey Hot Springs All Day www.crestontribal.com
- Baca National Wildlife Refuge Tour, Fall Management, 9am-1pm 256-5527

Friday, August 23

- Gentle Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 10:30-11:30 am \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com
- Concert at Shumei, guitarist Jerry Barlow – 7-9pm \$10 Suggested Donation www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284

Saturday, August 24

- 24th Annual Crestone Energy Fair – Crestone Town Park All Day free event 303-868-6352
- Saguache Art Festival – Uptown Saguache 10:00 am-4:30 pm 719-655-0155
- Nonviolent Communication Forum – Elephant Cloud Studio 1:30 pm-3:00 pm
- Futaba Music @ Yak N Cracker Cafe 6:00 pm-8:30 pm www.futababand.com 719 256 4700

Sunday, August 25

- Chi Nei Tsang Level 1 – Enchanted Forest All Day Discount for Crestone Residents www.learnaroma.com 719-256-4759
- I AM the Goddess coloring party – Desert Sage Restaurant 9:30 am-11:30 am free
- Spanish Trail talk – Saguache County Museum 1:30 pm free
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting – Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Monday, August 26

- First day for Moffat preschool students – Moffat School All Day
- All Levels Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 5pm \$10 walk-ins www.crestoneyogainstitute.com 706-429-4781

Tuesday, August 27

- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome, Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

Wednesday, August 28

- Community Potluck Feast – Zuki & Nick’s Place 6-10pm facebook.com/groups/CCAA-01 256-4544
- Toning Yoga – Elephant Cloud Studio 5-6:00 pm \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Thursday, August 29

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome. – 4:30-6:30pm Free or by donation nurashkijerrahi.org 256-4290

Friday, August 30

- Deadline for Moffat School Board nominations – Moffat School All Day
- Gentle Yoga, Elephant Cloud Studio 10:30-11:30 am \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Saturday, August 31

- Nikki Z @ Yak N Cracker Cafe 6:00 pm-8:30 pm www.nikkizband.com 719 256 4700

It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do. There is no fun in doing nothing when you have nothing to do. Wasting time is merely an occupation then, and a most exhausting one. Idleness, like kisses, to be sweet must be stolen.

—Jerome K. Jerome

Daily/Weekly Events

The Crestone Eagle does not carry events over to the following month automatically. If you have a daily or weekly event which you want to be sure to appear in the Community Calendar, please submit the information to www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar by the 22nd of the month:

- online (preferred) at www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar
- in writing to Crestone Eagle, PO Box 101, Crestone, CO 81131.

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 calendar items online (between print issues), please fill out the form at www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar.

Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7-8am, 256-4108, www.babajashram.org
- Sampai & Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery & Jyorei, Shumei, 9am-5pm, 256-5284
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6pm, 256-4108, www.babajashram.org

Sunday

- Mass at Nada Carmelite Hermitage 9:00 am 719-256-4778
- Dorje Trolo Practice White Jewel Mountain noon free whitejewelmountain.org 719-256-5773
- Bible School Crestone Baptist Church 10:00 am
- Sunday Service Crestone Baptist Church 11:00 am
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Sunday Softball at Baca Park Baca Park 2:00 pm free 719-256-4108

Monday

- Bahai Study Group Reflections on the Life of the Spirit, Home of Maria and Arie 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Free 719-937-7765
- Zumba Toning Birch Street Location 9:15 am-10:15 am www.angela108.zumba.com 719-256-4040
- All Levels Yoga Elephant Cloud (Jillian's) Studio 5:00 pm \$10 walks in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com 706-429-4781

Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Dance Classes, Salsa, Tango, Meringue, Swing Elephant Cloud Studio 6:00 pm-8:00 pm \$10 www.conscious-heart.org 719-937-3052
- Senior (over age 60) Appreciation Day at CYP Thrift Store All Day
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, marijuana users welcome Baca library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

Wednesday

- Dharma Ocean Meditation Group Blazing Mountain Retreat Center 6:00 pm-8:00 pm 719-588-3210
- 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
- Toning Yoga Elephant Cloud (Jillian's) Studio 5:00 pm-6:00 pm \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com
- Potluck & Bible Study Crestone Baptist Church 6:00 pm

Thursday

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

Friday

- Gentle Yoga Elephant Cloud (Jillian's) Studio 10:30 am-11:30 am \$10 walk in www.crestoneyogainstitute.com

Saturday

- Crestone Saturday Market Silver Ave. 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- The Yoga of Eternal Consciousness The Yoga House 5:00 am-8:00 am Donations welcome 303-746-4470



Above:
The Crestone Kosmic Kazoo Band is back again! Crestone's annual 4th of July parade. All photos on this page by Lori Nagel

Left:
Lisa Bodey, struttin' her Lone-Ranger-themed stuff. Crestone's annual 4th of July parade.



Above:
The Company of Players in Crestone's annual 4th of July parade, advertising their upcoming "Stories from the Edge" event on September 21-22.



Left:
The S.S. Crestoner makes its way through Crestone's annual 4th of July parade.

Below:
Elaine Johnson drives in the parade, while Monet Meisman and Justice D'Alessio are pretty darn excited about all the sugar that keeps getting tossed to them from all the cars & floats. Crestone's annual 4th of July parade.



Robin Blankenship at the reins with Ben Hurd at her side. Matthew Crowley and his son, Arthur, ride in the back. Crestone's annual 4th of July parade.



Participants at the Sixth Annual Crestone Indie 600 (feet) Soap Box Derby at Crestone's annual 4th of July festivities.





Adults and children enjoyed coloring their favorite goddess at a Desert Sage reception. Showing off their colored drawings are: Nikole Kadel, Naomi Lake, Tilly Reed, Claire Dessain and Ann Bunting



Naomi Lake and James Roderick have produced a great coloring book!

Crestone artists create the *I Am the Goddess* coloring book

by Molly Rowan Leach

One Sunday evening this past spring, Jimmy Roderick and Naomi Lake returned from their days in the community—Jimmy continuing to create wonder and awe with his made-to-order shaped pancakes for children of Crestone; Naomi from her connective Steiner group with Dr. Incao and exploring the ways we can keep the doorways open for our children of wonder, imagination, and knowing our deep unity with all creation.

Each of them are well loved and known in Crestone for the works they create and invoke, and for the ways they help us come back home to ourselves, via humor and imagination and play, or heartfelt contemplation and healing. On that Sunday evening Jimmy and Naomi realized that something

was living up through them both, simultaneously. They had an a-ha moment and realized they'd both been thinking—that day especially—that they needed to create it together. What was it?

A coloring book.

A coloring book for children, and yet very much for all people. A coloring book that would invite contemplation of the energies of the feminine, energies of devotion and focus, and elicit in the viewer/artist, perched with Crayolas, pencils or even watercolors, to imagine a world balanced, both the intimate world within, and our collective world and planet.

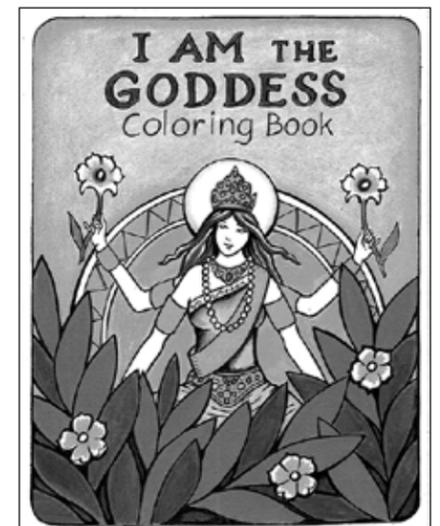
So they got to work, or rather the Goddess and life itself worked through them. In their creative process together they merged the intuitive skills they both have and that

come to surface in complementing ways: he knew how to draw the goddesses. Really well. She knew how to simplify and refine and to provide intuitive guidance as the global goddesses emerged onto the page.

What is ingenious about this coloring book is that it beckons you in.

This creative offering is much more than it appears, and holds a significance and sincerity of meaning that clearly grasped those present Sunday morning, July 21 at the Desert Sage Restaurant, where Naomi brought a poster board glimpse of each Goddess coloring book page, and Jimmy made dirt bike pancakes like nobody else can for the 7-year-old boys who were also ensconced in coloring their Dianas. The whole restaurant had their heads down with fresh waves of colored pencils and crayons straying and scrawling about on the tables. Colors were popping, people were laughing, present, opened. Kids were eating ravenously and then getting back to the coloring. A feeling was in the air. Does art and invocation really equate to something this simple? Yes. Do we really respond—children and adults alike—when we see some-

thing universal and are asked to engage with it creatively? Yes. Do the higher memes and archetypes work with us in ways we can't necessarily pin down to words? Absolutely.



lutely. Do our children know more than we do about all this and love it when we respond as Jimmy and Naomi have? Boy Howdy!

You can purchase your I Am Goddess coloring book at the Desert Sage or order online at theiamcoloringbooks.com or at amazon.com

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Discount and scholarship available to Crestone residents. Please call for details.



Sept. 10 - 15, 2013 & Feb. 18 - 23, 2014

Blazing Mountain Retreat Center
Crestone, Colorado



Dharma Ocean

For more information visit www.dharmaocean.org or call 877-DHARMA-9

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Call of the Lover to the Beloved: a Rumi Retreat August 16 & 17

Wishing For You

Your fragrance never left my senses,
and your vision never left my sight.

I spent a lifetime, wishing for you, day and night.

My life came to an end, wishing for you did not.

Many of us are probably talking to the rain this way these dry drought days. The lines by Persian mystic, Mowlâna Jalâluddin Rumi, were translated from the original by Lida Saeedian (Aziza) who, along with other dervishes of the Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi Community, brings a love offering to the Crestone community August 16 and 17. The delicious heartfulness generated by sharing Rumi's poetry may be just what gets the clouds interested in loving us with rain again.

Aziza will recite Rumi's poetry in both English and Persian, to give the feeling of the original, and explain Rumi's Sufi terminology, e.g., the wine, the locks of hair, the glance. She will also sing some Rumi poems in the style of Persian Classical Music. The retreat will be creative and interactive.

Aziza's qualifications for awakening the juicy energy in our hearts are impressive. She draws upon her unique life experience in leading the Washington, D.C. circle of the Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi Community. Born in Iran, she is an educator, scholar and translator of Persian Sufi literature. Saeedian has translated about 400 quatrains and 20 odes of Mowlâna Jalâluddin Rumi, and she is currently in the process of translating the Maghâlât of Shams of Tabriz. Previous translations of Rumi have been published by Threshold Books and Shambala. Last September she gave a talk titled "Shams of Tabriz and Mowlâna Rumi Pursuing the Divine through Sacred Music and Dance," at a two-day symposium at the Smithsonian's Museum of American Indian in DC. Aziza has recently completed a coming-of-age memoir titled *Once upon a Time in Iran*.

Join Aziza and southwest dervishes of the Nur Ashki Jer-



Aziza (Lida Saeedian) will be leading the retreat on Saturday August 17.

rahi Sufi community for an introduction and dhikr Friday, August 16 at 6:30 at the Crestone Charter School. Dhikr is the Sufi way of remembering God with chanting, song and movement. The retreat there on Saturday from 10:30am to 5pm requires an rsvp (256-4290) and suggests a potluck lunch offering. The day will draw on Aziza's deep scholarship and experience, as a scholar, a singer, and a native Persian. In addition to her fine art degrees from Haifa University in Israel and Long Island University in New York, Lida Saeedian is one of only a handful of Iranian women fortunate enough to study with the old masters of Persian Classical Music before Ayatollah Khomeini banned the practice and closed the centers for the practice of music.

We hope the clouds respond with rain to our melting hearts, but of course non-rain donations for this outstanding love offering will be gratefully accepted.

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche returns to Crestone in September

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche will be in Crestone this September to share some lively and inspirational teachings, starting with a high mountain retreat, "Nourishing the Essence of the Elements", then on to the Blazing Mountain meditation hall for "The Eight Manifestations of Sherab Chamma, Pt. 1" with an additional option of a calligraphy workshop. This beloved teacher is recognized for his depth of wisdom, his clear, engaging teaching style, and his ability to make the ancient Tibetan Bon Buddhist teachings highly accessible to the lives of Westerners. In addition, he was recently honored with the Wisdom Fellowship Award from the Sacred Fire Foundation in New York.

Events begin with the high mountain "Nourishing the Essence of the Elements" retreat at North Crestone Lake, lead by John Milton (Way of Nature Fellowship) and Peter May. They will guide the expedition and be joined by Rinpoche during this unique opportunity that allows a direct experience with the Five Elements teachings during solitary and group meditations, among the high pristine alpine meadows, lakes and peaks of the Sangre de Cristo Mountain Wilderness.

This trek includes four nights of tent camping and simple backcountry food. While familiarity with the elements practice is recommended, it is not required. Eve-

ryone registering for the retreat will have access to an introductory online teaching on the elements by Tenzin Rinpoche. Event runs Sept. 15-19 with a cost of \$495 per person. Logistics info and registration can be found at www.chammaling.org.

Following this event, from the 20-22, Rinpoche will be giving teachings on Sherab Chamma, the Wisdom Loving Mother, the embodiment of loving compassion. As an enlightened deity, she manifests in many different forms according to the needs of practitioners. The eight manifestations that are the focus of this series of meditations are all peaceful forms that help us overcome and transform different types of struggles and fears, such as challenges with enemies, fears of illness, struggles with the unknown, and the fear of death. Through the power of Sherab Chamma's wisdom and love, our fears are transformed into self-arising wisdom and we are able to creatively embrace the many challenges of our lives.

Chamma Ling, the Land of the Loving Mother, is very pleased that Rinpoche has chosen this as the site for his first wisdom teachings of the Eight Manifestations of Sherab Chamma, with part II to follow in 2014. Registration fee is \$250, which includes lunches. Lodging is available at Blazing Mountain with an option for additional meal plan. The annual, lively auction will be held on Saturday with a gala dinner to follow. Childcare and workstudy are available. Please see the website for more in depth specifics on these events and to register at www.chammaling.org.

Tenzin Rinpoche will also lead an optional hands-on calligraphy workshop Friday evening, 5:45 to 7pm. All materials will be provided. Cost is \$45 per person and enrollment is limited to 25 people. Chamma Ling welcomes you to one, or all, of these events!

Call of the Lover to the Beloved: a Rumi Retreat

Intro & Sufi Dhikr: Friday, Aug 16, 6:30pm

Led by circle leaders of the Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi community

Rumi Retreat Day: Saturday, Aug 17, 10:30am-5pm

Led by Lida Saeedian (Aziza); includes potluck lunch

All Events at the Crestone Charter School and are free & open to the public.

RSVP requested by August 12 for Saturday retreat: 256-4290 or katesplace303@gmail.com



Chamma Ling

Upcoming Events with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche

☞ Nourishing the Essence of the Elements
September 15-19 North Crestone Lake
Additional guides, John Milton and Peter May

☞ Eight Manifestations of Sherab Chamma
"Transform fear into self arising wisdom"
September 20-22 Dharma Ocean's Blazing Mountain Retreat Center

☞ Calligraphy Workshop ~ September 20

For further information and registration: www.chammaling.org



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अनाद



२३६-३६६४

इहार्तिइहारानाल:टोल

The Sri Aurobindo Learning Center's annual event, August 11-16

The Sri Aurobindo Learning Center annual Savitri Immersion Workshop will take place this year from August 11-16. There will be two sessions daily in which the mantric poem Savitri is presented in the context of the Kena Upanishad, one of the fundamental texts that inspired Sri Aurobindo's philosophy and Yoga. In fact, he wrote a number of commentaries on this Upanishad which were not published and have been subsequently discovered by archival research at the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, which has resulted in a new 35-volume edition of his complete works that includes many previously unpublished texts.

One of the revelations that this study makes clear is that Sri Aurobindo's discovery through the ancient Vedic and Upanishadic literature of *sruti* (inspired speech/hearing), *drishti* (inner sight) and *smriti* (atemporal remembrance), faculties that the modern mind hardly has access to today, provided an understanding and starting point for all his subsequent writings, in particular *The Life Divine*, *The Synthesis of Yoga*, and *Savitri*. There is a knowledge that comes through these faculties which is not intellectual but which is, at the same time, the origin of all great philosophy and poetry. It is this form of inspired speech, sight, and remembrance that enables us to move beyond our normal, practical mind and life energies into a transformational spiritual consciousness. And the primary vehicle for this change is *mantra*. Unfortunately what this word means has also been conventionally distorted by the intellectual and practical habits of the mind and it has to be rediscovered by various practices



Workshop gathering at the Savitri Solar Dome. photo by Steve Carter

known generally as *sutra*, *mantra*, and *tantra*, received from or guided by someone who has already made the discovery, such as Sri Aurobindo. It is to this that he dedicated his life of writing.

In addition to this exploration into the sources of the Integral Yoga, through *Kena* and *Savitri* there will be mini-workshops in Pranayama practices, Thai massage, an art studio project, Kirtan, and a Puja on August 15, the birthday of Sri Aurobindo. We are expecting many friends to join us from out of state and out of country this year, along with the usual suspects, who will ensure a gourmet eating experience as well as an environment and atmosphere of peace and concentration that is unique in the world. Although we encourage participation in the whole workshop event, drop-ins who are genuinely interested but can't manage the time commitment are welcome.

For more information, please contact Brian Dyer at 719-256-6010. Similar lectures and workshops presented by Rod Hemsell may be read and heard on the website universityofhumanity.org and also on our website sriurobindo.org.



About 50 people from around the world celebrated a beautiful Guru Purnima with a full-moon fire ceremony at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram.

Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

The Ashram's 13th Annual Family Week was a great success with many people attending from around the country and from Crestone. It is such a rich and fun time to spend together. Sofia Diaz's workshop on Stillness was also very well attended and plunged right to the depths of our souls. Thank you to all who participated in this wonderful week and who contributed to making it so successful. We also had a very special Guru Purnima Celebration with people arriving from Oregon, California, New Mexico and other parts of the country. We are grateful for all of the life-giving rain, which also made it possible for us to do a large fire ceremony that day.

Our next big event is on Saturday, August 10, which is a garage sale to benefit the ashram at 1540C Willow Creek Way. There is furniture, household items, tools, massage equipment, washer and dryer, clothes and some electronics. The sale will be from 9am until noon that day.

Our new-moon fire ceremony this month is on Tuesday, August 6 and the full-moon fire ceremony

is on Tuesday, August 20. 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. There is often a small daily fire ceremony at 8am.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and see the newly remodeled shop and all of its new wares. If you mention that you are an *Eagle* reader, we will happily give you 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.org in its inviting new format.

Please visit our website at www.babajiashram.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.

Crestone Botanical Garden

The Crestone Botanical Garden is open Mon. - Sat., 11am to 4pm at the Crestone Town Center. Stop in and shop locally for an abundant variety of beautiful houseplants, garden supplies, and quality youth artwork.

This project is sponsored by the Town of Crestone and Saguache County to promote development for youth and disabled adults.

Your support is appreciated!



Buena suerte, Narumi, Oceana & Claire!

Rahula
COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Vicki Matthews 719/256-5020

Garage Sale to Benefit the Ashram at 1540 Willow Creek Way on Sat. Aug 10 from 9am until noon!

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Relationships that work beautifully

The practice of nonviolent communication

by Paul Shippee & Gussie Fauntleroy

Nonviolent communication (NVC) is a way of communicating that awakens the heart so that everyone's needs matter. Marshall Rosenberg, the founder of NVC, has called it "A Language of Life."

NVC is training in skillful means, mindfulness and empathy that asks tough questions like: Is it possible to live without forming judgments and enemy images in our heads? The true answer to this lies in developing and nurturing a new consciousness that can only come from deep inside—a change of heart.

Training in nonviolent communication is essentially a spiritual practice, a discipline that awakens our deeper human values of empathic presence and compassion—as an alternative to blaming and shaming others, and ourselves. NVC seeks a softer approach, especially when challenged. We can experience relationships marked by a flow of brilliant communication, joy and natural peace.

For example, usually we view openness and vulnerability as a liability, but NVC teaches that vulnerability is an asset—a new world of openness that protects better than our usual defenses. Giving up a habit of hiding ourselves and making others wrong is not easy. It can be unfamiliar territory and feel like a strange and foreign land, at first. But giving up mental poisons, such as judgment and blame, leads to personal transformation—a change of consciousness.

In this way, NVC is a counter-cultural spiritual medicine that turns the whole ego-based world upside-down. It does this by learning to focus mindfulness on our habitual reactions and language, the knee-jerk emotional reactivity and difficult feelings that get triggered in relationship interactions.

We learn to identify, own and embrace these unwanted shadow aspects of ourselves and uncover hidden gifts of wholeness in the process. We take baby steps in trying out vulnerability as a means of trust and smarter safety. This feels uncomfortable as it invites us into a larger world of undefended love and connection to others. It also can contribute to improved community skills and conflict management.

Once we do open our heart to ourselves and honestly identify and express what we are actually feeling and needing in the moment, then the door to empathy, understanding, compassion, joy and inner peace begins to open, perhaps a little crack at a time. We begin to glimpse new dimensions of life.

Our local NVC practice group has been working with opening this heart space for years



and here's a sampling of what they have to say about their experience.

Aliyah Alexander: Despite 30 years of working as a psychotherapist and doing my own internal work, I am still challenged every time I utilize Marshall Rosenberg's guidelines of moving from righteousness (being right) to vulnerability (the heart). Through this practice, communication becomes a stepping-stone into the spiritual realm, which involves moving into a place of empathy with self and others.

Gussie Fauntleroy: One of the most important things I'm learning is how to listen as if everyone matters. A lot of it is learning to recognize and accept, and therefore transform, my own longstanding habitual patterns of communication and interaction and ways of seeing myself and others.

Tess von Geczy: The aspect of NVC that I have found most helpful in my life is the paradigm shift away from blaming others, to understanding and having compassion, whatever their actions may be. It is an integral part of my spiritual journey and I am so grateful



to be learning it.

Sage Godfrey: I first joined an NVC group in 2007 at Paul Shippee's house. First we learned and practiced the basics. As we became adept at these steps, Paul pushed us to go deeper with homework assignments. As we learned to not make others or ourselves wrong, we were able to see that what is alive in people is all about feel-

PEACE
IS NOT THE ABSENCE
OF CONFLICT BUT
THE ABILITY TO
COPE WITH IT

ings and needs.

Larry Lechtenberg: I used to go around feeling quite lonely and deeply longing to connect with people, and trying to always discover the "right" thing to make this happen. Now, I think much less; instead I try to observe closely, with the intention of becoming aware of what I'm feeling and needing, and what the other person's feelings and needs are. This usually produces an amazing feeling of connection.

Kirsten Schreiber: One aspect of NVC that I find myself especially appreciating lately involves being able to go into a space where I can express myself and then step back and listen or imagine what the other person might be experiencing. Having the inner space for that without reacting doesn't necessarily solve something but it can help me broaden my vision and see a bigger picture.

Sophia Tiers: NVC is a great gift to a world constantly threatened by war. Understanding others' feelings and needs and learning to request my own needs in a manner that is not demanding is a skill that can be taught in schools and families. I'm grateful to be learning it now.

Note: We invite you to an NVC Forum presentation at the Crestone Energy Fair on Saturday August 24, 1:30-3pm at the Elephant Cloud Studio.



It's bear season still

by Colorado Parks & Wildlife

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."

Rick Basagoitia, area wildlife manager for the San Luis Valley, states 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.

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

Moving Up Higher God's answer for weariness

by **Joyce Meyer**

Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl said, "The one thing you can't take away from me is the way I choose to respond to what you do to me. The last of one's freedoms is to choose one's attitude in any given circumstance."

Considering Dr. Frankl's circumstances, this is a powerful statement. And the truth is nobody can make you have a bad attitude if you will be determined not to have one. This is important to understand if we want to "have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)" (John 10:10 AMP).

There was a time in my life when I was a workaholic. I didn't enjoy much of life and often had a negative attitude. I lived in a cycle of working too hard for too long, getting burned-out, finally resting, working too hard for too long, getting burned-out . . . This way of living made me weary, and that was a dangerous place to be.

The trouble with weariness and why we get there

We all get weary at times. Sometimes it's because we are out of balance in an area of life. Sometimes it's because we don't want to ask anyone for help and try to do it all on our own.

I've learned that if I get too worn-out, I can lose control of my mind, mouth and emotions quickly. I also have a tendency to give up on things easily. Weariness can cause people to overeat or overspend. We can get grouchy or feel sorry for ourselves, and we're more vulnerable to temptation when we're weary.

It can seem like the circumstances of life are what make us weary. But it's not really "life" that's the problem—it's the way we approach or handle life that makes us weary. In other words, it's our attitude toward life.

I remember praying for things to change . . . my circumstances, people, anything that made me unhappy. For years I did this until one day God gave me a revelation: Things that

upset me are not always going to change, so I need to change.

Discover the rest Jesus offers

In Matthew 11:28 (AMP), Jesus says, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls]" (AMP). The rest Jesus offers here is the rest we need to live in the world and deal with stressful situations without letting them upset us, ruin our health or steal our joy. It's a supernatural rest we can only find through a personal relationship with Him—it's not something we can find in the world.

Jesus never promised us we'd have a trouble-free life, but He said we can live above our circumstances. With His grace, wisdom, peace and strength, we can deal with stress and trouble and maintain a good attitude. His rest is a rest we can have in our souls—our mind, will and emotions.

Having this rest is like giving your soul a vacation! It means that no matter what's going on, you don't worry about it and try to figure everything out. You ask God for wisdom, do what you can, and then trust God to do what you can't do. It's a wonderful place to be! Because when your soul is at rest in Christ, your emotions are stable and you have peace.

So many people cast their responsibility on God and then keep their care; they don't do what they should and then they worry all the time. I want to say it again: We need to do what we can do and trust God to do what we can't do.

Remember that God never gets weary, and when we are weary, He wants to help us. God wants you to live with His power so you can have peace and joy in your everyday life. Learn to wait on Him and choose to live with an attitude of faith in Him!



Important news from Crestone End of Life Project

To all Crestone End of Life Project (CEOLP) registrants: If you have a pacemaker or any type of battery implant, please contact the CEOLP registrars Allison at 508-237-8915 or Rainbow at 719-231-1301 and let them know. The information will be placed in your registration packet. These devices can be highly explosive in any type of cremation, whether within a conventional crematory or in an open-air cremation, and must be removed prior to cremation.

Our email address has been changed to: ceolp.info@gmail.com As a result of hacking, the CEOLP email list of contacts has been deleted. If you would like to receive the minutes from our monthly meetings and any CEOLP news, please send us your email address and we will include you on our contact list. We have strengthened our security!

Noah Baen has taken over the position of CEOLP Treasurer, freeing Kathleen Haas to act as Treasurer for our recently established education outreach program: Informed Final Choices.

The first presentation under Informed Final Choices will be

sponsored by the Taos Green Burial association in September. It will be a public presentation/training led by Anna Louise Stewart, Julia Voss and Kathleen Hass and cover completion of documents; networking; care of the body and family support.

Information on the CEOLP open-air cremation site is now posted in the kiosk (fondly referred to as 'The Celestial Bus Stop') at the site entryway. Paul Kloppenburg has created a beautiful frame to display the document: his next project is to build benches at the pyre. This project has been generously sponsored by Tsering and Ling Dorje as well as Jeannie and Jerry Carden.

If you are interested in CEOLP service to the community or want to register, visit our website at www.crestone-end-of-life.org. Come to our monthly open meeting on Tuesday, August 13 at 7pm at the Topping House, 33 Sunset Overlook, behind the Century 21 office. Call Wayne for information and directions. The pyre site is located off the T Road: take the POA turnoff, keep right when the road forks, and it is 1/2 mile up on the left.



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Call 508.237.8915 or 719.221.1301 for information/materials
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Everything is grace, Everything is a gift
- St. Theresa, The Little Flower

Attend our meeting Tuesday, August 13th 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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"Clap for the Lord" Free Lunches ~ Mon-Fri	11 am-2 pm
Prayer Breakfast every 2nd Saturday	8:00 am
Shabbat Celebration every 1st Friday	6:30 pm
* Please feel free to call Earl LeRoy at 256-4277 or Tim Brenner at 588-1857 if you have any questions.	

Beyond ourselves

Each of us is but one of about seven billion others walking this planet. Each of us will leave our imprint after we exit, whether we see ourselves as insignificant or grand. Each of us will be remembered; either fondly or not, by many or few, for decades or a day. All that is up to us. We create and earn our own legacy. We just have to remember that what we leave behind will be either cleaned up, celebrated, analyzed, or processed by someone else.

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If you would like to make an appointment with me in the meantime, I would be happy to visit you at your home where we could discuss your personal insurance needs or look over your property to find the most affordable way to safeguard and insure it. Whatever your needs are, I look forward to getting to know you and to serving you and your community.

~ Tim Masterson



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SLV Rural Electric Cooperative

Summer is lightning season. Keep sensitive electronic equipment safe from lightning damage with a surge protector. Choose a surge protector with a strong connected equipment insurance policy. Unplug the surge strip when lightening storms threaten. The surge strip will have the added benefit of protecting equipment from normal daily fluctuations in power supply. Additionally, using the on/off switch on the surge strip to turn off all of the equipment at once when you are not going to be using it for a while can help save on your energy bill. For more information, contact San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative.



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New Moffat School would benefit Moffat and Crestone Communities

A school is more than a building

by Kirk Banghart

Having a state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable safe learning environment for all of the children in a community benefits everyone who lives there.

The voters of Moffat Consolidated School District #2 will have a rare opportunity this fall to provide this for all the students of Moffat/Crestone for now and into the future for only 27 cents on the dollar. The district was recommended to receive a \$12.12 million grant (increased slightly since the community mailer was distributed last month) from the Colorado Department of Education's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program in order to address severe facility deficiencies at the Moffat Pre-K-12 School. The grant is contingent upon a local matching money bond in the amount of \$4.55 million.

Moffat Consolidated School District #2 encompasses the two communities of Crestone and Moffat. It is a large district that stretches north of Moffat/Crestone to Road AA and south to just north of Hooper. It reaches to the middle of the valley on its west side. Two schools operate in the district: the Crestone Charter School and the Moffat Pre-K-12 School.

The Crestone Charter School received a BEST grant in 2010. This grant and the community's willingness to pass the accompanying bond allowed a new facility to be built for the school. The school opened in 2012 and currently provides an alternative experiential-based curriculum to 42% of the students in the district.

The Moffat Pre-K-12 School provides traditional public education for students in our district. Currently approximately half of the students attending the Moffat Pre-K-12 school come from Crestone and the other half come from the valley floor. Continuing to ensure that these students also have a safe learning environment is critical for their success and for

the success of our community as a whole. The Moffat Pre-K-12 School is being presented an opportunity just like Crestone Charter School was in 2010, and we need to seize the BEST grant and make the most out of our education for the whole community.

The Moffat Pre-K-12 School plays many different roles in ensuring that our Moffat/Crestone community is successful. It not only meets the educational needs of the majority of our children, but it is one of the largest employers in the area. It provides social, cultural and recreational opportunities for residents with and without children, bringing neighbors together and strengthening community ties.

A new facility for the Moffat Pre-K-12 School will benefit the community by bringing new families into the area, thereby enhancing our local economy. Construction of a new school will bring in millions of outside dollars to our community, also stimulating our economy.

In addition to the Crestone Charter School, the San Luis Valley communities of Center, Mosca, Alamosa, Del Norte and Monte Vista are building or have built new facilities with BEST funding. George Welsh, Superintendent of Schools for Center School District, stated the following about Center's new school: "It is hard to quantify exactly what the effect of building of a brand new school in a place like Center has been. I know for a fact our students take more pride in the school and their academic effort because they clearly see the value the greater community has displayed for them. Their behavior and academic performance shows it. I know our staff members feel more valued as well. It is not easy to attract high quality teachers to our community. Having a state-of-the-art facility has helped us to do so, and has even helped us to retain the great ones we already have. I think there's also a greater pride

THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

—MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

1/ Sacrifice: When the family of Zhao is massacred with only a remaining baby boy by a ruthless general, a doctor and his wife take in the baby boy. In the process their infant son is killed and this story shows the growing up of the baby boy and his pursuit of his clan's killers. (Sub-titled)

2/ Arahan: Another foreign action thriller with a twist. Sanghwan became a cop to help the downtrodden in society, but he doesn't get much respect. All that is transformed when he hooks up with the Seven Masters, who teach him how to throw chi energy from his hands. (Martial arts/sub-titled)

3/ The Raven: Upon realizing that a string of murders have been based on some of the short stories of Edgar Allan Poe, a Baltimore cop turns to the author for help and in his brilliant but inebriated way he offers to help.

4/ Warrior Baek Dong Soo: Highly recommended. This Korean television series (29 episodes) shows a fully developed plot replete with court principles, samurai dignity, romance, intrigue, power struggles, deceit, fantastic martial arts and some very fine acting. We watch two friends grow up (actually) throughout the movie but moving in opposite directions. I loved this one.

5/ Wu Dang: Another martial arts action thriller. In early Chinese history a rumor went around about treasure in Wudang Mountain. An American conspirator brings his well-trained-in-kung-fu daughter to a martial arts competition that he sponsors to steal the treasure.



Example of wall erosion behind remodeled drywall in the 1921 building.

in the entire community, even for folks who don't have children in the school. "

During the 2013 BEST application process, Moffat Pre-K-12 School ranked in the top four of applications as to the need for new facilities. However, there is only a limited amount of BEST funding

available for projects like the one our district had approved. As BEST funding has reached its statutory cap, this could be our community's last and "best" chance to provide a state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable, safe learning environment for every child in the Moffat/Crestone community.



The center stem wall showing 6" of deterioration.

photo courtesy Moffat School



Foundation deterioration ranges from 25% to 33% in the 1921 building.

A Company of Players interview with Robin Blankenship

by Ammi Kohn

Robin Blankenship (RB) has lived in Crestone for 17 years and is active in our community in many ways. She owns and operates Earth Knack, a survival, outdoor, and primitive living skills school, based here in Crestone, along Cottonwood Creek.

Robin has starred as a Christian Scientist high school student in a Catholic high school in previous Company of Player productions. She recalls more embarrassing adolescent experiences in the next production of the company, *Stories From the Edge*, on September 21 and 22 at the college. Ammi Kohn (AK), a long time friend and producer of past productions, is the interviewer. The interview was severely edited after excruciatingly funny personal remarks were recorded over a Friday night dinner!

AK. No use pretending we are doing a standard interview. We've known each other a long time.

RB. Twenty-seven years this August, when you took an Outward Bound Course in the Collegiate Peaks Range, near Leadville. You were 54 and I was a bit worried about you.

AK. You were my assistant patrol leader. You have been an Outward Bound and also a NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) instructor since 1984. Were you telling stories then?

RB. Yes, I would tell stories like the ones about Catholic school (StoryVille III) around the camp fire or when we on difficult terrain and the students were struggling. I would tell stories to entertain the students and make their efforts more enjoyable.

AK. How about as a child?

RB. In my pre-teens and early teens my friends and I would play "Epic Games". We would develop huge stories and give each other parts. I remember we did our epics under the lilac and mulberry trees. We did re-creations of pioneer or Indian life, being trapped in Arctic ice, etc. Sometimes we would run a story line for two weeks. I was always creating the story lines like drama plays and was usually the "director."

AK. Any books that influenced you as a child?

RB. *The Oregon Trail* and *Incident at Hawk's Hill*, as well as *My Side of the Mountain* and *The Call*

of the Wild were all big influences in my life work. Also the Marguerite Henry books like *King of the Wind* inspired my love of horses.

AK. Do you actively tell stories outside of Company of Players?



RB. Oh, all the time! As you know, I have a CD titled *My Loin Cloth Has No Pockets*. Each original song is a mini story. I have been writing songs since I was a kid.

And sharing stories is a big part of our evening program around the campfire during Earth Knack courses. I enjoy telling stories, but I absolutely love to listen to other peoples stories!

AK. Any memorable characters in your family that might make a good story for the September 21 and 22 production, *Stories from the Edge*?

RB. For September I'll be telling some embarrassing on-the-edge stories about Drool. But for a future production, I have a Mafioso stepfather who was very colorful. Stick around for those, as well as for the Drool.

AK. Anything else (as if those thoughts were not enough!)

R Well, I'd like to encourage others to share their stories. Story telling is an ancient tradition, and art, that has shaped the human experience in all the ways that matter.

It seems important to me that we continue the legacy, especially now. What you can learn about a person when they have the willingness and heart to share their story!

It is a gift to offer a story. It is a gift to listen to a story told.



The Crestone Company of Players: (L to R) Dean Lloyd, Jennifer Thomson, William Howell, Jeannie Krogh and Ammi Kohn (not in photo are Robin Blankenship, Galaxy Dancer, Kelly Delamor, Marv Mattis, Findley West and Michael Onewing)

Stories from the Edge—New directions for the Company of Players

by William Howell

The Company of Players is upping its game and stepping out this season. The primary focus is on its September 21 (7pm) and 22 (3pm) performances of *Company of Players Presents Stories from the Edge*, at the Colorado College Conference Center. But the new venue is only one of many "firsts".

This past spring, the Company of Players reconvened and regrouped. New energies translated into an entire re-visioning of its fourth season. The structure, the funding, the material, the process—all have been revitalized and become more creative.

Have you attended one or more Storyville performances? If so, you know it to be low-key yet cutting-edge theatre made for a small town like ours: Members of your community, whom you likely thought to know, share stories of their lives that have you meeting them in fuller, fresher and often unforgettable ways.

Despite three remarkable seasons, this year's effort will be not just new, but historic. How so? First off, the theatre, perhaps since the Greeks, has operated with actors [gotta have 'em], producer(s) [providing energy for publicity, playbills and venue] and a director. For starters, the Company of Players has reconstituted the role of director.

The Company of Players is trying something innovative: Members can self-direct, using reactions from other members of the Company, or individually choose another member as director and work out what kind of relationship they want. It's group input seasoned with specific assistance, if desired.

The company is now collaborative: more sharing, handling the actor/director relationship in a broader fashion—all without losing

dedication, excellence of material and polish of performance. And, so far, the experiment is going wonderfully.

Plus, the players themselves are putting more intention on process . . . and on fun. Prior to formal rehearsals, their Sunday evening programs are organized not only around stories for performance in September, but also around elements that make all storytelling stronger: theatre exercises, sketches, a poetry workshop, visiting storytellers, famous speeches. Thus, the participants are creating a true Company of Players.

Experimentation is being encouraged: stories with an edge, more than one person on stage, possible introduction of a musical element, more attention to costume, dual points of view—just as examples.

And, gender-wise, the company has found greater balance (finally, more women than men) which, complemented by its more expansive format, is drawing first-time storytellers. There seems to be a stronger, more supportive and more open spirit with greater aliveness and enthusiasm.

That's not all! The finance arena has correspondingly opened up—with the Company of Players centered less on monies and more devoted to attendance—wanting to make performances available to as many persons as are interested. This year, entrance will be by suggested donation, including special rates for families and for students. The company, gaining the Colorado College venue for free (thank you, CC!) and relying on less-costly publicity efforts, can be freer about charging for performances.

And finally, the company is stepping out. In context of its new roles and ventures, the Company of Players will also be storytelling at the VA home in Monte Vista.

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Our POA, Part II

continued from page 3

make it personal and make a clear choice to continually energize negative energy. By doing nothing, then one is not even aware of the inner workings and dynamics, and has little right to even have an opinion . . . ironically, in my opinion. Clarity and fact-finding are the keys. Doing nothing will most probably not usher in any change, and has the potential of holding space for negative influences.

2. Engage in POA activities. To engage at any level takes a little time and effort, but engaging will almost instantly get one informed. There's much to know about the past and the present events and often "dramas" there. Nearly all of the agenda items at each meeting need close attention; some need attention quickly as they affect the entire community, while some need more discussion with input from the community. I suggest that if someone wants to get an agenda item on the table, or simply wants a talking point brought to the board, then befriend a board member . . . discuss your issue at length with him or her . . . let them bring it to the board meeting. And, whether anyone likes it or not, the by-laws clearly state that the board votes on issues, with the majority of the board's vote ultimately making the decision.

It's clear to me that, regardless of the state statutes or the POA's by-laws, there's a strong minority who do not get that the majority rules. It's as if "anarchy" should be the rule—a clear "oxy-moronic" posture to take, since many in this minority desire some kind of control themselves. Each and every municipality and organization has rules and laws to follow, from the ancient, indigenous cultures, to the modern world we live in. The board was elected by the community, and they should be respected. Additionally, everyone should make an honest attempt to support the vote of the board majority.

The other option is to get a majority of the property owners to change the by-laws, which is difficult, but can be done. In my short tenure there it was obvious that the minority I mentioned in Part I fights and disagrees with every vote, as if there were some kind of conspiracy going on. That was one huge eye-opener for me, looking from the inside out, and getting so many disheartening and toxic emails that grossly missed the target. I had heard many things about some of the board members and their agendas, only to find out that most of what I had heard was simply not true, and in some cases what I heard prior to becoming manager turned



'Talking Clouds'

photo by Kate Steichen

out to be the exact opposite once I experienced the work environment first hand.

Often, in my personal attempts as a manager to provide information or initiate a new project, the minority of the board blocked me at each and every stage. I admit, some of that was my experience as a project manager (of projects) not necessarily aligning with the job description of a POA manager. But a large part of the conflict was an attitude of "we don't want progress or success here." The reader will have to trust me on that one.

I have drifted from the topic. If more folks engaged in the board meetings, as grueling as that may be, at least more could see who was for positive change and who was not. As a result more people could be more informed as to who to vote for, and who has the majority of the membership in mind when they take action. And, since I'm a big believer in "energy follows thought," simply engaging with an open and clear mind will help balance the energy of the POA, bringing that clear energy to the entire organization. I see too many judgments and assumptions made and projected onto the POA. Once on the inside, I witnessed the great fallacy in that approach.

Engaging even from the heart or mind in a positive way, being appreciative of the hard work of the employees, and respecting the fact that the Board works many hours on their own time, can usher in a positive change and environment to the

POA. There is no pay for the board. There is very little reward at times, and indeed it can be a thankless job. With the amazing intelligence and wisdom of many in this community, just creating a positive and supportive attitude toward our POA can do wonders, in my humble opinion. That shift can usher in the probability of a grand outcome. Negative thought does nothing but prevent the natural evolution of anything of any good. Positive energy supports a more holistic, creative potential for us all. Thought and feeling are everything when it comes to what is possible. The possibilities in this upward direction are infinite, and I am personally committing to holding the highest vision for our community, our POA. I would invite all of you to do the same, whether you personally engage or not.

3. Fire District. This seems to be the "hot" button for many. I can't speak to all of the details of the historical development of this conflict, but I can say for sure that very few, if any, POAs or HOAs in the entire state incorporate a fire and emergency department. As a manager who has worked with fire and police departments for many years in the public safety radio world, I can say that I did not feel qualified to oversee a fire or emergency department. What POA manager would? The sad part about the possibility of a fire district is that those strongly opposing it have made it so excruciatingly personal. Beyond my wildest imagination, the personality conflicts appear to be "driving" the positioning of whether or not there should be a separate fire district. This fixed posturing simply muddies up the wa-

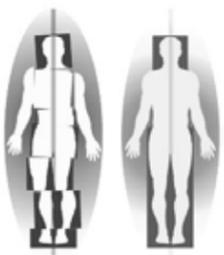
ter. Objectivity for the "betterment of the community" in action and thought should be the perspective and vantage point, not what someone said 10 years ago, nor what someone fears. There's quite a lot of mini-control dramas around the fire district issue. I strongly suggest everyone involved stand back and look at what is best for the area, the Town of Crestone, and what is best for the POA. A POA does not seem to embrace the correct political infrastructure to support these emergency services.

A note on assumptions. If a person stood outside a delivery room, never experiencing a child birth, he or she could easily assume that those in the room were harming, injuring, or even murdering the screaming lady. Then when all was quiet, the worst could be extrapolated from that assumption. However, if one were inside the room, it would become clear that a beautiful birth had taken place . . . a new life entered the world . . . the birthing of a new spirit.

In closing, I would say respect the employees at the POA, respect the manager, and of course respect (at a minimum) your elected board members—agree or not with them individually, they are nevertheless donating their services to your community, and they were lawfully elected. Minimize the harmful gossip that serves no one at any level. I personally envision a community of dynamic peace, the love of community and diversity, and the honoring all choices and freedoms within the law that nurture peace and respect.

Thank You.

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Crestone Creative Council

Can you imagine a dragon?

by Lisa Bodey

The Crestone Creative Council (CCC) has initiated a community mural project for all ages with the theme of a dragon that protects our aquifer and its spines as the Sangre de Cristo Mountains reaching up into the sky. Youth and adults have worked hard to develop the concept and design, as well as all of the prep-work and painting. Karen Kenney is the lead artist on this project and is being supported by many other youth and adult volunteers. Karen teaches art to all grades at Bradley International in Denver Public Schools and leads IB teacher workshops. She has traveled from Europe to the Caribbean and coast to coast to teach teachers. The first time she spent the night under the stars in Crestone, she fell in love with the area and has owned land here for 27 years. CCC is delighted to have her insight and expertise on this project.

One of the ways we are raising money for this public piece of art is by asking individuals and businesses to sponsor a "Star" or "Fish" with a donation of \$50 or more. The name of your choice will be displayed on a 3-D piece of material that will be part of the mural. Many thanks to Casa del Soul and Cheyenne & Joe Mendel who generously agreed to let us install the mural on the western part of their property which faces into Little Pearl Park. This location will make the piece highly visible during Saturday Market, other community

gatherings and from the deck of Bliss Café. Please join CCC for a special unveiling of the mural on Thursday, August 1 at 4:30pm in Little Pearl Park.

Need a gift for a special occasion? Be sure to check out the beautiful array of houseplants and the latest work for sale from local youth artists at the Crestone Botanical Gardens: Jedi Roman, rock sculptures & sketches; Rowan Lyford, photography & paintings; Nathan Peloquin, sketches & painting; Quincy Meisman, jewelry; and Kyle Gardner, wood-burned chakra art. You can visit the shop Monday-Saturday from 11am-4pm or come hang out with us for the 2nd Saturday Artwalk reception on August 10 from 3-5pm. You can also visit the CCC Artist Booth at the Crestone Music Festival!

CCC is hosting artist gatherings every Tuesday in August from 4-7pm at the Community Building. Bring projects you are currently working on or come get inspired with some of our arts and crafts supplies. We had an awesome time doing group abstract painting with Crystal Wade last month. If you are a teen or young adult who is interested in getting involved in our programs, please join us for our next Council Meeting & Open Hangout which is held every Thursday from 5-8pm at the Community Building. For more information, please contact Lisa Bodey at 719-480-5925 or bodeycrestone@gmail.com or visit our Crestone Creative Council page on Facebook.



Youth receive recognition for their work with the Saguache County Community Corps.

Conservation & youth empowerment helps our local communities, teaches youth valuable skills

Saguache County is looking even better these days thanks to the Community Corps' hard work this summer. Saguache County's Community Corps is a program run by the Southwest Conservation Corps, an organization that provides young women and men with structured, safe and challenging work and educational opportunities through employment projects that promote personal growth, the development of social skills, and an ethic of natural resource stewardship.

This summer Saguache County sponsored 10 local youth, ages 14-18, to serve on a 4-week crew from June 10-July 5. With guidance and encouragement from crew leaders Chad Arnold and Courtney Muir, the Community Corps was able to complete valuable work while learning the importance of teamwork and civic responsibility. Work projects included local road and bridge maintenance across the county, weed mitigation along county roads, and trail maintenance at Penitente Recreation Area.

Each week the crew spent Monday-Thursday completing conservation projects, and Fridays were typically geared towards environmental and cultural education trips and activities. Field trips included a visit to the Great Sand Dunes National Park, Orient Land Trust, and Penitente Canyon. Corps members were able to learn about the history and current ecological conditions of the northern

San Luis Valley while contributing to the upkeep and restoration of their shared environment.

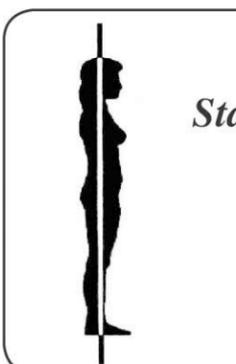
Thanks to the support and funding from the Saguache County Road and Bridge Office along with the Saguache BLM/USFS Field Office and the communities of Saguache and Crestone, the Community Corps was able to fulfill the mission of the Southwest Conservation Corps: to empower individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities and the environment.

About Southwest Conservation Corps

Founded in 1998 to continue the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, SCC partners with land management agencies, municipalities, and local non-profit organizations throughout the southwest US. SCC operates a variety of programs ranging from High School Day Crews to Veterans Fire Fuel Reduction Camping Crews, each focusing on member development, promoting natural resource stewardship and conservation ethics, and improving the communities we all live in. Over the past 2 years alone, SCC has engaged 1,600+ corpsmembers and crew leaders and completed over 650,000 hours of service! The organization is headquartered in Durango, CO with regional offices in Salida, CO; Tucson, AZ and Acoma Pueblo, NM. For more information, please visit sccorps.org.



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Meet the new staff members at Moffat

by Principal Michelle Hashbarger

Here's a sneak peek at the newest staff members joining Moffat this year!

Sara McFarland has been hired as the new Kindergarten/1st grade teacher. She received her Bachelors of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies-Elementary Education from the University of Northern Colorado. Sara says "watching kids learn, grow and strive to become better students makes teaching the most rewarding career."

Brian Rhodes has been hired as the new 4th/5th grade teacher. He received his Masters of Education Degree in Elementary Education from Regis University. He recently taught English classes at a village middle school in Burkina Faso. Brian says "I believe effective learning needs to be social, interactive and relevant to students' lives. Students must relate prior experiences to the information which only deepens the connection with the knowledge."

Elaine Austin has been hired to teach elementary music, elementary technology, will support elementary classrooms and work with secondary groups during the STEAM period. She earned her Bachelors of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Adams State College and a Music Endorsement from Colorado State University. Elaine has been certified in the Kodaly Method, which is a way of developing musical skills and teaching musical concepts to children. This method, first introduced

in Hungary, uses folk songs, Curwen hand signs, pictures, movable-do, rhythm symbols and syllables organized in a sequential way that supports the natural learning development in children. Elaine says "I believe in creating a fun, highly positive learning environment that enables students to become learners who believe in themselves, believe they can learn and experience individual success."

Natasha Mills-McKim has been hired as the Director of Special Education for the Moffat District. She will be supporting the Special Education needs at both Moffat and Crestone Charter School. She earned her degree in Sociology and comes to us with 5 years of experience from the social work and mental health realm. Natasha says that relationship-building and communication is the basis behind her work as she strives to empower students and families to have a voice.

Returning 2nd/3rd grade teacher and accomplished Crestone musician Dale Smith will continue nurturing and teaching the 2nd/3rd grade students and he will also be taking on the secondary Rock Band mentorship this year. He is excited about this new Rock Band endeavor and is looking forward to starting this year off sharing his love of music and recording, one hour a day, with the secondary students.

With the amazing staff returning this year and the addition of the dynamic new hires presented above, Moffat School is on track for its best year yet!

Moffat School registration & other info

by Principal Michelle Hashbarger

We are now accepting new students and families who share our educational vision that encompasses a family-style atmosphere, strong academic focus and a drive for cutting edge technology!

Registration for all returning students and new enrollees will be held on Monday and Tuesday, August 12 and 13 in the Moffat School foyer from 8am to 4:30pm, both days. Students new to the district must bring a copy of their birth certificate and immunization records.

First day for middle school and high school students will be on Monday, August 19. Elementary students first day will be on Tuesday, August 20 with the preschool morning and afternoon classes starting on Monday August 26. Student supply lists can be found at Wal-Mart in Salida and in Alamosa.

The Tiny Little Crestone Clinic will be at Moffat School on Tuesday, August 6 from 1 to 4pm for middle school and high school student sports physicals that are required each year if they are planning to play sports. The cost that must be paid on the scheduled day is \$25.00 per student. No need to call for an appointment—it will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Information about start dates for high school volleyball and football practice will soon be arriving in the mail. Middle school football and volleyball practices will begin on the first day of school, August 19. All fall sports practices will be at Mountain Valley School with the exception of cross country.

2012-2013 Moffat Yearbooks are now available for \$25.00 and can be paid for and picked up at the Moffat School Office. Get yours now before they are gone!

Returning student families . . . be watching the mail for your "Welcome Back To School" packet that should be arriving the first week of August.

Keep up with all of our "Moffat School Happenings" . . . friend us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and/or visit our new and improved Moffat Consolidated School District website at www.moffatschools.org where you can find enrollment forms, supply lists, sports information and more.

Moffat School gears up for another exciting year

by Principal Michelle Hashbarger

A new school year is always exciting and Moffat School wants you to share in that experience with us! This year our focus will be on providing each child with new challenges that will result in a rewarding and positive school experience. We invite all of you to drop by and take note of all we have to offer!

Our dynamic teachers, support staff and administration will continue with our "whole child" teaching and learning approach, one in which we are proud to tout the "wrap around" services we provide to aid in supporting those we care about the most . . . our students and families.

Moffat's strong dedication to academics is exemplified by our small class sizes focused on student learner success. An academic emphasis on the core content areas of reading, language arts, science, social studies and math will remain our priority thus providing students a learning program that builds each year to reach local and state standards. The STEAM Academy, as well as instruction in the fine arts, foreign language, technology, and physical education, complete our program, and provide students with an opportunity to develop personal areas of interest and skill.

Moffat's dedicated staff continue their own learning process by taking part in various professional development offerings. This year, our staff will continue the collaborative efforts with the San Luis Valley Schools participating in the "Race to the Top of the Valley—Professional Learning Communities Grant." This year's focus on curriculum will continue, with an emphasis on teacher-created formative and summative assessments that will compliment the curriculum units. The curriculum revision work our staff has invested their time and energy into supports our on-going efforts to provide a more rigorous and relevant learning experience for every student who enrolls at Moffat.

We look forward to providing your child with a productive and safe learning environment that supports student success, and continuing our work with each and every one of you building on our successes and improving in those areas where we can do better.



The Haven Readers
will host a book club
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Book ends of experiential education at Crestone Charter School

by Michael Hayes

I had the great fortune of dropping in to a couple of quintessential moments this spring in my transition to the Crestone Charter School. While these moments may seem ordinary to those who have kicked around the charter school for some time, for me, they highlight the unique vibrancy of this community that holds the process of educating children so intimately. In our school, five-year-olds share a space with high school students and all are supported by an educational community that shares the same mission.

I spent some time in the kindergarten and first grade classes of CCS just a week before the end of school. These sixteen little ones start their day together in an intentional way that sets a tone for their day. A short meditation, setting an intention, and brain gym. If only all of us could be so intentional in how we start our day.

During my visit to the K-1 classroom, the students took turns sitting in the author's chair, reading each other their stories about a class trip to the cliff dwellings in New Mexico. The other students then asked the author questions about their story while Clancy and Allison highlighted the describing words that the children used. The artful weaving of carefully selected experiences such as a trip to cliff dwellings while intentionally developing literacy skills and simultaneously encouraging focused reflection are at the core of our craft as experiential educators.

At the opposite end of our spectrum, the school had its first graduation ceremony in our new school building. Students and their families came together with staff and community members to celebrate five charter school graduates. Molly Roth, Huitzi Diaz, Trevor Storm, Laura Enzer, and Zac Potter have all spent the bet-

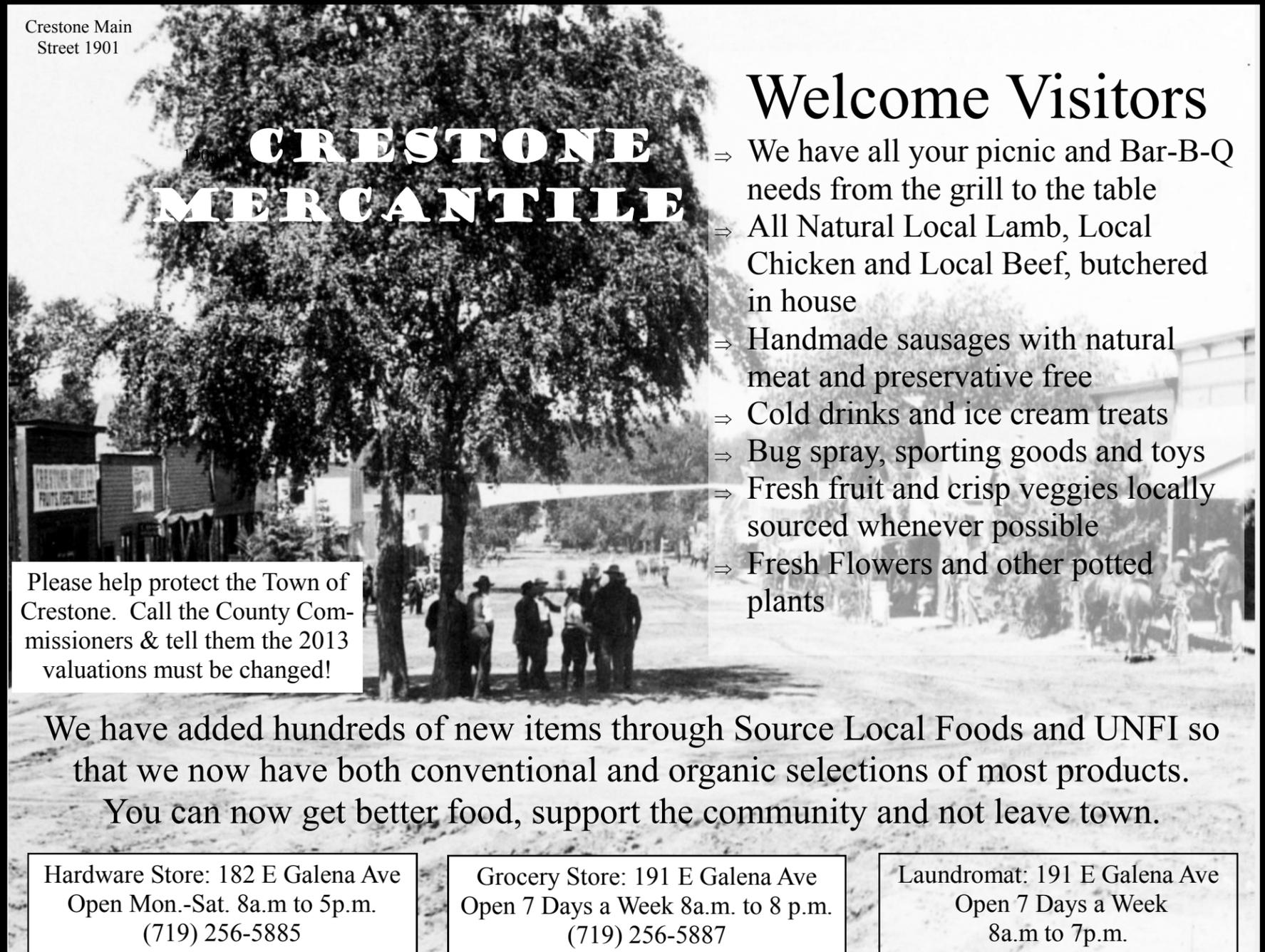
ter part of their lives in this community. The community laughed and cried to music and thoughtful words by the graduates and those that continue to touch their lives. Pink Floyd covers, tie dye scarves, young men in dresses playing original compositions, and community members hooting like they are at a tent revival may seem commonplace around here, and to me it was an incredible experience.

I am struck by the power of this place in shaping the lives of students. In my conversations with parents and community members, they speak about an almost intangible visceral connection that occurs when we work and play together in an intentional way that pushes us all to discover our human potential. As I begin to get settled in this place, I am amazed and inspired by the students, their families, the staff, and the community that surrounds the charter school.



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The Washington Beat

The worst 'do-nothing' Congress in history

by David Nicholas

Summertime! It's the August recess for Congressmen who will flee the strong scent that comes in on the breeze from the Anacostia swamp. The stench is so intense that in Lincoln's time it rated more than a mention in his biographies. Same as it ever was.

However, there are bigger stinks in Congress. The hatred for President Barack Obama has reached new heights over the last eight months. Anything the President wants, they are against. It was bad enough during the presidential election when Republicans thought they could consign the black man to his rightful place (under thumb), but he stuck it to 'em and they hate him even more because he did.

Not only do they filibuster cabinet appointments, unprecedented since the 1860s, the House of Representatives continually passes bills to overturn the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) with such regularity that no one reports it anymore. It's doesn't mean anything because the Senate won't consider it and if that chamber did, the President would veto it.

Then, just for the hell of it, the bipartisan Immigration Reform bill (SB 744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act) that passed the Senate, 68-32 on June 28, and included the Pathway to Citizenship, currently has four versions being considered in the House and none of them with the citizenship provisions.

But the fit of pique that takes the prize, citing its expense: the House passed a version of the 2013 Farm Bill without the USDA Food Stamp provisions. This was a good bill. It ended direct payments, strengthened crop insurance, and encouraged innovative risk management approaches by providing assistance to producers when their farms were threatened by risks outside their control. But the bulk (80%) of the \$994bn goes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, as Food Stamps

is formerly titled. It is not just a churlish, mean-spirited act, but it sends the message that people in hard times should be thrown to the wolves. Poverty is their own fault and on their head be it.

Immigration reform in danger of failing

However, while being mean-spirited is *de rigueur* these days it could backfire with the immigration reform legislation in the House. The Republicans are dragging their feet on immigration reform in the mistaken idea that they have nothing to fear from the Hispanic vote in the 2014 midterms and even less in the 2016 presidential election.

The President knows that codswallop. What the President knows is that Hispanics care a great deal about immigration reform and in particular the Pathway to Citizenship. He promised he would do everything he could during the presidential campaign and 74% of Hispanic voters gave him the nod, putting him over the top in major swing states like Colorado, Ohio and Florida.

What the president also knows is that if the GOP denies Hispanics the respect this bill implies they will be denied the White House for a generation at least if not longer. So with this in mind Mr. Obama gave interviews to all the Latino television channels during the week beginning July 17, advocating passage of immigration reform and taking the optimistic tact that there will be a law by April 2014. No doom and gloom stuff, just keeping to the facts.

The influential Noticiero Univision journalist Jorge Ramos, who has been pounding home Republican reluctance, nightly, joined the President in effort to sway GOP hearts and minds. Señor Ramos was the man who put the President on the spot regarding his failure to get immigration reform during his first term. The President, admit-



ting it was so, said it would be a major plank of his second term.

So this alliance plays in the President's favor. On one hand, he's carry out his promise making every effort to push the reform through. On the other, failure to provide immigration reform keeps the Hispanic vote well and truly Democratic. Either way, the President and his party look very good, generating Hispanic goodwill to Democrats for the next two election cycles at least and maybe well beyond.

As Hispanics hold the key to the White House from 2016 on, hard feelings and insults will be remembered. These are not the enemies the GOP needs as its aging plank of white voters dies off without enough young white voters to make up the shortfall.

Snowden limbo

Living in an airport terminal has to be a new definition of the Gulag, where a whistleblower camps out on a concrete floor, jet engines revving up or running down, airport food (there's only so much borscht and vodka the diet can take) and still governments offering asylum go no further than offers. Such is Edward Snowden's life at present.

Cries of foul because the US cancelled his passport have been ignored, and without someone offering him a travel document that takes on Snowden and the baggage that he brings, he's stuck. Russia's President Vladimir Putin has offered his asylum, but releasing further classified information on Russian soil thus mucking up the Russian President's "tender" relationship with the American President won't be allowed.

To me that's a shorthand for, "share with me what you know and if I like it I will let you stay, maybe." Otherwise, it looks like terminal life for a long time.

Yes, Cuba, Bolivia, Ecuador and Venezuela offered asylum. But then the weight of US imperial power weighed in on the recalcitrant leftist nations in South America, who have enjoyed years of flouting their distance from Washington. All three received calls from the State Department's heavy hitters: no, not the warm and fuzzy Secretary of State John Kerry (though he did talk to Ecuadorean President Correa), but those who apply foreign policy like Deputy Secretary of State William Burns, who laid it on the line: Help Snowden and suffer. Not so nice, so no travel documents have appeared. If he shows up at their door, they will grant him asylum but he has to get there.

Essentially Snowden has muttered he would seek temporary asylum in Russia, but the gamble appears now that if enough of a shit storm is stirred up in Congress and in the press that he returns

with assurances of safe conduct and goes through the legal imbroglio, he emerges the heroic whistleblower a la Daniel Ellsberg without doing time.

Congress is indeed whipping up a storm, but they want blood, and Republicans want him tried as a traitor. It's not looking good.

The story is that he has Wikileaks' Julian Assange providing him with asylum guidance. That should tell you something right there. Problem for Snowden is that he can only negotiate what he's got and the suspicion is that the nations who would find that to their advantage, China and Russia, already have it.

Bradley Manning

Private Manning's court martial is not looking so good for him. On July 19, the Judge Advocate denied the defense's motion to drop the Aiding the Enemy charge, the most serious of all the counts to which the private has pled not guilty. The charge carries a life without parole sentence in Leavenworth. The motion dealt with, the court martial will proceed and it should not take long, possibly ending sometime in the next few weeks. We will see. My guess is that in court martial proceedings not guilty is very rarely a jury verdict.

Domestic surveillance

The Snowden revelations that domestic wire taps of phones and the PRISM Surveillance Program, monitoring of email accounts, have been common policy by the National Security Agency (NSA). The former since 911 and the latter since 2008 now have lives of their own.

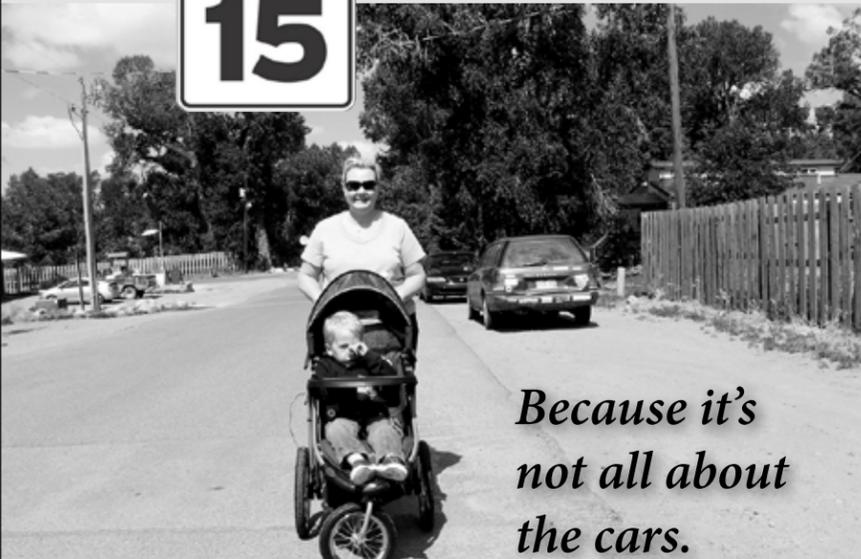
Critics, however, claimed that that the program was an effort to silence critics of the Bush administration and their handling of several hot button issues during its tenure, which have kernels of truth. Under public pressure, the Bush administration ceased the warrantless wiretapping program in January 2007 and returned review of surveillance to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) court. Subsequently, in 2008 Congress passed the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, which relaxed some of the original FISA court requirements. It is these amendments, which the NSA has acted under and expanded upon, which has caused the uproar.

Yes, there should be extensive Congressional hearings on these programs, but just how extensive they will be has the Congress in fits. Republicans generally applaud the policy on one hand, while wondering how much the NSA knows about their lives on the other. They really don't want to know more, but really want to lay blame for the excesses on the Obama administration. Leftist-leaning Democrats have serious issues with civil liberties and rights to privacy and want

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to know how far the surveillance goes.

This could subside during the August recess, but maybe not. We will see.

Imperial withdrawal

Can empires withdraw and still have it all? Empires as a rule collapse, grimly holding on to what they have very tightly, rather than look for ways to leave their spheres of interest in friendly capable hands while reaping the fortune of their endeavors. For us this is not looking good.

President Obama's current policy is to vacate a dominant role in a part of the world where the US has held sway for about 80 years or so. Problem is the Middle East is imploding and exploding just by sheer weight of people finding their political voice.

The Arab Spring is relegated to a dream, while the reality threatens death, destruction and disintegration. Libya has factions/clans fighting for control. The national government doesn't know how much territory it can claim. Iraq is back to sectarian violence Sunni vs. Shia. Afghanistan is poised for Taliban resurgence and control. Egypt just replaced its democratically elected president in an army coup d'état three weeks ago and the situation, at time of writing, has an 80% likelihood of civil war. Syria's civil war looks like Assad's forces have the upper hand and are unlikely to welcome back the displaced 1.8 million refugees (at latest count), not to mention escaping accountability for the 93,000+ killed in the fighting.

On top of that, Israel wants to fight Iran and wants the US to join in. Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu is currently carrying out a lobby campaign to all of Israel's domestic US allies to make the president bend to this indefatigable foolishness.

Eight months ago, it looked like the President could gracefully depart and let the vipers have at it. But events are moving faster so that at some point the US will have to say either it is no longer engaging strategically in the Middle East and quit cold turkey, or double down and dictate terms with threats and cajoling the kids to play nice. I keep looking for middle ground, which the President likes to find, but it's just not there now. There just isn't a lot of room to ma-

neuver and it's getting less as each day passes.

Quitting cold turkey would be seen as imperial weakness and signal to other areas of US interest that the US can be taken on, which then brings China, France, Russia and the UK into that mix to see what they could absorb/grab for themselves. This is not really an option. While doubling down means bombing someone into oblivion (and that would be Syria), any other country could and would retaliate with force and with ramifications that would go on for years. Syria is the obvious choice as the human rights outcry mounts daily. So bombing the bad guy into oblivion addresses all the mounting criticism that the President isn't seriously engaged in preserving America's national security interest.

As I write this comes the news that Joint Chiefs chair Martin Dempsey has provided three options for military intervention in Syria. So August, always a month to start or join in wars/military campaigns, could see US force on Syria, no boots on the ground, but certainly air and naval operations, and no formal declaration of war required. Conveniently, Congress is in recess.

But to come back to the original question, can empires disengage from leadership in geopolitics and spheres of interest without jeopardizing America at home? Yes, if people in foreign lands agree to sit still, religiously conform to American ideas of democracy and generally behave in the West's sense of civility. Realistically, it's a dilemma; the President needs to articulate repeatedly why he wants to reduce US hegemony, once he decides. But in these imperial matters, Mr. Obama has shied away from doing so.

Imperial power is always backed up by force and there is a drone policy in place, which still lacks clarity, such as when to use drones, when not to use drones, for all enemies foreign and limited for criminal activity domestic. It's new technology for age-old problems, but the President needs to confide in us as to where he and the administration are going with these toys. More on this soon.

Have a happy music festival.
And the Beat goes on.

What is Smart911?

Smart911 is a free service that allows citizens across the U.S. to create a Safety Profile for their household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 to have in the event of an emergency. Then, when anyone in that household dials 9-1-1 from a phone associated with their Safety Profile, their profile is immediately displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker, providing additional information that can be used to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. At a time when seconds count, being about to provide 9-1-1 with all details that could impact response, the second an emergency call is placed, could be the difference between life and death.

Give 9-1-1 the information they need to better help you and your family in the event of an emergency.

Sign Up for Smart911, visit www.smart911.com.

What is a Safety Profile?

A Safety Profile is a set of information about an individual, or a household that is contained within one account on Smart911.com. Information can include details about all members of the household, all phone numbers (mobile, landline or VOIP) and all addresses including home, work and even vacation homes. Users can also add details about medical conditions, medications, vehicles, pets and even emergency contacts.

How does Smart911 work?

Smart911 allows citizens to provide the additional details that 9-1-1 call takers may need in order to assist them during an emergency. When you dial 9-1-1 today the information received by the 9-1-1 call center can be limited based on the type of phone you are calling on. With Smart911, anytime you make an emergency call from a phone registered with your Safety Profile, the 9-1-1 system recognizes your phone number and automatically displays your profile on the screen of the call taker who receives your call.

At a time when you may be panicked, or unable to communicate, or it could be unsafe to communicate, Smart911 ensures that the details you would need to tell 9-1-1 are immediately available in the event you cannot verbally provide them.

How is my information validated?

Smart911 has several protocols in place to ensure that information within your Safety Profile is current and accurate. Each phone number within your profile must be validated. Once you enter your phone number you can choose whether you want to receive a phone call or text message in order to confirm your phone. If you receive an automated call you will be asked to press "1" to confirm. If you receive a text message, you will be given a 4 digit code to be entered into your profile to confirm.

In addition, Smart911 requires that each profile must be confirmed or updated every 6 months to ensure that current and accurate information is being provided to 9-1-1. This can be done by simply logging into your account. You will receive reminder messages from Smart911 if you are approaching the 6 month mark to confirm your account.

Where is Smart911 available?

Smart911 is available in hundreds of communities across the U.S. with our coverage area growing every month. To see if Smart911 is currently available in your local 9-1-1 center, you can search via Zip Code.

Smart911 is a national service and anytime you dial 9-1-1 across the country and your call is answered by a 9-1-1 center offering Smart911, your profile will be available. Even if Smart911 is not currently available in your residential zip code, public safety officials urge you to create a Safety Profile. Once created, if you work, visit or travel through any area with Smart911 your profile can offer valuable details to assist you during an emergency.

How does Smart911 help?

Smart911 is a service that can benefit all citizens in any type of emergency. While Smart911 is for all, there are several populations for which Smart911 is a necessary resource in order to facilitate fast and accurate communication with 9-1-1.

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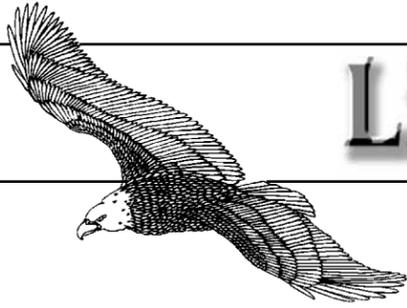


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Living on the Earth

Land, water, grass & animals: History of the Baca Grant, part I

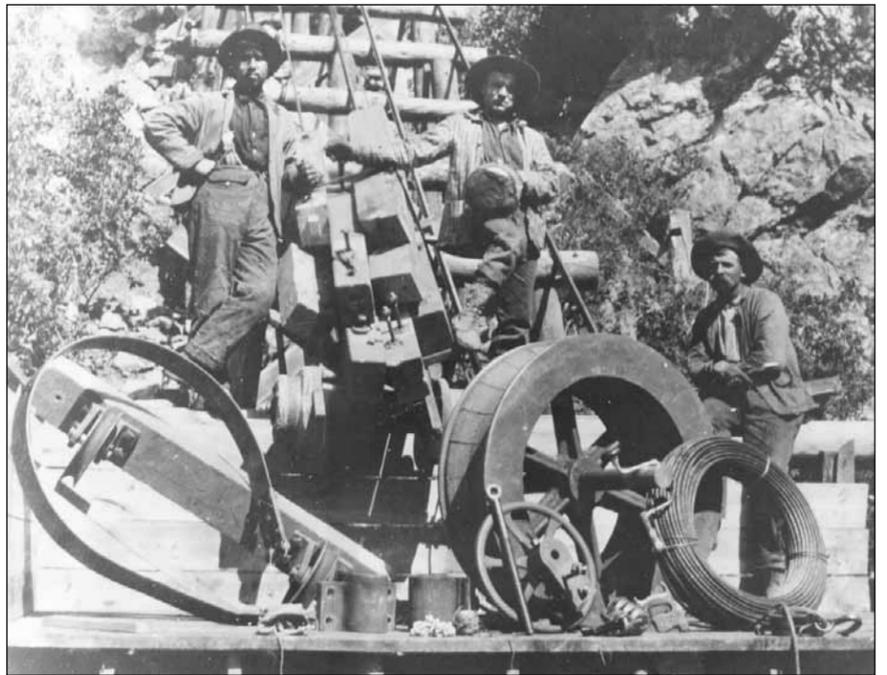
by Gussie Fauntleroy

On an 1861 government map of the Colorado Territory, a large swath of the northeastern San Luis Valley is marked with symbols of grass and water and labeled Bay of San Luis. An 1866 map marks the same area with what appears to be a long north/south lake with creeks and rivers flowing into it from all directions.

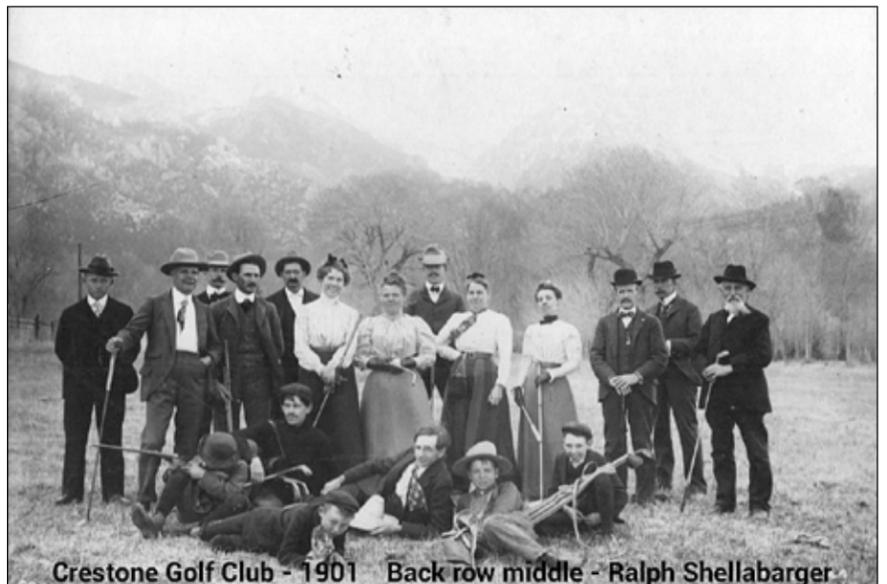
In fact, both maps refer to the immense expanse of marshy wetlands that once covered much of the eastern side of the valley. (The “bay” of the earlier map was likely a shortened version of the Louisiana-French word bayou, meaning marshland.) It was a biologically rich web of interconnected ecosys-

cestors of the Comanche, Ute and other tribes. For these inhabitants, as well as for 18th-century Spanish miners and early 19th-century French trappers, traveling in the valley meant keeping close to the mountain foothills and knowing trails and times of year to circumvent the wettest areas across the valley floor. As recently as 70 years ago, it could also mean ice-skating between Moffat and Hooper.

Lifelong valley resident Bob Bunker remembers his father telling of doing just that in the early 1940s, skating on the frozen north-south San Luis Creek and checking his muskrat traps along the way. Bunker recounts the story as he stands over a large, laminated



Crestone area miners in the late 1800's came to seek their fortune in gold or silver. photos courtesy of the Elaine Johnson collection and the Crestone Museum



Golfers at the golf course on the Baca Grant in 1901. The golf course was located on the south side of the T Road, near where Crestone Creek goes under the road. The San Luis Valley Land and Mining Company, which purchased the grant in 1900, included Scottish investors who sparked a local interest in golfing.



A buggy in tall grass in the Baca Grant, from a 1909 booklet titled “The Camera in the Sunny San Luis Valley and on the Famous Baca Land Grant in Colorado.”

tems that included cottonwood-lined riparian drainages flowing down from the high mountains, and on the valley floor, a sea of tall prairie grass and a thick network of creeks spreading into a series of pools.

Ice-skating to Hooper

For thousands of years, as suggested by ancient stone points found in the area, nomadic indigenous peoples hunted here, followed in more recent centuries by an-

1941 aerial photo of what is now the Baca National Wildlife Refuge, on a conference table in the refuge office across from the Yak 'N Cracker Café. Next to the photo is a one from 2011, which tells a very different story. Gone is the tangled network of waterways and pools. What remains is a mostly dry valley floor, a few snowmelt creeks flowing west from the mountains, and seasonal playas, or areas of temporary standing water. Conspicuously

present in the newer photo at the south end of the refuge is a cluster of bright green circles—agricultural fields irrigated by center-pivot systems.

Head of a cow

The long story of the almost 100,000 acres that now comprise the Baca National Wildlife Refuge starts with water, animals and plants, especially grasses. It develops over time as humans interacted with these elements—with the lure of gold, development and other sources of wealth thrown in along the way. And it finds us today still concerned with the valley’s water, animals and plants.

In the early 1200s, as great herds of elk, deer and other wildlife provided sustenance for nomadic people in the San Luis Valley, across the globe another large grazing animal provided a key element to our valley’s history. In southern Spain, a farmer placed a cow skull on a post in a strategic spot, marking a shortcut for the Christian Spanish king’s men to ambush Muslim Moors. The Moors were defeated and the king honored the farmer with the title Cabeza de Vaca, “head of a cow,” a name later changed to Cabeza de Baca.

In 1823, de Baca’s descendants—Luis Maria Cabeza de Baca and his family—petitioned the

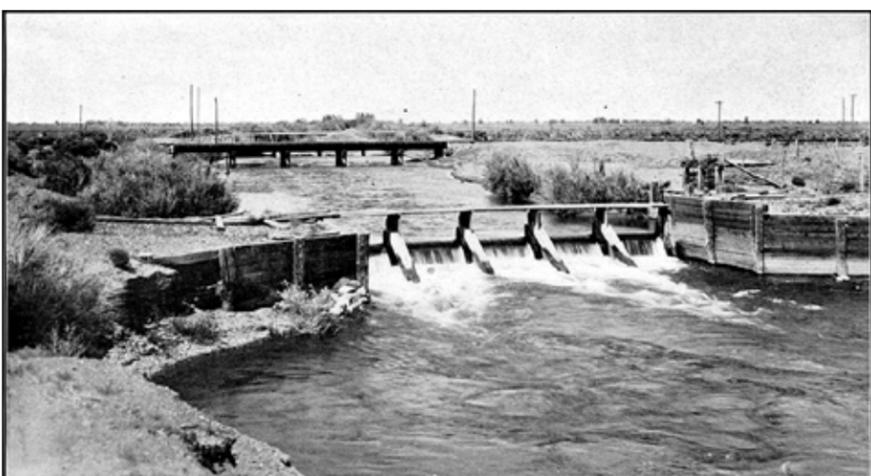


Luis Maria Baca Grant No. 4 1823. The fireplace in the old ranch house proclaims the Spanish history of the land grant. photo by Lori A. Nagel

Mexican government for 500,000 acres of land at the site of present-day Las Vegas, New Mexico, land that Mexico had gained in its independence from Spain. The family lived on the Vegas Grandes Land Grant just three years before being driven away by unfortunate events, including Navajo raids. By the time the Bacas returned in 1835, homesteaders and cattle ranchers had begun settling the land. The settlers asked Congress to appropriate the land—which by 1846 was within U.S. territory—to establish the town of Las Vegas. But the Baca family claimed ownership through the grant.

Baca Grant #4

To settle the issue, Congress in 1860 offered the family five other



Irrigation ditches channelled the Baca Grant’s plentiful water beginning in the late 1800s.

continued on page B-11



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

August 1-11 Jupiter in Cancer is opposite Pluto in Capricorn. This points a finger at the judicial system and changes that must be made. It is the will of the people. Speak out with clarity and well-thought-out research to explain and back up your point of view. It is necessary. Fierce yet interesting religious confrontations will get our attention. Rather than focusing on our differences perhaps we can find common ground after having listened and heard each other's view. We need be more respectful of one another.

August 1 the Sun is in an awkward aspect to Pluto which always has confrontation and conflict surfacing. It could be an uncomfortable time. Venus is in an awkward aspect with Uranus. Does your primary relationship need space to explore optional ways of being together? Break free from old relational patterns. It's a brand new day.

August 1-2 Venus in Virgo is nicely aspecting Mars in Cancer. Focusing on thrifty ways to make your dollars stretch is a wise choice. Second hand clothing shops are once again cropping up all over and deserve our attention. It's time for a "dress up silly," with a theme-type of party. Trading with and gifting one another would be playful & thrifty.

August 2-4 the Sun is in a super fine aspect to Uranus. Let's get more creative, think outside the box, and share our ideas in a group setting. Allow your mind to expand beyond where it's been before. Listen to your inner knowingness and act on it spontaneously without analyzing

August 6 the New Moon will be taking place at 3:51pm with the Sun and Moon at precisely 14° of Leo in a positive aspect to Uranus at 12° of Aries. There's 29½ days to a New Moon cycle and this one is all about freeing your creativity and trusting and acting on your intuition. Organize. Think carefully how to make a unique, memorable impression while focused on a humanitarian cause. The energies set off are with us until the next New Moon on September 5.

August 8-23 Mercury enters Leo and remains here until August 23. Mercury is direct. Mercury in Leo is sharp, clear, direct, and principled. Using performance art to make a point would be a smart thing to do.

August 8-9 Venus is in an

awkward aspect with Saturn. Do you feel that you're being given, "the cold shoulder," by someone and you don't know why? Feelings get hurt. Expectations often set us up to be hurt. Examine your expectations.

August 9-11 Mercury is in an awkward aspect to Saturn stirring up negative thoughts, guilt, shame and worry. Writing usually helps to discharge false ideas about oneself. Insight comes, by focusing and efforting.

August 10 Mercury is in a challenging aspect to Neptune which can be unsettling. Your mind is confused and forgetful.

August 10-11 Mars is in an awkward aspect to Neptune which suggests low energy and the need for more rest than usual. Your immune system may need to be perked up. How good are you at nurturing yourself with necessary supplements and herbal remedies? Maybe it's time for a reflexology session?

August 11-12 your energy should be getting stronger now that the Sun and Mars are in a fine aspect to each other. You might be in the midst right now of organizing a party, wedding reception, or a fundraising event.

August 12-14 Mercury is in a positive aspect with Uranus which increases intuition and creativity.

August 16 the Sun is now in a challenging aspect with Pluto which is known to stir up trouble. Conflict, competition for power or domination is common and of course not at all comfortable between friends.

August 16-September 11 Venus is in Libra which is the sign "she" rules. Your creative juices are flowing and you want to re-decorate. You are not happy with the colors surrounding you at home and you have great visions of how it could be. You want to be fair and get support from those who live with you, but you really are determined to have it your way. Libra energy is respectful of others and wants support and cooperation but also cannot put up with ugliness or disorderliness.

August 17-22 Jupiter is in a challenging aspect to Uranus which brings about sudden changes which can be very disruptive and hopeful, yet usually turn out to be disappointing. If you're involved in some kind of financial speculation this indicates a

problem, hopefully to be resolved.

August 19 the Sun is awkwardly aspecting Uranus, which is the "don't tell me what to do," aspect. Venus is awkwardly aspecting Neptune also today, until midnight. This aspect is all about wishful thinking and fantasies which become obsessive. It may concern fantasizing about someone unreachable, or married.

August 20 Mercury is awkwardly aspecting Pluto which brings about obsessive thoughts which, correctly channeled, will be great for doing research or other tedious work using your mind.

August 20 the Full Moon will be taking place at precisely 7:45pm with the Moon in Aquarius and the Sun opposite in Leo. There is a huge potential at this time for healing to take place while in a group setting. Realizations come and you can move forward and leave behind an idea that you were going to bank on. You can clearly see that it won't work out the way you had imagined. From this something else (better) will take root. Do not rush into anything.

August 22-September 22 the Sun moves into earthy Virgo on August 22 at 5:02pm. It's time to start focusing on the new routines you will be creating after the harvest of good foods and also good thoughts. Virgo has to do with being discriminating with which thoughts you allow front stage attention. Then the other thoughts can be carefully deleted from your mind. This is an important process for maintaining your health.

August 22-24 Venus is now in a difficult aspect with Pluto. Dredging up past relationship issues may happen due to the need to clear the past and move forward with no strings holding you back. It's time to forgive and let go. This aspect often brings up feelings of jealousy, suspiciousness and possessiveness which have to be dealt with and not swept under the rug for one more minute. The Sun and Mercury are closer together now than usual. Your mind is quickened yet could be overwhelmed with self-conscious thoughts of how you came across or how others see you. These particular thoughts could find you losing your perspective.

August 23-September 9 Mercury will be in Virgo. Mercury is the ruling planet of Virgo and thus operates well here. Your thinking is more orderly and this is a fine time for learning and teaching.

August 23-25 it's time to set aside the wonders of Mercury in Virgo and let go of needing to analyze and understand. Mercury is now opposite Neptune and it can be a very

confusing time if you are analyzing your psychic awareness. It's best to trust it and learn what needs to be learned.

August 24-26 Venus is opposite Uranus which means that you could be reckless in your approach to romance. Flirting for fun and nothing more is where it's at. The Sun in Virgo is opposite Neptune in Pisces. Visualizing and fantasizing how the world could be, if it were your ideal world . . . would make a great theme for meditation. Allow yourself to stretch out beyond what your imagination thinks is possible.

August 25-27 Venus is roughly aspecting Jupiter, opening the door to temptation to indulge in sweets and alcohol. It could be a party or just socializing with friends that brings out the compulsive urge to have more, and more. Mercury is nicely aspecting Saturn bringing in the voice of reason and sanity. You could talk yourself out of overdoing it if you chose to do so.

August 27-October 15 Mars is now in Leo, a fiery sign which loves to be active physically especially if it's all about having fun. You can boost your confidence by doing things that you're good at and easily improving your ability. The position of Mars in Leo loves dancing, performing, creative expression plus athletics as healthy ways to just be yourself.

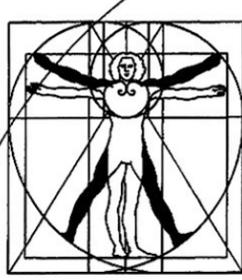
August 26-28 Mercury is in a super fine aspect with Pluto which takes you into the depth of understanding. You're searching for a greater level of knowingness. Example: I just read a magazine from the grocery store all about the life and death of John Kennedy Jr. and what may have been the real cause of his death.

August 28-30 the Sun is in a favorable aspect to Saturn until 9pm on August 30. The voice of reason has spoken! Your thinking is rational and you can get a handle on how to deal with issues coming up that previously had "made" you feel nervous. Mercury is nicely aspecting Jupiter, ushering in humor and a quickened mind blended with wisdom.

August 31-September 1 the Sun in Virgo is in a positive aspect to Pluto in Capricorn. This has got to be my most favorite aspect of all. It offers courage, confidence, inner strength and stamina. Determination and opportunities galore seem to be laid at your feet.

Ananur Forma lived in Crestone from 1996-2003. Ananur can be reached on the rocky coast of Maine at 207-594-2565 www.AstrologyWithAnanur.com.

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by Kim Malville
Almanac

Venus is low in the evening sky, setting about 1½ hours after sunset. The planet starts the month at the western side of Virgo, moving rapidly toward Spica throughout the month. At the beginning of August Saturn becomes visible about 45 minutes after sunset some 30° above the southwestern horizon, at the eastern edge of Virgo. Jupiter and Mars rises about 3:30am at the start of the month. Mars appears 20 minutes later. Both become higher in the eastern sky as the month progresses. Both are in Gemini at the beginning of August. Jupiter stays in Gemini, but Mars races eastward, reaching Cancer at the end of the month.

August 6: New moon

August 9: Thin crescent moon is visible below Venus above the western sky about 30 minutes after sunset.

August 11-13: The Perseid meteor showers return in full glory.

August 12: Look for Saturn above the moon.

August 20: Full moon

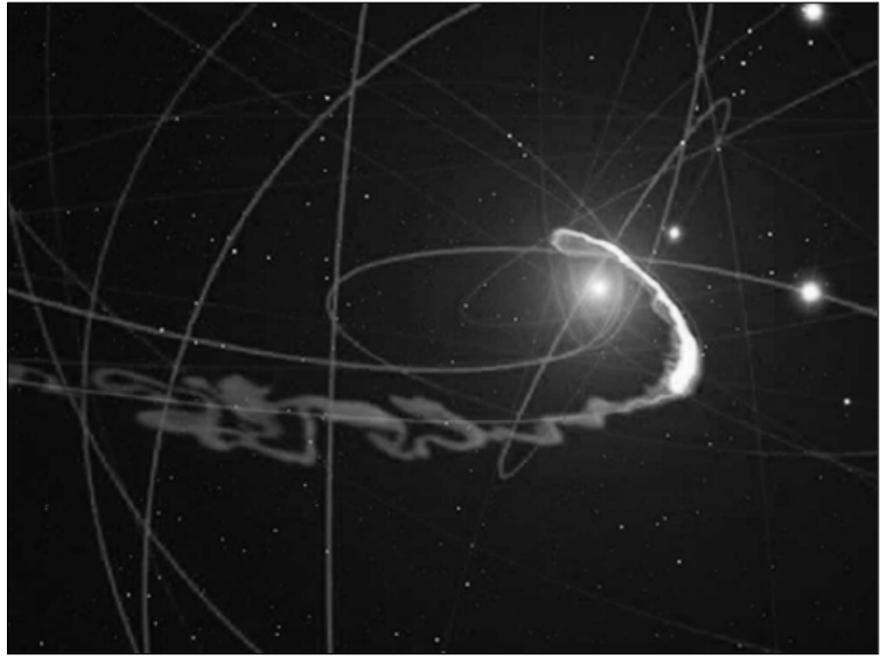
Great nights for watching the Perseids (August 12-13)

This year is an outstanding opportunity for watching these meteors since the waxing moon will set in mid-evening. The best time for observing these meteors is from

11 onward to the first light of dawn. The radiant out of which the meteors pour lies near the head of Perseus, which appears above the horizon around 11pm in the northeastern sky. The earth passes through the thickest part of the meteor stream around 1pm local time of August 12. For us in Crestone, the shower splits itself between the early morning hours of August 12 and 13. Last year at the peak of the Perseid shower people were counting up to 100 meteors per hour. We may see fewer than that in North America but surprises can happen if the earth encounters dense blobs. In any case you can expect to see a meteor every minute. These meteors are produced by tiny bits of debris from Comet Swift-Tuttle, moving at 37 miles per second.

Drama, death, and uncertainty in the center of our galaxy

It is fair to say that many astronomers are agog over a gas cloud that is having a close encounter with the huge black hole at the center of the Milky Way. In December 2011, the orbit of the gas cloud in Sagittarius, called G2, was first determined to come perilously close to the Milky Way's central black hole by mid-2013. Nineteen months ago, the immense gravity of the black hole, which is 4.3



A blob of gas on its death plunge into the black hole at the center of our galaxy.



Meteors coming out of Perseus.



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million times the mass of the sun, was already squeezing and stretching the gas cloud as if it were pasta dough or taffy.

Images obtained in April with the Very Large Telescope in Chile show that the leading edge of G2 has already whipped around the black hole's far side and is actually moving toward us, like a train rounding a corner. The end of the gas cloud is still moving away from us at speeds up to 3,000 kilometers per second, 100 times the speed at which Earth orbits the sun, or one percent the speed of light. Since its discovery the gas cloud has been stretched to twice its initial length. This kind of stretching is what humans would experience when falling into a black hole. Because the front and rear end of the gas cloud have grown so far apart, it appears that most of the cloud won't make its closest approach to the black hole until early next year. Never before in human history have we been able to view the play-by-play destruction of an object when captured by a black hole.

There are complications. Light waves get stretched in the strong gravity of the black hole. The cloud may fade from view in coming months as its light gets stretched into the infra-red. Its remnants might gradually get funneled into the black hole culminating in a rare bright display as they approach the point of no return. The large telescopes of the world will be waiting. Stay tuned.

Signals from beyond the galaxy

For the first time a series of extremely powerful ultra-short radio bursts have been detected that apparently originate from outside the Milky Way Galaxy. Lasting for only a few thousandths of a second,

these mysterious bursts appear to be a previously unknown class of radio-emitting phenomenon. These are being described as one of the most important radio discoveries in the last couple of decades.

Although radio signals that vary over days to months have been recorded from distant galaxies, such short signals from beyond the Milky Way have never been previously detected.

Using data from the 210 foot diameter Parkes Radio Telescope in Australia, astronomers have found four such bursts. All seem to have come from outside the galaxy, from distances of between 6 to 10 billion light years.

The brevity and brightness of the bursts suggests they were emitted by an extraordinary object known as a magnetar, which is a neutron star with an extremely powerful magnetic field. Neutron stars are the remnants of supernova explosions, in which a large star destroys itself, but leaves a dense core. As that core collapses its magnetic field is enormously enhanced. Solar flares, the most powerful explosions sunspots. These magnetars have magnetic fields that are a million-billion times stronger than those of sunspots.

Each of these four bursts has come from a different region of the universe, suggesting they are such cataclysmic events that they must have destroyed the objects that produced them. It seems unlikely that they are signals coming from distant extraterrestrial intelligent life. The energy involved is equal to the total output of the sun during for 300,000 years compressed into a period of milliseconds. Life could not survive such intense radiation. But, who knows?

Roundtable considers effects of West Fork Complex fire; floods could be a real hazard

by **Bea Ferrigno**

On July 9 in Alamosa, members of the Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable (RGRT) heard from Dan Dallas, Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) supervisor, about efforts to mitigate the effects of the West Fork Complex (WFC) fire and to ensure public safety in and near burned areas. Dallas noted that this was the largest fire ever in the valley and that it was 10 times the size of the Million fire of 2002. In the WFC fire, nearly 110,000 acres burned, but only 40 were private property, the rest all being Forest Service lands. Effects of the fire, however, will be felt on both private and public lands outside the burned area as well as within it. Due to the intensity of the fire, burned areas will not absorb any rain that falls on them, so flash floods and debris flows can develop quickly during storms. A forested watershed that might ordinarily release 160 cubic feet per second (cfs) could produce 12,000 cfs after a fire. While emergency response teams have already been formed and funding is pending for restoration work, until that work is

completed, people hiking or traveling in or below a burned area or near streams that flow from it are cautioned that they could have only about 20 minutes to reach higher ground once rain begins to fall.

Early in July the RGNF requested a Burn Area Emergency Response (BAER) team, which spent two weeks conducting an assessment of the burned areas; their recommendations were to be sent directly to the Secretary of Agriculture for funding. In addition, county governments together with state and federal agencies formed the Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT), guided by Tom Spezze, recently retired after 31 years with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. His last 10 years there were spent as South West Regional Manager covering the SLV, Durango, Montrose and Gunnison. By July 18 RWEACT had begun deploying multiple rain and stream gauges in the high-priority watershed and high-hazard dam areas; these early detection elements will be connected to early-warning networks that will get alerts to the public along

the river course.

Later on, mitigation measures will include felling trees and laying them perpendicular to slopes to slow runoff, placing straw wattles near streams, and using helicopters to spread seeded straw. By the third week of July the fire was 66% contained, even before widespread rains that arrived on the 18th. While the rain may have helped to extinguish the fires, it could also bring flooding and debris flows. For details on these possibilities, see Mike Blakeman's article in the July 17 *SLV Lifestyles*.

In other business, the RGRT approved a proposal from the Conejos Water Conservancy District for

a pilot project to improve the accuracy of streamflow forecasting by means of radar equipment. The project will significantly increase the data points now reported by only seven SNOTEL sites in some 7,000 square miles of the upper Rio Grande watershed. The aim of the project is to obtain more accurate estimates of runoff for the April 1 determination of obligations under the Rio Grande Compact. As the proposal mentions, "The high error rate in the annual April 1 forecasts translates into millions of dollars lost annually due to reduced agricultural productivity on irrigated lands."

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The 30 day GMO-free diet!

by Kyle Grote

Although my diet already consisted of mostly free range meat and organic vegetables, being a organic farmer, it was time to stand up and walk my talk. May 1, 2013, I decided to go on a 30 day GMO-free diet. It wasn't easy to go a whole month with out GMOs especially since 80% of the American food supply contains GMOs. I had to research and find out which foods have GMOs and which don't.

These are some things I've learned in the last 30 days.

1) Most Americans do not know what GMOs are

Wikipedia says "A genetically modified organism (GMO) is an organism whose genetic material has been altered using genetic engineering techniques" to produce desired traits. "Organisms that have been genetically modified include micro-organisms such as bacteria, yeast, insects, plants, fish, and mammals", e.g. herbicide resistant corn.

A great resource for being GMO-free is the Non-GMO Project which certifies products as non-GMO. They can help you determine which products are GMO-free and which are not. They are also tak-

ing the initiative to help companies label their products GMO-free since our government will not do so. Here's a cool fact: "There are no genetically engineered potatoes in commercial production, and potatoes are considered "low-risk" by the Non-GMO Project Standard." www.nongmoproject.org. Good news for the San Luis Valley.

2) What are some of the effects caused to humans by GMO crops?

- According to the Alliance for Natural Health, genetically engineered food alters our digestive systems and our DNA.

- GMO author Jeffrey Smith says that GM foods can be toxic or allergenic.

- GMO foods have been shown to cause cancer in rats.

- There is evidence that pesticides specially developed to be used with GMO crops are contributing to bee die-offs.

Genetically engineered foods have never been safety tested by the FDA. There are many studies that have been done on rats, resulting in cancer, digestive problems, and low birth rates. GMOs promote increased use of pesticides and herbicides which leach into our ground

waters, polluting our aquifers.

Many countries around the world have banned GMO crops. 60 countries have placed mandatory labeling so consumers know what they are eating.

3) Even though people know of the risks of GMOs why do they still eat them?

"A little bit won't hurt." I have found that many people say that since they eat mostly organic that a little GMOs won't hurt them. The problem is that people don't see the effect of what GMOs do to the body right away. They don't realize that by still eating some GMOs it promotes the production of them for others to consume.

"It too expensive to eat GMO-free food." This one is tough in today's economy. We make excuses because we say that eating GMO-free food is too expensive, but the more we support good clean organic food more the price will come down. Eat local meat and veggies, and grow your own food. As a little boy said, when standing up against a pro-GMO corporation, "You can either support the farmer now or the hospital later."

4) How do I eat GMO-free if the majority of the american food supply is GMO?

Our food supply is at risk! Here are the crops with the highest GMO risk.

- Alfalfa (first planting 2011)
- Canola (90% of U.S. crop)
- Corn (88% of U.S. crop in 2011)

- Cotton (90% of U.S. crop in 2011)
- Papaya (most of Hawaiian crop; 988 acres)
- Soy (94% of U.S. crop in 2011)
- Sugar Beets (95% of U.S. crop in 2010)
- Zucchini and Yellow Summer Squash (25,000 acres)

It definitely takes willpower, knowledge and good planning. Pack your snacks when traveling. Don't give in when tempted by food with GMOs. Find grocery stores and restaurants that carry GMO-free food or talk them into carrying GMO-free items. There's an app for finding out which products have GMOs and you can always google it.

It is time for all of us to know where our food comes from. Since my 30 days have been up, I've decided to go at least a year if not the rest of my life being GMO-free. Join me in eating smart for at least 30 days! We are what we eat and food is medicine. It's time to feel good when you eat, and know where your food comes from!

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\$385,000
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Secluded and private 3 acres in The Town of Crestone with mountain and valley views. Well constructed beautiful home with additional 437sq. ft. Studio apt. with full bath, kitchen, and deck, and 475 sq. ft. light filled Artist Studio. Call Shirley on 680249R



\$350,000
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Lovely contemporary home on 8 acres. Creek runs thru the backyard, greenhouse, studio apt., open floor plan, exceptional price for this beautiful property. Call Shirley on 673795R



\$337,000
Crestone

Creek side contemporary home on 3.57 acres of park like setting. This home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and a great ambience. Home features a sitting area with large picture windows. Master bath features custom tile work, and a soaking tub. Horses are allowed, and home has its own well for good water quality. Call Shirley on 682420R.



\$300,000
Crestone

One of a kind in Crestone, 5 acres with north Crestone creek running through it just north of the town of Crestone many trees with a 960 sq. ft home secluded near the creek. About 200 feet of creek with property on both sides of the creek. Call Terry on 681507R



\$280,000
Crestone

Fisherman's paradise, this home is in an exclusive subdivision with just a few homes, and fish and wildlife abound. Home features, 3 bedrooms and 1 bath, wraparound porch and is on 2 lots with well and septic. Ample parking for several cars and RV. Call Shirley on 682404R.



\$269,000
Crestone PRICE REDUCED

Lovely contemporary styled 2 story with expansive views from the upstairs porch. Priced well below the last appraisal, seller is out of country and says "sell!" Downstairs is set up as a separate residence, and has been a successful rental. Call Shirley on 674420R



\$169,000
Crestone

Living area is a round open floor plan with vaulted wood ceilings, custom stone work, and adobe floors. Kitchen is spacious for cooking and eating comfortably. One very large communal room for sleeping has a wood stove and loft area. Bathroom is charming with clawfoot tub for soaking, tile counters, and copper sink. The exterior has a new stucco and stone finish, and some landscaping. There are 2 small outbuildings. Great permitted Domestic well. Home is easy to get to from Hwy 17, and sits on 40 acres with breathtaking views of The Sangre De Cristo Mtns. and the San Luis Valley. Call Shirley on 679567R.



\$249,900
Crestone PRICE REDUCED

New interior paint-Stunning 3144 sq. ft. southwest-ern style home with incredible Sangre de Cristo views. The fully equipped kitchen features Jenn-Air stove, all stainless appliances including side-by-side refrigerator, microwave, and built-in wine cooler. Large master suite and 3 additional bedrooms make it great for the large family. Three lovely fireplaces, separate formal dining room, motion sensor lighting, surround sound wiring, and a 3 car garage are just some of the features that



\$249,000
Crestone

5 bedroom 3.75 bath home with additional room off Master suite. Nice open living room with cozy fireplace. Kitchen has great pantry, and plenty of cabinet space. Attached 2 car garage with storage and extra bathroom. Screened porch. Call Shirley on 676577R



\$249,000
Crestone

The kitchen features, concrete counters, with all appliances, and separate dining area looking out onto the mountains. Living room area has view of the mountains, and garden area. 2 spacious bedrooms, and spacious bathrooms with custom vanities, and jetted shower in the master bath. 6 panel doors throughout the home. There is a greenhouse with water and light setup, and a shed. Call Shirley on 682370R.



\$249,000
Crestone

Very spacious and modern off grid home with all the amenities. Gas stove, gas refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, pecan custom cabinets, breakfast nook, and lovely formal dining room. Spacious living room with wood stove, 2 bedroom, 2 bath with den. State of the art solar system, new batteries in 2013. Large laundry utility room. Call Shirley on 678163R.



\$225,000
Crestone

Large home 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, completely remodeled in 2011. Open and spacious, would make great retreat for a group. Several areas could be used for meetings, etc. New hardwood floors in most of the home. Creek and very private setting. Call Shirley on 680925R



\$218,000
Crestone

Great home for the large family- One level ranch, close in to new Charter School, on paved road. Home has been newly remodeled with fresh paint, hardwood floors, new ceiling fans, and both bathrooms have been updated with new fixtures. Call Shirley on 680230R



\$199,000
Crestone

Great 5.25 acres for your horses or dogs. Backs to willow Creek greenbelt for trail riding. Thoughtfully built strawbale, 3 BR, 2 BA home with lots of adobe finishes. Great views, comfortable living space along Willow Creek greenbelt. Call Shirley on 600356R



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\$188,900
Crestone

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\$145,000
Crestone

Charming, quaint cabin close in to Town of Crestone, all appliances including washer, dryer. Nice vaulted ceilings in living room, with wood-stove, and open floor plan. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Wrap deck, allows for great mountain views. Call Shirley on 676877R



\$145,000
Crestone

Cute cabin on the outskirts of the Town of Crestone. Walk to hiking trails, biking, shops, and restaurants. Great location, charming getaway. Call Shirley on 681225R



\$139,000
Crestone

This is a very well kept home close to Town and the New Charter School. 2br 2ba, with updated appliances, newer carpet and paint. Separate garage/office/shop space and small greenhouse and fenced yard garden area. Most furniture negotiable. Call Shirley on 672452R



\$69,000
Crestone

Nicely landscaped and backs to park, mature trees, peaceful setting. Manufactured has been built on with nice family room and enclosed porch. Family room has nice Jetul wood stove that is extremely efficient. Garage is 2 car deep or 1 car with front workshop. Great for the retiree. Call Shirley on 682152R.



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COMMUNITY INFORMATION FROM
THE BACA GRANDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

by Lisa Bodey

Fire-adapted communities

As of July 16, the Saguache County Sheriff's Office has removed the Stage II Fire Ban in Saguache County, but it is important to remain very aware because August is typically the most active wildfire month in Colorado. The Town of Crestone will continue to have its normal, yearround "no open fires" fire restrictions and the Baca Grande Fire Department will resume its process of scheduling burn site inspections for any type of open fire in the Baca.

Due to climate changes, the wildfire season is now 2 1/2 months longer than it was 40 years ago and The National Research Council reports that for every degree Celsius (1.8°F) of temperature increase, the size of the area burned in the western U.S. could quadruple. So how do we address these growing wildfire risks when it comes to development?

The US Forest Service has been actively promoting the idea of fire-adapted communities (for more information go to www.fireadapted.org). Fire-adapted communities promote the idea that wildfire is everyone's responsibility—homeowners, firefighters, land managers, and civic leaders. A fire-adapted community acknowledges and

takes responsibility for its wildfire risk, implementing appropriate actions at all levels to address resident safety, homes, neighborhoods, businesses and infrastructure, forests, parks, open spaces, and other community assets. The more actions a community takes, the more fire-adapted it becomes, reducing the need for costly response and suppression efforts and enabling it to safely accept fire as a part of the surrounding landscape.

Insurance and real estate companies are receiving more in-depth education about fire mitigation practices and we are starting to see the impact in Crestone. In some cases it is becoming more difficult to obtain and retain home insurance without proof of fire mitigation. Firewise (www.firewise.org) has a recently revised brochure with excellent information on hazard assessment and the home ignition zone (HIZ).

There are other benefits to responsible landscape management other than fire prevention. Mitigation reduces unwanted bugs and critters near homes. Mice and other rodents can develop habitats in wood piles, so moving firewood away from structures and downwind can help to alleviate infestations in homes. Developing mitigation plans with your neighbors

Grassfire south of Colorado College



Despite the wetting rain that accompanied a heavy storm the night before, a lightning strike ignition was reported early in the morning on July 25 south of Colorado College. Baca and Crestone fire fighters responded to contain the 50' by 50' fire that was burning ground fuels and cottonwoods within the hour. photo by Talmath Lakai

while receiving assistance from the fire department can help to establish better community relationships. Finally, planting firewise landscapes can greatly improve water conservation and improve cooling efforts around homes.

Fire extinguisher inspections in August

The BGVFD will be partnering with Valley Fire from Saguache to sponsor Community Fire Extinguisher inspections in August. Fire extinguishers should be examined every year. You can drop off your personal fire extinguisher at the Baca Fire House (corner of Camino Baca Grande & Moonlight) before August tenth. Please make sure to attach your name and phone # to each extinguisher. Inspections are \$10 and can be paid at the time of pick-up. Refills will be \$12 and if they are unable to refill based on age or condition, replacements may

be available for purchase.

Thank you to everyone who visited our public education booth at the town's 4th of July festivities. Please be sure to stop by and see us at the Crestone Music Festival! We will have our recently updated "Fire Safety in Crestone & the Baca" brochure and evacuation information available, as well as cool goodie bags for kids!

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As the Worm Turns

The Garden Guru

By Leigh Mills

My involvement with the gardening and seed-saving scene here in the San Luis Valley these past few years has gotten to where a few folks have called me a garden guru. I haven't accepted that title because I really don't know that much; I tell folks I just get better press. However, there is a real garden guru in our area and her name is Matie Belle Lakish.

Matie Belle picked the name "Garden Guru" for herself when she decided to start her gardening business. Her experience and wisdom certainly fit the title. She began working with plants when she was young and has been gardening "for more than half a century," she says. Matie Belle grew up in Texas, where she and her grandmother would work side by side for hours in the garden. Matie Belle considers her the most significant influence on her gardening path which has taken her to northern and southern California, the Sonoran Desert of Arizona, and the Ozark Mountains. In each place, she would tap the knowledge of the "old timers" to learn about native techniques and herbal remedies. She recommends two books that are good for this

area: *Wild Plants of the Pueblo Province* by William W. Dunmire and Gail D. Tierney and another one, which I've also enjoyed, is *Buffalo Bird Woman's Garden* by Gilbert Wilson.

She's lived here in Crestone off and on for 20 years and at her current home's location for the last four. I had a wonderful time exploring her beautiful garden and learned all kinds of things while we walked around. Matie Belle says her main focus, when it comes to gardening, is to "look for ways to meet our nutritional needs while growing food on our own land". She's always looking for varieties of plants that will help us do that. She calls her growing space an experimental garden with the focus on "beauty, nutrition, and plant hardiness". What I saw was an amazing quilt of flowers, herbs, fruit trees, strawberry plants, raspberry bushes, vegetables, and native volunteers. She picks seeds and plants that are open pollinated with strong reproductive qualities. Pinetree Seed Company is her source for seeds and her favorite plants are apricot trees and raspberry bushes.

Matie Belle and members of



An hour was barely enough time to see all of Matie Belle's garden. The Garden Guru shared her knowledge and garden bounty lovingly. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and am grateful to have had the experience.

the Holistic Living Alliance are busy organizing the 2nd Annual Crestone Garden Tour happening on Saturday, August 17. Last year's tour was very successful and attended by many people. This year's tour will start earlier in the day and allow more time at each stop so tour participants can enjoy each garden and ask questions.

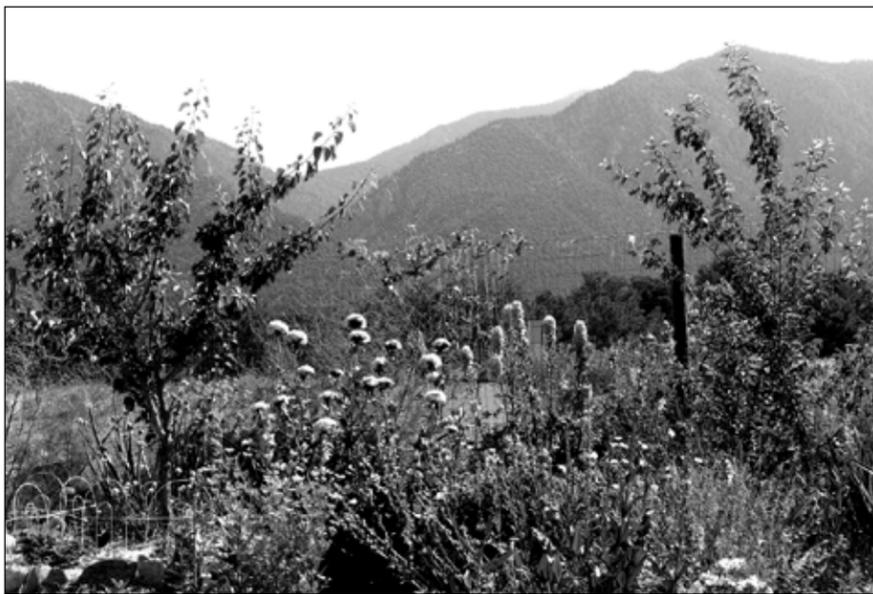
As the Garden Guru, Matie Belle can help answer gardening questions you may have, consult with you regarding garden design and troubleshooting and, on a limited basis, help you in your garden. She has several clients right now and is able to accommodate a few more in her busy schedule. You can reach her at 719-256-4252 or matieb42@gmail.com.

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 high-altitude gardening and seed saving blog called *The Infinite Bee*. If you

enjoy reading her monthly, visit her daily at *TheInfiniteBee.com*, where she welcomes your comments, questions, and suggestions about gardening, saving seeds, and practicing life.



The garden's cherry trees and service berry bushes were heavy with ripe fruit. I tasted several varieties of each, along with a strawberry or two. When the Garden Guru offers, I receive. These service berries were so tasty and sweet. I'm going to plant some in my garden next year!



This is the mountain view from the most established part of Matie Belle's garden. The beds were filled with perennial plants, flowers, herbs, cherry and apricot trees. It is a beautiful pallet of color.

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AUGUST 2013
Listings



SOLD!

<p>RETAIL!</p> <p>200 Cottonwood - \$575,000 Curt's Olde Country Store. 6,320sf retail property w/ fixtures included & gas pumps. Prime Downtown Crestone Real Estate - GREAT VALUE!</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>4407 Twinview Terrace \$119,000 2-story custom ~1450sf strawbale home. 2bd/1ba w/ studio/office/den. Highly efficient passive solar heat w/ wood backup. Copper countertops, adobe & wood floors, flagstone patio.</p>
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Under Contract **New Listings**

<p>UNDER CONTRACT!</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Rustic Elegance</p> <p>923 Blue Spruce OL \$439,000 Handcrafted home w/ spectacular views. ~2350sf on 1.93 acres. 2bd/2ba, spacious artist studio & meditation room. Surround windows & south facing 2nd floor deck</p>	<p>Custom Southwest Style</p> <p>1266C Forest Grove OL \$429,000 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</p>	<p>Close to Town</p> <p>40 Crestone OL \$174,000 Built in 1971, renovated in 2010-2012. 1.5 story, 1624sf home with 2bd/1.5 ba/sunroom/study/office/utility. Located on private cul-de-sac close to town, backs to greenbelt.</p>	<p>Courtyard Gardens & Studio</p> <p>1380 Chaparral Way \$149,000 Flower-filled courtyard marries this charming 1020sf home w/ separate 336sf studio/workshop. 2bd/1ba, open floor plan, mtn and valley views. Greenbelt on 2 sides.</p>	<p>Log Home</p> <p>98 Skyview Way \$139,000 Built in 2002, this ~953 sf log home is 2 bedroom/1 bath down with large ~200sf loft up. Located close-in to town and accessible by paved roads.</p>	<p>Downtown Commercial Lots</p> <p>Lots 11 & 12 Blk 43. \$85,000 Rare opportunity to purchase 2 downtown commercial lots. 2 each 50x142. Utilities available. Prime location for development.</p>
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Baca Meadows **Town of Crestone** **Off-Grid Green Living**

<p>Townhouse 6 - \$199,000 Renovated & furnished 3bd/3ba 1622sf single-level townhouse w. granite tile counters, pantry, arch & walled courtyard.</p>	<p>Townhouse 9 - \$159,000 2-story 2bd/2ba 1480sf corner townhouse with mountain views. Wrap around patio and balcony. Peaceful & relaxing. Immaculate condition.</p>	<p>Development Potential</p> <p>Baca Meadows Townhome Development - \$175,000 Platted for development of 16 lots for single and duplex homes (3.388 acres). Infrastructure in place: water, sewer & electric. Close to town.</p>	<p>Was \$149,000</p> <p>375 S. Cedar - \$134,000 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.</p>	<p>Exquisite!</p> <p>573C Cottonwood Creek Tr \$324,000 CUSTOM OFF-GRID STRAWBALE 1855sf 2bd/1.75 on 8.59acres. Garage 808sf. Fine finishes. Open floorplan. Views. Additional land available. Exquisite!</p>	<p>Rustic meets Modern-15.31 acres</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Reduced- Was \$175,000</p> <p>1381 Saddlerock Trail - \$159,000 Cute 1100sf 2bd/1ba strawbale home. Solar hot water, radiant heat bamboo floors, sunroom, views, courtyard. Garden and Shed</p>
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Baca Grande Properties

<p>Was \$499,000</p> <p>1234C Brookview NOW - \$459,000 Lee Mitchell custom home. 2400sf 3BD/2.5BA/Office/attached 2 car garage, balconies. Magnificent Views.</p>	<p>Was \$459,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$349,000</p> <p>483C Point of Rock OL \$333,000 Teahen Construction, Beautiful 3bd/2ba 2-story home on 1.946 acres Attached 2 car garage, detached studio. High energy efficiency & quality throughout.</p>	<p>Horse Property</p> <p>Was \$349,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$349,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>A lovely sanctuary</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Bonus Cabin/Studio</p> <p>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.</p>
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<p>5 Lots!</p> <p>1202 Hilltop Way - \$295,000 Lee Mitchell custom-built, 3bd/2ba home on 5-Chalet 1 lots. Fine finishes, radiant floor heat & framed views.</p>	<p>New Construction</p> <p>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!</p>	<p>New Construction</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Detached Studio</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$259,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Detached Studio</p> <p>WAS \$315,000</p> <p>1540C Willow Creek Wy \$250,000 This classic farmhouse has 3bd/2.5ba, large deck w/hot tub, 2 screen porches, hardwood floors, large studio w/bath & kitchenette.</p>	<p>New Construction</p> <p>1738C Willow Creek - Way \$239,000 New Paul Koppana 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.</p>
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<p>WAS \$260,000</p> <p>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 Koppana.</p>	<p>Was \$235,000</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Was \$234,000</p> <p>933 Moonlight Way \$234,000 Bright sunny custom 2115 sq. ft. home w/ valley & mountain views. 3bd/1.5ba, study with full guest apartment below. Radiant floor heat. Custom tile and woodwork, storage.</p>	<p>Magnificent Views!</p> <p>764 Indian Hill OL - \$229,000 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.</p>	<p>Spacious & Gracious</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Includes Lot 1446</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$212,000</p> <p>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.</p>
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<p>Was \$239,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Gorgeous Views!</p> <p>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..</p>	<p>Was \$185,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Motivated Seller</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$179,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Reduced-Was \$179,000</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Was \$159,000</p> <p>3485 E. Graceful Ct - NOW \$154,000 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.</p>
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Bear blues & inner tubes

by Peter Anderson

The bears are out and about. And in July, not September, when their increased appetites cause bears to forage in our local dumpsters more often. A recent radio report said that a local bear was shot because it was harassing someone's mules. Turned out, the bear wasn't wounded after all. Someone just fired a warning shot into the air to scare the bear away.

It's been almost eleven years since we've had a bear incident here in Vulture Gulch. During the drought of 2002, when the usual mountain feed was scarce, a young bear paid us an unwanted visit. We happened to be away on a summer road trip when this bear pried open a small window on our back door and sashayed into the kitchen. Man, what a nose! Or if not a nose the equally impressive ability to recognize a freezer as a storage place for good eats, in this case frozen venison, frozen elk steaks, even frozen bear sausage. Apparently, a hungry bear, even though they're mostly vegetarian, doesn't mind going cannibal. At least this one didn't.

And now this year. We've been up north. Floating some rivers in Wyoming and Montana.

Up on the Swan River near Glacier National Park, it was a hot summer day. Temperatures were pushing 100 according to the radio reports. A flotilla of Walmart warriors were out on the river in all manner of inflatables made in China, many of them with well stocked coolers on board. It was that kind of

river and that kind of river day. We were kayaking upstream of an inner tuber who was yelling for help. Why, I wondered? His tube was still holding air and he was floating along nicely, beer in hand. And then my daughter spotted a bear in the eddy. The inner tube dude was floating toward a cinnamon colored black bear who was cooling off in the river. Talk about being up the creek without a paddle. He baled, running away in the shallows with his inner tube in tow. The bear bolted out of the eddy, heading in the opposite direction, up the cutbank canyon. A problematic encounter was narrowly averted.

Shortly after we came home to Crestone, a bear got into a garbage barrel in our garage. I may have left the door open a crack. Maybe that's how the bear got in. Or it may have gotten its big paw on the door handle. A few nights later, it came back and busted out my neighbor's car window. All for a few packets of vitamins. Now I wonder if maybe that was same bear that was harassing someone's mules.

That bear may also have been enjoying the occasional treat from any number of garbage cans and dumpsters in Crestone/Baca that are not 100% bearproof. Even if a bear has never gotten into your own trash, think about the local restaurants and stores where you do business. Are they entirely "bear-tight" operations? Just asking. More of us may be complicit in these unwanted human-bear encounters than we care to admit.



The Baca Grant today, now the Baca National Wildlife Refuge. Still lush with grass, water and wildlife. The mountain range area of the grant is now owned by the National Forest, with the Baca Grande subdivision between them. photo by Lori A. Nagel

The Baca Grant

continued from page B-1

replacement parcels of land in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado, totaling 500,000 acres. One of these, Baca Grant #4, was in the San Luis Valley. The criteria set by Congress for the land grant exchange was that the offered acreage be uninhabited and unexplored for minerals. The family's lawyer in Santa Fe, John S. Watts, presented Baca Grant #4 as meeting these criteria, and in 1864 Watts finally succeeded in getting title to the land for the Baca family. He then accepted ownership of the grant as payment for his services, which he billed at \$3,300.

However, letters were discovered that had been written before the grant was finalized, between Watts, first Colorado Territorial Governor William Gilpin and Alexander Hunt, fourth territorial governor. The letters suggest the three men—each of whom later owned a stake in the grant—suspected gold might be found on the land, an indication that some mineral exploration had already taken place. As a result, the grant did not come with clear title to mineral rights.

Gold and the Supreme Court

By 1870 gold was being discovered in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, and mining camps including Cottonwood, Spanish and

Duncan sprang up in the foothills south of Crestone on Baca Grant land. In 1880 George Adams platted the town of Crestone, and in 1885 he purchased the Baca Grant from Gilpin, who had bought it from Alexander Hunt in 1877. Hunt had purchased it from Watts in 1870. Adams filed suit in federal court in 1893 to have the miners evicted from all areas that fell within the grant. But because the grant title had not been patented for mineral rights, the case ended up in the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1898 the Supreme Court ruled that there was "no real evidence" the area had been explored for minerals before the grant was finalized, and found in favor of its owner. In 1900 Adams evicted the miners, offering them \$125 for each house and then selling the houses back for \$10 if the owners agreed to move them. Most of the miners moved to Liberty, just south of the grant boundary. Meanwhile, the main portion of the Baca Grant was being irrigated and developed for cattle, gaining some of the earliest water rights in Colorado.

Next month: the Baca Grant in the 20th and 21st centuries—prized Herefords, wildlife management, and water and mining issues.

Thanks to Crestone resident Jim McCalpin, volunteer director of the Crestone History Museum, and Baca National Wildlife Refuge Manager Ron Garcia for historical background.



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3926 Cordial Way \$689,000
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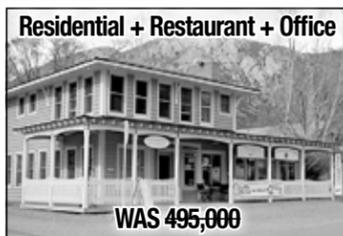
Commercial Properties



SOLD!

RETAIL!

200 Cottonwood - \$575,000
Curt's Olde Country Store. 6,320sf retail property w/ fixtures included and gas pumps. Prime Downtown Crestone Real Estate - GREAT VALUE!



Residential + Restaurant + Office

WAS 495,000

121 E. Galena - NOW \$475,000
Premiere, newly renovated dntwn commercial bldg, incl. upstairs apt. and 3 rentals 1st floor, one with modern commercial kitchen. Great opportunity!

Historic Hotel



WAS 349,000

Willow Springs (Moffat) NOW \$299,000
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Yarrow in bloom.

There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

Yarrow (*Achillea lanulosa*, A. spp.)



by Dorje Root

Yarrow is truly one of the best first aid herbs available. It grows in many places in the west and even in Europe, and it has many uses. There are, in fact, so many uses for Yarrow that this article can merely touch on them. Yarrow is an astringent and a hemostat—it tightens tissues and stops bleeding. On the trail the leaf and/or flower can be chewed a bit and applied to the wound. Yarrow flower and leaf stops bleeding in wounds and helps heal them. It can also be used dried and powdered and makes a great addition to your first aid kit.

Outside of first aid situations, Yarrow has many other uses. Yarrow is a diaphoretic (causes one to sweat) and a diuretic. As a hot tea it acts as a diaphoretic. Mixed with Elder flower and Peppermint it's a great way to bring down a fever in children. As a cold tea it acts as a diuretic, helping in urinary tract issues. It can be used for urinary tract infections, especially with bleeding and it can sometimes be used to slow excess menstrual bleeding.

Yarrow also heals topically and reduces infection. When I had

completed my first week of herb school my young daughter came down with a case of pink eye. I knew that among the 3 herbs we had studied that week there had to be one that would help her! It turned out to be Yarrow. It might not have been my first choice had I studied more, but the Yarrow wash did very nicely for her and healed her eyes.

Yarrow has been known to healers throughout time. In Greek mythology, Achilles' mother dipped him in a bath of Yarrow after he was born to protect him, holding him by the heel. His heel ended up being his vulnerable spot, and the herb Yarrow was named for Achilles. Yarrow flower essence is used for protection, especially for those who are sensitive, to protect from the overwhelming quality of our intense world. This might be a good essence for many in Crestone!

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.

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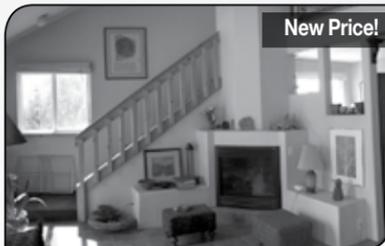
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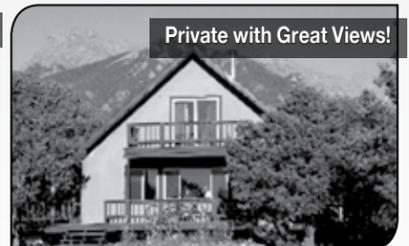
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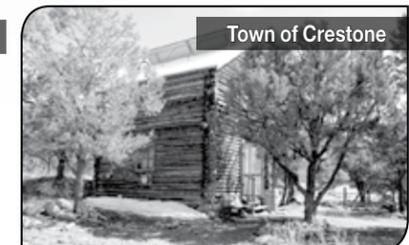
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In Search of Economic Reality

Re-creating the US economy for everyone to prosper

by Ed Lyell

The Future, Al Gore's new book, shows why the world's current economic systems are not sustainable and identifies new forces that can make life for all better, if we make good decisions. The present concentrated capitalism is focused only on short term profit and greed using technology, science, medicine, and robotics in ways that do not provide for long term quality of life.

We need a different form of capitalism to rebuild the economy for success for the majority. I join Professor Gar Alperovitz in calling for a new economy, not unregulated capitalism, and not socialism. He outlines a different form of economics that will create the win/win deals giving economic prosperity for all while also respecting people and natural resources. The major shift is outlined by Alperovitz in his book *What Then Must We Do?* We must move away from the current concentrated or crony capitalism into a system focused on Cooperativeness. This involves reframing ideas to encourage creativity and entrepreneurship from the bottom up.

Peter Drucker, the management guru of the last century, showed how all major economic revolutions came about one generation after the technological change. The printing press took power from the clergy by making it possible for people to read the Bible on their own not filtered through the clergy. Similarly, when the steam engine ushered in the industrial revolution the real changes came a generation after the engine itself. The internet and Friedman's "Flat World" changes also have the generation gap. Those who first have the technology do the same things more efficiently. Their children grow up with the technology and see new ways to do new things, new ways to achieve their desired outcomes.

We are in the world's third economic revolution. Each of these disrupted the status quo and new boundaries had to be created to foster good uses, and keep inside exploiters from abusing the majority. Yet laws and regulations are slow to be developed and even slower to change. Thus every period of change creates unfair, exploitative opportunities for the insiders to fleece the majority. Think about how poorly the public is served when 90% of stocks are traded by banks, computer to computer, and the original purpose of a stock market is lost to the casino game that gives insiders massive profit while squeezing out the ability of real innovators to get money to create new businesses and industries.

Democratic cooperatives show us how to use disruptive change to embrace incentives from capitalism yet with a focus on com-

munity, not individual greed, so that everyone gains in a win-win manner. America's present concentrated capitalism only helps big banks, and corporations who control government. We have monopoly-like industries that spurn creativity and destroy new innovators. These owners and executives live the good life, have great schools, go to world-class universities, and can get funding for their business ideas. However, the 90% have failing schools, high cost low quality health care and mediocre universities that force high student debt with no access to funding for the graduates' ideas to become new businesses.

The US economy grew through industries organized as cooperatives. The people who grew the crops, the bank that financed those crops, the doctors who served that community, and the schools that educated their children were organized such that innovation was funded, and rewards for effectiveness went back to the users and producers together. The insurance industry were mutual companies. No outside investors, just the policy holders who were also the owners who selected the management and paid them reasonable amounts. Farms, grain elevators, and real democratic government made everyone more prosperous.

However, America has abandoned this model and sold industry after industry to outside wealthy investors, many from other countries, who only want a higher return on their investment. These investors do not care about the consumer being well served, or

the workers getting a living wage, or air and water quality. Even the then-hated Robber Barons of the last century lived near their factories and mines. Now investors are

wealthy people from the Middle East, or China, who care not at all about the quality of life for Americans. Many of these wealthy people do not even like America and may want us to fail and be punished because we do not live the way they want us to live. It is as if America has been invaded by a foreign power, not via armies and conflict, but from within like boll weevils eating out the core of our values and prosperity.

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ALL THINGS CONSIDERED



Loren Howard
CEO San Luis Valley REC

On Sunday morning, June 23rd, SLVREC personnel attended a meeting in South Fork to meet with the federal fire management group that showed up as a result of the escalating fires in the Wolf Creek Pass area. The information we received at that meeting resulted in SLVREC Operation's immediate response to inspect and ultimately commence work to clear trees and underbrush along our electric transmission line from South Fork to Creede.

While all our electric system assets are important, electric transmission lines are of such importance that the thought of losing a transmission line is unfathomable. To lose the transmission line to Creede would have exacer-

bated the already significant negative economic impact on the towns and residents in the area. Just as importantly, the loss of the line would have detrimentally affected firefighting efforts. We focused every useful resource available to SLVREC on the protection of this electric transmission line.

An emergency operations center, staffed 24 hours a day, was established at the co-op's office to provide rapid response to the firefighting efforts and for the crews clearing around the electric transmission line. The West Fork Fire Complex firefighting efforts continue as of the writing of this article and SLVREC continues to focus on the protection of the entire electric system from South Fork to Creede and beyond.

There were, and continue to be, many consequences of the fire on SLVREC. One consequence is our ability to respond to other operational needs has been reduced. Our crews have done an outstanding job maintaining

Adapting to Crisis

the remainder of SLVREC's electric system, however, response to unscheduled outages—such as those due to weather or accidents—has been affected in the weeks following the escalation of the West Fork Complex fire. Customer service was also impacted by the fire in their ability to respond to the usual service requests.

By the July 4th weekend, SLVREC had completed most of the possible work needed to protect the co-op's electric system. Our efforts in the South Fork and Creede areas are now focused on restoring power to all members in the area and helping members with issues associated with being without power for extended periods.

In addition, the work clearing around the electric transmission line initially focused on protecting the line. Now SLVREC crews are working to clean up where clearing work was done. The West Fork Fire Complex continues to burn and there is a potential that additional

work will be needed to protect SLVREC's electric system and there remains a potential for future power outages. Be assured we will work diligently to minimize the impact to our members.

Additionally, as in years past, SLVREC has set reclosure devices to remain open when triggered by a fault along the line. While this can increase outage times, it also decreases the risk of fires associated with sparks from power line faults. Linemen will check all faults before restoring lines.

Thank you to all SLVREC members for your assistance and cooperation during this difficult time. Your understanding has helped SLVREC staff focus on a successful outcome for everyone.

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Mountain Mamas Tell Tall Tales

Chalk Creek Stories
Herbs & things

by Kizzen Laki

"She drank the whole thing??" I asked with alarm. "All at once?" That was a pretty potent tincture, only to be taken in small doses. "Oh hell, I wonder if there's an antidote?"

Like many young women in the 1970s, I started exploring natural foods, home birth and using herbs for healing. While this all seems commonplace now, it was pretty radical then. Those sorts of things had gone out of style when people moved off the land and headed for the cities. "Folk remedies" died off with horse-drawn carriages. (And "died off" was something I was worried was going to happen in this story)

But us children of the 60's went back to the land looking for "natural" and "homemade". I found this in a rough camp of old cabins back up Chalk Creek Canyon on some sweet bottomland. No running water (well, there was running water—you just had to run for it), limited electricity, kerosene lamps, out house toilets, and our living on almost nothing took us back a century. We were a diverse assortment of young people—hippies and cowboys, Vietnam vets, college grads and college drop outs, with the occasional biker, trying to raise our kids—or just trying to find a cheap place to live.

I worked for a while at the

first natural foods store in Chaffee County. I explored shelves of items I've never heard of. What fascinated me, though, were the herbs. I've always been a plant person and I dove right into the jars of comfrey and goldenseal (great for canker sores), valerium and mint—marshmallow for cranky babies, raspberry leaf during pregnancy. I got an old copy of Jethro Kloss' *Back to Eden* and was hooked. I started making potions and teas, tinctures and salves. I made my own "sleepytime tea" for the kids that was way more potent than anything Celestial Seasonings came up with. I even removed a few warts. Camp witch? Camp doctor? Well, not really, but after awhile I was the one to come to for basic first aid. I attended births and tended scrapes and bruises and the inevitable woodstove burns.

One afternoon a neighbor's boy came back from fishing up the creek with a fish hook stuck in his ear lobe. Hook and line still attached to the bobbing pole. Tip on that: if you catch your ear with a hook while fishing, cut the line *before* you walk all the way home to seek help.

Another time I spent hours picking out gravel from a shorts-wearing biker's leg. I told him he should just leave the long streak of gravel pieces in the skin and call it



The cabins at Chalk Creek.

a "biker tattoo". I could have given him something for the pain—but, for karmic reasons, chose not to.

However, this story is about a serious "oh shit" moment. I've already told you about my cabin neighbor Becky, the Amazon woman who worked in the Climax mine. But our dear Becky found herself in a big crisis. Her long-time man somehow did her wrong. They had a big fight, he left her and she totally freaked out. Really. Totally. Big time. She screamed and cried and carried on all day and then all night. Her closest friends gathered around and tried to comfort her. The next day she was still hysterical. She was a strong woman and she put everything she had into having one big meltdown. She couldn't eat, she couldn't sleep. Another night went by. Another day. Things were tossed into the yard. Yells turned to whimpers.

Finally, late that evening one of her friends came to see me and asked if I had something that could calm her down and let her sleep. Pot and alcohol hadn't worked. She was exhausted but wired.

Well, I had just the thing. Following a *Back to Eden* formula, I had previously made up a pretty potent lobelia tincture. Lobelia is a strong sedative—something that should

only be used with caution, with other stimulants on hand, just in case. Small doses only given until you reach effectiveness. So I drew off a cup of this tincture. Gave them some of my home brew sleepytime tea and told them to give Becky the tea and sips of the tincture. Well maybe it was the 100% alcohol in the tincture, or a disbelief in the potency of herbs—or maybe an act of bravado and "who cares" desperation, but Becky just downed the whole dose at once. And, rather promptly, laid down, closed her eyes and went into a deep sleep.

The friends didn't tell me about her taking the whole dose until late the next morning when Becky still hadn't woken up. By mid-afternoon she was still sleeping—very, very, soundly. By then I was checking on her, greatly worried—reading my herb books, looking for clues, wondering if I had killed her or put her in a permanent coma. Slow pulse, slow breathing, but alive.

We were reluctant to haul her to the hospital—which surely meant some questions by "the law". I didn't want to get accused of poisoning her, and the camp already got too much cop attention. We decided to wait it out. Evening came and she slept on—but now she would moan and turn over if we tried to wake her up. Good signs, she wasn't brain dead. We took turns keeping watch on our sleeping beauty. Finally around 8pm, after sleeping nearly 24 hours, she woke up, looking well rested. Drama gone.

I was pleased by my success of putting her to sleep and more pleased by her recovery! The friends, while exhausted by the days-long ordeal, declined my offer of tea. They were now looking at me with a sense of respect (or maybe that was *suspect*). We *all* certainly gained respect for the power of herbal tinctures. Becky of course, didn't remember any of it.

Not long after, as I remember, the boyfriend came back—hauling his stuff in from the yard. She was after all, one beautiful, and thankfully, very strong, woman.

I continued experimenting with herbs, learned first aid and went on to become an EMT, learning CPR—just in case.

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

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Baca Grande Library News



by Suzanne McGregor

On behalf of our Friends of the Library (FOL) group, we would like to extend much gratitude to those volunteers who participated in the FOL fundraiser to benefit the library on July 4 in Crestone Park. Organized by Barbara Hoepner, these dedicated volunteers set up tables, decorated signs, made trips for drinks, ice and coolers, manned the table, collected surveys, and cleaned up afterwards. Many thanks and appreciation go to the community members who supported this event and to Elaine and Steve at Crestone Mercantile for donating all the sodas and water for the event.

Calling young readers—especially between the ages of 8 to 12! Come in and check out our collection of books for your age group. Our library is

small, and the young reader selections are in the same room with picture books (what you call “baby” books). But there are so many series that you would enjoy like Merry Watson by Kate DiCamillo, Stink by Megan McDonald, Rainbow Magic Fairies by Daisy Meadows and the complete Magic Tree House collection. The staff will be happy to help you pick out a good book.

And of course, the library is the perfect place to just sit and read a book or a magazine. Our periodical collection includes Audubon Magazine, Utne Reader, Yes!, The Intelligent Optimist, Mother Jones, The Sun, Z Magazine, Colorado Monthly, Zone 4, Scientific American, Consumer Reports, and The New Yorker.

Please support the FOL fundraiser at the Crestone Music Festival, August 2-4. This exciting event will feature real-life poets who will write a poem for you—anything you want. Maybe even a limerick or a bit of Haiku—let your imagination go wild!

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

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Lot for Sale

Willow Creek Lot for Sale with Trees in Chalet one. Tap paid, water and sewer available. Owner financing possible. Please call Electrum @ 719-588-2114 globalspirit@gmail.com

3 PRIMO VIEW LOTS IN CHALET 1

Lots 459/460/461, 1/2 acre each w/ separate tap fees paid. Beautiful quiet neighborhood. #461 \$13,000/#459 & 460 \$20,000/all 3 lots \$30,000. lynele@gmail.com or 303-785-8995

Log Cabin for Sale

Log Cabin 12'x 20' with 8" "D" style logs, metal roof, 4' covered front porch. Built on skids, easily moved and like new. Located in Crestone, CO. New \$14,500. Sell price \$9,500 OBO. Call Dan at 931-264-0375

Sunday Open House

For Sale: Custom hexagon house with separate studio/greenhouse on 1 acre +/- 1919 total sq.ft. Stucco exterior, metal roof, vaulted ceilings, mosaic tile floors. Second level master suite w/additional office space and outer balcony. Magnificent views. Come see. \$209,000. Open House Sundays noon to 3:00. 4424 E. Celestial o.l. or Call for showing (719) 256-5142.

GREAT LOTS FOR SALE

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.

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

An Artist Paradise!

FSBO - 2 Bed/1 Bath/12 Lots/Best Well in Bonanza/Inc. Appliances. Basement can hold 2 cars/wired for 220. Just 45 minutes from Crestone. Graded road for year round access. Awesome views from each window. URL has information. Shown by appointment. Call 719 655-2728 to see your new mountain home,

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, now \$225,000, call 588-3243 for details.

Cheap Land, Magnificent Views!

2 consolidated lots at east end of Casita Park, surrounded by Land Trust lots, magnificent views. No bears and little fire danger! \$2,000 OBO, Kelly and Zana Hart 719-256-6033

Houses for Rent

Really Nice

Three story, furnished, 2 bedroom, 1 1/3 baths, close in the Baca. \$695 month to month, background check. 303-579-7860

BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR RENT

Beautiful 4bd/2bath house in Chalet I. Close to town and park. Fenced yard with grass & landscaping / 2 car garage with attached studio space / contemporary appliances / WD/ tall ceilings / lots of light / great views. Perfect for a family! \$1000/mo. Available Sept.1. Call Bill or Kelly @ 719 937 7789 for more information.

COMFORTABLE & SECLUDED

NEW HOME. 2-3BD/1 1/2B, FABULOUS KITCHEN, WOOD INTERIOR, JACUZZI BATH, W/D, WODSTOVE & GAS LOG, SCREENED PORCH, MUD/SUNROOM, COTTONWOOD CREEK FRONTAGE & TREES. 1ST/LAST/DEPOSIT/REFERENCES. 719-256-4645 OR 937-1039.

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

Furnished House for Rent

Casita available in south Baca. Furnished. Utilities, internet, dishware included. Outside patio on greenbelt, great views, spa access. For one person, pet ok. 719-256-6008.

3 Bedroom Home for Rent

3 bedroom two bath home on 35 acres on County Rd T and CR 65. Wood stove, well, efficient r-value, light, convenient, views, washer dryer hookup. \$850 month large deposit and credit check. 719-256-5439

Casita Park Home to Rent

Lovely conveniently located Casita Park home for rent. Includes Grow Dome for winter greens, 3 bedrooms, large sun room, recently re-insulated, wood and gas heat. 9 mo lease; First, last and security deep; \$650 plus utilities; Available Aug 10. 719 256 4111, 928 243 1691

Classifieds...

*continued to
Page B-18*



Building our community one project at a time since 1993



Potter Excavation, Inc. PO Box 523 719-256-4063

PUBLIC SCOPING NOTICE

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), gives notice of intent to begin the process of evaluating an application for Right-of-Way (ROW) Grants amendments from Xcel Energy for the purpose of rebuilding three existing transmission lines located in parts of Saguache County and Chaffee County, Colorado. The three existing power lines cross Federal, state, and private lands. The three respective ROW Grants are administered by the BLM, San Luis Valley Field Office.

The BLM will evaluate Xcel's ROW Grants application and prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluating the environmental impacts of the proposed action relative to reasonable alternatives. Under the proposed application, Xcel would rebuild three existing transmission lines that are nearing the end of their serviceable life within Saguache and Chaffee Counties. All three lines would be rebuilt within or immediately adjacent to their existing alignments and would maintain their existing capacities (voltage ratings). The transmission lines are as follows: 72.2 miles of Transmission Line 9811, which runs from the Poncha Springs Substation to the San Luis Valley Substation; 55.4 miles of Transmission Line 6905, which runs from the Poncha Springs Substation to the Mosca Substation; and 7.7 miles of Transmission Line 6920, which runs from the Villa Grove Substation to the Kerber Creek Substation.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to facilitate determination of the nature and range of issues to be addressed in the EA, including alternatives. Comments concerning the proposed action, alternatives, and preliminary identification of environmental issues, will be accepted from the public; local, state and Federal agencies; Tribes; and other interested parties in order to scope the EA and contribute to the decision-making process. Comments should be made in writing and must be received prior to August 28, 2013, to be considered for inclusion in the public record. Please send comments to Leon Montoya, BLM Project Manager; 1803 West Hwy 160; Monte Vista, CO 81144 or by email to BLM_CO_SLVPLC_Comments@blm.gov.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF 2013 HAYING OPPORTUNITY ON THE BACA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is accepting sealed bids for 4 separate Hay Bid Packages including several units of the Baca National Wildlife Refuge totaling nearly 1,750 acres.

Haying is utilized as a critical maintenance tool for select wet meadow habitats as part of prescriptions designed to maintain habitat health which includes keeping these habitats free of invasive species.

Each Hay Bid Package will be bid on separately, and bidders may bid on NO more than 2 Hay Bid Packages. The bids will be based on a per ton basis, and a one time Special Use Permit will be issued to the highest bidder for each Hay Bid Package. Potential bidders are encouraged to inspect all units included in Hay Bid Packages during a formal inspection tour with the Refuge Manager which will occur on August 5, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Refuge Office (no additional inspections will be accommodated).

Hay Bid Packages can be obtained by contacting the Baca National Wildlife Refuge at (719) 256-5527 (Attention: Ron Garcia, Refuge Manager) or electronically at ron_j_garcia@fws.gov. Sealed bids must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Monday August 12, 2013.

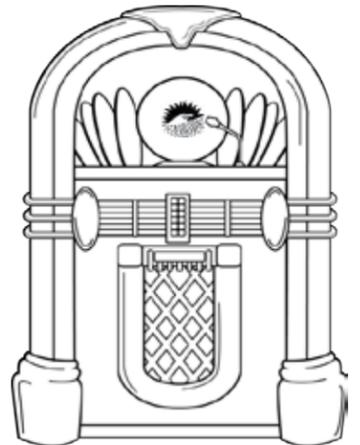
Sealed bids will be opened on August 13, 2013 and successful bidders will be notified by August 15, 2013.

Contact Refuge Manager, Ron Garcia at (719) 256-5527 for more information.



88.7 98.7 100.9

www.krza.org



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

...Classifieds
continued from
Page B-17



Housesitter Wanted

Housesitter for cats, plants/gardens for 3 months starting Sept. Prefer spiritual practitioner. Catherine 719-256-4248

HOME FOR RENT

For rent: 3 BR, 1.5 bath home in chalet I. Available Sept. 1st. \$850/month plus utilities. Call 719-588-3243 for more information.

Lovely Furnished Home For Rent

2 BR 1.5 BA 1700 s.f. furnished home, 6-7 month lease starting Sept. 1st '13 or later, \$1,000.00/mo. + utilities, radiant floor heat, nestled in tress, great views, W/D, D/W, master BR w/ queen bed, 2nd BR has sofa sleeper and TV, Jacuzzi, woodstove, 2nd floor meditation loft with gothic arches, 2 car garage, 2 patios, satellite TV included, phone & internet available for additional charge, Chalet 2 location, no smoking-pets-or kids please, references, first/last/deposit, 719-256-4498

WON'T LAST

GRANTS VICTORIAN&GUEST HOUSE LOCATED ON 35A. FABULOUS ORGANIC GARDEN, WELL INSULATED, RADIANT FLOOR HEAT, WOODSTOVES. WARM&INVITING. AVAILABLE 9/1/13. 1ST/LAST/DEPOSIT/ REFERENCES. 719=937=1039, SOULARQUEST@FAIRPOINT.NET.

Light and Bright House in the Trees

Available Aug 1. 3-4 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 2000 sq ft home. Efficient wood-burning stove. On demand hot water. Great passive solar. Low utilities. Bamboo floors. Private. Fenced in garden, fruit trees, chicken coop. Huge greenbelt, backs to Spanish Creek. Treehouse and swingset. Credit check required. 1 yr lease. \$900/month. Riverundine@hotmail.com

Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent

***** STUNNING RENTAL *****

Stunningly FURNISHED 2 BD 2 BA House; A writer's or retreatant's dream house - nightly, weekly or monthly. thelongandshortofrenting.com for details and pics. Shown by appt. only, Contact: 719-256-4585 or madamewolfe@gmail.com

Spaces for All Needs

Yurts, \$35, Hostel Rooms, \$25, Call for Rates on Vacation Houses, Nightly, Weekly. 3 & 4 Bedroom Houses furnished and unfurnished for long term lease available September 1st. Please Call Electrum 719-588-2114 or globalspirit13@gmail.com

Very sweet 650sf studio apt for rent by stream

Large, separate studio, 650sf in the Grants on quiet 2-acre property next to cottonwoods & singing stream. Full kitchen with custom stone tile. Furnished, but can remove a few things if needed. Very sweet space. Best for one. Washer/ dryer. \$550/month, includes water, elec & trash. Heat (propane) not included. Asking first, last & deposit. Prefer no pets, but negotiable. Pls call 719-937-7931 or email sandother1@gmail.com

New classifieds online. Go to:
www.crestoneeagle.com!

Commercial Property for Rent

Office Retail spaces available in downtown Crestone!

Commercial spaces for lease in prime building downtown Crestone. Under new management, with multiple recent upgrades. Ample parking. All have their own private entries. I have the following spaces available: Unit 101: 256 sq ft commercial kitchen with own entrance; Unit 102: 452 sq ft space can be modified to suit; Unit 103: 418 sq ft office or retail space; Unit 104: 364 sq ft office or retail space with access to beautiful garden area. Contact Scott 970.819.0608 for details

House Rental Wanted

House-sitting sought

Fifty something professional woman working locally seeks long-term house-sitting situation. Will do gardening, house projects, animal care, pay for utilities, etc. Needed by Sept 1 or Oct 1. Local references. Call: 719-298-2289.

SEEKING RENTAL

Crestone resident seeking 1-2 bedroom home for under \$550 a month. Year lease preferred. Call Nora V at 256-4719

Services

*** Affordable Renewable Energy ***
Offset the cost of your utility bills with solar electric or with solar heating and domestic systems. Efficient, cost effective, reliable and professional service. Call Talmath with New Gen Energy at (719) 588-8276 or visit us online: newgenenergy.com

Craig Electric Services

Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, sdossenback@gmail.com

Computer Service/Repairs

Computer Service/Repairs—22 years Computer Technician with full shop in the Baca. Windows, VIRUS fixes and prevention, networking. Call Dennis 256-4110

~ Beautiful ~ Fast ~ Efficient ~

Project Management, Over 30 years of Design/Building/Engineering Experience; Expert in Concrete, Land Use, and Sustainable Practices; Superior Finishes: Plaster/Drywall/Stucco/Tile. How may I be of Service? Wonder Bob 719-937-3052

Colormax House Painting

Colormax House Painting—many local references including Curt's Store and the Crestone Credit Union. Large color swatches for easy color selection. 30 years experience. Repairs. Excellent craftsmanship. Neat, fast & perfect. Chris Argenta 256-5243.

Professional Moving Service

BIG or small we move it all! 719-588-4645

David W. Walker, Accountant

36 years experience. Financial Planning, Business Consulting, Monthly Accounts, Income Taxes. Call for appointment in your area. 719-379-2988.

DirecTV Sales, Installation, and Service

DirecTV For Sales, Installation and Service call Dennis at 256-4110.

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.

Licensed Real Estate Appraisal

Licensed Real Estate Appraiser with 25 years experience, many years experience in Crestone. Don Root. 937-7796 or 720-244-1097. donald.root@yahoo.com.

~***~ STUNNING ~***~ AND AFFORDABLE DESIGN

Logos, business identification, posters, pamphlets, brochures, editing, illustration: I do it all. Cutting-edge modern industry standards. Local, terrific references and portfolio, great team player. Available for emergency services. Mountain Mango Design & Press; Call Daleth at (719) 588-0981 or email daleth.mccoy@gmail.com

Xplore Design

Your Website is an Investment. Ridiculously good customer service and seriously inspired design. 719-239-3300 or markt@xplore-design.com

"Help offered"

Pet care, light cleaning work and other chores offered by longterm Crestone resident. Many references available. Please call Shila at 719-937-7688 for more info.

WE CAN HELP YOU

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL CLEANING ANGELS SERVING, SHORT TERM RENTALS, RESEDENTIAL, OFFICE, MOVE OUT CLEANS, CARPET CLEANING, TILE AND GROUT, VCT STRIP N WAX. ORGANIZING, YARD WORK, JUNK REMOVAL, AUTO DETAILING AND OTHER HANDY SERVICES. 719-937-7952

TOWN OF CRESTONE PUBLIC NOTICE RESOLUTION NO. 008-2013

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OBJECTING TO ASSESSMENTS OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF CRESTONE FOR THE YEAR 2013

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Crestone has an inherent duty to protect the health and welfare of town citizens as well as the economic viability of the town to the extent of its ability to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has been made aware of the increased valuations of real estate by the Saguache County Assessor which, according to her explanation, are based upon directions and guidelines submitted to her by the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the increased assessment on all 25' and 50' residential lots has resulted in an average tax increase of 370%, without regard to the extent of similarities and dissimilarities among properties that were compared; and

WHEREAS, a number of 25' and 50' lots without a residential structure have been reclassified from "residential" to "non-residential" resulting in a tax increase of 1349%; and

WHEREAS, the increased assessment on all 25' and 50' commercial lots has resulted in an average tax increase of 1,059%, without regard to the extent of similarities and dissimilarities among properties that were compared; and

WHEREAS, the median income in the Town of Crestone is less than \$26,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, one business in the Town has already been offered for sale as a direct result of the increased assessment; and

WHEREAS, Town businesses and Town residents cannot afford the increased assessments; and

WHEREAS, the assessments are threatening to destroy the economic viability of the Town and the health and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Town is not in a position to determine whether mistakes in valuations were caused by the Saguache County Assessor or by the State of Colorado.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Crestone hereby resolves that the Saguache County Assessor and the State of Colorado retract the notice of increased valuation delivered to town residents and businesses for the year 2013 and equitably assess real property within the town in the manner provided by law.

DONE and SIGNED this 8th day of July, 2103.

Kairina Danforth, Mayor
Kizzen Laki, Temporary Chair
Attest: Akia Tanara, Town Clerk

Chimney Sweep Service
by David Lindsey
It's the season to let us sweep our way into your hearth.
256-4400
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RESIDENTIAL – COMMERCIAL – PHOTOVOLTAIC
TRUSTED IN THE COMMUNITY FOR 16 YEARS
REFERENCES AVAILABLE

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JOSH WILFONG
HOME: 719-256-5252
CELL: 719-221-5252



New Classifieds online daily. Check www.crestoneeagle.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.

Crestone Talks! Email Discussion Group

Crestone Talks! Email Discussion Group for Crestone. Events, perspectives, queries, and the uncategorizable. To subscribe, send a blank email: crestonetalks-subscribe@yahoo.com

Help Wanted

Utility Maintenance Worker

Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District is accepting applications to fill a full time position for a Utility Maintenance Worker. Under general supervision the Utility Maintenance worker performs duties to sustain the operation, maintenance, and servicing of water and waste water treatment facilities. Duties include: monitoring plant operations; performing and assisting with construction projects; performing preventive and corrective maintenance; conducting periodic inspections; record keeping and customer service. Utility Maintenance Workers must participate in on-call duty schedule rotation. Applications can be picked up at 57 Baca Grant Way S, Crestone, CO 81131 or on our web site at www.bacawater.com/forms. Submit a completed application and resume to: Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District; PO Box 520, Crestone, CO 81131, Application deadline is August 16, 2013 by 4:30 p.m.

Seeking Experienced Web Developer

Seeking Experienced Web Developer for longer-term engagement. Background in asp.net, e-commerce, database, & customer-facing skills. www.SilverEarth.com 303.887.3340 Justin

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

LIBRARY ASSISTANT, Baca Grande Library. The Northern Saguache County Library District is seeking a part-time library assistant for its Baca Grande branch. Hours: 20/week. Pay range: \$9.50-\$10.50/hour. Minimum qualifications: High school diploma. References required. Job description available at Saguache and Baca Grande branch libraries, or online at <http://www.nslibrarydistrict.org/>. Library Assistant search closes August 22, 2013.

WANTED: Bodhisattvas!

www.modelearth.org/bodhisattvas

COOKS NEEDED ASAP

Lead cook/Prep cooks wanted for Buddhist retreat center in Pagosa Springs, Co. Experience in vegetarian food and large groups necessary. The lead position is full time and a stipend position and the prep position is part time and starts at \$12 per hour. These are seasonal positions starting now thru the end of September. Contact kitchen@taramandala.org.

Misc. Wanted

Straw Bales – New or Old

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

Roof Tile For Sale

New Eagle brand concrete roof tile. Brown in color. Capistrano S tile configuration. Have over 35 squares. In Baca. Info: 719-588-2746

high quality beautiful tile

600 sq feet slate-look floor tile, high quality. beautiful mixed grey and saddle brown. With setting materials. \$1000.00. Tile is in crestone. Contact 303-579-2504 or jfats44@gmail.com.

A Piece of Crestone

Send a chunk of Crestone to your loved ones! A small Crestone Conglomerate rock, complete with explanatory reprint from The Crestone Eagle, attractively packaged in a 3"x3" box for only \$5. All sales benefit Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Available at His & Hers Hairstyling and The Crestone Eagle

*****MISC for SALE*****

Propane heater, catalytic, no vent needed, wall mounted. \$50. 719-480-3938

Misc. For Sale

Never used 2011 hot tub \$3500 OBO. Direct vent LP heater \$400. 25 stoves and chimney in stock. Green house covering by Solexx. Service work by David Lindsey 256-4400. Call Nathan at Shangrilah Stove 256-4768.

Lava rock/Scoria for sale

Lava rock/scoria. \$25 cu. yd. 719-480-3938

For Sale – Unusual Deal for Artists

Olympic pottery kiln, newly refurbished, with kiln furniture, and Thomas Stuart electric potters wheel, new condition. Deal for both. Twenty large thick pink flagstones. Call 256-4282 or email emptycanvasstudio@yahoo.com

***** ~ ~ Order Online ~ ~ *****

Firewood ~ Fall Special ~ Pine ~ 3 or more Cords \$165.00 per Cord ~ Call or Text 719-395-6253 Order Online @ SublersNursery.com ~ Deliveries Start in Aug. Cash only, no checks or credit cards.

Sublers Nursery ~ Flagstone

~ CO Red Flagstone ~ Flagstone Steppers \$277.00 per ton | Full Size Flagstone \$299.00 per ton | Delivery & Installation Available – Call or Text 719-395-6253 SublersNursery.com

Yurt for sale

20' YURT FOR SALE (350 sq.ft.) Good Condition w/Snow-Load & Floor Packages, wood stove, steps. \$6500. Call: 256-4871

Vehicles for Sale

For Sale – Camper and Truck

FORD/CAMPER Affectionately used F-250 with pop-top camper, complete for \$5000. Truck, 94,000 miles, 4-WD 5.8L engine. Camper refurbished all nice clean, good working order, ready to hit the road. 719-256-4808

Toyota Campers

minicampers 4 sale in Crestone. reasonably priced. toyota, datsun. good gas mileage. cute and comfortable, fridge, sink 508 237 8915

Community Service

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.

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.

Emotional and Spiritual Counseling

Change your life for free. "Change your mind/change your reality/expand consciousness through grace." Alice Blaszak provides free emotional and spiritual counseling to local residents. Privacy maintained. Phone Alice at 256-5670 for appointment.

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.

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

YARD SALE BENEFIT

Big Garage Sale to Benefit the Ashram on Saturday, August 10 from 9am until noon. Furniture, electronics, household items, memorabilia, rugs, older tv, bed, washer and dryer and much more. All this at 1540 Willow Creek Way. Call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 if you have questions or want to contribute to the garage sale (or help with it!). Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, P.O. Box 9 • Crestone, Colorado 81131, United States of America. 719-256-4108 info@babajashram.org

SUPER GARAGE SALE

Portable screened porch 7 ft 6 sided hexagonal. Vinyl cover for outdoor eating away from bugs. Used and in good cond. Orig \$150 now \$75. 719-588-0777 in the grants. SUPER GARAGE SALE at the KIOSK on SAT Aug 10. 10-3pm. Lots of good stuff, bldg. materials, household, etc.

*****GARAGE SALE*****

Garage Sale – Saturday, Aug 10 10 – 4. 8 Baca Grant Way, Chalet 1 (1/2 mile in from Baca Gates) Great Stuff: XC Skis, Belly Boat, Books & CDs, Art, Line of the Spirit rugs

Free

Attn Winemakers

Attn winemakers: many dozens of empty wine bottles free for pick-up. Call 256-4282

Free Kittens!

FREE KITTENS. 1 year old, brothers, neutered, VERY sweet cuddly and loving! Call Danielle: 719-480-2251

Free Manure

Free horse manure. Call the Baca Grande Stables to arrange pick up. 256-4756.

Designing the Earth Anew Together:

We have to first together decide what the ideal world should be, before we can together start creating it! www.ModelEarth.Org

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www.slvfed.com

MEMBER FDIC LENDER



by Keno

How common are 90° temperatures in Crestone in a normal summer?

Since 1982 when official weather records were first kept, our area has averaged 6 days a year of 90°+ days, in a normal summer. However, just 25 years ago things were very different. From 1982 until 1988, the Crestone/Baca weather station only saw a total of 4 days with temperatures above 90° for that entire 6-year period. That's only half a day a year of 90°+ days. Going by what several of our long time locals have told me, that was the way it used to always be around here, going all the way back to the 1950s or so. But since 1989, global warming has caught up with us. In 1989 and '90, Crestone saw 20 days with temps above 90°, and not too much has changed since. The 3 hottest years on record saw 22 days above 90° in 2002, 24 such days in 2003, and 22



Cloud formations look a little like a volcano.

photo by Lori Nagel

days above 90° in 2005! Since 2000, our area has averaged 10 days per year with above-90° temperatures. Before 1990 it was normal to go one or two years in a row with no 90° temperatures at all; since that time it's only happened twice, the last time 14 years ago.

How many rainbows a year do we see in Crestone?

There are no official records kept for this, but we do see a lot of rainbows here (usually double rainbows), to our east in the afternoon

hours. My own guess would be that we see more than 20 a year on average, even if this year there's been nowhere near that many, thanks to the drought. In my 11 years here I've only once seen a morning rainbow to our west, and one low bow rainbow, which I have a photo of at the weather site, one that was seen just south of the Grants back in 2009.

What are low bow rainbows?

Low bows are rainbows on or near the ground and can only occur when the sun is at its highest point in the sky (around noon), other than in the summer months, when they cannot occur.

All rainbows appear opposite the sun, called the antisolar point, and here in Colorado they almost always occur in the late afternoon. This means that with our sun low in the sky at that time, our rainbows normally produce a high, arching bow.

So why are rainbows so low to the ground around noon? Well, as the sun rises, the bow's center sinks. Eventually when the sun is 42° high, only the tip of the bow is visible above the horizon. During the summer season the sun is too high in the sky at mid-day (except in polar regions) for rainbows to be observed. However, for the rest of the year, this isn't the case, so around noontime is the only time a low bow can appear.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: www.keno.org | vws.

Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

June 21 to July 20

Total precipitation for period:

Liquid precip: 1.13"
Snow: 0.0
Measurable precipitation fell on 10 days.
Measurable rain fell on 10 days.
A trace of rain fell on 6 days.
9 thunderstorms occurred, including 1 dry thunderstorm.
Hail fell on 1 day.
No snow fell.

Total precipitation year to date

Since Jan. 1: 4.81"
Total snow to date
Since Jan. 1: 31.3"
Snow Season (old)*: 52.4"
Snow Season (new)*: 0.0"
*Snow season runs July 1-June 30

Temperatures for the period:

High temp: 94.3°F on June 27
Low temp: 42.9°F on July 1
Avg. high: 82.2°F
Avg. low: 50.2°F
Number of days with high at or above 90°: 1
Number of days with low temp. below 50°: 16

Winds for the period:

Avg. speed: 3.5 mph
Highest gust: 41 mph on June 30
Main direction: Out of the south-east

Weather summary:

Temperatures were very much above normal for the last 10 days of June, and then daytime highs were near normal in July, with lows above normal. A record-breaking high of 94°F was reached on June 27, breaking the old mark of 91° set in 1994. This reading tied for the second warmest temperature ever recorded in June. There was also a record high low temperature set on July 9 at 58°, the old record was 55°. Precipitation was below normal for the period.

Another interesting note was that snow fell in the campground just north of Crestone at around 9000' on July 2. Also, the snow season for 2012-13 ended on July 1, and the 52.4" recorded for the season was the ninth lowest total to fall in a snow season. 8 of the 10 least snowy seasons have occurred since 2000, and the other 2 seasons on the list occurred in the 1995-96, and 1998-99 snow seasons.

Outlook for August

August is our second warmest month of the year and also the second wettest. We average 2.07 inches of precipitation during the month, with 4.64 inches the record high amount recorded, back in 1987. The average high and low temperatures are 80° and 49° during the first week, and then temps drop off to 76° and 45° in the last week of the month. The all-time high for August was 92°, set on Aug 17, 2002, and the coolest reading was 34°, set on Aug 28, 2006.

The 30-day outlook for August is calling for well-above-normal temperatures, along with average precipitation.

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Summer



Fun

The Crestone Eagle's guide to regional events & activities

August, 2013

Explore possibilities: The 24th Annual Crestone Energy Fair comes to town Aug. 24 & 25

by Nicholas Chambers

For 24 years now, Crestone has hosted one of the nation's longest running sustainability fairs. This is not because of some marketing campaign run by a well-funded chamber of commerce, but because it is who we are: owner-builders of alternative, off-grid, and garden-growing homesteads. We are also families, entrepreneurs, sitters, thinkers, feelers, skeptics, innovators, artists, and doers. This rare combination of characteristics combined with a passion for celebrating and willingness to share with the larger world is what the Crestone Energy Fair is all about.



The 24th Annual Crestone Energy Fair Director Donovan Spitzman pounding his first few tires for his Earthship-type home on Cottonwood Creek.

This year on Saturday August 24 and Sunday

August 25 we raise the bar again as we explore possibilities at the 24th Annual Crestone Energy Fair, aka the San Luis Valley Energy Fair.

The Crestone Town Park will have a new layout to host vendors, food booths, demonstrations, music, kids' activities and more. Jonathan Dobson will be hosting the annual solar car race, Paul Shippee will do a segment on

non-violent communication, and Will Baca will be presenting on Peak Water and effects of monocrop agriculture, plus much, much more. Other demonstrations include earth bag construction, straw bale building, rammed earth tires, papercrete, Green Star Blox, wind power, Tiny Houses, and solar.

On Saturday night, head out to the Yak'n Cracker for some live music of JoeAlan and Isa opening up for Futaba! Elianna will be coordinating the music acts during the day at the park. Sunday the 25th will showcase the numerous examples of sustainable and natural buildings located within Crestone and the neighboring Baca Grande development. Guided tours will be offered throughout the area focusing on materials, energy

systems, architecture and retreat centers. This is likely the most comprehensive collection of working examples available within a single community. If you have thoughts, plans or dreams of building, and living, more sustainably . . . don't miss this event! Please RSVP at the Welcome Tent for all tours.

This year one of our own has stepped up to direct the fair without being asked and without compensation because he believes in the Crestone culture. Tire packer and papercrete builder Donovan Spitzman believes in providing examples for people to make choices about their own unique approach to the questions of the day: how much energy does my livelihood require, how long



There were lots of activities designed especially for kids at the 22nd annual Energy Fair.

will my structure last, how am I alleviating or contributing to environmental issues. According to Donovan, there is no one "right" method, technology, or approach. What's really important is that there is action on a personal level. Donovan's desire is that the energy fair can be a way to inspire and provide resources for people towards their own unique

action. He has got some great, fresh new energy he is bringing to the fair this year—you don't want to miss it!

The Crestone Energy Group (CEG), which is a local consortia of entrepreneurs and visionaries, will be hosting discussions of the recently completed Biomass

continued on page C-7

RHYTHMS ON THE RIO

It's almost time for our 8th annual Rhythms on the Rio festival! The dates are August 10 and 11, 2013. The venue will be the park near the river on the north side of Highway 160. The events will start at noon both days. Saturday's lineup will be Jason & Denise (SFMA Winner), the Fabulous Schnebly Brothers, The O's, Whitewater Ramble, SFMA Children's Music Program, Grant Farm and Euforquestra. Sunday's lineup features Mojones, the Scrugglers, The Rifiers with Don Richmond, SFMA Children's Music Program, Michael Hearne and South by Southwest and will finish with Diamondback Texas! We will have vendors, a kidzone, dancing, horseshoes and other activities. The cost for advance tickets is \$25 per person for a weekend pass to the concerts and \$40 per person for the weekend concert pass and camping. These tickets can be purchased on the website at www.rhythmsontherio.org.



Diamondback Tx

Rhythms on the Rio

August 10th & 11th
South Fork, Colorado
Music starts at Noon

Saturday
Euforquestra

Sunday
Diamondback Tx

12 musical performances!
Vendors • Camping • Kidzone

Tickets and info at
www.rhythmsontherio.org

Inside:

- Saguache _____ C-2
- Creede _____ C-3
- Del Norte _____ C-3
- Crestone _____ C-4-5
- Villa Grove _____ C-6
- Moffat _____ C-6
- Salida _____ C-7
- Alamosa _____ C-8

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SUNDAYS AT SIX:

COLE PARK, ALAMOSA

AUGUST 11TH 2013: BONE ORCHARD
AUGUST 28TH 2013: SLV BIG BAND

SAGUACHE 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.



Saguache Camp And Lodge

Saguache Camp and Lodge is located on a portion of the old Nathan Russell Ranch. Nathan Russell was the first settler to claim land in the upper San Luis Valley when it was opened for settlement in 1860. It is said that Nathan Russell hosted travelers and guests from the time he built the adobe house now covered with white clapboards, which still stands on the back of the property. His descendent Alex Russell built the existing lodge, motel and RV park to accommodate the increasing number of hunters and tourists in the 1940's.

Need A Place To Stay?

We have rooms and camping. Make the drive across the valley to Saguache Lodge. You'll be glad you did. We have family rooms that sleep 4 to 8 people and one extra large facility that can sleep 12 to 16. Our rates are reasonable and we have the best views in the valley. From Highway 17 turn on the road next to Moffat School and follow it to Highway 285. Turn right 1/2 mile north toward Saguache. While you're in Saguache join us on Saturday for the Hollyhock Festival. We have food, flowers and fun for the whole family.

Smith Market Gallery

You are cordially invited to visit the Smith Market Gallery. Owner Byron Williams has a beautiful "fresh" collection of intricately designed gourds and baskets, many with antler embellishments or handles. Judith Page's fantastical collages, prints and cards are popular items. In addition, we are showing watercolors by well-known SLV artist, Yvonne Halburian. You've got to see her whimsical "Fantastic Fowl" series of cards and bookmarks.



We continue to have an interesting collection of western decorating items, including saddle and other vintage horse-related items, and tobacciana of all types. You might even find an already-broken-in pair of cowboy boots to make your western outfit complete. If you are looking for antlers to decorate your house or garden be sure to stop in and see our selection.

We look forward to your visit, but suggest you call to ensure we are open, 719-655-0155.

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, 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.



719-655-2616.

Don't Miss a Trip to The

Saguache County Museum

on Hwy 285 in Saguache

Open daily: May 26 through Sept. 21, 2013
9am to 4pm

Open for special groups until mid-October

Admission \$5.00 adults- children 12 and under \$1.00



Saguache County Museum

Plan to attend a free illustrated program on Sunday, August 11, at 1:30pm at The Saguache County Museum, when Jim Moore, a Crestone resident, presents "Adventures in Belize". Refreshments will be served. Donations accepted.

There are author-autographed books for sale in the museum's gift shop, including: Tough Trails & True Tales, Characters of the Old Spanish Trail, Chipeta Queen of the Utes, The Ute Indians of Southwestern Colorado, Anza's 1779 Comanche Campaign, On the Backs of Burros, and Retracing The Old Spanish Trail.

Make it a priority to visit the museum, and check out the gift shop.

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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.

Go out after dark and marvel at the plethora of stars in the Milky Way.

Enjoy the wildlife, ranging from small wild birds to foxes, deer and elk.

Most of all, enjoy the quiet. The loudest noise you'll hear is the beating of your own heart.

CREEDE

Creede Repertory Theatre

Visit the Creede Repertory Theatre for the best of classic and contemporary plays from June-September. A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum opened May 31, 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.



DEL NORTE



Covered Wagon Days

"Tales from Del Norte" is the parade theme for this year's Covered Wagon Days. Parade entries will be asked, but not required, to supply the announcer with stories about their connection to Del Norte's or San Luis Valley's history. We are honoring retired firefighters as our Parade Marshal. We will be featuring a period stagecoach and a reenactment of the famous stage robbery on Grand, and we are having several new events which, we hope, will bring a country fair atmosphere to the town of Del Norte! We ask that all valley residents consider participating in the dog show, the car show, the vendors and the farmer's market, and particularly the wagon show. For more information please visit our website: www.delnortechamber.org.

DID YOU KNOW:

One section of the Rio Grande River boasts Gold Medal status.

Source: www.colorado.com



"Tales from Del Norte"

Thursday, August 1st, 6pm
 "Spirit and Soul Night"
 Progressive Mexican Dinner

Friday, August 2nd, 7pm
 Chuck Pyle concert at Wildwood Sounds

Saturday, August 3rd
 Pancake Breakfast 7am
 Pie Sale 9am
 Parade 10am
 Ice Cream Social ~ 10am-3pm

~ also ~

Firemen's BBQ at the Firehouse
 Artists' Quick Draw, Auction & Reception
 Dog Show • Wagon Show • Car Show
 Farmer's Market • Talent Show
 Book Sale • Music in the Park
 Kids' Activities • Vendors
 Horseshoe Tournament • Mud Volleyball

Sunday, August 4th

Fly-in Breakfast, Del Norte Regional Airport

For more information visit
www.delnortechamber.org

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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! :)

Fun for the whole family! Cart rentals available! Saturday Night Music Night @ Sunset 6-8:30pm!
Every Saturday night!



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! 719-588-1681.



Crestone Artisans Gallery

The Crestone Artisans 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 July 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 Artisans Gallery, Saturday Market and our local shops and restaurants!

Summer hours: Weekdays 11-5, Sunday 10-4, Closed Tuesday.
719-256-5280.

Clay Art

You never know what you might find...stop by!



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June through August
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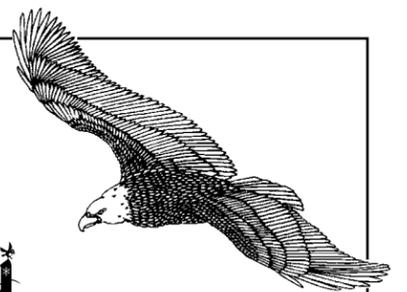
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Chi Nei Tsang: Internal Organ Rejuvenation by Jampa Stewart, MSOM

The ancient Taoists of China realized that negative emotions could cause serious damage to one's health, impairing physical, mental, and emotional functions. They understood that each human emotion is an expression of energy, and that certain emotions could be the negative energy behind many physical ailments. They also identified a specific cycle of relationships between the emotions and the internal organs.

For example, the experience of a "knot" in one's stomach indicates the presence of worry, since this negative emotion accumulates in the stomach and spleen. Tensions, worries and stresses of the day are often not dispersed, and accumulate in the internal organs and glands. These disturbances can cause physical tangling and knotting of the nerves, blood vessels, and lymph nodes. The result is the gradual obstruction of energy flow through the meridians, circulatory, lymphatic, and nerve flows to the internal organs.

The Taoists also discovered that most maladies could be healed once the underlying toxins and negative forces are released from the body. Chi, the life force energy, moves through the body's internal meridian channels, nervous system, blood vessels, and lymph glands. All these systems concentrate and cross paths in the abdomen, which acts as their control center.

Jampa resides in Crestone and teaches the Healing Tao courses around the country. www.healingtaoinstitutue.com

See our ad on this page for more about the Chi Nei Tsang training in Crestone, August 25-31.



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Crestone Music Festival

Crestone Performances presents the 15th annual Crestone Music Festival, 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 kids' zone, contests, arts & crafts, gourmet cuisine and Colorado libations. Friday's headliner is the eclectic Haunted Windchimes plus national bluegrass act Rebecca Frazier and Hit & Run Bluegrass! Saturday features Bayou Blues artist Tab Benoit. Sunday's headliner is World Beat artist Vieux Farka Touré. See the full lineup and get your discounted advanced tickets at www.crestfest.org or call 719-256-4533.



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Have fun this summer with Earth Knack! Visit www.earthknack.com for a full summer listing and pricing.

August 8-13

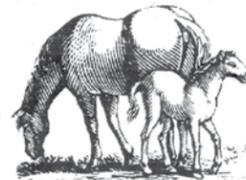
Green River Canoe

Paddle the cooling currents of the Green River through spectacular Canyon Country scenery.

During this enjoyable summer learning adventure you will learn to make willow baskets, tamarisk bow and fishing arrows, river stone axes and pottery from hand dug river bank clay. Add sandy island beach camping and canyon walks and you have a great trip for any age. \$535 includes all meals, canoe rental, shuttle cost and instruction (12 and under [with an adult] \$285)

August 31 and September 1 Home Canning Class Pickles and Sauerkraut Extravaganza! 2 days 10am-3pm each day. Bring a sack lunch. \$75 On Saturday, make herb, dill, and sweet pickles from local produce harvested from the Crestone Curve Cooperative Garden, and Cho Ku Rei farm and green houses using Robin's not-so-secret recipes. On Sunday, make outrageously delicious kraut with guest instructors Gussie and Deering Fauntleroy and Amanda Pearson. (Classes held on the Earth Knack school site—see www.earthknack.com for directions)

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VILLA GROVE

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. Live music on Saturdays!

Open May-October, Thurs-Monday (Closed Tues & Wed) Noon-8pm
719-655-2004 www.steelhorsegrill.com

MOFFAT



DID YOU KNOW:

Hayden Pass, just east of Villa Grove, is a popular launch point for hang gliding.

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Mirage Trading 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 on the premises under the name of Mirage Roasting Co. Delighted by the smell of roasting and brewing coffee, many a passerby is astounded by the superb quality of the coffee and of the local art produced by the many talented local artists. Stop by to check out the art. Sample the freshly roasted organic, fair-trade coffee and take "a little bit of the valley" home with you. Hours are 8am-4pm, 7 days a week. PO Box 412, 17555 Hwy 17, Moffat, CO 81143, 719-256-4357. Log on at: miragetradingco.com.

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 are 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 joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com. Prices start at \$12 for a soak.

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JUST IN! Check out our NEW Meerscaum and Briar pipes we picked up at the International Pipe and Cigar Tradeshow!

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SALIDA



Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop

Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop is a great place to find a unique souvenir or stock up for a camping trip! You will find everything from fine cigars, premium knives & axes, to gourmet grab-and-go freeze dried meals. We focus on quality and carry many genuine items you may not have found in a while like straight razors and soap to hand carved

meerschaum pipes, and we have lovely pipe tobacco to fill it with too. Stop by today at 132 Hwy 50 Salida, CO or visit www.salidacutlery.com.

Kaleidoscope Toys

Visit Kaleidoscope Toys in downtown Salida for all your summer adventures. We have new pool, outdoor and travel toys to check out, including pogo sticks and Estes rockets. We have roasted nuts in the warmer inside the store throughout the summer. Join our email list, like us on Facebook or check our website (kalttoys.com) for details about sales and events throughout the summer.



Antero Jewelers

Whether you would like a family heirloom refurbished or a distinctive custom piece made just for you, Antero Jewelers is the premiere jewelry store in the Upper Arkansas Valley. Located at 136 W Hwy 50 in Salida, our on-site jewelers offer handmade sterling silver and gold creations that have unique flair and timeless appeal. We also offer in-house repairs, watch battery replacements and friendly, knowledgeable service.

Salida Studio Tour

The 3rd bi-annual Salida Studio Tour will be held September 7, from 10am-6pm and September 8, from 10am-3pm.

The tour is a unique collaboration of working artists dedicated to promoting, enhancing and expanding appreciation and knowledge of the process of artistic creation. The artists open their studios to share the hands-on techniques of their work. 23 professional and well known Salida artists and craftspeople will be representing various works of art to exhibit and sell.

Visit our website to view our artists and discover what inspires them to create. A printable map is available online at salidastudiotour.weebly.com.



DID YOU KNOW:

Spiral Drive on Mount Tenderfoot has a great view of Salida.

Free the Monkey

Looking for adventure? Did you forget a swim suit for the hot springs, lose your sunglasses, want some cool jewelry or do you just want a taste of what the locals have? Come shop Free the Monkey Consignment. With over 3,000 consignors, you'll be sure to find something you love. Canvas every corner, poke through all of the racks, explore all of the departments. We've got something for everyone. So swing on in and let's monkey around! Open every day.



Crestone Energy Fair

continued from page C-1

Resource Inventory as well as results from a District Energy feasibility. The Saguache County Sales Tax Grant program has provided funding for these efforts. Also, concurrent with the re-opening of the gas pumps in town the CEG will be selling 100% biodiesel made from restaurant fryer oil that came from several valley restaurants including in part the Desert Sage, the Bliss Café, Farm to Table, Villa Grove Trade, My Sister's Place in Hooper, the Oasis and 4th Street Diner in Saguache, Eddyline Brewery in Buena Vista, the Windsor Hotel in Del Norte, and the Alamosa Wal-Mart, to name a few.

The National Renewable

Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden will be sending down Owen Roberts who is an engineer and wind turbine siting expert. He will be discussing the "state of the wind industry," as well as helping us understand how we can site individual projects in the valley. He will also lead a workshop on small wind turbines for homeowners.

The fair wants you to get involved! You might have an interesting topic that you want to present, you might have invigorating questions you want to discuss, or you want to be immersed



in the whole experience by helping facilitate the event. To propose your idea, volunteer, look into sponsorship opportunities, or to secure a vendor booth please contact Donovan at 303-868-6352 or dspitzman@yahoo.com. You can also access vendor applications and find more information at crestoneenergyfair.crestonecolorado.com. Join "Crestone Energy Fair 2013" on Facebook for up-to-the-minute information.

SALIDA 2013 STUDIO TOUR

Sept 7 - 10am - 6pm
Sept 8 - 10am - 3pm



Watch the Artists at Work

Paintings: oils, acrylics, pastels, watercolors, encaustics, drawings, mixed media; collage metal art, wood, clay, sculpture, fiber art

23 Professional and Well-Known Artists in 19 Studios in and around Salida

Visit Website for More Info:
www.salidastudiotour.weebly.com

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ALAMOSA

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.



Kristi Mountain Sports

In 1969, Kristi Mountain Sports first "opened their doors" inside a storage closet of a former Alamosa mens-wear business selling ski equipment to the locals. After a few



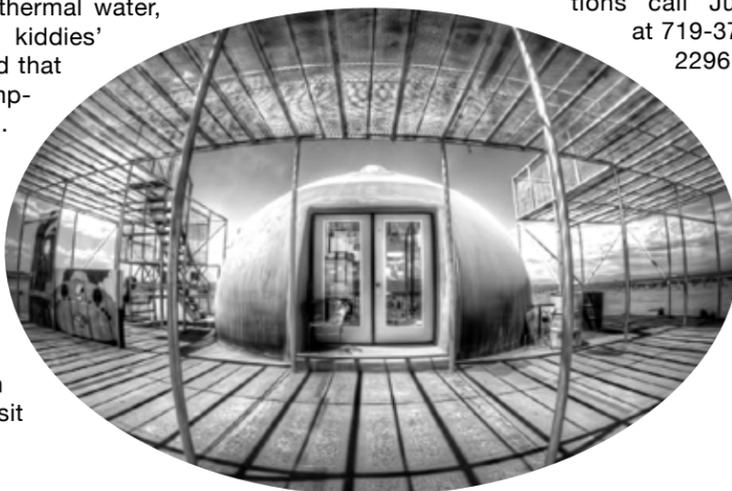
and expansions, the current owners, Eric and Lisa Burt, took over Kristi Mountain Sports in 1984 and moved it to the Villa Mall where bicycles, hiking and camping equipment were added to the selection. In 2008 Kristi Mountain Sports expanded once again to a new 10,000 square foot location in the Villa Mall, allowing us to carry all the gear necessary to outfit almost any human and gravity-powered outdoor adventure the San Luis Valley has to offer. Many locals have nicknamed Kristi Mountain Sports the "REI of the San Luis Valley." We appreciate this label and highlight that we are the largest outdoor store for a hundred miles in any direction. Though our establishment has grown, it still remains a "Mom and Pop" shop where your business is appreciated and quality customer service is our first priority.



Sand Dunes Pool

On Highway 17, north of Hooper, turn east on Road B (the water billboard). 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.



UFO Watchtower

To date, seventy-three 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.

THE WORLD FAMOUS WATCHTOWER IS AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY WHICH PROVIDES INSIGHT TO THE UFO PHENOMENA.

CALL US OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
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2 1/2 MILES N. OF HOOPER, CO.

Grounds admission
\$2 per person or \$5 per car

PHOTO BY RUSS BURTON

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 SOREL
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Need more stuff to do?
CrestoneEagle.com/Calendar is constantly updated with local and regional events. Have a fun summer!

SPLASHLAND

Open Tues-Sat 10am-6pm • Sunday 10am-5pm • Closed Monday

Group swim lessons with sessions starting June 4th and continuing through the summer!

Lap Swim Tuesday ~ Friday 6am-8am \$5

Adults 12 & up \$8 • Kids 3-11 \$4 • Waterslide Pass \$4.50

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