

# The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 25, Number 11

November, 2014 \$1

25 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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Fresh snow on 14,000' Kit Carson Peak (left) and Crestone Peak (right) with cottonwoods below in full beautiful autumn foliage. To see this photo and more in color (really, do go see this one in color!), visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

photo by Wendy Shattil & Bob Rozinski,  
[www.dancingpelican.com](http://www.dancingpelican.com)

## Federal policy efforts moving forward, while Congress feigns—comments needed to preserve our public lands

by **Christine Canaly**  
Director,  
SLV Ecosystem Council

Federal public land managers throughout the country, encouraged by the Obama administration, continue to move policy efforts forward, despite the gridlock in Congress. This means that you the public have an opportunity to participate in planning efforts that will impact our surrounding landscape for the next twenty years. Thanks to those of you who have enthusiastically participated in re-

cent public meetings. Remember, written comments are welcome too, so please don't be stressed about the deadlines, just get comments (your perspective) in as soon as you are able.

Public lands are a public asset that belong to you as an American. It is a legacy we all share. Our stewardship will determine the heritage we provide for future generations. There are efforts through groups like the American Lands Council (ALC) and the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council,

which receive financing from the utility industry and fossil-fuel producers to endorse campaigns to sell federal lands to the states. Make no mistake, this is a land seizure campaign in an effort to privatize our public assets.

Groups like ALC argue that individual states are better equipped to manage the west's natural wonders than the United States Forest Service and other national land management agencies, like the National Park Service, US

*continued on page 28*



Ho, ho, Santa will be visiting soon! This child is wishing for locally made or sold gifts. See our 'Shop Locally for the Holidays' special section for great gift-giving ideas. Our regional artists, crafts-people and businesses welcome you!

## County accounting error results in a windfall for local governments & districts

by **Lisa Cyriacks**

Saguache County auditors Wall, Smith and Bateman of Monte Vista uncovered an accounting error in the 2013 audit of the county financials.

According to the notes to the financial statement: "The due to other governments balance of \$459,051 relates to specific ownership tax erroneously recorded as clerk fee revenue in the General Fund for an undeterminable

amount of time. The County has approved the distribution of 2011, 2012, and 2013 Specific Ownership Tax Class A and Class F to the taxing entities excluding the school districts, in the amount of \$299,027."

Records from the Saguache County Administrative office indicate that the county has already distributed the monies owed to the municipalities and special districts impacted by the accounting error.

Total distributions for the three prior years included \$131,881.09 to Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District, \$26,966.27 to Northern Saguache Ambulance District, \$26,894.35 to Northern Saguache Fire Protection District, and \$36,465.30 to the Northern Saguache County Library District. The Town of Crestone also received \$1,095.53.

The county is currently in  
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See our Holiday Section!

## The Crestone Eagle

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

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Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less.

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



## Thank you

Dear Editor,

Thank you to all of you who took part in the end of life process for our friend Harriet Johns, a deep bow of gratitude to the Crestone End of Life Project for the immensely important work they are doing, to all of you who traveled from far away to be here to celebrate Harriet's life, and to our awesome community who showed up to honor the passing of this remarkable woman. Thanks to all of her caregivers over the years, especially Judy Gilbert, Bill Sutherland, Bill Ellzey, Anne Silver, Judith Oakland, and Barbara Barnett for their continued support and love for Harriet. May we all be so blessed to have this kind of love and support as we live into our final years.

Jillian Klarl Ellzey

## Texting while driving is a crime!

Dear Editor,

And ignorance of the law is no excuse. So, here's the law . . .

In Colorado "ALL drivers are prohibited from texting while driving."

It is a misdemeanor if you are ticketed and the fines range from \$50 to \$100. If you were in Alaska and involved in an accident that caused injury or death, the "distracted driver" would be charged with a felony.

In my opinion, the consequences should be increased to the point of pain!

Our San Luis Valley is all about long, straight stretches of two lane highway. Drivers here routinely speed and use cell phones, even big rigs. If you've ever lost control of your car doing 70-75mph for just an instant you know how easy it would be to wind up in big trouble.

The addiction to constant communication creates constant distraction, putting you and others at risk. If you believe your so-important life's dialogue must be continued as you travel, *pull over.*

June Savage

## Macaulay cabal

Dear Editor,

In response to Martin Macaulay's attack on me (October 2014 *Eagle*): Martin and I agree on a couple things. We both prefer, though for different reasons, that I not be elected to the POA board. We both use words as our tools—though in different ways for different purposes. As a former professor of geography who has written many scientific papers for scholarly journals, I use words to educate; to discover and share truth. I follow Jefferson's view that democracy only works when citizens are informed. Hence, please visit my websites (naturalclimatechange.us, waterwatchalliance.us, and 911nwo.com) and read some of my many articles posted

there. In contrast, Martin uses words to smear, intimidate, inflame, manipulate, mislead, and scare . . . presumably in order to control, and perhaps, to fulfill unspecified political/intelligence agendas. This Scottish fellow already sits on our Water and Sanitation District Board. Why does he also presume to tell us how to vote in our POA election? And of the five candidates running, why does he single me out for attack?

My sense is that our POA and other local political bodies in Saguache County are either controlled by or else are relentlessly opposed by Martin Macaulay and his "team"/"cabal." This group obstructs and manipulates our politics using an "anything goes" modus operandi. His letter is a case in point. It combines propaganda tactics of both the extreme right and extreme left; that is, respectively, applying the "politics of personal destruction" and censoring opposing views via enforcing "political correctness." Our national politics have been hampered by similar operatives: Karl Rove (Bush's Brain); Reagan's attack dog, Roger Ailes ("I have two speeds: attack and destroy"); and Nixon's dirty tricks specialist, Donald Segretti. Do these kinds of Machiavellian tactics have a place in a spiritual community? Buddhists teach: "The means are the ends." Clearly, when all positive values are sacrificed so that the few can control the many, we are reduced to the law of the jungle ("might makes right"). If elected, then, I will try to serve the interests of the larger POA membership and restore a sense of fairness, civility, rationality, and professionalism to our POA.

In a sense, Martin and I have a de facto wager going. He is betting, with history as his guide, that people can be cajoled, manipulated, fooled, and intimidated by propaganda and thereby subjugated by a determined, coordinated minority. As an American patriot who understands that "necessity is the mother of invention," I am betting that citizens here will wake up and take back our "company town" from those who presume to control our destiny.

Dr. Eric Karlstrom

## Vote Brooks, Lakish & Theriault for POA

Dear Crestone Community:

This November's POA election is a very crucial one to get our community back to cooperation, trust and transparency. It is very hard to follow all of the local issues, but one that has become very clear is that we need a majority of lot owners to vote for a new board of directors. Please make Sugandha Brooks, Matie Belle Lakish and Joanna Theriault your choices.

If the Baca Grande Fire Department and emergency responders are important to you then you should pay attention to this election. Last November's POA election was the final straw that resulted in 19 of the 21 Baca Fire Department's volunteers resigning. We would have been forced to work and volunteer under the same people who were filing frivolous lawsuits against the other board members, were distributing

incorrect information about emergency services and created an atmosphere of hostility within the organization.

In addition, each one of us who was an employee of the POA fire mitigation crew resigned from these positions. This was the group of people who were on call each day and ready to respond to fires and other emergencies. When a crew of people who have volunteered for 5, 10 and up to 15 years together resign as cohesive group, there is a serious problem in the community that needs to be addressed. It takes years to adequately train and develop a crew of volunteers who can protect this community in crisis situations and develop the high levels of communication skills that are necessary in life or death situations. I am extremely concerned about the current situation at the POA and hope you take the time to vote. We need all three seats to make a difference!

For more information on this election, please visit betterbaca.org.

Lisa Bodey

## In the spirit of community

Dear Editor,

As the POA election date of November 5 draws near we just want the community, both near and far, to know that we are still energetically, enthusiastically and wholeheartedly pursuing our goal of being members of the next POA board.

In that spirit, we want the community to also know that we are having "office hours" every Thursday morning from 11-12 at Cloud Station. At first we thought we were doing this for the campaign, and then we said to ourselves "what a good idea!—let's keep this going, assuming we are elected." It is a good time to connect with our constituents (our friends and neighbors) about the matters they care about. We invite all to come and have a latte (or drink of your choice) with us.

In loving service,  
Sugandha Brooks  
Joanna Theriault

## Cox for assessor

To the Editor:

I want to endorse Janet Nelson-Cox for the office of Saguache County Assessor. She has shown that she has the ability, desire and leadership skills to be Saguache County's next assessor. She completed her education at the University of Colorado, Denver campus, getting her Bachelor of Science degree in business management with an emphasis in marketing. She has years of experience in the private sector in various small businesses and volunteering in numerous organizations. Since deciding to run for the county assessor office, she has increased her knowledge about the assessor's office requirements, understanding Colorado state laws as they relate to the tax issues within the county, and has the enthusiasm to make an outstanding assessor.

Janet understands the importance of ensuring the county tax records are accurate and up to date.

## Editor's Notes

### Thanks & giving

When I drove home from work yesterday those brilliant orange/red aspens along Carbonate still glowed against that deep blue sky—framed by rocky cliffs and crags touched by high snow. Such beauty all around.

November being the month where we take notice of the blessing in our life and give thanks, I would especially like to thank the contributors to *The Crestone Eagle*. I often hear that the *Eagle* is such a good newspaper for such a very small community. That is all because of consistent community involvement. Thank you.

I wish to thank my outstanding staff. They work so hard and so well under deadline pressure. When last minute changes threaten to drive us all crazy, they push us across the finish line. I'd like to thank the writers for their dedication. Some are regular underpaid reporters and columnists who, month after month, go to meetings, get the news, research the facts, and tell stories of history or people. Many others contribute their articles or feature stories for free. They write about the things they are passionate about or involved in and want to share with their community. That is a treasure and resource that many small newspapers do not have. Such a gift!

Photographers and artists contribute, gracing our pages with beauty, recording life in our part of the world.

This small town publication is made possible by its advertisers. Their dollars keep this whole thing going. Please shop with them or use their services. They have invested in us, please invest right back.

And I personally would like to thank all of you readers. Without you, what would be the point? Thank you for your ideas, support and encouragement.

With appreciation and joy,  
—Kizzen

She is honest, reliable, and willing to work the long hours needed for the position. I believe Janet is the candidate best qualified to be our next Saguache County Assessor.

Sincerely,  
Wyoma Hansen

## Assessor endorsement

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to endorse Janet Nelson-Cox for Saguache County Assessor. I believe there are two good people running for the office of assessor. However, I feel the assessor's office needs a new environment and a totally fresh approach to property assessments. Janet will bring new and fresh ideas to the position and be responsive to the concerns of all Saguache County citizens. I have come to know Janet as someone who is committed to simply doing the right thing regardless of what she is involved in and she would certainly bring that commitment to the assessor's position. Janet is a hard worker; she is a leader, she is non-partisan and will demand full participation from her staff. Please join me and cast your vote for Janet Nelson-Cox; Saguache County Assessor.

Mike Cowan, Saguache

## Here's some lost revenue!

Dear Editor,

If anyone is interested in doing a little research, I believe there's a story here.

There's the canal that starts south of CO Rd. N and Hwy 17. If you follow that canal, it runs past San Luis Lake. In fact, on the N/W side of the lake, there's a lateral that would allow that canal to fill that lake. If you continue to follow that canal, it runs south all the way down to a point where it just dumps into the Rio Grande River. What?

Why doesn't that canal feed San Luis Lake?

How hard would it be to install another lateral at the south end of the lake? Let the lake fill up then overflow into the new lateral on the south end—back into the existing canal—then, continue down its current destination to the Rio!

This would allow for continuous filtering of the lake. It would also bring revenue back to the valley. That was an ancient lake man! What the hell?

To say that the reason the lake doesn't have water in it is because of the lack of snow pack is ridiculous. The canal to nowhere is right next to it. I suggest that you look at Google Earth for yourselves. I suggest everyone in the valley look for themselves! Follow the canal from beginning to end.

Come on! There's no excuse for that lake being dry. What a waste of a recreational spot!

Like I said, this was an ancient lake.

Then comes Man to drain it and then blame it on the lack of rain & snow when there's a water source running right next to it—going nowhere! How dumb is that?

That used to be a beautiful lake—now it's an embarrassment in the valley.

Thomas Buckley

## Reverence of cooperation

Dear Editor,

I feel a reverence for life safety is important, that taking a moment to pause, to acknowledge the opportunity wake up to a new day (gift) is crucial. We are in a world wide revolution!

So, I'd like to take this time to thank the Baca Grande volunteer firefighters for stepping up, and serving their community in a time of need. They have consistently trained and responded to the 911 calls for help. I proudly served on the Baca FD for 11 years.

I currently serve with the Crestone Fire Department as a senior member. The Crestone Fire Department currently has five volunteers, but we would love some new members. Anyone who is interested in serving their community and learning fire science is welcome to contact me, or other members for more information and/or an application to join. There is a background check required and a brief questionnaire to find out if you are eligible. Call the Northern Saguache County Fire Protection Dist., 719-655-2826, at Saguache Fire Station for more info.

I believe that the Crestone and Baca fire departments are adequately staffed at this time to respond to basic calls; however we are a lot shorter-staffed than we were at this time last year. Again, a great thank you to all the volunteers of our community. A reverence of cooperation for our community is appreciated.

In addition: Time for a carbon monoxide reminder! CO gas can kill fast. An alarm only costs \$15-\$50 and they have saved at least two Crestone folks. Install one and test monthly. Replace batteries yearly. Replace units if dirty or every 7 years.

With love,  
Nathan Good

## Classes postponed

Dear Readers,

Applied Kinesiology and Seitai Shiatsu classes have been postponed until next summer while I go through two long awaited surgeries/rehab/total body wellness with the aid of many local healers. Also, Hope's Castle will receive a face lift of a coat of paint and tile down and up, with finish work having waited more than 15 years. Patience is a virtue—I appreciate your kind words, healing touch, and many prayers.

Grace Russell, ICMT

## Anderson holds office hours in Crestone

As your Saguache County Commissioner from District 1 (Baca/Crestone) I will hold office hours in the town of Crestone at the Painted sky/Farm Table building on the NE corner of E. Galena Ave. and Alder St. (121 E. Galena) on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Office hours will be 8am to noon on the second Monday, and 3 to 7pm on the fourth Monday to try and accommodate those who work all day. Please feel free to drop by and chat.

Jason Anderson



## Remembering Harriet Johns

A trail of smoke lifted into the clear autumn sky as Crestone said goodbye to one of its own, the fiercely creative nonagerian artist, Harriet Johns, with a now-traditional open-air cremation. Harriet, never one to stand still and an off-again, on-again globe-trotter, had spent the last few decades of her life in Crestone, living and working in a beautiful, unconventional home and studio that she designed and built in the Baca, before increasing frailty and failing memory took her away from the home and community she loved to a care facility in La Jara where she passed away on October 17, 2014.

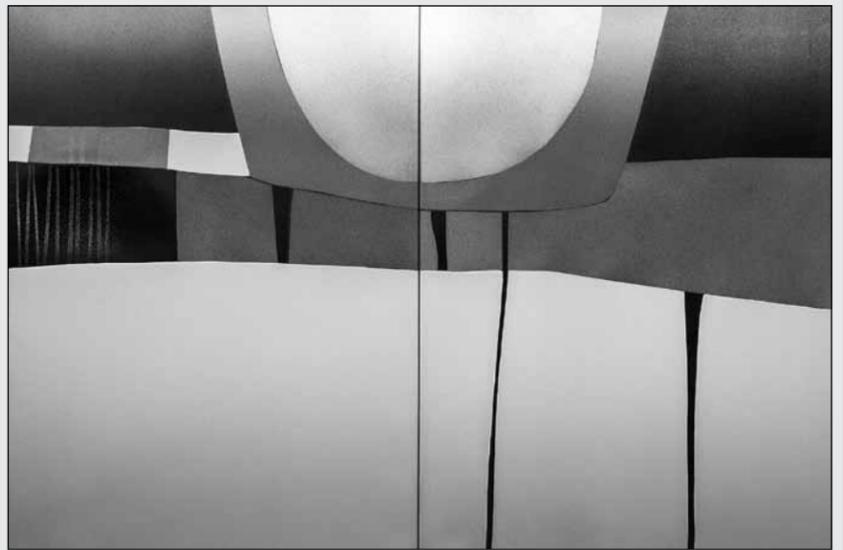
Johns' life was an exemplary tale of independent thinking and the dedicated pursuit of an intensely personal artistic vision. Born in North Dakota in 1923, she began to draw and paint while still in elementary school and never stopped. But it took her some years to break free from the Midwestern and conventional environment that she had inherited and find her own voice, style and

life-style as an artist. She moved to San Francisco where she almost single-handedly invented a new artistic genre—large-scale abstract contemporary paintings baked onto steel panels at commercial enamel signage plants. Her work was recognized and commissioned by Bay Area architects, showcased in public spaces, like her monumental enamel-on-metal mural for the IBM headquarters in San Jose, honored in various exhibitions and acquired by many private and corporate collections.

A visit to Peru's Machu Picchu ruins inspired some of her largest enamel-on-metal paintings, and a stint as artist-in-residence at Aachen, Germany resulted in a series of powerful anti-war and anti-nuclear panels. Although these German works were in black and white, Johns was principally known and admired as a colorist. Her colors were bold, fearless, and arresting. There was nothing timid or tentative about her art. In recent years, after moving to the Crestone area, Johns continued working in enamel on metal but at a smaller scale, producing many strange, intricate and challenging miniatures.

A large-format retrospective book about her work, *Harriet Johns, Colors from the Heart*, was published in 2009, by Western Eye Press, and she was profiled in a feature article in the national publication, *American Crafts*.

As news of Harriet's passing spread, letters and emails full of rich memories and deep appreciation of this original spirit poured in to her close friends in Crestone.



## Rowena Pattee Kryder

On Oct 11, Rowena Kryder passed on after a long and valiant struggle with illness. She was in Reno, Nevada, her recent home. She had previously lived many years in Crestone.

It is unnecessary to recount the details of her astounding-ly creative life, save to say she worked tirelessly as an artist, teacher, thinker, visionary, feminist, mother, sister, and daughter. Her work and her spirit will continue to provoke creativity in all those who come into contact with it. There was a recent retrospective exhibit of her art in Pennsylvania, organized by her close student and friend Gayle Dulcey

and other friends. Rowena was extremely pleased to see pieces from her earliest years to her most recent creations on display in one place.

Rowena remained determined until the end to ensure that her vision and work—expressed through countless works of art, books, articles, and cards—will continue to inspire.

She is survived by her sons Miles and Charlie, and their spouses Deepti and Vaughn, as well as her brothers Dick and Mark, their spouses Karen and Sandy, and the granddaughter Vishaala.

Lovingly,  
The family of Rowena.

## Editorial: The GMO two-step

### Vote YES on 105

by Thomas D. McCracken  
Green Earth Farm

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have become ubiquitous in American agriculture over the past decade. Eighty percent or more of all corn and soybeans grown in the US are now GMO. Many of these seed strains have genes inserted that make the crop tolerate herbicide application. The crops are touted by their makers as the answer to global hunger and starvation.

The producers of these seeds also manufacture the herbicides that these crops are engineered to tolerate while owning the seed companies that they are sold through. There has been so much consolidation in the seed industry that just four companies (Dow, Bayer, Syngenta, and Monsanto) own or control the vast majority of the seed companies in the world. All indications are that these companies intend to control the world food supply. There is so much money involved that the USDA, FDA and politicians have been silenced. Why is it that no anti-trust actions have been taken? It is disconcerting that these crops are approved on the fast track with little safety testing, despite significant public demand for closer scrutiny.

Claims of bumper yields have not been realized in the long term. In fact yields have declined recently as super weeds emerge that are resistant to glyphosate (Roundup), leading to increased applications of the herbicide and the introduction of crops resistant to 2,4D, a much more potent herbicide. Remember "agent orange"?

The earliest clinical trials and more recent studies have shown GMO foods to cause health problems. Certainly, increased applications of herbicides cannot be a good thing for the environment. We already know how industrialized agriculture is affecting water quality: endocrine disruption in the Everglades and massive "dead zones" in the Gulf of Mexico. Native corn in the state

of Oaxaca, Mexico where corn originated has shown the presence of trans-genes and the potential contamination of the entire corn genome. The chemical companies always claim their products are safe for you and the environment. How often has this proven not to be true? Remember DDT?

One of the biggest issues is that the companies that produce these organisms are not liable for the damage they may cause. Currently, if a farmer's alfalfa unintentionally were to show the presence of trans-genes he could be sued by the producers of the genes for patent infringement. This scenario would be doubly damaging for certified GMO-free and organic producers who would lose their ability to sell their crop as "organic" and GMO free. This is not only extremely unfair but it is un-American. The way the law is structured, there is no motivation for these companies to contain their Franken genes.

Fortunately, Colorado and other states have taken the first step in the fight against GMO foods by asking voters if they would like to know what is actually in the food they eat. Vote to label GMO food. Vote yes on 105!

The second step is to ban GMO crop production in Saguache County and eventually in the entire SLV. This would create a GMO-free zone that is protected by geological formations from the intrusion of trans-genes. This step would provide protection for producers that wish to stay GMO-free (many countries ban the importation of GMO commodities), as well as for the significant number of organic producers in our valley. A GMO-free zone could lead to a robust industry in GMO-free seed production. Other producers, businesses and individuals that wish to locate in a "clean, protected" environment and among those who share their views on sustainability and environmental stewardship could bring economic growth to our area.

Do the GMO two-step!

## Eye on the County:

### Nov. 4 election to decide landfill & recycling center future

by Linda Joseph & Jason Anderson,  
Saguache Co. Commissioners

Saguache County is a unique place with its beautiful unspoiled mountains, fields and valleys. Piñon grows abundantly and wildlife can be seen grazing in our fields and mountains. Like many other areas, Saguache County has experienced the negative impacts and destruction that illegal trash dumping has on its roadsides and public lands. Illegal dumping affects our wildlife by destroying their natural habitat, it discourages tourism as it spoils the scenery and many visitors will not return for a second visit which in turn has a negative impact on our economy. We want to make sure that our residents and our visitors can continue to enjoy its beauty. This can be accomplished by ensuring that there is a local and reasonably priced option for discarding our trash and unwanted items. Our best option to achieving this is to make sure our local landfill is open and ready to serve Saguache County. Voting yes on the 1% sales tax will help us achieve this goal.

As a health-conscious and environmentally responsible county it is important that we have the option to recycle. Un-recycled plastic and aluminum can take hundreds of years to break down and glass can take tens of thousands of years. Recently, the state required and approved a plan to deal with the many tires taken in so they are not strewn around on public and private property or posing hazards. 16,457 tires at a cost of \$25,000 have been compressed and baled to date. Barriers like lack of proper facilities and equipment—such as a baler that can process recyclables to the standards of buyers—have prevented recyclable revenues. This causes recyclables to accumulate, triggering new requirements and

special handling. Use of recyclable materials as raw materials for local businesses has been a county goal, but has not taken off. A 1% sales tax will also allow Saguache County to purchase the necessary equipment and provide us with the revenue needed to keep recyclable material out of landfills, off of our road sides and on their way to be reused or repurposed.

Saguache County faces a very important decision on how we can keep our landfill open. A 1% sales tax will allow us to share the cost of supporting our landfill with those visiting our county and does not place the entire burden of keeping the landfill open on our residents alone. The landfill has taken in an average of \$80,000 per year and spent an average of \$228,000 per year. With a minimal contribution by Saguache County residents and every visitor who would pay a 1% sales tax as they support our local businesses, the landfill services and improved recycling operations will be maintained for the long-term, and avoid the possibility of the landfill having to close.

Tourism in our county is a mainstay of many local businesses; many people are attracted to our vast public lands (76%+ of land in Saguache County), and unique communities. And, they leave their trash! Visitors and locals, making very small individual contributions of 1% sales tax on purchases within Saguache County, would pay for permanent landfill and recycling improvements, operations and facilities. Ensuring the sustainability of our landfill will ensure that county residents and those visiting our communities and public lands continue to enjoy the beauty of our unique county. Vote yes on question 1A, a 1% sales tax, and help us keep our landfill open.

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## San Luis Valley Health reports on Ebola Virus preparedness

by Dr. Greg McAuliffe  
Chief Medical Officer  
San Luis Valley Health

As you have likely heard, the Ebola Virus has infected a few individuals across the country. Though the possibility of a local resident becoming infected with this virus is extraordinarily rare, we would like to assure the community we serve that we are prepared to handle such an occurrence.

We have spent the past several weeks preparing our physicians and nurses on recommended guidelines established by reputable healthcare groups. We have worked in conjunction with Alamosa County Public Health, the American Hospital Association (AHA), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Edu-

cation (CDPHE), the Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to make sure our staff is well prepared. Our leadership team and staff have participated in webinars, conference calls, and trainings to follow the recommended guidelines established by these groups.

San Luis Valley Health is also appropriately screening patients coming in with a fever and asking about their recent travel histories.

For more information about the Ebola Virus, we encourage you to visit the Center for Disease Control's website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). This is a source for reputable information, as is your primary care physician.

## Saguache County crime report

by Mary Lowers

As the season changes in Saguache County, crime goes down. It seems as if many criminals hibernate for the winter. Much of the crime was on the domestic front. We did have a number of arrests to report.

A Saguache man, 58, was booked on harassment and domestic violence charges. No bail was set. A Center man, 42, was taken into custody in Center on contempt of court charges. No bail was listed for a Center man, 39, charged with false imprisonment, child abuse, harassment, obstruction of phone service, and domestic violence. A failure to appear charge took a Cuba, NM man, 35, to jail in Saguache. His bail was listed as \$1030.

A Saguache man, 23, was held on \$1000 bail for charges of third degree assault, harassment, and resisting arrest. A Baca woman, 40, was arrested for child abuse. No bail had been set. A Center man, 33, was taken into custody in Saguache on three felony counts of possession of a controlled substance and two counts of failure to appear in court. A man was ticketed for driving with a suspended license.

Outside of speeding tickets, most of which were for going five to ten miles over the posted limit, two tickets were issued to drivers on Hwy. 285 for unsafe passing and passing on the left. A few citations were given for people driving twenty miles or more over the posted limit on Hwy 285. Not much on Hwy. 17 or Rd. T in the past month.

### Bad stretch of 285

When looking at last month's streak of bad accidents on Hwy. 285 around Villa Grove and south to the turn to Hwy. 17, I inquired of the Colorado State Patrol and Saguache County Sheriff's Office as to why there were so many accidents and citations for speeding and unsafe driving in this area. I was also curious if either Captain Dingfelder of the State Patrol or Mike Norris, Saguache County Sheriff, had any suggestions on how to make this northern SLV part of Hwy. 285 safer.

"Distracted driving is a major cause of accidents," Capt. Dingfelder told me. "People on cell phones, eating while driving or just tired and not paying attention cause trouble on the highway." For some reason there seem to be quite a few very distracted drivers on Hwy. 285 in the northern valley. The weekly citations sent to the *Eagle* by the Sheriff's office show a majority of the speeding tickets issued by the county are in the northern part of the valley on Hwy. 285 between Villa Grove and Saguache. Neither peace officer, when asked, felt the Colorado Department of Transportation could do anything, such as changing passing zones to non-passing, or reducing the speed limit, that would improve the safety of this stretch of Hwy. 285. The Saguache County Sheriff's officers do a good job of patrolling this part of the highway. Sheriff Mike Norris suggested that "spreading the word to be very aware and careful" on this part of the highway could help. So tell your friends to pay particularly careful attention on Hwy. 285.

## Windfall

continued from page 1

negotiations with the Colorado Department of Education for the school districts' portion. Under Colorado law, school districts that fall below a certain level of funding from property and other tax revenue receive state assistance from statewide funds. This money may need to be reimbursed to the State of Colorado.

Distributions totaling \$180,345.74 for 2014 year-to-date were also made. The 2014 distributions also included the school districts' portion. The schools will not see any overall benefit since their

revenue is adjusted according to meet expected levels of funding, i.e. the additional monies will result in a little less financial support from the State of Colorado.

In a press release from the county, they reassured, "The accounting issue has been resolved and the distribution of specific ownership taxes to all appropriate entities will be made on a regular schedule. The funds that were not distributed in error were placed in the county's general fund and used for projects that benefited the citizens of the county. The county has initiated additional safeguards to prevent the occurrence of any similar concern."

### Peter Peterson for Saguache County Assessor

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# Saguache County News

by Sandia Belgrade

*I'd like to extend appreciation to Matie Belle Lakish, who covered the Saguache County news for many years. She has now taken a position with the Saguache County Social Services department and we wish her well. I hope that I can represent the information and relevant news from the county commissioners and the important activities of our county to readers as equitably as Matie Belle did.*

Commissioners Linda Joseph, Ken Anderson and Jason Anderson are pursuing several key issues in support of the fiscal health of the county. These efforts revolve around the airport and the landfill as a way to drive the economy and set it on a pace for exciting developments.

## Let visitors help pay for the landfill

Question 1A on the ballot for the November general election is a 1% sales tax to maintain the county landfill and recycling. The net revenue will be used to cover operations, employees, equipment, and infrastructure. The average Landfill income over the last 5 years was approximately \$83,000 per year, but the average annual expenditure over that period was about \$228,000, an untenable situation. Operating at such a significant loss makes it impossible to meet the increasing regulations from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment or to upgrade the equipment and facilities needed for an effective recycling program.

Rather than a mil levy, an alternative which many oppose because it would put the burden on a small portion of the population, the commissioners have suggested a 1% sales tax. Their strategy is that visitors, be they hunters or people in the county on business or tourists coming for events such as the music festival, will help pay for the land fill. Every time they spend money on food or housing, etc. they will be leaving some of their money with the county. The 1% sales tax is a negligible amount compared to the cost of gas to drive to another landfill. If the landfill operations close permanently, it will necessitate residents driving north or south a distance of approximately 100 miles round trip, a large expenditure of time and gas. This solution lets visitors share the cost with residents, they say.

## Aerospace development

Not many are aware that Colorado has the nation's third largest aerospace economy with more than 400 space-related companies calling Colorado home. According to Commissioner Joseph, it is #1 on a per capita basis of states doing deep space research. The Orion program, for example, currently employs over 1,000 aerospace workers in Colorado which supports nearly 4,000 total jobs and many small

businesses in the state. Saguache is in a strategic location to be part of this industry. Now that Saguache County has acquired the land patent for the property on which the airport is sited, and controls and manages the Saguache Airport, they are working on a strategic plan with the goal of having a research and development park there, and being part of the space industry. The county is putting itself in a position to be a possible test site for unmanned aerial vehicle (UAVs), the type of unmanned space craft that go to Mars. Mike Spearman, former commissioner, is looking into a capital improvement plan. By developing grants to cover the infrastructure there is the potential for increased revenue, labor, suppliers, training and education for people in the valley. Imagine those empty hangars storing deep space vehicles.

## Big changes in store for agriculture

The commissioners' efforts at economic development become significant when viewed in the context of coming events. Agriculture has been our economic base. In 2011, \$372 million was gained through the valley's three main crops—potatoes, alfalfa, and barley; but they all need irrigation through ground water, and changes are in store because of water depletion. Hew Hallock of the SLV Council of Governments (COG) made a presentation relating to the anticipated economic impact of reduced crop production, purposeful fallowing of some land, and well closures. But the aquifer is depleted and must be restored. This will greatly impact more than just farmers. Agricultural land taxes are based on what it produces. Therefore, a drop in production will affect bank loans, school districts, and housing. Ken Anderson was concerned that people will leave the county if agricultural jobs are lost.

The COG will be doing an economic analysis with CSU at an estimated cost of \$8,000 to analyze the problem and point out solutions and directions for local governments. They feel this will enable the county to make better planning decisions about where to focus economic adjustments and opportunities. Hallock requested a letter of support for the study and a commitment and a local match of \$1,750. COG will also be looking for DOLA funding and business help. The commissioners passed a motion to write a letter of support now and provide the local match funding in the spring cycle.

## Hydrology presentation

The commissioners attended a presentation by hydrologist Richard Roberts of the Bureau of Reclamation at the Fish and Wildlife Service building in Crestone. He gave an overview of the changing water conditions over the last several decades and the impact of the Closed Basin Project (CBP) on the Baca Wildlife Refuge. This Federal project is to salvage water from the unconfined groundwater and use it towards fulfilling the Rio Grande compact. Peggy Godfrey, recently appointed to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, and other citizens were interested in whether

the CBP is doing what it was designed for. At issue and subject to various opinions was the baseline to determine the 2' draw down measurement. A tour of the Baca refuge followed the presentation.

The Wildlife Complex scoping process ends November 3 after a 60-day comment period. Plan D lets the public come on the refuge and see elk, antelope and bison on a grand scale. There is interest in having visitors access the reserve from Road T where they could access Crestone and bring in revenue.

## Employee appreciation presentation

The commissioners honored employees who have been working at the county for an extended time: Reyes Casanova and Randy Arredondo, present head of Road and Bridge, each with 25 years of service. Also honored were Lynn Miles, who has been with Sheriff's department for 35 years, and Iris Garcia, office manager with Road and Bridge for 15 years.

## Town of Bonanza may be disincorporated

Commissioners officially directed County Attorney Ben Gibbon to formalize a petition to disincorporate Bonanza, once a thriving silver-mining town. Only one full-time resident remains there. According to Gibbons, they will determine if Bonanza went 5 years without a functioning Board of Trustees or routine government functions. They believe there have been no elections for 10 years nor any history or publication of notices regarding elections. There are questions about whether a check paid to Road & Bridge for work done constitutes conducting town business. The building going on in Bonanza is being done without permits. The Secretary of State will make a decision soon.

## Department reports

Lyn Lambert: reported on the Community Services block grant. Monies are awarded in 3-year blocks. The goal is to get people out of poverty and to be able to show a success rate.

Attorney Gibbons received a letter of complaint regarding compliance with the Colorado Open Meeting Law. The door had been closed for sound purposes, but a sign was posted saying it was an open session. Gibbons advised commissioners not to do executive session during a work session. There was a suggestion that the board record routine meetings, but they'll need good quality recording equipment to identify who is speaking. Department heads have asked for clearer procedures on nepotism policy.

Marcy Gardunio, Public Health Director, has completed application for a CCPD grant, requesting \$75,000. She did an in-service for geriatric behaviors and will provide chair exercise classes for disabled and seniors. Her department is working on promoting a clean needle exchange since heroin use is high. She is looking into a neonatal component because 5 out of 6 babies born tested positive for drug exposure. The Robert Wood Johnson grant is on track for deliverables, and they will ask for an extension. They are administering flu vaccine to seniors and employees.

Jeannie Norris, Director of

Social Services, and her replacement as of January, Linda Warsh, reported that the prevention Coalition partnership is making progress. They're finally seeing concrete results and success in the schools. Students have expressed a desire for outdoor programs which will help get them past crisis in their lives. She noted that Jason helped locate grants. There are case worker openings.

Randal Arredondo, Supervisor, Road & Bridge reported that there are many tires in the landfill which they can bale and sell for \$100 per bale. State engineering reported a bad water sample at the landfill. The other two wells are clean. They believe it is not water contamination, but a bad well. Water testing is required but there's not much water so it's hard to get a good sample. They will put in a real testing well rather than a water table well to show it's not contaminating the aquifer. The department will be shouldering the Moffat Road preparing for winter.

Evan Samora, Housing Director said tenant occupancy complete. A question arose whether public facilities are government housing, and if so does no smoking apply. Less than half of the tenants smoke or have issues.

Julie Mach reported on ScSeed's many projects. They acted as fiscal sponsor for Crestone Energy Fair, helped market the Alferd Packer Festival, and the Wild & Scenic Film Festival. They are getting financials in place for the Crestone skate park. Agritourism is among their many efforts towards economic development.

Homeless veterans and others with financial need can receive help from the Saguache County Veteran Service Office thanks to a five-county grant administered by the Chaffee County Veteran Service Office. Contact Jim Sheeran at 719-655-2680.

Commissioner Jason Anderson has begun having office hours in downtown Crestone at the former Painted Skye/Farm Table building on the corner of Galena Ave. and Alder St. He's there on the second Monday of the month 8am-noon and the fourth Mondays 3-7pm. Many constituents have dropped in, indicating to him there's a need for personal contact.

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## BGWSD board reviews accomplishments and begins 2015 planning

by **Judy Deluca & Cindy Reinhardt, Directors**

The Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District Board, along with management staff and consultants, held a day-long special meeting on October 8 to review the District's 2014 accomplishments and begin work on plans and budget for 2015.

This year, the district has completed its annual fire hydrant maintenance program and sewer collection system cleaning along with routine system maintenance, and has dealt with a major failure of pump motors at the main well complex in July. Upon touring the district's facilities and learning more about the systems and regulatory requirements to keep taps flowing, the board's newest member, Judy Deluca, declared "It's a daunting task."

It's costly too. And, like other expenses, those costs are rising. The board learned that the cost of chemicals to treat wastewater at the Aspen treatment plant doubled in 2014. These and other rising costs along with debt service and reserve requirements, plus another decline in property values, are key factors that will drive the 2015 budget.

Recognizing that 2015 is a critical year for the district to address long-term financial health as well as deferred maintenance needs, District Manager Lisa Johnson presented scenarios for controlling costs. These include reducing both operating costs and consultant fees, with more responsibility being shifted to the local staff and streamlining meetings. "My primary responsibility is the district's

financial health, and a part of that health means reducing my fees and supporting the local staff to be confident in taking on more responsibility," she said.

As a part of the budget workshop, the team reviewed revenue projections, including increasing water and sewer service fees as well as the mill levy. "These are not easy or popular choices," said Board President Cindy Reinhardt, "but the district's financial health requires it. We have an aging, geographically spread-out system with a limited customer and taxpayer base to share in the costs. That is the balancing act that we must engage in, and always, our ability to provide service now and in the future, must be our priority."

Continuing to seek grant funding and reaching out to tax-exempt organizations to secure agreements for Payments In Lieu of Taxes are also being considered for the coming year.

With several capital projects completed or nearing completion this year, the board began to look ahead to 2015 capital projects. With infrastructure needs far exceeding the approximate \$1 million dollars in bond funds and grants currently available, priorities will be reviewed as a part of the budget process.

We encourage district residents to attend the regular meeting and budget hearing on Friday, November 21 at 8am at the district office, 57 Baca Grant Way South. A draft budget will be available on the district's website ([www.bacawater.com](http://www.bacawater.com)) prior to the meeting.



Autumn at the pond at the North Crestone Creek Campground, a favorite quiet place to sit and enjoy the beauty of streams and canyons. photo by Lori Nagel



by **Gretchen Nelson**  
**Ordinance 2014-007**

This ordinance was adopted and signed on October 13, 2014 amending the nuisance code by adding a section regarding unfinished/abandoned structures which are to be used for commercial purposes.

**Driving in Crestone**

A side effect of our prospering town is the increase in traffic hazards. Please pay attention to all traffic regulation signs. Everyone can do their part by stopping at the stop signs observing the 15 mph speed limit. With school back in session, please drive slowly on Lime Avenue. Driving on dirt roads creates reduced visibility and danger to kids walking to school. With winter on its way, please allow yourself extra time needed when driving.

## Update on the 2014 Saguache County property tax audit

by **Lisa Cyriacks**

The most recent audit by state appraisers, Wildrose Appraisal Inc., shows Saguache County as compliant in both the Single Family and Vacant Land property classes. The Commercial/Industrial property class was exempted from ratio analysis and instead a procedural audit was performed.

The report concludes: "After applying the above described methodologies, it is concluded that Saguache County is reasonably treating its sold and unsold properties in the same manner."

According to JoAnn Grof, State Property Tax Administrator, when Wildrose Appraisals Inc. included the new numbers from the recent changes approved by the

Saguache County Commissioners, it did not sufficiently affect the valuations for the total county and did not throw the whole county out of compliance with the required statistics. Therefore, Wildrose Appraisals Inc. is not making a recommendation to the State Board of Equalization for a re-appraisal.

Elaine Johnson, plaintiff in the lawsuit, "This is good news. But it does not discount that moving forward assessments need to be done right. What it means is that we can start fresh in 2015 with a newly elected assessor who will do a thorough job and get the values where they need to be. And, the money into the county and other taxing entities to adequately support the services they provide."

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**BACA GRANDE**  
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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WWW.BACAPOA.ORG INFO@BACAPOA.ORG

**The Baca Grande POA Board of Directors have moved the previously stated date of the Annual Members Meeting from Friday October 10, 2014 to Wednesday November 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. We discovered errors in the printed election materials making it necessary to re-print them, causing the delay. We look forward to your participation either by mail or in person on November 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the POA hall.**

**If you have any questions contact the POA office at 719-256-4171.**

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# Risk Evaluation report, fire coverage for spiritual centers highlight Oct. 9 POA meeting

by Bill Sutherland

The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) held a regular meeting on October 9. All directors were present as well as acting Community Manager Langlais plus about 15 in the audience.

Following an executive session, it was voted to offer to an unnamed person the half-time salaried position of equipment manager for the fire department.

In the members' forum two issues were brought up. Bill Sutherland (this reporter) complained about the quality of the as-yet-unapproved minutes of August 14. He also expressed surprise that several items had been voted on following the executive session of September 25, before members had been allowed to be present. Director McDonald said he was sure he had informed those awaiting the open session that it was accessible, although this reporter did not recall this announcement and none of the other members were aware that a vote had taken place. Ordinarily the minutes, the official statement and description of the board's proceedings, are not available to the membership until they've been approved by the board. Directors Fuller and McDonald were concerned that Mr. Sutherland possessed a copy of them, the source of which he declined to identify. As of Oct. 9, the minutes of August 14, two months ago, have not been approved because of their apparent modification to favor one group's opinion over another's; the minutes of August 28 hadn't even been considered yet. Maybe it's time to start recording the meetings. It would seem that the minutes are not an appropriate forum for ideological disputations.

Stephanie Gaines, representing the Crestone End of Life Project, complained that the board and administration routinely neglected to inform her group of significant changes in the organization of the fire department. Permission for cremations, which the End of Life Project facilitates, must be sought

through the fire department, usually with scant lead time. The recent unannounced turnover in the fire department's leadership had prompted this request for acknowledgement of the Crestone End of Life Project's role in the community.

Minutes. Neither those of August 14 nor those of September 25 were approved.

## Fire Dept. get new chief

The Baca Grande Fire Department report was introduced by Director Lakish. She reviewed the resignation of Todd Ryker from the chief's post as well as his position in the ambulance service, effective September 22. Reasons for his abrupt departure were considered confidential, but Director Fuller said it's "safe to say he really didn't fit".

Long-term volunteer Chris Botz is now acting chief, receiving a half-time salary. He recited some of his qualifications and was cited by the board as one who'd always been there for the volunteer services for whom he worked. The audience expressed its appreciation of his efforts with applause. Chief Botz reported on the imminent "ISO" report, an industry-wide standard used by insurers as a factor in setting their fire insurance rates. Having the pumper truck for structural fires improves our fire management stature, and while our insurance rates may not go down (because of the high-profile fire danger in Colorado) this should help avert increases. Botz reported that the Town of Crestone Fire Department now has too few volunteers even to qualify for a reduced rating. (No fire protection yields an ISO rating of "10"; the Baca's rating is currently "7"; "1" is best.)

Chief Botz says he's pleased by the hard work in training and performance of his 10 volunteers (plus 3 apprentices and 2 on leave) and especially cited Directors Fuller and McDonald for their diligence. Botz also noted that among the spiritual centers 6 individuals have earned an important early credential in training as fire fighters.

The southern end of the Baca

is better protected from fire thanks to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has mowed a 100'-wide swath within the immediately adjacent Baca National Wildlife Refuge from Cottonwood Creek to Birch Road.

## Fire protection for spiritual centers?

The agreement between the spiritual centers and the Baca fire department over the response to fire incidents hit a new snag. Three of the centers, Shumei, Dharma Ocean, and the Zen Center, have verbally agreed to a cooperative arrangement. The principle of the agreement is that the POA recognizes the necessity of managing any fires on its immediately adjacent borders, but wants its liability defined; the spiritual centers feel that their insurability will be greatly enhanced by this cooperative agreement. (Coincidentally, if the Town of Crestone's fire department is as weak as depicted, then coverage of the spiritual centers by The Northern San Luis Valley Fire District would not at all improve their insurability.) However, Director Garnett has raised the question of whether helping fight fires outside the strict boundary of the POA and presumably being compensated therefrom will compromise the 501(c)(4) status of our non-profit corporation. Moreover, although Director McDonald avers that General Counsel Erich Schwiesow has gone over the agreements, no other director seemed aware of this consultation with Schwiesow, McDonald's former personal lawyer. Further evaluation will be undertaken.

## Fraud Risk Evaluation

The Fraud Risk Evaluation report, part of which has been withheld by the Finance Committee, was released to the entire Board of Directors by Attorney Schwiesow. At its last meeting the board directed that the full report be released to the rest of the board, although Schwiesow's authority to release the full report seemed surprising since he's not a member of the Finance Committee. The seven-page report, which lists names of people

who might be involved in (not illegal) irregularities, was considered by the Finance Committee (Directors Garnett and Thomas, and Lisa Cyriacks) to be unable legally to be made public by dint of respect for the privacy provisions of the Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act. Director McDonald disagrees with that view and he wants to make the full report available to the general public, saying he doesn't believe it's invasive of the personal privacy of those whose names appear in it. Director Thomas fervently disputed this saying that she feels personally threatened by the contents of the report and will seek to block its revelation in its present form. Director Lakish proposed, and it was passed, that the full report be put into a form acceptable to the members of the Finance Committee by the next board meeting (October 23) for release to the general public. No argument has been made for the necessity of the release of this speculative exposure of personal information except that "it's the members' money that paid for the report so they deserve to see it." On the other hand, the name of the person proposed for half-time equipment manager could not be released because that's confidential personal information.

## Hammersmith back in favor

The Finance Committee, which some months ago had recommended "firing" our management company, Hammersmith, now feels the contract with them should be renewed for another year. It was planned that the board would discuss those issues which should be brought up with Hammersmith in negotiating the new contract, and the Finance Committee has generated quite a number of issues of concern, but apparently the directors did not have the proposed contract before them, the absence of which would have greatly restricted the evaluation process. Therefore, a work session for the board is planned for October 13 at 5:30pm to advance this topic and perhaps to start work on the budget for 2015. Perhaps this effort will be the paradigm shift we've awaited, the one where the board is at work on the real issues relevant to the proper functioning of their responsibilities to the community.

# POA Oct. 13 work session is productive— money main focus

by Bill Sutherland

The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) met for a work session on October 13, ostensibly to conduct baseline work on the proposed negotiation of a new contract with Hammersmith Management (HMI) and on the budget for 2015. All directors were present except for Mr. McDonald, who had said in the board meeting of October 9 that he did not plan to attend. Acting Community Manager Stephanie Langlais was also present as well as four members in the audience.

## Budget

Mostly, topics related to the budget were discussed, despite none of the departments (except administration) having submitted their proposals for next year. Department heads have told the manager their work will be in by October 20. The following topics were addressed:

## 1. Number of lots upon which dues income is based

Total billable lots (per HMI, 2015) = 4247

Number of paying lots if 15% delinquent = 3610

Number of paying lots if 18% delinquent = 3483

Number of lots HMI proposes as base = 3482

Number of lots POA used for 2014 = 3934

Number of lots POA proposes for 2015 = 3934

Total billable lots, Reserve Study, 2011 = 4035

Since the rate of non-payment of dues has always been at least 15-18%, the number of billable lots assumed by the POA calculation must be 4628 to 4798, numbers appreciably greater than those used by HMI. If the number of billable lots used by HMI is correct, the rate of non-payment implied by the POA fig-

ures is a mere 7.4%. Using this figure would result in an appreciable under-collection of estimated dues.

So, an important number to know is, How many billable lots are in the POA? This must surely be an easily knowable and fairly exact number.

## 2. Bad debts

a. According to HMI there is an accumulation \$1,359,112 in outstanding (over 90 days) dues and fees as of 7/1/2014 (update pending).

b. Writing off bad debt (apparently) is not currently being done, but it has been in the past, apparently to ease bookkeeping. The write-off presumably constitutes a disposal of POA assets, which may be problematic.

c. Director Fuller says he is aware of some cases where individuals are paying their county taxes but not their POA dues. He suggests a list be obtained from the county

that shows whether those delinquent with the POA are or are not delinquent with the county. Fuller also recommends that the addresses to which statements for county taxes are sent also be obtained to be sure statements for POA dues are being sent to the right address.

## 3. Reserve account

a. Community Manager Langlais stated that most Home Owners Associations (HOA's) budget a Reserve Account. A study was done here in 2011 (see POA website), but no action was taken on it. The technically defined purpose of a Reserve Account is to budget for items in the common area maintenance responsibility which have a limited life which is predictable and which is above a minimum threshold cost. It's like a family budgeting for the future replacement of their car. There is an account in the POA

*continued on page 9*

# Productive Oct. 23 POA meeting requires but a single expletive

by Earl W. Sutherland

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) took place on October 23. All directors were present as well as (until recently) Acting Community Manager Stephanie Langlais and her replacement, acting until a permanent (whatever that means at the POA) manager is named, Alison McClure. Ms. McClure was the Community Manager two years ago, lives here, and was selected by our management company for her current position. Altogether 23 persons attended the meeting, which adjourned at about 8pm.

An executive session occurred first, during which time audience members were edified by viewing the partial solar eclipse and large sunspot visible through Martin Macaulay's special glasses. No matters for vote were covered in the secret session, of which the board holds one every meeting.

Members were practically silent during their forum, except for a question about fire coverage for the spiritual centers. At the last meeting of the board, Director Garnett wondered if extending fire coverage

to entities beyond the boundaries of the Baca might jeopardize the corporation's non-profit (501(c) 4) status. He was told by the IRS that the POA should submit a letter detailing the issue so that they could render an opinion. Such a letter is planned, Manager McClure elaborating a draft for use by the board.

The minutes of August 14, September 25 and October 9 were all approved with small corrections. These open, official records of the deliberations of the board of directors were last made public for the July 10 meeting. The minutes of the meeting of August 28, 2014 have yet to even appear on an agenda.

Interim Fire Chief Chris Botz presented for his department. He reports that Steven White has been hired to a half-time paid position as equipment manager. Chief Botz also mentioned the continuing discussions with three of the spiritual centers (Zen Center, Shumei, and Dharma Ocean) over formal agreements with the Baca Grande for fire coverage. Since these centers border the Baca, suppression of fires there is obviously a good policy for the POA; from the centers' point of view having an identified fire ser-

vice should help with their insurance. All of the centers are already covered by Northern Saguache County Fire District (NSCFD), operating through the fire department of the town of Crestone, reports Chief Botz, but he also notes that the Crestone Fire Department has no more than three volunteers including him, and no equipment designed to combat structural fires. Other divisions of the NSCFD are over an hour away, so it would seem the POA fire department is the main (only?) resource.

There was discussion about the insurance coverage for the volunteer firefighters. Director McDonald cited a reference (13-21-113.7) which he termed the "Non-Profit Act" that supposedly exonerates the POA from liability; however that particular statute he mentioned refers to donations of food and exemptions of liability therefrom. The Colorado Revised Non-Profit Act does not reference insurance/liability issues which might pertain to fires. The actually relevant statute, the "Volunteer Service Act" (CRS 13-21-115.5) does protect volunteer firefighters from liability (other than obviously unprotected acts such as arson), but that protection does not extend to the sponsoring organization, in this case the POA. One of the arguments favoring the formation of the Crestone Emergency Services District (CrESD) is the governmental immunity conferred on the participating entities in the event of catastrophic expenses.

While administration went over various financial statements, these verbal reports weren't of much use to those in the audience. However, a member may view the financial records at any time through the POA office.

The Committee for Natural Surroundings gained a new member when Rich Jewett was approved by the board. The committee's leader, Noah Baen, presented a letter he had composed for the US Fish and Wildlife Service concerning their recently published Comprehensive Conservation Plan,

now open for public comment. Baen noted that in that large study, consideration by the Baca Wildlife Refuge of its statutory requirement to consider local watershed issues was purposely rejected. The board agreed to forward an objection to this omission to the planners.

The committee also developed a resolution for the board offering a plan of management for the greenbelts of the POA. Although this proposal was prompted by radical trail alteration by some mountain-bicyclists, there was no mention of that group of recreational enthusiasts. Director Lakish objected to the proposal because of its lack of identifiable standards. This would contrast, she remarked, with the Environmental and Architectural Committee which has fairly specific standards for what is and isn't okay for the built environment. Director McDonald felt that education of the members as to what constitutes wise use of the greenbelts would be helpful and avoid still more rules. The Natural Surroundings group has invested a lot of thought and other effort to help protect a part of the community that's highly valued but little mentioned in the governing documents. What seems necessary is a path somewhere between no use/alteration and anything-goes. The committee will work further on this valuable project.

The Finance Committee at the last meeting was charged by the board to release a version of the full Risk Assessment Report acceptable to the committee (Directors Garnett and Thomas, and Lisa Cyriacks) which could be opened to the membership of the POA. This demand to the Finance Committee by the board has now been refused, the committee citing again that "this information could be misconstrued and harmful to members of our community" (Finance/Audit Committee Report, 10.23.14). Instead, the Finance Committee re-stated, in more detail, actions to be initiated by the board which the Certified Risk Evaluator, Dennis Crown, deems important for the Property Owners Association to undertake to avert future problems. One step was taken in that direction with the formulation of a plan to evaluate Waugh and Goodwin, LLP, as potential auditor for our 2013 activities (required since our most recent auditor refused to continue work with the POA). Much work seems needed to set our financial house in order.

Oh, and where that one word came out I don't exactly remember, but it was a humdinger.

## POA work session

continued from page 8

budget which serves as a contingency fund for unexpected expenses, but a formally designated Reserve Account policy has not been named by resolution, according to Lisa Cyriacks (of the Finance Committee).

b. An elaborate inventory is a prerequisite for identifying items covered by the Reserve Account. There is no current such inventory.

### 4. Automatic clearing house (ACH)

This is a banking mechanism where routine, recurring expenses like payroll are automatically disbursed. Income from dues is listed as "L.A. lockbox" (since the company performing these services on the POA's behalf is in Los Angeles). However, HMI and the POA receive only a bundled sum, with no actual separate receipts being identified. All that is seen is so many dollars in and so many dollars out, something that is disturbing to an accountant who's used to seeing specifics. It was agreed that this method should change and that a Colorado bank be engaged.

### Hammersmith

The major concern in the re-

cent relationship with HMI is the limited accessibility to POA data. Only HMI employees are currently able to view these digital files because of potential access to the records of other clients of HMI. Manager Langlais reported that she's recently become aware that our computer systems can be re-configured so that we have access only to our own data, in which case any POA employee could use the material. This represents the removal of a major barrier to negotiating with Hammersmith.

The POA pays HMI a base fee of \$5000 monthly, but the total amount paid this year to the management company is on track to reach about \$200,000. There is uncertainty about what is covered by the base fee or the expenses over and above that base charge. There is a supplementary charge of \$100 per hour for certain overtime work of the Community Manager, but no deductions for the times when the manager is absent from the usual job requirements. The question was raised of what a typical fraction of an HOA's expenditures are for the management company.

Interesting, informative meeting. Calmly rational, notable for the absence of vitriol, a thoughtful group actually working together.

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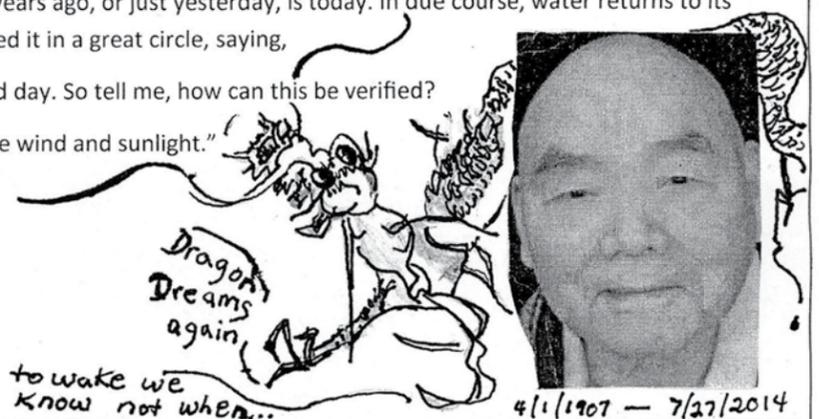
Tiantong addressed the monks, saying, "The clouds mindlessly drift past the mountains. Four years ago, or just yesterday, is today. In due course, water returns to its source. Four years hence, or just today, is yesterday." Tiantong then raised his whisk and moved it in a great circle, saying,

"If I must present this to you here, then I say that every year is a good year. Every day is a good day. So tell me, how can this be verified?"

Where clouds and mountains meet, they laugh, "Ha, Ha!" Their laughter spontaneously fills the wind and sunlight."

Happy season turning fall to winter, happy to honor my old teacher's life. I laugh, "Ha, Ha!"

For acupuncture appointment or Chinese herbology: Catherine Alelyunas 256-4248



## Town of Bonanza City— Ghost town being buried alive?

by Lisa Cyriacks

The mountain town of Bonanza may soon pass into history as Saguache County and the Secretary of State decide whether or not to abandon the 133-year-old statutory town.

Deputy Secretary of State Suzanne Staiert held a public hearing in the Saguache Community Center on October 14 to hear from property owners and residents the pros and cons of abandonment. This turned out not to be an easy task.

Colorado Statutes dictate the requirements for abandonment: "When any town has failed, for a period of five years or longer immediately prior to the filing of the application under this section, to hold any regular or special election or to elect officers and to maintain any town government, such town may be determined to be abandoned."

On October 28, 2013, the Saguache County Attorney, Ben Gibbons, at the direction of the county commissioners, requested a determination by the Secretary of State that the Town of Bonanza be abandoned.

Those present (in person and by written testimony) could not agree on much—starting with whether the official name is Bonanza or Bonanza City (the Department of Local Affairs lists it as Bonanza City). As the afternoon wore on, it soon became clear that most people present wanted the roads maintained and the lights left on.

An interesting blend of anecdotes, facts and stories came together during the hearing as people spoke their piece, and presented what they knew (or believed) to be true.

Evidence was presented that Saguache County Road & Bridge had been conducting business as late as 2012 with the town in the form of invoices and cashed checks written on the town's bank account. Checks were signed by Betty Ashley, who has been acting mayor for some years.

In the mid-nineties the Town of Bonanza and Saguache County had reached an agreement that, in return for the Town's Highway User Tax Funds, the county would maintain the roads.

Many in the room claimed that Betty had never been elected. How then, did she possess sole access to the town's bank accounts and money? It turns out that Betty's family has a long history with Bonanza City. Her great-grandfather was an early resident and founder. Her grandfather was

mayor at one point. Betty and her husband, Jack, both grew up in Bonanza City.

Questionable elections are nothing new to Bonanza City. In 2006, three residents and candidates for town board filed a pro se brief in District Court contesting the election of another four candidates based on residency . . . and won.

The court ordered the four candidates (one of whom is Betty's cousin) removed from office and installed the three remaining candidates as trustees. Town ordinances allow for appointment of trustees and mayor to fill out required board seats, but the location of town records has proven scarce.

Since then, the Colorado Legislature has passed laws removing residency requirements for local jurisdictions in 2013 and 2014. The only requirement to register to vote is residency in the State of Colorado for 22 days. In order to vote, or serve as an elected official, one need only sign an affidavit affirming residency, and one can do this on the same day as the election!

In 1999, the town took a mail-ballot vote on whether or not to maintain the township. The town government had found it difficult to function due to small number of year-round residents. Bonanza incorporated in 1881 during its heyday. But the mines are no more, and residents numbered in the dozens—at best. The vote failed to dissolve the town government.

The town approved new ordinances and recorded them in 2001 with the Saguache County Clerk's office. "The last several years, we just carried on," Ashley said.

In its prime, thousands of miners worked the hillsides, the town had two hotels, seven dance halls, a newspaper, grocery and clothing stores, a candy store, even a town baseball team, according to accounts. After a catastrophic fire in 1937, little remains of the original town, but what is there is still precious to some.

True to pioneering spirit, construction goes on in Bonanza as recently as August 2014 despite the lack of legal infrastructure to approve permits. Although residents have found it difficult to get street addresses (mail is delivered to the Villa Grove Post Office), real estate continues to be bought and sold.

Isolated. Incorporated. Idyllic. Peaceful? Hardly. Anecdotes revealed acrimony fueled by gossip.

The political ghosts linger.



Dancer Signe Ramstrom

## Encore Day of Peace Nov. 9 Celebrating peace within, peace without

We will gather Nov. 9 for an exciting evening inspired by prayer, art, poetry, and dance. You will experience the uplifted quality of peace within through the ancient arts. Deepak Chopra says art is the gateway to the soul.

Signe Ramstrom will be sharing creative connection with Spirit as well as dancing. A quote from the *Mauui News* describes Signe's dance: "Through the alignment of body/mind/soul and integra-

tion with music, her performances convey that 'mystical moment' for which all dancers strive."

There will be paintings of the spirit by local artist Robin Ross collaborating with poetry by Maya Minwah. They have just published a book, *Two Poets and One Painter* with Lynne Brescia.

Noah Baen focuses on nature with an environmental installation. Noah Baen is an esteemed artist and naturalist. His work integrates environmental education, natural and social history with the visual arts and environment. He has created collaborative public and site-specific projects, such as indoor and outdoor murals, school gardens and a restored wetland and coal mine. Noah Baen's work is in the Smith College Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, among others. It is also visible in the 59th Street subway concourse in New York City. He received the Mayor's Very Special Arts Award.

Rumi poetry will abound and you are invited to participate in an open mic to present your own art & prayers on what peace within means to you and how you hold that state.

The Sacred Arts Club will present an encore Peace Day Celebration at Dancing Music Mountain Sanctuary, 3564 Double Tree Overlook, 4:30pm, November 9. Donations are appreciated.

The intention of the Sacred Arts Club is to preserve and enrich sacred ancient arts.

Please call 719-256-4386 or 719-588-2929 for information or reservations, or email [sacredartsclub@gmail.com](mailto:sacredartsclub@gmail.com).

## THE CLOUD STATION

Let It Grow, A Grateful Dead Tribute Band

November 8th Doors @ 7, Music @ 8 ~ \$10

Dustbowl Revival

November 16th Doors @ 7, Music @ 8 ~ \$12

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**Bill Hearne Trio CD Release Concert**  
November 14 @ 7:30 p.m. Leon Memorial Hall, Alamosa  
Featuring Bill Hearne Trio & Don Richmond



Tickets: \$15 General  
\$13 ALMA Members  
\$10 Students/Seniors/Volunteers



Happy  
*Thanks Giving*

From CYP

## Leigha Nicole: Shumei's Nov. & Dec. featured artist

Local brush painting artist Leigha Nicole will be the featured artist at Shumei for the months of November and December. Her Art Symposium, which will include a demonstration and then an introductory brush painting class, will be Sunday, December 7 from 3-5pm. The class will include basic brush techniques as well as the use of ink on paper to create a simple bamboo composition to take home. A reception will follow.

Leigha's love of art began as a small child when she received an easel from her mother. She took as many art courses as possible in school and as a teen she found Beverly Duncan, her first inspirational teacher in watercolor painting. Living in Japan as a professional dancer years later, she was exposed to many kinds of eastern art, which still informs her work to this day.

In 1988 she ordered her first signature chop from renowned Emmy award-winning artist Ning Yeh and has studied the Hsieh-I style of Chinese brush painting with him ever since at many different schools including UCLA, Cerritos and Coastline College.

She was a scenic painter for the Yani Forbidden City Concert Tour '97 in Beijing, China. Also, she painted scenery for and participated in the closing ceremony of the Winter Olympics '98 in Nagano, Japan. She has had solo art shows



Artwork by Leigha Nicole

in Point Reyes, Calif. (2002) and Larkspur, Calif. (2003/2004).

Leigha's art is a blend of Chinese brush painting, Japanese sumi-e and western watercolor. Currently, her work is much influenced by her training in traditional Japanese spiritual and cultural arts. She has studied both the Sogetsu and Ikenobu styles of Ikebana (flower arranging) and is an avid student of chanoyu (tea ceremony) through the lineage of the Urasenke school. She received her Nyumon license from the Urasenke Foundation of San Francisco in 2005 and continues to study with Sensei Minako Tsuji.

Come meet Leigha and try your hand at bamboo brush painting on December 7 from 3 to 5pm. Contact Shumei at 719-256-5284 for more information or visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org).



Fiji Acoustic shares their love of music November 14 at Shumei.

## Fiji Acoustic brings originals & favorites to Shumei on Nov. 14

Come out Friday Nov. 14 at 7pm to Shumei for something different from a community favorite. Fiji Acoustic is an ensemble friends who have been playing music together for many years. Several members of the rock 'n roll band 2 Weeks in Fiji, Eli Dokson (guitar), Dale Smith (percussion) Mike Noonan (bass), and Scott Swartz (guitar) will pick up their acoustic instruments to play a repertoire of original songs and great favorites. There is a suggested donation of \$10 at the door; all proceeds benefit the artists.

Longtime San Luis Valley residents, Eli, Dale, Mike and Scott started out in Miami, L.A., Boston and Chicago before finding each other in this beautiful place we call home. Their shared love of making music and on-stage chemistry has made playing together easy for more than ten years. All have played in various iconic SLV electric bands, including Tumbleweed, Sneakers, Earthmen, Lucky Larue and many other guest appearances (Scott is also a member of Shakedown Street, for those who enjoy the Grateful Dead). Their influences shine through their original lyrics, be they humorous, romantic, political, philosophical, quirky or sad. They blend country, rock, folk, R & B, gospel and blues in their music and have a great time doing it!

Fiji Acoustic plays with a stripped down energy that gets to the soul of the song, having fun and sharing that with the audience. Eli just completed a CD of original songs entitled *A Dream I Can't Forget*, and Dale's CD of originals, *We Still Sing*, will be released shortly.

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## Shumei International Institute

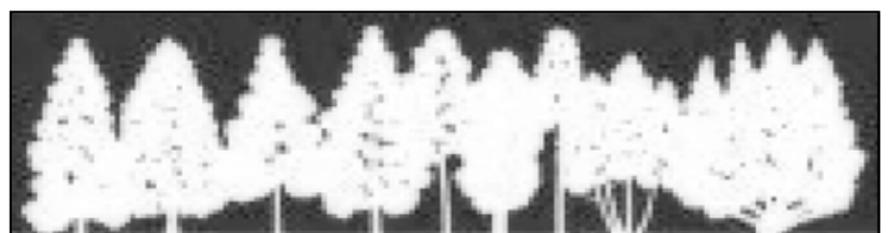


Sharing Natural Agriculture, Art & Beauty, and Healing Jyorei with the world....

Art Symposia, Exhibitions, Concerts and Special Events

See the community calendar or visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) for an up to date schedule

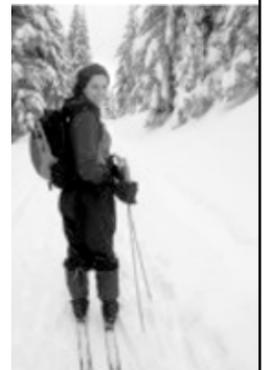
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Friendly & helpful volunteers serving up some grub at the annual NHN Thanksgiving Community Potluck in 2012. photo by Lori Nagel

## NHN Pre-Thanksgiving potluck Sunday November 23 at the Charter School

The community is invited to enjoy the wonderful, warm feeling of the 15th Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Community Potluck, sponsored by Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

The community is asked to bring potluck dishes to share. Coffee, tea, and lemonade will be provided, as well as the turkeys. If you are willing to bring a cooked turkey as your potluck, call Judie Rose at 256-5110.

Each year volunteers donate and cook turkeys. Some suggestions for the potluck include mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, salads, vegetables, casseroles, family favorites, breads, des-

serts of all kinds and non-alcoholic beverages

Every year people also show up to help serve, clear, wash dishes and clean up. NHN is very thankful for this, as it makes it truly a cooperative community celebration.

Please let us know if you are willing to help by calling Lynda at 256-5458 or Judie Rose at 256-5110.

Please bring your own plates and silverware—go green (less trash). Please car pool! Parking is very limited. Thanks.

The time for this event is from 1:30 to 4:30.

## Center Post reporter Teresa Benns wins prestigious Jean Otto Award

by Lisa Cyriacks

Story after story, Teresa Benns perseveres in covering the Town of Center and Saguache County, documenting and commenting on the fight to open meetings and records.

Perseverance paid off. In October the Colorado Freedom of Information Coalition awarded Benns and the *Center Post Dispatch* the Jean Otto Friend of Freedom Award. The Jean Otto Friend of Freedom Award recognizes someone for sustained and/or significant open-government activities.

“Community news is for the community and reporters are community watchdogs,” says Benns.

Steve Zansberg, President of CFOIC, presenting the award said,

“Teresa is a true journalist, a woman on a mission to hold government officials accountable to the people,” said Zansberg.

Benns, upon accepting the award, “I have tried to fulfill what I believe is my civic and professional duty to alert people to the existence of their First Amendment rights . . . I believe it is important for them to know that they can depend on the press to champion these rights.”

The award honors the legacy of Jean Otto, a long-time editor and reader representative at the *Rocky Mountain News* who founded the CFOIC in 1987 and was a tireless advocate for First Amendment and freedom-of-information rights.



Jason Irwin of Absolute Best Tree Care dangles from a large cottonwood he removed this summer in downtown Crestone. Several cottonwood trees have unexpectedly fallen during the last couple of years despite no visible sign of decay. This condition is possibly drought-related.

## Visit Crestone Artisan Gallery for your holiday gifts

by Bob Adler

First, beginning in November, our gallery hours will be noon to 4pm every day except Tuesday, when the gallery will be closed. Of course, with the holidays coming up, the creations of our 26 gallery artists are available to you for gift-giving ideas. We hope to see you in our beautiful space.

Our featured artist is Beatris Burgoin. Now residing in Crestone, she grew up in Baja, Mexico. Coming from an artistic family, she was surrounded by creativity. With her father as a carver and artist, he supplied Beatris with inspiration, telling stories about great artists and showing her pictures of their work.

She started painting at 19, after being in a car accident and being supplied with painting supplies. Beatris works at capturing the feeling of life in her work. She uses the primary colors and white to capture the essence of life as she sees it, always looking for new perspectives. For more information, visit her website, [www.beatrisburgoin.com](http://www.beatrisburgoin.com).

## November meeting planned for Saguache Sagebrush Quilters

The meeting will be Sat., Nov. 1 at 10am at the Saguache Road & Bridge Community Room on the SE corner of 3rd & Denver in Saguache.

“Pieceful Waters” paper piecing will be the learning moment for quilters. This is the traditional block called Crossed Canoes. Sara Fernandez has completed quilts using this pattern and will bring them for us to see. At our Nov. meeting we should complete four squares which teach us the skill *and* could end up being a table topper—if a larger quilt is not for you. All sewing levels are welcome to join us at our monthly meetings.

Copies of the foundation pattern and instructions will be provided. A cutting mat, two ironing boards and irons will also be provided. You are also welcome to bring these items, if you wish.

If you wish to learn the paper piecing technique, then bring the following:

Your choice of two fabrics. You will need enough of each fabric to cut:

- Four – 5” x 8½” rectangles
- Two – 3½” x 8½” rectangles
- Two – 3” squares
- Rotary cutter and ruler or scissors

Sewing machine and sewing basket items including thread

Extension cord

We have the building the entire day for you to sandwich tops or sew to your heart’s content on your own project, if you would rather do that.

Don’t forget a potluck dish and items you’ve completed or are working on to show ‘n tell. If you have sewing or quilting items you wish to recycle, our “Bring ‘n Take” table is available.

Any questions? Give Caroline an email at [cwiqueen@gmail.com](mailto:cwiqueen@gmail.com) or call 719-850-0051

See you Saturday, Nov. 1 in Saguache at 10am.

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**Crestone Mountain Karate Club**

The Crestone Mountain Karate Club meets at 4:15-5:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at 6-7am Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the Rainbow Room of the Crestone Charter School.

Instruction is by Sara Grimes, 7th-Degree Black Belt, International Shotokan Karate Federation (ISKF).

New members are welcome. The one-time registration fee for the fall session (which ends December 18) is \$10.

To register or for more information call 413-219-7774 or email sgrimes@umass.edu.

**Bellydance classes**

The CrestoneTribal Bellydance is happy to announce new and continuing classes for fall and winter. These include the brand new STAR Class, an introduction to bellydance for older dancers (Fridays at 11am); Foundations of Movement (ongoing bellydance technique and practice, Friday 3pm); and a beginning session of American Tribal Style, the improvisational group dance that CrestoneTribal is best known for in its lively performances (Tuesdays at 2pm); and Childrens' Dance (Friday 1pm). All classes held at 758 Camino Baca Grande Way. See www.crestonetribal.com for more information.

**4th Annual Saguache Holiday Bazaar**

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 6 and join the Friends of the Saguache Public Library at the Community Building on Seventh St. for our annual bazaar. We anticipate a wonderful lineup of vendors offering everything you need for your holiday shopping. Past events have featured books, baked goods, handiwork, crafts, baskets, pottery, jewelry and many other delights.

Vendors are invited to set up a table for a \$10 fee. The Town of Saguache requires that vendors at events on town property either have liability insurance of their own, or sign a waiver of liability.

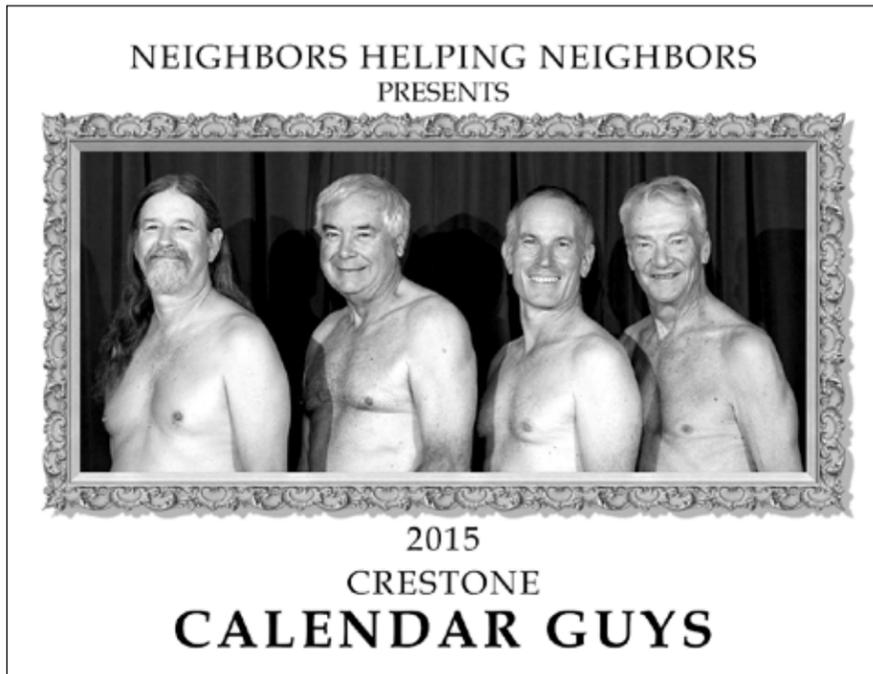
Hot lunch will be available and the bazaar will run from 9am to 3pm. For table reservation and information please call Wilma Lewis at 719-655-2566 or Mary Morfill at 719-655-2604.

**Save the date for Crestone Company of Players holiday theater production**

*by Mary Benavidez*

With an imaginative atmosphere and wonderfully talented local storytellers, singers and musicians, the Crestone Company of Players will present "The Bards of Crestone: Singers of Songs and Tellers of Tales". The show will offer a little something for everyone and is intended for the whole family.

Come out of the cold and join us to warm your imaginations on Saturday, December 13 at 6:30pm and Sunday, December 14 at 2pm at the Crestone Charter School Rainbow Hall. Suggested donations, which benefit the Crestone Company of Player and the Crestone Charter School, are \$8 for adults, \$6 ages 6-12 and free for under 5.



**Neighbors Helping Neighbors calendar release party**

The 10-year anniversary issue of Crestone Calendar Guys 2015 is hot off the press! Thanks go to our photographer, Martin Macaulay, and our many sponsors. Please come celebrate and thank our guys who brought their bodies and a sense of humor to the making of this calendar, all because of their willingness to help a neighbor in need. There will be free food and drink at the Cloud on Saturday November 8 from 2 to 5 pm. Plenty of time to get their autographs!

We are very thankful to all community members who will buy this priceless calendar for only \$15 and who will send copies to friends and family as holiday gifts! NHN is grateful for the generosity and the good hearts of this little village. As Bob Hope once said, "If you do not have charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart problem!" The venue for this party has been donated by Benjamin and Michelle. Music donated by Barry Monroe.

**2nd Annual American Red Cross Academy reminder**

Please join us for the 2014 academy hosted by the SLV Health and Training Center, 1921 Main Street in Alamosa, November 7-9. The academy is free for those who complete pre-signup requirements for volunteering.

The following classes have currently been scheduled:

Psych First Aid, CPR/AED, Disaster Action Team Intro, Basic Shelter Ops, Restoring Family Links, Disaster Front Line Supervisor, Volunteer Connections/SABA, Public Affairs, Response on Call Adv., Client Case Mgmt., Service to the Armed Forces, Red Cross/Geneva Conventions, and Disaster Instructor Specialty Training.

Visit www.ColoradoRedCross.org to learn more about these classes, volunteering in your community and abroad, donating and safety recommendations. Some classes are advanced and require prerequisites. Please contact Vilate Thacker, Volunteer Program Coordinator, at vilate.thacker@redcross.org, 719-588-6931 for class descriptions and to register, or Disaster Program Coordinator Bill Werner, Colorado and Wyoming Region, for more information at 719-588-5812.

**Are you a veteran needing assistance?**

La Puente's Outreach Services Center has received a grant that can assist veterans in our community with a variety of services including medical and non-medical gas vouchers, provisions for their home, interview or work clothing, and help with tuition or job training. Gas vouchers to appointments can be provided for within the San Luis Valley and the state of Colorado. Veterans assisted with this grant must have documented proof of their honorable or OTH discharge status either through their DD-214 paperwork or a letter from a V.A.'s office. If you're unsure whether or not La Puente Outreach can help you, please don't hesitate to call for more information. Andrea can be reached at 719-587-3781 ext. 30, or through email at andrea.outreach.lapuente@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know is a veteran in need of assistance, please contact La Puente Outreach Services.

**Commissioner Anderson to hold office hours in Crestone**

Jason Anderson, Saguache County Commissioner from District 1 (Baca/Crestone) will hold office hours in the town of Crestone at the Painted sky/Farm Table building on the NE corner of E. Galena Ave. and Alder St. (121 E. Galena) on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Office hours will be 8am to noon on the second Monday, and 3 to 7pm on the fourth Monday to try and accommodate those who work all day. Please feel free to drop by and chat.

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PHOTO BY JENNIFER ESPERANZA

*Sweetie Pie:*  
I still need you,  
I still feed you,  
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**Happy 6:4!**  
"your HB"

**NEW FALL & WINTER CLASSES**  
TUESDAY 2pm **American Tribal Style Improvisation**  
FRIDAY 11am **STAR Class for "older" ladies**  
FRIDAY 3pm **Foundations of Movement**

expression community practice

**Crestone Tribal Bellydance**  
learn about us at crestonetribal.com

# Community Calendar—November 2014

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Monthly Events

### Friday, October 31

- ASU Free Friday Movies – Zacheis Planetarium 4:15 pm [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis)
- Halloween Ball, Desert Sage 7:30-10pm Couples \$15, Adults \$10, 12-19 \$5, Under 12 free 256-4533

### Saturday, November 1

- Saguache Sagebrush Quilters, Saguache Road & Bridge Meeting Room 10am 719-850-0051
- Death Café – Rio Grande County Museum 2:00 pm 256-4211, 588-7415
- Halloween party, 13-2-yr-olds, Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 7-11pm \$5 719-480-5925

### Sunday, November 2

- End of Daylight Savings – clocks back at 2am
- Fellowship Sunday, Crestone Baptist Church 12-1pm
- Padmasambhava tsok – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm 719-256-5224

### Monday, November 3

- Town of Crestone Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Crestone Town Ctr 6-8pm 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, November 4

- General election – All Day

### Wednesday, November 5

- Gentle Flow Yoga – YES Building (Formerly CCS bldg) 11:30 am no charge 719.298.0360
- BGPOA Annual Membership Meeting, Baca Meeting room 7pm [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171

### Thursday, November 6

- Riwo Sangchod, Choying Dzong 9-9:45am 256-5224
- Full Moon Fire Ceremony, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 256-4108

### Friday, November 7

- Red Cross Academy, SLV Health & Training Ctr. 9am-4pm [www.ColoradoRedCross.org](http://www.ColoradoRedCross.org) 719-588-6931
- Grief and Gratitude Ritual – Downtown Crestone 7:00 pm-10:00 pm 508-237-8915

### Saturday, November 8

- Day of the Dead Fest and Parade – Community Building noon-7:00 pm 508-237-8915
- Death Café, Seasons Cafe 2pm 256-4211, 588-7415

- NHN Calendar Release party, Cloud Station 2-5pm
- Fundraiser Extravaganza for the Ashram at Best Western Movie Manor 5pm \$151/room [www.facebook.com/events/268180373392222](http://www.facebook.com/events/268180373392222) 256-4108

### Sunday, November 9

- Shumei's Monthly Sampai for November 2014 – Shumei Sanctuary 10:30 am-noon free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284
- Encore Day of Peace Celebration – Dancing Music Mountain Sanctuary 4:30 pm Donations welcome 719-256-4386, 719-588-2929

### Monday, November 10

- Town of Crestone Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – Crestone Town Center 1:30 pm-6:30 pm 719-256-4313

### Tuesday, November 11

- Veterans' Day
- Crestone End of Life/Informed Final Choices Monthly Open Meeting, Topping House 7-9:00 pm [Crestone-end-of-life.org](http://Crestone-end-of-life.org) 719.256.4247/588.7415

### Wednesday, November 12

- Gentle Flow Yoga – YES Building (Formerly CCS bldg) 11:30 am no charge 719.298.0360

### Thursday, November 13

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome, 3-5pm Free/Donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290
- BGPOA Board of Directors meeting, BGPOA Meeting Room 5pm [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171

### Friday, November 14

- Concert at Shumei with Fiji Acoustic 7-9pm \$10 Suggested Donation [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 256-5284
- Movie Night, Crestone Charter School 7pm Adults \$6, 11-19 \$2, <12 free crest-fest.org 256-4533

### Sunday, November 16

- Buddhist sitting/walking meditation – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-1:00 pm 719-256-5224

### Monday, November 17

- Leonid Meteor Showers – midnight-6:00 am
- Dakini Tsok – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm 719-256-5224

### Wednesday, November 19

- Gentle Flow Yoga – YES Building (Formerly CCS bldg) 11:30 am no charge 719.298.0360

### Thursday, November 20

- Thanksgiving Sufi Dhikr + Potluck. All Welcome 3-5pm Free/Donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 256-4290
- BGPOA Board of Directors meeting, BGPOA Meeting Room 5pm [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171

### Friday, November 21

- Baca Grande Water & San board meeting, District Office 8:00 am [bacawater.com](http://bacawater.com)
- Movie Night – Crestone Baptist Church 6-9 pm

### Saturday, November 22

- New Moon Fire Ceremony, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org) 256-4108

### Sunday, November 23

- Community Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner, CCS, 1:30-4:30pm, 256-5110, 256-5458

### Thursday, November 27

- Thanksgiving – All Day

### Friday, November 28

- Crestone Holiday Bazaar, Desert Sage, 2-8pm

### Saturday, November 29

- Crestone Holiday Bazaar, Desert Sage, 10am-5pm

### Monday, December 1

- Padmasambhava tsok – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm 719-256-5224

### Saturday, December 6

- Saguache Holiday Bazaar, Community Bldg 9am-3pm 719-655-2566, 719-655-2604

### Sunday, December 7

- Leigha Nicole brush painting demo & class – Shumei International Institute 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

### Saturday, December 13

- Crestone Company of Players production, CCS, 6:30pm Suggested: Adults \$8, 6-12 \$6, <6 free

### Sunday, December 14

- Crestone Company of Players production, CCS, 2pm Suggested: Adults \$8, 6-12 \$6, <6 free

## Daily/Weekly Events

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

### Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7am, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Sampai & Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery and Jyorei, Shumei, 9am-5pm, 256-5284
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6pm, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)

### Sunday

- Alcoholics Anonymous Crestone Town Hall 7-8pm
- Sunday morning Bible Study and Service Crestone Baptist Church 10:00 am-noon

### Monday

- Beginning Shotokan Karate early bird classes Crestone Charter School 6-7am 413-219-7774
- Belly Dance Fusion Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:30-6pm \$5 or work trade

### Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Stories for Little Ones Baca Grande Library 11:00 am-11:45 am Free 655-2551
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm [crestonena@gmail.com](mailto:crestonena@gmail.com) 970 309 0710
- Awakening Artists Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:00 pm-7:00 pm

### Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Sacred Heart Vinyasa Yoga, Rainbow Hall, Crestone Charter School 4-5pm 10 [www.sacredheartvinyasa.com](http://www.sacredheartvinyasa.com) 719-256-4119
- Wednesday night Bible study Crestone Baptist Church 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

### Thursday

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

### Friday

- Integrative Yoga w/Cynthia Old Pottery Studio 9:15-10:30am Donation (sugg \$12-\$15) 719.298.0360

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Kids lighting candles and putting them in the pond dedicated to souls who have passed, at the 2013 Day of the Dead celebration.  
photo by Lori Nagel

### 3rd Annual Day of the Dead Fest & Parade happens Nov. 8 in Crestone

THIS is a free event for the whole community at the Community Building, starting at noon. In the spirit of remembrance, reverence and revelry we gather to celebrate the gift of life, honor our beloved departed and our ancestors, share the changing of seasons. Wear black and white stR.I.Pes and phoenix flames, dance and sing with the dragon and phoenix of peace.

**Activities for young and old**

**Shadowbox Altars for Parade:** make a special place to honor your beloved departed with photos and meaningful items. Candles in jars will be provided.

**Bonfire:** informal hangout, storytelling and music.

**Dressup:** come in costumes, share costumes and painting faces.

**Pirate Ship:** pretend you're part of the skeleton crew.

**Sugar Skulls:** colorful decorating for altars. Hot chocolate and confections by Alma's A.D.A.

The parade begins around the fire at dusk

We'll dance in the streets and sing together sharing our love gratitude and remembrance. The parade ends at the skatepark with a CCC fire spinning finale.

Blacklight afterparty at the Cloud Station with Dead cover band!



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## Two Death Cafes, one film screening and a mysterious 'theft'

Informed Final Choices is sponsoring two more Death Cafes and a *Griefwalker* screening during the month of November. On November 1, in Del Norte, at the Rio Grande Museum the Death Cafe begins at 2pm, followed by the film at 4:30pm. Salida will be the location for a Death Cafe at The Season's Cafe, on November 8, at 2pm. Call Malina to RSVP, 256-4211 or Stephanie, 588-7415.

Volunteers working at the Crestone End of Life (CEOLP) community cremation site discovered that someone had very neatly removed the information poster displayed in the entryway kiosk. As many know, everything accomplished by CEOLP

is done through volunteer labor and financed by donation. While replacing the poster cost less than \$100 and a few hours' time, we would appreciate being contacted before similar actions are taken if anyone has concerns about our service to the community. Call 588-7415 for more information.

To learn more about the educational outreach offerings of Informed Final Choices or the services of the Crestone End of Life Project, attend our monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at 7pm, 33 Sunset Overlook. Call 256-4247 for information and directions.

Call Lorraine for registration materials at 937-7802.

## Coins West in Salida has a great deal for you

If you're preserving wealth by adding to your coin collection or bullion holdings, you'll find that Coins West, a small and friendly shop in Salida, has great products and our prices are fair and very competitive. At this time in history, please note that the precious metals market is very favorable to buyers and may offer an opportunity of a lifetime to get real wealth (intrinsic value) at a real bargain. On the other hand, if you've been holding onto coins for decades, you can definitely take a nice profit, and you can't go wrong selling to Coins West, because we will offer a fair price that will make you smile.

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Death Cafes and GRIEFWALKER screenings NOVEMBER 1, Del Norte  
NOVEMBER 8, Salida. Call 719.588.7415 or 256.4211 for information  
[www.crestone-end-of-life.org](http://www.crestone-end-of-life.org) • email: [ceolp.info@gmail.com](mailto:ceolp.info@gmail.com)

**This land is beautiful.**  
**O Sun, Now for the last time**  
**Come greet me again.** - Crow Nation, traditional prayer said by the dying

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

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Adams State University planetarium.

## Zacheis Planetarium offers free programs

The Adams State University Zacheis Planetarium presents the November program schedule:

**Thursday** shows start at 7 and 7:45pm. Doors open at 6:45pm.

November 6 – Tales of the Maya Skies

November 13 – Robot Explorers

November 20 – Astronaut 2012

**Friday** movies start at 4:30 and 5:15pm. Doors open at 4:15pm.

November 7 – Two Small Pieces of Glass

November 14 – Natural Selection

November 21 – DARK

All programs are free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Check in at the front desk when you arrive. Seating is first-come, first-served.

Programs will continue after the Thanksgiving break, including a live program and some brand new movies.

For more information, visit [blogs.adams.edu/zacheis](http://blogs.adams.edu/zacheis).

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## Local author Bill Hatcher to meet Tanzanian ambassador

Bill Hatcher has been invited to present his memoir, *The Marble Room*, at a Tanzania Networking Event for Her Excellency, Madame Liberata Mulamula, Ambassador from the United Republic of Tanzania. Hatcher will discuss his work with the ambassador and others at the Posner Center, 1031 33rd Street, Denver, CO on Monday, November 17. Hatcher's book, *The Marble Room*, will be available for sale. This event is sponsored by Friends of Tanzania and AfricAid, and is open to the public from 4 to 6pm. Please plan to attend this special opportunity and learn more about East Africa.

Hatcher's memoir is set in rural Tanzania. As the story unfolds, the author forges powerful relationships with the people he befriends and the landscapes he experiences, rendering a unique picture of Africa, Africans, and our shared humanity. ALA's nationally syndicated review in Booklist attests, "Hatcher not only illuminates his own life but the life of the reader as well. An intriguing choice for interfaith book discussion."

As a Peace Corps Volunteer, Bill Hatcher taught geography

at Rugambwa Girls' Secondary School in Bukoba, Tanzania. He was expected to broaden his students' horizons, but instead his own worldview was challenged—by encounters with local shamans; dangerous ascents on Mounts Kenya, Kilimanjaro, and Meru; and especially a friendship with a Muslim student. Through tragedy and triumph, by questioning the very core of his being, he managed to escape the confines of his "marble room" and gain a new understanding of himself and God.

Following two years in the Peace Corps, Bill Hatcher led wilderness courses for the National Outdoor Leadership School in Kenya, Tanzania, Mexico, and the western U.S. Along the way, he flew bush planes in Kenya, Alaska, and the Rocky Mountain west, and taught college courses on Africa. He is a member of the nonprofit development organization Friends of Tanzania. He is also writing a sequel to *The Marble Room*.

Contact: Kim Smoyer, Bill Hatcher Books, LLC, 719-655-0104 (Home Office), 719-530-1124 (Mobile), [www.billhatcherbooks.com](http://www.billhatcherbooks.com).



The climate march in New York.

## Grounded in a Green Heart

by Paul Shippee

On Equinox Sunday, September 21, I marched in the People's Climate Rally here in NYC.

The official count on this People's Climate Rally in NYC is now over 400,000. That's almost the population of Denver! This crowd of people from all over the planet was grounded in a green heart.

I was interviewed on the street during the march a few times cuz of the sign I carried . . . a picture of the sun and the words "Use Today's Sun Today" printed on it. I had to explain the meaning to most.

The energy of this Equinox march was celebratory and declaratory rather than a "protest."

Others in the Sunday NYC march from Crestone included Burt Wadman, Kirsten Schreiber, Marika Popovitz, Steven Elliott and Lee Temple.

On Monday morning I went down to Wall Street and took part in the more militant protest for climate change (in advance of the UN meetings during the week). Here the tone was different from the Sunday march. It was termed #floodwallstreet. This was a protest with "direct action" . . . which means people were willing to be arrested for sitting down in the street and not moving when police tell them to move on. It's a form of civil disobedience as practiced by Thoreau and Ghandi to protest the unjust status quo.

This Monday climate protest was organized via a leaderless

model, as you can see by the carnival props described below, designed to be handled by "everyone."

All kinds of antics took place spontaneously by thousands this morning with hundreds of police standing in groups, on edge, everywhere at the ready . . . antics like a 100' long by 12' wide colorful banner unfurled overhead by people's hands, and a huge 25'-diameter inflated black & grey balloon pushed around overhead by the crowd with words "Carbon Bubble" printed on it—all cheered on by the packed street crowd chanting slogans like, "Who owns the street? We do!" All this was watched over by police who did not look pleased or entertained, but were friendly when spoken to for the most part. The police, however, soon grabbed control of the balloon as it danced around overhead in the ocean breezes and angrily tore it apart.

By chance I met Amy Goodman at today's Monday march, and met Naomi Klein (she has a new book: *This Changes Everything: Climate vs Capitalism*) in the subway after the Sunday march.

Here's an interesting interview with Naomi Klein along with an iconic photo of a small part of the Sunday Equinox People's Climate Rally: <http://bit.ly/1vFOR9c>. The picture is all over the internet and the news. I don't know who took it.

It's easy to get the sense that renewable energy is on the edge of going mainstream.

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# Who We Are

## A Regenerative Life For Aliyah Alexander, the despair of illness is transformed into love

by Gussie Fauntleroy

A few years ago, after multiple sclerosis had severely limited her ability to use her once very active, athletic body, Aliyah Alexander was sitting in the chair where she now must spend virtually all her time. Her symptoms were quickly accelerating after having begun in subtle ways in the late 1980s when she was in her mid-30s. She received the diagnosis in 2003 and within a few years was unable to walk and had very little use of her arms and hands. Sitting there that day, she felt herself sinking into the combination of depression and fear that some might consider a natural response to the circumstances in which she found herself. "I was feeling sorry for myself, thinking of all the things I'd lost, and feeling a really thick de-



In 2010 Aliyah, accompanied by longtime friend Lynne Kaplan, traveled to India for treatment using stem-cell technology. Her symptoms improved temporarily, but she was unable to continue returning for the necessary periodic treatments.



Serving chocolate-covered strawberries (prepared by Michael Devine) during the 2009 Crestone artists' studio tour. Aliyah learned from Michael and Galaxy Dancer to make jewelry, which she enjoyed until she lost the use of her hands.

spair," she remembers. "Then I realized—Wait a minute, I used to feel this same flavor of despair before the symptoms. I realized that if I was going to be happy, I had to be happy with the symptoms."

It was one of many perspective-changing insights the 61-year-old Crestone area resident has come to through years of living with a serious degenerative illness—one that today sees her unable to move her limbs or use her hands except, part of the time, her left wrist. Yet paradoxically, as her physical capa-

bilities have decreased and reminders of mortality increase, her sense of inner power has grown. "I've had so much fear in my life, but also courage and strength, leaning into the fear and finding out it's really a safe, loving Universe. Everyone has to learn it in their own time," she reflects, sitting in the soft recliner where she lives and sleeps, in her home's circular living room with mountain views.

### Beyond the comfort zone

Raised in Scranton, PA, Aliyah describes herself as someone who has always pushed her own boundaries into areas "where growth was assured," as she puts it in her recently released book, *Meet me by the River: A Woman's Healing Journey*. Published under her full name, Ilene "Aliyah" Alexander, the book

was compiled from blog posts, poems and reflections from the past few years. It tells the story of a willful child who grew into a strikingly attractive woman with a strong athletic drive. She swam, ran, and rode horses, competing with others but mainly with herself. Beginning as a teen she also felt compelled to understand the workings of the

mind, relationships, and self—and to use her knowledge to help others do the same.

With a BA in psychology from the University of Miami and an MSW from the Tulane School of Social Work, Aliyah spent 30 years in the New Orleans area. She worked as a psychiatric social worker and had a busy private psychotherapy practice. She also plunged into more unconventional forms of self-exploration, mining her own shadow side to uncover and transmute self-hatred and other hidden pain. For 15 years she took part in groups and trained with psychiatrist Stanislav Grof, one of the founders of the field of transpersonal psychology. Even today she moves back and forth between the roles of leader and participant in the realm of deep inner and spiritual work.

### Outer decline, inner growth

These efforts intensified when physical and neurological symptoms began to show up. At first they were small—a numbness in her little finger, dry eyes. Then in 2003, while touring Northern Ireland as part of an interracial gospel choir, she began to limp. Later she fell and broke her kneecap. She began using a walker until more falls and broken toes, ribs and sternum finally convinced her it was time.



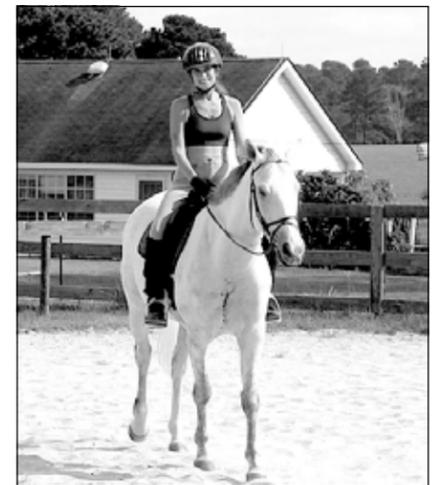
Aliyah with her beloved horse, Ani, in Louisiana a year before the MS diagnosis.

Then came Hurricane Katrina. Although her home north of New Orleans was high enough to avoid major damage, the region's devastation—and the Louisiana heat, which became more difficult as the illness progressed—prompted a bigger move. In 2007 Aliyah and her then-husband arrived in Crestone. During the trip her wheelchair rolled down a small hill and her femur was shattered. Soon afterward, the marriage shattered as well, unable to sustain the enormous challenges the couple faced. Eventually she began writing a blog about her experiences and insights, using dictation software and the help of a friend who posts it online.

### Supported by love

Today Aliyah lives by herself with the assistance of a team of part-time caregivers, a physical therapist and periodic visits by a home health worker. She is part of several ongoing heart-centered self-exploration groups that meet at her house, in-

cluding a caregivers' circle with her team of helpers. She continues to lead a weekly therapy group in Louisiana by way of Skype. She uses dictation software for online communication—if the laptop that stays on her lap is positioned just right, she can touch the trackpad with her



Always athletic, Aliyah loved to ride, swim, and run before she lost the use of her body.

ary bicycle (with a trained spotter), special diet, and hours of meditation and reflection. "I have a degenerative illness," she says, "but I'm living a regenerative life."

One morning many years ago Aliyah awoke with these words echoing in her mind: *With the symptoms comes renaissance*. She had no idea what that meant at the time, but over the years she has learned. Rebirth. "I started seeing what the positive was in this illness, and what I could not possibly have achieved internally without it," she says. "I would have been distracted, I would have played. It would have been a lot of fun. This has not been fun, but on a heart level, it's been amazing." She readily acknowledges there are still dark corners, still moments of panic or despair. But they dissipate more quickly these days. They seem to dissolve into what she calls "love with a capital L. Self-love, other love, forgiveness, acceptance, all forms of love—even loving the disability, the limitations, the inner judge," she says. "Not that I'm done with those things." She smiles. "Someone said if you want to know if you've finished with your inner work, check to see if you're still in a body. So obviously I'm not finished yet."

Aliyah's blog, *Songs from the Labyrinth*, can be found at [aliyahonline.wordpress.com](http://aliyahonline.wordpress.com). Her book is available through Amazon, with information at [meetmebytheriver.net](http://meetmebytheriver.net).



When Aliyah moved to Crestone in 2007 she was still able to get around in a wheelchair and take part in activities such as, in this case, the Crestone Music Festival.

cluding a caregivers' circle with her team of helpers. She continues to lead a weekly therapy group in Louisiana by way of Skype. She uses dictation software for online communication—if the laptop that stays on her lap is positioned just right, she can touch the trackpad with her

# Crestone Wilderness Stewards are here to serve our great outdoors

by Cathy Amenta

Back in May of this year, Brink Messick from the Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) along with the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance hosted a presentation at the Crestone Charter School looking for people interested in volunteering their time to help maintain our local trail systems here in Crestone and ultimately other areas within the Upper San Luis Valley. It was a small turnout, but the initial people who did attend were eager and willing to get this project off the ground.

Since then, a local committee comprised of Dave Miller, Cathy Amenta, Chris Canaly, Don Tulos, Phil Madonna, and 13 other volunteers have collectively formed the Crestone Wilderness Stewards (CWS). Our intent is to maintain, protect, and restore the character of our wilderness areas, and to address the pressing issues that we face in light of increased visitations, decreased federal resources,

and magnified ecological impacts such as invasive species. We have formed the CWS to assist the Rio Grande National Forest, The Bureau of Land Management San Luis Valley Field Office, and the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve with projects benefiting the five wilderness areas that are within the upper SLV area.

Currently the CWS have primarily focused on our local trails here in Crestone. Most of our work thus far has consisted of trailhead monitoring, submitting field data, and trail maintenance, but may include assisting with trail surveys and invasive species surveys in the future.

The formation of the Crestone Wilderness Stewards coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Designated wilderness areas not only provide clean air, water, and wildlife habitat, but also protect the land so it is left in its most natural state, and where the impacts from human activities are minimal.

The VOC is a statewide non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to motivating and enabling people to be active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. For 30 years, VOC's award-winning volunteer, youth, and leadership training programs have engaged nearly 100,000 people of all ages in caring for Colorado's outdoors—a total donated labor value of over \$18.6 mil-



Out improving trails, left to right standing are: Cathy Amenta, Grace Anderson, Phil Madonna, and seated Dave Miller and Emmy Savage.

lion. Such volunteer efforts have made a lasting impact on Colorado through hands-on work in wildfire land restoration, trail building and maintenance, tree planting and reforestation, and much more.

The great hiking trails within the San Luis Valley need dedicated volunteers to clear downed trees, repair storm damage on trails, and to keep them open to locals and visitors alike. As winter now approaches, our season is winding down for the year, but we will resume our efforts next spring.

If you would like to volunteer your time with the CWS, please contact Cathy Amenta at [cathya-menta@gmail.com](mailto:cathya-menta@gmail.com) and you will be added to our Google groups and informed via email of current projects and news. No prior experience is necessary; all appropriate training will be provided on an as-needed basis.

Come and volunteer your time! Let's take care of our backyard wilderness that is so precious to all of us.

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# Happy Thanksgiving!

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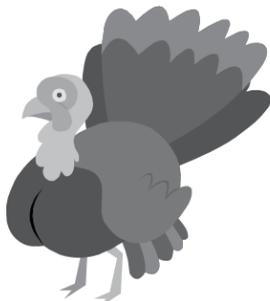


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The ashram folks and the Movie Manor in Monte Vista are ready for the big fundraiser weekend, Nov. 8 and 9. Indian feasts, films, kirtan, pujas, fire ceremony, and lots of chai and snacks. Call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 to make reservations. Too fun to miss!

## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

### Fundraiser at the Movie Manor!

by Ramloti

We have had another spectacular month with the fall colors and the joyous completion of Fall Navratri. Hundreds of people attended, some from as far away as India. We also had another sparkling Diwali, Festival of Lights, toward the end of the month. It is always such a joy to share this night of candles and lights with so many of our friends from the different spiritual centers and our community.

We are getting more and more excited about our upcoming fundraiser for the ashram at the Movie Manor Hotel in Monte Vista, which includes a drive-in theater that you can view and hear from your hotel room. It is owned by a couple of Indian families that frequent the ashram and they are donating 45 rooms to us for the weekend of Nov. 8 and 9. It will be a weekend of kirtan, aarati, films, huge Indian feast, chai, snacks, and breakfast. The films will include an early evening showing of an animated Ramayana showing concurrently with a new DVD of devotees sharing stories about Babaji. The late evening film will be a combination of the famous Indian movie actor, Shammi Kapoor, telling his experiences with Babaji along with other devotees' experiences, and footage of Babaji and Haidakhan.

The donation for the room, dinner, breakfast, movies, chai, snacks, and to support the ashram is only \$151 per room (which can sleep up to four people). You may want to book your room soon, so

you get your first choice of a king, two queens, or a queen-size room. Call 719-256-4108 or email at info@babajiashram.org.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Thursday, November 6 and the new-moon fire ceremony is on Saturday, November 22. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am with evening aarati at 6pm.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop has received a large quantity of new shawls and silk scarves as well as new singing bowls, incense, statues, and yantras. We also received a shipment from India with rose, saffron, tulsi, jasmine, and neem oil, and hand-made paper journals. We have a huge supply of Weleda creams, lotions, washes, and oils all at amazing sale prices. We have a very full shop perfect for all your shopping and personal needs. It is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and if you mention that you are an *Eagle* reader, we will happily give you a 10% discount on your non-sale purchases. We deeply appreciate your support. Our Shop website has been updated and you may view many items on-line at mahalakshishop.wazala.com.

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.

## Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

### Activity-based learning

In October we witnessed the completion of another project undertaken with the support of the Foundation for World Education which, like the Sri Aurobindo Learning Center, is inspired by and associated with Auroville in south India. As FWE says in its recent newsletter:

"Each project that receives a Foundation for World Education seed grant is a distinct expression of human aspiration that supports the genesis of a transformed world as envisioned by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. Whether present or future projects involve training and education, provide facilities and services, or manifest any of a myriad offerings that we can or cannot yet imagine, it is the FWE's aspiration that each project flourish as a self-sustaining, unique sower of more seeds of evolutionary consciousness."

Every year FWE allocates about \$45,000 to qualified non-profits in the US as well as to many projects in Auroville. In the last four years we have undertaken several small projects involving students from Crestone Charter School in practical training, with funding from FWE and Saguache County that includes wages for the participating students. In addition to providing a learning activity for the students, these funds directly benefit the charter school's travel fund. This year a small group was trained in laying floor tiling, facilitated by Paul O'Connor, a builder and friend from the Auromesa community near Taos. In the past the students have helped us construct a greenhouse, install an underfloor solar heating system, and manufacture heavy curtains for solar window insulation.

The message embedded in these projects is not only the value of activity-based learning but also

acquiring skills that help to construct a sustainable habitat.

In October we also started a series of readings and lectures on the subject of death in Sri Aurobindo's *Savitri*, which will continue on Sundays in November, along with our Tuesday evening study group on the very comprehensive and authoritative text, *Essays on the Gita*. This text is an exposition of the principles of Integral Yoga, which is a practice for realizing union with the Divine Consciousness through knowledge, devotion, and work. As Sri Aurobindo writes: ". . .to direct the whole self Godwards in an entire union is the way to rise out of a mundane into a divine existence. This is the Gita's teaching of divine love and devotion, in which knowledge, works and the heart's longing become one in a supreme unification, a merging of all their divergences, an intertwining of all their threads, a high fusion, a wide identifying movement."

For information on the Sri Aurobindo Center and its activities please contact Brian at 719-256-6010.

HOKKU STYLE POEM  
(haiku series)

My companions today:  
plants, flowers, fields, mountains,  
sky;  
clouds, winds, and sun.  
My sun is a star  
that shines above my brow;  
my breath a stream of fire.  
The flowers and fields  
are stillness in my soul,  
light in their leaves my life.  
The mountains my spirit's climb,  
snowy peaks my goal,  
clouds, winds, sky my spirit's  
guides.

—Rod Hemsell



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**sriurobindolc.org**

## A Clarification:

Evidently, there is some confusion about my current status, so here's the deal: Vicki moved to Salida for a job she is loving. She's still teaching the little ones (3-6 year olds), but no longer has the hassles of self-employment. I'm still here and doing the commuter thing. The bulk of my practice is still in Crestone, yet I am loving having a part-time office there, as well. Should you need it, you have the option of appointments here, or appointments there.

Thanks.

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## Moving Up Higher Enjoying Everyday Life



### Learning to manage anger and walk in peace

We have all experienced anger at some point in our lives, and it can be a real problem. Though it starts as a harmless feeling, it can quickly grow into something dangerous that's hard to control. But with God's help, we can learn how to deal with our feelings and walk in His peace.

Early on in my relationship with God, I spent a lot of time being led by my feelings. If somebody made me mad, then I was mad; if I felt like telling somebody off, I told the person off; and if I felt like talking about someone, I did just that. But the more I grew in Christ and came to understand His Word, the more I realized how dangerous it is to let my feelings dictate my actions. The truth is, our feelings are extremely fickle, and they can't be trusted.

I remember one morning about 25 years ago I was going to go preach at a ladies' meeting at my church in St. Louis, and Dave and I had gotten into an argument. I was really mad . . . and I felt guilty because I was mad. Then God showed me something that was very life-changing to me. Somehow I ended up in Ephesians 4:26-27, and I saw the verses in a different way than I ever had before. This scripture says:

"When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath (your exasperation, your fury or indignation) last until the sun goes down. Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him]." (AMP)

The verse doesn't say, "Don't get angry" or "If you ever get angry." It says, "When [you are] angry." We're all going to be angry at times, but it's not feeling angry that's a problem. The problem comes when we act on those feelings. At times, I've really wished some of my feelings would go away, but usu-

ally they don't. I've learned that God is not necessarily going to change them, but He is going to change me so I can be stronger than they are. We need to be in touch with our feelings and take responsibility for them, but we can't allow them to control us.

Some people have been upset for so long that they don't even realize they're angry anymore. For many years, I was angry about being abused by my father when I was a child, yet I wasn't really even conscious of the fact that I was mad about it. I was angry and harsh and hard, and I was trying to be a Christian that way. I loved God, but I hadn't gotten serious enough with Him to say, "I want to do things Your way and I need Your help."

Proverbs 16:32 (AMP) says, "He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, he who rules his [own] spirit than he who takes a city." A person who rules their spirit demonstrates self-control. Self-control is a fruit of the spirit that's given to us to help us control ourselves. This means when we feel a certain way, we can choose not to

## HRRMC expands women's services

Cheryl Edwards, M.D., has joined the medical staff at Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center. Dr. Edwards is board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and will provide gynecologic services at the HRRMC Medical Clinics, 550 W. Highway 50, Salida.

She is relocating to Salida from Casper, Wyoming, where she had her own practice. She has also practiced in Michigan, where she taught medical residents from Michigan State University, and in Nevada, where she was in private practice for 10 years.

"Our community is very fortunate to have Dr. Edwards, a board-certified gynecologist, provide services locally to meet our women's health needs," said hospital CEO Bob Morasko. "She will be a great addition to the hospital and community."

Dr. Edwards earned her medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Edwards will provide annual exams, birth control, gynecologic surgery and menopause management. To make an appointment, call 719-530-2000.

act on it if we know it's against the Word of God.

That morning when I read that passage in Ephesians 4, I realized that God was saying there is a way to be angry and not sin: we have to make a decision about what we're going to do with the anger before it manages us. And God has given us some tips in His Word about how to do just that.

Today I want to encourage you to forgive those who have hurt you. Let go of any angry feelings you're holding on to, and place those situations in God's hands. God is bigger than our feelings and He has given us self-control so we can walk in peace and experience His perfect love when we need it the most.

### Crestone Creative Council For 13-24 year olds

#### Belly Dance Fusion

Mondays from 4:30-6pm

#### Awakening Artists

Tuesdays  
from 4-7pm



#### Meetings & Hangouts (Dinner included)

Thursdays from 4-8pm  
Call 719.480.5925

### Joyce Meyer Article Sponsored by the Free Spirit Christian Church Corner of Hwy 17 and Moffat Way

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Prayer Services Mon & Fri	10:00 am
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Prayer Breakfast every 2nd Saturday	8:00 am
Shabbat Celebration every 1st Friday	6:00 pm

\* Please feel free to call Earl LeRoy at 719-650-9737  
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The Crestone Love Tribe coming to schools.

## It's a 'Love Tribe'—Crestone Performances brings more shows to the schools

Crestone Performances Inc. will present "The Crestone Love Tribe" in Saguache County schools November 13 and 14. The Tribe presents and teaches traditional and contemporary African dance and drum from the countries of Mali, Ghana, Togo, Guinea and Congo. Together for 5 years, the troupe consists of both dancers and drummers who create a spirit of happiness and joy through their drum and dance. This is a very energetic show with kids jumping, laughing and learning.

CPI just produced Four Shillings Short in all Saguache County schools in September. They presented traditional music from Ireland, Scotland, England, Medieval

& Renaissance Europe, the Americas and India. They played 30 instruments and kids were mesmerized and enthusiastic at all the shows.

These performances bring our total, over the last 12½ years, to 177 with 31 different artists. The total for Saguache County alone is up to 103.

These shows are made possible, in part, by a grant from Saguache County. For more information please see us at [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) or call 719-256-4533. If you would like to contribute financially to this program, please write to: CPI, P.O. Box 6, Crestone CO 81131 or go to [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org). All donations are tax deductible. Thanks and stay tuned!

## CPI presents more movies! Lower prices! More fun! Nov. 14

Crestone Performances Inc. is going to have another movie night Friday, November 14 at the Crestone Charter School. We showed the *Night of the Living Dead* in October and I must say that it was probably the worst movie I have ever seen.

The student films were, however, a big hit and we will continue featuring local and regional independent videographers. We're gonna try again and can only get better! We're changing the price to lure you in. Adults will now be only \$6 a person with teens at \$2 each and under 12 free. We are also starting at 7pm since it's getting darker earlier. The Charter School is still the perfect place to have it with their big screen and theatre sound. We will have popcorn, sodas and drinks available. The show will start again with movies created by the Crestone Charter School students.

Then we will show a **vintage science fiction flick**. Look for posters about town to see what we found. We are still sloshing thru the learning curve on how to do this, but are confident we will get muddy and leave tracks. We still want to branch out to include: classic movies with outstanding soundtracks, custom compilations of concerts, festivals and television shows, musicals, musical cartoons and exceptional CMF festival footage. We also want to feature educational documentaries, independent films and local videographers. We welcome your ideas and suggestions so bring 'em on!

But wait! **Become a member** of Crestone Performances for \$50 or more a year or \$5 or more a month and get in for free! All members get in free. You can even make a pledge to become a member of Crestone Performances Inc. and get in free. That's pretty friendly don't you think? CPI annually produces the Crestone Music Festival, now in its 17th year. The festival is the single largest event in Saguache County and infuses tens of thousands of dollars into the community annually as well as providing a unique cultural experience.

Over the last 12½ years, our Youth Enrichment Program has produced and fully paid for 31 different presenters to do 103 educational and cultural presentations in Saguache County schools. We have also provided another 74 shows in schools throughout the San Luis Valley plus the Boys and Girls Club of Alamosa. Our Community Service Program lends free technical and consulting support to other local organizations throughout the year, including all Neighbors Helping Neighbors events, Yaktobfest, the Crestone Charter School, Crestone Fourth of July and the Energy Fair.

So come out and find your orbit! Thanks.

CPI is a 501c3 community service organization. For more information, please call 719-256-4533.

### Holiday shopping spree: Get 50% off!

Crestone Performances Inc. is having their first ever on-line Holiday Shopping Spree! Here's how it works. Go to [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) and purchase gift certificates to shop at any of the many stores participating. Stores will include local, regional and national outlets. The minimum price will be displayed and will usually be a savings of 50%!

You buy the gift certificates, we send them to you, and you go shopping. The stores will not give change, but you can buy as many gift certificates as you want, any time you want in any combination you want. The types of businesses involved will include clothing stores, sporting goods, automotive supplies, gift stores, toy stores, grocery stores and more.

This shopping spree will continue up to the New Year. It's simple and you save big, so check it out at [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) or call 719-256-4533.

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## Are you ready for winter?

Don't be taken by surprise! Here are some tips to help you make it through snow, cold & winter conditions safely

by Mary Benavidez

Although winter comes as no surprise, many of us are not ready for its arrival. If you are prepared for the hazards of winter, you will be more likely to stay safe and healthy when temperatures start to fall.

Many people prefer to remain indoors in the winter, but staying inside is no guarantee of safety. Take these steps to keep your home safe and warm during the winter months.

### Winterize your home:

Install weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows.

Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.

Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

### Heating systems:

Have your heating system serviced to make sure that it is clean, working properly and ventilated to the outside.

Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.

Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.

Locate generators at least 20 feet from the house.

Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. The symptoms of CO poisoning are headaches, nausea, and disorientation. Leave your home immediately if the CO detector sounds and call 911.

Keep grills, camp stoves, and generators out of the house, basement and garage.

### Get your car ready for cold weather before winter arrives:

Service the radiator and maintain antifreeze level; check tire tread or replace tires with all-weather or snow tires.

Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.

Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer.

When planning to travel, be aware of current and forecast weather conditions and prepare a winter emergency kit to keep

in your car in case you become stranded. Include blankets; food and water; booster cables, flares, a tire pump, and a bag of sand or cat litter (for traction); flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries; first-aid kit; and plastic bags (for sanitation).

### If you do become stranded in your car:

Stay with your car unless safety is no more than 100 yards away, but continue to move arms and legs.

Stay visible by putting bright cloth on the antenna, turning on the inside overhead light (when engine is running), and raising the hood when snow stops falling.

Run the engine and heater only 10 minutes every hour.

Keep a downwind window open.

Make sure the tailpipe is not blocked.

Be prepared for weather-related emergencies, including power outages:

Stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers.

Ensure that your cell phone is fully charged.

Keep a good supply of baby needs and have on hand extra medications (over the counter and prescription).

### Outdoor activities:

Many people spend time outdoors in the winter working, traveling, or enjoying winter sports. Outdoor activities can expose you to several safety hazards, but you can take these steps to prepare for them:

Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: layers of light, warm clothing; mittens; hats; scarves; and waterproof boots.

Be aware of the wind chill factor.

Work slowly when doing outside chores.

Sprinkle cat litter or sand on icy patches by your home.

Take a buddy and an emer-



Are you ready for this? Now is a good time to prepare your home and automobile for winter. Be safe and be prepared.

gency kit when you are participating in outdoor recreation.

Always carry a cell phone.

Above all, be prepared to check on family and neighbors who are especially at risk from cold weather hazards: young children, older adults, and the chronically ill. If you have pets, bring them inside.

If you cannot bring them inside, provide adequate warm shelter and unfrozen water to drink.

No one can stop winter from coming. However, if you follow these suggestions, you will be better prepared for it when it comes.

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## Moffat Middle School students earn trip to Bandelier & NM

by Moffat Middle School students

Two weeks ago Moffat Middle School students were rewarded with an academic learning adven-



Stopping to pose for a picture.

ture to Bandelier National Monument seeking knowledge about the Ancestral Puebloans. It is a 33,667-acre area in northern New Mexico where hunter-gatherers tracked wildlife in the canyons and on the mesas above the Rio Grande River over 10,000 years ago. Around 1150 CE Ancestral Puebloans began to build settlements in what is now called Frijoles Canyon. We took the Main Loop Trail where one of the first things we saw was an ancient kiva. This was a round underground structure that was used for sacred ceremonies and meetings. We could see wood posts in the ground where 6 support beams were set to hold up the vigas and the roof. There was a shaft built into the side of the kiva to help



The main ruins of the pueblo of Tyuony. It was located near the point where the river flowed most frequently.

with ventilation of smoke from the fire. There was also a small hole called the sipapu which symbolizes the portal which many Puebloans believe their ancestors climbed up through to enter the Fourth World.

Near the kiva was an area that was where the Ancestral Puebloans grew their crops of corn, squash and beans. We saw examples of how dams may have been built up to hold and divert water coming off the canyon walls. We also observed how small rocks were used in garden plots to contain the water and hold the soil as well. The main ruin of the pueblo was called Tyuonyi and once contained over

400 rooms and was at least two stories tall. By 1400 A.D. it housed over 700 people. It was built in a large circle with a great inner plaza. It was near the river and located in a place where the water is known to run almost year round.

The next part of the trail was where we went up to the canyon walls to see where ancient people had carved homes into the sides of the cliffs. This community is called the Long House Ruin. The land in this region was formed by the massive Jemez volcano eruption over a million years ago. It is said that the explosion covered over 400 square miles and left ash 1,000 feet deep.



Holes for the vigas were carved into the tuff and allowed the Ancestral Pueblos to build up the cliff sides.

The Pajarito Plateau (little bird in Spanish) was made by this and the canyon walls have a soft volcanic stone called tuff that erodes easily. Over thousands of years caves were formed from wind and rain and when ancient people arrived they were able to use these caves and adapt them for their pueblo. They carved holes in the canyon walls to place their vigas so they could build up at least three stories in some places. These levels provided the ability to carve petroglyphs way up high. The images provide information about what might have happened. For example, there was a parrot or macaw which showed that these people must have traded with people from further south in what is now Mexico. It is also believed that the Puebloans of Frijoles Canyon also had contact with the cultures of Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon.

We climbed some ladders into some of the rooms in the canyon walls. The rooms had been hol-



The largest flash flood in the park's history hit in 2013. The staff is still working hard to restore trails.



Winners! The combined Moffat & Charter School Knowledge Bowl winners.

## First Place victory celebrated by Moffat School District Knowledge Bowl Team

Determination, a desire to win, and a great sensibility towards the power of teamwork led some of our best students from Crestone Charter School and Moffat School to top honors in the San Luis Valley Knowledge Bowl meet this past Thursday. Our Varsity team, composed of Jamyoung Dorji, William Higginbotham, Taru Gouldberg, and Jacob Smith, took an early lead in the written test round and held their ground through four oral rounds to earn the distinguished honor of being the top performing team in the entire SLV league (including large schools and several schools from outside the valley). Our Junior Varsity team followed close on their heels by earning a respectable win of Second Place, Junior Varsity, Small Schools. The JV team this month included Marlon Jacobi, Sierra Swartz, Chloe Hadden, and Nicholas Meisman. Absent from this month's competition were Joedeelee Rigdon (Varsity) and Nico and Layla Anzelc-Tolian (Jr. Varsity).

These academically motivated students represent some of the brightest and best from our district specializing in such disciplines as mathematics, history, science, literature, government, and geography. Our young scholars respond to rapid fire questions quickly and correctly as they compete against two other teams during each session. Timing and teamwork are essential in building a strong team and they mastered both this past Thursday.

lowed out and were circle shaped. Some rooms had larger holes carved in the room that might have been shelves. The walls had a plaster made from mud to make them smooth because the natural rock is rough. The ceilings were blackened by fire and we learned that process helped seal the roof. The park service has to come in and replaster and reblacken the ceilings because they have problems with graffiti from visitors. We were sorry to hear that.

After we left the Long House Ruin we walked down and across the creek and saw the aftermath of the largest flash flood in the park's history. There are still crews clean-

ing up from the 2013 flood and you can see huge trees piled up high against one another along the riverbed. It was amazing to see the devastation from the flood and to imagine how much power was behind it. Much of the parking lot and picnic area was lost in the flood so most visitors must ride down to the canyon in shuttle busses. Our visit ended at the visitor center and gift store which was built by the young men of Civilian Conservation Corp during the Great Depression. This was just a small fraction of what happened on our amazing trip to Bandelier National Park. The view was as amazing as the history behind them.

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# Up, Up, & Away at the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

by Moffat Middle School students

How did we end up in Albuquerque, New Mexico from Moffat, Colorado? In our middle school STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) we were building 40"-tall hot air balloons and they were really cool. We learned all types of things including the gores (panels) and that they use hot air to lift off. We briefly discussed the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta when we started our projects. Albuquerque is known by balloonists for the box effect. Cold air comes down the Rio Grande River valley at night with winds that blow south towards downtown. This cold air is held in an inversion with a warm air current above it that heads back north or upriver. This allows balloonist to launch and head south at one level and then lift to the warmer air current and return to the open land near their initial launch site. It is known as the box effect.

A few weeks later, after we finished launching our first hot air balloons, our teacher told us we were making a 9' balloon! Oh, and by the way we might also be going to the Balloon Fiesta if we continued to put in great effort in our school work and citizenship. For a school field trip this sounded perfect!



New Mexico Balloon Fiesta.

Our second day in New Mexico was an early one, we woke up at 4 am. On Wednesday morning by 4:30am the first thing the teachers asked us to do was to look for the Blood Moon (lunar eclipse) that was full shadow as we drove down to Balloon Fiesta Park. When we arrived

it was freezing at the park and the Blood Moon could barely be seen through the cloudy sky but luckily there was hot chocolate, breakfast burrito, warm cinnamon rolls and muffins. Even though it was so early, people were already unrolling their balloons and setting up for scheduled Mass Ascension at dawn. However, there was a yellow flag up which meant the flights were on hold due to breezy weather. One of our assignments on the trip was to interview balloonists and other people working at the event. Until the sun came up, we walked around and asked questions and watched how they got ready for take-off. We spoke with people from all over the country and the world. Everybody was very nice and helped us learn more about their hobby.

We also spoke with the Zebras who are the balloon officials who help move the crowds out of the way when a balloon is ready to go up. They blow their whistle to alert everyone of lift off and give hand signals which is the "thumbs up" to launch. In the dark before dawn there were several balloons that lit up in a row. They were part of the Balloon Glow because they lit up with their bright colors in the dark sky. They looked really cool. Only three had actual licenses to fly at night so when they lifted off everyone watched closely to see if the breeze might be a problem. They were called the Dawn Patrol. Luckily these pilots were able to communicate back to the balloon officials that wind was not a big enough factor to cancel the morning events. At 8:15 the green flag finally went up the pole and so did the fabulous balloons. We laughed that everyone was just showing up to school in Moffat and we had already been up four hours. Was it lunch time yet?

At one point we were right in the middle of all sorts of balloons filling up and taking off. We were surrounded by billows of brilliant color and the excitement of hundreds of people cheering at each lift off. For weeks, we had been studying the flags of different nations to be pre-



Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Stringer and the Moffat middle school students taking in the amazing sight of all the hot air balloons in flight.

pared for this day since it is called "The Flight of Nations" Mass Ascension where each country flies their flag on their balloon. The first official flag to fly was one with the American Flag on it; people sang the national anthem as the flag lifted into the air. Then everyone lifted off, one after another, after another. It was amazing and we tried to identify as many flags as possible. All the different countries had one thing in common,

love for balloons. There had to be hundreds of balloons there. It was interesting watching the balloons take off, depart and then return during the time we were there (because of the box effect). Oh how the time flew right past us as we watched and took in the "final" for our STEAM Hot Air Balloon class. It was a great experience and we hope to go again in the future.

## STEAM is rolling along

by Ben Borgelt

This quarter in STEAM we built several types of vehicles using KIN'EX kits. Some are powered by wind-up motors, others are battery-powered, and still others rely on catching the wind with sails. Once the students constructed all available types of vehicles described within instruction manuals, the students proceeded to test the efficiency of their vehicles and modify them accordingly. Some were made to cover long distances, others to tumble without tipping, and others to climb over obstacles. The best vehicle, and the one that required the most teamwork and modifications to perfect, was the one the class came to call the "Jumping Spider." This battery-powered vehicle had two independently-powered axles, and was equipped with four "legs" attached to the axles just inside of each tire to allow it to literally climb over obstacles. Several types of anti-tumbling frames were tested on it as well, but in the end we found it was impossible to completely avoid tipping. Still, the Jumping Spider performed very well over a variety of obstacles in a straight line, and climbed up and down significant obstacle courses. A video of the Jumping Spider in action is available on MCSD's website at [www.moffatschools.org](http://www.moffatschools.org)



Jumping Spider Car.

## Senior project and retreat



Above: This year seniors chose to have an overnight lock-in at the school for Senior Retreat. The girls enjoyed many team building activities, like a flashlight scavenger hunt and a tin foil fashion show. Pictured here: Elaine Wellman, Marcy Baker, Sierra Swartz, Renee Freel, Ellyon Williamson, and Chelsea High. (Not pictured: Kristian Tran Harrell)

Left: In preparation for Senior Project research papers, Moffat Class of 2015 took a trip to Adams State University's

Neilson Library. Moffat Alumni Megan Black met with us to give us her pearls of wisdom about Senior Project, senior year, and life after graduation. Pictured here: Sierra Swartz, Marcy Baker, Renee Freel, Ellyon Williamson, Elaine Wellman and Chelsea High. (Not pictured: Kristian Tran-Harrell)

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a reporter's blog...

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# The Washington Beat

*Mid-terms & all the news that fits*



by David Nicholas

November and it's all over bar the shouting. It came down to voter turnout. Despite the US Supreme Court refusing to overturn discriminatory voter registration laws designed to make it difficult for minorities to register without ID or to register on the day in Texas, America turned out and cast ballots. In Colorado, voters mailed in their ballots beginning in mid-October, possibly deciding the fate of Senator Udall, the Governor and members of the House of Representatives well before election Tuesday, November 4.

The 2014 Midterms will go down as one of the most expensive elections—not being a Presidential election—in recent political history, if just for the amount of spending by private entities targeting their Congressional foes.

As the deadline for the *Eagle* is two weeks before election day I can tell you that if Democrats keep control of the Senate it is because they won in Alaska, Colorado, possibly Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, and North Carolina. Out of the nine seats that would determine the make-up of the Senate, Democrats needed to win five of these six straight up. These are states where Democrats won in 2008 with the Obama landslide but are generally considered red Republican states or purple swing states, with Colorado being counted among the latter.

The Quinnipiac poll conducted October 16—which has an excellent track record in its sampling since it began polling in 1988—had incumbent Democrat Senator Mark Udall trailing by six percentage points behind Cory Gardner. Most polls still had the race too close to call, so it was not looking good for Senator Udall.

Now other major polls mirror that gap with Mr. Gardner in the lead while the local polling says it was Sen. Udall leading by 3 points.

So which was it? Could the senator close the gap of 6 percentage points by November 4? Well he could, and if he did it would come down to how well his campaign's turn-out-the-vote operation went. The good news is that Udall was favored among women, and if they go to the poll in large numbers he may have his second term.

The Quinnipiac poll was also finding that in the gubernatorial race the women's vote was moving toward Democratic incumbent Governor Bob Hickenlooper, who was closing the gap with frontrunner Republican Bob Beauprez 42-46%.

That said, will Democrats keep control of the Senate? It's a stretch, and the majority would be small—maybe 50-51 seats. National polling suggested that it's a tie between Republicans and Democrats. A dead heat so to speak. But Dems were likely to lose Arkansas, Louisiana and maybe Georgia (although Georgia has a tight race and closer than expected). Kansas looked like it would go to an independent.

But if Republicans win they would have to win seven seats at least. Currently, the Senate has 53 Democrats, 45 Republicans and 2 independents. The last caucus with the Democrats, and they are not up for re-election. So the GOP must win Alaska, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas and Michigan plus Arkansas and Louisiana mentioned above. The number for the Republicans in order to get control is eight seats to make a majority of 53 seats.

While it's a number that may satisfy the GOP on one level, it means that Obamacare will still be in place in 2016. Not enough votes to overturn the President's veto. Not enough to "tear out Obamacare

root and branch" as House Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has uttered. What it would herald for the 114th Congress is a further two years of acrimonious debate but with little legislation being passed. The difference is who goes and votes.

We will talk about that next time

### Ebola at home

The first signs of Ebola appeared in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea in mid-July and then spread like wildfire because there were not enough experienced medical personnel on hand in West Africa in the beginning to contain this hemorrhagic fever. It was not for want of warnings from Doctors Without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres, but their requests/pleas for help went unheeded for many weeks.

It was President Obama who recognized how catastrophic this virus was. He sent 4000 US troops to those states to erect treatment centers and to help ensure patients' access to medical care in controlled conditions. I couldn't think of a better reason to send troops somewhere. But that's me.

October was the month we saw people coming down with this hemorrhagic fever inside our borders. And despite continued assurances from the Centers for Disease Control that procedures were in place and people had no reason to fear the virus could get out of control, it did get out of control because procedures weren't followed.

The case where Thomas Eric Duncan, fresh from Liberia, contracted Ebola and died, brought home the virulence of the disease. That two nurses who assisted in his treatment came down with symptoms demonstrates how easily such a virus could spread. One nurse showed symptoms only after she had flown to another part of the country and back.

The two nurses, while practicing correct procedures during the treatments, contracted the virus from Mr. Duncan's bodily fluids when their skin was exposed to the virus while changing out of protective suits and equipment.

With that, Congress erupted, and hearings calling forward the heads of the CDC, Dr. Tom Frieden and Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Of the two heads of these agencies it was Dr. Fauci who put

Congressmen's minds at ease about the disease.

Dr. Fauci was a Republican appointee to the top job at the National Institute of Health in the 1980s when the AIDS crisis was at its height in 1988. His candor and accuracy about that virus made him secure in that job over successive administrations. When he briefed members of Congress he was calm and informative about what was happening.

So while there is back and forth in Congress, both nurses are showing recovery and should be free of the disease and released sometime this month. As we went to press, three pharma companies were researching new treatment protocols to counter this virus.

### Ebola in West Africa

But the disease is still out of control in West Africa and they need people to help. The formal count according to the World Health Organization (WHO)—currently under fire for not seeing the warning signs when the virus started appearing—said that 4,200 have died and that 8-9,000 have been diagnosed with Ebola. The conventional wisdom is these numbers are inaccurate. The true number is thought to be upwards of 22,000, simply because there is no one to keep these kind of statistics in Liberia or Sierra Leone where facilities to handle the Ebola virus are woefully inadequate. The story is that people just go off and die, as there are not enough people to even collect the bodies.

All western nations have a responsibility to provide aid and physical support to help get control of this disease. The reason is that viruses travel. Viruses are not restricted by borders and sooner or later someone arrives with the disease, and the discovery will be late in the diagnosis. It will happen when we think the crisis is over. In my view 4,000 people getting to understand this disease and knowing what to do when a diagnosis is made is experience, which can only be good for future outbreaks of anything that can kill us.

Again as we go to press, Nigeria, which had the smallest number of Ebola cases, has been declared free of the virus by WHO; if that's true, only time will tell. So it goes.

### The global crusade against evil ISIL

There are two things to say about this western crusade. First is Kobane and the second is Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant's (ISIL's) public relations.

At the beginning of October, Kobane was a town in Syria up against the border with Turkey. When the fight started attract-

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ing western media, it was because it was the major crossing point for anti-Assad forces to be re-supplied with weapons. As the two crossing points east and west of Kobane were in ISIL hands this town became a vital strategic target. The reason for this is that if the crossing were in ISIL hands, the Free Syrian Army would be cut off from supplies.

In the beginning, US Secretary of State John Kerry said implicitly that it wasn't of strategic importance and it wasn't a priority for coalition forces to fight ISIL in Iraq. However, a week later when ISIL started sending more reinforcements to their fighters already there after intensive bombing strikes, it suddenly became strategic. Not only was there regular bombing by western aircraft, the US on October 20 started dropping arms and other equipment by air to Kurdish Peshmerga forces fighting ISIL street-by-street in Kobane.

This was a major change in US foreign policy. Supplying Syrian forces was against the mission, because Mr. Kerry had stressed until the cows came home that the US would stay out of the fighting in Syria. It took a simple redirection of targeting by some thirty miles to make the US a player in the Syrian Civil War. And here we are. Up to our ears in bombing and re-supplying forces in Syria. This is mission creep.

This occurred because Turkey has a hatred of all things Kurdish. Kobane is part of the Kurdish region of Syria bordering Iraqi Kurdistan, and the Turks fear that Peshmerga forces fighting in Kobane—aligned with the Kurdish revolutionary fighters in Turkey, the PPK—will flow over into Turkey and cause local Kurds to rise up.

If you've been watching reports coming from the Turkish hillsides where spectators gather to watch the battle in Kobane, you would note the Turkish tanks lined up en masse just watching. This is to make sure those Kurds in Kobane don't come across the border.

This is pretty nutty, because Turkey was refusing to do anything but just sit there until President Obama made a call to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on October 19, and told him to let supplies cross the border. The Turkish President finally relented but it was due to US arm twisting.

In this campaign the US is expected to do most of the heavy lifting, even though there's supposed to be a coalition of nations, particularly Sunni Arab states and Turkey, as the vanguard putting troops on the ground.

But no one wants to put boots on the ground because quite likely no one wants to die for a losing cause. If the adage by the Chinese strategist Sun Tzu that the war is won before it is fought has any truth here, it belongs to ISIL.

ISIL's PR is very effective. The beheadings play a role in ISIL's public persona. The image is "fight us and die a horrible death; but fight with us and die gloriously." Kobane is the example. Kobane has no value for ISIL; the town is pretty much deserted, with most everyone having fled to Turkey. Kobane is terrain where ISIL wants to do battle with the west in front of the media. It doesn't matter if they lose the battle over this town (which at time of writing is at a standoff), it's

the fight. The audacity of sticking it to the imperial forces is not lost on anyone watching who has a grudge with western civilization.

Much of what they have put forward is to attract foreign fighters, especially disaffected youth of Arab descent, and they are coming to do battle. This is a simple message, and the latest recruitment video which surfaced the weekend of October 18 has 17-year-old white Australian Abdullah Ermir, appearing as "Abu Khalid from Australia" saying in English:

"To the leaders, to Obama, to Tony Abbott (Prime Minister of Australia), I say this: these weapons that we have, these soldiers, we will not stop fighting," he says.

"We will not put down our weapons until we reach your lands, until we take the head of every tyrant and until the black flag is flying high in every single land, until we put the black flag on top of Buckingham Palace, until we put the black flag on top of the White House."

The reality of making good such a threat is remote in hometown USA, but for every young Arab in the Middle East, be they Palestinian, Syrian or Iraqi, or in Arab enclaves in western countries, doing something to defeat the west is attractive. It's the closest statement ISIL has to a declaration of war.

No narrative we have in the US or in Europe counters this, which leads me to conclude that our message is not geared to an audience about whom we know very little in imperial politics, youth. Both President Obama and SecStat Kerry say that this fight will go on for a long time, perhaps years. But the point is, saturation bombing doesn't wipe out these ideas. Special forces on the ground will not do it either. What beats these ideas is not giving them a reason to bring a fight.

This requires the harsh realization that the years of the Iraq War since 2003 have been wasted and that we should just allow the factions that make up Iraq now to sort out how they will co-exist in the future, while we just stand by and watch. We can't place ourselves between disgruntled and warring parties in the hope to find some accommodation that appears to look like peace, even though we made this mess.

It is quite fine to watch because reacting to events in an imperial manner that costs billions is a losing strategy now. This is why western intervention in Syria has failed and why sticking our nose in the Ukraine—in other people's business—does not and will not succeed. We don't have the money or the blood to waste. We need to look after ourselves right now and to figure out exactly what that means.

#### Ben Bradlee passes

News comes that Ben Bradlee, the *Washington Post* editor who oversaw two ambitious and dedicated reporters, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, who broke the Watergate scandal and forced President Nixon to resign, has died. In the occupation, which is now called investigative reporting, Mr. Bradlee created the space to allow it to shape and invent itself for the first time. The reporting of the Watergate scandal became the standard against which all investigative reporting is held. Vale/farewell Ben Bradlee. Vale.

Until next time the beat goes on.

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

### —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

Enjoy your holidays with film

**1/ Intolerable Cruelty:** In this romantic comedy an all-star casts holds our attention as George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones go toe-to-toe as lawyer and wealthy client's gold-digger ex-wife. Just as she expects to get another fortune she is defeated by a pre-nup and the scheming begins. Other cast members are Geoffrey Rush, Cedric the Entertainer, Billy Bob Thornton and others. ★★★

**2/ Ffolkes:** In this older movie (1979) we have some great actors playing out an espionage thriller as a band of terrorists commandeer a Norwegian vessel and threaten to blow up two North Sea oil rigs, when a cocky adventurer, Rufus Excalibur ffolkes is called in to the rescue. Starring: Roger Moore, James Mason, Anthony Perkins, Michael Parks and others. ★★★

**3/ Liannia:** This movie is a gay & lesbian indie drama about a dissatisfied housewife who engages in an affair with her night school female professor as her philandering husband does his thing. Her joy in a new life and love falls apart as her circle of friends begin to treat her differently. ★★★

**4/ Little Voice:** This bit of an indie drama/comedy spoof involves a telephone repairman and music promoter who play background to the "little voice" of a young woman with beautiful vocals but who can only sing along to records in her room. Stars Michael Caine among others. ★★★

**5/ Once Upon a Time in China:** In this martial arts film we have a classic example of the Hong Kong style of filmmaking. Starring Jet Li defending a noble school of martial arts from corrupt government officials, a renegade swordsman and a slave ring. Action abounds in this film with a huge ending of fight choreography. ★★★

**6/ Erased:** (2012) In this espionage thriller we have an ex-CIA agent and current security expert moving to Belgium with his estranged 15-year-old teenage daughter. When they are both targeted for assassination they must both go on the run and learn to trust each other. ★★★

**7/ Assassin's Bullet:** (2012) In this espionage thriller we have some star power with Christian Slater, Donald Sutherland and others. An unknown vigilante starts killing America's most wanted terrorists in Europe, and the US ambassador (Donald Sutherland) brings in the former FBI field agent (Christian Slater) to find the identity of the assassin. ★★★

**8/ The Eleventh Hour:** (2008) In this action thriller an ex-Navy Seal, Michael Adams, after enduring years of torture in a North Korean prison, finds himself entangled in an assassination. If he doesn't follow through with an assassination on his commander, a rogue North Korean general will set off a bomb planted inside his wife's head. ★★★

**9/ An Awkward Sexual Adventure:** In this romantic comedy, a nerdy accountant who is dumped for his lack of finesse in the bedroom strikes up a deal with a stripper. He'll get her finances in order and she'll teach him to be a better lover. ★★★

**10/ View From the Top:** (2003) In this light and somewhat frivolous romcom a small town girl dreams of becoming a flight attendant but hits a rocky road while encountering a catty colleague, a frisky pilot and a crazy instructor. She does have an experienced friend who shows her the ropes, though. The stars help this film: Gwyneth Paltrow, Christina Applegate, Mark Ruffalo, Candice Bergen, Rob Lowe, Mike Myers and others. ★★★

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## Public lands

*continued from page 1*

Fish and Wildlife Service or Bureau of Land Management.

The only way states could afford to administer America's public lands would be to raise taxes or sell or lease large expanses to developers and other private interests, including oil, gas, timber and mining companies. Recently, the United States House of Representatives, controlled by Republicans, endorsed the outright sale of our public lands. The Democratic Senate let it die. It is unclear whether such legislation would even be enforceable.

That's why it's so important for the public to stay involved and participate in land management decisions. This is your backyard and there are 3.1 million acres of public lands surrounding us. We've had four public input processes occurring simultaneously over the last month. Here is a brief summary:

### 1. San Luis Valley Solar Energy Zones (SEZs)/Mitigation Plans

Even though these public comments are currently pertaining to our local SEZs, it's also important to apply the mitigation concept more broadly because the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is also beginning to draft 2.0 mitigation strategies which will be relevant to all their federal lands throughout the country. One of the major ideas proposed in Planning 2.0 is the shift of management to a "landscape scale", defined by specific "ecoregions." You can learn more about this at <http://on.doi.gov/1zBmVGH>.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had a deadline for comments of October 15 regarding the SEZs, soliciting landscape assessment and regional mitigation strategies input from the public. The reason the BLM is developing these solar regional mitigation strategies is to identify the potential impacts of solar development in SEZs and find appropriate mitigation measures to address these impacts.

For more information: <http://blmsolar.anl.gov/sez/co/news>; e-mail: [SolarMitigation@blm.gov](mailto:SolarMitigation@blm.gov).

BLM will be accepting comments throughout the mitigation process.

### 2. The Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) 20-year Management Plan revision

They are currently in the pre-scoping process and public meet-

ings have just begun. The RGNF will be hosting 35 public meetings throughout this two-year process. It's important to let the Forest Service know your priorities early in the process. What's at stake are roadless area boundaries, protection of watersheds, wildlife corridors, forest health, potential for more wilderness designation and how the back country will be managed. For more information, go to <http://1.usa.gov/1swamLL>.

To participate in the Forest Service questionnaire, go to: <http://riograndeplanning.mindmixer.com>.

### 3. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) San Luis Valley Wildlife Refuge Complex 20-year Management Plan

This includes management decisions for the Alamosa, Monte Vista and Baca National Wildlife Refuges. For more information please go to <http://1.usa.gov/1pRQdqk>. Comments are due November 3, but they will accept comments throughout the year.

The reintroduction of Bison Study (Alternative 2) got a lot of attention at the local public meeting held recently in Moffat by USFWS. The management and viability of bird populations continues to be a major priority for all the SLV Wildlife Refuges so there is concern regarding reintroduction of bison and its impacts.

Coincidentally, The Great Sand Dunes National Park (NPS) is beginning their own ungulate study. Comments are due Sunday November 2. This study includes a reexamination of the potential for bison conservation within the park. The Defenders of Wildlife are recommending cooperation between the two agencies and establishing a publicly-owned herd of wild, wide-ranging bison on the (southern portion of) Baca National Wildlife Refuge and in the Great Sand Dunes National Park. Defenders see these management processes as a great opportunity to bring two US Department of Interior agencies together to help restore a portion of the bison wildlife legacy.

For a summary of the study: <http://bit.ly/1FQTDef>.

For a review of the alternatives through the NPS newsletter, go to: <http://bit.ly/1v6xE3r>.

To provide comments, go to: <http://bit.ly/1FQTDef>.

SLV Ecosystem Council is also sponsoring a day hike to a BLM Wilderness Study Area in Conejos County, near Antonito (San Luis Hills) on Saturday, November 15. Please join us and go to our website for more information, [www.slvec.org](http://www.slvec.org).

## Same-sex marriage finally becomes legal in Colorado

*by Lisa Cyriacks*

After the US Supreme Court declined to hear any appeals on the issue, State Attorney General John Suthers has instructed all 64 county clerks in Colorado to begin issuing same-sex marriage licenses.

How did same-sex marriage become legal in Colorado? Oklahoma and Utah, two of the states that had appeals before the Supreme Court, are under the US 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, which also includes Colorado. By declining to hear those appeals, the Supreme Court effectively legalized same-sex marriage in all states within the district.

Federal and state lawsuits challenging the ban approved by voters in 2006 were essentially closed after the ruling removing the last legal issue blocking same-sex marriage in Colorado.

Civil unions became legal in Colorado in 2013, and all 64 counties can continue to issue civil unions to couples who request one. A civil union does not automatically become a marriage. Couples who have a civil union and want a marriage license must apply for one.

Civil unions grant couples most of the rights of state civil marriages, but provide none of the federal benefits of marriage, such as Social Security benefits. These rights include spousal support, medical decision-making privileges, access to a partner's insurance, and hospital visitation rights.

### Some landmarks along the way:

September 21, 1996 - President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act banning federal recognition of same-sex marriage and defining marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife."

May 17, 2004 - Massachusetts legalizes same-sex marriage, the first state in the U.S. to do so.

September 30, 2004 - The U.S. House of Representatives votes against amending the Constitution to prohibit same-sex marriage.

November 7, 2006 - Constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriage are on the ballot in eight states. Seven states: Colorado, Idaho, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin, pass theirs, while Arizona voters reject the ban.

December 21, 2006 - Civil unions are legalized in New Jersey. The law goes into effect on February 19, 2007.

November 12, 2008 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Connecticut.

April 27, 2009 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Iowa.

May 6, 2009 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Maine

September 1, 2009 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Vermont

January 1, 2010 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in New Hampshire.

March 9, 2010 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Washington, D.C.

June 24, 2011 - The New York Senate votes to legalize same-sex marriage.

February 23, 2012 - The Maryland Senate passes a bill to legalize same-sex marriage. The law went into effect in January 2013.

December 6, 2012 - Same-sex marriage becomes legal in Washington.

May 2, 2013 - Rhode Island Gov. Lincoln Chafee signs a bill legalizing same-sex marriage after the state legislature approves the measure. It went into effect in August 2013.

May 7, 2013 - Delaware legalizes same-sex marriage; it went into effect in July.

May 14, 2013 - Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton signs a bill giving same-sex couples the right to marry. The law goes into effect in August 2013.

June 26, 2013, the Supreme Court rejected parts of the Defense of Marriage Act, ruling that same-sex spouses legally married in a state recognizing same-sex marriages may receive federal benefits.

September 27, 2013 - A New Jersey state judge rules that same-sex couples must be permitted to marry in New Jersey starting October 21.

November 20, 2013 - Illinois becomes the 16th state to legalize same-sex marriage.

December 2, 2013 - The law legalizing same-sex marriage in Hawaii takes effect.

December 19, 2013 - The New Mexico Supreme Court unanimously rules to allow same-sex marriage statewide and orders county clerks to begin issuing marriage licenses to qualified same-sex couples.

October 7, 2014, same-sex marriage becomes legal in Colorado.

Same-sex marriage is now legal in the following 32 states and the District of Columbia: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota and Tennessee still ban same-sex marriage.

*Note: Facts in this article are from CNN website.*

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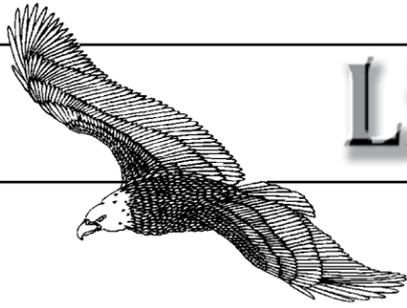
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# Living on the Earth

## Make your house serve your life

by Kelly Hart

There are many reasons for remodeling. It could be the desire for greater comfort in your home from improved insulation or heating and cooling options. Or perhaps you want to create new space for activities or family members. Or maybe you hope to achieve increased efficiency and savings on utility bills. Sometimes toxic materials can be replaced with more benign, natural choices. Perhaps you want your house to be more attractive. All of these goals can be accomplished with a carefully planned green remodeling project.

Life is a fluid affair. Circumstances are always changing. Families enlarge and contract; employ-

too hot nor too cold. We want to have hot and cold water available. We want the electricity we need to run appliances, lights, etc. We want clean air to breathe. And we want all of this be provided without harming us or the environment.

The first step in planning to remodel your house is a realistic needs assessment. What aspects of your life are not being served adequately by your current home? How could you change things to bring your house more into alignment with your needs?

One approach to evaluating your needs is to make a list of all the various activities that you can imagine doing regularly in your house. You might do this as a brainstorming session with your partner or children, without immediately judging the relevance of each idea. Then once you have your list you can go back and note how important each function is and to what extent your current situation satisfies it. This process should result in a list of activities that your house is not currently serving well and help you evaluate what sorts of remodeling options might contribute to greater well-being and satisfaction.

While you are evaluating your list, bear in mind that living modestly and compactly are virtues in terms of green living. This is true from several standpoints. Smaller spaces both require fewer materials to build and less energy to keep comfortable. This likely means less expense and less housework. And there is often the added convenience of having possessions near at hand.

As an example of this principle, several years ago my wife, Zana, and I bought a used manufactured home to use as a basis for developing a small ecological homestead. This house had a footprint of about 1100 square feet, with two bedrooms. We both work at home and we each really need our own office, so one of the bedrooms would become an office . . . but where would the second office be? We made a drawing of the existing floor plan and made little cutouts of our furniture. It took several days



BEFORE



AFTER

By moving the wood stove and arranging some book cases an office nook was created in that space.

ment and interests change. Making your house accommodate these changes as they occur will make your life flow much better.

To renovate a home is one of the ultimate ways of recycling, taking an existing structure and using it as a basis for creating just what you need. This is certainly a more sustainable choice than building an entirely new home that would likely entail the use of much more material with all of its embodied energy and negative ecological impact.

From a more basic perspective, we have biological needs that we expect our house to serve. We want to be comfortable, neither



An extra window was added to the south and dark tile added to the floor to enhance the passive solar heating.



The remodeled southern side of the house shows the greenhouse on the left and the solar electric panels on the roof.

to settle on a plan that suited both of us, but we were determined to make it work without immediately enlarging the house.

When we bought the house there was a wood stove in the corner of the L-shaped living room, and a hall going back to the rest of the house on the right. We de-

termined that the only practical candidate for carving out a second office was the area where the stove was located, so we moved it to a more central location between the living and dining areas. This left a hole in the ceiling where the stove pipe had been, which we converted to a light well. The hole in the wall where there had been an air inlet for the stove became a cat door to a cat enclosure just outside the wall.



Here you can see the added mudroom on the left and a project under way to re-side the house with natural wood over reflective radiant barrier insulation.

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We extended the hallway with two large bookcases at right angles to each other. There was a space between them for doorway access

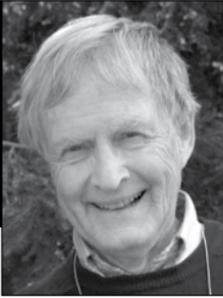
to the new office nook. At first we thought that this would be a temporary solution and that eventually we would enlarge the house to accommodate a separate office. Now we have become accustomed to this arrangement and prefer the convenience that it provides in its proximity to all of the other functions of the house. Obviously the living room is smaller, about half the size it used to be, but it is big enough to suit the way we use it.

The former owner had the foresight to orient the home with the long axis east-west, providing more opportunities for passive solar heat. In fact, she had already added on a passive solar greenhouse at one end of the south side. The home came with two rather large windows, side by side, on the south wall. Next to those two windows was enough space to put in another window to increase the solar heat gain, so that is what we did.

There was not much of an eave to shade those windows during the summer, however. When I

continued on page B-5

# SKIES OVER CRESTONE



by Kim Malville

## The skies of November

November is a three-planet month, two of which can be viewed from Crestone. Mars is the bright planet visible at dusk low in the southwestern sky in the constellation of Sagittarius. It sets about 3 1/2 hours after the sun. Jupiter rises at 1am in the beginning of the month. By the end of November it will rise at 10pm. Jupiter is in Leo, about a fist-width at arm's length from its brightest star, Regulus. It will dominate our evening skies by the end of the month. Mercury makes its appearance just before dawn during the first half of No-

celerated to speeds close to that of light and blasted away from the poles of the spinning black hole. This highly energetic stream of matter emits a powerful radio emission, which heats the gases throughout the host galaxy. Our own Milky Way galaxy has a black hole in its center. It is relatively modest, containing a mere 4 million stars like our sun. We are still producing babies, such as in the Orion Nebula, where there is a "stellar nursery." Other galaxies have super-massive black holes of ten billion stellar masses or more. These are galactic contraceptives, acting like heating elements on a stove, keeping interstellar gases hot and shutting down star formation.

### A comet buzzes Mars

Mars is the second most populated planet in the solar system, albeit populated by robots. We have five satellites in orbit and two rovers on the surface of Mars, all of which were watching this lump of ice and rock swing past. NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO), MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) probe, a University of Colorado space mission, and Odyssey spacecraft appear to be in good health. They were positioned to hide behind Mars as Comet Siding Spring whizzed 87,000 miles past the planet at high speed. The three spacecraft and two rovers—NASA's Curiosity and Opportunity—plus the two other probes at the Red Planet, were collecting information about the comet and its effect on Mars.

They succeeded in photographing a long-period comet's pristine nucleus on its first foray into the inner solar system. This is the first time that a "fresh" comet from the Oort Cloud (a region surrounding the sun approximately a light-year away containing millions of unborn comets just waiting to drop toward the sun) has been observed up-close. All the other comets we've explored in the past



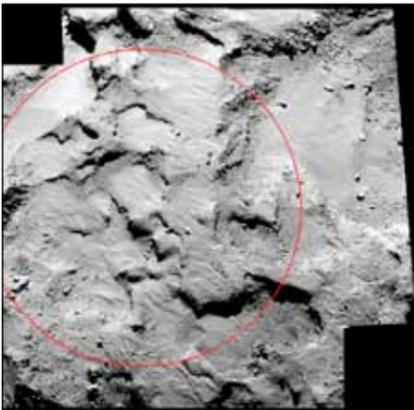
Spinning black hole spewing radiation

artist's rendition, NASA

with probes are short-period comets that have well-known orbits (like the famous Comet Halley). It is an incredible bit of serendipity that Siding Spring, which was only discovered in January 2013,

surface. On November 12, Rosetta releases the lander, which will leisurely drift downward. Landing will be about seven hours later. It will attach itself to the comet by harpoons. Because of the great distance of the comet from the earth, the message, travelling at the speed of light, will take 28 minutes 20 seconds. Confirmation of touchdown will reach Earth at 9am MST.

Once safely on the surface, Philae will take a panorama of its surroundings. The first sequence of surface science experiments will begin about an hour after touchdown and will last for 64 hours. The major limitation on these experiments is the lifetime of Philae's batteries. Further study of the comet by Philae will depend on how well the batteries are able to recharge, which in turn is related to the amount of dust that settles on its solar panels. Sometime around March 2015, as the comet moves closer in its orbit



Landing circle for Philae. The smallest rocks visible are about 6 feet across.

photo courtesy of ESA

vember. Unfortunately it will be hidden behind our mountains.

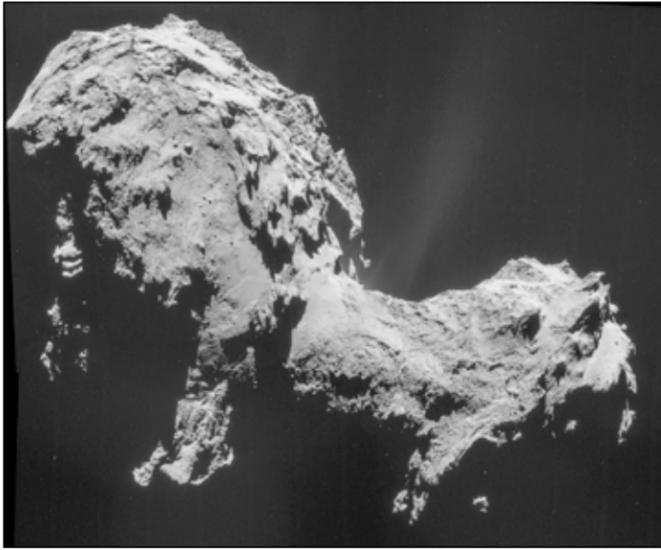
November 12: Rosetta spacecraft drops its lander, Philae, onto Comet CG. Wish it luck! An image of touchdown should arrive at earth at 9am MST.

November 17/18: The Leonid meteor shower will be best observed between midnight and dawn. These are some of the fastest meteors, hitting the earth head-on at 47 miles/hr. Perhaps you will see 12 meteors per hour. They radiate out from the constellation of Leo, where Jupiter resides this month.

November 25: Mars will be to the left of the crescent moon in the southwest about an hour after sunset.

### Black holes & birth control

As galaxies age, they stop forming stars, even though there is lots of gas and dust out of which stars can be born. Most of these mature galaxies have super-massive black holes in their centers. These black holes pour energy into their galaxies, especially when unfortunate stars fall into their dread dark maws. Though the black hole will inevitably swallow some of this matter, a portion will be ac-



Comet CG from a distance of 16 miles taken on October 18

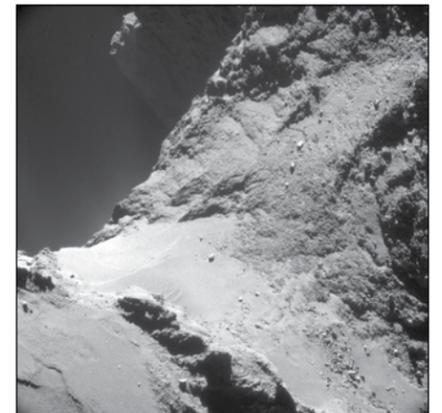
photo courtesy of ESA

should be so kind as to fly so close to a planet we have been populating with robots with cameras ready to start shooting.

### Rosetta and its comet

The Rosetta spacecraft is scheduled to deliver its lander, Philae, to the surface of Comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko on 12 November. It is the first attempt at a soft touchdown on a comet: a truly historic event. Philae's landing site, located on the smaller of the comet's two bodies, was confirmed by the astronomers of the European Space Agency on 14 October following a comprehensive analysis of its surface. The highly irregular comet is quite different from the rounded, smooth-surfaced, potato-shaped object they had counted on.

Rosetta has been slowly moving closer to the comet, now caught in its weak gravity. By Oct 20 it was skimming just four miles from its



Extraordinary close up view of comet CG, photo courtesy of ESA

towards the Sun, temperatures inside the lander will have reached levels too high to continue, and Philae's science mission will come to an end. The Rosetta spacecraft will continue on its extraordinary adventure, spiralling around the comet as it falls downward, coming closest to the sun in August 2015.

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### Secure Shopping Online During the Holiday Season

Cyber Monday (the Monday after Thanksgiving) and online shopping throughout the entire holiday season have become increasingly popular in recent years, and the trend is expected to continue this season. According to MarketLive, an e-commerce software and solutions provider, online shoppers in the U.S. are projected to spend more than \$54 billion this holiday season, nearly a 17 percent increase over the \$47 billion spent last year. The increase in online shopping coincides with an increase in mobile device use, and more shoppers will be using special holiday smartphone apps to find the best deals.

Before you click or tap to buy that "must have" item on your holiday list, check out these tips below to make sure you're doing everything you can to avoid becoming a victim of cyber crime:

1. Secure your mobile device and computer. Be sure to keep the operating system and application software updated/patched on all of your computers and mobile devices. Be sure to check that any anti-virus/anti-spyware software installed is running and receiving automatic updates. Confirm that your firewall is enabled.

2. Know and trust your online shopping merchants. Limit your online shopping to merchants you know and trust. If you have questions about a merchant, check with the Better Business Bureau or the Federal Trade Commission.

3. Look for "https" when making an online purchase. The "s" in "https" stands for "secure" and indicates that communication with the webpage is encrypted. If you submit your credit card information through an organization's website, be sure to look for indicators that the site is secure. Look for a padlock or key icon in the browser's status bar and be sure "https" appears in the website's address bar before making an online purchase.

4. Password protect your mobile device and computer. It's the simplest and one of the most important steps to take to secure your mobile device and computer. If you need to create an account with the merchant, be sure to use a strong password. Use at least eight characters, with numbers, special characters, and upper and lower case letters.

5. If you pay by credit or debit cards, make sure you check your statements regularly for unusual activity. If you notice any discrepancies or unauthorized purchases, contact your credit card provider or financial institution immediately.

6. Review privacy policies. Review the privacy policy for the website/merchant you are visiting. Know what information the merchant is collecting about you, how it will be stored, how it will be used, and if it will be shared with others.

What do you do if you encounter problems with an online shopping site? Contact the seller or the site operator directly to resolve any issues. You may also contact your State Attorney General's Office, your State Consumer Agency or the Better Business Bureau. Aventa is here to help as well. Simply give us a call at 800.555.6665.

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## Rio Grande National Forest launches plan revision

by **Bea Ferrigno**

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) kicked off its plan revision with several community awareness meetings in October. The one held in Saguache on the 15th was more engaging than many public lands gatherings we've attended. Guided by Heather Bergman of Peak Facilitation Group, the process included brief presentations, small group discussions, and a question/answer session with electronic polling devices or "clickers," about the size of half a deck of cards, that allowed immediate display of responses in colorful graphs.

Local ranger Jim Pitts first explained that members of the USFS are stewards, not owners, of public lands and that the forest plan is actually a contract with the actual owners, all of us, that will establish the direction of the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) for the next 10 to 15 years. Under a new rule issued in 2012, the plan begins with an assessment of current conditions including what has worked and what hasn't. Changes are then proposed and submitted to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process. Any objections are addressed, hopefully without litigation, in the NEPA process; changes made as a result are evaluated and results monitored. Public involvement is invited at all stages. Until a record of decision is made under NEPA, the RGNF will continue to operate according to the plan established in 1996.

The plan now in the assessment stage will not authorize or compel any particular uses; rather it guides future decisions for projects such as timber sales and other forest activities. The overall approach emphasizes ecological integrity for terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and watersheds. The entire process is meant to be open and transparent with public input welcomed to help determine the scope of the plan by providing new information to consider and to clarify the needs, values, and interests of regional residents at present and into the future. In 2015 the USFS will begin an inquiry about how specific areas should be managed and how the public feels about forest management issues.

For instance, what about cell towers? Or leafy spurge? Vehicular access vs. roadless areas? Grazing vs. riparian preservation?

The planning timeline includes assessment and notification of problems through preparation of changes by fall of 2015; the NEPA process in 2016; addressing objections, although everyone is expected to be happy, in 2017; followed by ongoing learning and adapting in the monitoring phase. Anyone with serious concerns about the plan should be aware that participating early and often is recommended as objectors need to be involved in the process from the NEPA scoping stage onward in order to establish standing to sue.

Although the group of 14 people at the Saguache meeting may not be representative of the entire San Luis Valley, a view of local relationships to the RGNF emerged through responses to specific questions:

- Primary interest in RGNF: 43% livestock grazing, 14% each timber/firewood and wildlife/hunting
- Top three interests: 21% clean water, air; 17% livestock grazing; 15% wildlife/hunting followed closely by timber/firewood and non-motorized recreation
- Your community's interest: 24% wildlife/hunting; 22% livestock grazing; 15% each for timber/firewood and clean water and air
- The forest was considered very important for community social and cultural well being by 80% of respondents; 69% found it very important for community economic health.

Areas of greatest concern for the plan revision were maintaining forest health, protecting water supplies, and addressing impacts of beetle killed timber.

The public is encouraged to participate in the plan, which is meant to be transparent and responsive to local concerns. As Pitts said, "It's your process. You'll get out of it what you put into it." The USFS has offices just outside Saguache on Hwy. 114 and in Monte Vista, as well as an interactive website at [riogrande-planning.mindmixer.com](http://riogrande-planning.mindmixer.com).

## Streamflow forecasting discussed at RGRT

by **Bea Ferrigno**

At the October 14 meeting of the Rio Grande Interbasin Roundtable (RGRT) in Alamosa, members heard presentations on how runoff forecasting affects compliance with the Rio Grande Compact; an update of a radar project to improve snowpack and streamflow forecasting for the Conejos River and Rio Grande; and information on the Great Sand Dunes National Park (GSDNP) Ungulate Management Plan.

In four of the past five springs, forecasts for both the Conejos and Rio Grande were lower than the flows turned out to be; consequently severe curtailments were required late in the current irrigation season in order to meet obligations of the Rio Grande Compact before the end of the year. As flows rise in Colorado, the compact requires increasing percentages of water to be passed downstream; this can cause reductions in water available to irrigators even as the river flow increases. Division 3 water engineers rely on forecasts from the electronic SnoTel system operated by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), but SnoTel reports from mountain stations around the valley are often inaccurate or missing altogether. While the NRCS says it will maintain the same level of service for the coming snow season, there is no indication of any increase in stations, improvement in maintenance, nor restoration of manual snow courses.

As a result of persistent difficulties in obtaining accurate river flow forecasts, the Conejos Water Conservation District (CWCD) is conducting a trial with truck-mounted radar. Recent tests indicate that the best views of valley precipitation can be obtained by placing the radar centrally in the valley, at Alamosa or Antonito, rather than in the mountains. The project, funded by the RGRT, entails "ground-truthing stations" and river flow gauges along with radar; it should be able to gather data from wilderness areas where even SnoTel equipment is not allowed. Scientists from the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the National Center for Atmospheric Research are participating; results will be compared with forecasts from the NRCS and possibly from the National Weather Service as well.

The GSDNP management plan for bison and elk was presented locally during a September meeting at the Baca Grande POA building; the comment period for this stage of the plan ends November 2, but there will be another opportunity when the Draft Plan/Environmental Impact Statement is released next summer. Under consideration are alternatives that would reduce the elk herd while maintaining some presence of bison.

RGRT meetings, open to the public, are held from 2 to 5pm the second Tuesday of each month, usually at the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District Office, 623 Fourth Street, Alamosa.

### Closed Basin Project Operations Committee

Known locally as the Op Com, the committee met on October 20 to consider operations of the Closed Basin Project (CBP) and to assure that it continues to operate within its mandated parameters. Those conditions include that water levels in pre-existing wells outside the CBP boundary are not to decline more than 2 feet and that salvaged water is delivered to the Rio Grande to help fulfill compact obligations. The committee has only three members: Billy Elbrock, the CBP operations manager; Allen Davey, engineer with the Rio Grande Water Conservation District (RGWCD); and George Whitten, appointed by the RGWCD. Several area water officials and public lands managers also attended and offered reports as did the CBP hydrologist, Rich Roberts.

Roberts noted that at present 49 of the 170 original salvage wells are not being operated due to drawdowns; others are operating at less than full capacity. Many observation wells associated with the CBP have long records, several of which showed gradual declines that were less steep after the CBP began operating. Some monitoring wells on the east side of the project that held steady during the extended drought showed slight declines this summer: this was attributed to rains that resulted in more vegetation which in turn drew off the shallow groundwater. Roberts also mentioned that the sump continues to shift westward toward a concentration of center pivot wells where there are neither ditches nor surface streams to provide recharge. This indicates that drawdown northeast of Center is due to agricultural pumping rather than to CBP operations.

In response to the question of how monitoring wells might be affected by iron bacteria which tend to clog the salvage wells, Roberts said that while the larger wells might have their output reduced from 400 gallons per minute to 200 or even 100gpm, the smaller pipes in monitoring wells require less water and would not be affected: a 4" well pipe filled with sand has the same characteristics as the aquifer—the same porosity exists inside and outside it—so it reflects the groundwater conditions that exist in its surroundings.

There was considerable discussion of San Luis Lake, which remains dry due to lack of water, although this spring enough water did flow through Sand Creek to fill Head Lake and the adjacent wetlands. It is hoped that the salt deposits at San Luis Lake will be removed by wind and that the lake can eventually be used for water storage when sufficient water returns.

Through September 30, deliveries from the CBP to the Rio Grande, the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge, and the BLM Wildlife Habitat (Blanca Wetlands) totalled 8,110.6 acre feet, the lowest amount in several years. The committee agreed to continue operating at current levels, with several wells shut off and others at 50%, and to deliver not less than 1800 acre feet to the Rio Grande in the remaining season.

The next meeting, open to the public, will be on April 20, 2015 at 10am at the Bureau of Reclamation east of Alamosa, though it may have a new location by then.



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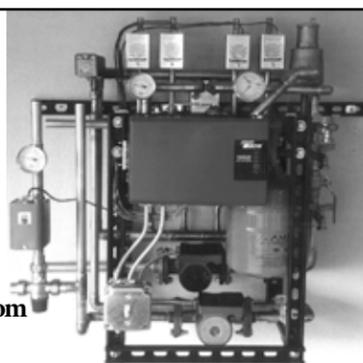
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# Remodeling

continued from page B-1

put a new metal roof on the house, I extended the eave, but we still need to use our interior shades sometimes to avoid too



This pile of local stones was mortared into place behind the wood stove to help store heat and keep temperatures even in the house.

much heat. At over 8,000 feet of elevation, the heating season is most of the year, so the extra heat in the spring and fall is generally welcome. I also added an extra window facing the east. Not only does this bring in more morning sun, but also gives a more extensive view of the magnificent mountain range in that direction.

Along with windows that bring in the sun, any good passive solar design needs to employ plenty of thermal mass within the house interior. Thermal mass materials are dense and heavy, like stone, brick or tile. In this case, I installed about a ton of tile with its cement backing board over most of the floors of the entire house. We chose a dark tile that is better at absorbing heat than a lighter tile would be.

Behind the wood stove, I added another substantial heat sink by mortaring some of our lovely local rocks into a decorative heap. This easily adds another ton of thermal mass to the house, and helps hold the heat generated by the wood stove. All of this mass helps maintain a more stable temperature in the house during the cold season and also in the warm season.

All of the windows in the

house have thermal shades that can be lowered. These are accordion-pleated shades made with an air space between the two membranes. They do let in some light when drawn during the day. In other houses I have used solid panels that provide more insulation, but these have to be stored somewhere when not in use.

One way to improve the insulation of many houses is to loosely place radiant barrier under the rafters in the attic. It needs some air space on either side to be most effective. Also, the exterior of the house can be wrapped with a radiant barrier. I did this with the manufactured home. The original exterior siding was painted press-board that was already beginning to show its age, so we decided to both insulate the house and resurface the exterior in one operation. I stapled the radiant foil over the old siding, and then tacked nailing strips over that to provide the air space between the foil and the rough-sawn siding.

When we moved into the home, we knew that we would install a PV system large enough to power the entire house. Before I could begin to install this system, I put a new metal roof on the house. I knew that once the panels were mounted up there I wouldn't want to do roof maintenance, and metal



The massive door for the attached barn/garage is being raised into place.

roofs can last for decades.

We have added a large garage/barn with an attached underground pantry to the original structure. This is set up with a rainwater catchment system.

All of the remodeling mentioned in this article, and much more, is included in a book I just published, titled *Remodel Green: Make Your House Serve Your Life*. This can be found at Crestone Mercantile or online at Amazon.com, either in the print edition or as a Kindle.



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1,363 sf, 3 br, 1.5 bath, built in 2007. Quiet location, meticulously maintained, energy-wise, bright, creative touches. Solar in-floor heat with electric backup. Single level. Very sweet home. \$186,000



### Now \$198,000!

400 W. GALENA

4 br, 3 bath, 2700 sf. On a well! This classic home sits on a prime lot on the edge of the town of Crestone near N. Crestone Creek. Spacious, well maintained, many possibilities & a great value at \$212,000 Now \$198,000 Seller motivated!



**Under Contract!**

### Now \$134,900!

4246 SERENE WAY

3 br, 1.5 bath, 1,338 sf. Motivated Seller! Great opportunity for affordable living in private high Chalet II location. Bright with many windows and trees and views in all directions. \$159,900 Now \$134,900



### Views! On Creek!

526 CAMINO DEL REY

3 br, 2 bath, 1740 sf. 2011, elegant home, granite & stainless kitchen, fine finishes, off-grid, low utilities. Sun room, 2 greenhouses, creek lot, privacy. 2.65 acres. Great soil for gardening, great well. Must see! \$227,000



**305 PALOMINO WAY:** 3 br, 2.5 bath, 2528 sf on 3 ac. Quality home with upstairs living & large downstairs studio, gallery, & practice spaces. Indoor sauna, beautiful park-like location. \$310,000



**2100C LONE PINE WAY:** 3 br, 2 ba, garage, single level. Exquisite craftsman. Fine finishes & quality throughout. Gracious 10' ceilings, terrific front porch, on greenbelt. Private. Must see! \$258,000



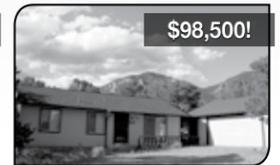
**83C IBERIA CT:** 3 br, 2 bath, 1190 sf. + huge 30' x 40' workshop/6-car insulated garage. Well-insulated & pleasant. Move-in ready. Beautiful landscaping, on greenbelt. \$98,500



**1454 WAGON WHEEL:** 4 br, 3.5 bath, 2421 sf. Lovely south-west-style home w/ vaulted ceiling, passive solar, private master w/ screen porch. Close to town, on green belt, well, 3.164 acres. \$279,000



**4236C TRANQUIL:** 4 br, large office or 5th bedroom, 3 bath, 2,160 sf on 2.6 ac. Views, secluded, high on mountain near retreat centers. Seller finance option. \$335,900 Now \$295,000



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# SMOKE COLUMN

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION FROM THE BACA GRANDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

**by Chris Botz,  
BGVFD Fire Chief**

It is now time to check your smoke alarms and your CO detectors. These are life-saving devices and as such are your first line of defense in fire detection and prevention. If you have any questions or problems with your detectors you can drop by the firehouse every Saturday when we are training, and we will be happy to look at them, or help you change your batteries. The impact on prevention of injury or death that these devices provide cannot be overstated.

It is also the season for inspecting your wood stove and flue. Fire in your chimney or stove flue is one of the most common fire events encountered by the community. On average we have three 911 calls for these each winter. If this happens to you, there are three important steps to take: 1) Firmly close the door to your stove. 2) Shut the damper. 3) Dial 911.

There are stove service experts advertising in this newspaper. They are all competent and would be happy to talk to you about your case. Prevention is key. Please have your stove inspected and maintained regularly.

Burn site inspections are being provided once again. Please call to make an appointment at 719-256-4171 x16. We are a Firewise Community and information is provided

at the firehouse or through the POA fire office. The firehouse phone is 719-256-4781.

Mitigation is being done on Camino del Rey (Two Tree) and then further onto Cottonwood Creek Road. This is being integrated into a fire-break that the Baca Wildlife Refuge has mown on their side of the fence: 100' wide, running from Colorado College to Cottonwood Creek. The plan is to put down a foam/wet line to prevent fire from running into our community from a lightning strike or wind-driven event from the west and southwest.

We are also coordinating our defenses with Great Sand Dunes National Park, The Bureau of Land Management and the US Forest Service.

We post any smoke reports from the larger controlled burns at the firehouse bulletin board and soon on the POA website.

Thanks for your consideration.

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A new video, *Wildfire Evacuation* was produced by Daniel S. Johnson to help homeowners who may find themselves having to flee from a wildfire to plan. Free copies are available locally.

## Wildfire evacuation video released

A new video has just been released, titled *Wildfire Evacuation*, which guides the viewer through the various stages of preparing for and participating in a mandatory evacuation. Filmed, produced and edited by Daniel S. Johnson under a grant from FireWise Communities, the video answers the basic questions of homeowners who might find themselves in the path of a fast-moving fire.

“How do I leave my house? What should I take? Where do I go? Do I have to evacuate, even if I feel safe staying?” are all valid concerns I hear repeatedly”, says Johnson. “And the answers are not cut and dry. It depends on the situation.”

A well mitigated house might provide adequate protection, allowing the resident to shelter in place during most fire situations. “But what if we get hit with a 60mph wind which aligns with steep slope to make a running crown fire? Then it is best to get yourself and your family to safety, unless your escape route has been cut off.” One portion of the film deals with sheltering in place.

Running just over 14 minutes, *Wildfire Evacuation* delves into legal issues, such as the fact that, in Colorado, homeowners cannot be removed from their houses. If there is time, a reverse 911 call will contact all residents living in the fire path (if the phone is registered with the system), but it is up to the individual to follow up on the order. If the homeowner decides to stay, they will be re-

sponsible for their own food and other needs, with no access to the road system, which has been closed for the emergency. If this resident needs to go to town for supplies, they will not be allowed back into the evacuated area, as heavy fire traffic, blinding smoke and security personnel looking for looters are probable.

In the film, Lisa Bodey and Drew McNulty play a mother and daughter going through the steps of evacuation. They create an emergency kit to take with them, piece by piece, prepare their house inside and out and deal with Lisa’s dog, River. Narrator David Robey is the guide to this informative and essential material. “It became a group project,” Johnson notes. “Just as preparing before an emergency needs to be a community project.”

The new DVD will be available to anyone in Saguache County by picking up a copy through your local volunteer fire department, at some businesses and at the courthouse. If not already done, it will soon join Johnson’s previous film *Preparing For Wildfire* as a link on the Saguache County website. A checklist for people going through an evacuation or sheltering in place has also been printed and will be available at the same locations above.

Under the same grant, Johnson continues to assess fire hazards and help county residents mitigate them. For a free assessment, call 719-480-9764.

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## As the Worm Turns Homegrown Thanksgiving

by Leigh Mills

Living in a rural area provides opportunities to grow many types of food and/or to purchase items that were grown nearby or regionally. What would a Thanksgiving dinner look like if all the ingredients were grown or raised within 100 miles of the kitchen? What would it take to get those ingredients? I compiled a list of the foods people commonly grew in their gardens and at some of the small farms in the area and created a hearty menu.

The feasting tables would easily fill with meat choices including turkey, beef, lamb, chickens, duck, pork, wild game, goat, and fish, all raised, hunted, or caught from small farm and ranch lands, national forests, streams or rivers and cooked in a number of ways such as smoked, roasted, broiled,

or cow's milk; a quinoa salad with carrots, onions, and garlic; roasted beets and carrots (or other root vegetables); cooked frozen peas—either by themselves or in a number of dishes; a big pot of San Luis-grown bolita beans, ripened green tomatoes, and lots of mashed potatoes and baked squashes. Many of the dishes are seasoned with herbs grown in home gardens and bouquets of dried flowers and decorative squashes decorate the tables. There's a beverage table filled with bottles of homemade chokecherry and dandelion wine, along with jugs of apple cider. Various herbal teas and roasted dandelion root are available for those who want something else.

Imagining the types of breads and desserts was a different exercise. Since all of the ingredients had to be local—what does that really mean? Wheat and quinoa are grown and ground in the San Luis Valley for the flours, and there are lots of people raising chickens, so eggs would be available this time of year. But when I started thinking about some of the baking ingredients we take for granted, I realized that a big part of this Homegrown Thanksgiving would be very different from the ones we're used to. Most types of baking require some ingredients that don't originate locally (or easily): salt, baking powder/soda, xanthum gum, sugar, butter/cooking fats, and spices such as cinnamon, ginger, and vanilla. Maybe the cooks would get creative and make sweet things using locally grown grains, catching wild yeast, and using precious



Tom Sawyer the turkey.  
photo by Natasha Mills-McKim

fried and braised. The wide selection of homegrown vegetables is transformed into endless tasty dishes. Here are some that I listed: Steamed greens (beet, spinach or other), some creamed with goat



Homegrown orange hubbard squash make wonderful "pumpkin" pies.

honey as a sweetener. But having enough cooking oil and fats would be a challenge. Pigs provide a good source of baking/cooking fat, as do dairy cows. But there aren't many of them around and you'd need to travel some distance to acquire that fat. I don't know if there is GMO-free canola grown in the valley or if it's made into oil. If so, that would be nice. There was one ingredient that threw me: salt. Salt is not made or mined in our area. Not having salt would make the dinner a bit different, that's for sure.

Even without some of the standard Thanksgiving dishes most folks are used to, the Home-

grown Thanksgiving I see with strictly local ingredients is still a fabulous feast. Everyone enjoys themselves while filling their bellies and hearts with nourishing, locally grown food.

Leigh Mills has lived and gardened in the San Luis Valley since 2002 and written the "As the Worm Turns" column since 2010. If you enjoy reading her monthly, visit her website, [TheInfiniteBee.com](http://TheInfiniteBee.com), to view color photos and read journal entries filled with tips about high-altitude gardening, seed-saving, food preservation, yummy recipes, and off-the-grid, homestead living.



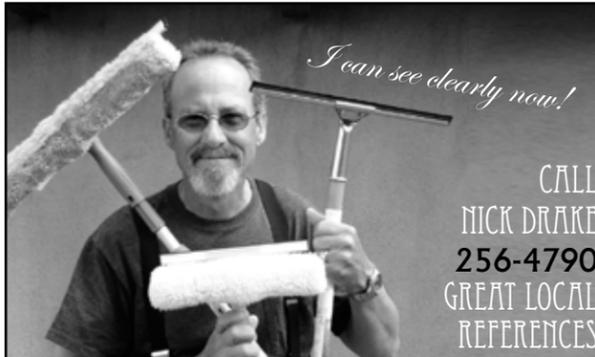
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# In Search of Economic Reality

## Creating cost-effective learning communities

by Ed Lyell, Professor,  
Business & Economics,  
Adams State University

Several major changes are underway that can dramatically improve student achievement for all ages. Technology, high level student outcome expectations, and a focus on what students have learned and can demonstrate will replace the moribund time-based and low expectation schools of America. These are old themes that have each reached a tipping point wherein the needs of the public are rising up to overcome the status quo bureaucracies. Americans now realize that they have diminishing incomes, their children have fewer opportunities for success, and globalization means Americans must improve their learning systems or stay on

the current road toward becoming a third world country.

I have been promoting educational technology since my 1970 MBA master's thesis on Computer Assisted Learning in the Home. For decades some educators have been embracing the use of increasingly smart technology tools to help students and adults learn, 24/7, all of the time while following a passion and having fun. In 1984 *Nickelodeon* magazine asked experts in several fields to describe what their industry would look like in 2050. My response was chosen as the only one about education in 2050. Back then I said:

*"School will be like a fair-ground. Learning will take place all the time, in the school building and throughout the town or city, for children and adults. Each child*

*will have a portable computer (today's smartphone) and a learning program designed especially for him or her. Textbooks will not exist. Your computer will assemble a set of learning activities for you. You'll be able to talk directly into the computer and get any information you need. Students will learn from computer-based games, on-line multi-person games, and simulation of events through virtual reality. When you want to learn from among other people, you'll be able to go to a school, a mall, or an office. You will be helped to become excellent at anything you want to learn. By 2050, you will be part of a society in which learning is valued by everyone."*

For decades we have been moving toward my vision. Technology use is leading to cost-effective improved learning around the world. We have learning-based websites providing exciting, fun learning activities using adaptive smart software that can insure students achieve high level skills. By varying time and methods everyone can learn anything. Schools should no longer be factory conveyor belts based on time with one speed for all, creating highly varied outcomes. The talking-head, expert teacher is less and less valuable as we shift from student-passive to student-active learning. The role of teacher-coach will be even more important yet require different emotional and intellectual skills that few educators now possess.

A Common Core of what students should know in each subject and grade is emerging in America. The movement is under attack from teachers who do not want these higher standards and accountability for student learning achievement. Another group is attacking the standards because they don't believe in science, evolution, climate change or the realities of

our history. They want schools to teach only what is literal in the Bible. If these two groups succeed then our children are destined to an inferior status in a world of better educated people. It will not be enough to only know the Bible, whether Christian or Muslim, unless we want to return to the "dark ages" of centuries ago.

We also have new tools to measure when a student knows something and can demonstrate that new wisdom both in practical ways, and more general philosophic demonstrations. Badges now exist to show that a learner has accomplished new skills and competencies. This is similar to Boy Scouts earning merit badges. Non-profit organizations of professionals in multiple areas have developed these new standards and demonstrations awarding badges when the learner achieves the competency, independent of the hours it takes or where and how learned. This shift to competency-based learning permits productivity gains as students can move faster to new knowledge. Funding for higher education and eventually public schools will be based on topic mastery, not the seat time in a classroom, or a student's age. Many companies and universities are now screening applications and resumes for the desired competency level and are less interested in the years in school, or the status of a university. Competency has long been the criteria used for sports and music, and has been successful in motivating students.

We can dramatically improve our human capital by embracing interactive, adaptive, individualized learning technology using teachers as motivators and coaches focused on learners moving at faster speeds to achieve world class standards. This century is all about having the best and brightest citizens to innovate, work productively, and raise everyone's living standards. Of course we must also overcome a dysfunctional Congress and income inequality if we are to survive and thrive in this increasingly competitive global marketplace.

*Reader feedback is encouraged; please send it to ehlyell@adams.edu.*

## WOODMAN DESIGN



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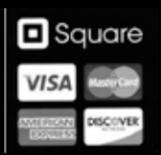


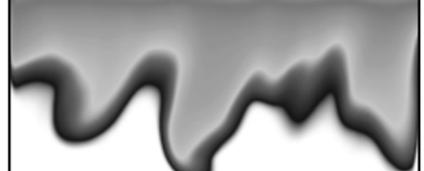
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**\$375,000**

**UNDER CONTRACT**

Prime location. 3 commercial spaces. State-of-the-art commercial kitchen in the restaurant downstairs. Must see!



**\$340,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**

Amazing contemporary home with separate 1 bedroom apartment above the detached garage. Kitchen features all the modern amenities.



**\$275,000**

Historic 1910 adirondack-style logde. 3643 sq.ft. 2-acre homestead in the county. Walk to town. Great room with mineral stone fireplace. Gardens, orchards & outbuildings.



**\$275,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**

Lovely contemporary home on 8 acres. Creek runs thru the backyard! Greenhouse, studio apt, open floor plan, exceptional price for this beautiful property.



**\$269,500**

Just north of town, 5 acres with North Crestone Creek running through it! Secluded 960 sq. ft. home. About 200 feet of creek.



**\$265,000**

**PRICE REDUCED**

Complete remodel in 2012. All new appliances and kitchen remodel. New wood stove in living room and new flooring. Windows added for solar gain.



**\$265,000**

This 4BD 2B 2519 sq. ft. home located next to the National Park has panoramic views and quietude. Oversized 2 car garage.



**\$259,500**

Lovely contemporary-styled 2 story with great views from the upstairs porch. Priced well below the last appraisal, seller says "sell!"



**\$249,500**

Large home on 7+ acres in the Grants, tons of charm! Built in 1998, 2555 sq ft with additional guest cottage, outbuildings, off-grid for self-sustainability.



**\$245,000**

2BD 2B Large contemporary style home with an additional studio. 2 propane fireplaces & one wood hearthstone fireplace.



**\$239,000**

2BD 2B, spacious straw bale home. Radiant heat and a wood burning stove. Amazing views off decks and patio. Creek meanders through the property!



**\$235,000**

Lovely contemporary home with 3 spacious bedrooms, and 2.5 baths. Kitchen features gas range, refrigerator, and microwave. Formal dining.



**\$229,000**

5BD 3.75 B with additional room off Master suite. Kitchen has plenty of cabinet space. Attached 2 car garage.



**\$215,000**

**ARTESIAN WELL**

This home has 40 acres with an Artesian Well. The lovely home has 3BD and 3B. The Master Suite has a walk-in closet, and a bathroom addition.



**\$199,999**

**UNDER CONTRACT**

Secluded beautiful home on 40 acres. Completely off-grid with top-of-the-line solar system. Two bedrooms, office, formal dining room, nice outbuilding. 360 degree views.



**\$199,900**

New construction, backs to Cottonwood Creek. Upstairs and downstairs has new no-maintenance decking. Bathroom has a garden tub.



**\$198,000**

3BD, 2B home with a larger Master in the upstairs loft. Kitchen features built-in range oven, refrigerator, and dishwasher.



**\$189,500**

3BD 2B 1500 sq. ft. beautifully situated Victorian Ross Chapin cottage. Built with attention to detail, has high ceilings, skylights & fenced-in back yard.



**\$188,500**

This 2 story stucco home has 3BD, 2.5 B. Open kitchen with pantry area. Appliances included. Master bedroom & a master bath.



**\$179,500**

3BD 2B 1434 sq. ft. cute Victorian Ross Chapin cottage home. High ceilings, skylights, private balcony. Convenient to town.



**\$179,500**

5BD 3B Recently remodeled, bright spacious duplex with private patios. Conveniently located on the edge of town.



**\$179,000**

Great 5.25 acres for horses or dogs. Backs to willow Creek greenbelt for trail riding. Thoughtfully built straw bale, 3BR, 2B home.



**\$179,000**

Creek side home! Large fireplace, spacious kitchen. 1 bedroom and 2 loft rooms on the upper levels, plus a bathroom.



**\$165,000**

Charming home! 4BD and 2B, newly painted, new wood laminate floors upstairs. Large greenhouse in the back of the house!



**\$159,900**

**PRICE REDUCED**

This home features a newly remodeled kitchen with all new stainless appliances. 2 bedrooms downstairs, and a loft bedroom with 1/2 bath upstairs.



**\$158,500**

Unique setting for sweet solitude in this custom 2BD 1B home built by Terrapin construction, near Pundarika. Sunny, open, interior baseboard heat, woodstove.



**\$158,000**

Great getaway home near Cottonwood Creek. Great room with vaulted ceilings, 2X8 construction, wood beam ceilings. Spacious bathroom with marble shower.



**\$150,000**

2BD 2B beautiful townhome. Private balcony with mountain views in Master bedroom. 2nd bedroom has shared balcony. Private patio off living room.



**\$150,000**

2BD 2B Lovely 2 level townhome. Spacious living room, private balcony & patio with beautiful mountain views. Convenient to town and hiking trails.



**\$139,900**

**UNDER CONTRACT**

Very spacious 3BD 2B home on 1.47 acres in Chalet II. Open floor plan, wood stove. Unique floor plan; oversized carport, a garden shed, detached studio. Hot tub in Master Suite.



**\$139,000**

3BD 2B cute getaway home high up on the mountain. Vaulted ceilings, wood floors, beautiful mountain and valley views.



**\$68,000**

**NEW LISTING**

Mechanics Special! Garage pit, room for tools, car buff! More storage/garage area on back of home. 1ac in Lazy KV, horses ok. 3 bedrooms 2 baths, country kitchen, separate dining. Corner lot.



**\$58,900**

Great retirement home! Nice stucco finish and sweeping views of the Sangre De Cristo mountain range. Property sold "as-is".



**\$44,900**

**PRICE REDUCED**

Nice open floor plan, with spacious kitchen, separate dining room, and a wood burning stove. Horses and chickens allowed on 1 acre.



**\$44,900**

Handyman special on 1.85 acres, tremendous views, private cul-de-sac, household well. Sold "as-is" and conveyed by the Quit Claim Deed.



**\$129,000**

**SOLD**

Very cute and quaint adobe home with full bath downstairs, great room floor plan. Upstairs is one large room, could be converted to 2 bedrooms.



**\$20,000**

**SOLD**

Mobile home needs TLC but backs to farmland and great views of the Sangre De Cristo. On 1 acre, horses allowed.



**Darlene Yarbrough**  
Owner/Broker

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NOV 2014 Listings



**SOLD!** **UNDER CONTRACT** **New Listing**



**2747CR Easy Way - \$169,000**  
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.



**4327 & 28 Tranquil Way \$150,000**  
High in Chalets II, hexagonal 2-story log home w/ wonderful views over treetops in every direction. 1bd and 1.5ba on Cottonwood Creek Greenbelt. Private location will appeal to many & includes neighboring lot.



**4406C Twin View Terrace - \$139,000**  
Artistic straw bale home located high in Chalet II on consolidated 1.417 acres w/ privacy, amazing mountain & valley views. ~1450sf, 2-story, 2-bd, 1-ba, w/ studio/office space, passive solar design.



**1234C Brookview - NOW \$419,000**  
Lee Mitchell custom home. 2400sf 3BD/2.5BA/Office/attached 2 car garage, balconies. Magnificent views, gorgeous Master suite, with exquisite Master bath. Includes 3rd lot.



**1647C Willow Creek Way - \$229,000**  
Brand New Terrapin Construction. 1760sf 3bd/2ba home on .98 acre w/2 decks + flagstone patio/walkway. Hardwood floors, spacious kitchen. Separate wings for bedrooms. Backs to Greenbelt Views.



**4511C Ridgecrest Way - \$217,000**  
Straw bale home on 1.59 acres. Backs to greenbelt and national park. 2 adjacent building lots available. Built by Paul Koppana. Adobe floors. Diamond finish walls.



**800 Galena Avenue - \$300,000**  
A unique opportunity to own 1/2 of 40-acre private retreat property high above Crestone. Co-ownership proposition, optimal for part-time Crestone resident. Luxurious main house, guest cabin, yurt, meditation dome, room for the horses.

**Retreat Property**



**4460C Ridgecrest Way - NOW \$375,000**  
Residential Retreat Complex w/3025sf central complex w/ Chartres labyrinth as the centerpiece. 1000sf 2/1 home; 450sf office; 707sf yurt plus grow dome. A beautiful property.

**Commercial Property**



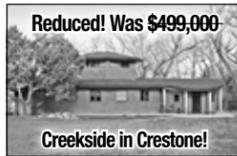
**46 Camino Baca Grande - \$257,000**  
Six-Unit professional center. 2 story structure is ~2600 sf. and conveniently located near the entrance to the Baca on a nicely treed 1.05 acre lot - plenty of parking.

**Historic Hotel**



**Willow Springs (Moffat) - NOW \$299,000**  
Fully restored former historic Forbes Hotel. 9bd/3BA 3600sf; detached 22x24 studio, 500ft artesian well. Great business potential for B&B, hotel/retreat center.

**Town of Crestone**



**332 E. Mica Ave - \$449,000**  
Spectacular Strawbale 3BR/2BA/Office custom home w/ enormous chef's kitchen, on North Crestone Creek. Lush, grassy yard & trees. Detached 950sf barn could be great as enclosed yoga/art studio!

**Valley Property**



**275 W. Iron Ave - \$189,000**  
2 high-quality 1BR/1BA cabins, built in 2012, in a secluded area of the Town of Crestone. Both contain Amish hand crafted timber frame trusses, hickory hardwood flooring, structural insulated roof panels with tongue & groove white pine ceilings.

**Baca Meadows**



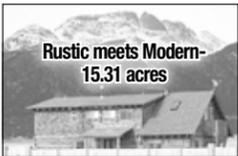
**315 E. Iron Ave - \$150,000**  
Built in 1951-2,400sf log home on a full city block (12 lots) is ready for your TLC. Well permit allows irrigation of 1/2 acre & watering of domestic animals. Land can be divided into 3 additional building sites if desired. A rare property!

**Off-Grid**



**765CRR Heatherbrae Rd - \$295,000**  
Exquisite, custom 2-story traditional home located on 11.94 acres offering amazing views and lots of privacy. Bonus attached garage with an upstairs studio apartment. Solar electric & well water.

**Off-Grid**



**358 Birch Road - \$289,000**  
Off grid home with 3bd/1.75ba, office, 2nd living room, modern efficient kitchen & elegant bathrooms-an inspired renovation. Natural light, expansive & unobstructed views.

**Off-Grid**



**600 Heatherbrae Rd - \$182,500**  
Beautiful 1240sf 2BD/1.5BA off-grid home on 2.61 acres, borders Conservation Easement. 220SF enclosed passive solar porch, 105sf enclosed shower & deck, 528sf deck & 8' x 12' storage room. Well water.

**Off-Grid**



**802 Holly Trail - \$159,000**  
Solar electric-~1,700sf strawbale 2bd/1ba fully passive solar with wood burning stove. Large open living space with beautiful views. Well and septic.

**Valley Property**



**27378 Red Cloud Road-\$185,000**  
Premium home on 36+ acres in the N. San Luis Valley, energy-efficient 3BD/2BA 1300sf is tastefully remodeled. 12'x18' greenhouse w/ commercial potential, domestic well & septic w/leach field, easy access from Hwy 17. Spectacular Views!

**Baca Meadows**



**Baca Meadows Townhome #10 \$189,000**  
Exquisite town house completely remodeled in 2008. 1480sf 2-story 2BD/2BA features redesigned kitchen & bathrooms, updated heat & lighting systems, beautiful patio. Must see to appreciate the quality and beauty!

**Baca Grande Properties**



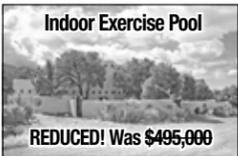
**3926 Cortial Way - \$499,000**  
The castle tucked away on a private cul-de-sac on 2.765 wooded acres. 3 level stone & stucco with views to the sky. Artistic with quality & attention to detail. A must see home!

**Baca Grande Properties**



**483C Point of Rock OL-\$285,000**  
Built by Teahen Construction. Beautiful 3BD/2BA 2-story contemporary home on 1.946 acres. Attached 2-car garage, detached studio. High energy efficiency & quality throughout.

**Baca Grande Properties**



**1967 Rockyview Way - \$465,000**  
Luxurious 3BD/2.75BA/Office/3-car garage 2953sf home sits on 2.374 acres & has a 2-room upstairs Master Suite. Beautifully landscaped courtyards & gardens with custom fence & deck. Chef's kitchen with Wolf stove.



**786C Panorama Way - \$427,000**  
This Lee Mitchell custom 3bd/2ba/sunroom/library/balconies 2428sf home with fabulous gardens sits on 2.14 acres w 2-car garage/studio. Exquisite - Must See!



**499C Willow Trail - \$349,000**  
A unique & rare find! ~3900sf with 4bd/3ba/office/sunroom + attached greenhouse. 20+ acres. Tall trees. Private, long cul de sac & backs to Conservation Easement, offering extreme privacy. Well water.



**4262C Serene Way - \$299,900**  
Immaculate 2500SF 3- level home on .98 acres 5bd/2.75ba. Custom finishes, fire resistant, energy efficient, magnificent views, extensive patios. Private. Good retreat home.



**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.



**22 Alpine OL - \$295,000**  
CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch & wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!



**483C Point of Rock OL-\$285,000**  
Built by Teahen Construction. Beautiful 3BD/2BA 2-story contemporary home on 1.946 acres. Attached 2-car garage, detached studio. High energy efficiency & quality throughout.



**149 Moonlight Way - \$279,000**  
Beautiful 3bd/2ba 2118sf home w/ 2 living areas - extensively updated & immaculate condition. Cathedral ceilings & a wall of glass w/ great views. Adjoins greenbelt & creek.



**1234 Laredo Trail - \$265,000**  
This strawbale 1831sf 3bd/2ba home with detached studio on 1.86 acres has magnificent views and fine finishes, an open floor plan, a Master Suite with soak tub, a deck with bamboo fencing and plenty of privacy.



**909C Brookview Way - \$250,000**  
Home on 1.12 acres w/ spectacular views at top of Baca i/Waiting for the right person to complete the vision. 2324 sf & designed with 3bd/2ba. Separate 576 sf guest house w/kitch.



**733C N. Rendezvous OL - \$229,000**  
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.



**1564 Wagon Wheel Road - \$229,000**  
A 2,192sf beautiful single level ranch style home built in 1997 on 1.66 acres. 3bd/2ba, great room, living room & 2 car attached garage. Well and septic. Great value!



**397 N Chaparral Way - \$219,000**  
Lee Mitchell Home, 1410sf, 3 bd, 2 ba, 2-story stucco home has magnificent mountain and valley views. Gorgeous Master Suite eon entire 2nd floor. Private suite is complete w/ large closets, master ba, 2 balconies.



**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.



**1447 Chaparral Way - \$199,000**  
This 1440sf 2bd/2ba home-complete remodel with bamboo flooring, Jenn-Air stainless appliances, maple cabinets, granite countertops, travertine bathrooms, master bath soak tub. Adjacent lot available.



**3704 Carefree Way - \$195,000**  
Immaculate like new 3 bd/1.75ba, 1316sf home has wood floors, stucco privacy wall, single car garage, beautiful views of the mountains.



**2715C Happy Hollow Way - \$189,000**  
Nestled in the trees, this 1860sf 4BD/2BA/2 Living Area home offers great retreat and/or income potential. Located on 1.54 acres and close to Spiritual Centers, very secluded. A very versatile home!



**1175 Golden Eagle Trail - \$182,500**  
Lovely 2BD/2BA 1196sf Ranch-style home on 2.15 acres, built in 2006. A cozy piece of luxury in the Grants. Master Suite has tremendous views, full bathroom, walk-in closet, & patio & garden. ETS heat system. Well & septic.



**1541 Camino Real-\$179,000**  
This 1799sf, 3BR/1.75BA home built in 1974 & w/attached 2 car garage. On 3.25 acres in the grants, 188 ft well, septic, elec. baseboard heat, wood-stove, composition shingle roof. Great opportunity for a fixer-upper



**198C Evergreen OL - \$169,500**  
Renovated 3BD/1.75BA 1740sf home on .998 acre. Spacious decks w/beautiful views. Huge, attached garage w/woodstove, RV bay, and tons of storage space. ETS heat. Many interior updates.



**1573C Kings Hill OL - \$159,000**  
Light & bright 3bd/2ba, 1480sf, 1.5 level stucco with large south facing windows and view deck on .84 acres. Easy access off paved road. Hot water baseboard heat/passive solar. New roof.



**3732C Cordial Way - \$159,000**  
Private & unique hexagonal 2 bd, 1.75 ba home on 1.36 treed acres. Separate 384sf. building incl. heated & finished office & workshop/storage area. Great views, wrap around deck.



**1372 N Saddlerock Trail - \$139,000**  
This 1960 sf 3 bed 1.75 bath has a three room master suite & a 200sf sunroom. Panoramic views of three mountain ranges on 2.03 acres bordering the Willow Creek greenbelt. Well & septic.



**2776 N. Carefree Way - \$139,000**  
2-story, 2BD/1BA, 1338sf wood & stone home set in the trees high in Chalet II. Great mountain & valley views, close to retreat centers. A cozy mountain feel, very private and quiet.



**29 Sunset OL - \$125,000**  
2BD/1BA A-Frame extensively remodeled w/ new kitchen appliances, cabinets, & flooring. Option to purchase furnished. Propane heater. Wood cathedral ceiling in LR. Large loft Master Bedroom. Fenced yard.



**36 Camino Baca Grande - \$108,000**  
This lovely chalet style home with soaring windows and high ceilings has 3bd/1.75ba, a loft sitting area and attached sunroom. Wood fireplace, Toyostove heater.



**1472 Spanish Creek Trail - \$75,000**  
Beautiful, artistic strawbale home on 2+ acres, under construction with lots of potential. 1206sf home + walkout basement is enclosed, marvin double pane windows, woodstove, well & septic. Finished, will be a lovely home or retreat!



**381CR Del Sol Lane - \$64,500**  
Casita Park-Immaculate 3bd/2ba bath 1624 sf home located on 0.819 acres (5 cons. lots). Includes attached 2 car garage, storage + appliances. Magnificent views & privacy. Includes attached 660sf 2 car garage

# There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

## Roots for the Liver!



I have a formula which I make in tincture form that highlights the energy of the fall and winter. Fall is the time to dig roots, to gather seeds, and to begin to pull our energy indoors. As we head towards the holiday season, there might be a tendency to eat more, drink more, and exercise less. At this time of year it's important to pay attention to the liver. I don't recommend doing cleanses until spring, but tak-



*Taraxacum officinale.*

ing care of the liver happens year round.

The liver is a pretty amazing organ. Its task is to process toxins, process excess hormones, cleanse the blood, and produce bile to assist

in digestion among other things. When I first began to practice energy medicine, I was surprised to find that most people did not have a "happy" liver. The liver can be a "grumbly" sort of organ, energetically speaking. In Chinese medicine the liver is associated with anger. If we find ourselves becoming angry often, it might be good to look at the health of the liver. I don't think anyone would argue that there are increasing levels of toxins on the planet and that they can be found in the most remote areas on Earth. In order to stay healthy it's important to make sure that our livers are functioning optimally.

My formula, which I call Root's Roots, consists of 5 herbs that are beneficial to the liver, most of them being roots. (All of these are local, local Colorado, or can be grown here). They are Dandelion root, Yellow Dock root, Burdock root, Milk Thistle seed, and Licorice root. In combination they help keep the liver healthy. This formula can also be made into capsules by grinding all the ingredients into power and encapsulating. It can also be made into a tea. Chop all the root ingredients into small pieces. Add other herbs and spices for flavor, and simmer gently for 20 minutes (called a decoction).

tion). Grind the Milk Thistle seed finely and add it to the tea at the end (strain well). This can be a very earthy-tasting tea, so its flavors mix well with orange peel, cinnamon, ginger, cardamom, rose hips, and other dried berries or dried fruit. Play with the flavors. See what appeals to you! And may

your liver be happy!

*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](http://www.rootsofhealing.com)*

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### 2014 Home Sales, Year-to-Date

Under Contract	1234C Brookview Way	\$419,000 *
Under Contract	1647C Willow Creek Way	\$229,000 *
Under Contract	4511 Ridgecrest Way	\$217,000 *
Under Contract	2681C Happy Hollow Way	\$139,000
SOLD!	4376 Twinview OL	\$239,000 *
SOLD!	764 Indian Hill OL	\$229,000 *
SOLD!	1468C Horseshoe Trail	\$209,500 *
SOLD!	1540C Willow Creek Way	\$199,000 *
SOLD!	3869 Jubilant Terrace	\$185,000
SOLD!	2747CR Easy Way	\$169,000 *
SOLD!	1615 Willow Creek Way	\$160,000
SOLD!	1280 Echo Point OL	\$159,900
SOLD!	3766 C Carefree Way	\$159,000 *
SOLD!	4327&4328 Tranquil Way	\$150,000 *
SOLD!	1004C Badger Road	\$149,000 *
SOLD!	4406C Twin View Terrace	\$139,000 *
SOLD!	936 Spanish Creek Trail	\$139,000
SOLD!	375 S. Cedar	\$134,500 *
SOLD!	98 Skyview Way	\$134,000 *
SOLD!	13 Camino De La Plata	\$43,500 *

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This spacious 1960sf home with panoramic views of three mountain ranges is located on 2.03 acres bordering the Willow Creek greenbelt. Located in the Grants, it has its own 130' deep well.

The house features a great room, a three-room master suite with office, meditation/art room and walk thru closet, two additional bedrooms and a 3/4 bath, a sunroom/yoga room and a separate utility/laundry room. Very flexible floor plan!

The home was extensively remodeled in 2008-2009 with the addition of birch wood floors, warm window shades, natural clay plaster walls and new paint throughout. A new metal roof was added in the fall of 2013.

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# Baca Grande Library News



by Suzanne McGregor

Since November is the month of giving thanks, the Baca Grande Library would like to ex-

tend gratitude to the many widespread efforts that have enabled us to meet the needs of our community members. First of all, many thanks to the Northern Saguache County Library District Board—and Sarah, for the committed support that makes having a public library with “all the trimmings” a reality for all of us. Their efforts to improve and expand our library are phenomenal!

And thanks to our volunteers who help us out on a regular basis, especially our Friends

of the Library group, who have fundraisers for the library, sit on committees, mow our lawn and pull our weeds. We send extra kudos to Thom Ontko, who supervised the efforts for the group to obtain a non-profit 501(c)3 status with the IRS.

Gratitude to the community members who donate items and personal financial contributions to the library, help out at the fundraisers, bake goodies, and come in and bring us homemade treats, compliments, sweet stories, and their youngsters who

are learning a love of reading. Our patrons make working at the library a joy—thank you.

Many blessings to all of you from Suzanne, Barry and Sandia, who are grateful for the opportunity to help you in any way we can.

Note: The library will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 27, and Friday, November 28. May your own gratitude list be a long one.

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

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# Headline here

## **BACA GRANDE LIBRARY NEWS**

*by Suzanne McGregor*

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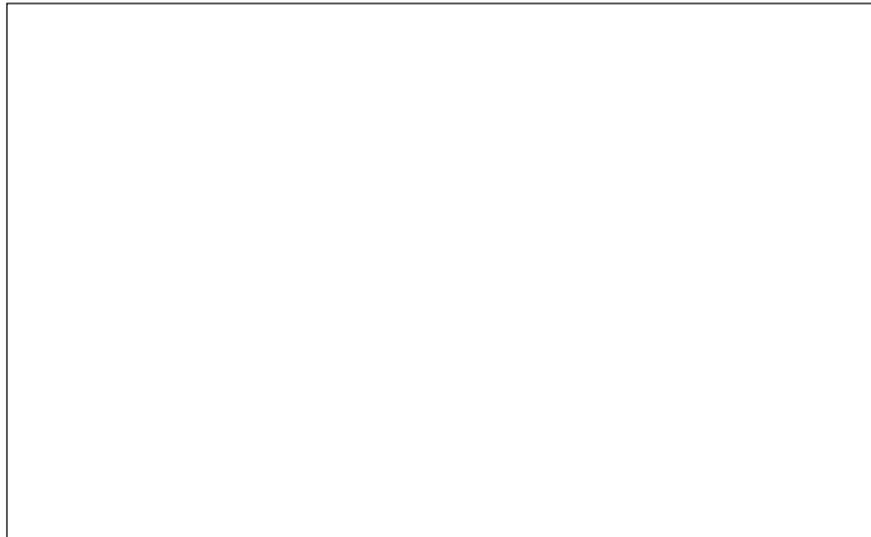
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# DISPATCH

from the edge 

by Peter Anderson

## The pinyon pine is a giving tree

The jays have known this for a long time. Maybe they were the first to find out. Now they move in raucous flocks, boisterous as flying frat parties, gathering and caching pinyon nuts in tree crevices and under pine needles for the season of shorter days ahead. One jay may stash as many as twenty thousand of them. Partay! And as the jays pay it forward by finding new ground for these heavy, wingless seeds, the trees nod their thanks in a light wind out of the southwest.

It is as if that same wind once carried the news from the jays to some hunter-gatherer a long time ago—gather these nuts, crack them open, and eat. And the word was carried down through the ages to the ancestors of the Paiute and the Shoshone in the Great Basin, and those of the Hopis and the Utes and later the Navaho on the Colorado Plateau, and the Pueblos along the Rio Grande. And the Pueblos and Utes told the Spanish. And the Spanish told their children, who

told their children, and so on. And now the word spreads from a brother to a sister to a cousin to a father, through all the old family trees here in the San Luis Valley, until everyone knows that there are no nuts in Tres Piedras this year, but the trees in Crestone are heavy with gifts.

And so families of gleaners from all over the valley arrive here on my street in the Baca every Saturday morning. “Word gets around,” says one of the gleaners, “we don’t need Facebook.” And this past Saturday we join in the harvest. My wife, my daughters, and our neighbor, sit in the October sun, on a pine-needled south facing slope, under one of the pinyons here that is old enough to have fed pilgrims along the Old Spanish Trail a few hundred years ago. And the sun warms us as we run our hands through the pine needles, sifting out the good nuts. And we fill our jars, and fill each other’s jars, as the pinyon jays screech by overhead, spreading the good news. It is a kind of communion.

And down the street, there are other families, some from as far away

as New Mexico. Children do their gathering along the ground, while their mothers and fathers and grandparents shake pinyon branches, the nuts raining down on tarps they have spread out under the trees. One old grandma catches them in an inverted umbrella. And there is laughter and there are smiles. And there is time to be with one another on a beautiful October morning.

Later in the day, we are done, but the other families carry on. Down the road, I find one family finishing lunch. The sun is higher now and I wonder if they would rather spend the afternoon harvesting around the big pinyons

behind our house, where there is more shade and more bounty than we can handle. Yes, they say, packing up their tailgate lunch—tortillas, cheese wiz, green chiles, and salsa—we’ll follow you. And so we drive together back up to our house. And they get out with their tarps and empty Maxwell House coffee cans. The mom tells me that she is from Chama. Her children are silently polite. And her father, an older man from Center, asks me if I like potatoes. And I say sure. And he says he will be back in a week and bring me some.

The pinyon pine is a giving tree.

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**HOUSE FOR SALE 1474 E. Badger Rd. (Baca in Chalet 1)**  
Custom home by Lee Mitchell on 1.56 acres on Willow Creek greenbelt. 1650 square feet. Great room, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, study, sunroom. Cempo exterior walls (R32) with stucco finish. Concrete barrel style tile roof. European exterior rolling shutters on windows. Corian counter tops. Ceramic tile floors with in-floor radiant heating. Double car attached heated garage. Xeriscaped yard with drip system.  
**\$359,900**



Listed by Home Savings Realty 719-588-4369

*As societies grow decadent, the language grows decadent, too. Words are used to disguise, not to illuminate, action: you liberate a city by destroying it. Words are to confuse, so that at election time people will solemnly vote against their own interests.*

-Gore Vidal



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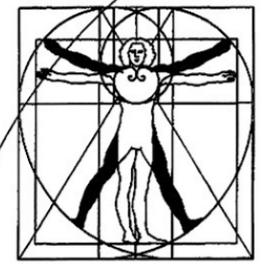
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#### Houses & Property for Sale

##### RARE CREEK LOTS

Cottonwood Creek Lots/new house \$199.9K, Spanish Creek strawbale \$235K, Grants & Chalets lots. Crestone medium density 45k reduced (Silver Ave). Details 719-496-0975; soularquest@gmail.com.

##### Three Lots For Sale

Three consolidated lots, 2638C Leisure Way, joins large parcel, great 360 degree views. Tap fees paid \$2,000 720-480-2066

##### Consolidated Lots in the Grants

6 consolidated acres in the Grants; corner of Wagon Wheel & Cottonwood Creek. Close to Nail Park border, tidy neighbors, stunning views. \$8500 www.crestonelandforsale.com

**Three lots for \$5000.00. taps paid**  
PRICE REDUCED :Three lots 1/4 acre EACH. 2 together, 1 across street. CHALET 2. \$5000.00 for ALL. TAP FEES PAID. Will consider selling separately. Call (707) 459-0725 if interested.

##### #2 Artesian water wells

#2 Artesian water wells 6 mil gal per yr; can irrigate 2 acres of 80 ac total. Between School Section & ranch. \$120,000 970 497-6010. Road #65 off Road T, Crestone Colorado.

##### Such a deal!

Enormous 2-car garage comes with 3 BR, 1.5 baths, 1700 sq ft house. \$169,500. 199 Evergreen Overlook. yarbroughrealestate.com

#### TOWN OF CRESTONE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget for the year 2015 has been submitted to the Board of Trustees of the Town of Crestone, and will be reviewed and considered for final adoption at a Public Hearing at the Crestone Town Hall, 108 West Galena Avenue in Crestone, Colorado, on Monday, November 10, 2014, at 1:30 pm. A copy of said budget will be available for public inspection in the Town Hall beginning November 3, 2014. Any elector of the Town of Crestone may file with the Town Clerk any comments regarding the proposed budget, in writing, at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.

Akia Tanara, Town Clerk  
Published November 1,  
2014 Crestone Eagle

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

#### HALF ACRE LOTS FOR SALE

BUY YOUR SACRED LAND NOW. Five 1/2 acre lots for sale in Chalet II Crestone. Visit our virtual tours at the link. Great value from \$12,000-\$19,000 with amazing views. <http://enchantedforestcrestone.weebly.com/lots-for-sale.html>

#### GRANTS LOT 495 FOR SALE

Grants Lot: 4.5 acres +/- Off the grid. On NW corner of Camino Real and Camino Del Ray. Owner will hold mortgage with down payment. Motivated seller. 256 5110

#### Houses for Rent

##### Best Place in Casita Park Crestone

Looking for the perfect renters to rent our great place in Casita Park. My place is the first place in Casita Park, making the access to the highway and town easy. It has a grow dome suitable for winter veggies etc and about 1100 sq ft of living space. Well insulated, 2 bedroom / 2 bath plus office plus large sunroom for solar heating in the winter. \$650 negotiable to the right tenants. Comes with 1 full 125 gallon tank of propane. Mary 928 243 1691 or 928 536 7627

##### Lovely Earthship For Rent

Must see. 1 bedroom unfurnished, garage space, passive solar, new wood stove, Chalet III. \$600/mo plus first, last and deposit. 1 year lease required. [bonniedellegar@gmail.com](mailto:bonniedellegar@gmail.com)

##### Retreat Rental

Beautiful Baca home with shrine room available for retreat rentals from one to six months. Very private and spacious in spectacular view setting near Chalet One trailheads. \$600/mo includes utilities/deposit required. Please call Barbara at 575-758-1280 or email [emptycanvasstudio@yahoo.com](mailto:emptycanvasstudio@yahoo.com). Single retreatant only.

##### Cozy Cottage for Rent

Cozy Comfortable Cottage nestled in the trees in a very peaceful setting w/amazing valley & mountain views. Close to all spiritual centers. Nightly, B&B, weekly & Long-term. 719 256 5768 [Enchantedforestcrestone.net/annekellycrestone@yahoo.com](mailto:Enchantedforestcrestone.net/annekellycrestone@yahoo.com)

##### Home for Rent Chalet I

Lovely, well cared for 3 bd/3 bath tri-level home in Chalet 1. Large deck, upper deck balcony, gas fireplace, all energy efficient appliances. \$850 plus utilities. No smoking. Pets negotiable. References. 937-7790

##### Rentals Now & New Shamanic Healing House

Houses available now, long or Short term, Large or small. furnished or unfurnished \$750 to \$1200 \* Yurt Downtown \$400 utilities included \* New Shamanic Healing House BNB Free Session Included. Chalet 1 next to Spiritual Centers. Please Call Electrum for Availability 719-588-2114 Please text for immediate accommodations.

#### Marvelous Townhouse For Rent

Gorgeous Sanctuary House, 1br/ba townhome for just \$700 plus util. Easy walk to town. No children or pets. Avail 11/24 to excellent renter. Must see! 719.588.4258/5192

#### Furnished Log Cabin Studio: Quiet/Private

2 sleeping areas, LOTS of storage, Kitchenette, Views, Steam Shower! Pics/Data: [www.thelongandshortofrenting.com](http://www.thelongandshortofrenting.com) [madamewolfe@gmail.com](mailto:madamewolfe@gmail.com)

#### Craftsman-style Home

Craftsman-style Home Private, furnished, 3 BR, 2Ba. Radiant floor heating, propane. Fenced grounds. \$1,000/month plus utilities. Available January 15. First, last and deposit. Contact: 719-588-9582.

#### Furnished 3 BR, 2 BA

Chalet 1. Furnished 3 BR, 2 BA, studio, office. \$750 plus utilities. Patio. Wood stove, ETS. Looking for 1-2 people. Backs to South Crestone Creek. Pet negotiable. Available November 21 - June. 719-937-7786. <http://www.crestonegenie.com/houses-for-rent.html>

#### Little Garden House For Rent

Little Garden House on the Earth Knack property for rent. Furnished, with linens, and dishes. \$125 weekly or \$500 month Small, cozy, custom, artistically hand built straw bale. Call Robin at 256 4909

#### Chalet II House For Rent

1900 sq ft house for rent in Chalet II. 3BD 1.75 BA; tromb wall (passive solar), wood stove & electrical baseboard; W/D garage & greenhouse. \$875/m + deposit. Owner pays H2O & propane. Call 303-775-9074.

#### CHALET ONE - LIGHT AND BRIGHT

Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, dining room, laundry room, all appliances. Propane heat, Surrounded by trees. Ready to move in. \$800 per month plus utilities. 256 5110. First, last and security deposits required. Good credit. Small pet considered.

#### EXCEPTIONAL HOUSES

NEW CONSTRUCTION 2-3BD/1,5B, WOOD INTERIOR, MAGNIFICENT CUSTOM KITCHEN, LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT, CREEK, 950/MO. SUPER STRAWBALE 2BD/1.75B, GRANTS TREES/CREEK, BEAUTIFUL, 950/MO. EMAIL: [SOULARQUEST@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SOULARQUEST@GMAIL.COM) /719 937 1039

#### Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent

##### Room available 12/1

Room avail 12/1. Home share. Non-GMO, bio-friendly. \$350-\$450. Work trade possible. Beth or Nathan: 719.256.4768

#### Downtown Crestone Lodging

Casa del Soul—Downtown 1 & 2 bedroom fully furnished suites with full kitchens, wifi, Direct TV, pet friendly. Smoke free property. Nightly & weekly rates. (719) 256-5788

#### Services

##### Welding

Sand Pit Metal Works, LLC Mobile Welding, D1.1 Certified in STICK, MIG, TIG, Aluminum welding, Gates, stairs, railings, metal repairs, Structural steel & fabrication, Ivan Lakish, 719-588-5819 or 256-4252

##### Outlets, Wiring, Network and Satellite: Home and Office

Need Phone Outlets added to your house or office? I do Phone, Computer Network, Satellite TV and Stereo wiring. New construction, existing, troubleshooting. Call Dennis 256-4110

##### Craig Electric Services

Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, [sdossenback@gmail.com](mailto:sdossenback@gmail.com)

##### Licensed Real Estate Appraiser

Licensed Real Estate Appraiser with 25 years experience, many years experience in Crestone. Don Root. 720-244-1097. [donald.root@yahoo.com](mailto:donald.root@yahoo.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

##### 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. New & used photovoltaic panels, OutBack inverters, deep cycle batteries, and custom racking systems. Call Talmath with New Gen Energy at (719) 588-8276 or visit us online: [newgenenergy.com](http://newgenenergy.com)

##### David W. Walker, Accountant

David W. Walker, Accountant, 36 years experience. Financial Planning, Business Consulting, Monthly Accounts, Income Taxes. Call for appointment in your area: 719-379-2988.

##### Looking for a Healthcare Practitioner?

Looking for a health care practitioner in Crestone? Massage therapists, herbalists, energy healers, doulas, and more. Also lodging, hot springs, gift certificates. [www.crestonehealers.com](http://www.crestonehealers.com).

#### Help Wanted

##### Software company in Crestone! We're hiring!

Seeking an asp.net Developer, ideally with SQL database experience. [www.SilverEarth.com](http://www.SilverEarth.com). We are a cloud-based eCommerce and POS multi-channel platform, and rather cutting edge. Yes, right here in Crestone! Also looking for people skilled in technical onboarding with Account Management experience. Go to [SilverEarth.com](http://SilverEarth.com)



## FOR SALE

1454 Wagon Wheel

Crestone

~~\$319,000~~

**\$279,000**

Call for a showing of this spacious Southwest-style home located on the Willow Creek greenbelt near the stables. The gracious floor plan offers many possibilities with a large 500 square-foot private master with views and screen porch, a living area featuring dramatic high ceilings and arched windows, an open kitchen/dining area, and three additional bedrooms privately located down a passive solar breezeway. This home boasts mountain and valley views, is desirably situated on 3.16 acres, near a paved road, and is five minutes to town. It is well-suited for many lifestyles with its varied possibilities for office space, studio, income, and living. So much to offer. Was \$319,000, now \$279,000! Great Value! Contact Vivia to view: (719) 480-9384-cell



Contact Vivia Lawson for further information



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[www.crestonerealestate.net](http://www.crestonerealestate.net)

#### TOWN OF CRESTONE PUBLIC NOTICE

Ordinance No. 2014-007, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2003-005 (An Ordinance Identifying, Making Illegal, and Abating Certain Nuisances In The Town of Crestone, Colorado)" was adopted and signed October 13, 2014.

Approved: Kairina Danforth, Mayor

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

**Case Aide/Technician**

Saguache County Department of Social Services is now accepting applications for the position of Case Aide/Technician. This position spans two depts.; will help casework staff with visits and data entry and help with Income Maintenance tech staff as needed. Bilingual ability is preferred but not required. Applications and complete job descriptions are available at 605 Christy Ave., Saguache, Colorado, by visiting the Saguache County website at SaguacheCounty.net or by calling (719) 655-2537 and requesting one be mailed. Position is open until filled. Saguache is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

The Crestone Eagle seeks an organized and detail-oriented person to join our team in the role of Advertising Manager. Candidate must have excellent Mac computer skills, a friendly customer service personality, and be reliable, able to work well under pressure, and meet deadlines. Knowledge of InDesign and Photoshop helpful, with willingness to learn. This position is part time. Great working environment. Send resume to kizzen@crestoneeagle.com.

**Income Maintenance Technician**

Saguache County Department of Social Services is now accepting applications for the position of Income Maintenance Technician. Position determines eligibility and benefit delivery for Medicaid, Food assistance and other income assistance programs. No degree or specialized training necessary, but includes great opportunity for State training. Bilingual ability is preferred but not required. Applications and complete job descriptions are available at 605 Christy Ave., Saguache, Colorado, by visiting the Saguache County website at SaguacheCounty.net or by calling (719) 655-2537 and requesting one be mailed.

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

Completed applications must be received by Saguache County Social Services no later than 4:00 pm. on Nov. 7, 2014. Saguache is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Mentors Needed!**

Mountain Valley School District is looking for compensated and volunteer mentors. Please contact Megan Strauss at straussm@valley.k12.co.us or 719.655.2578 for more information. <http://mountainvalleyschool.org/>

**JOB OPENING – PUBLIC WORKS COORDINATOR**

The Town of Crestone is accepting applications for the position of Public Works Coordinator. The Public Works Coordinator performs a variety of mechanical, technical and administrative tasks to supply services which may include, but are not limited to, maintenance of the Town's buildings and grounds, sewer system maintenance, and fire mitigation. The position is part-time (13 hours per week) with a pay rate range of \$13.00 to \$18.00, DOE. Requirements: A high school diploma or GED; a valid Colorado Driver's License or equivalent; working knowledge of the language, methods, materials and equipment common to municipal public works repairs and maintenance of parks, grounds, and buildings; ability to operate and maintain lawn equipment and a variety of power and hand tools. The complete job description and employment application are available at Crestone Town Hall, 108 W. Galena Ave. (P.O. Box 64), Crestone, CO 81131 or crestone@fairpoint.net. Position open until filled. Application review begins November 3, 2014.

**JOB OPENING – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

The Town of Crestone is accepting applications for the position of Code Enforcement Officer. The Code Enforcement Officer enforces a variety of ordinances relating to public nuisances and health and safety matters; investigates and acts upon complaints; issues written warnings and citations;

conducts on-site inspections; appears in Municipal Court for hearings. The Code Enforcer also performs site inspections for building permit applications and other land use services. The position is part-time (5 hours per week) with a pay rate range of \$14.00 to \$18.00, DOE. Requirements: A high school diploma or GED; two years of experience in the enforcement of laws, ordinances or codes, or any equivalent combination of education and experience which demonstrates the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively interact with the public, preferably in a compliance-type environment. The complete job description and employment application are available at Crestone Town Hall, 108 W. Galena Ave. (P.O. Box 64), Crestone, CO 81131 or crestone@fairpoint.net. Position open until filled. Application review begins November 3, 2014.

**Misc. Wanted**

**WANTED: Bodhisattvas**

For the benefit of all beings, starting with all beings here and now! [tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas](http://tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas)

**CALL TO VENDORS**

Friends of the Saguache Library Holiday Bazaar Saturday December 6 – 9am to 3pm. Table is \$10. Information/reservation Wilma 719-655-2566 Mary Morfitt 719-655-2604

**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**

**Baldwin Grand Piano**

Baldwin Grand Piano. 6'4" F-Series Built in 1984. Excellent condition! Beautiful instrument with built-in humidifier. \$11,000.00 obo (719)937-3947 for more info.

**Buy firewood Now**

The best pine firewood for sale. Available now. \$200 per cord. Pickup yourself or \$225 delivered. Call electrum 719 588 2114 [globalspirit13@gmail.com](mailto:globalspirit13@gmail.com)

**Community Service**

**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](http://www.cbvillage.net) or call 480-8757 to join for free.

Kindness is in our power, even when fondness is not.  
-Samuel Johnson

**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. email Marta at [martashoman@gmail.com](mailto:martashoman@gmail.com)

**Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales**

**So Much Stuff**

30' fiberglass extension ladder & misc construction equipment & tools. Package deal \$360. 256-6555

**Growing Components**

2-28" x 39" reflectors with 8' diameter cooling vents, \$95/each. 2- Convertible Sunburst model SBU400 reflectors, \$85 each. 3 Thunder 1000W electronic digital ballasts, sans cords, all three for \$200. Galaxy Selectable Select-A-Watt (400-600-1000w-Turbo Chg) electronic ballast, in the box, \$150. 2 boxes Flex 8" duct tubing, new, \$50. \$700 takes it all, sold only in its entirety. 256-6555

**Free**

**Free Manure**

Free horse manure. Call the Baca Grande Stables to arrange pick up. 256-6200.

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**BACA GRANDE WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT NOTICE CONCERNING 2014 BUDGET AMENDMENT AND PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested parties that the necessity has arisen to amend the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District 2014 Budget and that a proposed 2015 Budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District; and that copies of the proposed Amended 2014 Budget and 2015 Budget have been filed at the District's offices, 141 Union Boulevard, Suite 150, Lakewood, Colorado, where the same is open for public inspection; and that adoption of Resolutions Amending the 2014 Budget and Adopting the 2015 Budget will be considered at a public meeting of the Board of Directors of the District to be held at the District Office, 57 Baca Grant Way South, P.O. Box 520, Crestone, Colorado, 81131-0520 on Friday, November 21, 2014, at 8:00 A.M. Any elector within the District may, at any time prior to the final adoption of the Resolutions to Amend the 2014 Budget and adopt the 2015 Budget, inspect and file or register any objections thereto.

BACA GRANDE WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT  
By /s/ Kyle Grote Secretary  
Published in: Crestone Eagle  
Published on: November 1, 2014

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**Ask the Weatherman**  
by Keno  
I hear a lot about rain gauges all the time. Why don't I ever hear about snow gauges?

You never hear of snow gauges perhaps because they are only used in Canada. I myself only have seen photos of them, as they aren't used in the US or anywhere else. In the US we just use our rain gauges to measure both liquid and solid precipitation, including snow.

The snow gauge suffers from the same problem as that of the rain gauge when conditions are windy, even though they are supposed to be a bit better handling the wind. Nevertheless, from what I understand, the observer still has to judge how much snow was lost to windy conditions.

Just like when we use a rain gage to measure snow, by melting the snow once inside, the same deal has to be done when using a snow gauges, so the bottom line is, they really aren't needed since there's little to gain in using them.

**How is snow measured?**

There are 3 different ways we measure snow: first, after melting it, we measure the total liquid amount that falls; then the total solid amount that piles up on the ground; and finally, we also measure the snowpack each day that's already on the ground.

Best bet when measuring solid snow or the snowpack is to use a snow rule, which makes measuring snow much easier to do, and they aren't that expensive to buy, so I recommend them. Snow rules are marked in 1/10 inch increments and therefore you will get more accurate readings than using a regular ruler, especially if you're also using a snow board, too (not to be confused with the kind you ski on). So by using a snow rule, there's no guessing in-between amounts, you just stick it in the snow and presto, you got your correct measurement.

Snow boards, because of how

they are put together, collect more snow on them from the start and also keep the snow from melting as fast compared to measuring snow from the ground or a picnic table. This is a big deal in the fall and spring when the ground is warmer and temps are around freezing, or whenever some sunlight might be peeking through the clouds. Unless you're right on the ball and measuring the snow every 10 minutes, some of the snow that falls will melt before you get to measure it, but a snow board will help to preserve the snow longer than what's on the warmer ground. Of course in the dead of winter, this isn't as much of a problem. Most folks don't have snow boards, so any flat surface out of the sun will do fine for your measurements. Because of the issues noted, at least an hourly reading is necessary for more accurate measurements, clearing the board of snow after each measurement.

Also understand that what your total snow measurement for the day comes to will not be the same as how much snow is on the ground after the storm is over. This is why we also measure separately how much snow is on the ground, once a day, usually at sunset. That is known as our snowpack. To do this, we like to take at least 3 separate readings several feet apart from each other; the more spread out the readings are, the more accurate the snowpack total will be.

Since I'm out of space here, I'll write next month on how we measure the liquid amount of snow from solid snow.



Cottonwoods in full autumn glory against the peaks.

photo by Kate Steichen

**Crestone-Baca Weather Report**

by Keno

September 21 to October 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip: 1.66"

Snow: Trace

Measurable precipitation fell on 10 days.

Measurable rain fell on 10 days.

A trace of rain fell on 1 day.

4 thunderstorms occurred.

Hail occurred on 2 days.

A trace of snow fell on 1 day.

No measurable snow fell.

**Total precipitation year to date:**

Since Jan 1: 12.25"

**Total snow to date:**

Since Jan 1: 37.7"

Snow Season\*: Trace

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

**Temperatures for the period:**

High temp: 77.2°F on September 26 and 27

Low temp: 25.2°F on October 13 and 14

Avg. high: 65.1°F

Avg. low: 37.2°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 70°: 7

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 32°: 9

**Winds for the period:**

Avg. speed: 3.0 mph

Highest gust: 41 mph on Sept. 29

Main direction: Out of the east.

**Weather summary:**

Precipitation was above normal for the greater Crestone area and our mountains; however for some parts of the San Luis Valley, precip was below normal. On Thursday, October 9, the Crestone/Baca weather station recorded a record amount of precipitation at 0.46", thanks from moisture left over from former Hurricane Simon. The old record was 0.37 inches, set in 2006. Then hail fell at the weather station and points south, for about 10 minutes on October 12 in the early afternoon, with half an inch covering the ground by the time it ended. Yet downtown Crestone saw no hail at all from the storm.

Temperature-wise, readings were well above normal, although no new records were set. The first freezing date for the new fall season wasn't reached until October 1, making it the ninth latest start to the season where we have seen this happen, and only the ninth time in 33 years that the first freeze has taken place in the month of October, instead of in September.

**Outlook for November:**

As you can imagine, temperatures in November start off normally on the cool side and get downright cold by the close of the month. The normal highs and lows for the first week of November are around 51° and 24°, and by month's end we average highs and lows of 38° and 12°. Record extremes for the month are 68° (set Nov 12, 1999) and -11° (set Nov 30, 2006).

Precipitation-wise, November is our fourth driest month of the year, averaging only .72" of liquid precipitation. Most of that falls as snow, with an average snowfall of 8.2". Record snowfall for the month was 33.5" in 1997, and the record for liquid precipitation was set just last year at 3.07", when 33.0" of snow fell (do you remember?)

The 30-day outlook for November from the NWS is calling for both average temperatures and precipitation.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/uvs](http://www.keno.org/uvs).

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# Shop Locally for the holidays



## Give gifts that give back to your community

by *Mary Benavidez*

As we begin to create our holiday shopping lists, let's take a moment to consider the importance of our local businesses and shopping at them.

According to several national studies, for every \$100 that is spent in locally-owned independent stores, at least \$68 returns to our community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures. If you spend the same amount in a national chain, only between \$15 and \$40 comes back to our community. If you purchase online or out of the local area, nothing comes back to our community.

Our local merchants take the time to listen to and care about their customers' needs, making shopping a much more personal experience. They have personal relationships with the people who shop at their

business and often know them on a first name basis. One simple reason to work with the small businesses is because you get a customer experience, the knowledge, attention to detail and high quality that you won't find at a "big box" retailer.



Did you know:

- Each dollar spent at a locally-owned business returns five to seven times that amount to the community through taxes, employees' wages, school funding, social services and contributions to local nonprofits.

- Money spent at local businesses helps fix roads and run city/county services (from schools and fire, to libraries and parks) within the community. Money spent out of town goes to help that community's

streets, schools and other services.

- Locally-owned businesses re-invest in the local economy at a 60% higher rate than chains and internet retailers.

- Nationally, small businesses employ 57% of the private workforce. The jobs of the majority of your friends and neighbors may rely on your shopping locally.

- Local businesses add character, quality and charm to our community, not to mention more unique choices. Local businesses carry items that large stores and chains store do not.

When you shop at independent locally owned and operated businesses, you are contributing to a smaller carbon footprint. Products sold here often require less packaging and don't travel as far.

And think of it this way: which stores would you miss if they were gone?

We are lucky to have a wide variety of shops that offer everything from the basics we need to fill those Christmas stockings, to

## 7th Annual Alamosa Celebration of Lights Nov. 21

Come on out and support your local small businesses at the 7th Annual Alamosa Celebration of Lights. It starts at 5:30pm and will feature a coordinated lighting of the Alamosa Municipal Complex, then the Alamosa County Courthouse, and end up at downtown Alamosa with various merchants lighting their storefronts and offering various specials like cocoa and cookies.

- Live DJ downtown
- Special appearance by Santa at the Nestle's Toll House Cafe

More information is at [www.AlamosaRec.org](http://www.AlamosaRec.org) 719-589-2105.

unique clothing or jewelry items and handmade items you will not find anywhere else. Please remember to support our local businesses during this holiday season.

## Crestone celebrates another WinterFest Nov. 28 & 29

The annual Crestone WinterFest is upon us once more, this year with the theme of "Festival of Lights". We'll decorate downtown like never before. There will be a lighting ceremony that weekend; time, place and date will be announced.

Artisans' craft booths, food booths and entertainment will be set up in venues around town. We will have firepits to guide you to the different locations. Things are being planned and are developing daily, and a flyer and map will be available as things gel. The organizers want to include hardworking local merchants in this annual celebration that kicks off the holiday season. Look in this issue of The Crestone Eagle for our ad showing WinterFest events.



We are ready to have fun, to enjoy each other's company and to welcome all to our festival. Peace!

For more information on how you can participate as a vendor or volunteer, please call Michael Divine at 937-8102 or Elaine at the Mercantile at 256-5887.

## 4th Annual Saguache Holiday Bazaar

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 6 and join the Friends of the Saguache Public Library at the Community Building on Seventh St. for our annual bazaar. We anticipate a wonderful lineup of vendors offering everything you need for your holiday shopping. Past events have featured books, baked goods, handiwork, crafts, baskets, pottery, jewelry and many other delights.

Vendors are invited to set up a table for a \$10 fee. The Town of Saguache requires that vendors at events on town property either have liability insurance of their own, or sign a waiver of liability.

Hot lunch will be available and the bazaar will run from 9am to 3pm. For table reservation and information please call Wilma Lewis at 719-655-2566 or Mary Morfill at 719-655-2604.

# WinterFest 2014

This year's theme is "Festival of Lights"

**Friday, November 28th**  
 2 pm-4 pm  
**Crestone Artisan's Gallery Reception**  
 4 pm-8 pm  
**Holiday Shopping Extravaganza**  
 Visit local vendors at your downtown Crestone Merchants  
*(Venues to be announced)*  
**Open Firepits & S'Mores for Warmth**  
**Music & Entertainment**  
 6 pm  
**Tree Lighting at Crestone Mercantile**

**Saturday, November 29th**  
 10 am-5 pm  
**Holiday Shopping Extravaganza Continues**  
**Chili Tasting & Cook-Off, Hay Rides, Carolers & more!**  
 2 pm  
**Santa's Arrival**

For more details, watch for flyers around town!



## Elephant Cloud Market

Many thanks to our community for almost a year of support in our new location. We look forward to continuing to serve everyone throughout the holiday season and into the new year. We are offering fresh organic and natural turkeys and fresh organic ham to be available in November. Place special orders for these holiday meats ahead of time so that we can hold one for you.

Our produce section includes a large variety of organic Colorado squash, pumpkins, apples and potatoes. Also available are many varieties of yams, persimmons and so many other fresh fruits and vegetables for all your seasonal dishes. Remember that anyone can place case size bulk orders for great savings. Check out our great holiday items, including candles, incense, honey, unique loose teas and other items that make special and unique gifts.



See you this holiday season!

## Chokurei Farm Store and Yak n' Cracker Café

Chokurei Farm Store and Yak n' Cracker Café believes that the future health of our community and planet lies in keeping it local, organic, and GMO-free. Shopping locally creates jobs for your friends and family within the community, supports economic growth and sustainability, uses less fossil fuels, and encourages neighbors to come together in a loving, symbiotic way. This Holiday, consider giving loved ones gift certificates for a nutritious, organic meal, or stuff stockings with scrumptious homemade desserts, yak jerky, fiber, greeting cards, music and more! Know where your food comes from and feel good about your Holiday spending this year!



## Maha Lakshmi Gift Shop

Located at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, the shop has a wide assortment of gifts and devotional items, primarily from India, ranging in price from \$1 to \$502. Such items as: om purses; bindis; brass statues (from 1 inch to 48 inches); silk scarves and wall hangings; incense; Indian clothes and jewelry; crystals; calendars; journals; candles; cards; books; and music make it a great store to find all of your gift needs. They invite you to visit or go to their website at [www.BabajiAshram.org](http://www.BabajiAshram.org) and click on the Maha Lakshmi Shop. All proceeds from the shop go to support the Ashram and its work. Hours: 10-5 daily, 256-4108.




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Mon-Sat 8-7 Sun 9-7  
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[elephantcloudmarket.com](http://elephantcloudmarket.com)

## Firstthought Studios

Come join in a fun workshop, "Working with Emotions Through Form & Color." Celebrate your life with a two-hour workshop (or longer) now available by appointment to fit around your convenience, or give it as a gift to family, friends or neighbors. You can also buy some original art, greeting cards or t-shirts or make your own art gifts. My studio is equipped for encaustics, calligraphic brushstroke, acrylics and mixed-media. Consultations are available if you want to get inspired to jump into your creativity. Ask those questions you've always wanted to know but never asked about art and the creative process. Offered by Stephen Futral aka Ish, 719-256-4848.



## FIRSTTHOUGHT STUDIOS HOLIDAY SHOPPING

*Crestone community and visitors from far and near, please feel welcome to visit my studio and peruse my original art or my greeting cards and t-shirts. We will also be offering workshops, classes and mentorships in encaustics, acrylics, calligraphic brushstroke and mixed media...so treat yourself or another this holiday season to Art a la Carte. Call for an appointment and I will try to accommodate your needs.*

**Please call ahead: 719.256.4848 and ask for Ish**

**Always organic & gmo-free!**  
**Grass-fed Yak, heritage chickens, freshly picked greens!**  
**Our menu is always changing! Come check it out!**

**This month's lottery winners are:**  
**Elaine Blumenhein - free glass of wine!**  
**David Hill - free dessert!**

**Happy Holidays to Our Community!**



On the Challenger golf course, 4 minutes from town!  
719-256-4700  
Dine in or take out!  
Live Music every Saturday!



**YAK N CRACKER CAFÉ**

New winter hours:  
Tuesday - Friday 11:30 am-7pm  
Saturday 11:30 am - 8pm  
Closed Sundays & Mondays

Many New Oils from Germany (Weleda) & India  
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**10% off for our Crestone Eagle readers (except all sale items) please mention it at checkout**

**Maha Lakshmi Shop**  
Perfumes, silk scarves, wool shawls, jewelry, saris, incense, candles, tapes, books, purses, bronze murtis, stone statuary, & other great gift items too.  
New Hours: 10am - 5pm Everyday  
Call: (719) 256-4108  
Email: [shop@BabajiAshram.org](mailto:shop@BabajiAshram.org)  
[www.BabajiAshram.org](http://www.BabajiAshram.org)



## Crestone Massage

The best gift this holiday season is giving yourself or someone special the opportunity to release muscular pain and dysfunction, and relieve built-up stress with therapeutic

massage. Cathy Amenta LMT, NCTMB of Crestone Massage customizes each session to your specific needs. Her skillful hands will bring you deep healing and profound relaxation. Pain and trauma work of the neck and shoulders, hips and back, are her specialty. Clay hot packs are used to increase the blood flow to tense and hypertonic muscles, making deeper work more tolerable and less painful. Bring your body back to optimal wellness this holiday season! Gift certificates and appointments are available at 719-480-1718 and [www.CrestoneMassage.com](http://www.CrestoneMassage.com).



ones are cared for. Amulya Dawn Beechwood is happy to offer gift certificates for massage, biodynamic craniosacral therapy, pregnancy massage, reflexology, and reiki. She can teach families infant massage, and loves working with infants using craniosacral therapy to give babies a harmonious start to life. If anyone on your list is expecting a special bundle of joy, the gift of massage could be excellent for the whole family. See [illuminatedtherapies.com](http://illuminatedtherapies.com) or call 719-256-4743 for more information.



## Illuminated Therapies

Relax this holiday season with the gift of massage. Erase the stress of the holidays knowing that you and your loved

ones are cared for. Amulya Dawn Beechwood is happy to offer gift certificates for massage, biodynamic craniosacral therapy, pregnancy massage, reflexology, and reiki. She can teach families infant massage, and loves working with infants using craniosacral therapy to give babies a harmonious start to life. If anyone on your list is expecting a special bundle of joy, the gift of massage could be excellent for the whole family. See [illuminatedtherapies.com](http://illuminatedtherapies.com) or call 719-256-4743 for more information.

## INVITATION TO ARTISTS' STUDIOS from CrestoneArtists

Due to requests from out of towners and residents during our open studio tour, a group of Crestone Artists decided to oblige by opening their studios year round...by appointment.

This will give interested visitors an opportunity to engage with local artists and discover their contemplative creative process, their 'world,' their vision and execution of their work.

Workshops and holiday gifts may also be available, they're just a phone call away.

Current participating artists are:

Beatris Burgoin  
Shahna Lax  
Robin Ross

Emmy Savage  
Jennifer Thomson  
Stephen Futral / Ish

Visit [www.CrestoneArtists.com](http://www.CrestoneArtists.com) and find brochures throughout town

## Crestone Artists' Studios

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to do a painting or sculpture or write a poem, or what an artist or writer goes through in order to come up with a particular piece? What is the creative process? Where does the inspiration come from? Now you can discuss these things or possibly watch this process in progress while visiting the various talented artists in Crestone and the Baca. Consider treating yourself or another to a gift this holiday season of art from our local artists or even an art class offered by some of the artists. Visit [www.crestoneartists.com](http://www.crestoneartists.com). Year round open studios; by appointment only.



## CYP Thrift Store

The CYP (Crestone Youth Plaza) Thrift Store provides and supports programs and activities for children and youth. The Thrift Store is staffed by dedicated volunteers and the majority of the merchandise in the store is donated by our generous community. If you are interested in supporting this vital project by volunteering or donating items, please call 256-5500 and leave a message for Lanelle. And be sure to come in to the Thrift Store for your holiday needs—clothing, gifts (including gift certificates), gift wrapping, and decorating. Winter hours will begin November 1: Noon to 5pm, Tuesday through Saturday.



### As You Go About Your Day, Please Remember . . .

The Ripples You Create Today



Bring About the Changes for Tomorrow

Support

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By Shopping At The

**CYP THRIFT STORE**

On the corner of Alder & Galena

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# Crestone Gallery



## Crestone Artisans Gallery

The Artisans Gallery will be open six days a week, Wednesday thru Monday, 11am-4pm, closed Tuesdays. Please watch for our upcoming holiday reception.

Shop at the gallery this holiday season and know the good cheers you are creating in so many ways!




# Salida

## Free The Monkey Consignment

During these tough economic times, saving money on clothing, accessories and housewares is important. Shopping in consignment stores is one way to do it. You can get high quality clothes at affordable prices—sometimes, ridiculously affordable. Stop in often. Our inventory changes daily. Allow plenty of time to shop. Our racks are filled with one-of-a-kind items, not twenty blouses of the same color and style! BYOB . . .

Bring your own bag and help us promote environmentally friendly practices. Remember Re-Use . . . Re-Cycle . . . Re-Sale! We at Free the Monkey appreciate you shopping locally, and so do our 2500 consignors.



## Salida Parade of Lights

Christmas Parade of Lights begins at dark in downtown Salida, followed by the transformation of Riverside Park into Holiday Park, and Tenderfoot Hill ("S" Mountain) into Christmas Mountain. Festivities continue with a community open house at the SteamPlant Event Center with free cocoa, cookies and entertainment. Downtown shops and galleries stay open extended hours, and local restaurants and bars are bustling with activity.

## Crestone Mercantile

Happy Holidays From The Crestone Mercantile!

While everyone needs to go to "town" once in awhile to get away from the quiet pace of Crestone, it is no longer a necessity! Holiday shopping can now be done without ice-packed roads, crowded parking lots, and endless lines of shoppers.

The Crestone Mercantile Grocery store can meet all of your holiday cooking needs. We have a full line of conventional goods and have added an extraordinary number of organic and natural products this year.

The Crestone Hardware and Lumber store is much more than just hardware! We have a gigantic selection of items that are just right for that special holiday gift. From dolls to sleds--we have what you're looking for!

Unlike the big box stores, we're right here, we care about you, and we'll have refreshments throughout the shopping season!

CRESTONE ARTISANS GALLERY

FINE ART  
&  
GIFTS



Corner of Cottonwood & Galena  
in Downtown Crestone  
719-256-5280

November Hours  
Daily 11am - 4pm  
Closed Tuesdays

Crestone Artisans Gallery  
represents 24 local artists  
& craftspersons  
Thank You for  
shopping locally!

**FREE THE MONKEY  
CONSIGNMENT**

**Accepting consignments daily**

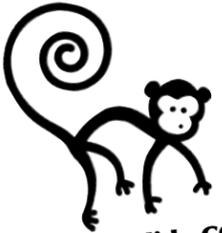
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**Light Up Salida!  
Holiday Parade**

*Friday, November 28th, 6pm  
Downtown Salida*

Moving Parade starting at 5th Street  
going down F to Riverside Park.

- ◆ Holiday Park opens
- ◆ Hot Chocolate and Cider  
served at Pueblo Bank & Trust by Salida Rotary

*Join us for an evening of fun!*

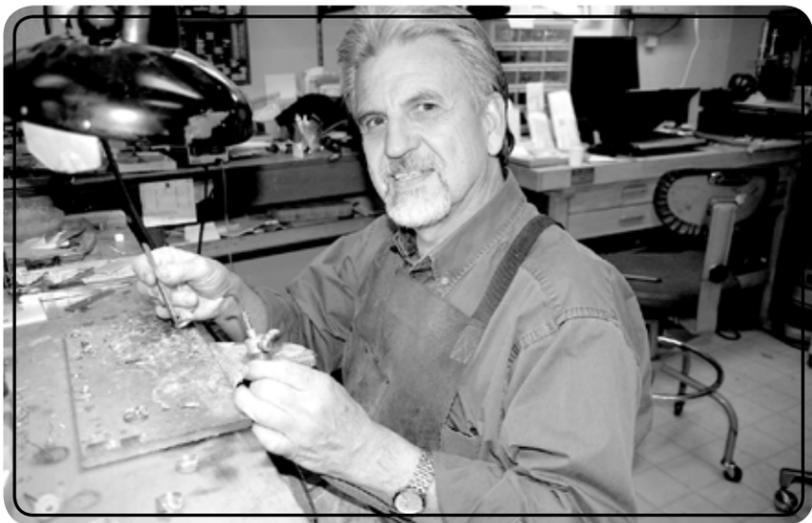
Sponsored by The Salida Business Alliance



## Antero Jewelers

Antero Jewelers, located at 136 W. Hwy. 50 in Salida, offers unique jewelry in a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Our friendly, knowledgeable staff are happy to help

you find that perfect gift for any occasion. Unparalleled customer service and handcrafted one-of-a-kind jewelry make Antero Jewelers the favorite place for fine jewelry in the Arkansas Valley for more than 30 years. Like us on Facebook for deals, tips and fun, and if you would like to browse or purchase from home, check out our new website at [www.anterojewelers.com](http://www.anterojewelers.com).



## Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop

Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop is an excellent store to find unique gift items for your loved ones. You'll find shave sets and soaps, disposable razor sharpeners, manicure sets, scissors, and quality Wusthof kitchen cutlery. Take a look to find wallets, money clips, pocket knives, and Colorado made knives. We carry pipes, pipe stands, pouches, E-cigarettes, E-juice, boxes of fine cigars, lighters, humidors, and more. Stop by today at 132 W Hwy 50 or visit [salidacutlery.com](http://salidacutlery.com) to find direct links to our Amazon and Ebay stores.



We Ship-Salida Cutlery and Smoke Shop wishes you a season filled with joy!

## Beekeeper's Honey Boutique

As a young girl, some of my best memories were working in the bees with my dad. I enjoyed riding in his bee truck and getting the smokers going when we pulled up to a bee yard. Now, many years later, my childhood fascination has lead me to my dream job in my dream town! Buzz on by The Beekeeper's Honey Boutique where we still hand bottle and hand label every jar of raw honey just like my great-grandfather did over a century ago.

Customize your very own gift box with local, handmade gifts straight from the hive that are sure to please everyone on your "naughty" and "nice" gift list this holiday season! Your Favorite Beekeeper, Jamie.



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## Dragonfly Gifts

Dragonfly Gifts, located in historic downtown Salida, is the place to go for unique gifts and all your metaphysical supplies. Our silver and gemstone jewelry collection contains over 100 varieties of natural stones. We also carry loose tumbled stones and crystals, wall hangings, Asian art, books, music CDs, decorative boxes, chimes, candles, tapestries, and sarongs. And don't forget we offer a large selection of incense and resins, sage bundles and oils for all your aromatherapy needs. Stop in to browse and take in our peaceful and uplifting atmosphere. We offer Customer Loyalty Punch Cards and gift certificates. Open every day, including Sunday.



## Brady's West

Brady's West, Chaffee County's year round garden center, offers professional and knowledgeable garden advice, Colorado-grown plant material, organic herbs and vegetables, a full-service florist, beautiful unusual gifts, hot tubs and hot tub supplies, patio furniture, and home décor. We sustainably harvest local evergreens for Christmas trees, handmade wreaths and garlands. Our Floral Department highlights creative holiday ideas, centerpieces, and gifts handmade by our talented local artists. Sunshine is always free in the greenhouse and we welcome you to come soak it in while getting inspired for the upcoming planting season. We're in Salida, on County Road 107, turn south off Highway 50 at the Conoco stop light. Call 719-539-6400 or go to bradyswest.com for directions, maps and more gardening information.



## Kaleidoscope Toys

Kaleidoscope Toys is a locally owned specialty toy store in the heart of downtown Salida. We specialize in unique educational toys, games and novelties for children and adults of all ages. Let our knowledgeable staff help you select the perfect age-appropriate gifts and we'll wrap them free of charge. Join us for Neighborhood Toy Store Day (November 8, 10am-6pm) to decorate an ornament to hang on our tree in Holiday Park, donate to the Giving Tree, make your Christmas wishlist and demo new toys & games. See kaltoys.com or call 719-530-0533 for details.



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221 F Street, Salida  
719-539-4448  
www.salidagiftshop.com

## Chili Heads

Chili Heads is a locally-owned gift shop and gourmet food store. For the gift shopping season we are offering sales on our gift baskets, gift boxes, and gift bags. Pay shipping rates and get free boxing, labeling and a gift card. We feature award-winning, small batch, and local sauces including hot sauce, salsa, barbecue sauce, wing sauce, gourmet mustards, jellies, spicy cooking ingredients and more. We offer the largest selection of dried trail mixes, fruits, vegetables, granola and berries. For other gifts we have locally hand-crafted sustainable wood art pipes and bamboo water pipes. Having a Christmas party? Try our non-GMO, gluten-free and organic chips, pretzels and award-winning dipping mustards and salsas.



Something Fun for EVERYONE



Unique Educational Toys and Games • Children's Books • Baby Gifts  
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**Remember your neighborhood toy store for  
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- ❖ BAMBOO PIPES
- ❖ BEAD NECKLACES

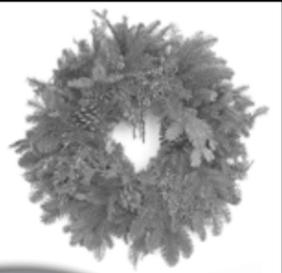


Located in Salida on Highway 50 at the top of F Street  
Call 719-207-9700 Open 10-6 Mon-Sat  
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## BRADY'S WEST GARDEN & FLORAL

*Local fresh-cut  
Christmas trees,  
handmade wreaths  
and garland*



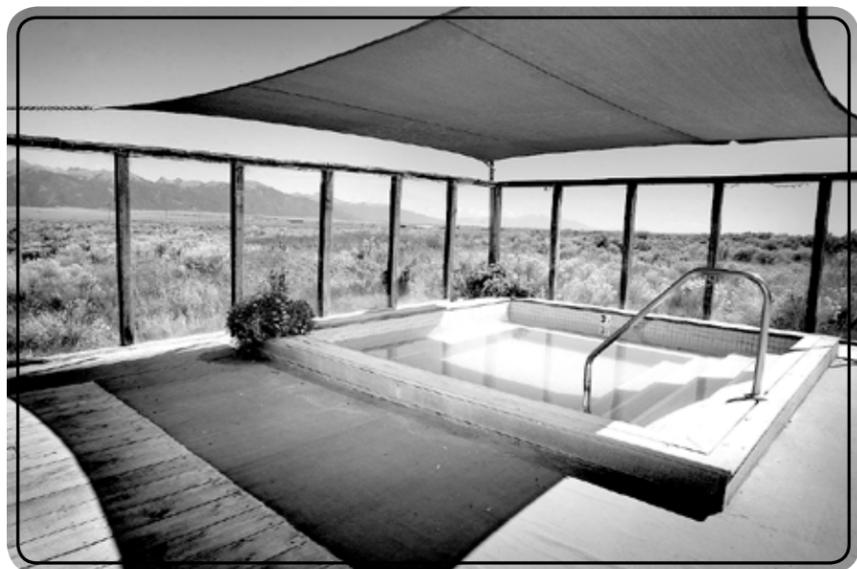
**Customer  
Appreciation  
Party!**  
Wednesday, Dec 10th  
5-8 pm

719-539-6400 • 7121 County Rd 107 Salida, CO 81201



## Joyful Journey Hot Springs

Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa and Lodge is located about 5 miles south of Villa Grove and 12 miles north of Moffat on Hwy 17. 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 a wide variety of spa treatments and facials. There is a large conference center and various lodging options are available for overnight stays. Open 7 days a week from 9am-10pm. Closed Christmas day. Call 719-256-4328 or visit joyfuljourneyhotsprings.com. Gift certificates available for easy and luxurious holiday gifts.



You're Invited to  
**Helen Martin's  
Miramonte  
Pottery Studio**

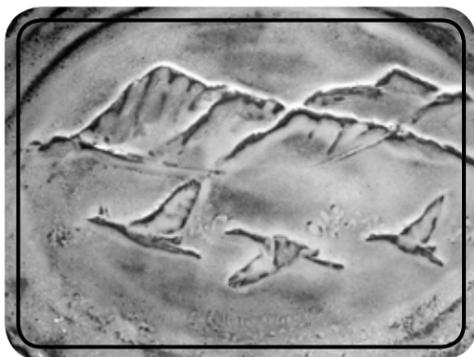


**Open Weekends  
thru December  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
or by appointment**  
In beautiful downtown  
Villa Grove, Colorado  
1 block west off Hwy. 285  
(719)655-2419

## Helen Martin's Miramonte Gallery

Season's Greetings from Villa Grove, Colorado! An amazing fall brings us into the season of celebrating home, family, friends, and life. Firings at Miramonte Pottery Studio continue full swing to bring forth beautiful functional art for your home and to share with those you love.

Helen's creations continue to evolve, including steadfast favorites as well as delightful new designs. This year's Open House will be ongoing throughout the months of November and December with regular hours over the weekends. Come check out the studio as work continues and gallery displays unfold weekly.



## Mirage Trading Company

The Mirage Trading Company in Moffat has all your holiday needs. Bags of freshly roasted, organic, fair trade coffee beans make a wonderful holiday gift. A great selection of art by local artists is also available. Jewelry, paintings, pottery, photography, warm winter hats and scarves and cozy slippers are just some of the items available at the Mirage. Come on by and enjoy a latte while you do your holiday shopping! Hours are 8 AM to 4 PM every day. (719) 256-4357.



## Shining Country Station Restaurant

Now open 7am-7pm, located on County Road T in Moffat, 1/8 mile east of Highway 17. Serving breakfast until 11am, featuring homemade biscuits and gravy, fresh baked goods and Mirage Trading coffee. After 11, enjoy house smoked ribs, chicken or delectable pulled pork. Sample fresh house made sides daily, as well as deli sandwiches, burgers, burritos and fajitas. Vegetarian? We make great salads, veggie sandwiches or omelets. Holiday pies will be available by order for Thanksgiving or Christmas. Call us at 719-496-0979 for details. Having a holiday party? We'd love to host your event for up to 25 people, or deliver food to your site, so you can enjoy your guests. Or, purchase Scanga premium meats and cheeses for your party tray needs.



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LOCAL ART**  
Open Every Day 8am to 4pm  
IN MOFFAT NEXT TO THE POST OFFICE  
CELEBRATE FALL WITH A  
PUMPKIN PIE SPICE LATTE!  
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**OPEN Daily 9AM-10PM**  
Newly RESURFACED Outdoor Pools 98 - 108 DEGREES  
MASSAGE THERAPIES HOTEL ROOMS, YURTS, Tipi's,  
CAMPING, Rv, & CONFERENCE CENTER

## SHINING COUNTRY STATION RESTAURANT

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Call in or take out orders welcome!

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7 am to 7pm daily

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719.496.0979 www.greatgrazingbbq.com



## Sand Dunes Pool

Sand Dunes Swimming Pool in Hooper offers many holiday gift choices. Give the gift of health & rejuvenation! Individual or family passes ranging from 1 month to a year are offered, as well as gift cards

in any denomination. Gift cards may be used for admission, food, produce, clothing, & a variety of pocket knives. Lap swimming daily from 9am-10am and open swim from 10am-10pm. Closed Thursdays.



## Treasure Alley

Take a break from your busy schedule this holiday season and visit the ladies at Treasure Alley. Once again we were voted most interesting inventory and friendliest staff in Alamosa County and we would be thrilled to see you! Kathy Anderson's jewelry is a great new addition this year. Baggallini handbags complement an extensive collection of ladies' purses. Stay warm this winter with Made in Scotland scarves for men

and women. As always we have beautiful, chic and hip jewelry too. For the foodie we have a wide variety of "kitchen" goodies. Don't forget that special fella in your life! Every guy loves our gear clocks. We've got a wide variety of clocks, as well as our mesmerizing sand art and colorful Galileo thermometers. And for the kiddos we're always after new and engaging toys. As always we have a variety of candles and the popular wax burners, socks for everyone, wall décor. You'll notice as you're walking around, there really is too much to mention—we try to cover it all! Please make Treasure Alley a part of your holiday shopping season.

## Lightshine Music



Come in and browse our holiday specials and our always low-priced guitars, basses, mandolins, banjos, horns, amps, PA's, speakers, gear, pedals, cables, accessories, books, cd's, dvd's, and lots more. We have qualified instrument and amplifier repair personnel, guitar lessons, live sound set-up, on-site piano tuning. We can help with most of your music needs. Give us a call or stop in. Hoping all our customers have a safe and happy holiday from the staff at Lightshine Music.

## Kristi Mountain Sports



In 1969, Kristi Mountain Sports first "opened their doors," selling ski equipment to locals from a storage closet inside a former menswear store in downtown Alamosa. The current owners, Eric and Lisa

Burt, took over in 1984 and moved to the Villa Mall, adding bicycles, hiking and camping equipment. Kristi Mountain Sports expanded once again in 2008 to their current 10,000 sf facility in the Villa Mall, creating the opportunity to outfit almost any human- and gravity-powered outdoor adventure the San Luis Valley has to offer. Kristi Mountain Sports is the largest outdoor store for a hundred miles in any direction and although 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.

## Treasure Alley



### Unique Gift Ideas!

- Jewelry • Clothing • Soaps
- Lotions • Candles
- Interior Decor • Handbags

713 Main Street, Alamosa  
719.587.0878

### TROLLBEADS

Mon-Fri 9am~6pm, Sat  
10am~5pm  
Sun 12pm~4pm  
starting Nov 9



3223 Main St  
West Hwy 160  
Villa Mall  
Alamosa, CO  
(719)589-9759

### Presents...



Friday, Nov 21st  
Doors 7pm, Show 7:30pm



Saturday, Nov 22nd  
Doors 6pm, Show 6:30pm

Both films at ASU Carson Auditorium \* Tickets \$5 advance/\$8 door  
Pre-Show Prizes \* Lift Ticket Giveaways  
After party at Kristi Mountain Sports Saturday following the show

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### FULL FOOD MENU & WEEKLY SPECIALS

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Adults - \$12.00

Children (Ages 3-12) - \$8.00

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