

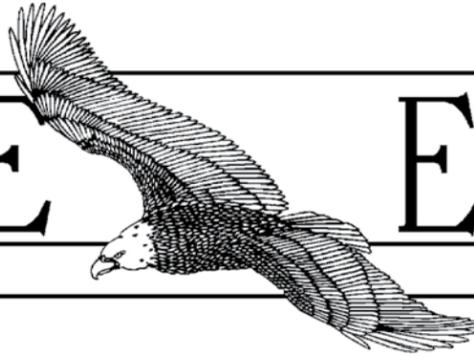
The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 25, Number 8

August, 2014 \$1

25 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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The Crestone Music Festival is the place to be August 1, 2 and 3. A whole weekend of great music and fun events will be happening. See pages 10 & 11 for information about the performers and schedule of events. Mtn photo by Lori Nagel. To see the above photos and more in color, visit our website at www.crestoneeagle.com

Crestone Energy Fair happens August 23 & 24

Featuring workshops, demonstrations, home tour, music, booths & more

The theme of the 25th Annual Crestone Energy Fair is “Resilience”, the ability to recover readily from adversity. In support of local resilience, we are proud to host CLEAR (Center for Living Environments and Regeneration) as the keynote presentation for this year’s event. The CLEAR team will provide a forum on Saturday, Aug. 23, to explore regenerative thinking processes and their application towards greater

community resilience. This forum is a “must attend” event for community leaders, political participants, business owners and community members interested in the “next level” of sustainability. Find more information about CLEAR at clearrevolution.org or on our FB group at Crestone Energy Fair 2014.

Saturday will also play host to a visual explosion of Art and Crafts from the many local and regional

artisans (contact Allison Wonderland for space) backdropped by the sounds of local musicians (contact Benny Roman at 857-240-9865 for set times) including our own Tai-ko Drummers. The popular band Haunted Windchimes will play Saturday night at Cloud Station.

Dave Kirchner will be returning to provide answers and inspiration about solar cooking. He will be *continued on page 12*



Paul Koppana giving a class on straw bale construction at the Energy Fair.

No response from County to Town of Crestone on property taxes—County to conduct tax protest hearings

by Lisa Cyriacks

The Saguache County Board of Commissioners has not yet responded to the correspondence from the Town of Crestone Trustees concerning increases in property taxes. The Town sent a letter in June requesting approval for all abatement petitions and asking the commissioners to restore improvement values to 2012 values.

Property owners, citizens and the Town continue to be concerned about the impact on the community.

Local businesses are adversely impacted by increased valuations and corresponding increases in property taxes. Some are closing their doors, requesting reclassification from commercial property to residential. For those considering closure, selling the property is not currently a viable option because taxes are so high.

The Saguache Assessor, Jackie Stephens, has not responded to the 2013 abatement petitions, although she has issued notices of determina-

tion for 2014 protests of valuation. Almost everyone who filed abatement petitions also filed a protest of their 2014 taxes.

According to Stephens, of the 2014 protests received on 98 properties, denials were issued on all but one. The exception was for a change in classification, with no change in the assessed valuation.

“Based on the 2013 audit performed by Wildrose Appraisals (on behalf of the State), there is no room *continued on page 5*

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The Crestone Eagle

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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 Vicki!

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to thank Vicki Matthews and her commitment to Raha Community Preschool. Vicki's patience, kindness and love-filled heart have left a mark on many of the youngsters in our community over the years. Her dedication to our children has gone above and beyond and we wish her the best in her new adventures!

You will be missed,

Amanda Woodward & John Tembrock

Amy and Nanda King-Zipp

Angela & Jason Anderson

Ann Bunting & Tom Dessain

Carrie Robertson

Cristina Cabeza-Kinney and

Adam Kinney

Deana & Josh Wilfong

Diana Moats

Erin & Talmath Lakai

Jenn Weede and Dave Levine

Kaley Van Arsdale

Kelly Hosner Del Amor &

Matthew Crowley

Krissy & Rocky Hedstrom

Lauren Wood

Mark Jacobi & Chris Canaly

Nahoko Furuoka

Pattison Kane

Solea Siru

Vesper Gers & John Michael

Wickett

Thomas & Cindy Cleary

April Thomas & Jim Vanderpool

And 15 years of other grateful parents!

New phone book in the works

Dear Editor,

The new NHN phone book is in the works now. If you want a listing or need to change anything, email me at lyndakucin@gmail.com. We also have some advertising space left. This 2015-2016 book will be out by the Crestone Winter-Fest time. Thanks for your help with this project.

Lynda Kucin

Thanks for the support

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank everyone who supported me in the recent primary election—both those of you who voted for me and those of you who wrote letters of endorsement. I have talked to many of you and have noted your comments. I will continue to visit with voters and listen to your concerns. Please feel free to contact me.

Tim N. Lovato

Congratulations & thank you

Dear Editor,

The Baca Grande Friends of the Library wishes to thank all who supported the FOL "Root Beer Float" booth this past Independence Day. Another very nice community

success. And, special thanks to all those kind and generous souls who donated their time and energy working at the booth, scooping out yummy ice-cream, pouring soda, making change. Special thanks to: Suzanne, Barry, Sandia, Ed, Ginny, Barbara, Shirley, Mitzi, Alison, Pavita, Fran, Sarah (who drove over from Saguache to help), and very special thanks to Barry who helped set up, take down and clean up.

Much heartfelt thanks to all.

Thom Ontko,

FOL Chair

Thanks to the Drakes

Dear Editor,

A big thank you to Richard and Virginia Drake for donating the rounds of wood for the Crestone Music Festival's wood chopping contest. Richard made a special trip into the mountains to harvest trip lodge pole pine. It is some fine looking wood!

Many thanks

Janet Woodman,

for the Crestone Music Festival

NHN Great big thanks

Dear Editor,

Neighbors Helping Neighbors would like to thank the Saguache County government and all the commissioners for the \$3000 grant we recently received.

This grant will be used to help people outside of the Crestone/Baca area, but who live in Saguache County.

We want our commissioners to know that we greatly appreciate all of their hard work throughout our county. Thank you.

We would also like to give a huge thank you to Bon Dellegar for her many years of service as our NHN president. She will be greatly missed.

We have recently elected a new president and are happy to introduce Lynda Kucin as our president and Rodney Volkmar as our Vice President. Our board of directors are Judy Arnold, Treasurer; Lynn Ertle, Secretary; Joany Peterson, Director; and Renee Hill, Director.

Look for some exciting fundraising events coming soon to a neighborhood near you.

Thank you for all your support.

The board members of NHN

Brooks announces POA board candidacy

Dear Editor,

You might remember that some months ago I wrote a letter to the editor proposing the question: Why go to a POA board meeting? I ended it by saying "you just might surprise yourself." Well, surprise myself I did, as I now find myself, and welcoming the fact, that I'm running for the board. This was certainly not my intention when I first started going to the meetings, however, I found the meetings very enlightening. I find the process of governing/managing, rather than politics, intriguing, meaning we should avoid being ruled by strong political position, that we should

enter into an issue willing to really listen and explore options.

My emphasis would be to stress the process of governing the POA in a calm, business-like way, using committees as a way of gathering facts while also incorporating input from the community. A skilled managerial staff/management company is also an important part of such an effort. Direct community input via regular (quarterly?) group meetings would be very important to me as would better ways of communicating with non-resident owners.

My position/concerns of the issues revolve around integrity, professionalism and continuity as we strive for sustainable growth. We have a very unique community and a chance to see if we can govern with the greatest good for the greatest amount of people. Let me know your concerns and proposals for resolving at 719-256-4480 or email sugandha.brooks@gmail.com. I ask for your vote.

Sincerely,

Sugandha Brooks

Therault announces as POA board candidate

Dear Editor,

No one could be more surprised than I am that I have decided to run for the POA board. I have lived here for 12 years and never attended a board meeting until about a year ago. I came here for the peace and I heard those meetings were not very peaceful!

Then, last year a lawsuit was filed against three members of the board contesting the procedure and results of the 2012 board election. Apparently mistakes had been made because there is some ambiguity in the governing documents as to how an election is to be conducted and much is left to interpretation. The results of the election would not have been any different but the lawsuit continued against all reason and cost thousands in legal fees paid by you and me. It was finally settled in mediation last spring.

At this time we have 3 board members who were plaintiffs in that lawsuit. Bruce McDonald and Nigel Fuller ran unopposed last year due to the climate of fear created by their lawsuit. They then appointed Janie Thomas, another plaintiff in the lawsuit, to fill the seat vacated by Russell Schreiber, whose resignation was one of the stipulations of the mediation agreement. Does anyone but me wonder what is wrong with this picture?

This past year has been emotionally charged as we watched this current board whittle away at the good will in our community. But we are a creative community and I believe we can resolve conflicts without litigation. What's required is a willingness to participate in thoughtful discussion and explore ways to create a "win-win" rather than an "us-and-them" situation.

I very much want to be part of that discussion and invite you to join me.

I humbly ask for your vote.

Joanna Therault

(pronounced 'Tarrío', if you're curious!)

Editor's Notes

Making fun happen

Today I'm wearing my favorite Crestone Music Festival shirt, getting ready for Crestone's premier yearly event. As we go to press, preparations are moving into high gear and the golf course is buzzing with transformative energy as the stages and tents go up. There's a feeling in the air like hearing the symphony start to warm up. A pulse of anticipation.

This will be the festival's 16th year. It's gonna be a good one. Big-name excellent bands, talented diverse musicians—and they all come here to our little town. Visitors travel from afar. They think they are coming to the middle of nowhere—and then they find THIS. World class music with the mountains sprouting rainbows and brilliant Sangre de Cristo sunsets.

While we don't have much control over the light show, it is amazing that such a small community as ours creates such a grand festival every year. I see it as wonderful example of what can be achieved by creatively working together. Bring your talent, make it happen.

Big kudos go to Tom Dessain, director of the festival, and to Robin Rosenberg—two dedicated and hard-working people. Numerous volunteers (and that's a long list!) and staff pull together and pull it all off. Board members work all year behind the scenes. Members, sponsors, grantors, attendees, sellers and advertisers bring in the money to keep it going, make it better.

The reward for all that effort? The joy of seeing a community dancing.

I'll see you there, wearing my new favorite festival T.

—Kizzen

(ps. The monsoons have been very active. Bring rain gear, and warm clothing for nighttime.)

Peterson endorsement

Dear Editor,

As we approach the November election, I would like to endorse the candidacy of Pete Peterson for Saguache County Assessor. I find Pete to be a man of good character and patient disposition. He brings integrity and experience with him to this position and I encourage us to vote him into this office.

Most sincerely,
Mark Jacobi

Dear People at the Gas Pump

Dear People at the Gas Pump,

I asked you to move your smoking while I filled my tank and you didn't. It was a simple request, on behalf of my daughter who witnessed you making me "The Man". I get it. Fresh from society and all the havoc it can reap. You probably withstood some woundings along the way, other people telling you what to do . . . who hasn't? But, I asked. Your authority issues aren't with me. Trust me. Whether we like it or not we are on the same team. Dear People at the Gas Pump and The New Kids on the Block of Crestone. Disrespecting and righteously discounting my request will not give you your power back. By unconsciously trying to bully me and my daughter, you already gave your power away. But, I am not your authority and I won't take your power. I earned my own . . . thank you. Dear People at the Gas Pump, welcome to our town. Kindness will get you a lot further here and maybe then I'll listen to your poetry.

In solidarity,
Cristina Cabeza-Kinney

Camino: A unique Crestone experience

Dear Editor,

This is to express sincere appreciation to William Howell, founder of Camino de Crestone and to everyone who made our June Camino such an extraordinary experience.

William's vision, to create the world's first inter-faith pilgrimage, has taken an incredible amount of creativity, planning, organization and coordination. The result was a truly successful and unforgettable week visiting and being warmly welcomed by many of our spiritual centers. Although I had been to several centers previously, I gained a deeper understanding by participating in their traditions, from ceremonies, meditation, in-depth discussions, to sharing a meal. We enjoyed comfortable accommodations, good food and camaraderie. On the Camino each activity was fresh and new, infused with the energy and insights of our group of 10 people.

I gained a huge appreciation for the unique community in which we live. As we walked the pilgrimage route, gazing at our beautiful mountains and spectacular valley, I heard the group members marvel at the surroundings we enjoy every day. Our group discussions and shared experiences solidified our friendship and enriched our experience.



Ruby Marie Fitzgerald

July 27, 1920-June 11, 2014

Whatever you will remember about Ruby Marie Fitzgerald, you know you were fortunate to have known her. A sweet soul, Ruby Marie moved to Crestone in 2001. She passed away peacefully in her home in Crestone on June 11, 2014 and is deeply missed.

Born in Washougal, WA, Marie lived a spartan but good life near the banks of the Columbia River with her parents and brother Ray, 11 years her senior.

She became an accomplished public speaker and was known to bring an audience to tears and laughter, often in the same talk! Marie graduated from Washington U. at Ellensburg with a degree in teaching. She taught kindergarteners before joining the USO and meeting Robert F. Williams, an Army saxophone player. They married and, traveling with a circus band, they lived in all parts of the country. They had 4 children, Rob, Gregory, Mary and Eileen.

Divorced with 4 children, needed to work. She started as a "Blue Chip" girl at a local bank. From that job she eventually worked her way up to work directly for the most senior vice president of Great Western Savings & Loan. She retired from that position after 25 years.

In her 70s she began her

own business "teaching those old people how to write their life stories" in Write From the Heart with her friend, Patricia Dale.

She became active in the Church of Religious Science in Redondo Beach, CA. That was a great love of hers and a way to give back to the world. She even continued this ministry for a few years after she moved to Crestone.

What the family has heard from the community is that our mother was adored. She found great joy in writing, music, dance and play of all sorts. She was graceful when she danced without knowing a single step. She sang out of tune but carried herself as if she was a stage star. She didn't care if she was off key. It was her way of being one with the universe. There was so much life in her!

It wasn't until she moved to Crestone that Marie began calling herself Ruby Marie, insisting that her mother meant to name her that but it just didn't get on the birth certificate. The family teased her that she wanted to be like Madonna or Cher, dropping her last name. Still, she changed her name and we all learned to call her Ruby Marie. Did it suit her? Oh, yes. A gem she was, to us all.

The family would like to thank the community for so graciously embracing our mother when she moved to Crestone. You have all been so kind to her. A very special thanks go to the women who helped bathe and feed her near the end and to all of you who provided the many beautiful and nourishing services that made her feel better, special and loved while living here.

A private ceremony has been held.

Our schedule was well paced and walking was not at all difficult. Anyone can do it! See caminodecrestone.com for more information and forward it to your friends outside of Crestone. William Howell's creation celebrates and promotes a unique spiritual experience, available only in Crestone.

Denise Peine

Call for auction items

Dear Readers,

Have you checked your closets, garage and barn lately? When you take a peek, are you likely to see items that are too good to throw away but are no longer needed? Consider putting them in the Saguache Fall Festival auction. You can donate or consign any item with value. The Fall Festival & Quilt Show will occur on September 20. Consignment items and/or donations will be accepted until September 17.

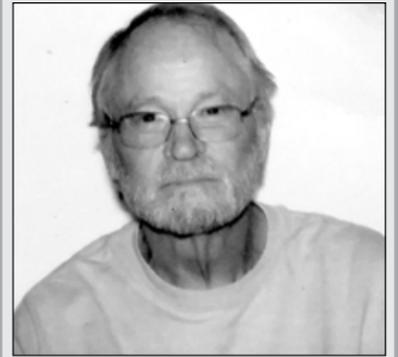
Historically, in connection with the annual Fall Festival, the Saguache Chamber of Commerce holds an auction to support many civic projects. This year, we are starting our search for auction items early. We are particularly interested in donations of vehicles, equipment, horse gear, tools, con-

struction materials and supplies, art works, jewelry, and craft items. New creations are particularly needed. We can provide a place to store items if you need to have them moved early.

This year we will also take consigned items. In a consignment arrangement, items are auctioned and the seller takes home most of the proceeds with a percentage going to compensate the auctioneer and the sponsoring charity. The money generated by the auction will sponsor two local festivals and help support several others. It will also help the chamber do more to help facilitate important economic development projects for Saguache. A successful auction will also help keep the membership dues for the Saguache Chamber low and support our website.

The chamber guarantees that every penny raised will go to civic projects with the betterment of Saguache as the goal. The Saguache Chamber has no paid officials or employees. No administrative fees are ever charged. We do not support a building or any costly equipment. All chamber work is done by volunteers. So every penny from fund raising and grants goes to our community.

To donate or consign an item



Thomas Osborn

McMurray

March 24, 1951-June 23, 2014

Thomas Osborn McMurray passed away June 23, 2014 while kayaking the Arkansas River near Salida, Colorado. He was a long time resident of Crestone.

Tom was born March 24, 1951 in Knoxville, Tennessee to Keith Spencer McMurray and Fay Ray Cotton McMurray.

He was preceded in death by both parents.

Tom is survived by many Texas relatives. His siblings, Barbara Pillers and David McMurray of Ft. Worth, and Jeana Noorzaie of Anna. His daughter, Toni Eddings of Joshua, and son, James McMurray of Ft. Worth. Five grandchildren: Star, Delisa, Spencer, Scarlett and Jacob. Tom was also a great-grandfather to Racheal and Gage.

Tom graduated in 1969 from Southwest High in Ft. Worth. He attended Texas Wesleyan University, also in Ft. Worth.

Tom was an avid wildlife photographer, and often spent many hours a day outside birding. He was a seasoned traveler and avid outdoors man, devoting his life to Mother Nature. He had recently returned from a second visit to the Galapagos Islands.

Tom showed extraordinary generosity, which was often evident in the canine companions he rescued. He poured his heart and soul into these animals, many of whom he helped save from owners who neglected them. With patience and nurturing, Tom transformed these animals into the most loving and caring companions one could imagine.

Tom was passionate about rights, be they human, animal, or those of Mother Earth. He wore his heart on his sleeve and his opinions on his T-shirt.



or to get more information call Faith O'Reilly at 719-850-2473 or send email to saguachelodge@centurytel.net

Carita Ginn

Saguache County crime report

by Mary Lowers

Saguache County Sheriff's deputies served a summons to a Pagosa Springs woman to appear in court in Saguache for driving while her license was under restraint/cancelled. A man in the unincorporated county refused to accept papers served by Saguache County from the State Motor Vehicle Department which made it unlawful for him to drive.

A Center man was taken into custody in Saguache and held without bail for domestic violence and third-degree assault charges. Another man from Center was taken into custody and held on \$10,000 bail for failure to appear in court. A young man from Moffat is being held on \$25,000 bail for contempt of court charges.

On the evening of June 27 Colorado State Patrol Officers responded to a rollover accident on Forest Road 250 in southern Conejos County. A 37-year-old Texas man had apparently lost control of his pickup truck and rolled down a steep embankment 250 ft. to land under 15 ft. of water in Platoro Reservoir. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene by the Conejos County Coroner. A 17-year-old male passenger in the truck was able to escape the vehicle and was rescued by campers near the scene. He was airlifted to Denver from the Conejos County Hospital with serious injuries. Because of extremely rough terrain at the accident location access to the submerged truck was difficult. Boats and a dive team had to be brought in to get the driver's body from the vehicle. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

Colorado State Patrol were called to the scene of a fatal ac-

cident on LaVeta Pass in Costilla County. A 2009 Ford Focus driven by a 28-year-old Canon City man was travelling westbound on Hwy. 160 when the car veered into the eastbound lane where it collided with a semi trailer truck from Florida. It seems the left side of the Ford Focus collided with the left rear dual tires of the semi. Alcohol and speed do not appear to be factors in the accident. Seat belts were in use. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

On July 15 two missing children for whom an Amber Alert had been issued by the New Mexico State Patrol at 3:30pm were safely found at 11:30pm at an Alamosa gas station by the Colorado State Patrol. The children, a six-month-old and an eight-year-old were taken from Las Vegas, NM by their mother in violation of court orders. A warrant issued for the mother included two counts of custodial interference. Her bond had been set at \$50,000.00 cash. She was booked into the Alamosa County Jail to be transferred to Las Vegas, NM. The children were unharmed. They had been in the custody of the New Mexico Department of Human Services due to concerns about the mother's use of methamphetamines. The children were taken by their mother during a supervised visit.

Saguache County Deputies issued a record number of traffic tickets in the past month. Nearly all of the violations were for speeding either in the town of Saguache or on Hwy. 285. Local folks seem to have gotten the message that it's not good to speed in this county, you will get caught. Nearly all the violations ticketed this past month were given to out-of-the valley motorists.



Fire on the mountain. Called the "Burnt Gulch Fire", a lightning-caused fire was first spotted on July 1, but thankfully didn't spread. Rains eventually extinguished it.

photo by Martin Macaulay

Burnt Gulch fire, caused by lightning, contained by rain

by Mary Lowers

The wild fire high up on the rocky ridge above Burnt Gulch that caused Crestone and Baca residents concern last month is probably completely out according to US Forest Service spokesman Mike Blakeman. Smoke during the day and a red glow at night were visible in our area for a few weeks in early July. The fire was located on a steep rocky ridge and was not considered an immediate threat by officials. The Forest Service kept an eye on the blaze. Its location made it dangerous to send up fire crews. If the fire had begun to spread, the Forest Service planned to suppress it using firefighters and possibly helicopter water drops. Blakeman said, "Our main objective is to suppress fires while not putting fire fighters in jeopardy." It looks as though the heavy monsoon rains saved fire crews a trip up Burnt Gulch this year.

EXPERT LEGAL HELP FOR HUMAN BEINGS



Law offices of Curtis Ramsay
CIVIL. MEDIATION. CRIMINAL.
 (720) 490-1968

Dr. Ashley L. O'Hara



will be available to see patients in the
Saguache Clinic
on Friday afternoons beginning in August
Please call to schedule an appointment 719-655-2531



BACA GRANDE
 PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 237; CRESTONE, COLORADO 81131 PHONE: 719.256.4171 FAX: 719.256.4173
 WWW.BACAPOA.ORG INFO@BACAPOA.ORG

CALL FOR CANDIDATES

For the October 10, 2014 Board of Directors Election

There will be three (3) vacancies on the Baca Grande POA Board of Directors this Fall. Any POA Member in Good Standing is eligible to become a candidate. Candidates may qualify to run for a position in one of the following ways:

- 1) Submit an application through the Nominating Committee. You may obtain a Candidate Packet through the POA office or online at www.bacapoa.org.
- 2) Obtain a petition with signatures of twenty-five (25) Members in Good Standing.

Candidates must submit their materials by 5:00 PM August 6, 2014 to the POA Office. Petitions must be verified by the POA Office prior to the due date.

Contact the POA Office at 719-256-4171 or info@bacapoa.org if you have any questions.



**Congratulations to
 Mr. & Mrs. Cunningham!**

Lori Nagel
CALL TODAY!!!

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Crestone protests property taxes

continued from page 1

for further adjustments than the County Board of Equalization's adjustments made in 2013", stated Stephens. "The audit from 2013 required the numbers countywide to fall within two statistical analysis ratios: Unweighted Median Ratio and a coefficient of dispersion".

When questioned, Stephens affirmed that the end result of not meeting the statistical requirements defined by the audit, would be another reappraisal being triggered for 2014 valuations—similar to the reappraisals required by the State for 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Stephens explains her reluctance to change the valuations, "The Wildrose Appraisers warned that if one thing was changed, it would move the numbers outside the defined parameters in their report. The same would be true for 2014 as well as 2013."

As far as the values agreed upon in the lawsuit, Stephens asserts that those values only had influence on the individual properties included in the lawsuit, and no influence on property values overall. "If the county accepted those agreed upon values included in the settlement as a basis, Saguache County would again be thrown into a reappraisal under the audit requirements."

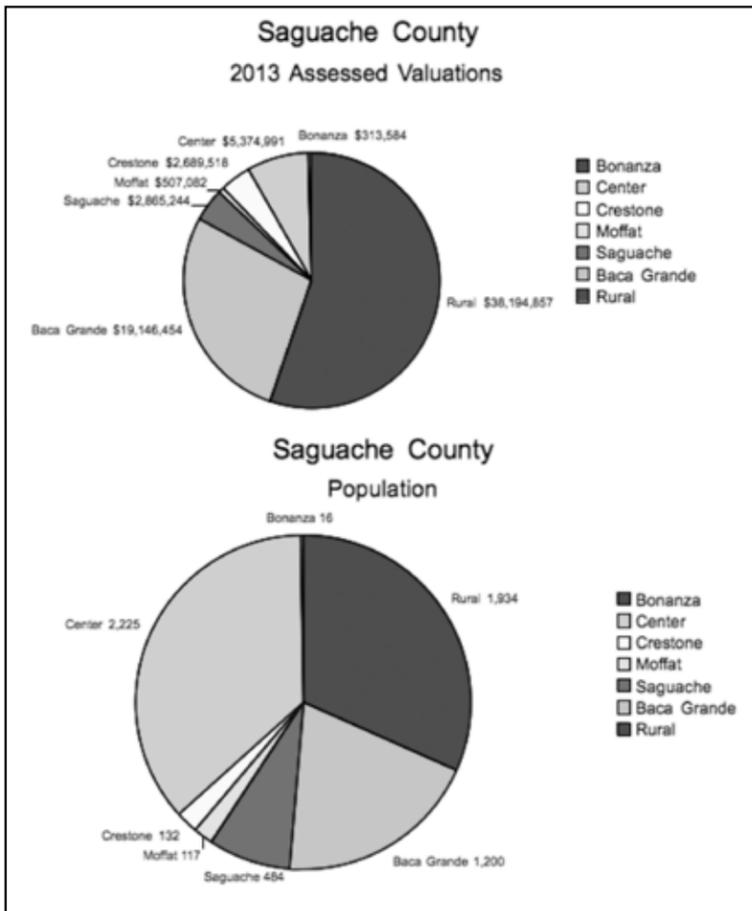
The Saguache Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the board of equalization, will conduct hearings on 2014 tax protests beginning at 9am on Thursday July 31, Friday Aug. 1 and Monday Aug. 4, as needed. According to Carla Gomez, Saguache County Clerk, 23 protests from 13 property owners.

Former attorney Elaine Johnson is one of several property owners in a tax protest lawsuit filed against the county earlier this year. She questions the "blanket denial" of the

2014 protests by the county assessor and the deferment of a decision on the 2013 abatements. "The narrow margin of error that is driving this process only confirms that the appraisals were not done right. The county commissioners should make the decision to re-appraise the whole county. It is the only thing that would be fair. Another re-appraisal is exactly what is required."

In reviewing the audit by Wildrose Appraisal Inc. and valuations gathered by Johnson for the lawsuit and abatement filings, a number of interesting factors came to light. According to Johnson's research, valuations for commercial property throughout the county show disparity from \$6.44 per square foot for com-

2013 Assessed Value					
Towns:	March 2014 Saguache Assessor	% Valuation	Population 2010 Census	% Pop.	Area (Sq. miles) Wikipedia
Bonanza	\$313,584	0.45%	16	0.26%	0.4
Center	\$5,374,991	7.78%	2,225	36.43%	0.8
Crestone	\$2,689,518	3.89%	132	2.16%	0.3
Moffat	\$507,082	0.73%	117	1.92%	1.4
Saguache	\$2,865,244	4.15%	484	7.92%	0.4
Baca Grande	\$19,146,454	27.71%	1,200	19.65%	21.8
Rural	\$38,194,857	55.28%	1,934	31.66%	994.6
		100.00%	6,108	100.00%	1,019.7
PILT (Federal lands)					2,150.3



The disparity between population and share of assessed values in Saguache County becomes clear when looking at these charts. The new exceedingly high assessments in the Town of Crestone mean that while Center has 17 times the population as Crestone (132), it only is assessed roughly twice as much.

mercial improvements in Center to \$170.40 per square foot, the highest valuation for commercial improvements in Crestone.

The statistical analysis performed by Wildrose Appraisal Inc. relied on a procedural analysis and a statistical analysis using a coefficient of dispersion, i.e. comparison between

data sets. In statistics the median is the number separating the higher half of the data sample from the lower half. In essence, the number needed to balance out \$6.44 (the lowest valuation based on Johnson's research) is \$170.40 (the highest valuation based on Johnson's research). In order to attain an equitable valuation it appears that the county is moving Crestone valuations higher to offset lower valuations in other parts of the county rather than bringing both numbers closer to the median.

As you can see from the pie charts, Crestone assessed valuations are about half of Center's assessed valuations; but Crestone has a population of 132 as compared to Center's population of 2,225.

Another example is vacant 50-foot commercial lots in Moffat valued at \$60 versus vacant 50-foot

commercial lots in Crestone valued at \$40,000. According to the county assessor, the County Board of Equalization was able to reduce the original valuations in Crestone from \$40,000 to \$36,875 using the co-efficient of dispersion to keep values within State-accepted parameters while also lowering values.

Johnson's comment, "The problem is that we are talking about real people, real property, and the reality of trying to make a real living, not just applying some formula that does not take into consideration the very real impacts on property owners. Some Crestone residents, who protested the high taxes in 2013 hoping for some relief, are now receiving tax sale notices placing their properties on the November tax sale, because they haven't yet paid for 2013, hoping for a decision by the county on 2013 abatement petitions to lower values."

State statutes allow either the County Board of Equalization or the Assessor to deal with requests for changes in valuation. Stephens affirms that the County Board of Equalization could act independent of her recommendations. If the commissioners sitting as the equalization board deny the protests, keeping valuations and taxes at current levels, property owners can take their case to the State Board of Equalization, district court, or binding arbitration. At the time of going to press, the commissioners were unavailable for comment.

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Saguache County News

by *Matie Belle Lakish*

Saguache County Commissioners will hold their mid-month meeting in Villa Grove in August. The work session, scheduled for August 12 at 9:30 am, will be held in a public place that has not yet been identified at press time. Meetings are being held around Saguache County to help Commissioners connect with citizens and hear issues that are important to residents. This is an excellent opportunity to those who are concerned about the municipal status of Bonanza, as well as other northern valley concerns, to voice their opinions to the Commissioners in person. To find out the location of the meeting, call the County Administration Office at 655-2231.

Airports

As of July, Saguache County now has two airports. The Leech airport, which is in the southern part of the county near Center, was acquired while Mike Spearman and Sam Pace were County Commissioners. Since that time, County Road and Bridge Supervisor Randy Arredondo has been working to solve some of the infrastructure issues. Mike Spearman, who has a great deal of interest in both aviation and Saguache County's economic health, has also done research and acted, to some extent, as a liaison in negotiations and planning. Commissioners have asked the two to work together in bringing a viable airport into reality.

The latest development is the County's acquisition of a patent on the Saguache Airport, which is located just west of Saguache on Hwy. 114. The airport was owned by the Bureau of Land Management for years. BLM did not use the airport, and it has only occasionally had traffic. Now, the County is free to develop it, as well as Leech.

Spearman has suggested that the County does not need to be in the airport business, and that the airports should be transferred to private operators in the future, but he feels that the infrastructure needs to be improved before that can happen. Last year lights were installed at Leech, and Arredondo is working with a fuel contractor to bring aviation fuel to the airport so that planes can refuel. There are several hangars at the airport, some owned by private individuals and some that could be leased. Spearman has done research on grants that might be available for infrastructure. Both he and Arredondo agree that more federal grants are available for new construction than for repair of existing buildings. Once fuel is available, Spearman thinks that some basic accommodations for pilots would make the airport more usable. Pilots could land, and have a place to sleep and access to at least drinking water and snack machines. A well on the property could water a small outdoor recreation area with picnic tables. Future planning would include some

way for pilots to get to Center to eat or purchase needed supplies.

While Spearman and Arredondo work on getting some basic infrastructure in place, Commissioner Linda Joseph is urging a longer term planning process. She notes that a vision is needed for future development and control of the airports, and procedures need to be put in place to bring that vision about. Commissioners agreed to do more research on how other counties have managed airports.

Unmanned aircraft

Part of the reason for the rush on getting the airports usable is that the valley is being looked at for siting for development of unmanned aircraft, and as a training center for personnel who would use them. As reported in last month's Saguache County news, Colorado Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) is evaluating the San Luis Valley as a site for their operations. Alamosa County is designated as the lead county, but airports in other parts of the valley could be used, as well. Both of Saguache County's airports are potential sites for this new development, as well as being used by more traditional aircraft. Colorado UAS hopes to get approval from the FCC for testing the unmanned aircraft. Once their application is submitted, it will require about three months for approval. The San Luis Valley could provide many of the diverse flight conditions needed to adequately develop and test the commercial and public safety uses expected to be important in the future. Smaller unmanned aircraft are already in use, but larger craft that can fly up to twelve hours, as anticipated by Colorado UAS, do not yet have FAA approval and rules. There are many potential uses for unmanned aircraft, including fire-fighting.

Strategic planning

Commissioners have begun a process of strategic planning for the county's future. Designed to identify 5-year goals and strategies for achieving them, the details of the plan will be revealed as soon as it is completed. Saguache County applied for a grant from Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to develop the plan after Commissioners became aware of Gunnison County's successes in implementing a plan for that county. They are developing concrete plans with doable goals that incorporate a vision for the county. Commissioner Jason Anderson said they want to move toward "serving people rather than reacting."

The broad strokes of the plan are taking shape. One of the goals Commissioners have identified is reducing poverty. Saguache is among the poorest counties in the state, and Commissioners would



Unmanned aircraft that is used for dropping water on forest fires. The San Luis Valley is welcoming development and training by Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

like to see better economic outcomes for our citizens. Other broad stroke goals involve reducing hunger, increasing diversity, and reducing the separation between the communities within the county. An early realization Commissioners had as they went through the process was that they are too separated from their constituents. That is one reason for holding their work sessions in locations around the county.

Veterans

A focus on veterans' health care issues continues in the valley, and Commissioner Linda Joseph has taken a very active role in seeing that veterans receive the services they need. In order to get better health care delivered locally, a need must be demonstrated to state and national administrators. So far, there has been only anecdotal information given to prove the need for more testing and treatment services in the valley. Therefore, a group of veterans have formed a Veterans' Coalition, and have created response forms that veterans can use to report deficiencies in services. Veterans, especially women vets, are encouraged to call and register with Saguache County's Veterans' Service Officer, Jim Sheeran at 655-2680.

Center Schools ARC

While meeting in the Center Library located in the school, Commissioners were invited to learn about the Academic Resource Center. This program, headed by Joy Werner, is designed to help students who, for one reason or another, have had trouble meeting their educational needs through regular school programs. These students have exceptional needs of various sorts, whether they be for schooling outside the regular school hours, daycare needs for infants, extra help with language issues, or just scheduling issues within the regular classroom setting. Werner can help design a program that will help meet those needs and get the student on a path to a diploma. Much of the coursework can be done online through the use of computers or iPads. Although Center students have priority, the program is open to any students in the valley that wish

to participate, and a number of out-of-district students have chosen to get their diplomas. There is a modest fee to participate.

Public Health Director welcomed

Saguache County has a new Public Health Director. Marcy Gardunio previously worked in Rio Grande County Public Health, and brings extensive experience to the department. She noted some of the current concerns in public health include West Nile virus, which has been found in a few counties in Colorado. West Nile virus is carried by mosquitos, and although not everyone has severe adverse reactions, it should be taken very seriously. Typical symptoms are flu-like, but it can result in paralysis and even death. Other issues in the county include Swine Flu and other influenzas and methamphetamine use.

Road & Bridge

Saguache County Road and Bridge recently finished paving Camino Real, also known as Two Trees Road, in the Baca. There is some confusion in residents' minds about who is responsible for upkeep on the roads. Generally, if the road is paved, it is now a county road, and will be maintained as such. Most of the gravel roads are under the jurisdiction of the POA. Thanks to Randy Arredondo for the work his department does. Road and Bridge has three openings for staff. Advertisements can be found in *The Saguache Crescent*, the mid-week SLV paper, or by calling Road and Bridge Department at 655-2554.

Saguache County statement regarding issuance of same sex marriage licenses

Saguache County Clerk and Recorder, Carla Gomez, announces that after reviewing the various rulings, decisions and filings associated with the issuance of same-sex marriage licenses in Colorado, including the appeal filed by the Attorney General on July 14 to the Supreme Court, and in considering that each County Clerk and Recorder in Colorado is an independent elected official, our position is that we will continue to uphold the current Colorado Constitution provision on same-sex marriage and will follow the current statute by issuing Civil Union Certificates to same sex couples. We will certainly abide by any future court rulings that affect any of those laws.



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by Gretchen Nelson,
Deputy Clerk
Alder St. bridge will be closed in August

Delays due to contractual problems have been resolved, and replacement of this failing structure has now been scheduled. Demolition and construction will begin on August 7, and detour signs will assist people in traveling to the north end of town. The only way to get to Spillway Rd. and North Crestone Creek trailheads and campground will be to travel north on Cottonwood St. and turn right on either Iron Ave. or Granite Ave. to reconnect with Alder St. north of the bridge. The project should take 2-3 weeks to complete and we apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Public hearing—community block development grant

The board of trustees conducted a public hearing on a community development block grant for the downtown revitalization project. During this process the board approved several documents required by the funder, including Assurances and Certifications, a Citizen Participation Plan, a Relocation Assistance Plan, a Policy Protecting Individuals Engaged in Non-violent Civil Rights Demonstrations, a Resolution Applying for a Community Development Block Grant and Delegation of Signatory Authority. There are numerous environmental concerns that must be addressed before the Town will be awarded the contract and improvements can begin.



The addition of the dunk tank was very popular at this year's Fourth of July celebration. Saguache County Deputy Dan Warwick was a good sport!

Jessica Martinez, you are a rock star

Thank you Jessica Martinez for coordinating the Town's annual 4th of July event! Town staff and board members have received many complements from residents and visitors on this year's 4th of July downtown celebration. People enjoyed the parade, the entertainment, the dunk tank and of course, the friendly people. Thank you to all of the volunteers and particularly Crestone Creative Council in helping make this an enjoyable event for hundreds of people.

Weed abatement project

The Town recently began the first phase of noxious weed eradication by spraying an organic, citrus based, non-toxic weed killer, Avenger, on cheat grass, Russian thistle, white top and other noxious weeds. Thank you to all the property owners who participated in using Avenger to spray weeds on private property. The weed eradication project will continue in 2015.

Attention dog owners!

The Town now has dog waste stations located at the Town Park and Little Pearl Park. The Town has an ordinance stating that dog excrement must be removed and has chosen not to enforce this until there was an easy way for dog owners to be in compliance. Please be respectful by picking up your dog's waste. Let's make the parks and other public property more enjoyable for the children, community members and tourists that visit these areas. Thank you.

Pump failures cause short-term water crisis in the Baca

Over the last 14 weeks, the Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District experienced three pump and electrical component failures of its two booster pumps and a backup pump that is kept on hand for emergencies. These pumps take water from our two wells 500 feet up the mountain to one of six storage facilities that are part of the water distribution system serving the Chalets.

At 1:30am on July 19, the weekend operator on duty, Justin Debon, received an alarm warning of the third failure, and he confirmed this upon arriving at the site shortly thereafter. District operations staff began repairs early Saturday morning and worked around the clock with contractors and consultants to solve the immediate problem.

As a result of the third pump failure, the district lost its ability to pump water into the water distribution system. Water levels in all of the storage facilities began to drop.

Emergency water conservation measures were implemented on July 20, asking the community to limit water use. Notices were posted and big signs put up at the entrance to the Baca asking people to be very frugal with water use. People were asked not to water yards, do laundry or bathe and to conserve water as much as possible, using water only for drinking, cooking and limited toilet flushing. General Manager Steven Harrell expressed the district's appreciation to community members who stepped up to help with this challenge and noted "it's a good reminder for all of us to be more conservation-minded."

As of 11pm July 20, one of the two pumps was back in operation, restoring a limited flow of water into the system. The second repaired pump was installed late in the evening July 21. Overnight water storage levels were restored and at 7:30am on July 22, all emer-

gency restricts were lifted.

Throughout the event, an operator was on site monitoring the system 24/7. District staff, contractors and consultants have worked diligently to get this critical part of the system back in full operation. Amazingly, at no time was there actual service interruption. Close monitoring and identifying the cause of these failures will continue.

Board President Cindy Reinhardt spoke the sentiments of the entire board thanking the staff, consultants and community: "I am grateful beyond measure for our staff and the contractors and consultants who serve this district every day to keep

our water flowing. Thank you and kudos to the weary team that navigated the district through this emergency tirelessly over these past four days to get the system back in full operation." She added, "thanks as well to the community for stepping up and taking this situation seriously. I hope that we'll all take the conservation measures that we each implemented forward and be more mindful each time we turn on the tap."



There was cheering in the Baca when this sign was posted! After several days of requested water restrictions, the pumps were working again and water flowing. Many thanks to all who conserved on water use—and big thanks to those who worked 'round the clock to get the water system up and running!

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Anchorage, Alaska conference

—A commissioner's report

by Jason Anderson,
Saguache County Commissioner

"If you are not at the table, your county is on the menu."

This was one of the first pieces of advice given to me as a new commissioner. It was shared by a very seasoned colleague who was finishing his time in office, and the discussion was about the role of local government in state and federal issues. I am following this advice to the best of my abilities; this report is a reflection of that goal.

One of the things that is abundantly clear—with Saguache County comprised of 76% public lands, we better be at that table. Saguache County has made it a point to be involved in how our public lands are used. This has included maintaining consistent dialog with our local public lands Managers through monthly meetings, the county serving as a cooperating agency with the BLM, and commissioners serving on advisory councils that determine use of project funds on and near public lands. We collaborate with our state and federal agencies in efforts to address wildlife and habitat issues of local, state and federal significance, such as the Endangered Species Act and how it effects our area. For myself, this has included being elected to the Colorado Public Lands Steering Committee, an eight-member group of commissioners that represent Colorado counties on public lands topics at the federal level. Those duties took me to Anchorage, Alaska to the Western Regional Interstate Public Lands Conference. Here is what I have to report:

Rural areas are pissed

I am sure there is a more socially correct way to say that, but it would not be as accurate. Some of the reasons, in my opinion, cannot be helped. Many of our western communities are founded and supported by extractive industries, be it lumber, mining, oil & gas, etc. The problem with that is the west is getting crowded, and there are more entities with different interests in how we use our public lands. What is perceived in many rural communities is a gross over-reach by the federal government on local residents and communities. Regulations like the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and others are often viewed by rural communities as better managed by local control, and an unnecessary imposition on local economies. As a result, discussions on topics such as the rights of states to claim their public lands were common. Environmental groups were a focus point of much frustration. Alaskan Senator Frank Murkowski, a featured speaker at the conference, stated that much of the rural west's economic woes are the result of an "elite group of extreme environmentalists that have unique access to the White House" for federal restrictions on resource development.

No one knows where PILT is

PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) has been the federal financial safety net for rural counties with public lands, which do not pay property taxes. For many counties, the ability to provide basic services is dependent on this funding (some counties in Nevada have Public Lands in the 90% range). Last year, Congress allowed PILT funding to fall out of mandatory status, and attached it (6 months late) to the Farm Bill, but only for one year. The goal of counties is to find full funding that is continuous. One proposal is to tie PILT to the National Conservation Fund, which is derived through offshore oil and gas revenue. Although at this time there are a handful of proposals, the actual funding has not been found. For the counties the issue is fairly simple: if there is a rescue or law enforcement issue on public lands, local governments respond and often assist with those services, as well as maintain the roads leading to access to those public lands. We just ask the federal government be a responsible neighbor and pay their fair share to counties for these services, and for their property, in lieu of taxes.

Our forests are in trouble

In the west, it is double trouble—beetles and fire. A quick hike up to Willow Park above Crestone/Baca tells the story. The trees are dying or dead from insect infestation. Some Colorado biologists believe there will not be an adult spruce tree left in Colorado in ten years, and though it is being accepted by some as a natural cycle, it poses clear problems in the management of our forests. It is difficult to grasp the square miles of dead forest material across our county, much less how best to utilize it. It is generally agreed that to leave it out in the public lands invites a fire hazard that has the potential to be catastrophic. Dead trees burn much hotter, and fires are much larger, putting our Public Land Managers in a position of dedicating most of their budget to fire. This means there is very little money left for the backlog of maintenance projects; campgrounds, roads and essential agency staffing often suffer as a result. Finding different ways to fund our fire fighting costs, and ways to mitigate our dead trees for beneficial purposes are both topics of high importance now, and for a long time to come.

In all, forty-one resolutions were brought forward from the Western States Committee to be discussed and voted on during the National Lands Conference later in the summer. The topics ranged from recognition of county sheriffs as the primary law authority in public lands counties, to seven resolutions concerning the Endangered Species Act, to highly controversial subjects like the Keystone gas pipeline. Those resolutions that are approved will become the official stance of the National Association of Counties, and relayed to our federal legislators. For myself, as a representative of the State of Colorado, as well as a commissioner from a rural county with a majority of the land in federal hands, it was a unique opportunity to influence the decisions that will affect the people I serve, as well as the land that we all hold so valuable.

Next month: Washington DC, a commissioner's report.



Illustration for the new Moffat School.

Construction begins on new Moffat school

by Kirk Banghart

Final adjustments and revisions to the Moffat PK-12 building plans have taken place throughout the summer. Now the real fun begins, construction!

DSI/Haselden crews started the mobilization process at the end of July on the backfield of the current Moffat PK-12 site. This allows for the earthwork and foundation work to begin in August.

The ten-month building process will allow for good craftsmanship to take place while insuring that our students will start the 2015-2016 school year on time in the new facility. The fall 2014 beginning construction phase will focus on the foundation, gym walls and structural steel components. Throughout this process, communi-

ty members can expect to see internal and external walls being erected through winter of 2015, with the final skin of the building and roof in place by spring of 2015. In late spring/early summer 2015, DSI/Haselden will be focused on completing the inside of the new facility. Final landscaping touches and the demolition of the current building will take place in late summer.

This is an exciting time for the students, staff and community of Moffat Consolidated School District #2. To stay current with the construction of the new facility visit our school website: www.moffatschools.org and please, don't hesitate to contact the district office at 719-256-4710 if you have any questions or concerns.

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Do away with dues reduction in lot consolidation?

POA report: Hard issues, fierce invectives

by Earl W. Sutherland

July 10—The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) was held on July 10. Twelve members of the community joined the five board members plus two staff.

The minutes of April 24, June 10, June 12, and June 26 were approved after minor adjustments. Typically these become available on the POA website in about a week. It's a good idea to be signed up on this website and at the same time provide your e-mail address. At present the POA office has only about 600 e-mail addresses out of about 4000 owners.

The proposal at the last board meeting, to acquire a pumper truck to help combat structural fires, was presented in more detail by Chief Todd Ryker. It is proposed to lease the truck for six years for \$7000 per year, at the end of which time the POA gains ownership. Director Garnett raised several objections, but the action was approved, despite opposing votes by Directors Garnett and (the otherwise silent on this issue) Janie Thomas. Director Garnett sought to disqualify Directors Fuller and McDonald from voting because they are (recent) members of the Baca Fire Department and thus had a "conflict of interest". This was rejected. Directors Fuller and McDonald did seem to acknowledge their new training and voted for the pumper as did Director Lakish. Chief Ryker made a persuasive argument in favor of getting this particular vehicle because of the current absence of resources to combat structural fires at the recommended level of intensity.

Considerable time was devoted to discussing materials for the upcoming election. The printing company, O&V Printers in Alamosa, requests the materials come to them by August 8, not long from now. Several components of the package for the single mailing of ballot-related materials were approved. Some important parts remain unresolved, however. Since no voting can occur during Members' Meetings such as the Annual Meeting (see POA website/documents/legal/13cv7 stipulated agreement) it's undecided how to approve the minutes of several former years' Annual Meetings as well as how to select an owner to lead the Members' Annual Meeting. The proposed ballot initiatives of Director McDonald have been reduced from four to two and he has volunteered to write both the required pros and cons for each of them.

One of his initiatives, if passed, would direct the POA to dispose of three old fire trucks. The other is more controversial as it concerns lot consolidation. Simply put, his proposed ballot initiative is that all future consolidation of lots will not entail any reduction in dues pertaining to each consolidated lot; however, it also won't cause the loss of the vote pertaining to each lot. Although an initiative can be placed on the ballot by the vote of a majority of the board (or by petition of the members), the heated discussion elicited by Director McDonald's proposal resulted in no current action. One concern was that the matter of lot consolidation had been considered a part of a larger question of the overall structure of the dues and has been under study by a committee formed for that purpose for several months, although that committee has not reported its findings since its initial meeting on April 2, 2014. Director McDonald had characterized the present dues structure of lot consolidation (all the lots, once consolidated, just pay dues for one) as a "hemorrhagic loss of POA income". In fact, there has

never been a discussion by the board of a shortage of operating funds and, actually, dues were cut for this year.

In answer, Director Fuller said that the real issue was "to make it fairer", a notion not further elaborated, but apparently one which again boils down to money, the extra money others would have to pay to compensate for the loss of dues-owing property through lot consolidation. Director McDonald's view is that he feels his idea should be put before the public; Director Lakish thinks a lot more information is needed first. Anyone want to write about the pros or cons of the proposed ballot initiatives?

Audit

The Risk Assessment (Financial) Audit report from Certified Fraud Examiner Dennis Crown has been received by the Finance Committee and meetings are planned. Director Thomas, speaking for that committee said that, "Several weaknesses in procedures of properly handling money by POA management and staff were cited." However, Nelson Fleming, our regular auditor, is now able to proceed with the annual audit, which he previously had been unable to do because of "red flags". When asked about the several hundred thousands of dollars he has previously said had gone missing, Director Garnett said that there were a lot of problems and that we're not stopping until we get to the bottom of it. He also said that the financials were in such bad shape that not all the records were provided, a statement disagreed with by Community Manager Ecklund. Director Garnett gave as one example missing check registers from U.S. Bank; however, Director McDonald contradicted him by saying he had found those very records just where they were supposed to be. Director Garnett also claimed that Mr. Crown's expenses (about \$7800) were inflated because of delays caused by tardy provision of records to him. Manager Ecklund again denied this and Director Fuller seemed to suggest that the cost was about what was expected, given that the base fee of \$5000 didn't include certain other expenses.

Hammersmith

Hammersmith (HMI) has reportedly been notified by General Counsel Schwiesow that the POA believes that HMI has broken its contract with the board. The POA asserts that the contract lists the Community Manager as HMI's only employee, so when HMI sequestered all computer-based information in a controversy over who could hire a new Land Use Manager, HMI terminated the contract by refusing to provide services. The next step the board sees is to discuss the issue further with the lawyer in executive session, enter into the public and vote on what to do. When asked if this weren't a major matter of general concern to the owners deserving more elaborate community involvement, Director McDonald indicated the matter had been adequately discussed at these last two board meetings.

This was not a pleasant meeting. Several board members' voices were often raised and considerable profanity flowed. Director Garnett spoke angrily at Fire Chief Ryker when he perceived that Mr. Ryker had raised his voice in defending the leasing of the fire truck. Scornful, critical comments were made to Community Manager Ecklund. Although Director McDonald has had as a mantra, "all you need to do is follow the rules", it wasn't clear if the rules were being followed when it came to how to conduct the Annual Meeting. Was Mercury still retrograde?

POA Manager resigns, Hammersmith Management may be fired

by Earl W. Sutherland

July 24—The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) held a regular meeting on July 24. About 37 people attended what became a spirited event. Since this meeting occurred just before the newspaper deadline the following is an abbreviated summary of events.

Community Manager Kristin Ecklund reports her resignation effective August 1, 2014, to assume a favorable position elsewhere. Thus, she won't be able to create next year's budget, but did ask for guidelines she can convey to department leaders. There is apparently not a good pattern for ongoing expenses of operation or a plan for the capital expenses of the future. Director Garnett stated, "We're over budget because of poor management," an observation not backed up by information made known.

Ballot issues were discussed but no action taken, leading to the likely result that neither of them will appear on the ballot. The more contentious one dealt with lot consolidation. Director McDonald's original proposal was to continue to permit lot consolidation, but prohibit any reduction in dues per lot, although re-instating a vote for each consolidated lot. He has now altered this by requiring that if a previously consolidated lot is sold (where only one vote is allowed however many lots are involved, but the dues are those of only one lot), the new rules would now apply to it. Mr. McDonald notes the ever-growing loss of money potentially available to the POA over the years attributable to fewer dues, and his view that this deficit is being supported by those who haven't consolidated lots; he sees it as a matter of fairness.

Other speakers disagreed with Director McDonald's opinion that enough lots had already been consolidated, desiring instead an even lower density of developed lots. Some people suggested tiered lowering of dues with consolidation, where lesser reduction of dues occurs with more consolidations. Chairperson Kate Steichen of the Ad Hoc Committee for Dues Restructuring, charged with gathering information on the consolidation issue, said that their committee has been working steadily but hasn't finished yet. She notes that she and her committee had not been consulted by Director McDonald. This latest proposed ballot initiative had not been seen by Ms. Steichen until this day, nor had it been vetted by General Counsel Schwiesow. A possible fate for this proposal is to craft a survey

which will question owners' views on this important matter. The other ballot issue concerned the disposal of three fire trucks, one of which, according to Director Lakish, appears likely to have usefulness to us or to one of our companion fire departments. Fire Chief Ryker was surprised by this information, saying he hadn't seen the ballot proposal before. This will be studied more.

A further report from the Risk Assessment (Financial) Committee was presented by Director Thomas and committee member Lisa Cyriacks. The key part of their communication was a list of six actions recommended to the board. The full report from Certified Fraud Evaluator (CFE) Dennis Crown was known only to Directors Garnett and Thomas (and Ms. Cyriacks). Probably for this reason the other directors objected to the process. Apparently a meeting had been called inviting Directors Fuller and McDonald to join Directors Garnett and Thomas (but not Director Lakish) to a non-POA site (per Mr. Fuller), with the premise that the contents of the report of Mr. Crown would be disclosed. However, this disclosure did not happen. When asked about the non-inclusion of Director Lakish, Ms. Thomas at first said that "Eric" (General Counsel Schwiesow) had urged her exclusion; later Ms. Thomas said she couldn't say why Ms. Lakish wasn't included. In this night's meeting Director Lakish (somewhat) jokingly suggested that they must think she was the one who made off with the \$400,000 which has supposedly gone missing. Moreover, the Risk Assessment Committee, according to Ms. Ecklund, has declared both her and Hammersmith Management "incompetent", a charge not denied by the Risk Assessment Committee members who were present. The material released by the committee has the appearance of triviality to this reporter's untrained eye. One hopes for greater clarity somewhere, sometime.

An unexpected component of the (now called) Financial/Audit Committee in conjunction with CFE Crown, Auditor Fleming, and Attorney Schwiesow was that it was recommended that the contract with Hammersmith be discontinued, citing as the reason an argument over who had access to all the financial records of the POA. As one owner said, "this process feels like a witch hunt." The process of earlier POA boards, which actively sought owner input on important issues, seems to be largely ignored by the present one.

August 1, 2, & 3

Crestone Music Festival

The fest starts Friday!

The 16th Annual Crestone Music Festival will be held August 1, 2, & 3. The festival is a three-day, two-stage multi-genre, multi-cultural event held at Challenger Golf Club in Crestone Colorado. We have camping, a kid's zone, contests, arts & crafts, a raffle, gourmet cuisine and Colorado libations.

Advance ticket prices for this year are: Adults \$27 for Friday, \$37 for Saturday and \$27 for Sunday. Senior prices are: \$17 for Friday, \$22 for Saturday and \$17 for Sunday. Teens ages 12 through 18 are \$10 a day and kids under 12 are free. Advance weekend pass discounts are: \$75 for adults, \$45 for seniors and \$25 for teens. Camping

is one price, \$30 per person, which covers 1 to 4 nights. Prices go up at the gate so don't delay, get your tickets now!

Our headliners this year are stellar. Friday's headliner is the Eclectic Paper Bird. Their unique sound is a combination of energetic rhythms intertwined with effortless musicianship and flowing harmonies. They were featured on NPR's "All Things Considered" and were voted in the Top 10 Best Underground Bands by the *Denver Post* three years in a row.

Saturday features blues artist Ruthie Foster. Ruthie burns it

continued on page 11



Charles Neville & Youssoupha Sidibe with The Mystic Rhythms will be playing Sunday.



The young and talented Paper Bird will perform Friday night



Ruthie Foster

Crestone Music Festival 2014 Schedule	
<i>Friday, August 1st</i>	
1:15 – 2:00 - (west stage) - Barry Bailey	
2:30 – 3:30 – (w) – Airplane Mode	
4:00 – 5:00 – (w) – Plan Be	
5:15 – 6:30 - (east stage) – Taarka	
6:45 – 8:15 – (w) – Blue Canyon Boys	
8:30 – 10:00 – (e) - Paper Bird	
<i>Saturday, August 2nd</i>	
10:45 – 11:15 – (e) Meryl Ennis	
11:30 – 12:15 – (e) River Bottom Blues band	
12:30 – 1:15 – (e) Fiji Acoustic	
1:30 – 2:00 – (w) Crestone Tribal Bellydance Project	
2:15 – 3:15 – (e) Beth Quist	
3:15 – 3:35 Break - Women's Wood Chopping Contest	
3:35 – 4:35 – (w) Intuit	
4:35 – 5:00 Break – Men's Wood Chopping Contest	
5:00 – 6:10 – (e) SHEL	
6:20 – 7:30 – (w) Rachael and the Ruckus	
7:30 - 8:00 Break – Scholarship Award	
8:00 - 9:30 – (e) Ruthie Foster	
<i>Sunday, August 3rd</i>	
8:00 ScSeed Pancake Breakfast	
8:00 – 8:40 – (e) Milton and his band of Angels	
8:50 – 9:30– (e) Mark Mikow	
9:40 – 10:20 – (e) Cari & James	
10:30 – 11:30 – (w) Fun-k-Chickunz	
11:45 – 12:45 - (e) CB Jazz	
12:45 – 1:00 Break – Pie Eating Contest	
1:00 – 2:15 - (w) Chaco Royal International	
2:30 – 3:45 – (e) The Young Ancients	
3:45 – 4:00 Break – Limbo Contest	
4:00 - 5:30 – (w) Conjunto Colores	
5:30 – 6:00 Break – Raffle Drawing	
6:00 – 7:30 – (e) Charles Neville & Youssoupha Sidibe with The Mystic Rhythms	

Fun & Games: Family Tent Schedule	
<i>Friday, August 1st</i>	
2:00-4:00 Allison Wonderland - Wiggles & Giggles	
<i>Saturday, August 2nd ay</i>	
10:00-10:30 Radiant Flow yoga class for all ages	
10:45-11:15 Allison Wonderland - Wiggles & Giggles	
11:30-12:30 We Are the Drum workshop	
12:45-1:15 Allison Wonderland - Pied Piper Parade	
1:30-2:30 Salida Circus Workshop	
2:45-3:45 Radiant Flow yoga class for children	
3:45-4:15 Allison Wonderland - Wiggles & Giggles	
4:30-5:00 Allison Wonderland - Story Telling Circle	
<i>Sunday, August 3rd</i>	
9:30-10:30 Radiant Flow yoga class for all ages	
10:45-11:15 Allison Wonderland - Wiggles & Giggles!	
11:30-12:15 We Are the Drum Workshop	
12:30-1:15 Allison Wonderland - Pied Piper Parade!	
1:30-2:30 Salida Circus Workshop	
2:45-3:30 Allison Wonderland - Storytelling Circle	
3:30-4:00 - Radiant Flow yoga class for children	



Rachael and the Ruckus.



Beth Quist.

continued from page 10

up with a combustible blend of soul, blues, rock, folk and gospel. Ruthie's latest CD was nominated for a Grammy in 2013 for "Best Traditional Blues" album. She has won numerous awards for her distinctive and powerful voice including the Koko Taylor award.

Sunday features Grammy-winning Charles Neville, from the Neville Brothers, with Grammy-nominated Kora master Youssoupha Sidibe and the Mystic Rhythms. Youssoupha is a master of the kora or African harp. He combines elements of western, reggae, and African music. Charles adds his jazzy style and expertise and together, they create something new, different and exotic.

Regional acts include: bluegrass from the Blue Canyon Boys, Gypsy jazz from Taarka, the singing sisters SHEL, New Age Intuit from Naropa University, frisky funk from Rachael and the Ruckus, Middle Eastern music from Beth Quist, Cajun rock from The Young Ancients, hard salsa from Conjuntos Colores and a new genre at the festival, soukous, from Chaco Royal International.

Local acts include: folk singer Barry Bailey, jazz guitar from Mark Mikow, Gypsy mountain rock from Plan Be, jazz standards with CB Jazz, originals from Fiji Acoustic, Cari & James from South Africa, the ever-soulful Meryl Ennis, indie rock band Air Plane Mode, the power surge of The River Bottom Blues Band, the funk-ed-out Fun-K-Chickunz, Tribal Belly Dance Project and gospel from the CITV Worship Team.

It's easy & secure to order tickets on line at www.crestfest.org or by phone at 719-256-4533. We have fabulous acts and activities this year so don't miss out!

Crestone Performances Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit community service organization that annually produces the Crestone Music Festival, subsidizes and produces cultural and educational presentations in San Luis Valley area schools and provides free consulting and technical assistance to other community endeavors.



Misha Mfum and Chaco Royal International play Sunday afternoon.

Chloe Hadden is Aventa's scholarship winner

Aventa Credit Union and Crestone Performances have teamed up again to award a \$500 scholarship to a local performing arts student.

The winner is Chloe Hadden. Chloe is a junior at the Crestone Charter School. Her instrument is voice and she will use the monies for private lessons. She comes from a musical family, and has a choir background but a rock n' roll heart. She also plays some ukulele and piano and is enjoying theory. She has a natural ear for harmony and a strong and unique quality to her voice. She participated in the Charter School rock band last year and the experience opened doors. The band allowed her to "be heard" in a smaller setting, something she never experienced in big choirs. "It strengthened me to start to have a voice, and it showed me you can actually reach people through music." She also had the opportunity to work her teaching muscle and help other students with harmonies. Chloe says "music is one thing I find authentic joy in." Her favorite bands are Led Zeppelin, Fallout Boy, Panic at the Disco, Cage and the Elephant and The Beatles. Her favorite singers are Bob Marley, Janis Joplin and Amy Winehouse. The official award ceremony will happen at 7:30 August 2 on the east stage at the 16th Annual Crestone Music festival.

Our thanks go out to Aventa Credit Union for fully funding this program. Aventa is entering their third year of cooperation with our organization. They have been generous, gracious and sincere in their efforts to make a difference with students and the arts in our community. Thank you Aventa! For more information please call 719-256-4533.

Leaping lizards!

Here is our new T-shirt design and the lizard is loose. This year's design is by renowned San Luis Valley artist Judith Page. Judith came to the valley in 1988 and has lived in Saguache for over 20 years. She attended Montgomery College, Alfred University and received a BFA from Indiana University. This year's design was inspired by a painting Judith created on a drum called "Storm Lizard." Her t-shirt designs have previously been chosen for the 9th (2007) and 13th (2011) Crestone Music Festivals. She has also created logo designs for the Valley Food Co-Op and Alamosa Sunshine festival. One of her illustrations will be the cover for the August 2014



The 2014 Crestone Music Festival T-shirt design. Art by Judith Page.

Colorado Central magazine. A founding member of The Saguache Artists, she and partner, Dean Coombs, opened their gallery, "Magpie," in 2013 in Saguache featuring Judith's mixed media, narrative fantasy illustrations and collages and Dean's extensive collection of African and ethnographic artifacts and beads. Magpie is open most weekends through the Summer or by appointment at 719-655-2650 or 719-655-2620.



For a good time, listen to SHEL on Saturday at this year's music fest.

Our raffle rocks!

We have five great raffle prizes and friendly new rules! The rules: there is no Grand Prize. When you win, you pick what you want from what's left. If you are not present, Monday we'll call and you pick what you want from what's left.

Now for the prizes!

Directly from Martin is a brand new Martin 000X1AE acoustic electric guitar worth over \$900! It comes with a hard shell case, Fishman active electronics and a full warranty. Our headliners' signatures make it one-of-a-kind!

Worth over \$600 is a package with multiple Colorado hot springs day passes. It includes 10 passes to Joyful Journey Hot Springs, 4 passes to Orient Land Trust, 10 passes to Orvis Hot Springs and \$300 towards the package of your choice at the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool!

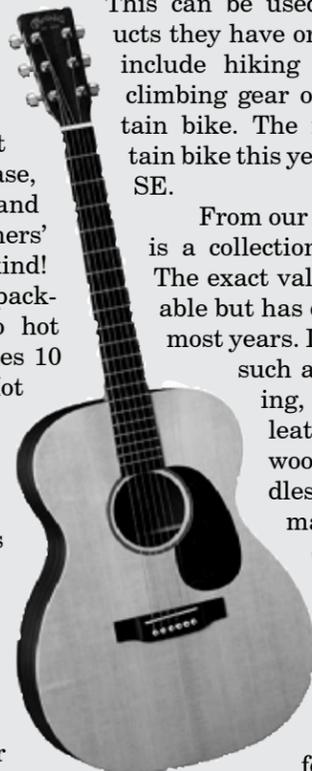
New this year is our Destination Package for those who love to get out and explore what colorful Colorado has to offer! This package includes tickets for concerts at the Durango Community Concert Hall, the Rio Grande Scenic Railroad Concert Train and the Gunnison Arts Center. Each of those locations will include a one-night stay for two at nearby hotels. Also in the package is an overnight stay for two at Joyful Journey Hot Springs and one overnight for two at Orient Land Trust with a twist. The OLT night

includes a private dinner provided by Rustingram Catering! Then, just for the fun of it, we've thrown in two adult ski passes to Arapahoe Basin. The total value of this prize is over \$1,200.

From Kristi Mountain Sports in Alamosa is a \$500 store credit. This can be used for any products they have or carry. This can include hiking gear, ski gear, climbing gear or even a mountain bike. The featured mountain bike this year is a Hardrock SE.

From our festival vendors is a collection of their stuff! The exact value is unpredictable but has exceeded \$1,000 most years. It includes items such as jewelry, clothing, arts & crafts, leather goods, woodworking, candles, hoola-hoops, massages, services and more.

The raffle drawing will be held at 5:30pm on Sunday, August 3 at the festival on the main stage. Tickets can be purchased during the festival at the CMF tent or directly from CPI board members. Board members are: Peter Taylor, Aaron Conrad, Don Richmond, Kizzen Laki, Akia Tanara, Dennis Neuhaus, Eli Dokson, Steve Westra and Dan Perlman. They're all carrying so grab 'em and get 'em!



Energy Fair

continued from page 1

serving solar-cooked snacks provided by the Crestone Mercantile around 1pm on "Solar Cooker Corner". Dave has a couple new solar items cooking, so be sure to stop by and see what he's up to.

As you cross Solar Cooker Corner you'll make your way down "Tiny House Row" towards Crestone Town Park. Once you arrive at the park you'll find the building demos, power generation information, edible permaculture info and the Sustainability Flea Market (contact Donovan at 303-868-6352 if you have a stockpile of building materials or power system components you'd like to sell at the market). Additionally you'll find a "Wild Ideas and Inventions" area where you can postulate and share ideas about what could be with others.

Sunday the 24th the fair will focus on guided home tours. This year's attendees will once again have multiple options to choose from. There will be two tours show-

casing completed homes and one tour focused exclusively on homes under construction. The tours will provide the broadest variety of construction materials and methods as possible (suggested donation of \$15 per couple includes tour book). There will also be a variety of commercial facilities offering tours throughout the weekend including the Orient Land Trust, Crestone Charter School and Chokurei Ranch. Be sure to get a schedule of events when you arrive Saturday morning (or Friday night at the Bliss Cafe if you're in town). The day is scheduled to begin at 10am. You can also find vendor forms and up-to-date info at ScSEED.org/energy. Please direct other inquiries to Donovan at 303-868-6352.

A final word from CLEAR: The answer lies in shifting the world from using less to creating more, from minimizing our negative impacts to maximizing our positive contributions. It's about moving away from fear of scarcity to the exploration of positive solutions that will take us beyond sustainability to regeneration and to the creation of living environments.



Vendor at the Energy Fair demonstrating solar cooking. There will be more and varied demonstrations this year as well.

Peter Peterson for Saguache County Assessor

Peter will bring to the Assessor's office his:

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Contact Peter at: slvpeter@hotmail.com



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Sculptor Tom Hart featured at Shumei; Symposium Aug. 17

Tom Hart, also known as Tomarth the Druid, is a mountain recluse who has been sculpting in wax since childhood. His work will be on display in the Shumei Gallery for the month of August. An Art Symposium with Tom will be held Sunday August 17 from 3 to 5pm. Refreshments follow the artist's presentation.

Tom says, "Solitude has always been my best wax-working tool." Holding a BFA in Sculpture, an MA in Buddhist Studies, an MA in Literature and a PhD in Philosophy and Religion, he would like to think that these studies have somehow coalesced the work he will be showing.

Deeply moved by these studies in conjunction with mythology and spiritual lore from the Celtic Traditions, Tom sees the deep benefit of bringing these archetypes



Sculpture by Tom Hart.

to life during our time of great change. These sculptures conjure up a whole realm deriving inspiration from such authors as T.H. White and J.R.R. Tolkien, who helped bring the mythical worlds to life again.

Tom continues to break new ground in the art of wax sculpture, whilst in the depths of solitude. Come meet Tom and learn more about his work on August 17 from 3 to 5pm. This event is free to the public. Visit www.shumeicrestone.org or call 719-256-5284 for more information.

Crestone Artisans Gallery news: 2nd Saturday Open House

There's a lot to tell you about August at the gallery. First, our featured artist is a returning artist to Crestone, Larain Matheson. Her specialty is encaustic painting, which is a 2,000-year-old technique common to Greek and Egyptian cultures. It uses beeswax and oil pigment that is fused layer by layer, using heat to create expressions of art characterized by beautiful transparencies and vivid colors. Other materials can be incorporated into the beeswax to create three-dimensional features in the resulting art. Larain has been an artist for 35 years and has worked with encaustics for the past eight years. In mid-August she will team with Sue Beck-Retuta to offer a combined weekend retreat of encaustic painting and Kundalini Yoga. For information call Sue at 588-3373.

Of course, the big event for all of Crestone is our annual music festival August 1, 2, 3. Members of our art community will be participating at the festival.

The gallery has a monthly event. It is our 2nd Saturday open house. This month is August 9 from 2 to 5pm. Musical background will be provided by Alycia Chambers, which is sure to be beautiful and appropriate for an artistic event.

There will be one more event August 23, set up in the park outside the gallery. This is Crestone's annual Energy Fair. Again, there will be booths with food and music as well as a wide mix of items for sale.

We look forward to seeing you all at these events, supporting the artists and craftspeople of our community.

Enjoy the summer!

<p>The Sound Hole Acoustic Music Shoppe</p>	<p>115 G Street, SALIDA 719-539-3568 Open 12-6 Mon. - Sat.</p>	<p>Salida School Of Stringed Instruments</p> <p>Quality music education with years of professional experience.</p> <p>Individualized training helps students excel to their best and achieve personal goals.</p> <p>Affordable musical equipment, instruments and accessories.</p> <p>Repairs, Buy / Sell / Trade / Consignment</p> <p>We'll keep the music on for you!</p>
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<p>One of the Crestone Cracks where the light gets in for over 20 years!</p>	<p>Spanish Creek Mountain Medicine Catherine Alelyunas, RN Doctor of Oriental Medicine 719-256-4248 for appointment</p>
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HAPS

Salida Aspen Concerts

August 2 The American Brass Quintet: Kevin Cobb, trumpet; Louis Hanzlik, trumpet; Michael Powell, trombone; John D. Rojak, bass trombone and Eric Reed, horn. The ABQ will bring with them the Brazen Brass Quintet, student guest performers. They will perform “Elizabethan Ayres” by Morley/Raymond Mase, “Quinteto Concertante” by Lacerda, “Cadence, Fuge, Fade” by Sebastian Currier, “Three Madrigals” by Gesualdo/Louis Hanzlik, “Frost Fire” by Eric Ewazen, and “Two Venetian Canzoni”.

August 9 Guitarist Colin Davin performing music of J. S. Bach, Manuel de Falla, Hungarian guitarist/composer Johann Kaspar Mertz, Swiss composer Hans Haug and Spanish composers Isaac Albéniz and Federico Mompou.

All concerts at 7:30pm, Salida High School auditorium, 26 Jones Avenue. Open seating tickets are \$15 at the door or can be purchased in advance online at www.SalidaAspen-Concerts.org. For further information contact Earle Kittleman, Salida Aspen Concerts publicity, 719-539-6153 or EKittleman@q.com.



Congratulations to Kim Weis (Branch Manager of Aventa CU) and Todd Cunningham (CDOT Employee) who were married July 11, 2014 at the Crestone golf course in a private ceremony with Dennis Ertle officiating the ceremony. Kim says “It was a wonderful day!” We wish this happy couple all the best!

photo by Lori Nagel

Stieglitz & Georgia O’Keeffe; A presentation by Jennifer and Ammi

This presentation will peep into their relationship, as it was loving, complicated and artistically rich. There are slides of some of Georgia’s works which will be discussed poetically through her words. Come join us in this exploration of art! The event is free, Saturday, August 9, 7pm at the Crestone Charter School.

Watershed walk August 12 on upper So. Crestone

The Crestone-Baca Watershed Council monthly Field Day for August will explore the outstanding lush willow and aspen forest habitats along upper sections of the South Crestone Creek Greenbelt. Our short hike will survey this “transition zone,” crucial for recharge of ground water to the valley’s aquifers, and call attention to the potential of this area for trout habitat restoration. Meet where the South Crestone Trail crosses Baca Grant Way, Tuesday, August 12 at 10am. Bring a notebook, snack, water, and a camera.

For directions and more information email crestonebacawatershedcouncil@gmail.com or call 719-256-4182. Reach us during field activities at 917-392-6962



The Haunted Windchimes will be at the Cloud Station August 23. It’s a real treat to have them come back to Crestone.

Performing at The Cloud Station in Crestone

Scott Cossu—Friday, August 22nd, Scott Cossu Doors open at 7pm.

Haunted Windchimes—Saturday, August 23rd, a very popular group who performed last year at the Crestone Music festival will play. Doors open at 7:30pm. Tickets \$12 advance, \$15 at door.

After the Music Festival: Taarka, Friday, August 1, 10 pm. Saturday August 2, **Intuit**, 10 pm. Tickets, \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. Buy your tickets early!



EveryBody Deserves a Massage Week is a huge success

Crestone Massage would like to send out a heartfelt thank you to our community and local massage therapists for participating in this annual event to provide educational awareness of the many health benefits of massage therapy and at the same time raise money for a local charity. This year we raised \$500 and a box full of food for the Crestone Food Bank. Special thanks goes out to Cynthia Neilson, Wayne Hallstrom, Kathleen Willow, Jackie Pena, and Amulya Dawn Beachwood. We look forward to serving our community again with this great event next year. See you then!



Kyle Grote & the Yak and Cracker Cafe held a “GMO Free” festival on July 5. Lots of good food and music! photo by Lori Nagel

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719.496.0966

Friday, August 22nd
Scott Cossu
\$12 ~ Doors 7pm

Saturday, August 23rd
Haunted Windchimes
\$15 ~ Doors 7:30pm

Open Mic resumes Sunday, August 10th!

Wildwood Sounds House Concerts

Bad Cactus Brass Band / Tradition & Original Dixieland, Swing & Pop / Friday, August 1st

Susan Gibson / Country Folk / Tuesday, August 5th

Eliza Gilkyson / Grammy Nominated Singer, Songwriter & Activist / Tuesday, August 19th

The Mitguards with Don Richmond / Americana / Saturday, August 23rd

wildwoodsounds.com / 719.657.4757 / Del Norte

Community Calendar—August 2014

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monthly Events

Thursday, July 31

- Baca National Wildlife Refuge Tour – NWR headquarters 9:00 am-1:00 pm Free 719-256-5527

Friday, August 1

- Crestone Music Festival – Crestone Golf Course 8:30 pm-10:00 pm crest-fest.org 719-256-4533

Saturday, August 2

- Crestone Music Festival – Crestone Golf Course All Day crest-fest.org 719-256-4533
- J. Moore: "23 Days on the Colorado Trail", Saguache Co. Museum, Saguache, by donation, 1:30pm, 655-2557
- Sangres Art Guild 2014 Fall Show Reception – 3rd St Gallery 4-6pm Free sangresartguild.org 719-783-0886

Sunday, August 3

- Crestone Music Festival – Golf Course All Day crest-fest.org 719-256-4533
- Open House for Sale 400 W. Galena, Crestone, 11am-3pm <http://bit.ly/1phnCwv> 719-256-5800

Monday, August 4

- BG Stables Summer Children's Riding Program 8:30 am-11:00 am \$150/week 256-6200
- Town of Crestone Planning Commission Regular Meeting – Crestone Town Center 6-8pm

Wednesday, August 6

- BGPOA Ad Hoc Dues Structure Committee Meeting, BGPOA Meeting Room 1-3pm bacapoa.org 256-4171
- BGPOA Board Candidate Application Deadline – BGPOA office 5pm bacapoa.org 719-256-4171

Thursday, August 7

- Start of destruction & reconstruction of Alder St. bridge
- Saguache Pow Wow
- Green River Canoe trip, August 7-12– \$535 www.earthknack.com 719-256-4909
- Sufi Dhikr All Welcome – 4:00 pm-5:45 pm Free/ Donation nurashkierrahi.org 719-256-4290

Friday, August 8

- Art Retreat with Jennifer Thomson www.jenniferthomson.net 719-937-7694 or 496-3184

Saturday, August 9

- Camino de Crestone – All Day www.caminode-crestone.com 719-937-7697
- Prayer Breakfast – Crestone Baptist Church 8:00 am-10:00 am
- Brian Rill @ Steel Horse Grill, Villa Grove 6-9pm steelhorsegrill.com 719-655-2004
- Steiglitz & O'Keeffe, art & words, CCS, 7pm

Sunday, August 10

- Largest Full Moon of the year
- Full Moon Fire Ceremony – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am babajashram.org 256-4108
- Shumei's Monthly Sampai, Sanctuary, 10:30am-noon Free www.shumeicrestone.org 719-256-5284

Monday, August 11

- Savitri Immersion Workshop, Sri Aurobindo Learning Center www.sriurobindo.org 719-256-6010
- Crestone Town Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Crestone Town Ctr. 1:30-6:30pm 719-256-4313

Tuesday, August 12

- Saguache County Commissioners out-in-the-county work session, Villa Grove, 655-2231
- C-B Watershed Council Field Day, Baca Grant Way at So. Crestone Creek Trail 10am-noon free 256-4182
- Crestone End of Life Project Open Meeting – 33 Sunset Overlook 7:00 pm-9:00 pm 719.256.4247

Thursday, August 14

- Baca Refuge Tour-Refuge Planning/Public Uses, Baca Refuge Office 9:00 am Free 719-256-5527

Friday, August 15

- Painting & Yoga Weekend Retreat, Crestone Healing Arts Ctr \$220 larainmathesonart.com 256-4036

Saturday, August 16

- "Wisdom of the Turtle" workshop with Láné Sáan Moonwalker, \$75, 9:30-4:30, 719-937-7786
- Guitar Steve @ Steel Horse Grill – Steel Horse Grill 6-9pm steelhorsegrill.com 719-655-2004

Sunday, August 17

- "Shell Wisdom" workshop with Láné Sáan Moonwalker, \$75, 9:30-4:30, 719-937-7786
- "Characters of the Old Spanish Trail", Saguache Co. Museum, Saguache, by donation, 1:30pm, 655-2557
- Symposium for Sculptor Tom Hart, Shumei Gallery 3-5pm Free www.shumeicrestone.org 256-5284
- Restorative Yoga, Shakti Sharanam 3-5pm Sliding scale \$20-\$40 shaktisharanam.com 256-5668

Wednesday, August 20

- Saguache Fall Festival Auction & Quilt Show

Thursday, August 21

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome, 4-6pm Free or by donation nurashkierrahi.org 719-256-4290

Friday, August 22

- Landscape Painting Retreat with Jennifer Thomson www.jenniferthomson.net 719-937-7694
- Scott Cossu Concert, Cloud Station 7-10pm \$12 facebook.com/thecloudstation 719-496-0966

Saturday, August 23

- 25th Annual Crestone Energy Fair
- Teachings w/Gangteng Rinpoche, Yeshe Khorlo 9am-5pm \$45/session, \$180/2 days gtr2014usa.com 719-588-2587
- 25th Annual Crestone Energy Fair – Crestone Town Park All Day 303-868-6352
- Saguache Annual Art Festival – downtown Saguache 10:00 am-4:00 pm 719-655-0155
- Paul Archuleta @ Steel Horse Grill – Steel Horse Grill 6-9pm steelhorsegrill.com 719-655-2004
- Haunted Windchimes Concert, Cloud Station 7:30-10:30pm \$15 facebook.com/thecloudstation 719-496-0966

Saturday, August 24

- 25th Annual Crestone Energy Fair
- Teachings w/Gangteng Rinpoche, Yeshe Khorlo 9am-5pm \$45/session, gtr2014usa.com 719-588-2587

Monday, August 25

- New Moon
- New Moon Fire Ceremony, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free babajashram.org 256-4108

Tuesday, August 26

- Vajrapani Empowerment w/Gangteng Rinpoche, Yeshe Khorlo 2pm \$45 gtr2014usa.com 719-588-2587

Wednesday, August 27

- Peling Ultimate Secret Long Life Empowerment w/Gangteng Rinpoche, Yeshe Khorlo 2pm \$45 gtr2014usa.com 719-588-2587

Thursday, August 28

- Baca Refuge Tour—Fall Management, Baca Refuge Office 9:00 am Free 719-256-5527

Saturday, August 30

- Brian Rill@Steel Horse Grill, Steel Horse Grill 6-9pm steelhorsegrill.com 719-655-2004

Monday, September 1

- Labor Day – All Day

Wednesday, September 3

- Coin Collectors' Forum, Alamosa Recreation Ctr., 7-8pm, 719-378-6341

Thursday, September 4

- Great Sand Dunes quarter release ceremony, Great Sand Dunes Nat. Park p'king lot, 10am

Saturday, September 6

- Paul Archuleta@Steel Horse Grill, Steel Horse Grill 6-9pm steelhorsegrill.com 719-655-2004

Saturday, September 13

- Telluride Mountainfilm on Tour, CCS
- Yogic Cooking Workshop, Shakti Sharanam 3-8pm \$30-\$60 shaktisharanam.com 256-5668

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, 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, www.babajashram.org

Sunday

- Weekly Sunday Mass at Nada Carmelite Hermitage 9:00 am-10:00 am 719-256-4778
- Dorje Trolo Practice White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:15 pm no charge 719-256-5773
- Alcoholics Anonymous Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Sunday School and Service Crestone Baptist Church 10:00 am-noon

Monday

- Dharma Ocean Meditation Group, Crestone Charter School 5:30-6:30pm free dorestone.wpengine.com 719-937-7948

Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5-6:45pm By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm crestonena@gmail.com 970-309-0710

Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30-10:00 am By donation shaktisharanam.com 719-256-5668
- Hutchinson Homestead Ranch Tours 1:30-2:30pm Adults-\$5, Children-\$3 facebook.com/hutchinsonhomesteadranch 719-239-0955
- Feldenkrais Awareness through Movement 1538 Willow Creek Way 5:30-6:30pm 719-256-4480

- Adult Activities on Wednesdays in July YES Building 10:00 am-2:00 pm 719-937-7788
- Wednesday Night Bible Study Crestone Baptist Church 6pm

Thursday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5-6:45pm By donation 719-256-5668
- Free psychic readings Ghost Horse Gift Gallery First 15 minutes free 719-256-5609

Friday

- Moffat Farmers' Market Ghost Horse Gallery 9:00 am-1:00 pm 719-256-5609

Saturday

- Lakota Song Classes The Singing Stone 3-5pm www.thesingingstone.com 719-256-5307
- Crestone Saturday Market Crestone Parking Lot 10:00 am-2:00 pm 719-588-9020
- Hutchinson Homestead Ranch Tours 10:30-11:30am Adults-\$5, Children-\$3 facebook.com/hutchinsonhomesteadranch 719-239-0955

Dining at the historic Windsor Hotel in Del Norte

by Mary Lowers

The Windsor Hotel in Del Norte, CO was originally erected in 1874 to serve the fortune hunters who were after the mineral wealth in the mountains.

In modern days, rather than losing the brick edifice on Grand Ave., the community got together to renew and preserve it. The Whitehead family, including general manager Steve, his son Certified Sommelier Kodi and his wife Chef Regan Whitehead have created a hotel experience harkening to the nineteenth century, with all the amenities and comforts of a five-star twenty-first century establishment.

The Windsor Dining Room has a reputation for serving some of the finest fare in the valley. I got the chance to lunch there with Cre-

stonian Tom Whitehead, brother of Steve, and his nephews teenagers Gage and Jimmy. We were seated in the high-ceiling light-filled dining room featuring crown moldings and western oil paintings. As we waited for our meal we nibbled on a basket of warm soft bread baked in-house.

Regan and Kodi make food and drink their life's work. They met while working at the legendary Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs and moved to Los Angeles, CA to further hone their skills. "In LA we would go out and eat different cuisines, and now we can create them." The cuisine created is what could be described as "new American fusion based in French cuisine." The couple are dedicated to "give the valley something you can't get anywhere else."

Our plates arrived for lunch. The food looked familiar but included fresh nuances. The house burger had lots of fries and caramelized onions to add crunch, the fish n' chips featured a unique malt vinegar aioli, and my steak salad was just divine with scrumptious blue cheese and balsamic vinaigrette. The service was excellent. There was plenty of food even for hungry teenagers. Luckily we still had room for dessert, made in-house. We ordered a dark chocolate soufflé and a strawberry rhubarb cobbler. They were wonderful. The Windsor features individual desserts and desserts big enough to share.

Our meal was a wonderful experience. The dining room is open for

bunch on Sunday, lunch from 11am until 2pm except Saturday, and dinner is served from 5pm. The Bistro BARbara is a delightful bar featuring many spirits from small regional distilleries and handcrafted cocktails created by mixologist Kevin Haas. The wine list, created by Kodi, is excellent, and wine pairing and tasting are regular features at the Windsor. The hotel offers facilities for weddings, meetings and family gatherings. A unique dining adventure at the Windsor is the Sunday family-style dinner with a new and different menu each week.

I hope to make many more trips to drink and dine at the Windsor Hotel and highly recommend you check them out.

You can check out the Windsor Hotel at www.windsorhoteldelnorte.com or by phone at 719-657-9031.

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Double rainbow over the newly renovated Windsor Hotel.



Crestone's Fourth of July celebration was a great success. A wonderful time was had by all.

photo collage by Lori Nagel

Two workshops with Láné Sáan Moonwalker

Wisdom of the Turtle

Turtles are renowned for longevity. Their knowledge and wisdom is understood to be about pacing. This includes practical and conscious use of time and energy. This knowledge is also about the important goal-setting process as well as personal shielding. We will be working with this amazing reptile on both a practical and spiritual level to help us in our daily lives.

Saturday, August 16 from 9:30 to 4:30. \$75 or \$140 for both workshops. To register and for location call Dorje Root, 719-937-7786, or dorje-root@yahoo.com.

Shell Wisdom; Riparian Environment Series, Part 8 with Láné Sáan Moonwalker.

Shells are loved by children and adults the world over. Their beauty and architecture have inspired us for millennia. In an exoskeletal structure, their job is to protect a soft-bodied creature. We will be opening the door to discover the many secrets they can share with us as soft-bodied sensitives.

Sunday, August 17 from 9:30 to 4:30. \$75 or \$140 for both workshops. To register and for location call Dorje Root, 719-937-7786, or dorjeroot@yahoo.com

Well-child care at the Moffat Family Health Center

Teresa Loftin, MD joined the Moffat Family Medical Center this spring. She says that summer is a great time to get your child in for a checkup. Well-child care is a chance to raise questions and concerns about your child's development, behavior, and general well-being—questions that are difficult to discuss during sick visits.

For instance, Dr. Loftin is used to discussing common concerns with parents such as eating, sleeping, toilet training, social behaviors, as well as attention and learning problems.

For more information and to make an appointment please call the Valley-Wide Health Systems call center at 719-589-3658.

Fantastic opportunity for Foodies

Do you have a flair for cooking or baking? Do you have some recipes that you know would really sell, if you only had the facility and license?

Crestone Peak Community Alliance is setting up a Community Commercial Kitchen and Food Sector Training Program to license and train individuals who want to develop and grow their own food business. This is a kitchen incubator for people in the early stage of setting up a catering, retail or wholesale food business. It supports you by providing the information and regulations as well as advice from local professionals to help you succeed. Crestone entrepreneurs can bring their passion to our community and beyond while earning income.

In this food sector training class, participants will learn:

- * Food Safety, Sanitation and Microbiology
- * FDA Regulations for Acidified Foods
- * Recipe and Product Development
- * Labeling and Nutrition Analyses

In addition, you'll be mentored in marketing and developing your own label. This is an opportunity to work in a shared space at reduced cost, utilizing equipment to prepare foods for your own business while also bolstering the local food economy.

The program consists of certification classes offering the technical know-how to meet USDA, FDA, state, and county regulations. You will have access to a licensed commercial kitchen that has the equipment, services, and support needed to legally prepare, process, store and sell perishables. The facility will serve approximately 10 clients at a time who can produce a range of products including jams, salsa, granola, cookies and baked goods, spice mixes, or your specialized product.

Get your private food business started! Call 719-588-4884 or 256-5887 to register!



"Buffy", Richard Enzer's buffalo, created by local artist Will Bartley, has been installed near the entrance to the Baca.

This all started when Richard Enzer put the buffalo on his property. When he died, Michael Shreckengost suggested to Aliyah that community members should raise funds to buy the buffalo at the NHN estate sale. This was done but there was never a place to permanently leave the sculpture, so she ended up back at Bartley's home.

Last August, at Aliyah's urging, Denise Peine, Peter Taylor and Sage Godfrey took over this project, approaching the POA board to see if they would allow it to be placed on their property. In an online survey, people overwhelmingly said yes and the POA board then agreed.

Peter Taylor, Pattison Kane and Katie Getchell first created concrete forms for the buffalo—with Steve and Elaine from the Merc Hardware donating lumber. Mark Potter and his son Zak transferred our 650-pound buffalo to her new home and Peter and Pattison and Katie bolted it in place on June 27.

In a small ceremony, community members officially welcomed the Buffalo to its new home. Thanks to everyone for pitching in and working together to save Buffy!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors upcoming events—Mtn. Film, Calendar Guys?

Please mark your calendar for an exceptional event Sept. 13 when Telluride Mountainfilm on Tour comes again to the Crestone Charter School. We are very excited about the moving and memorable films this year. The school now has a big screen and projector so viewing will be much improved. Look for details in the September *Eagle*.

Remember the NHN 2005 Crestone Calendar Guys? We think it only appropriate that there be a 10-year anniversary issue for 2015! If you are a guy around 50 or older we need you. Last time 57 brave men showed up, giving body and soul, to help us raise funds to help those in crisis. We hope to have even more volunteers this year be-

cause we know our Crestone Guys will do just about anything to help a neighbor in need! Photos will be taken in September and a schedule will be printed in the *Eagle*. You may call Joany at 937-7790 or Lynda at 256-5458 if you have questions or to volunteer. There will be a festive free wine and cheese autograph party in the fall with calendars available for your holiday shopping.

NHN is a 501(c)3 so donations are tax deductible. We do not have any administrative expenses as everything is donated and money raised goes directly back to helping someone in need. We welcome your donations sent to Box 822, Crestone, CO 81131.



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Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.



Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche teaches in Crestone this month



H. E. Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche.

On August 20, Yeshe Khorlo joyfully welcomes His Eminence Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche back to his North American seat

in Crestone. Choying Dzong, Rinpoche's retreat center and temple in Crestone, will be the venue of several events to which all are welcome to attend.

As Gangteng Rinpoche is first and foremost a Dzogchen master, the teachings and empowerments being offered are a direct transmission of Dzogchen wisdom.

The first public teaching will be the weekend of August 23-24, and Rinpoche will present commentary on the succinct instructional text, "A Lamp Dispelling the Darkness" by Ju Mipham Rinpoche. Mipham Rinpoche was a Nyingma master living in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, who was highly regarded by all the Tibetan Buddhist lineages. His extraordinary scholarship and writing were matched by his profound realization through his extensive retreats and practice. At the age of 15, he undertook an eighteen-month retreat on Manjushri, the Bodhisattva

of Knowledge and Wisdom. This led Mipham to an unusual facility to easily comprehend all he read. His own prolific writings include *The Beacon of Certainty*, *The Essence of Clear Light* and the often recited prayer, "Verses of the Eight Noble Auspicious Ones".

The text being presented by Gangteng Rinpoche was written by Mipham in his later years and is a pithy and direct guide pointing out the essence of mind. These clear, uncomplicated instructions make it possible for ordinary individuals who live and work in the mundane world to practice and realize the nature of mind in one lifetime.

On Tuesday, August 25, Rinpoche will bestow the empowerment of Vajrapani. Vajrapani is the embodiment of spiritual power, energy and fearlessness of the enlight-

ened mind. Meditating on Vajrapani helps one to manifest one's pure intentions in the world with strength, courage and wisdom. This empowerment comes from Pema Lingpa's revealed treasure cycle.

The following day a special long life empowerment will be given. Known as "The King of All Long-Life Tantra", this empowerment has been bestowed by Gangteng Tulku only two times in his lifetime previous to this visit to the United States. This is considered a rare opportunity to taste the secret nectar of Long Life from Guru Rinpoche through his hidden terma, revealed by Pema Lingpa, and transmitted here by his direct descendent, the Ninth Gangteng Tulku.

Further details regarding these events can be found at the tour website: GTR2014USA.com or by contacting Pat Keenan at labdron@yahoo.com, 719-588-2587.

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H. E. Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche will be in Crestone August 23- 27

Join us for these extraordinary events!

H. E. Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche is first and foremost a Dzogchen teacher. Dzogchen is the highest practice of the Buddha-dharma and is the dynamic, living essence of primordial awareness-emptiness. The meeting with an authentic Dzogchen master, and receiving his living transmission however he imparts it is a blessing beyond measure.

August 23 & 24 ~ Mipham's "A Lamp Dispelling the Darkness"

H. E. Gangteng Rinpoche will give the oral transmission blessing and commentary on this pithy text by the great 19th-20th Dzogchen master Ju Mipham Rinpoche. It provides profound trekchod ("cutting through") practice instructions pointing out the essence of mind. These clear, uncomplicated instructions make it possible for ordinary individuals who live and work in the mundane world to practice and realize the nature of mind in one lifetime.

Two sessions both days: 9am-12pm & 2-5pm Suggested donation is \$45 per session, or \$180 for two days.

General Public Welcome.

August 26 ~ Vajrapani Empowerment

Vajrapani is one of the earliest bodhisattvas and protectors mentioned in Buddhism. He is the embodiment of spiritual power, energy and fearlessness of the enlightened mind. Meditating on Varapani helps one to manifest one's pure intentions in the world with strength, courage and wisdom. This empowerment comes from Pema Lingpa's revealed treasure cycle.

2 p.m. Suggested donation is \$45 General Public Welcome.

August 27 ~ Peling Ultimate Secret Long Life Empowerment

The empowerment for this secret form of the Long Life Deity, a Peling Terma, has been bestowed by H. E. Gangteng Tulku only three times in his lifetime, until this visit to the USA, where he will bestow it twice. We are blessed by this rare opportunity to taste the secret nectar of Long Life from Guru Rinpoche through his hidden terma, revealed by Pema Lingpa, and transmitted by his direct descendent, the Ninth Gangteng Tulku.

2 p.m. Suggested donation is \$45 General Public Welcome.



You may register in advance on the website: <http://www.gtr2014usa.com>, or at the door (please arrive ½ hour early for this option).

Questions? Please contact Pat Keenan labdron@yahoo.com 719-588-2587

For more information on Yeshe Khorlo in Crestone please visit our website <http://www.yeshekhlorlo.org>

Prior to his arrival in Crestone, Rinpoche will be giving teachings and empowerments in California, Denver and Boulder that are open to the general public. Please see the tour website for full details: GTR2014USA.com.

Crestone welcomed Shumei's Miho Institute of Aesthetics Class of 2018

Forty 8th grade students from Shumei's Miho Institute of Aesthetics in Japan arrived in Crestone on July 19. Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Shumei's new Bluebird Village, 2 log cabins where some of the children will stay during their 2-week Crestone Summer program, they were greeted in great Crestone style with a welcome party at the Charter School. There were performances by Charter School students Chloe Hadden, local mime Roy Gould, members of the CCS Ukulele Orchestra, Crestone's own Funke Chikuns and the sharing of a Native American story animated by Olivia Benavidez. The gathering would not have been possible without the efforts of a few local youth who worked hard to make the Miho students feel

welcome in Crestone.

The opening of the Miho Institute in Japan coincided with the opening of the Crestone Charter School's new campus in 2012. The Miho Institute of Aesthetics is a grade 7-12 school accredited as a public school in Japan. The curriculum is devoted to the philosophy of Shumei's founder Mokichi Okada, and in particular to the appreciation of art and beauty. Discussion about how Shumei's sacred Earth center, the Shumei International Institute (SII), might support Shumei's new school in Japan began even before the Miho Institute opened. Similar to the Crestone Charter School's experiential learning travel program, the Miho school's classes make at least 2 international trips dur-



Shumei is hosting kids from Japan and they did this dance at their "Welcome to Crestone!" party at the Crestone Charter School on July 19. photo by Lori Nagel

ing their 6-year program. It was decided that the Miho students would travel to Crestone and experience the beauty and unique nature of this community during their second year.

Beginning in 2014, each year 40 students from the Miho school will come and experience Crestone. Their time will be split between an outdoor immersion in nature facilitated by Peter May and a community immersion program organized by Kelly Hosner. The community aspect of

the program will include tours of some of Crestone's spiritual centers, classes at the Charter School and opportunities to interact with Crestone's young adults. At the time this article was written, the first year program was just getting underway. Everyone involved is inspired and excited at the prospects for this year and looking forward to the possibilities of furthering the connections between our local young adults and those from the Miho School of Aesthetics in Japan.

Hopes Castle ~ Crestone
Deep Tissue Muscle Sculpting
Applied Kinesiology (Assessment and Treatment)
Seitai Shiatsu + 25 Modalities
FORMAL CLASSES

Seitai Shiatsu Level I ~ Session 1 ~ Sat, Aug. 16 ~ 1-4pm (11am Free Intro)
 Session 2 Sun, August 17 ~ 10am-2pm

Applied Kinesiology Level I ~ Session 1 Sat, Aug. 30 ~ 12-4pm (10am Free Intro)
 Session 2 Sun, August 31 ~ 10am-2pm

*** All classes are at Twin View Overlook, Crestone ***

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Before the Refuge...Alfred M. Collins
 Grant Gate - early 1950's



Hay field -- 1930-s

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Who We Are

Judie Rose & Dennis Neuhaus: Making a difference

by Gussie Fauntleroy
photos by Lori Nagel

"I'm like The Force," declares Judie Rose, her curly henna-colored hair a wild halo around her head, her words spilling out at full speed in a Brooklyn accent hardly diminished after more than two decades in Crestone and years in Florida before that. Across the table in their Baca home, her husband, Dennis Neuhaus, smiles. "I'm a 'by proxy' part of all of it," he says. What they are referring to is Judie's unstoppable energy, especially when it comes to envisioning, initiating and enlisting others in projects and programs to help improve people's lives and meet human needs.

Among the many areas where Judie and Dennis's efforts have made a difference over the years: leading the former Crestone Moffat Business Association, running the Crestone Energy Fair for about five years, organizing the Fourth of July celebration before the town took it over, and involvement with the Crestone



Jonathan, 12, takes after his father with a love of music, playing marimba and also enjoying computer animation.

Music Festival—Dennis is a board director for Crestone Performances, Inc., which puts on the annual music fest. As president of the Baca Grande Library board in 1995, Judie was instrumental in acquiring the building where the library currently is housed. Today, through a program called YES (Your Empowerment Solutions), she provides referrals and community resources for everything from mental health counseling to GED counseling, Medicaid/Medicare sign-up, and a grief support group for parents who have lost a child. Judie's strength lies in seeing a need, knowing or finding out about resources to help, and connecting the two. Drawing on an abundance of natural empathy and a persuasive personality, she readily steps in when she thinks

she can make a difference, and encourages others to step up to the plate as well.

With a passion for music and photography and a more laid-back approach, Dennis is the other half of a two-person team whose talents complement and support each other, yet rarely overlap. "Dennis and I are very intertwined. We do everything together, but each with our own role," Judie says. One thing the couple has done together since 1995 is operate the Rainbow Bed & Breakfast on Rainbow Overlook. Both Reiki Masters/Teachers, they held weekly Reiki circles and taught Reiki classes for years until their son Jonathan came along. Now a monthly Reiki circle is held at the YES building; call 719-937-7788 for the schedule and details on other YES activities.

New York, Florida, Crestone

As a child Judie remembers neighbors and friends always turning to her mother for counsel and advice. As a teen she volunteered at a hospital, feeding patients, combing their hair, talking, laughing and listening. As a young adult she found herself drawn to real estate and mortgage brokerage, working in both fields in New York and later Florida for a number of years. Meanwhile, Dennis was raised in the Bronx, playing trumpet and bass in bands beginning at age 16. He studied business and psychology for two years at City College of New York before leaving to pursue music. It was 1964 and being out of school, he was eligible for the draft. So he enlisted and spent three years playing trumpet and bass in army bands in Seoul, South Korea and the U.S. He then worked for 17 years in warehousing and distribution management in New York and Chicago. In 1985, burned out on the corporate world, he joined his brother-in-law's computer business in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

That's how he and Judie met, in 1991. "I needed a computer fixed and Dennis showed up at my door," she remembers. "He came three nights in a row, and we talked and laughed." They discovered common interests and soon were meandering around the country in an RV, visiting friends and relatives and considering where to settle down. "We circled places on the map to visit, and I circled Crestone. I'd never heard of it—don't ask me why I circled it," Judie recalls. As it turned out, that August the Sri Aurobindo Learning Center (Savitri House) in Crestone was having its annual conference and birthday celebration for Sri Aurobindo. In 1976



Dennis and Judie at the Crestone Music Festival.

Dennis had spent a month at the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry India. The Crestone gathering was the perfect excuse to visit and set up their RV at Camper Village. Dennis soon was drawn into the local music scene and the couple began meeting people whom they felt like they'd known forever, Judie says. In the spring of 1994, they bought their home.

YES! and more

In late 2011 Judie read that there were almost a dozen homeless teens in the Moffat schools. She called her longtime friend, the late Safiya Balekian, and suggested opening a center to help homeless kids. "I'm in," Safiya immediately replied. The former Crestone Charter School building was available, but it was on Baca Grande Property Owners' Association-owned land and the POA board nixed the idea of a residential shelter. Instead, Judie and Safiya began organizing counseling and referral services as YES, under the nonprofit umbrella of the Manitou Foundation. YES soon expanded to address a variety of needs in all age groups. (YES welcomes volunteers and donations.) Regular adult activities at the YES building now include "stretch 'n tone" yoga with Cynthia Nielsen followed by a light lunch; games, presentations, veterans' outreach services and occasional classes in such areas as computer animation/graphics and CPR. All programs at the building are made possible by a Saguache County Sales Tax Grant.

Dennis pitches in with any activities where he can help. With his own computer business he sells, builds and repairs PCs and removes viruses. He also is a dealer for Di-



Music has been a passion for Dennis since his teen years in New York City.

recTV, was on the original founding committee of Crestone Telecom and now serves as Crestone Telecom's operations manager. He plays flugelhorn with CB Jazz, bass with the country-rock band Kicker and does reunion gigs with legendary Ahgadaze, among other musical combinations. He and Judie, who have served as foster parents and hosted classes on foster parenting, adopted Jonathan after fostering him from the age of 2 months. In December, Jonathan will be 13.

Reflecting on what brought them to Crestone and keeps them here, Dennis points to the "intentional overview of Crestone," which involves a spiritual focus and a "sustainable, ecological, organic approach to life. I've seen all these diverse groups come together when it's important," he says. Adds Judie: "In the city, you're anonymous. I think here, you can make a difference."

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

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Sri Aurobindo Learning Center The Savitri Immersion Workshop Aug. 11-16

Every year at this time we hold an intensive workshop that explores in depth the yoga and philosophy of Sri Aurobindo, the relationship between his many volumes of theoretical discourse, his mantric poetry, and the practice of transformation. But none of this work, strictly speaking, is “philosophy” in the traditional sense of the term. It is shruti, which means an inspired seeing and a revealed teaching. As such it is not really accessible to the intellect, which accounts, to a large extent, for the difficulty that people sometimes have reading his work. Comparing the prose and the poetic expressions helps to break through the barrier of understanding. For example, in the following selection from his *Essays on the Gita* and a short poem on the same theme, we can appreciate the difference in depth and intensity. This type of exploration is featured in the workshop, not as an academic exercise but as a dharma teaching similar to the sutra-mantra-tantra practices of many yoga traditions.

“We must attain that absolute peace and stillness in which we become aware of the calm, motionless, blissful Self within us which is eternally untroubled and unaffected by the touches of things . . . This Self is our self-existent being. It is not limited by our personal existence. . . Our senses fall into that stillness and receive the touches of the world on us with a supreme tranquility, our mind falls into stillness and becomes the calm, universal witness; our ego dissolves itself into this impersonal existence. All things we see in this self which we

have become in ourself; and we see this self in all; we become one being with all beings in the spiritual basis of their existence. All is given up into that one equal and universal Brahman.”

The Witness and the Wheel
Who art thou in the heart comrade of man who sitst

August, watching his works, watching his joys and griefs, Unmoved, careless of pain, careless of death and fate?

Witness, what hast thou seen watching this great blind world

Moving helpless in Time, whirled on the Wheel in Space,

That yet thou with thy vast Will biddest toil our hearts,

Mystic,—for without thee nothing can last in Time?

We too, when from the urge ceaseless of Nature turn

Our souls, far from the breast casting her tool, desire,

Grow like thee. In the front Nature still drives in vain

The blind trail of our acts, passions and thoughts and hopes;

Unmoved, calm, we look on, careless of death and fate,

Of grief careless and joy,— signs of a surface script

Without value or sense, steps of an aimless world.

Something watches behind, Spirit or Self or Soul,

Viewing Space and its toil, waiting the end of Time.

Witness, who then art thou, one with thee who am I,

Nameless, watching the Wheel whirl across Time and Space?

For more information on the activities of the center please call 719-256-4917.



Ramloti leading the fire ceremony in Switzerland for Guru Purnima celebration.

Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

July has been a great month at the Ashram and we are all appreciating the wonderful rain. We had a lovely Guru Purnima (full moon in July) honoring Babaji with a special puja, fire ceremony, and feast. I was actually in Switzerland for this event. Each year there is an international celebration of devotees of Babaji in Europe. This year it was in Switzerland at a beautiful center above the Lake of Brienz called Sewibenalp (The Center of Unity), which was founded by a Babaji devotee and has a small ashram on the premises. About 350 devotees gathered for daily pujas, aarati, chanting, and fire ceremonies. It was a beautiful event.

We are ending the month with our annual family week but will not have photos in time for this issue. It is always a spectacular time with folks coming here from all over the country.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Sunday, August 10 and the new-moon fire ceremony is on Monday, August 25. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. (If you are new to the ceremony, a call to the ashram ahead of time can help you be properly prepared.) Morning aarati is at 7am with evening aarati at 6pm. Each morning at 6:30am there is a paduka puja (washing of Shri Babaji's sandals) in His kutir (just to the west of the temple) fol-

lowed by chandan.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is filled to the brim with wonderful items. 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 online at <http://mahalakshmiashram.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.



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Moving Up Higher

Blessed are the kind:
Sharing the gift of God's mercy



by Joyce Meyer

Webster's Dictionary defines mercy as "kindness in excess of what might be expected or demanded of fairness."

Mercy is not fair, but it's godly. Not fair, but powerful. Not fair, but Christlike. And when we do what God leads us to do, He always brings justice into our life. To honor God in this area, we need to learn to trust Him more fully. Every single one of us has opportunities to do that each day . . . with friends and family, coworkers and even the clerk at the grocery store.

Whenever people hurt or disappoint us, our human nature leads us to dislike them because of their shortcomings. But God's desire for us is to love all people, including our enemies (see Matthew 5:43-48).

If they can see love in your heart . . . instead of anger and judgment . . . that shows them "kindness in excess of what might be expected." More importantly, it gives them hard evidence that Christ is working in you! I believe one of the greatest privileges we have in life is to follow His example, and we can do that by being generous in spirit, giving mercy to others, as they need it.

The wisdom of losing count

When someone hurts or offends us, it's easy to make a list and keep count of everything they've ever done wrong. But God is asking us to be like Him.

When my husband, Dave, and I were newly married, I was pretty good at keeping score. Every time we had an argument, I would bring up every single thing he ever did to me since the day I met him.

I'll never forget one day, after I recited my list, when Dave looked at me and said, "Where in the world do you keep all that stuff?"

I've learned the best thing we can do for ourselves is to let go of the hurt . . . to lose count of how others have wronged us . . . and leave the past in the past.

There's a why behind the what

I always say that mercy understands the "why" behind the "what." It cares about the person, not just what they've done to us.

What if you walk into a grocery store and the checkout clerk is grouchy with you and has a sour look? You have a choice . . .

You can say, "I don't appreciate your attitude. I am a customer here and I don't like the way you're acting. I'm going to tell your manager."

Or you can be merciful and say, "You look like you're having a hard day. I just want to say that God loves you and really cares about you." You can believe the best about that person and realize they are upset for a reason.

When someone hurts us, our first inclination is to think, "You're not going to treat me that way. And if you think you're going to get by with it, you have another thing coming!"

However, it helps to remember that everyone who acts badly is hurting in some way.

You reap what you sow

We reap what we sow, and whatever we give away to others is what we'll receive in return. If you want mercy, then sow mercy. If you need a friend, then sow friendliness. If you have financial needs, then look for ways to meet someone else's needs.

It's easy to judge. I cringe when I look back at the extremely critical and judgmental person I used to be. In fact, before I was a serious Christian, judging others was one of my favorite things to do.

But the Bible says, "Judge not" (Matthew 7:1; Luke 6:37 NKJV). I wasn't only sowing bad seed; I was making myself miserable by not walking in love and believing the best of others.

The truth is, when we sow mercy, we reap a harvest of peace, joy and healthy relationships. We also take a giant step forward spiritually. Choosing to do what's right—even when it hurts—causes us to grow and mature in an amazing way.

CEOLP urges everyone to complete their advance directives

Whether one decides to register for CEOLP services or chooses conventional forms of burial and cremation, it is vitally important that those decisions are put in a written, witnessed and notarized format and copied. Too often in recent weeks CEOLP has received calls from persons whose relatives have suddenly died, saying: "I know he wanted an open-air cremation, he always mentioned it . . ." As a legal and liable entity, CEOLP cannot provide their unique services without clear documentation that this was, indeed, the individual's wish. Take responsibility, if not for yourselves then for those who survive you and, loving you, only want to see that your wishes are fulfilled; complete those documents! Remember that in addition to the Advance Directives and CEOLP Registration forms, it is important to also have Durable Power of Attorney and Medical/Financial Power of Attorney documents in place.

For more information on CEOLP Registration, The Five Wishes and Your Health Care Rights booklet, contact Lorraine Cazier, 937-7802. For documents visit www.caringinfo.org.

Please note that no fees are charged by CEOLP for its services. A \$10 donation is requested at the time of registration, but is waived should the registrant be unable to offer that sum.

When CEOLP cremation or green burial services are required at the registrant's death, a donation of \$500 (at this time) is requested but will be waived based on the financial circumstances of deceased and/family.

To learn more about CEOLP, attend the monthly open meeting on August 12 at 7pm at 33 Sunset Overlook (first left behind the Century 21 office). Call Wayne for information and directions, 256-4247.



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**Be a loner. That gives you time to wonder, to search for the Truth.
Have 'holy' curiosity, make your life worth living. - Albert Einstein**

Attend our meeting **Tuesday, August 12th** at 7pm, at the Topping house, 33 Sunset Overlook (first left behind Century 21 office). Call 256.4247 for information/directions.



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Joyce Meyer Article

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Montessori preschool opening

by Joan Scheide

"Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words, but by experiences in the environment." These are the words of Maria Montessori who over 100 years ago developed a revolutionary method of education by observing children and developing materials in order to cre-

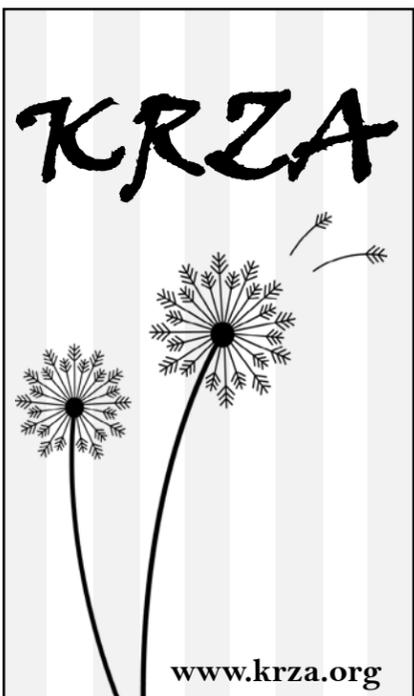


David exploring magnets.
photo by Joan Scheide

ate a rich environment that fosters children's natural intelligence and continually stokes the fires of their innate curiosity. Unfortunately, it is still revolutionary today. There is a growing emphasis in the field of education on learning through activity and experience, on introducing concepts as tangibly as possible and then moving into the symbolic and abstract, on giving children as much freedom as they have the responsibility to handle in choosing what they study and how they express their learning through projects. We know that this is the way humans learn best. An entire method that thoroughly explores all areas of the curriculum and creates a classroom structure that tailors learning to each child was created a century ago. This innovative approach to education is now available for our children right here in the Baca.

This September an in-home Montessori school is opening for children between the ages of 2 and 6. School will be in session Monday through Thursday from 8am to 4pm. Mornings will follow the Montessori method and provide our children with a three-hour work period, a prepared environment with Montessori materials, and a trained Montessori teacher. The classroom is divided into four main areas: Language, Math, Sensorial, and Practical Life. Our primary goals at this age of the child's absorbent mind is to cultivate concentration, coordination, independence and order. Afternoons will have a variety of activities such as outdoor time, gardening, art, theatre, music, cooking, yoga, Spanish and more.

Full day tuition is \$40 and half day is \$20, but partial work exchanges and trades are possible. If you are interested in having your child attend, or for more information, contact Joan at joanscheide1@gmail.com or by phone 412-605-9331. To read more about us or to learn more about Montessori Education, check out our Facebook page Montessori School of Crestone.



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THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

—MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

1/ The Details: Jeff, after the frustration of discovering his lawn has been destroyed, decides foolishly to cheat on his wife. This of course leads to a series of agonizing predicaments. Stars, Toby McGuire, Ray Liotta, Elizabeth Banks and Laura Linney. ★★★★★

2/ Page Eight: Johnny Worricker, a wholly dedicated loyal MI5 spy agency veteran with a very smooth way about him, is about to be tested. A top secret document surfaces that reveals heinous government misgivings, and Johnny is put on the spot. Filled with some great ones: Bill Nighy, Rachel Weisz, Judy Davis and Ralph Fiennes. ★★★★★

3/ The Four: In this martial arts, action-and-adventure-cum-sci-fi film we find four constables endowed with special powers, during the Song Dynasty. They will do battle with a rival law enforcement agency, with spies and villains and the undead to obstruct a counterfeit currency plot that threatens to bring down the empire. ★★★★★

4/ Blue like Jazz: In this indie comedy, based on contemporary literature, we find Don, a young man brought up in a devout family, having a unique view of religious hypocrisy. With this in mind he chooses the most godless campus he can find in the USA. This rebellion against his upbringing changes Don in many an unexpected way that he never sees coming. ★★★★★

5/ The Other Woman: This is an indie drama based on contemporary literature with a compelling story of romance turning into reality with Natalie Portman in lead role here. She wins the heart of her handsome man, only to find the relationship comes with some very real baggage, including her new beau's troubled son. Co-stars Lisa Kudrow. ★★★★★

Crestone Conglomerate

LarryCalloway.com

a reporter's blog...

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Moffat PK-12 is gearing up for the upcoming school year

by **Michelle Hashbarger,**
Principal

We will be starting school again in a few short weeks. It seems only days ago that the 2013-2014 school year ended. This is an exciting time for Moffat Schools as we will be watching the progress of the new school being constructed during the coming school year. If you would like to keep up with the progression of the new school, you can visit our school website for up-to-date construction information and photos.

Another exciting bit of information we would like to tell you about, is that *all* students enrolled at Moffat will have *free* breakfast and *free* lunch available to them for the 2014-2015 school year! Now that's good news!

This year will bring about many new adventures ranging from our students returning to school and meeting the newly hired teachers and staff to: our teachers' continuing curriculum and instruction revisions; the embracing and refining of the state's new teacher/principal evaluation process; and our number one priority and focus—our students!

We will be continuing our 1:1 iPad initiative where all students PK-12 will have use of an iPad. iPads will remain in the preschool through 3rd grade classrooms and will not be permitted to leave the school. Students in 4th through 12th grade will be provided with an iPad that will be permitted to be taken to and from school after all requirements are

met. Any senior enrolled at Moffat this year will be able to take their iPad with them when they graduate! Please mark your calendars for the Required Parent/Guardian & Student iPad Orientation Night for all 4th through 12th grade students, which will be held on Thursday August 14 beginning at 5:15pm in the Moffat gymnasium. Details will follow in the Welcome Back Letter in early August.

As in years past we will continue to provide our "whole child" focused environment that is student-centered, personalized, responsive and innovative! We work hard and take pride in the "wrap around" services we provide in order to support those we care about most . . . our students and families. From the Response to Intervention support process, to our Gifted and Talented program and everything in between, Moffat is where you want your kids to be!

We firmly believe that our students are fortunate to have the community's feedback and support of our programs and staff. It is through this support system that our school will be able to continue providing top-notch curricula and extracurricular opportunities in the years to come. Thanks to all of you who have and will continue to support our endeavors as we strive to make Moffat Schools the fun place to learn and the school where kids want to be.

Here are some informational items that current enrolled families can be expecting in the near

future: Combined Sports Program information for the upcoming school year and a Welcome Back Letter with details outlining the first few weeks of school.

We are now accepting new students and families who share our educational vision that encompasses a family-style atmosphere, strong academic focus and a drive for cutting edge technology. You can friend us on Facebook—Moffat Consolidated Schools—or visit our school website at www.moffatschools.org for enrollment, back to school information, school supply lists, new school construction and so much more.

Registration for all returning students and new enrollees will be held on August 11 and 12 in the Moffat School foyer each day from 8am to 4pm. First time enrollees must bring a copy of their birth certificate and immunization records. To schedule a tour of our school or to find out more information about our enrollment process please feel free to contact Virginia Drake, school secretary, at 719-256-4710. Come in and check us out—you won't be disappointed.

The first day of school for all students K-12th grade will be on Monday August 18. The first day for preschool age students will be on Monday August 25.

The first day for high school football and volleyball practice will be Monday August 11. Both football and volleyball practices will be held at Mountain Valley Schools in Saguache. No student may participate unless they have completed their sports physical. Details will follow in the Welcome Back Letter.

We look forward to continuing our work to provide the children who attend Moffat Schools with a solid foundation on which they can build a bright future.

See you all in a few short weeks!

Meet the new staff at Moffat School

by **Michelle Hashbarger,**

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

Zachary Schwartz—Zachary has been hired as the district's new Technology Director. He will also be teaching the middle school and high school technology classes. Mr. Schwartz earned his BA degree at Stetson University in Florida and has an extensive background in overall IT Operations and Management.

Benjamin Borgelt—Ben has been hired as the new middle school Language Arts teacher and high school Spanish teacher. Ben earned his BA degree in Spanish and English with dual licensures at Harding University in Arkansas and has additional experience in the areas of auto repair, college preparation, archery, outdoor survival training, personal fitness and weight-training, and world travel.

Haven Wellman—Haven has been hired as our new school custodian. She has already proven to be a great addition to our custodial team. As the school custodian, Haven will play an essential role in not only maintaining the building, but also the health, attitude and pride of our students.

Linda Vigil—Linda was hired as a para-professional in January of 2014. Linda earned her AAS in Early Childhood at TSJC as well as her BA in Interdisciplinary Studies. She will return to Moffat this fall to work with K/1st classroom teacher, Sara McFarland, through the Adams State University Boettcher Program. As an alternative licensure candidate, Linda has been accepted into this program that will provide her with year-long intensive trainings and on-going support while combining her master's level coursework with the hands-on learning and teaching experience at Moffat.

Dale Harrison—Dale has been hired as the Moffat/Mountain Valley Combined Athletics Programs Athletic Director. This is his second year as athletic director and he will be overseeing all functions of the combined program while working closely with both schools. Dale is excited about the opportunity to continue working with our Moffat/Crestone student athletes and families.

With the amazing staff returning this year and the addition of our new hires presented above, Moffat School is ready for another exciting year!



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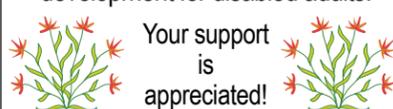
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Crestone Botanic Garden

Crestone Botanic Garden is open Monday – Saturday, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Shop for flowers and bedding plants, house plants, soil and plant food. Donations of plants, containers, etc. are welcome. This project is sponsored by the Town of Crestone and supported by a Saguache County grant to promote economic development for disabled adults.



Science camp was a blast!

by Alyssa Chavez,
Moffat 8th grade student

This summer I had the amazing opportunity to be a part of the Exxon Mobile Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp (EMBSSC) that was held at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) campus.

This two-week-long camp was very well organized. I learned a lot of interesting things and made many new friends. There was a schedule we followed each day that informed us of the camp activities, kept us on track and made the overall experience interesting and fun.

During the camp we got to build several different types of rockets, and we learned a lot of interesting facts about NASA. We got to go to an amusement park, and we even got to take a trip to the Garden of the Gods, which is a very beautiful place. There was definitely never a dull moment, because our schedule was jam-packed with numerous activities from morning until night, which included some awesome guest speakers.

All of the people I got the chance to meet were very nice and so were the camp teachers and counselors because they helped all of us feel right at home. Making new friends and having a busy schedule left no time for any of us to even think about being homesick.

It felt good to be involved with other kids my age from around the state. This was an experience that I'll remember for a lifetime and one that has helped me understand the concepts of STEM so much better. I loved it!

(The ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp is a 10-day residential camp hosted by colleges and universities across the nation. The camps provide 48 promising middle school grade level students the opportunity to enhance their proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education while living 10 days on a college campus—all at no cost to the child or family. There were certain criteria that Alyssa had to meet prior to being chosen to attend the camp, all of which included: having a GPA of at least "B" overall in mathematics and science; writing a 250-word essay describing her interest in the camp and STEM; she had to have exhibited an interest in mathematics and science; and had to have strong recommendations from her current mathematics and science teachers as to why she should be one of 48 students chosen to attend the camp. As you can see from Alyssa's story above, she met the criteria, had outstanding recommendations from her teachers, was one of 48 students chosen to participate and the rest is history. Way to go Alyssa!)

Solving our Charter School parking problems

by Mark Talbot

Have you noticed that large events at the Charter School often result in a bit of a mess when it comes to parking and safety? Lime Avenue is dusty, visibility can be compromised by this dust and parked cars, and many drivers seem to have a "need for speed" despite the 15mph speed limit. The road is narrow here (it is considered a perimeter road for the Town, and does not have a 60 foot right-of-way as do interior roads) and it varies in width from about 22 to 27 feet—not adequate for parking on both sides, pedestrians, and driving. The problem has also highlighted the fact that the parking congestion could create big troubles should we need emergency services vehicles to get to, or past, the school.

Many members of our community have come forward with concerns about the situation, and it is in the spirit of collaborative problem solving that Charter School administrators, staff and Trustees of the Town of Crestone, and Saguache County Commissioners have come together to search for solutions. We are also welcoming any public input and creative feedback.

So far, our task group has come up with the following solutions for the short, mid, and long term:

Short term –

1) Parking on one side only. We will be installing "No Parking" signs on the north side (side opposite the school) of Lime Ave. to keep adequate space open for emergency services' access and to reduce congestion.

2) Carpooling. We would like everyone to consider ride-sharing; you could park one vehicle in town

and bring up just one vehicle with 2 families, or 4-6 people.

3) Walk/bike from town. For you fit adults and kids, consider parking close-in somewhere on the south side of town, and walk or bike over to the school via the pedestrian passage on Cedar St.

Mid term –

We are exploring the possibility of adding more gravel and road base to one, or both sides of the road, extending the width to something that would allow parking on both sides. This will require study and budgeting, so all of the agencies are getting creative in researching ideas for grant funding from a variety of sources.

Long term –

We envision and anticipate many new and exciting possibilities for development at the south end of town near school that are long term, big picture scenarios. With these broader multi-year projects, we are looking at how better paving and a transportation/parking "hub" could help address not only the school-related parking issues, but promote alternative transportation and more pedestrian access to all amenities of the area.

In the meantime, we kindly ask that you all take a moment to slow your speeds, consider the alternate ways to attend larger school events, park on the south side of Lime and walk, bike, and carpool to help us make a safer environment for everyone. We'll be keeping you updated as to the Parking Task Group's progress through the coming months and years!

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The Washington Beat

War & the politics of plane crashes

by David Nicholas

August and Congress has hightailed it out of town. Good thing, too. Immigration intensified during July with Guatemalan and Honduran mothers, resident in the US, telling relatives down south to get their children to the Mexican/US border by hook or by crook and surrender to the US border patrol. This in the hope that the 50,000+ kids who have made the journey so far will be processed by US social service agencies and who will link them up with their mothers living throughout the country.

Pointing the finger of blame occupied DC in July and it was ugly. US House Speaker John Boehner got bellicose, shouting and screaming that the Obama administration has not been applying existing immigration laws and tightening up security at the border (lots of luck with that), while at the same time turning down the President's \$3bn funding bill to help work through the problem. The claim for denial is that it's to boost the agencies processing the claims rather than to pump up border protection; more on that later.

The President and the administration fired back that there is an immigration reform bill passed by the Senate held in limbo. It has yet to be brought before the House committees and then onto the floor for a vote. The furor again is designed to add to the Republican midterm election narrative that the Obama administration is ineffectual and incompetent. It's not, of course, but if you don't have anything to measure it against, like an administration victory, the chaos and dysfunction message controls the narrative.

Suing the President

Yes, John Boehner (R-OH), Speaker of the US House of Representatives, is going to sue the President. This is a big deal if you're Republican, but looks pretty stupid if you're a Democrat. How better to galvanize the Democratic incumbent base than to assault and insult the President who looks like he can't do anything right at the moment?

It appears the Speaker is going to sue the President over the Affordable Health Care Act (Obamacare). On Thursday, July 10, Mr. Boehner released a draft resolution authorizing the House of Representatives to sue President Obama over the delay of Obamacare's employer mandate.

Is there any precedent for this suit? How would it proceed? Boehner's problem is that the vast majority of lawsuits brought by members of Congress against the president on policy issues have been dismissed

for lack of standing. The problem is "standing." Courts can only step in to adjudicate specific cases—cases where the plaintiff has experienced some harm caused by the defendant. Only then does that particular plaintiff have "standing" to sue in federal court—and only then does the court adjudicate the merits of the case.

The National Constitution Center, a Philadelphia non-profit non-partisan institution, says, "Time after time, when members of Congress have sued in the courts, because the Executive Branch did something that they believe frustrated the will of Congress, they have been met at the door of the courthouse with a polite refusal to let them in."

The courts tend to be skeptical of these suits because Congress has constitutional means by which it can check the president's power on its own: by passing a new law, using the power of the purse to cut off funding, or through impeachment.

Although Tea Party pundits such as Sarah Palin howl for the President to be tried by the Senate for impeachment because he's ruling these days by executive decree to overcome congressional gridlock, it isn't an option. Those GOP congressmen who remember the failed attempt to impeach President Bill Clinton over the Monica Lewinsky scandal know what a fruitless exercise, nay folly, it can be.

Primarily, suing the president is a distraction as it keeps Obamacare as a negative narrative, except Obamacare isn't turning out that way. There will be more on that in September.

Frankly, Speaker Boehner would be better actually opening up the House and passing some legislation when Congress returns in September. Unlikely, but one can only hope.

Border protection & child immigration

"Border Protection" is political shorthand for stopping illegal immigrants—meaning primarily Mexicans, Canadians not so much—from coming across the border. Yes, it's quite foolish this notion that fences and the Rio Grande can hold back people who want in. It's hard to see how pumping up security on the border can be more than it is. Besides the fence you have electronic surveillance towers with sensitive visual and audio and aerial drones.

"Child immigration", as the



current hysteria is called, has the kids coming on trains that cross over into the US at Brownsville, Laredo/Nuevo Laredo, El Paso/Cuidad Juarez, and other border crossings farther west (Mexicali/Calexico and Tijuana). The kids surrender to Department of Homeland Security authorities as they arrive. They don't sneak across, you see them coming. Unless you are conducting extensive train searches on the Mexican side of the border, which is pretty incongruous as US policy, it's pretty much a fool's errand.

The kids are coming, and right now stopping them isn't going to work. Taking care of them and setting up a structure to process them on site is a beginning, and it's the right thing to do. But you need money and a law that allows it. Right now such a law sits in Speaker Boehner's office in the US House of Representatives and he is blocking it. How stupid can Republicans be? Pretty stupid.

The politics of plane crashes

There's a lot of politics behind what you are hearing about Malaysian Airlines flight MH17. It was hit by a surface-to-air missile, charged to Russian-sponsored anti-Ukraine militias.

When Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 crashed back in May, we sent members of the National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) to Australia and Malaysia to advise on how to go about finding a plane that just disappeared into the blue. It is widely believed MH370 lies fathoms down in some deep canyon in the southern Indian Ocean. Besides the tragic loss of life of nearly 300 folks gone missing, that was all.

However, Flight MH17 was blown out if the sky to the tragic loss of 298 souls in war-torn eastern Ukraine. In any other part of the world we would only offer the services of the NTSB and that would have been enough. After all the NTSB is the most experienced agency in the world when it comes to aircraft crashes, so that's appropriate. Their services were offered and accepted by the Ukraine. At time of writing, one US citizen (with dual Netherlands citizenship) had been identified on the flight manifest.

But, immediately, the imperial narrative kicked into action. Russia was the epitome of evil once again and Russian President Vladimir Putin was the bad guy. Overlooked and probably forgotten was that President Putin informed President Obama during a phone conversation on sanctions that a surface-to-air missile had caused the crash of a civilian flight. Within minutes after

the plane crash Mr. Putin alerted the Obama Administration that it had happened.

My source was Al Jazeera English, which I use to monitor the Ukraine turmoil/civil war. Al Jazeera America was doing parallel coverage. All the American networks and the BBC give the imperial narrative and started in immediately.

As I have stated extensively in previous columns, the Ukraine has been within the traditional sphere of Russian imperial interests for the better part of 800 years. But the Western powers—the US and Europe—only had a polite interest in the Ukraine up until last year when then President Viktor Yanukovich shied away from accepting a European Union finance deal for the country, which economically was in the toilet. The EU deal was harsh and called for much financial pain a la Greece and Spain, which Kievans rather preferred as it got them access to Western electronics and Gucci handbags.

The deal incurred the displeasure of the Russian president who offered Mr. Yanukovich a better deal worth 15bn Euros plus cheap gas supplied by Gazprom (the Russian gas supplier). But Russia doesn't have the West's toys and fashions so Kiev rose up and turmoil ensued.

The clowns of the Western imperial powers, former UK Foreign Minister William Hague—he just got fired—and French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, muttered and intoned righteous indignation and encouraged the US Secretary of State to mutter dire warnings and ultimatums as the Ukraine proceeded to split over whether to go over to the West or not. These clowns went positively apoplectic when Mr. Putin, in a fit of pique—largely to show these guys that this was *his* bailiwick—annexed the Crimea, the home to the Russian Black Sea fleet.

In moral high dudgeon—which is always the worst reason to do anything in international affairs—the EU and the US decided to impose sanctions on Russian billionaire oligarchs and close friends of President Putin.

Worse when Kiev elected chocolate billionaire Petro Poroshenko as its President in an election in late May, which the Russian enclaves boycotted. A hardliner, Mr. Poroshenko has pledged to crush the pro-Russian militias, and so far with not much success. Clearly Russia has been/is supplying the militias with sophisticated equipment which over the early days of July started downing Ukrainian aircraft.

So here we are. An MH17 at

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33,000 feet thought it would be safe flying over contested territory, a Russian guided missile and boom, that was all she wrote.

It's opportunism to vilify Russia. The West now has the narrative to isolate Russia. The demand is that unless Mr. Putin ceases and desists from his imperial intentions—which are still very overt regarding the eastern Ukraine—there will be more economic pain.

However two can play that game and Mr. Putin can make life hard on European countries that receive Russia's gas supply. Already Ukraine has had its gas supply cut off unless it paid its past due amount.

On top of that, the upcoming G20 meeting (of which Russia is a member) in Brisbane, Australia in mid-November, promises to be either without Russia or Russia being sent to the naughty corner. Unfortunately, Australia has a clownish conservative government. In its arrogance and bellicosity it believes it has the right to punch way above its weight in international politics and may cause even more chaos.

The current Prime Minister Tony Abbott isn't a bright man and his current administration is in the toilet because of incompetence in handling an unnecessarily austere budget. He needs a foreign policy triumph. Throwing his weight around over the MH17 crash because Australia lost 28 souls is something he sorely needs in order to show he can lead.

Be that as it may, if MH17 is still the foreign policy issue the GOP uses to bash the Obama administration going into the Labor Day weekend, the midterms may become an interesting crapshoot.

Iran talks extended

Participants in the current talks between the Islamic Republic and the US and six members of the European Union over Iran's nuclear program in Vienna have agreed to extend the talks until the end of November this year. No agreement on the central issue (what form the nuclear program takes) has been reached.

Iran has always insisted that its nuclear program was and is only for peaceful means, the generation of power for domestic consumption. The West worries that the centrifuges Iran has for enriching uranium for nuclear fuel rods are far more than it needs for peaceful purposes. Essentially, this is splitting hairs, but the US—along with its surrogate Israel on this issue—remains adamant. Thus the talks are at an impasse. There's a lot of fretting going on and when empires fret, nothing much moves.

The good thing about extending the talks until after the midterms is that it takes a lot of the fire from the Republicans who see just talking to Iran about anything as heresy.

The Gaza narrative

Resisting the urge to say history is repeating itself, that Israel fighting Hamas and other Palestinian groups fighting the same war that brought the ceasefire 18 months ago, this time there is a difference. The difference is the effort that Israel is making to control the narrative about Gaza.

What was absent eighteen months ago was the squad of Israeli public relations types who are geared to monitor and maintain a presence on Al Jazeera, the Arabic, English and America channels. Headquartered in Doha, in the emirate of Qatar and funded by the Qatari government, Al Jazeera has become a credible source for journalists and news junkies around the world at the expense of CNN. Cable News Network, now a division of TimeWarner, has been badly hurt by reporting erroneous claims since the Boston bombing.

Al Jazeera's audience has grown as it reports live news without imperial filters, seeing what's really happening rather than having the usual wink and nod to Israel's murderous behavior against an occupied population largely of women and children.

Nightly we get Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu's media guy, Mark Regev, and the Israeli Defense Force smiley face of Colonel Paul Lerner arguing the Israeli position on air, naval and ground operations against Gaza. You can tell that they just hate arguing Israel's "right to defend itself", because as they see it, it is after all, "just so right".

The problem is that Israel's right to defend itself comes from a speech in 1977 by incoming Prime Minister Menachim Begin who said: "Our right to exist—have you ever heard of such a thing? Would it enter the mind of any Briton or Frenchman, Belgian or Dutchman, Hungarian or Bulgarian, Russian or American, to request for its people recognition of its right to exist? . . . Mr. Speaker: From the Knesset of Israel, I say to the world, our very existence per se is our right to exist!"

The reason why this concept appears to be so set in stone is that since 1977 every US President, in order to secure the Jewish vote, reiterates this dogma. President Obama said so as recently as July 18. Although now, July 28, when US Secretary of State John Kerry utters this, he now adds: "on the other hand Hamas has issues that need to be addressed" and/or words to that effect. He wasn't saying that at the outset.

The major networks continue to report the Gaza situation as though representing a war of equals. Israel is often portrayed as the victim defending itself. Little is said about the displacement of the Palestinian people from their land and of the impact of over 60 years of occupation.

This is an asymmetrical con-

Judge rules Colorado gay marriage ban unconstitutional, Attorney General appealing

by Lisa Cyriacks

U.S. District Judge Raymond P. Moore declared Colorado's gay marriage ban unconstitutional on July 23. The ruling was in response to a lawsuit filed by six gay couples on July 1 asking for Colorado's ban to no longer be enforced.

Boulder County Clerk Hillary Hall began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on June 25, just hours after the 10th U.S. Circuit Court struck down Utah's ban on gay marriage. Hall said she moved forward with the issuance of same-sex marriage licenses because the 10th Circuit, which includes Colorado, upheld "the fundamental right to marriage."

Colorado Attorney General John Suthers disagreed and issued a statement that the state's constitutional prohibition on same-sex marriages remains in effect.

Five county clerks asked the Colorado Supreme Court mid-July to give direction on whether they should start issuing marriage licenses to gay couples or wait until there is a final decision from a higher court.

Elected clerks from Jefferson, Arapahoe, Douglas, Mesa and La Plata counties asked the Colorado Supreme Court to give "explicit direction to the county clerks to either begin issuing same-sex marriage licenses or, in the alternative, cease issuing marriage licenses pending final determination of the merits of this appeal challenging the constitutionality of Colorado's ban on same-sex marriage."

Their plea for direction follows a request filed by AG Suthers, asking the Supreme Court to order clerks to stop issuing same-sex marriage licenses. Clerks in Boulder, Denver and Pueblo counties had already started issuing marriage licenses to gay couples.

On July 23, U.S. District Judge Moore rejected Suther's request to halt proceedings, but stayed his decision until 8am on August 25. This gives Suthers time to appeal to the 10th US Circuit Court—the same court that found the similar ban in Utah to be unconstitutional. Suthers' office filed an appeal in the 10th Circuit about an hour after Moore issued his ruling.

Denver Clerk and Recorder Debra Johnson immediately quit issuing the licenses after the state Supreme Court ordered her to stop on July 18, 2014.

Pueblo Clerk and Recorder Gilbert Ortiz stopped issuing the licenses on July 21 after the Attorney General's office threatened further legal action.

More than 300 marriage licenses have been issued in Colorado since the 10th Circuit struck down the Utah ban on June 25.

flict, where a vast military arsenal of the occupier is brought to bear upon largely unarmed civilians, who have no escape route. The latest Israeli ground "incursion widening" is an alarming escalation and literally an example of overkill.

The shocking deaths of four Gaza children playing soccer on the beach from Israeli naval fire should bring this home to all of us. This is not a war of defense—it is a massacre of innocents.

In truth, Israel is a Goliath, raining down massive firepower on men, women and children sheltering in their homes, schools and hospitals. The ineffective rockets of Hamas are easily repulsed by Israel's Iron Dome Missile shield.

The problem for Israel's Gaza narrative today is that the Israeli PR squad is often contradicted and shown up to be just distorting the truth. The saying that "the first casualty in war is truth" is as true today as it ever has been. So the game plan is to handle Al Jazeera by making sure any pro-Palestinian commentator/pundit has one of the squad to provide the Israeli view. Once upon a time the Israeli PR machine didn't have to do this but news now is "first, fast and five minutes sooner," and if you're not on air at the time something is said, you've lost. Israel's PR squad isn't about to let that happen if it can help it. But at some point people just tune out when the message doesn't reflect the visual. Live television is more the decider than it ever has been.

Just so you know it's getting

nutty, *New York Times* columnist David Brooks on the July 18 *PBS Newshour*, said Hamas is encouraging women and children not to leave areas of Gaza coming under attack in order to promote its narrative, that it is the victim in this. I don't hear that on the news sources I watch and hear. Just saying it's getting wild to win world public opinion.

Of course, the point is Gazans are the victim, as a people under a ruthless occupation always are. Meanwhile the imperial powers on the UN Security Council are trying to get a ceasefire resolution, so that they appear to be "doing something" while Israel is threatening a full-scale invasion of the strip. Israel should try that and see how far it gets. It doesn't care that Palestinians are dying. At time of writing, around 400 Palestinian deaths and counting.

This is current Israeli policy: to beat Hamas and the Gaza strip into submission. It may work but likely not. It hasn't in the past.

As I have said over the years, the Israeli Defense Forces, in terms of manpower, other than in mechanized war machines, is pretty hopeless. The reservists are weekend warriors for the most part. Any dedicated Arab guerilla fighting force in street-to-street combat can make mince meat out of them. The body bags are a deciding factor and they are beginning to pile up. We shall see how it plays. It's got a few weeks to play out yet, as no negotiator acceptable to either party has stepped up.

And the beat goes on.

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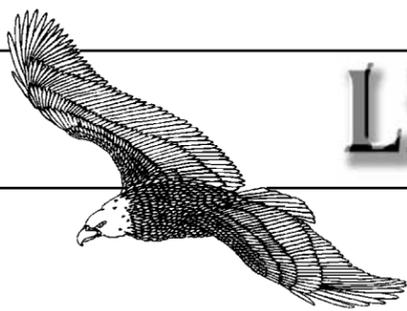
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Living on the Earth

Gold fever in the San Luis Valley

by Mary Lowers

Since the first few explorers of European origin entered the San Luis Valley (SLV) stories of gold and silver discoveries have been told. Not all of the tales were fantasy. From 1859 to the present, Colorado mines have produced over forty-five million troy ounces of gold. The mines on the west flank of the Sangre de Cristo Range contributed to this wealth.

The exploratory missions by the Spanish into the SLV include the parties of Juan Archuleta in 1664 and Juan Ulibarri in 1706. This area was the northern boundary of Spain

in the Americas and the southern boundary of France on the continent. These early Spanish expeditions, and possible French incursions, were looking for mineral wealth. In 1790 a French Canadian party of explorers crossed into the SLV where they claimed to have found gold. The story goes that they buried their treasure at Round Mountain near Poncha Pass. A sole survivor of this expedition known as Le Blanc took a map showing where the treasure lay back to France. No one has unearthed the buried gold to this day.

The early Spanish prospectors left abundant evidence along the western side of the SLV. Primitive mining tools and arrastras, crude ore crushers built on flat rock near streams, have been found. Arrastras processed ore extracted from the rock using a horizontal arm anchored to a center post and pulled by a horse or mule, allowing the heavy stone to crush the rock. Evidence of early mineral exploration has been found in and around the mining camps of Duncan and Liberty south of Crestone. Tales of lost Spanish gold abound in the valley.

After the Louisiana Purchase, the Pike expedition (1807) came to the SLV, crossing into the valley over Médano Pass to the Great Sand Dunes. Pike was detained by Spanish authorities who thought (prob-



Miners loading ore carts.



Timbered mine tunnel.

ably correctly) that the expedition were spies for the United States. While in Santa Fe a mountain man by the name of James Percell told Pike of gold discovered in Colorado.

By the 1840s gold seemed to be found all over Colorado. The Fremont Expedition (1843) found evidence of gold in five or six locations in the Colorado mountains. These tales of gold were passed over when actual nuggets from Sutters Mill in California went east, setting off the gold rush of 1849. The first concrete evidence of gold in Colorado was brought east by a Delaware Indian called Fall Leaf who had been part of the Gunnison Expedition of 1853.

It is said that a ledge of gold-bearing quartz crops out here and there along the western Sangre de Cristos. Throughout the 1800s a succession of prospectors showed up in SLV mining camps with samples of very rich gold ore they found lying on the surface of the ground in various spots. The Precambrian granites of the Crestone area are home to some of these rich deposits. This knowledge, coupled with numerous lost mine tales, encouraged the belief of many miners and prospectors that an undiscovered rich discontinuous vein of gold-bearing quartz exists

somewhere along the western flank of the Sangres.

Settlers

In the 1840s the Mexican government encouraged settlement in the SLV, awarding land grants to families from what is now New Mexico to settle the northern reaches of the Mexican Empire. After the Mexican American War, south central Colorado was opened to settlement from the east. The

Homestead Acts of 1854-1863 set the stage for an influx of American and European settlers. The American Civil War displaced many people, particularly former Confederates, many of whom chose to

make new homes in the western territories. Wars and the potato blight in Europe caused many Irish and German immigrants to flee Europe in hopes of a better life. In 1872 two hundred German settlers founded a colony in the SLV. In the same era three hundred and fifty Dutch settlers made their homes north of Alamosa. There were English settlers around La Garita and Mormons settled in the southern SLV.

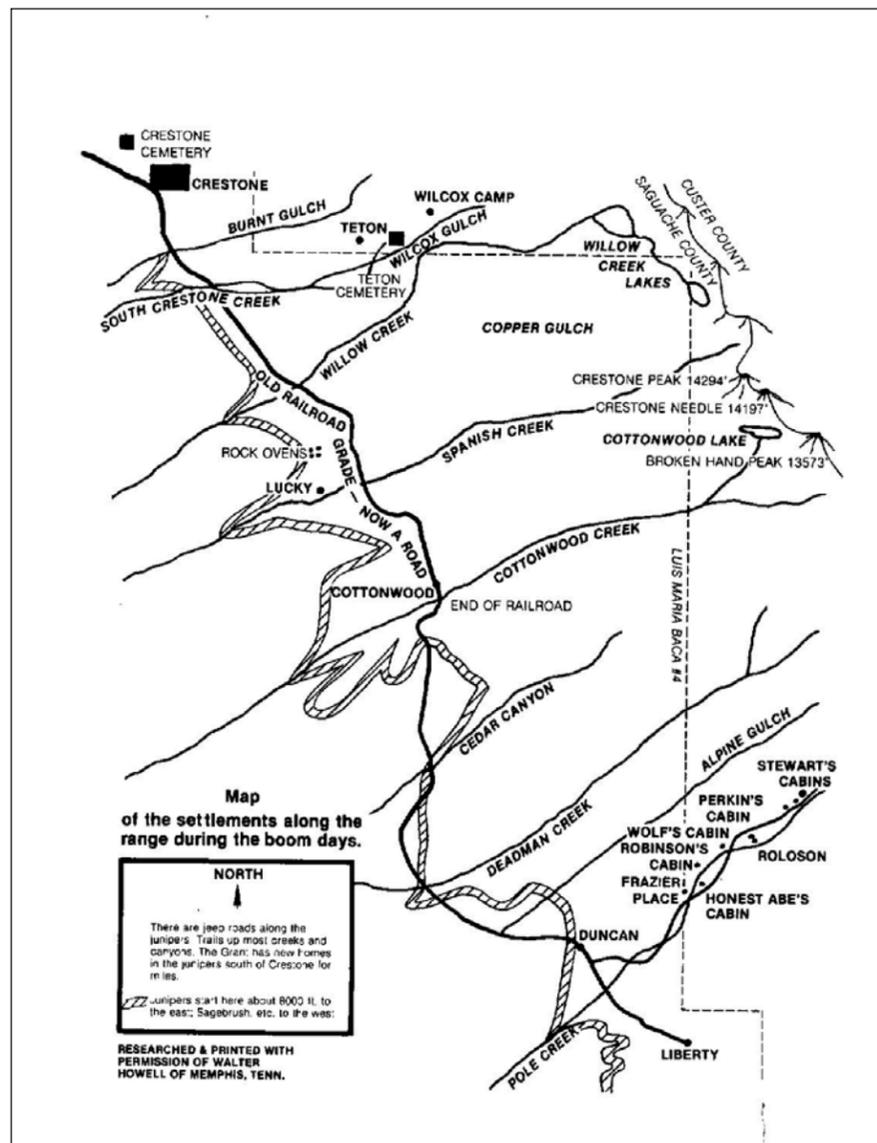
Gold rush

It was in the years between 1870 and 1880 that the SLV gold

continued on page B-7



Modern day prospectors still use gold panning to find ore.



Prospector and his mules heading to the hills to strike it rich.



Astrologically Speaking

... with Ananur

(mountain time zone calculated)

August 1 Venus will be in a fine aspect with Saturn, making your relationship more secure, due to good clear communication in regard to expectations and what is realistic to expect or not to expect of each other. This type of conversation has been necessary for awhile. Also Mars is in a challenging aspect to Jupiter which holds the potential for you to easily become totally scattered with trying to accomplish too much. You've got plenty of energy but are you organized?

August 1-2 Mercury is now conjunct Jupiter and they are both in a challenging aspect to Mars. Whoa! Pull in the reins and watch for the tendency to act too quickly. Even though it's fun to be spontaneous at this time it could create a bit of a mess.

August 3 the Sun is in an awkward aspect with Pluto which brings about competitive reactions and defensive behavior. Mercury is in an awkward aspect with Neptune finding us all in confusion and thus misunderstandings take place and we're left wondering, "what the heck?" And no, Mercury is *not* retrograde... until October.

August 4-5 Venus is in a difficult aspect with Neptune finding you dreamy eyed about someone, yet you have no clues as to how that person feels about you, or if they even think of you?

August 5 Mercury is in a challenging aspect with Pluto known to bring about obsessive thinking patterns. Sometimes this is helpful for those who are studying.

August 6-8 Mars is forming a positive aspect with Neptune which increases your ability to write lyrics, poetry, sing beautifully and to feel relaxed and allow the divine force in you to take charge.

August 6-9 the Sun and Mercury are conjunct in Leo and are in

a challenging aspect with Saturn. Feeling frustrated with the pace of things right now? No wonder. This aspect has a way of throwing obstacles in your path because you need to do some more research before moving forward with your project. Delays are famous for taking place during this aspect. Anger and impatience are obvious results. However having read about this aspect taking place now you could relax and avoid the anger which is trying to grab hold of you.

August 6-8 the Sun and Mercury in Leo are in a fine aspect with Uranus in Aries. Wow, this is an extraordinary time for creative expression, and also very good for spontaneous adventure and travel. Your intuitive intelligence is in fine shape.

August 9-18 Jupiter will be in an awkward aspect with Neptune. This is problematic as it points to a financial dealing being a scam. This could be another disappointment for us to observe the government losing taxpayers' money and saying, "Oh well." Be cautious those of you who frequent dating sites. There are more scammers out there than real people. I know of many lovely lonely women who have been cleverly deceived by flattering mumbo-jumbo.

August 10 the Full Moon takes place with the Sun at 18° Leo opposite the Moon at 18° of Aquarius at precisely 12:09pm. There are plenty of complicated aspects taking place with this Full Moon. It's time to shift out of old ways of seeing life. You need to make some important changes if you were born February 4-8, May 6-10, August 8-12, or November 8-12 of any year. This is a serious Full Moon and deserves plenty of attention to, "studying your navel," as my father would say.

August 12-15 Mars is in a super fine aspect to Pluto which strengthens confidence and cour-

age. You are able to recharge your energy and get more accomplished than you imagined possible and still have more energy available.

August 12-September 5 Venus enters Leo at 1:24am and is ready to rock n' roll wearing flamboyant colors and lots of glittery jewelry just for fun. Leo people are feeling more comfortable, "letting their freak flags fly." They are a great example of how wonderful it feels to simply be yourself no matter what anyone thinks. Who cares what the fad of the day is or what is now stylish? Be yourself and be comfortable being yourself.

August 13 Mercury is in an awkward aspect with Pluto which is very similar to August 5. The obsessive quality of your mind to help you focus on something that you need to learn gives you more concentration. Hopefully you are not obsessing about a person in your life. This aspect really favors learning something which has great depth such as a psychological insight if you are studying for a degree in that subject. Another way of thinking about this aspect is to consider it an aspect that a "private investigator," would have been born with.

August 15-September 1 Mercury will enter Virgo which is perfect for organizing your thoughts and reconsidering what someone said the other day. It's also perfect for teaching something that is of interest to you. That might be sharing the information while you are in the line at the post office. Meanwhile Mercury is in an awkward aspect with Uranus on August 5 making it a challenge to pay attention to details as your mind is racing and scattered.

August 16 Venus will be in an awkward aspect with Neptune, similar to what was taking place August 4 & 5. Your imagination seems more real than so called "reality." If you're wondering how that person sees you or feels about you, now is not the time to have that discussion. Wait until tomorrow.

August 16-18 (at 10am) Venus and Jupiter are conjunct in Leo! This is an excellent aspect for romance, fund raising, parties, celebrations and just having fun for the fun of it. It's likely that there will be great food to indulge in. Have you seen the film *Chef* yet? It's a feel-good movie and fits in with this aspect.

August 16-18 Mercury is opposite Neptune in Pisces is a sure indicator that communications are apt to be confusing.

August 18 the Sun is in a nasty aspect with Pluto which means it's likely that you could have a run-in with an authority figure.

August 29 Mercury is in a fine aspect with Jupiter, releasing your sense of humor.

August 19-21 Mercury is in a favorable aspect with Pluto of-

fering you insight and expanded awareness. This would be an excellent time to write a political speech which has power to convince others of your point of view.

August 20-21 Venus will be in an awkward aspect with Pluto which brings about the concern for working out karmic relationships which are holding you back from being completely free to be yourself in the present moment.

August 21-23 (at 8am) Mars will be awkwardly aspecting Uranus which as you hopefully realize by now is known to astrologers as an accident-prone time.

August 22-September 22 the Sun enters thoughtful, clever, earthy, practical, Virgo at 10:46pm on August 22. School begins and we are all back into routine again which is imposed by the external world making us all more aware of children and their needs. I remember taking classes when my son was young, called, S.T.E.P. which means systematic training for effective parenting. I took it twice as it shifted around how to communicate effectively, and I surely needed that, then.

August 23 the Sun will be in a challenging aspect with Uranus bringing out the rebel in you and me. You're seeing how things could be better even though it will cause some kind of reaction in someone. However, there's something you need to say.

August 25 the New Moon takes place at 8:13am with the Sun and Moon at 2° of Virgo. It just happens that Neptune is at 7° of Pisces causing the Full Moon to be one of confusion and drug overdoses. Check in on those you are concerned about, they are more vulnerable right now.

August 24-26 Venus will be in a difficult aspect with Saturn indicating disappointment in a relationship.

August 25-27 Venus is in a difficult aspect with Mars which causes an imbalance between the receptive side and the assertive side of each of us. This is especially true if you were born with these two planets out of sorts at birth. Try to avoid manipulating circumstances to make things go your way.

August 27-29 the Sun will be opposite Neptune bringing about more confusion and doubts in regard to trust issues.

August 31-September 3 the Sun will be in a super fine aspect with Pluto. You can overcome an obsessive addictive pattern now. The planets are aligned for your confidence and courage to expand and grow into a new phase of your life. If you ask for help from the realm of the divine, you will receive the help you seek.

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by Kim Malville

August brings the Perseid meteor shower back into our skies and provides a good reason for camping without a tent. Typically, at its peak around August 12, there are 100 meteors visible per hour, when the sky is dark. This year the moon will be two days past full moon on August 12/13, so it will be difficult seeing the fainter meteors. As you can see from the figure, the Perseid meteors begin appearing around July 28. You can identify them because they come out of the constellation of Perseus, low in the ENE sky in the evening.

Perseus is the super hero who beheaded the snake-haired, carried her head around with him, and rescued the naked maiden Andromeda (that is, naked except for her jewels) from the sea monster Cetus. Since anyone who looked directly at Medusa's head would turn to stone, Perseus pulled it out of his bag and showed it to Cetus, who sank like a stone to the bottom of the sea.

The area of the sky where the Perseids will appear

At nightfall on August 12 the moon will be low in the east, and this should be a good time to look for a different kind of meteors, the earth grazers. It will be the time when the earth passes through the densest part of the Perseid stream. Some will fall more directly toward the earth, but there should be a few that skim across the upper atmosphere are like skipping rocks on a pond.

If you see one, count yourself lucky. They are memorable and may move from horizon to horizon, lasting 15 seconds or longer.

August 1: When the moon is a small crescent, setting in the early evening, try to spot some of the early Perseids in a dark sky.

August 2: The growing crescent moon is to the right of Mars.

August 3: The first quarter moon is between Mars and Saturn.

August 6: The spacecraft launched in 2004 by the European Space Agency, Rosetta, should reach and begin to orbit the nucleus of comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko. This will be the first time a spacecraft has orbited a comet. It will continue to escort the comet through December 2015. Aboard is a spectrograph called Alice, provided by the Southwest Research Institute of Boulder.

August 10: The moon is close, the largest full moon of the year

August 12/13: Perseid meteor shower

August 23-26: Fast moving Mars passes below Saturn. Both planets will be equally bright. Mars will be the red one.

August 31: The Moon, Mars, and Saturn form a tight triangle.

Rosetta finds its comet

The Rosetta spacecraft was launched from French Guiana in

March 2004 on an Ariane 5 rocket. It contains the Rosetta mother ship which will orbit the comet 67PC/G for 17 months while it dives toward the sun, and the Philae robotic lander, which will attach itself to the comet with harpoon-like tethers. Rosetta will perform the most detailed study of a comet ever attempted. The mission is controlled from the European Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, Germany.

The probe is named after the Rosetta Stone and the lander is named after the Nile island Philae, where an obelisk was discovered with inscriptions. Together they led to the decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphs, and now we hope for the decipherment of a comet, formed in the early days of our solar system.

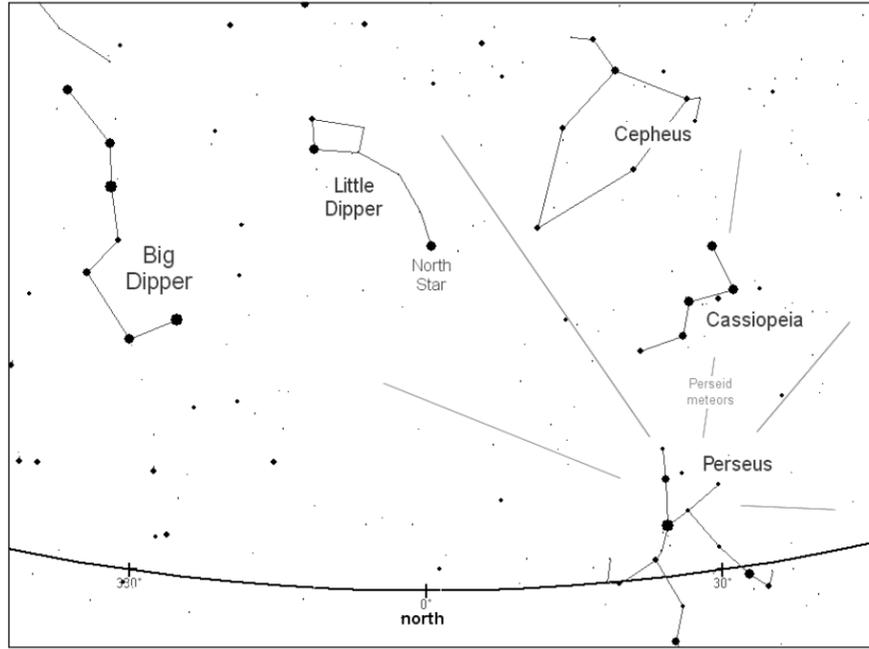
Rosetta was first set to be launched in January 2003 to ren-



Rosetta launching the Philae Lander onto the comet. Artist's depiction: European Space Agency

devious with another comet in 2011. However, this plan was abandoned after a failure of a Ariane 5 carrier rocket during a disastrous communications satellite launch. These rockets were grounded until the cause of the failure could be determined. A new plan was formed to target the comet 67PC/G, with a revised launch date of 26 February 2004. After two scrubbed launch attempts, Rosetta was finally launched on 2 March 2004.

In order to reach enough speed,



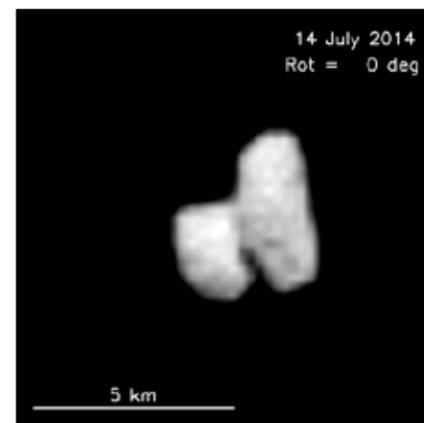
The area of the sky where the Perseids will appear.

the spacecraft had to perform a complicated series of sling shot flybys around Earth and Mars. The first flyby of Earth occurred on March 2005. On 25 February 2007, the craft was scheduled for a low-altitude bypass of Mars. Because of the delayed launch, Rosetta had to fly across the

surface of Mars at a height of only 160 mi. During that encounter the solar panels could not be used because the craft was in the planet's shadow, where it would not receive any solar light for 15 minutes, causing a dangerous shortage of power. This Mars maneuver was nicknamed "The Billion Euro Gamble". Fortunately, it paid off. The second Earth flyby occurred on 13 November 2007. As

it approached Earth, the spacecraft was picked up by our asteroid early warning system and was misidentified as a dangerous asteroid some 70 feet in diameter that hit the earth. Fortunately it was not shot down.

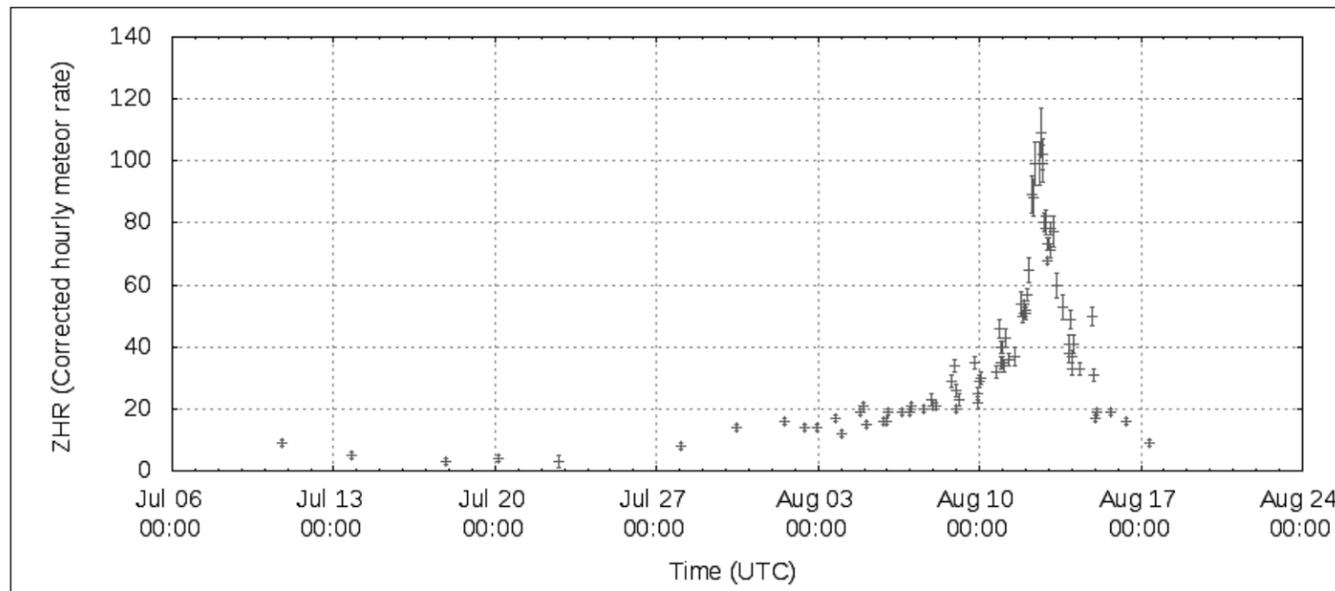
As if these adventures and tribulations of Rosetta were not enough, the most recent pictures of the comet reveal it is not a smooth, egg-like ice ball as anticipated, but it appears to consist of two different sized nuclei rotating around each other. The most recent photo was taken at a distance



Recent image of the double comet taken by Rosetta European Space Agency

of 8000 miles. It was first thought to be simply an irregular object, initially described as a "rubber ducky" on NPR, but the new photos are astonishing. It is a great thrill for astronomers to discover something so surprising and unusual, but it is a huge headache for engineers figuring out where to land the probe onto the comet in November.

In any case, Rosetta will begin to orbit the comet on August 6 and will follow an awesome corkscrew path downward toward the sun. It will be slowly spiraling inward toward the comet, reaching a distance of only a few miles from the surface. During the following 17 months, the comet will be heating up, due to light from the sun, and sending off giant plumes of gas and dust. Never before have we been able to follow so closely the awakening of a dormant (and ugly) dirty ice ball into a beautiful comet with a tail extending millions of miles into space.



Rates of Perseid meteors in 2013. Note the uptick around July 28 as the shower begins. graph courtesy International Meteor Organization

Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable continues important water planning—meeting update

by *Bea Ferrigno*

The San Luis Valley Advisory Committee on the pending groundwater rules met with State Engineer Dick Wolfe and staff on July 1. It was something of a surprise to see that the net groundwater consumptive use (NGCU) formula introduced at the prior session was no longer included in the draft rules. Wolfe explained that NGCU could still be used as a management tool in subdistricts, but it does not address the required restoration of the aquifers to levels seen between 1978 and 2000. Consequently, by March 2015 a different metric will be derived from a network of monitoring wells, most already in place, to assess the composite pressure head of the confined aquifer. Although most high capacity wells in the valley draw from the unconfined aquifer, it interacts with the confined so that the latter's pressure represents the overall aquifer level.

On July 2 the basin plan committee of the Rio Grande Water Con-

servation Roundtable (RGRT) met with Di Natale Water Consultants to review the draft plan which was to be submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) by the end of the month. All the basins were also to present brief versions of their plans at a mid-month meeting of the CWCB. The Rio Grande Basin Implementation Plan, which will become part of the Statewide Water Plan that is to be completed by the end of next year, is also intended as a reference manual on the region's water supply.

Public input has been an important part of the planning process; additional comment periods will be offered before the plan becomes final. Upcoming on the morning of August 29 is the legislature's Interim Water Resources Committee public outreach meeting in Pueblo.

On July 8 at the monthly RGRT meeting, Judy Lopez introduced a proposal for a three-year study of soil improvement methods based on the work of Rockey farms. Several unimproved farms will be enlisted to test alterations and evaluate their potential for improving the water-holding capacity of various soil types.

Linda Bassi of the CWCB gave a brief presentation on the instream flow rights program which recently observed its 40th year. She has been invited by the Crestone-Baca Watershed Council to give a more extended talk in Crestone on the evening of July 28—full report next month.

Briefly mentioned was another plan by local rancher Gary Boyce to export water from the Villa Grove area to the Front Range.

The RGRT will meet as usual in Alamosa on August 12; the September 9 meeting will be in Saguache.

Victory! Polston School property acquired for Rio Grande Healthy Living Park

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition (SLVLCF) are pleased to announce the acquisition of the 38-acre Polston School property in Alamosa, Colorado as the site of the Rio Grande Healthy Living Park. "This acquisition restores the community process for the creation of an agricultural-themed Healthy Living Park on the Polston land, which we have been working on since 2010," said Liza Marron, Executive Director of SLVLCF.

"After a four year effort we finally have a real opportunity to make the Rio Grande Healthy Living Park a reality," said Tim Wohlgenant, The Trust for Public Land's Colorado State Director. "If we all pull together, I am sure that we can secure the funding needed to make this a permanent asset for the people of Alamosa and the San Luis Valley."

After local fundraising delivered \$375,000 in only four months, private local lenders added a bridge loan of \$700,000 to enable The Trust for Public Land to purchase the land from a developer at the independently appraised fair market value. In addition to covering the costs of purchasing the property, the funds will go toward the initial management and development of the new Rio Grande Healthy Living Park. Fundraising to pay back the loan and develop the park is already underway.

The long-term vision for the Rio Grande Healthy Living Park is to preserve the rich agricultural heritage of the San Luis Valley's Rio Grande corridor for future generations to experience and enjoy. The new park will preserve the existing public trails along the Rio Grande, promoting pedestrian access to the river, Cole Park and downtown Alamosa. Future plans feature a working farm where people can grow food for themselves and for sale to the community, a winter farmers' market, botanical gardens, a commercial kitchen, live event stage, and walking trails connecting the east and west banks of the Rio Grande. A public planning process will ensure that the park addresses the needs of community.

"It's been a long, hard road, but the incredible support of so many in this community has kept us going strong. We are really looking forward to resuming the community effort to bring this exciting project to fruition!" said Renee Mackey, a leader in this effort to keep the land in open space and accessible to the public.

The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come. Nearly ten million people live within a ten-minute walk of a Trust for Public Land park, garden, or natural area, and millions more visit these sites every year. Learn more at tpl.org.

The San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition develops local networks, educates the community and promotes programs and policies that create an economically, socially, and environmental sustainable local food system for the San Luis Valley Region.

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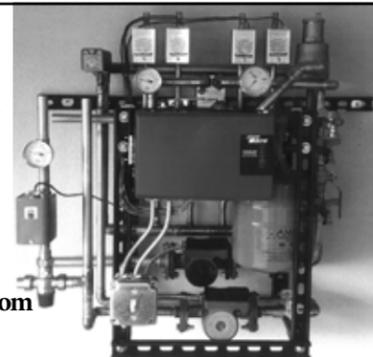


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Legal lines: Recreational marijuana laws—can you lose your job?

Question: “Can I lose my job over recreational marijuana use?”

Answer: Yes, you can lose your job because of the use, possession, sale or distribution of marijuana on the job.

While companies can choose to have different policies, many of them choose to have a “zero tolerance” policy. Many companies have zero tolerance for employees who sell or distribute marijuana at the worksite, and many have policies stating that possessing it on the job is also grounds for discharge. Likewise, you might assume that using it on the job, even on breaks, can get you fired. But what about just having it in your system when at work? What if you used it the night before, or the month before, and it’s

still in your system when you are drug-tested?

That’s a question that Brandon Coats learned the hard way. Coats was a medical marijuana user, who, according to the facts laid out in a recent decision by the Colorado Court of Appeals, *Coats v. Dish Network LLC*, had never used marijuana while at work. Still, he came up positive on a drug test and was discharged. The Colorado Court of Appeals held that nothing in Colorado’s medical marijuana statute gave him a right to use marijuana, at least not as to his employer. Rather, Colorado’s medical marijuana laws create a limited exception to criminal enforcement. On Jan. 27, 2014, the Colorado Supreme

Court agreed to hear an appeal of Coats’ case. While some lawyers think the Court of Appeals got it wrong, and indeed one judge dissented, the decision is consistent with precedent and finds its roots in the undisputed principle that marijuana was and remains a federal controlled substance, even in states like Colorado that have now passed not only medical but recreational marijuana laws. Colorado’s medical and recreational marijuana laws have language saying they do not apply to employers, and while some attorneys believe that language should be read more narrowly than the Court of Appeals has, however it is read, whatever Colorado law might say, it remains federal law that marijuana is a

criminally controlled substance. So at this point in time, you clearly can lose your job because of marijuana use. This could eventually change, as a decision from the Colorado Supreme Court is expected later this year.

The Colorado Bar Association welcomes your questions on subjects of general interest. This column is meant to be used as general information. Consult your own attorney for specifics.

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1004C Badger Road - \$149,000
This 8BD/3.75BA home sits on 1.119 acres in Chalet I. 1,913sf on main level & 1,762sf walk-out basement, kitchens on both levels, this unique property offers plenty of space for 2 families or retreats.



375 S. Cedar - \$134,500
Built in 2010, this charming, 1110sf 2BD/1BA 2-story home is located conveniently to downtown. Large BD upstairs, BD & BA on main level, open kitchen with gas range & breakfast bar, comfy living area with wood-burning stove.

New Listings



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!



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, move-in ready for the right buyer.



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



Townhouse #13 Baca Meadows \$150,000
Beautiful townhome, 2 floors with 2BD upstairs & 2 full baths. Master bedroom has private balcony view of mountains. 2nd bedroom w/ walk out balcony. Spacious open design living room.



Townhouse #11 Baca Meadows \$150,000
Lovely town house 2 floors containing 2bd and 2ba. Spacious living room, private baths in bedrooms, Master bedroom w/ private balcony. W/D, Fridge, Range/oven.

Town of Crestone



332 E. Mica Ave - \$499,000
This 3BR/2BA 3448sf unique home is nestled among the trees next to North Crestone Creek in Town of Crestone. Custom styling, spacious kitchen, & outdoor amenities. A great family, rental, or vacation home.



170 E. Golden - \$179,500
This 3BD/2BA 1500sf home is beautifully situated with attention to detail. High ceilings, bright skylights & fenced-in back yard make this a must-see property!



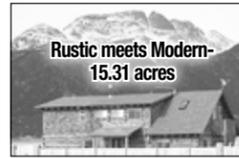
345 S. Cedar - \$189,000
A short walk to the post office, coffee shops, restaurants and shopping, this Victorian style 1434-sf home has three bedrooms and two baths.



370 S. Alder - \$169,500
Recently renovated duplex conveniently located in downtown Crestone, close to restaurants and shopping. Bright spacious 5bd 2ba 1950sq ft home, single family or duplex housing!



765CRR Heatherbrae Rd - \$355,000
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.



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.



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.



637 Panorama Way - \$699,000
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2795CR Brook Terrace - \$499,500
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499C Willow Trail - \$349,000
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Baca Grande Properties



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.



483C Point of Rock OL - \$299,000
Teahen Construction, Beautiful 3bd/2ba 2-story home on 1.946 acres Attached 2 car garage, detached studio. High energy efficiency & quality throughout.



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 Way - \$295,000
CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch & wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!



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.



733C N. Rendezvous OL - \$270,000
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.



1255C Eagle OL - \$267,000
Beautiful 2075sf 2-story home with 2bd/2ba/office/sun room, Chalet I on 1.766 acres, private cul-de-sac. Dramatic view windows, vaulted ceilings, master suite w/soak tub.



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 iWaiting for the right person to complete the vision. 2324 sf & designed with 3bd/2ba. Separate 576 sf guest house w/kitch.



1647C Willow Creek Way - \$249,000
Brand New Terrapin Construction. 1760sf 3bd/2ba home on 1.98 acres with 2 decks + flagstone patio/walkways. Backs to Greenbelt. Views.



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.



4511C Ridgecrest Way - \$224,950
Straw bale home on 1.59 acres. Backs to greenbelt and national park. 2 adjacent building lots available. Built by Paul Koppana.



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 encompasses entire 2nd floor. This private suite is complete w/ large closets, elegant master ba, 2 balconies offering amazing views.



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, ma ba soak tub. Adjacent lot available.



2715C Happy Hollow Way - \$197,000
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!



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.



2664C Happy Hollow - \$195,000
This spacious 2356sf home On 1.041 acres with 4bd/2ba, 2 separate dining areas + gardens, carport & workshop! Large windows-sunshine & awesome views. Passive solar & woodstove.



3705 Carefree Way - NOW \$169,500
This 1874 sf, 3 bdr/1.75 ba home built in 1995 as a passive solar home. Great value & offers lots of space for price. Also includes the upper adjacent lot to protect the views to the mountains.



3732C Cordial Way - \$169,000
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.



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.



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.



1914 Lone Pine Way - \$142,000
Built in 1999, this 1 bd (+Loft) / 1ba 900sf house is in a convenient location off the main road in Chalet One with lots of privacy. It is sunny & bright with lots of windows. Energy efficient with passive solar and in-floor radiant heat.



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.



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
This 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.



36 Camino Baca Grande - \$115,000
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.



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

CRESTONE DHARMA HOUSE FOR SALE



Well known and beloved house blessed by the visits of many Rinpoches and Lamas.

Located in Chalet I of the Baca Grande, this artist-designed house enjoys spectacular mountain and valley views in a neighborhood of Rinpoches. "Rustic elegance" describes this hand-crafted romantic home with its large fireplace, massive vigas, wide plank floors and charming French doors.

With two bedrooms, two baths, and a large art studio, the house is 2340 sq ft on two floors, with second floor balconies and deck, and a south-facing patio. Bordered by greenbelt, this spacious and very private home on 1.93 acres has embraced many meditation retreats in its Milarepa shrine room.

923C Blue Spruce Overlook
Price reduced to \$399,000

Please mention this ad for additional dharma discount

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Mining history

continued from page B-1

rush began in earnest. In 1879 high grade ore was found in Burnt Gulch above Crestone. A tent city of miners grew into the Town of Crestone.

Boom town Crestone was an exciting place to be. As Gladys Sisemore tells the story in her book *Drillin', Loadin' and Firin'* about the mining days, "main street consisted of unpainted buildings with false fronts, leantos, tarpaper shacks, and tents. Throughout the day and into the night loads of lumber and supplies came. Shavings and scrapes of lumber littered the roadways as town grew. It was fast becoming a rip-roaring mining town." In the "boom days" there were ten thousand souls living between Villa Grove and the Great Sand Dunes.

The rumors of gold brought waves of prospectors to the SLV. The canyons and drainages north and south of Crestone were found to have veins of gold-bearing sulfides. John Duncan found deposits of gold at Pole Creek. Thomas Ryan found rich deposits at the mouth of Deadman's Creek. Large deposits of gold were discovered near Cottonwood Creek. The northern SLV consisted of nine mining districts on the west side of the valley. These districts included from north to south, Raspberry Creek, Orient, Crestone, Spanish, Cottonwood, Sangre de Cristo, Duncan, Liberty and Camp Commodore. The Crestone District begins sixteen miles southeast of the Orient District, around present day Valley View Hot Springs, and ends near the mouth of North Crestone Creek. Crestone Mining District owned five patented mining claims: Cap Sheaf, Sunbeam, Homestake, Longfellow and Cleora. An area of some 160 acres east of and adjoining the Crestone District known as



Old time miner with pick and shovel, tools of the trade.

had been running full tilt were silent. Then when gold prices jumped in 1900 the "big boom" for the SLV mines occurred.

In these boom times mines and mills roared day and night. These were hard rock mines removing gold encased in rock. As Gladys Sisemore said, "muckers, diggers, single-jackers, double jackers and dynamite men" were plentiful and in demand. They cleaned out tunnels, timbered them and opened up new levels in the mines. Employment was high and anyone not working was up in the hills prospecting. New businesses to serve the miners were opening daily. Crestone had a couple of assay offices, blacksmiths, lumber yards, contractors, billiard parlors, feed stores, livery stables, lodging (like Mrs. Wilcox offering a bed in a tent for twenty-five cents a night), five doctors and two newspapers, the *Crestone Eagle* (after which the current *Eagle* is named) and the *Crestone Miner*.

Gladys Sisemore describes Crestone's heyday this way, "The deep hum of the winch as it wound up the cable from shafts that were sunk ever deeper . . . a constant reminder of prosperity." When the railroad came to the SLV at the end of the nineteenth century and beginning of the twentieth century vast amounts of mineral wealth left the valley by rail for the eastern slope. Around 1903 the mines began closing. The price of gold went down and the price of extraction went up. Gold on the western slope of the Sangre de Cristos was mostly found in isolated pockets. The population plummeted as miners went to more promising jobs in Creede, Bonanza or the Cripple Creek District. Many of the SLV mining camps disappeared or were carted off for materials such as lumber and bricks.

There are fifty-one mining claims currently on record in the Crestone District. Some are on private and some on public land. Almost every claim lists gold among the minerals found there.

Well it seems as though there's still gold in them there hills. As of 2006 mining interests have staked more than 5000 claims in Colorado. According to the Federal Mine Safety Administration, there are nine active or intermittent hard rock mining operations in the state. Five of the nine are gold mines. Some 942 people are employed in the industry.



Mining tools from the gold rush, same tools used by modern prospectors.

The Placer was to be divided into town lots. This plan was abandoned when gold nuggets were found there in the process of drilling a well.

Gold just seemed to be everywhere. The Town of Crestone supported rich mines to the south. The richest area for mineral wealth was in a twelve-mile stretch between North Crestone Creek and Short Creek near the ghost town of Liberty. The Crestone Mining District experienced two "booms". The first went from 1883 to 1890. Gold was still there but too expensive to extract. People left to find more promising gold fields. The mines that

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23 Acre Estate

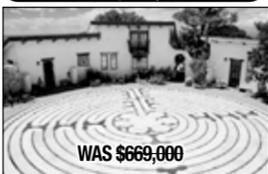


WAS \$599,000

MAKE OFFER!

3926 Cordial Way - \$499,000
 Secluded 4100+sf home 4bd/3.5ba 550sf guest house plus 2 car garage on 23.749 acres on Cottonwood Creek. Lovely views and privacy!

Retreat Property



WAS \$669,000

4460C Ridgecrest Way - NOW \$449,000
 Residential Retreat Complex w/3025sf central complex w/ Chartes labyrinth as the centerpiece. 1000sf 2/1 home; 450sf office; 707sf yurt plus grow dome. A beautiful property.

Commercial Property



Residential + Restaurant + Office

WAS 495,000

121 E. Galena - NOW \$399,000
 Premiere, newly renovated downtown commercial bldg, incl. upstairs apt. and 2 rentals 1st floor, modern commercial kitchen. 3800sf. Great opportunity!

Commercial Property



Professional Building

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



WAS 349,000

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.

Dream Home!



Was \$459,000

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!

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In Search of Economic Reality

They take the money and run

by Ed Lyell (Professor of Business & Economics, ASU)

Immoral, greedy, yet legal tax behavior by corporations and the super wealthy is destroying America. Inversion is the new name for corporations moving their headquarters away from the US to avoid paying taxes. This may hurt our economy even more than the decades of outsourcing jobs. Yet how do we make corporations pay taxes and become good citizens? The US Supreme Court has declared corporations to be people with the rights of people, but does not require the obligations or ethics of real people.

Corporations like Apple, Google, Halliburton, and many others have not been paying taxes for years. Many even get billions in tax rebates for taxes not paid as they accept refundable tax credits. This is like the Earned Income Tax Credit for poor people; however, these corporations are not poor, just crafty. They shift their patents to dummy corporations in the Cayman Islands and move profit around to avoid paying taxes in any country. Congress seems to have been bought and paid for to create

these legal tax evasions. Wealthy individuals, especially Wall Street Investment bankers, have moved to Puerto Rico and other island countries in which they pay no taxes even as they keep making billions in America. Recently some legislators are speaking up about these abuses. In a recent hearing Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro stated, "It is all about tax dodging and being a tax cheat."

Many of these tax evaders make their billions from government contracts. The middle class taxpayer must pay his/her taxes, yet this money goes to corporations who no longer pay taxes on the profit they make from government contracts. This is especially true about the hundreds of billions spent in the defense industry. Large US corporations are following the Halliburton model of moving their headquarters to no-tax countries like Dubai, Cayman Islands, and Ireland. Houston-based Halliburton moved its headquarters from Houston to Dubai just as the special inspector general for Iraq found that Halliburton overcharged the U.S. government \$2.7

billion that now cannot be collected or prosecuted. Our government did not even stop giving them government contracts. "This is part and parcel of the way they do business," said Robert Greenwald, the man behind the film, *Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers*.

In the 1960s, when America had a prosperous middle class, corporate taxes represented over 40% of federal revenue. Now corporate taxes are only 8% of revenue. Corporations use extortion-like techniques to play states off of each other and eliminate their state and local taxes. If corporations are people, they are privileged wealthy people like the European monarchy of the 1700s, or today's Middle Eastern wealthy monarchies. US corporations are increasingly owned by wealthy foreigners who exhibit no concern for American living conditions, thus we need to stop expecting ethical behavior. Paying their executives 500 times the average worker is unethical but not illegal in America, yet it is illegal elsewhere in the world.

Super-wealthy individuals, especially Wall Street traders, are moving to Puerto Rico which gives them a zero tax rate, but lets them keep their US citizenship and perks. About 200 traders, private equity moguls, have already moved or committed to moving, with hedge fund billionaire John Paulson spearheading this exodus. The yearly lost federal tax revenue from reduced corporate and super-wealthy taxes is over a trillion dollars a year. This is more than enough to balance the federal budget and start paying down the national debt without any spending cuts.

We need to create a new corporate tax structure from a zero base. Let's not battle about the rate of taxes on profits, or the numerous tax loopholes of credits, deductions, and other ways corporations avoid paying their fair share. Money is needed for common goods like roads,

bridges, education and health care. Let's tax corporate gross revenue on everything sold in America. If a company wants to pay executives more, or purchase expensive meals, jets, condos, game tickets and luxury boxes, let them do it without getting a tax deduction. Companies must use roads, bridges, airports, and trained people, and these common goods are paid for by taxes. If corporations expand their evasion of these taxes then others must pay more or the quality or amounts of common goods go down. Decades of these reduced taxes means that we already have Third World-quality roads, airports, bridges, dams, and education. The current tax structure is destroying America as surely as being invaded militarily. The conservative business and government leaders claim to believe in capitalism and want limited government, so let's stop hiring more lawyers and accountants to evade taxes, and instead raise tax revenue to expand physical and human capital that will make individuals, companies and America better off for long-term prosperity.

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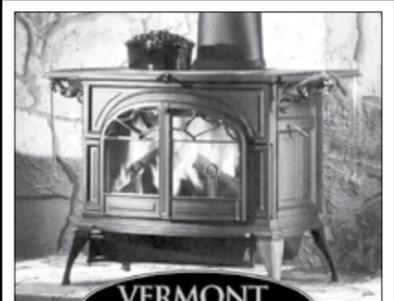
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\$495,000
OWNER FINANCING
PRICE REDUCTION: Established B&B Retreat Business. Property features Main house w/ 2 queen bedrooms, and exquisite Master Suite w/ separate entrance.



\$365,000
UNDER CONTRACT
Amazing contemporary home with a detached garage with an upstairs 1 bedroom apartment. Kitchen features all the modern amenities.



\$334,500
Creek meanders thru this 2.72 acre lot. New builders home has lots of upgrades. 3 bedrooms/ 2 baths, open floor plan. Kitchen features gas, range, dishwasher, disposal.



\$275,000
5 acres with north Crestone creek running through it just north of the town. With a 960 sq. ft home secluded near the creek. About 200 feet of creek. Call Terry on 681507R



\$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.



\$265,000
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 4 bedroom 2 bath 2519 sq ft home located next to the National Park has panoramic views and quietude, and an oversized 2 car garage.



\$259,500
Lovely contemporary styled 2 story with expansive views from the upstairs porch. Priced well below the last appraisal, seller is out of country and says "sell!"



\$255,000
Lovely contemporary home with 3 spacious bedrooms, and 2.5 baths. Kitchen features gas range, refrigerator, and microwave. formal dining.



\$249,000
Straw bale home. New sun-room addition. In-floor heating. Nice open floor plan downstairs. Spacious kitchen. Two bedrooms upstairs.



\$245,000
Large contemporary style home. Additional studio. 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths with 2 propane fireplaces and one wood hearthstone fireplace.



\$229,000
5 bedroom 3.75 bath home with additional room off Master suite. Nice living room. Kitchen has plenty of cabinet space. Attached 2 car garage.



\$225,000
New construction, backs to Cottonwood Creek. Upstairs and downstairs in new no maintenance decking. Bathroom has a garden tub.



\$215,000
ARTESIAN WELL
This home has 40 acres with Artesian Well. The lovely home has 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. The Master Suite has a walk-in closet, and a bathroom addition.



\$199,999
SELLER MOTIVATED
Very 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
SOLD
Spacious 3 bedroom/ 2 bath home has a loft area with a secluded office attached. Kitchen with all the amenities.



\$199,000
Amazingly beautiful creek lots 2.08 acres bordering Cottonwood Creek. Home is contemporary open floor plan with one large bedroom.



\$198,000
3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a larger Master in the upstairs loft. Kitchen features built in range oven, refrigerator, and dishwasher.



\$188,500
This 2 story stucco home has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Open kitchen with pantry area. Appliances included. Master bedroom & a master bath.



\$179,000
Creekside home, on paved road, close to town, beautiful views from the great room/living room. Large fireplace, spacious kitchen. There is 1 bedroom and 2 loft rooms on the upper levels, and a bathroom.



\$179,000
Great 5.25 acres for your horses or dogs. Backs to willow Creek greenbelt for trail riding. Thoughtfully built straw bale, 3 BR, 2 B home.



\$169,500
This home features a newly remodeled kitchen with all new stainless appliances. 2 bedrooms downstairs, and a loft bedroom with 1/2 bath upstairs.



\$168,500
Unique setting for sweet solitude in this custom 2 bdrm 1 bath home built by Terrapin construction, near Pundarika. Sunny, open, interior base-board heat, woodstove, all



\$165,000
Charming home in Crestone. 4 bedrooms and 2 bath, newly painted, new wood laminate floors in upstairs. Large green



\$159,900
SOLD
3 Bedroom 2 bath home with wrap around porch. Detached 1 car garage and an additional unfinished log cabin.



\$149,000
UNDER CONTRACT
Complete remodel on this home in 2011, new windows, roof, exterior siding, and interior remodel. 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. Separate studio, or mother-in-law apt, has its own entrance.



\$129,000
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. Newer gas stainless range/oven.



\$89,000
This property is under construction- the shop is finished, and the garage is being constructed currently. Price includes completion of the garage. New well and septic, all work is quality craftsmanship.



\$75,000
This home was moved from another location in Saguache Co. The water has been brought into the side of the home with a hydrant, septic is installed. Home is rough in and room for 3 bedrooms.



\$62,900
Nice open floor plan, with spacious kitchen, separate dining room, and a wood burning stove. Horses and chickens allowed on 1 acre.



\$58,900
Great retirement home! Nice stucco finish and sweeping views of the Sangre De Cristo mountain range. Property sold as is.



\$54,500
UNDER CONTRACT
New roof, new carpet, new paint on this bank owned manufactured home on 1 acre of land in Lazy KV subdivision. Spacious living Room, and open kitchen.



\$29,500
SOLD
3 bedroom/ 2 bath home with nice woodstove in living room, additional storage shed. Great mountain views, close to tennis court, golf course, and library.



\$27,000
Mobile home needs TLC but backs to farmland and great views of the Sangre De Cristo. On 1 acre, horses allowed.

Land Listings
Land Listings: 40 acres on Cr CC with 160 ft. well pumping 60 GPM, nice level land , with good views-\$54,500
Commercial Building lot in the Town of Crestone, with an excellent location across from the Post Office, high traffic location, great for small business \$30,000
1.78 ac. in The Grants, walk to creek, adjoining lot available-\$4250



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As the Worm Turns Growing weed in the SLV—Pt. 3 Harvest and beyond

by Leigh Mills

There are several steps to complete before marijuana flowers buds are ready to enjoy. This article will briefly touch on those steps. For complete instructions plus information about making hash and hash oil, please refer to Jorge Cervante's book: *Marijuana Horticulture—The Indoor/Outdoor Medical Grower's Bible*. The information below was gleaned from this book—thank you, Jorge!

Pre-harvest

Trim away large fan leaves; these leaves can be reserved and stored to make hash. Reduce feeding and flush 7-10 days before harvesting to remove fertilizer residues. Reduce watering 1-2 days before harvest to help speed drying.

Harvest

Different strains of plants ripen at different times if grown outdoors from seed. Clones can be harvested throughout the year. The signs of ripeness are the same regardless of how the plants are grown. The

plant hairs, or pistils, will change color, from white to brownish red, as the plant is ripening. Full ripeness is determined by trichome (resin secreting gland) color; peak harvest window is 5-7 days. Use a

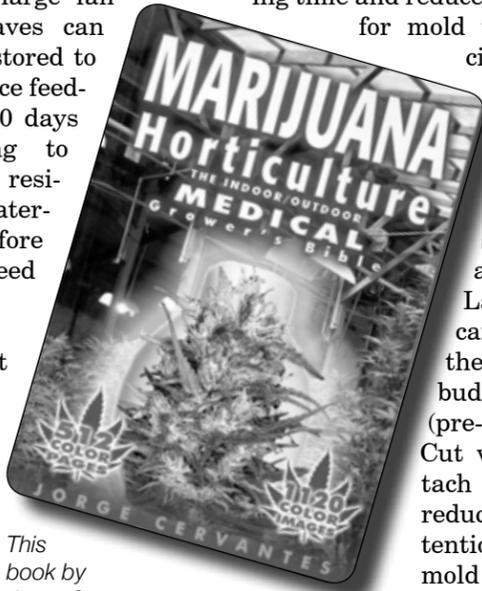
jeweler's loupe or hand-held microscope to determine trichome color. Harvest buds when the majority of the trichomes are clear and a few have turned milky white. Harvesting at different stages of trichome color will produce different highs: clear or milky produce a more head high while amber colored trichomes produce a more body high.

Manicuring (trimming)

Trimming is best when the leaves are soft. It helps speed drying time and reduces opportunities for mold to form, especially on denser buds.

Cut the whole plant or portions of plant, depending on size, timing and preference. Larger leaves can be cut from the plant before buds are removed, (pre-harvest also). Cut where they attach to the stem to reduce moisture retention and inhibit mold formation while buds are drying. Leaving stem portions can also affect how the finished bud tastes. The smaller, low potency

leaves around the buds need to be cut as well. If these are covered with trichomes, set aside to make edibles. Trimming can be done by hand if the harvest is small, (pound or under) or by electric trimmers if



This book by Jorge Cervantes is a must to have for anyone interested in growing weed. It can be found on the web or in certain dispensaries around the region.



This bud is very close to harvest. The pistils have changed color and the trichomes are just turning milky white. This is a clone grown indoors with a heavy concentration of THC.

the harvest is larger.

Drying

Buds need to be dried in order to convert the THC to its psychoactive form. Buds can be dried on the stem or off, depending on preference and drying space. Drying buds on their stem is slower and more even. Buds dried too quickly trap plant properties that can affect the taste. Turning plants upside down is more convenient for drying. The THC doesn't drain but remains in place. Allow 5-7 days for optimum drying rate depending on bud density, air flow, temperature and humidity.

Check dryness by bending a stem. It should snap, and the bud should be dry but not brittle. Small harvests can be dried in a box or closet, larger harvests might need small rooms, screened drying racks that can be hanged, or other creative ways.

Curing & storing

After trimming the buds need to be cured before they are finally

ready to be enjoyed. Curing involves cutting the budded stems into manageable lengths, storing the buds in airtight containers and opening them for a few minutes every day to remove any remaining moisture. Curing takes a few days to 2 weeks, enhances the potency of the THC properties and allows proper drying so mold doesn't occur. Glass jars are ideal for smaller harvests. Plastic may be used for larger harvests, but storing in plastic over time can affect the taste. Storing cured buds in vacuum sealed bags is an ideal way to store large harvests for a long period of time. Store cured buds in a dry, cool place. A refrigerator is ok for small harvests. Do not store buds in a freezer because it will draw moisture to the surface of the buds and can harm the resin glands.

Marijuana law

Colorado's recreational marijuana law means that people of age 21 and older may:

- Possess up to an ounce of marijuana
- Use marijuana on private property, with the approval of the owner. However, people may not use marijuana at marijuana stores or places where the Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act applies.
- Grow up to six plants in their house, in an enclosed, locked space.
- Buy up to an ounce of marijuana at a licensed retail marijuana store if they have a Colorado I.D. People from out of state may buy up to a quarter ounce.
- Give up to an ounce of marijuana to someone else 21 or older, but no money can be exchanged.
- It is still illegal for someone younger than 21 to possess marijuana, unless they have a medical-marijuana card. Additionally, people may not give marijuana to individuals younger than 21; use marijuana in public or at places that have banned it, such as schools or federally owned lands; drive under the influence of marijuana; or take marijuana across state lines.

For more information about Amendment 64, visit www.colorado.gov, www.leg.state.co.us or just search the internet.

Recipe for JD's pot ghee (cooking oil)

• 4-6 pounds high quality butter

• You will need 1-4 ounces of buds or high-quality trimmings (from the smaller leaves growing on the buds coated with trichomes); if using buds, remove stems and grind. The quantity and quality of leaf will make the ghee (cooking oil) that much stronger per pound of butter.

• Approximate ratio = 1 ounce trim per 2 pounds butter (½ ounce if using ground buds)

1) Clarifying butter (aka "drawn" butter or ghee): Heat butter in pot until melted. Skim frothy white fat from top and discard. Pour clear oil into desired cooking pot, leaving the white, watery liquid on the bottom. Clarified butter should be pure golden yellow.

2) Cooking the ghee:

a) Crock pots are good to use when electricity supply is not an issue (on-grid scenario).

b) Use a heavy-bottomed pot on a stove, with a heat diffuser if possible (for off-grid).

3) Place trim/ground buds into clarified butter and cook on very low heat for at least 6 hours. Oil will bubble slightly throughout process. If oil bubbles more,

reduce heat.

4) After ghee has cooked, remove from heat and cool enough to handle—1-3 hours. Pot ghee will be a dark green color when complete.

5) Line a fine strainer with cheesecloth and drain pot ghee into plastic containers. Pull up corners of cheesecloth, hold together, and rotate ball until tight to squeeze out any remaining oil from cooked leaves. Discard cooked leaves/any adhering oil and cheesecloth into compost or trash.

6) Let ghee completely cool, cover containers and freeze—will keep for a long time in freezer.

7) Remove from freezer and soften to use.

Uses: Spread softened ghee on toast; drop spoonfuls onto cooked dishes like pasta or oatmeal and mix; eat plain; or make into baked goodies or fudge . . . get creative! When baking, JD says to find recipes that call for at least ½ pound of butter (16 tablespoons) to be strong enough to get high. Chocolate chip cookies are her favorite edibles and they are easy to share—just be careful and make sure they stay out of reach of children and dogs!



Another way to enjoy the harvest is by making ghee (clarified butter) and heating high quality trimmings to make "pot butter". Use a tablespoon to scoop the softened butter and make into cookies or other baked goodies. You can also use the softened pot butter in a variety of creative ways. Please keep out of reach of children though!



This sample of cured weed shows some nice tops (kolas) and an assortment of smaller buds. So far, the plastic container hasn't affected the taste . . . or high.

There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

Wild Oregano (Monarda spp.)



Also called Oregano de la Sierra, Bee Balm, Horsemint, and Wild Bergamot, this aromatic member of the mint family has been used both as a medicinal and an edible. Further north this plant has magenta flowers, here I have only seen white. To identify this plant, first make sure it is in the mint family: square stems and opposite leaves. It smells strongly of oregano. The dried leaves and flowers are the parts used.

Wild Oregano flowers can be dried now and saved for winter colds and flus. Use the flowers as an herbal steam by adding them to just-boiled water and breathing the steam. Best to cover your head and the pot with a towel to keep the steam in. This can be used for any respiratory infections, sinus infections, and sore throats. The dried flowers can also be used in an infusion to drink for sore throats.

Medicinally, Wild Oregano (flowers and leaves) is a diaphoretic, meaning it causes sweating. This makes it very useful in fevers—it is drunk as a hot tea to get this effect. As a cold tea, it is a diuretic. I love this ability of many herbs to manifest different qualities depending on how they are used. The plant is antiviral and

anti-microbial. And as with many herbs in the mint family, Wild Oregano is a carminative (relieves gas) and is soothing to the stomach.

Of course, being called Wild Oregano, the leaves can also be used in pizza sauce, salsas, and chilies, and anywhere else you might use domesticated Oregano.

One summer when I was spending time on a Lakota reservation, I discovered another use for Wild Oregano. I found a large patch and was merrily harvesting the beautiful purple flowers. I returned to snickers and amusement, and was told it was Elk Medicine (hehaka ta pezhuta). It took me a while to find someone who would explain, but apparently Elk Medicine is used by men to attract a woman (perhaps the other way around as well, I don't know).

As always when harvesting wild plants, take no more than one tenth of the stand and be sure to leave enough flowers for the bees.

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



Wild oregano.



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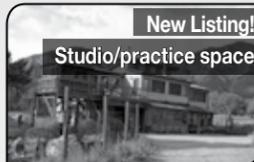
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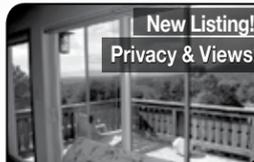
526 CAMINO DEL REY: 3 br, 2 bath, 1740 sf. 2011, elegant home, granite & stainless kitchen, fine finishes, off-grid, low utilities. Sun room, 2 greenhouses, creek lot, privacy. 2.65 acres. Must see! \$227,000



958 MEDITATION OL: 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. \$195,900 now \$182,000



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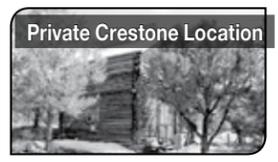
1454 WAGON WHEEL: 4 br, 3.5 bath, 2421 sf. Large living/dining & kitchen area w/ vaulted ceiling, passive solar, private master w/ screen porch. Courtyard, close to town, on green belt, well, 3.164 acres. \$279,000



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Baca Grande Library News



by **Suzanne McGregor**

On behalf of the Baca Grande Friends of the Library (FOL), we would like to extend many thanks to all the folks who volun-

teered their services at our Root Beer Float booth in the park on the Fourth of July. Thom Ontko, president of the FOL, spent many hours organizing this successful event for our library. Also, gratitude to the library staff and all the folks who supported us by buying these tasty treats, right down to the last scoop! The FOL is always seeking new community members for input and direct involvement in developing fundraising projects and planning activities for our current library and for the new library relocation project. Please ask at the library for information

on this valuable community service and how you can help in our future endeavors.

We would also like to thank Penny Bruce from Saguache Public Library, who brought her summer reading program, "Fizz, Boom, Read!" to our youngsters this summer for eight weeks. The program included experiments, crafts and reading and was greatly enjoyed by our young readers and readers-to-be. Please look for notices for other library programs that may be scheduled in the future.

Many books have been added to the "Book Nook" in the front

room. The items on these shelves are not priced—just donate what you feel they are worth to you. Some have been withdrawn from our shelves, some are donations or duplicates, but all of them are in good shape. The proceeds go back into your library.

A "heads-up" for September: The library will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day.

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

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DISPATCH

from the edge

by Peter Anderson
Letter to Frank Waters

We have many poet laureates of cities, states, and country. If we had bioregional laureates, which I think we should, honoring those writers who have learned the ecological and cultural nuances of their watersheds and home ground, I would nominate Frank Waters for the Upper Rio Grande/Sangre de Cristo Region. He wasn't a poet, but his writings were always poetic. For the Sangre de Cristo region, I would recommend his novels: *People of the Valley* and *The Man Who Killed the Deer*. But maybe it's his nonfiction, books like *Mountain Dialogues*, which offer some of his best insights about our region. I wish I'd had the chance to meet him. I read him avidly in graduate school at the University of Wyoming back in the 80's and felt like I was listening to a wise uncle or grandfather. In 1995, when he died, I was still living in Utah. A few years ago, I had the

chance to spend a month writing in a little casita behind the home in Arroyo Seco near Taos that he shared with his wife, Barbara. I had the chance to walk his home ground and to talk with Barbara, whose friendship I treasure though I haven't seen her much since. (And by the way, if you want to learn more about Frank and Barbara's life in Arroyo Seco, she wrote a lovely memoir called *Celebrating the Coyote*.) So here's a thank you note I would write to Frank and Barbara now.

Dear Frank and Barbara:

As you did, I make my home in thin air. As you were, I am a dweller along the edge of this high mountain spine we call Sangre de Cristo. From my perch, the long valley view invites my gaze south toward Ute Mountain and beyond to the hidden gorges of the Rio Grande. If I could fly, I could ride the thermals sweeping up out of the valley further south along the Sangres, which eventually veer off to

the east toward your home in Arroyo Seco.

It is the air here—so high, so thin, so clear—that allows us to gaze out over a hundred miles of the earth's surface, though we rarely give it much thought. We enjoy our privileged perch on the high edge of this valley without thinking much about the air. "Mere air," as Frank pointed out, is as under-appreciated as it is invisible.

Then again, you both were more tuned in to the invisible than most. And you knew that it helps to live next to these breathing mountains: to feel their deep inhalations as the sun warms the air which rises and floats our vultures, hawks, and eagles each summer day; and to feel their great exhalations, the downward flow of air on sultry summer evenings that find our open windows at night and cool us down.

But you also felt it more than most of us, because you knew how to be quiet. I think of Frank's silent moments on the back edge of your land, out near Arroyo Seco's Mother Ditch every morning. Those moments of silence without any agenda. Just breathing. Just listening. To the exhalations from your mountains: "... The aspens reveal the first slight ripple on the surface. A tremor runs through their topmost leaves. They turn slowly on their narrow stems, showing the pale silver of their undersides. Then the current gradually descends until every leaf is beset with that nervous quiver and the curious little sound."

You listened for those sounds, Frank, but it was also tactile for you. You took the time to feel the invisible drafts of air especially in summer, like the ones between your house and your barn, which followed the path of a phantom arroyo, now arid but still drawing the cool air downward. And it was visual. You watched your horses, and the places they liked to "frequent at certain times of day, like trout visiting their favorite pools." You walked with them, with the mountain's diurnal breath each morning, each evening—up, then still, then down.

Thank you for paying attention to the details of living on the

edge of these mountains. Those of us who read your words are reminded that there is much to learn about the physical rhythms of our days, but you both told us too that there is more to it than that. Because you related your own slow inhales and exhailes each morning to the currents of air that rise and fall from these mountains. Microcosm. Macrocosm. Personal. Geographical. Even universal.

You liked our town, Frank. At least that's what Barbara told me when I spent time at the casita behind your old adobe home. Maybe because there is a kind of openness here. An appreciation of the mystery of it all, which your writings embodied. But most of us are newcomers, so it helps to hear from our elders, and in this town anyway, there are few, which is one reason why I value your words. You both became old timers in Arroyo Seco, which I think of us as a sister town of sorts. You knew these mountains which are our mountains too. We are still awash in the same great inhalations and exhalations, which you described so eloquently.



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EXQUISITE STRAW BALE RENTAL
CRESTONE, COLORADO WWW.CRESTONESTRAWBALERENTAL.COM

...Classifieds
continued from
Page B-14

STUDIO FOR RENT

Studio available in Chalet II. For details, please call 925-451-5698.

Room for Rent in Grants

Private bath and entrance (stairs), WiFi, \$30/night, \$175/wk. 256-4552.

GG's Bed and Breakfast

GG's Bed and Breakfast. Adjacent to the UFO Watchtower. Pet friendly. \$85 for 1, \$99 for 2 (in the same room). Available starting June 28. Call for reservations 805-886-6959.

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Spacious, sunny, one bdrm, full kitchen, W/D, month-to-month, includes water/sewer/garbage pickup. Lots of shelving and closet space. No Pets. Available August. 719.221.8730 after 6pm.

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Beautiful shared space in a private house with women. Full kitchen, Laundry, 2 shared baths, WiFi, TV. Non-smoking, no pets. Call for rates by monthly rental: Sophia - 719-256-5825.

House Rental Wanted

Great Tenant For Long Term House Rental In Chalet I/II

Professional woman seeking private house rental in quiet, treed Chalet I/II, very dependable & very reliable, clean, would take excellent care of your property. Nonsmoker, no pets. Excellent references, Crestone resident. Preferably available August/September. Please contact me at 970-817-0624 or inspyre@earthlink.net.

There's No Place Like Home

We're quiet,responsible,non smoking & well behaved(1 human, 1 dog & 1 cat) all w/exc refs. Long term rental/will consider m-t-m. Currently pay \$650/mo inclds util. Ana Maria 262-709-6027 anamaria@IntentionTraining.com

retired couple seeking in Crestone

Retired couple, house rental, lease purchase or owner finance situation in Crestone. We can honestly afford \$600-700/mo very reliable income. down pmt money in hand & 15yr terms. exchange Const & Maint, fire mediation forestry work or other chores for a deal. Good credit & references in Crestone. Rusty Lovell & Molly Curvat drlovell1952@yahoo.com 816-405-7423

Services

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.

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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

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Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, sdossenback@gmail.com

Honeybee Removal

Free honeybee removal in the northern SIV. Give us a call; if they are honeybees and accessible, we'll take them away. Sorry, no wasp, yellow jacket or other sort of insect removal. Please call Janet at 719-937-3767 or email woodmandesign@fairpoint.net.

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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

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Licensed Real Estate Appraiser with 25 years experience, many years experience in Crestone. Don Root. 720-244-1097. donald.root@yahoo.com.

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

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.

Help Wanted

PT After-School Program Coordinator Wanted!

PT After-School Program Coordinator wanted for Mountain Valley School District. This is a salaried position. For more information visit mountainvalleyschool.org or email Megan Strauss at StraussM@valley.k12.co.us

Child Protection Caseworker

Saguache County Department of Social Services is now accepting applications for the position of Child Protection Caseworker. Starting salary range \$2370 to \$2620 depending on experience. Bachelor's degree in one of the behavioral sciences required. Spanish-speaking advantageous but not required. Applications and complete job descriptions are available at 605 Christy Ave., Saguache, CO 81149, by visiting the Saguache County website @SaguacheCounty.net or by calling 719-655-2537 and requesting one be mailed. Completed applications must be received by Saguache County DSS no later than 4:00 pm on July 25, 2014. Saguache County is an E.O.E.

Clerk Wanted

Saguache County Department of Social Services is now accepting applications for the position of Clerk. Salary starts at \$1550.00 per month depending on experience, no degree or specialized training necessary. 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. Completed applications must be received by Saguache County Social Services no later than 4:00 pm. on Aug. 8, 2014. Saguache is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Real Estate Assistant Needed

Part time clerk/assistant afternoons for busy real estate office. Real estate or bookkeeping experience helpful. Knowledge of the Baca required. vivia@CrestoneRealEstate.net

Misc. Wanted

WANTED: Bodhisattvas

For the benefit of all beings, starting with all beings here and now! tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas

Misc. for Sale

CrestoneLot.com

CrestoneLot.com Domain For Sale. We used this website to sell our lot, now you can use it to sell yours. Web design services available if needed.

Kitchen Cabinets

2 kitchen cabinets Ikea-3ft x 2 ft high \$25, nice birch wood, assembled, 1ft. x2ft high \$15. good cond. 719-588-0777

Furniture For Sale

Love seat & Chair and a Half High quality formal upholstered Love Seat, \$300; Comfy Chair is barely used, \$300. 719 256 5579 photos available, leave your email address.

Antique bed frame plus!

Vintage Wood twin size Bed Frame w/ pineapple head board and foot board w/ slats for mattress \$200. Also insulated dogloo dog house for \$35 call 719-256-4472 & leave message.

For Sale

Washer and dryer, \$150 for both, very good condition. Massage table, \$100, nonfolding. Screen door, \$20. Contact: hohahey@mail.com

Hutch For Sale

Solid oak hutch with lighted glass display shelves: \$350. call 719-588-3243 for more information.

Vehicles for Sale

T@DA 5th wheel for sale

Selling our 2010 T@DA TXL. \$12,500 White with grey trim. Ready to go. Furnished. Between very good and excellent condition inside and out. Contact tadaforsale@hushmail.com

2012 Ford Escape

2012 Ford Escape, under 7000 miles. Mom died and left me her new car. The car is great but I need to sell quickly for personal reasons. \$15,500 (under Kelly Blue Books value) Great opportunity for us both! Please call Ava for test drive! 970 618 2213 Thanks!

VW EUROVAN WEEKENDER

WOW!!! 2002 VW EUROVAN WEEKENDER Forrest Green. Good Condition. With pop top up, can sleep 4. 109,000 miles. \$19,900. Call or text for details. 719-937-1492.

Very Cute Camper

Fourteen foot tow-behind Sunline camper. Gas range, bathroom/shower, sleeps two. Good condition. \$2250. 719-588-8727.

Community Service

Need a Caregiver?

I can help you find a local caregiver for you or a loved one. I have several names and numbers of individuals with a variety of skills and experience. (I am also looking for more trained caregivers/CNA) For in-home assistance, elderly care, ongoing illness, etc. email Marta at martashoman@gmail.com

CB Village – Local Help, Give & Receive

CB Village is a local time bank where you can help others and gain credit for future help when you need it. Go to www.cbvillage.net or call 480-8757 to join for free.

Lost and Found

Wristwatch Found

Found wristwatch at Artisans Gallery on Saturday, July 12th. Please call 256-4956 or stop by the Crestone Eagle office to describe and claim.

Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales

GOOD STUFF GARAGE SALE

Come to the KIOSK, Sat. Aug.30 10-3pm Household pots,pottery, art prints, nature photos, Building materials,wind fan,cushions,graphic material, decorative table items,music tapes, art supplies, canvases, baskets,miscellaneous.

Free

Free Manure

Free horse manure. Call the Baca Grande Stables to arrange pick up. 256-6200.

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by Keno

What can you tell us about cloud seeding? Does it really work? Is it harmful to the environment?

As far as whether it does work, that's a loaded question. But first, cloud seeding is officially known as "weather modification" and it should not be confused with chemtrails, a conspiracy theory which isn't the same thing.

Cloud seeding began in the late 1940s. The basic idea was to use aircraft or rockets to inject silver iodide or other substances into the atmosphere to mimic ice nuclei. The amount of rain or snow a cloud can produce depends on a balance between the number of ice nuclei inside it and the amount of water available to grow around those nuclei. It was hoped that cloud seeding would improve a cloud's ability to produce precipitation by adding this silver iodide to a cloud and accelerating the precipitation process, making more efficient use of the water in the cloud.

A more recent cloud-seeding technique is to use hygroscopic particles such as potassium/sodium chloride to provide seeds for large droplets that fall more quickly, colliding with smaller droplets on the way and accelerating rainfall development.

Although the principles behind cloud seeding are well established, there is a great deal of controversy

in meteorology about whether it works, and if so, under what conditions, and to what extent. It is difficult to prove that any given round of cloud seeding produced a particular weather effect since it's difficult to know what would have happened otherwise due to natural variability.

Our state has conducted weather modification operations and research since the 1950s. Since 1972, a permit is required to modify the weather in Colorado. Major research projects from the 1950s through the 1970s, including the National Hail Research Experiment, operated in northeast Colorado by the National Center for Atmospheric Research, which failed to confirm the effectiveness of cloud seeding in increasing precipitation, or in reducing hail.

There are many types of weather modification used in Colorado, including ground-based snowpack augmentation, airplane-based snowpack augmentation, airplane rain augmentation, hail suppression and hail cannons. Most of the permitted projects in Colorado are based around ground-based operations with the goal of snowpack augmentation. There also are permits in Weld County and here in the San Luis Valley for hail cannons for suppression, which uses sound cannons to disrupt cloud processes. But after the last round conducted using canons in 2009 near Center, it was determined that the suppression didn't work, even if some locals there felt otherwise.

Experts like Colorado state climatologist Nolan Doesken noted that it appeared no hail suppression took place in Center. Doesken also noted that there's no clear evidence to show that seeding enhances snowfall anywhere near the amount claimed by those who seed the clouds. Research suggests that cloud seed-

ing can be effective in mountainous regions where upslope winds often induce clouds that are inefficient in producing snow on their own. Cloud seeding advocates say the practice is inexpensive—\$10-20 per acre-foot of water created—and insist that it can boost snowfall by 10% to 15%. They're also quick to point out there are no documented negative environmental effects of the process. But what about what some Crestonians have claimed about cloud seeding in the Collegiate Mountains to our northwest, which is resulting in less snowfall in the SLV and in our local mountains to the east? According to Doesken, there isn't any evidence to show this affects snow and rainfall downwind of any specific target areas. Doesken also notes that although some reports did note small progress in some areas; "If it really increased snowfall by 15%, you'd be able to see that in streamflow records from, say, the Gunnison Basin (where seeding has been ongoing for many years), but that's not the case." Overall, he believes that seeding does boost precipitation, but by lesser amounts than claimed.

Reports outside of Colorado also seem to report the same results. In a 2003 report "Critical Issues in Weather Modification Research," a panel of the National Academies found that 10 U.S. states were conducting at least 66 cloud-seeding programs. "We know that human activities can affect the weather, and we know that seeding will cause some changes to a cloud," noted the report. "However, we are still unable to translate these induced changes into verifiable changes in rainfall and hail fall, and snowfall on the ground, or to employ methods that produce credible, repeatable changes in precipitation."

Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno
June 21 to July 20

Total precipitation for period:
Liquid precip: 1.88"
Snow: 0.0"
Measurable precipitation fell on 10 days.
Measurable rain fell on 10 days.
A trace of rain fell on 6 days.
Hail fell on 4 days.
13 thunderstorms occurred.
No snow occurred.
Total precipitation year to date:
Since Jan 1: 6.04"
Total snow to date:
Since Jan 1: 37.7"
Snow Season (old)*: 80.7"
Snow Season (new)*: 0.0"
*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

Temperatures for the period:
High temp: 88.0°F on July 7
Low temp: 42.7°F on June 23
Avg. high: 81.2°F
Avg. low: 48.5°F
Number of days with the high temperature at or above 90°: None
Number of days with the high temperature at or above 80°: 20
Number of days with the low temperature at or below 50°: 21

Winds for the period:
Avg. speed: 4.0 mph
Highest gust: 41 mph on July 7
Main direction: Out of the east.

Weather summary:

Precipitation was slightly above normal for July as the monsoonal pattern moved in. It was well below normal for the last 10 days of June (zero precip recorded during that time). Temperatures were around normal. Only 3 weather records were broken and all of them were for record high lows. Many thunderstorms came through the area, with lightning starting a small fire above Crestone on July 2 that was extinguished a couple of weeks later by rain.

Outlook for August:

August is our second wettest month, averaging 2.05". The most precip to fall in the month was 4.64" in 1987. Temperatures range from highs and lows of 80° and 49° in the first week and then cool down to 76° and 45° in the last week. Highest temp for August was 92° in 2002, and the coolest reading was 34° in 2006.

The 30-day outlook for August is calling for average temps along with above-average precipitation.

Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: www.keno.org/vws.

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Summer



Fun

The Crestone Eagle's guide to regional events & activities

August, 2014

Saguache Art Festival, August 23

Mark your calendar! Make plans to attend! August 23, 10am to 5pm.

Once again the Saguache Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the annual Saguache Art Festival. Local artists will display their work throughout downtown, in businesses as well as in the town's galleries.

Start your tour at the 4th Street Diner. View works by local artists including carvings by Pedro Garcia. While there, have some coffee and a piece of homemade pie or a cinnamon roll. Next door is Antiques Etc. featuring a floor cloth maker, Barbara Donohue, in addition to the eclectic offerings of Rick Barandes.

At 435 San Juan, you will find Within Clay Walls featuring functional and decorative pottery by Riff and Marilyn Fenton. Also available are small turned wood pieces by Doug Glenn, paintings and prints by Stacey Amos Holden, and photographs by

Mark Dierker. Pottery-making demonstrations happen throughout the day.

From the Fentons', go north on 5th Street to the displays near the Smith Market Gallery. Under the tents will be Wade Collins, cowboy artist and sculptor, Doug Glenn, local wood turner and musician, and Stacy Amos Holden, winner of the 2nd Annual Saguache Hollyhock Art. Children's face painting will be available.

In the Smith Market Gallery, on the

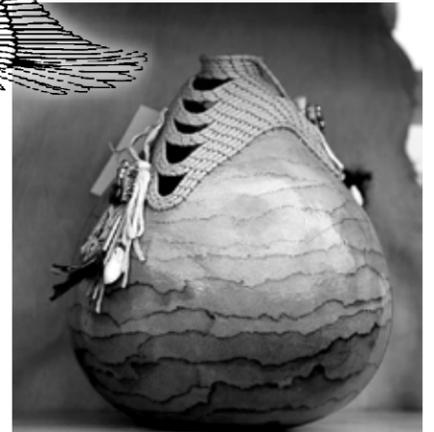


corner of 5th and Denver, you will find work by watercolor artist Yvonne Halburian, as well as prints and pencil sketches by Teddi Coleman from Saguache. Gallery owner Byron Williams will have his unique gourd and basket work on display.

Proceeding on Denver Street, turn south on 4th to Aventa Credit Union in the Old Saguache Bank building and south of it you will find the Hauck/Pedersen Fine Art Gallery, featuring a stunning display of expressionist figurative art.

On the northeast corner of 4th and San Juan you will find the gallery, Magpie, featuring the artwork of Judith Page along with collectibles from Africa and beyond. Continuing south on 4th is the Saguache Welcome Center displaying a varied selection of work from many local artists and craftspeople in addition to local information and local produce.

For information about lodg-



ing, restaurants, and things to do in Saguache, visit the Saguache Chamber of Commerce website, www.SaguacheChamber.org. Watch for other exciting happenings in Saguache, including the Saguache Pow Wow September 7 and the Fall Festival September 20.

Smith Market Gallery

301 5th Street, [corner of 5th and Denver], Saguache

You are cordially invited to visit the Smith Market Gallery. Owner Byron Williams has a beautiful "fresh" collection of intricately designed gourds and baskets, many with antler embellishments or handles. In addition, we are showing watercolors by well-known SLV artist Yvonne Halburian. You've got to see her whimsical "Fantastic Fowl" series of cards and bookmarks.

We have added to our interesting collection of western decorating items, which includes saddles and other vintage horse-related items, and tobacciana of all types.

You might even find an already-broken-in pair of cowboy boots to make your western outfit complete. If you are looking for antlers to decorate your house or garden be sure to stop in and see our selection. We look forward to your visit, but suggest you call to insure we are open, 719-655-0155.



Granite Mountain Outfitters

Granite Mountain Outfitters is committed to offering an excellent riding experience throughout the late spring, summer and fall seasons. They specialize in western outdoor and ranch fun for everyone, from beginner to experienced riders. Small group sizes ensure that guests receive the personal attention they deserve to have in a truly interactive horseback experience. Choose from one-hour or two-hour, up to half-day or full-day (with lunch) horseback rides. Private rides are available also. Granite Mountain Outfitters also offers overnight accommodations in their Dorsey Creek Cabin. The cabin is perfect for 4 people, but will accommodate six. Granite Mountain Outfitters has over 20 years' experience in the outfitting business. Contact them today: www.granitemountainoutfitters.com, 719-221-3479 or 719-530-0480.



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SAGUACHE ART FESTIVAL

Saturday August 23rd 2014 / 10 AM - 5 PM

- ***4th Street Diner** 411 4th. St. Featuring Pedro Garcia
Enjoy a cup of coffee and a piece of delicious pie
- ***Antiques Etc.** 409 4th. Featuring Barbara Donohue floor cloths and a vast assortment of antiques
- ***Hauck/Pederson Fine Art Gallery** 313-315 4th Street
Featuring Expressionist Figurative Art
- ***Magpie** Featuring the art of Judith Page and collectibles from Africa and beyond
- ***Saguache Welcome Center** 404 4th. Featuring the art of a number of local artists
- ***Smith Market Gallery** Corner of 5th. and Denver Sts.
Featuring Yvonne Halburian and Byron Williams
Also on 5th Street:
Stacy Holden - Fine Arts, Wade Collins, cowboy artist and Doug Lane, woodturner
- ***The Hazard House Museum** corner of Pitkin and 8th Street (US-285)
Photography Exhibit
- ***Within Clay Walls Gallery** 421 San Juan
Featuring Fenton Studio Pottery and paintings by Christa Gulaian
- ***James Worley Sudlo** 400 7th Street
Oil painting and Jewelry

Come and see new creations offered by local artists and artisans. Indulge in refreshments at some of the above venues and visit the downtown area or dine at local eateries. Enjoy our town's unique and peaceful environment. Children's activities, including rock painting are planned. Local musicians will be presenting their talents for your listening pleasure. Maps will be available at all venues.

The SAGUACHE ART FESTIVAL
Sponsored by the Saguache Chamber of Commerce
Visit our web site for more information on upcoming events at SaguachChamber.org

SMITH MARKET GALLERY

Saguache, Colorado

Byron Williams, Prop.
Art & Fine Craft - Collectibles
Antlers Bought, Sold, Traded
301 5th Street (corner of 5th & Denver)

719-655-0155 www.artgourdsbybyron.com

Crestone

1 Earth Knack

Join Earth Knack, Crestone Curve Cooperative Gardens and the Crestone Charter School to find your inner gardener. This local garden functions as an educational space for Earth Knack interns and students, folks interested in local food production, and as a sustainable agriculture educational program for the Crestone Charter School. Volunteer in the Curve Cooperative Gardens anytime to learn about medicinal plants, native edible plants, organic gardening, water conservation, and high altitude desert techniques. Check out the new toddler gardening space. Contact Robin at Earth Knack, 719.256.4909 for more information.

2 Bliss Cafe

Yummy food! Organic food as well as comfort food, pizza, beer, espresso, wine, cocktails, champagne. Internet. Private party parlor for special events, additional outdoor seating with wonder-



ful mountain views. We now have an inn with park view rooms: queen size beds, kitchenettes & showers. Plus a penthouse nestled in the tree tops, housing a king size bed, living and dining areas, full kitchen & six-foot bathtub! Gifts Galore! Butterflies, Buddhas, jewelery, candles, art work, carry bags, journals, incense, picture frames, cards, and so much more!

And coming soon, a variety of food to take & bake from our new freezer!

3 Dr. Debra Irizarry

Board-certified in 1996, plastic surgeon Dr. Debra Irizarry's main office has been in Crestone since 2009. Specializing in minimally-invasive cosmetic procedures, such as Botox and fillers, the only skin tightening, wrinkle-reducing laser in the San Luis Valley is in use at her office. The Matrix CO2 Fractional Laser is the laser technology that puts the most metabolism-activating heat into the skin of any laser or light-based therapy in use today. Another benefit of laser skin treatment is that it removes some of the damaged surface layers, which actually reduces the development of new skin cancer, especially in skin that has a lot of sun damage.



4 MahaLakshmi 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 \$666. 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 and click on the Maha Lakshmi Shop. All proceeds from the shop go to support the ashram and its work. Hours: 9-5 daily, 256-4108.

5 Crestone Artisans Gallery

Please visit us for the "Second Saturday Artwalk!" and see just what a friendly and creative community Crestone is. Crestone Artisans Gallery will be holding its monthly Artists' Reception from 2-5pm. The gallery represents over 24 local artists and craftspersons showing works in many media: paintings in oil, acrylic & watercolor; jewelry, glass, leather work, pottery, hand-turned wood, furniture, textiles, handmade paper, sculpture, wind chimes & photography. We have several new members showing this summer. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the artists! Refreshments & wine will be served with live music in Artisans Park.

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Crestone Artisans Gallery represents 24 local artisans

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Artist Reception
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5 Crestone Creative Council

The Crestone Creative Council (CCC) offers a Youth Work Force of local 13-24 year olds to help with your home and work projects. Worker's compensation and liability insurance are built into this Town of Crestone youth program. Some projects we offer assistance with:

- Gardening
- Construction
- Moving projects
- Fire mitigation
- Pet & house sitting
- Firewood stacking
- Weeding & yard work
- Event set-up
- House cleaning
- Computer/Technology assistance

Contact our new Youth Work Force Coordinator, Paul Grice, to schedule youth today at 719-480-2553 or pgrice@msn.com.



6 Chokurei Yak Tours

This summer come & enjoy an amazing yak tour! Have fun hand-feeding our Tibetan yak in the middle of a wide open field with a panoramic view of the mountains & the sand dunes.

After this breathtaking tour, drive 7 miles towards Crestone to our completely organic and GMO-free Yak N Cracker Café, which serves yak and veggies grown on our farm. Located on Challenger Golf Course, we offer both golf and Frisbee golf, including rentals and carts. We have live music every weekend, with special events like our second annual Yaktoberfest on September 27.

7 Baca Grande Stables

Come visit the Baca Grande Stables. See the area on horseback or ride in our arena—Western and English riders of all ability levels are welcome. Our Summer Children's Riding Program for kids aged 6-15 is comprised of a week of fun lessons. Call or e-mail us to schedule a trail ride or lesson, or to arrange an overnight stay for you and your horse: 719-256-6200, info@bacagrandestables.com.

8 Illuminated Therapies

Chill out this summer with a relaxing massage or energy work session. Amulya Dawn Beechwood of Illuminated Therapies is pleased to offer massage, biodynamic craniosacral therapy, preg-



nancy massage, reflexology, and reiki for adults as well as infants and children. She can teach families to massage their infants, and loves working with infants using craniosacral therapy to give babies a harmonious start to life. Would you like to treat your staff to a summertime treat? Amulya also offers on-site chair massage. See illuminatedtherapies.com or call 719-256-4743 for more information.

9 Enchanted Forest Accommodations

Where the magic of Crestone meets the Mysticism of Ireland . . . Enchanted Forest Accommodations are perfect for small group retreats, family gatherings, weddings, sacred ceremonies or individual getaways. A magically enchanting setting, it offers panoramic views of the San Luis Valley and the Crestone mountains. Enchanted Forest is nestled into the natural piñon forest and located near the town of Crestone, which is host to over 25 spiritual centers and a wealth of healers and therapists. We are also near natural hot springs, the Great Sand Dunes National Park, hiking trails and creeks, including several 14,000 ft peaks. Come rest, meditate and rejuvenate. Come visit . . . and experience the really high vibrational energies here. See www.enchantedforestcrestone.net or call Anne at 719-256-5768 for details.

Crestone

10 Shangrilah Sanctuary B&B

Shangrilah Sanctuary is a new bed & breakfast that is now open for business. We offer modern or rustic accommodations at the feet of the beautiful Sangre de Cristo mountains, educational opportunities, & an event/retreat space. Beth Quist (musician, permaculture designer) & Nathan Good (polycrafter/artsman) are the proprietors. On-site services include lessons in music, postural alignment, biocooperation, and permaculture. We keep organic, GMO-free, permaculture-based garden & home systems. Our excellent location offers a lovely setting in the piñon pines, walking distance to alpine trailheads, the town of Crestone, & Baca park. 719-256-4768.

Town of Crestone

Crestone Creative Council
Youth Work Force

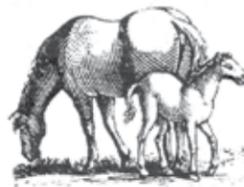


Please contact Paul Grice:

719-480-2553
pgrice64@msn.com

Baca Grande Stables

BOARDING ~ LESSONS ~ TRAIL RIDES



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Post Office Box 478
Crestone, CO 81131

www.bacagrandestables.com
info@bacagrandestables.com

(719) 256-6200 Joanna and Eli Dokson

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Yak Tours at the Ranch!

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Amulya Dawn Beechwood, LMT, CEIM
www.illuminatedtherapies.com
relax@illuminatedtherapies.com
(719) 256-4743

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Integrated Massage Therapy
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Reiki | Reflexology | Aromatherapy

Moffat & Villa Grove Trade

After soaking and swimming at the hot springs, food and accommodations await at the Villa Grove Trade. A small town general store since 1882, it features live music and dinner specials every 2nd and 4th Sunday 6-8pm. Villa Grove has several oldwest buildings that date back to the railroad days.

The Trade offers mighty fine meals, home baked desserts, wi-fi, local art, general supplies, ice, snacks and beverages, specialty coffees and espresso.

There are also a couple of quaint rooms for rent. \$55 for single, \$65 for double, pets \$10 each. Location: 34094 U.S. Hwy 285, Villa Grove. 8am-4pm daily. 719-655-2203, www.villagrovetrade.com.



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2 Steel Horse Grill

The Steel Horse Grill, located on Hwy 285 in Villa Grove, is all about enjoying the beauty of the Rocky Mountains, exceptional food, good music, and taking a break with friends along your journey.

The Steel Horse Grill offers casual patio dining with views of the stunning Sangre de Cristo mountain range. We know you'll enjoy relaxing to some good music and filling up on delicious food like our signature 1/2 lb. ribeye burger, bbq ribs, chicken, vegetarian options, and a host of tasty appetizers and sides. We have a nice selection of wine, and ice cold beer. Live music on Saturdays—and sometimes Fridays! Check our website for the latest additions.

Open May-October, Thursday-Sunday (Closed Mon, Tues & Weds), Noon-8pm/9pm on Sat. 719-655-2004, www.steelhorsegrill.com, facebook.com/SteelHorseGrill

3 Mirage Trading Company and Mirage Espresso & Ice Cream

The Mirage Trading Company in Moffat, has been providing great coffee and local art to the San Luis Valley for the past nine years.

The Mirage has recently opened another location in Saguache, just on the other side of the valley. Mirage Espresso and Ice Cream is located in the historic downtown area of Saguache serving the same fabulous coffee and now delicious Boulder Ice Cream. New flavors weekly!

Moffat hours 8-4 every day, Saguache hours 8-4 Sunday through Wednesday and 8-8 Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

4 Helen Martin's Miramonte Pottery Studio

Yay, summertime! The flow of creativity abounds at Miramonte Pottery Studio. The small, solar-powered, working studio in Villa Grove provides space for Helen Martin to fashion her functional, hand-built, wheel thrown, and slab stoneware pieces. Visitors are welcome to stop in or call.

Helen's work is also available at the Crestone Artisans Gallery, the Mirage Trading Company, the Villa Grove Trade, the Saguache County Museum, and the Hodge-Podge in Salida.

On Saturday mornings throughout the summer and fall, Helen can be found with her display at the Salida Farmers Market. Enjoy pottery inspired by nature and created with love!

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- heard daily at the Steel Horse Grill

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LIVE MUSIC 2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS

Helen Martin's MIRAMONTE POTTERY STUDIO

In beautiful downtown Villa Grove, Colorado
1 block west off Hwy. 285
Follow the Orange Flowers

Stop in or Visit by Appointment
(719)655-2419



5 Saguache County Museum

The Saguache County Museum invites you to attend these programs Sunday at 1:30pm:
 • August 3, Jim Moore (from Crestone) "23 Days on the Colorado Trail"
 • August 17, Dr. Douglas M. Knudson - "Characters of the Old Spanish Trail" talk and book signing Refreshments will be served. Donations accepted.

It's time to show off your photography skills and enter the museum's Art Walk Photo Competition. There is no entry fee. Call the museum at 655-2557 for details, or see The Saguache Crescent.

Come in and check out the new historical books in the museum's gift shop.



6 4th Street Diner

Family and quality is what made the 4th Street Diner a great addition to Saguache. Esther Last and her sons Reed and Tom invite you to a wholesome breakfast or fresh lunch seven days a week from 7am-3pm. We are now serving a mouth-watering dinner Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights 6pm-9pm. 4th Street Diner offers a variety of baked goods and jams. Impress your guests with cream puffs or a banana cream pie. Their handcrafted bakery goods can be ordered by calling 719-655-6411. Enjoy free soup and endless conversation with great locals every Wednesday night from 6-7pm.



7 4th Street Food Store

4th Street Food Store, at 404 4th St. in downtown Saguache, offers fresh, healthy foods at extremely affordable prices. Seasonal organic produce from area gardens is featured, as are local meats, eggs, goat cheese, quinoa, jams, jellies and tortillas. A nonprofit project of Saguache Works, the food store also offers a wide selection of healthy snacks, beverages and grocery items. Bulk orders and special requests are welcome.

The store is open seven days a week, from 10am to 4pm weekdays and from 10am to 3pm on weekends.

8 Magpie

Magpie features the art of Judith Page, and Dean Coombs' collection from Africa and beyond. Producing and selling art in the San Luis Valley since 1998, Judith's mixed media illustrations depict rich and

Saguache

detailed narrative imagery and symbolism, often evoking mythical references. Mixed media abstract collage, cards and prints are available too. Dean, editor and publisher of The Saguache Crescent, the last weekly "hot lead," linotype newspaper in the country, has been collecting African trade beads and ethnographic artifacts for almost twenty years. Beads, baskets, jewelry, masks, textiles and more are for sale. Located at the corner of San Juan and 4th Street. Open most Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays or by appointment, 719-655-2620 or 719-655-2650.

9 Within Clay Walls

Riff and Marilyn Fenton produce functional table and kitchen ware reflecting the subtle, earthy nature of their stoneware clay. Pots, thrown on the potter's wheel following classical pottery traditions, are then high-fired to nearly 2400°F in a reduced oxygen atmosphere. Their use of feldspathic glazes produces vitrified surfaces and muted colors which are the result of the high temperature, the kiln's atmosphere, and oxides such as iron, cobalt and nickel. Lead is never used. Aspen ash is used in some of their glazes. The pottery is in Saguache, on San Juan Ave. just 1/2 block west of 4th St.

Pies! WiFi!
Saguache's
4th Street
Diner & Bakery
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The Art of Judith Page
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 or by Appointment 719-655-2620
 324 4th Street Saguache, CO
www.magpie-gallery.weebly.com

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- Welcome Center, Gallery & Gift Shop
- BEBOP Studio
- Blue Earth Thrift & Mercantile

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Don't Miss a Trip to The Saguache County Museum
 on Hwy 285 in Saguache
Open daily: May 24 through mid-September
 9am to 4pm
Open for special groups until mid-October
Admission \$5.00 adults- children 12 and under \$1.00

Mang Nations
 Saguache Pow-wow

One Community!
 Saturday, September 6th ~ 9 am-Sunset
 Otto Mears Park
 Grand Entry 11 am
 For more information, please contact Carita Ginn at 719.655.2824

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 OTTO MEARS PARK
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 Auction starts at 2 pm
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Within Clay Walls
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 Saguache, Colorado
potterfenton@yahoo.com

Salida

1 Amicas Pizza & Microbrewery

After a perfect day, whether rafting, fishing, ziplining, shopping, biking, hiking or just enjoying our Salida vibe, Amicas is a must for dining. We have been part of the Salida experience for more than 20 years, featuring wood-fired oven pizzas, the freshest salads and sandwiches using a variety of local purveyors, and of course, our handcrafted, award-winning microbrews brewed right here. We are still going strong and always evolving, a truly local establishment.



2 Ploughboy Market

Ploughboy Local Foods Market is unlike any market you will experience. We are all about food; real food; Colorado food. Most of our foods are sourced within 100 miles of Salida and all from Colorado.

We also craft local foods into delectable eat-in or take-home meals—from Colorado green chile mac to seasonal fruit crisps. When you're here, you're our guest and a guest of Colorado's great producers.

Our mission is to make local food as available as possible, while helping central Colorado farmers and producers grow, our local economy thrive and giving our customers value for their food dollars.



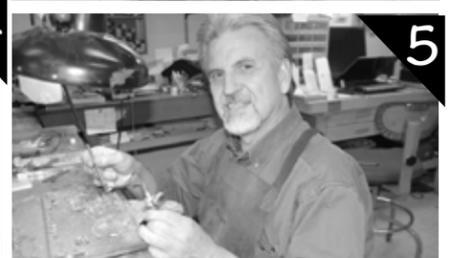
3 Gallery 150

Gallery 150 artists are a diverse group, at once local and from around the country.

Our main categories are contemporary hand made jewelry; wall art including paintings, pastels and mixed media; ceramics and pottery; small table sculpture; fine studio furniture; and lots of glass art. The jewelry you will find at Gallery 150 is as varied as the Colorado weather. We have original studio jewelry from \$22 to \$20 thousand. Jerry Scavezze and Toni Tischer hand-forge gold and silver into wonderfully classic heirloom designs, using a technique called anticlastic raising. On special occasions such as Art Walk we bring in guest artists, fabulous masters, who graciously consent to share their work with us for limited engagements. Please watch our website for those announcements.

4 INTEGRATE mind•body•fitness

INTEGRATE mind•body•fitness in Salida is a holistic wellness center helping the San Luis Valley improve and maintain optimal health and well-being. Located in downtown Salida



on the corner of 3rd and G Streets, our facility includes a wellness center and spa offering massage, Roling Structural Integration, acupuncture, skin care, and Feldenkrais Therapy. Our team works to facilitate the personal growth of our clients, educating and empowering them to take a more active role in their own health care. Our facility also includes a functional training gym, locker rooms, eucalyptus steam room, and a far-infrared sauna. We invite you to stop by our new facility to discover how INTEGRATE can support your health care. INTEGRATE mind•body•fitness; 305 G Street, Salida; 719-539-2700; integrateyourself.com

5 Antero Jewelers

Antero Jewelers offers hand-crafted fine jewelry, on-site repairs and local gemstones in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Come see our beautiful designs and one-of-a-kind pieces that are made right here in Salida. We are also proud to present our "Impressions of Colorado" collection which features unique scenes from the Arkansas Valley in gold and sterling silver. 136 W. Hwy 50, Salida, CO www.anterojewelers.com.

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Saturday
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Sunday
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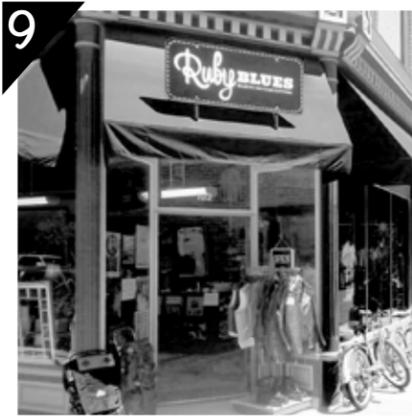
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 305 G Street, Salida
 integrateyourself.com
 1 block from Ploughboy, caddy-corner from Safeway



6 Kaleidoscope Toys

Visit Kaleidoscope Toys in downtown Salida for all your summer adventures. We have new games, novelties and travel toys to check out. New Playmobil

and Lego sets will be arriving in August. Join our email list, like us on Facebook or check our website (kaltoys.com) for details about sales and events throughout the summer.

7 Laughing Ladies Restaurant

The Laughing Ladies Restaurant is located at 128 W. 1st Street in historic downtown Salida, at the crossroads of the Rocky Mountains and the Arkansas River. Chefs Margie Sohl and Jeff Schweitzer are dedicated to bringing you the freshest, boldest flavors both on your plate and in your wine glass. Open for lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch, they serve Modern Colorado Cuisine using only



the freshest fishes and Colorado meats, with every sauce and dessert made from scratch. Subscribe to their weekly email describing the culinary delights available at the Laughing Ladies by going to their website: www.laughingladiesrestaurant.com.

8 Retrospective Gallery

Retrospective Gallery features an eclectic mix of modern art, vintage decor, and hand-painted repurposed furniture. The gallery features work by 7 artists: owner Natalie Kiser's large scale abstract pour paintings; works by Father Giovanni DeZorzi; photographs by Jeff Brooks and Mark Carroll; Crestone artist Rita Berault's mixed media bejeweled goddesses; Christine Murphy's unique interpretations. Jessica Vogel, owner of Art and Salvage in Salida, displays several large playful pieces featuring birds and bicycles. Throughout the gallery are retro furniture pieces including a turquoise dining set and a cocktail bar. Also available are vintage and antique pieces, mid-century lamps, dishes and décor. They offer something for everyone's budget, style and space. The gallery is open from 11-5, Wednesday through Sunday.



9 Ruby Blues

Ruby Blues is an eclectic mix of men's and women's vintage and brand name clothing. We are always looking to buy, sell and trade your quality items. We are not a consignment store; we offer you instant gratification by paying cash or providing you with in-house credit where you get the most for your quality items. We would love to buy your grandparents' clothing. Vintage western wear, Levi's, Pendleton, Lee are just a few of the vintage brands we buy. Please call ahead and see what we currently are in the market for. Thank you and we hope to hear from you soon!

10 Independent Whitewater

Some of the most exciting activities in the area are the spectacular rafting trips offered on the Arkansas River by Independent Whitewater located just over Poncha Pass north of Crestone. You don't have to be a thrill-seeker to enjoy rafting, because we've got trips for all difficulty levels and ages all summer long. June will offer the best flows for thrill-seekers and high water enthusiasts. There's a reason we're the valley's number one choice for rafting on the Arkansas River. Join us for a great day of family fun. See us at www.independentrafting.com or call us at 1-800-428-1479.

Salida

Sunshine Market

Located at 211 F Street in Downtown Salida, the Sunshine Market is a modern health food store in an old-time mercantile building. Specializing in vitamins, spices and herbs, it has a wide variety of ingredients that are used in making tinctures and tonics along with hard-to-find supplements. The Sunshine Market also carries bulk food, organic produce, teas, select foods, chocolate and dried fruits. Natural cleaning supplies and skin care products are also available with a little bit of everything else to round out your shopping needs. Open Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 11am-5pm.

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Salida

1 Creative Framing & Blue Water Gallery

Creative Framing & Blue Water Gallery is located at 131 E. 1st Street in beautiful downtown Salida.

Our gallery features a dozen artists in pastel, fabric, ceramic, fiber, stone and more. Our newest items are beautiful gemstone angels, handbags and locally made soaps.

We are the "biggest little frame shop" in the area and feature beautiful Larson Juhl mouldings along with many other wonderful lines for all your framing needs!



2 Salida Hydroponic Supply

Salida Hydroponic Supply is fully stocked with everything for indoor and outdoor growing.

Specializing in natural and organic nutrients and amendments, we also have the best prices for bag and bulk soils in the region. We offer big city pricing in our beautiful small town. Come visit us and our friendly and knowledgeable staff will help build a garden for your needs. Indoor, outdoor, soil, hydroponic, hobbyist, master gardener . . . we have you covered!



3 Sand Dunes Pool

On Highway 17, north of Hooper, turn east on Road B (the water billboard). Follow the signs 2.5 miles to the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool.

Heated by geothermal water, this pool has a diving boards, a kiddies' pool, toys, a therapy pool and a concession stand that was voted "Best in Colorado." RV & tent camping as well as cabin rentals available year-round. Visit our website for details.

Admission: \$12/adult, \$8/child (3-12yrs), children under 2 are free. Seniors 65+, students with ID and military are \$10. Last Hour of the Day Deal: Arrive 1 hour prior to closing to receive half price discount. March 1-November 30. 10am-10pm. Closed every Thursday for draining and cleaning. For more information and to learn about passes, punch cards and group discounts, call 719-378-2807 or visit sanddunespool.com.

Alamosa Hooper Mosca UFO Watchtower

To date, seventy-seven UFOs have been seen, spotted from the tower's observation deck. It is said two energy vortices draw UFOs to our area! You can peruse a gift shop full of books on the subject, and shop for out-of-this-world souvenirs. Just 3 miles north of Hooper on Highway 17. Admission is \$2/person or \$5/car. Primitive camping is available for \$10 per night. Call 719-378-2296 or log on to ufowatchtower.com. for full details. GG's Bed and Breakfast now open, adjacent to the UFO Watchtower. For conference reservations call Judy at 719-378-2296.

5 Kristi Mountain Sports

In 1969, Kristi Mountain Sports first "opened their doors", selling ski equipment from a storage closet inside the former El Sid's 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.

In 2008 Kristi Mountain Sports expanded once again to a 10,000 sf facility in the Villa Mall giving us the opportunity to carry all the gear necessary 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.

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