

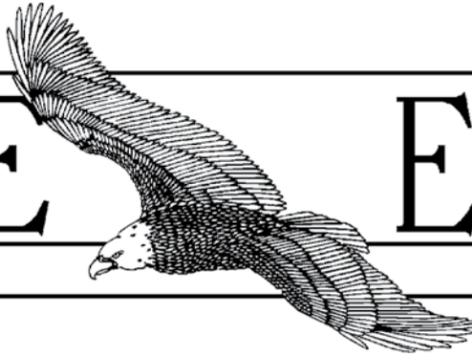
# The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 25, Number 9

September, 2014 \$1

25 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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View of the Crestone fourteeners from the summit of Mt. Adams. photo by Larry Calloway.

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## County Board of Equalization adjusts Crestone lots in alignment with tax litigation settlement

by Lisa Cyriacks

Town of Crestone Trustees recently received good news. After three days of hearing in late July and early August, the County Board of Equalization agreed to revise 2014 assessed valuations for "ALL Town of Crestone lots" down.

July 31 marked the day the Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Board of Equalization, heard protests from 13 own-

ers. Property owner and protester Elaine Johnson, who recently settled a lawsuit against the county on unfair tax assessments, opened the protest hearing with comments on the discrepancies in Crestone assessments compared to assessments in other communities such as Center, Moffat, Villa Grove, La Garita and Saguache.

Elaine Johnson concluded: "Because this was a settlement,

the court did not provide any guidance on future valuations. I believe, however, that the numbers in this settlement may be useful to other property owners as they now have substantiated values to present in any future protests and appeals."

Property owners who participated in the protest hearings received letters revising land values down from re-evaluations done by

*continued on page 32*



**The Telluride Mountain Film Festival returns to Crestone.** Water wars have always been heated in the American southwest desert, but the same quarrels were once unthinkable in lush areas of the country. In *Who Owns Water*, two young brothers decide to paddle the three rivers in the Appalachicola-Chat-tahoochee-Flint River Basin to tell the story of a system that still flows, though it's threatened from all sides. See film festival article on page 10

## The 2nd annual SLV Yaktoberfest happens Sept. 27

Yaktoberfest is a celebration of the autumn harvest and an end-of-the-summer festival to honor the community. The festival will be held on September 27 from 10 am-10 pm at the Yak n' Cracker Cafe and Challenger Golf Course 6 miles west of Crestone. It offers entertainment for kids and adults alike, as well as delicious foods and music.

Yaktoberfest will offer many traditional Octoberfest games with a yakky twist, fun for all ages. There will be limited-edition Yakwurst (made with Cho Ku Rei's signature

spice blend), as well as a multitude of organic, GMO-free refreshments, including delicious entrees, local beers and beverages. For those with a sweet tooth, plenty of house-made desserts will be provided.

This year will continue the kids' carnival. Proceeds will go to the Cho Ku Rei school lunch program which helps feed Crestone Charter School students organic GMO-free meals from the farm, twice a week.

### Musical performances

Headliner Vine Street Vibes is the musical perpetuation of positive

energy and resounding creativity. The band features six Colorado musicians, all dedicated to delivering a unique performance that pushes the boundary between electro-funk and instrumental dance jams.

This year's musical lineup includes Robin James, a renowned singer/songwriter who packs a punch with her powerhouse vocals. Whether with her lyrical visions or a yodeling display, you surely will tap your feet. Followed by James Doyle; his Brazilian Percussion Ensemble

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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.



## Unauthorized trail in Spanish Cr. greenbelt

Dear Editor,

One of the greatest benefits of living in the Crestone/Baca Grande area is our ability to enjoy the peace and serenity of communing with the natural world. Our unspoiled greenbelts offer a quiet respite, a sanctum we all can enjoy and in which native flora and fauna can flourish and thrive without the disruption and destruction caused by mechanized human intervention.

Over the past couple of weeks an unauthorized trail has been cut in the Spanish Creek greenbelt between Indian Well Way and Wagon Wheel Road. Cutting this trail has involved removal of flora—raspberry bushes ripped out, branches and small trees cut and tossed aside, etc.—as well as dead and down trees cut and moved. Two improvised bridges have been erected over the creek. Flags and ribbons have been set out marking the trail.

The purpose of this clandestine trail building, apparently, is to provide an off-road course for mountain bike riding. Tire prints are evident along the new trail, and erosion has already begun due to the poor soil conditions and topography of the area in which this trail has been cut.

Any number of POA covenants regarding public space in the Baca have been violated in the cutting of this trail. The greenbelts belong to all of us, and our continued enjoyment of the Spanish Creek greenbelt, as well as its ecology, is threatened by this unauthorized trail-cutting and use. We ask anyone who has information on who is responsible for this wanton destruction to please come forward and contact the POA office.

—Bob Herman, Lisa Scalise, Noah Baen, Sandia Belgrade, Judith Yarrow Lawn, Larry Lawn, Paul Kloppenburg, Sugandha Brooks, Joanna Theriault, Catherine Alelyunas, Keith Conway, Margaret Vrana, Thomas Fox, Julia Voss, Everett Buss, Sherry Black, Jack Barton, Cheryl Waschenko, Tim Allen

## Greenbelt at risk

Dear Baca residents,

We are writing regarding our deep concerns about mountain bike trails being illegally blazed through the greenbelts behind our land and others, as well as along Spanish Creek. Perhaps elsewhere too.

We have owned property in the Baca Grants for about 20 years. This bike corridor is less than a few feet from our rear border. It is even possible that there has been trespassing. There has been destruction of plants, branches, trees and several metal rung bridges built over Spanish Creek.

We plan to build a home near the rear of our property and this bike trail poses a very real privacy

threat to our property and to all properties along any greenbelts. There have been no rights of way, easements, wood or construction permits granted for this activity. As a land owner, tax payers and POA members for many years, we feel these actions violate the sanctity of the greenbelt, break covenants, disturb wild life corridors, destroy natural habitat and violate the privacy of land parcels that border the greenbelts.

The greenbelts are to be preserved for the future enjoyment of all and are intended to remain in their natural state. Property owners must follow very strict rules. Allowing such rogue activity in greenbelts would certainly set a precedent that could open other such destructive activities.

We ask that you report names and any information to the POA, so that appropriate sanctions, fines and possible consequences can be administered. This issue will impact all of us sooner or later. This community has taken strong stands to keep outside interests from destroying our natural environment. Why would we allow a few of our own residents to do the same? Please sign the petition being circulated, call the POA and/or file a complaint if your greenbelt has been affected.

Thank you,  
Judith Yarrow-Lawn  
and Lawrence Lawn

## Local generosity keeps food bank in service

Dear Editor,

Community donations make up a substantial portion of the resources needed to operate the Crestone Food Bank. Fortunately, we have many generous supporters that help keep the food bank supplied so we can continue to serve the Crestone community, week after week, year after year.

In July, Cathy Amenta organized EveryBody Deserves a Massage Week which raised \$500 for the food bank. These funds went directly to our account at the Mercantile to buy meat, cheese, and eggs—items needed by our food bank users. We are very, very grateful to Cathy and the local massage therapists who donated their time and hands-on work to provide us with this much needed food! And thank you to the community members who participated in this successful event.

In April, Bill Aldinger presented a drumming, flute and bowl concert that raised over \$600. Thanks to Bill and generous supporters, we bought a freezer for the food bank that has improved our ability to keep more food on hand.

A special thanks, too, goes to the staff of Dharma Ocean. At the end of their retreats, organic produce and prepared foods are donated to the food bank. This is a special treat to many food bank users!

We welcome individual donations of food or cash, which can be delivered to the Crestone Town Hall during business hours. We are grateful for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Denise Peine  
Manager, Crestone Food Bank

## Lakish announces for POA board

Dear Editor,

I have been a resident of Saguache County, have lived within the Crestone/Baca area since 1993, and have been a POA member since 1995. I have worked in education and social work, as well as in local businesses. I am employed by Saguache County Department of Social Services. Currently, I am on the Board of Directors of the Baca Grande POA and I am seeking to serve the remaining year of a three-year term. I have served in a volunteer capacity for a number of organizations, including SLV Ecosystem Council (SLVEC), Saguache County Sustainable Environment and Economic Development (ScSEED), The Crestone Charter School, and on the Moffat School Board. I have been a writer for *The Crestone Eagle* and have been covering the Saguache County Commissioners meetings for over three years, as well as other local government, energy and agriculture topics.

I am the mother of three grown sons, one of whom is currently a volunteer with the POA Ambulance as an Advanced Life Support EMT, for which he receives a modest stipend from the POA. When I am not working or serving my community, I find peace and inspiration in my garden, from the awe-inspiring landscapes, and on my forays into the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

I feel that the next POA board should hold public educational forums to inform owners about issues and get feedback on owners' desires regarding important questions. Should we renew the Hammersmith Management Company's contract? How should dues be apportioned for consolidated lots? The Fire and Ambulance services are very important, and should be well supported, especially in this fire-prone area with an aging population. Should voters choose to fund the Crestone Fire Protection District, should the POA work with that district to provide emergency services to members?

In 2013 a lawsuit was filed over the 2012 election at which I was elected. In order to help achieve a settlement to the suit, I volunteered to resign the last year of my term. If elected for the remaining one year, I will try to bring some peace, order, and sound governance to our POA community.

I urge Baca Grande POA members to vote for Sugandha Brooks and Joanna Theriault. Our team of dedicated women will work hard to restore clear, honest and positive communication with members. Thank you for your support.

Matie Belle Lakish

## POA endorsements

Dear Editor,

Wouldn't we all like a new kind of POA experience? Well, after watching Matie Belle's well-prepared, patient, respectful performance on the POA board I think maybe we could have it if we reelect her and give her some support. Matie Belle Lakish has been in a minority and often under heavy, unjustified attack by BGCAN both before and after they took over the board majority. Her coolness un-

## Editor's Notes

### Governance

Lots of letters this month. So many that we've had to hold some over until next month. More letters of support for Lakish, Brooks and Theriault. Letters, like the ones we printed this month, from people who bring up points they wish readers to actively consider. And letters concerned about governance.

That's always a big theme—what sort of governance do we want? Not just in form, but also in action. When you have a community, how do we define our common goals and rules and enact them? Not always easy. It requires rule of law, participation and active listening.

I've been attending POA meetings on and off for 30 years. Like most governments, sometimes a good team is on the board and it functions quite well. Sometimes there is discord and disfunction. Like now.

As mentioned in the letters and our own POA report, things have gotten bad at the POA. At the last meeting I attended I saw people during their public comment period being shouted down by the hired chair. Members with requests speaking respectfully—with concerns about commercial pot-growing in the Baca, lot consolidation, or legalities of the POA newsletter—were interrupted, argued with and cut off. I understand about keeping order at meetings and moving things along—about getting the work done; but that can happen without such rudeness. Let people speak, thank them for their comments and truly consider what they have to say.

There are big decisions being made. Let me encourage all of our governing bodies, with open public input, to make the right ones.

—Kizzen

*ps. Thank you to our Saguache County Commissioners for making the right decision regarding property taxes in Crestone.*

der fire is remarkable. No whining! Her intelligent reasonableness is refreshing. No evasiveness! Her integrity is singular. No blaming! Let's vote in October's POA election for Matie Belle Lakish and two other mature, aware, responsible women: Joanna Theriault and Sugandha Brooks. Change is inevitable. Transformation may finally be possible!

—Anne Silver

## A new direction for the POA board

Dear Editor,

This letter is about the upcoming election for the POA board. Those who attend POA meetings and readers of *The Crestone Eagle* are aware of the turmoil within the current board, engendering conflicts that have driven our community into antagonistic camps.

The majority of the current board is attempting to fulfill a narrow personal agenda (attempting to do away with lot consolidation, publishing a very biased POA *Newsletter*, seeking to end the contract with our management company) and seemingly self-destructing, drawing all of us in their wake. We need to elect the three of us to form a majority on the board and begin the process of renewal.

We (speaking for the membership in the last election) let the last election get away from us because of the threat of unreasonable lawsuits causing most people to choose not to run for the board. This intimidation has got to stop.

The financial status and activities need closer scrutiny by the board. Implementation of the recommendations of the financial risk study should be pushed as well as a comprehensive assessment of the dues structure. As a corporate structure we will employ sound business practices.

The three of us insist on a board that is transparent, sensible, concerned, responsible and professional. We respect the fact that our primary mandate is to maintain and enhance property values. We also understand we have different approaches to what that requires. We seek rational discussion as the only real way to assess our needs. We understand we belong to a unique community with unique challenges but we can meet them with input from all. We are not politicians but concerned citizens who want this place to be a prosperous, beautiful and fun place to be.

Come talk with the candidates at the Elephant Cloud Station on Thursday mornings between 10 and 11.

In celebration of our great community we will be holding a dance and fun event at the Elephant Cloud Station in mid-September. Stay tuned.

Sugandha Brooks  
Joanna Theriault  
Matie Belle Lakish

## Vote for a new vision

Dear Editor,

I am writing in support of Sugandha Brooks and her vision for the POA board. I have known Sugandha for many years and know her to be a person of impec-

cable character, a calm and easy presence, and a clear perspective on the needs of the community. She is an active listener who speaks directly and without personal bias. She has a solid grasp of the problems facing us, a deep interest in serving the community and a warm heart.

Sugandha is working closely with Matie Belle Lakish and Joanna Theriault who are also on the ballot and share her vision of a more cohesive and caring board that will listen and respond to the needs of the community.

This new board will be such a welcome relief to our community as we recover from the fallout created by the actions of some recent board members who dominated the board through litigation.

I would urge you to vote for these three talented and dedicated women. This is our chance to usher in a new era for the Baca Grande POA Board of Directors.

Curtis Ramsay

## Vote for good governance

Dear Editor,

I am grateful that Sugandha Brooks, Joanna Theriault and Matie Belle Lakish have decided to run for the POA Board of Directors. They will get my vote. I have attended many POA board meetings since November 2013 and these aforementioned individuals have devoted their time to regularly attend board meetings this past year. Matie Belle has hung in there as a director on the board, despite the unnecessary confrontations she has had to endure from other board members. We have an opportunity to bring a majority of decency back to the board. These candidates are all good listeners and have a strong understanding of the issues we are facing as POA members. They will focus on unity, as opposed to divisiveness. They will be thoughtful yet decisive. As a POA member, I look forward to respectful dialogue taking place once these candidates are seated. I hope you'll join me in supporting this positive transition. Please give the time and vote; good governance is essential.

Sincerely,  
Christine Canaly

## Thanks to candidates

Dear Editor,

I want to thank Joanna Theriault, Sugandha Brooks, and Matie Belle Lakish for their integrity and caring and for having the courage to run for the POA Board. Serving on the board is a considerable commitment, especially in these stressful times. I know these three will bring their highest consideration for the well being of the community to the task and they have my vote.

Joann Reeves

## Community in mind

Dear Editor,

We enthusiastically endorse the candidacies of Sugandha Brooks, Joanna Theriault and Matie Belle Lakish for the positions of Baca Grande POA Board of Directors. All three candidates are reasonable, intelligent and compas-

sionate people who hold the good of the entire community in mind and who will listen to community input on the many difficult issues our POA is facing.

Sincerely,  
Joanna and Eli Dokson

## Bad news

To the Editor,

Soon all Baca owners will be the recipients of our latest POA *Newsletter*. It is supposed to be "news" and fairly objective. Unfortunately this latest edition is filled with one man's, and his fellow travelers', opinions, slanted articles, misleading information and conspiracy theories. If that is not bad enough, we, the property owners are paying for it!

It was railroaded through the August 14 POA meeting by a vote of 2 (Bruce McDonald and Nigel Fuller) to 1 (Matie Belle Lakish voted no) with 1 abstention (Janie Thomas). Bob Garnett turned up for the board meeting earlier to find that his position of running the meeting had been usurped, so he left. I trust that our membership can see through this pathetic and desperate maneuver and banish the newsletter, unread, to where it really belongs.

This shameless bit of propaganda is meant to arrive with the election material and to drive a further wedge between residents and non-residents: "divide and conquer" is the name of the game. In their effort to garner the votes of the non-residents McDonald and Fuller have abused their power as directors and alienated their own community.

Go figure!  
Martin C. Macaulay

## If it ain't broke, don't fix it! Lot consolidation works

Dear Editor,

Our POA board majority surprised no one by promoting their personal agendas in the POA newsletter, at our expense. However, as directors of a 501c3 nonprofit, they are legally bound to present balanced facts, something that seems alien to them. They dissolved their own Lot Consolidation/Dues Structure Committee, apparently fearing that our conclusions might challenge their agendas.

The POA Lot Consolidation/Dues Structure Committee, which I chair, has been diligently working since April. The more research we've completed as to why we have the One Lot; One Dues policy, the more we realize, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

This POA board wants to reverse the One Lot; One Dues policy that 90% of voting members approved in a binding Referendum in 1999 [1514 for; 160 against]. In 1998 a comprehensive member survey explains why the vast majority supports lot consolidation by giving an incentive to owners who invest their own finances to permanently reduce density, thus protecting that which we value: preserving pristine, natural beauty, scenic views, open space, and protecting our natural ecology and wildlife.

Lot consolidation results in fewer residences, thus lowering the demand on infrastructure services, e.g., road maintenance, emergency services. Long term, fewer residences cost all POA owners less.

Any attempt to change our One Lot; One Dues policy would involve changing half a dozen sections of our governing documents, and invites another potential, expensive lawsuit for our POA.

This board claims "We're hemorrhaging income." However, over the past 6 years, only 21 lots on average have been consolidated each year, for a "loss" in potential POA dues revenue of \$5,523 or \$1.40/lot. Compare that with an average annual loss in POA revenues from unpaid dues of \$200,000 or \$51/lot.

The POA still has 3950 buildable lots. Do we want that many homes here? We don't think so. If it ain't broke, don't fix it!

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Steichen

## Friends of Library find Crestone location

Dear community members,

After much visioning, planning, and speaking with many like-minded community members, plus driving a gazillion miles visiting libraries around the Rocky Mountain regions from Jackson Hole, WY, to northern New Mexico, a plan for a new library came into focus.

Special thanks to Carol Lee Dugan, Library Director in Monte Vista; Jeff Donlan, Library Director in Salida; and our very own Sarah Koehn-Frey, Library Director of our Northern Saguache County Library District; and never to forget Suzanne McGregor, of our own Baca Grande Library. I wish to thank them for all their wise input. The first Friends of the Library meeting was called three years ago on September 29, 2011. Twenty-one interested and like minded community citizens attended. Wow, the ice was cracked.

My main objectives were two-fold: 1) Create and build an interest and energy to move the present library into the immediate Crestone area; 2) Continue to support our present library and functions with small fundraising events, to help purchase needed supplies, and to keep our community aware of whatever progress we make.

A lot of time and energy has gone into this endeavour, and now as chair of our small but committed group, I am very pleased to announce that we have received our 501(c)(3) status. This means that all contributions are now tax-deductible. Yes, we are now 501(c)(3) approved.

OK, where do we go from here? The library Facilities Committee has unanimously chosen a wonderful site, and it is a work in progress. The Baca Grande FOL will now begin meeting quarterly. Yes, yes, and yes, we are on a roll. I want to give thanks to all the hard work by our dedicated community members. Let's keep on rolling.

Thom Ontko, Chair,  
Baca Grande Friends of the Library

# National Park Service seeks public input on elk & bison management; Crestone open house Sept. 16

The National Park Service is developing a plan to determine the appropriate future management of elk and bison within Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve that supports long-term protection of resources and is compatible with conditions and management activities across the broader eastern San Luis Valley landscape, to the extent practicable.

Elk and bison are on the landscape today. The elk herd in the eastern San Luis Valley is near historically high levels, and approximately 1,700 bison are currently managed by The Nature Conservancy on the neighboring Medano Ranch. Park Superintendent Lisa Carrico says "the plan is needed because we do not currently have a plan to guide the management of elk and a decision is needed to determine whether to have bison at the Park and Preserve in the future and if so, how to manage them."

The National Park Service asked for public, agency, and partner feedback on the scope of this plan during the fall of 2011. Since that time, four preliminary draft alternatives, including a no-action alternative, have been developed and the National Park Service is once again asking agencies, partners, and the public for their feedback. "This is a very important step in the planning process and public participation is essential. It will ensure that the National Park Service understands and considers the interests of our neighbors, visitors, and partners regarding the range of preliminary draft alternatives under consideration," says Superintendent Lisa Carrico.

The National Park Service will host two public open houses to discuss the planning process and accept comments on September 16 from 6-8pm at the Baca Grande POA meeting hall in Crestone and September 17 from 6-8pm at the Alamosa Recreation Center. Comments may also be submitted online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grsa-ungulates>. The public comment period is open through November 2, 2014.

For more information contact Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve at 719-378-6395.



## Water system & improvement projects underway

by **Cindy Reinhardt, President, BGWSD Board of Directors**

Summer means construction along with routine maintenance of water and sewer systems at the Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District.

### Water system improvements in Chalet II underway

At its July meeting the Board of Directors awarded a \$112,000 contract for water distribution system improvements to RMS Utilities Inc. of Alamosa. On August 25, work began on a series of projects intended to reduce potable water losses from the district's distribution system. The overall effort includes the installation of three pressure reducing valve vaults and over 500 feet of new pipe in six Chalet II locations at the southern end of the district. Minimal service interruptions are anticipated and will be communicated to affected customers. Safety considerations for area residents and construction workers will require traffic control operations, and will likely necessitate detours in the vicinity of the work. The project is scheduled for completion in early October. A detailed project schedule is posted on the district's website ([www.bacawater.com](http://www.bacawater.com)) and updates will be posted throughout the project.

### Other summer construction & maintenance

Construction of a replacement manhole and sanitary sewer main on Alpine Overlook began in late August, with scheduled completion in early September. That project, along with annual preventive maintenance projects, is being done by district operations staff. In August, the annual fire hydrant maintenance program was completed. Hydrants were tested, serviced and are now sporting spiffy new bright yellow paint.

The other major summer preventive maintenance project, jetting approximately 60,000 linear

feet (approximately 25%) of the sanitary sewer collection system, is underway and scheduled for completion in September.

As you're out and about in the district, slow down, be alert to those bright construction vests and hard-hats, follow directions, and give our hard working staff a friendly smile. They are the reason your taps flow and your toilets flush with only rare, emergency outages.

The district collaborates with others too. In August, operations staff delivered several loads of material in support of KTTG's restoration of East Dream Way Road.

The district's engineer, along with operations staff and the district's consulting team, continue to investigate the potential causes of the late July pump failures at Well 18.

### Deluca appointed

Judy Deluca was appointed to fill the remaining term of the board seat vacated by Vicki Matthews' resignation in late June. She brings a wealth of experience as a nurse trained in emergency preparedness. "I have a keen interest in communities protecting and preserving their food and water supplies," said Deluca in stepping forward as a candidate.

## Saguache County crime report

by **Mary Lowers**

In an "act of God" fatal motorcycle crash on Hwy 17 just 13 miles south of Antonito, Co a 63-year-old Aztec, NM man on a 2012 Harley Davidson collided with a bear. The bear, who was attempting to cross the highway, struck the motorcycle's right side, causing the rider to be ejected. Despite attempts to revive him the driver was pronounced dead at the scene. Speed and alcohol were not factors in this accident. No report on the condition of the bear, who evidently continued on his way.

A Baca Grande woman, age 26, was taken into custody near the Crestone Town Hall. She was taken to Saguache and booked on two misdemeanor counts of domestic violence and third-degree assault. No bail amount was listed. A 38-year-old Monte Vista woman was arrested in Saguache and held on \$1,000 bail for third-degree assault. A Ft. Worth, TX woman, age 47, was booked and held in the Saguache County jail on \$20,000 bail. Taken into custody on Forest Road 640 she was charged with vehicular assault and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. A young man age 22 from Overland Park, KS was arrested in Saguache and held on \$500 bail on seven charges. They include driving with excessive alcohol content, no proof of insurance, no valid registration, and criminal mischief, careless driving, and sporting fake license plates. A 15-year-old Moffat youth was cited for driving without a license.

Many tickets were issued this past month. Most were for speeding on Hwy. 285 in and around Saguache. There were some tickets issued for careless driving and speeding on Hwy. 17 and Cty. Rd. T. Most of the tickets for speeding were given for folks going 5-9 miles over the posted limit. Most tickets went to out-of-valley motorists.

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by Deputy Clerk  
Gretchen Nelson  
New resolutions

In order to bring the fee for public records research and retrieval into alignment with state fees, Resolution 016-2014 amending the fee schedule was adopted on August 11. Resolution 017-2014, also amending the fee schedule, was adopted to add lot fees for the green section of the Crestone Cemetery.

**No 'drone' zone: Unmanned aircraft systems**

The use of unmanned aircraft systems appears to be a growing industry for the purpose of surveillance and other uses. The Town of Crestone values the rights of privacy among its citizens and the board of trustees has adopted Ordinance 2014-006 "An Ordinance Prohibiting The Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems Within The Town of Crestone".

**Downtown Revitalization Project update**

by Akia Tanara, Crestone Town Administrator

As I reported in the June 2014 issue of *The Crestone Eagle*, the town will be offered a grant award of \$500,000 for its Pedestrian Pathway Network Project, also known as downtown revitalization. Since federal money is included in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), there are many extra steps that must be taken before a contract will be issued from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). In the past couple of months I have been working to obtain waivers from various environmental agencies, as no significant environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of the downtown revitalization project. All required waivers have been received, and the DOLA Environmental Officer issued a Clearance to Release Funds letter at the end of July.

On July 14 the board of trustees conducted a public hearing on this project, reviewing numerous documents required to be adopted by the board as part of the CDBG process. Those documents have since been submitted to DOLA.

Because the Town did not receive an additional grant of \$300,000 for this project, the board of trustees had to reduce the scope of Phase 1 redevelopment—a very challenging project. It was determined that improving the basic infrastructure—i.e. roads and drainage in particular, were the highest priority, as most of the remaining improvements will be installed on this infrastructure. Quite a few items originally anticipated in Phase 1 development have been deferred to Phase 2 of the project.

At this time I am working with our DOLA regional manager to finalize the Phase 1 project and get a contract in place so that the Town can receive funding, get construction drawings completed and begin development of the project.

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The crew lowers the large culverts into North Crestone Creek.

**Crestone's Alder St. bridge gets replaced**

by Akia Tanara, Crestone Town Administrator

Replacement of the Alder Street Bridge should be complete except for paving by September 1. Because the County's asphalt plant is closed for the season, paving of this section of the road is not anticipated until early summer 2015. A big thank you goes out to everyone for their patience while the bridge was weight-restricted and then under construction.

Due to its (small) size, this bridge is not on the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) annual inspection program. In early 2013 when CDOT inspectors were in town, I requested that they give me an overview of the conditions of this bridge, and was shocked to hear that there were rotted and crushed girders. I reported these conditions to the board of trustees and then began looking for a source of funding to replace the bridge. Because the under-span of the bridge was 19 feet 6 inches, it did not qualify for the rural bridge replacement program, which has a minimum span requirement of 20 feet. The least expensive funding I could find, after months of research and learning about constructing and paying for bridges, had a 17.2% cash match requirement. As I have already been working to replace the Cottonwood Street Bridge, which has a replacement price tag of \$1,000,000, and because the Alder St. Bridge is a larger and more heavily utilized bridge, I knew this grant would require a cash match of at least \$175,000, an amount that it would take the Town many years (15-20?) to amass. Consequently, this was not money we could afford to obtain.

The Town contracted with SGM engineers in June 2013 to obtain plans for a temporary bridge that would be sufficient for several years until an affordable source of funding could be found to build

the permanent structure. Due to the amount of work that had already been completed on this project, the board decided in October 2013 to convert the "temporary" culverted crossing to a permanent solution. There were a few more bumps along the way to completing this project, but the good news is that we now have a very strong bridge which has been constructed to withstand the "100-year flood" for a cost of less than \$50,000!

The bridge that was torn out was built in 1938 as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) program, which employed millions of unemployed people (mostly unskilled men) following the great depression. Almost every community in the United States had a new park, bridge or school constructed by the agency. Between 1935 and 1943, the WPA provided almost eight million jobs.

**Saguache County accounting error**  
from Saguache County Commissioners  
The 2014 annual audit has revealed that as a result of an accounting error the county failed to properly distribute some of the Specific Ownership Taxes received from the State of Colorado to local municipalities and special districts. Those special districts include local school districts, which did receive their full funding through the Colorado Department of Education.  
In order to rectify the error, the county will be formulating a repayment plan for the affected municipalities and special districts. The county is also working with the Colorado Department of Education to reach a resolution regarding the additional payments it made to the school districts.  
The accounting issue has been resolved and the distribution of the Specific Ownership Tax to all appropriate entities will be made on a regular schedule. The funds that were not distributed in error were placed in the county's General Fund and used for projects that benefited all citizens of the county. The county has initiated additional safeguards to prevent the occurrence of any similar errors.

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# Saguache County News

by *Matie Belle Lakish*

It's decision time for the Saguache County landfill. Commissioners decided to ask county voters to approve a 1% sales tax to support the landfill and a recycling center. The county's "Eye on the County" for September tells the story:

"Citizens are keenly aware of the challenges when our County Landfill is unavailable, as experienced first hand, when the Landfill was closed from June 30, 2013 thru October 16, 2013. It took that time to meet requirements placed by the CO Dept. of Public Health & Environment, to protect the water, land and ensure public health and safety. Two monitoring wells were added, for a total of three. New lining procedures and materials were implemented for the cells into which your trash goes. Methane monitoring devices were installed. Update the EDOP (Engineering Design and Operations Plan). Update the Waste Characterization Plan. And the County is still working on the most effective plan to manage all those tires that came in. But, not having a Landfill was a hardship on all, and saw trash turning up and spoiling our public and private lands. The only other Landfill available in the San Luis Valley is the Regional Landfill in Rio Grande County; farther for folks to go, and a bit more expensive. Now that Landfill is facing upgrades required by the State, and we'll likely see increased rates there, too.

"Recycling has been a subject of interest and intention for citizens and the County. But, with low volume, lack of buyers, and no funds for improvements - recyclables cannot be managed. In part, this is due to lack of proper facilities, and equipment - such as a baler, that can process recyclables to the standards of buyers. Use of recyclable materials as raw materials seems like a natural for local businesses, but hasn't taken off. Proper facilities to receive, process and recycle the materials our communities generate would help.

"Tourism in and through our County is a mainstay of many local businesses; many are attracted to our vast public lands (76%+ of land in Saguache County), and unique communities. And, they leave their trash! They can help local citizens pay for Landfill and Recycling operations and facilities in the proposed 1% Sales Tax that will be coming up on the November Ballot.

"The Landfill, running at a loss every year, cannot be sustained, and a proper Recycling Center is out of reach. With a minimal contribution by Saguache County residents, and every visitor who pays a Sales Tax as they travel here, the Landfill and improved Recycling services will be maintained for the long-term and avoid the possibility of the Landfill having to close its operations."

The 1% sales tax that is being proposed will appear on the November election ballot.

## Water export plan unveiled

Gary Boyce, Saguache County rancher, has unveiled another water export proposal. The new plan is described in a new website, [www.sustainablewaterresources.com](http://www.sustainablewaterresources.com). According to the text of the video on the site, "Sustainable Water Resources (SWR) owns or controls over 25,000 acres of deeded ranch lands with substantial Senior Water Rights in the northeastern part of the San Luis Valley. These ranch lands are strategically located on a northwest-to-southeast axis parallel to the Confined Aquifer's most productive rim recharge zone identified by the State Engineer's groundwater model.

"SWR contemplates a well field consisting of conventional municipal style wells drilled deep into the Confined Aquifer. Wells would be spaced at intervals of no less than one mile to maximize efficiency of the well field and capture 2.5% of the 1,420,000 acre-feet available for additional beneficial use in the San Luis Valley Water Balance. The water would be delivered to Colorado metro areas by pipeline and natural rivers. Extensive examination of scientific data generated by State and Federal agencies indicate to SWR that a water development project of this particular design is renewable and sustainable."

To sweeten the deal, Boyce proposes to donate a percentage of the sale price, some \$150,000,000, as an SLV Economic Assistance Fund. "Primary beneficiaries of the Fund would be Valley water districts and sub-districts, county governments and school districts."

The text continues, "The Project will require approval of Division 3 Water Court located in Alamosa, Colorado. The Water Court process not only examines legal issues but technical aspects as well." "Through Water Court proceedings in 2006, the State Engineer promulgated new rules and regulations to direct administration of the San Luis Valley Confined Aquifer. In the same 2006 proceedings, the State Engineer also submitted the RGDSS Groundwater Model for the purpose of determining the hydrological data to be used in administration of the new rules and regulations."

"The Division 3 Water Court ruled, and the Colorado Supreme Court concurred, that this extensive groundwater model supersedes all previous groundwater models and will provide the determining scientific data for future Water Court proceedings in the San Luis Valley. Using data generated by the groundwater model for engineering assessments, the Water Court may now eliminate the old issues created by conflicting testimony and confusing anecdotal evidence."

"Only after Sustainable Water Resources has completed comprehensive technical evaluations of data and other assessments, would SWR submit a water project application to the Water Court. Should SWR file such an application, there

will be two months for public notice and formal response before and Water Court proceedings begin."

Boyce's plan, however, is quite controversial, and commissioners asked a number of questions. Jason Anderson asked, "Is there really a surplus? I've been told there is a deficit. Is it anybody's best guess what is down there? Is it a guess or is it a fact?"

Boyce answered that by saying it's a "little of each". He said that the USGS had done a study of the aquifer, and that the bottom of it is below sea level. One estimate is 2 billion acre feet of storage. Another estimate is for 1 billion. He said the "numbers are meaningless", as his project proposes to capture 2.5% of the recharge generated every year. Presumably, this recharge would flow off of the Sangres in the form of snowmelt, flow into the confined aquifer, and be extracted by the grid of wells Boyce proposes. There are a number of questions that were not answered to this reporter's satisfaction by the plan or by Boyce's presentation. For example, it is known that the confined aquifer is not fully separated from the unconfined aquifer on the eastern edge of the valley, as those famous blue clay layers do not go all the way to the mountains. How will the cones of depression around Boyce's wells affect the agricultural wells on local farms and ranches and wells in the town of Crestone and the Baca Grants? How will this reduction to the water table impact the Baca Nat'l Wildlife Refuge and the wells that supply the Baca subdivision water?

When asked about the \$150 million donation to local schools, governmental entities and water users, Boyce said that it would be a one-time payment at the time of the sale. He indicated that he (and presumably other partners in the company) would receive a one-time payment for the water rights, and that the water rights would then belong to the purchasing entity, and that pumping would continue indefinitely into the future. Pipelines would be constructed to carry the water, probably to the Front Range. No mention was made about future accommodation if the water table was drawn down below current levels, either because of the continuous pumping or because of changes in precipitation. As noted, Boyce has not yet applied for or received permission from the Division 3 Water Court to put his plan into action.

## Veterans announcement

If you are a low-income or homeless veteran, or you know someone who is, a new grant may help. "The Saguache County Veteran Service Office is pleased to announce that homeless veterans and other veterans in financial need can receive help thanks to a five county grant administered by the Chaffee County Veteran Service Office. Contact Jim Sheeran at 719-655-2680. Office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 4pm and Friday 9am to 3pm."

Although this grant is a welcome addition to local services for veterans, Sheeran, Saguache County's Veterans Services Officer, wants veterans to know that help is always available for them. "Veterans who live in the San Luis Valley can

easily find help when they want to file a claim for benefits they have earned. It is what County Veteran Service Officers who work in the Valley's six counties do every day. They are men and women dedicated to serving the needs of veterans. Those needs can be as simple as accessing health care through the Veterans Administration to obtaining a burial flag for a deceased veterans family. There are a wide range of benefits available to veterans and the County VSO's can help speed up the claims process." "At every level of the claims process the Veteran Service Officer is there to serve veterans and their dependents."

Between 75% and 90% of claims presented to the Veterans Administration each year originate in a county Veteran Service Office." "They are, in fact, an extension of government much like the VA itself. They exist to speed up the claims process and help service men and women transition to civilian life."

## September meeting in Villa Grove

Commissioners are trying to make their meetings more accessible to county residents by holding meetings in other communities besides Saguache. They plan to hold their second meeting of the month in the upstairs meeting room of the pottery studio in Villa Grove. The pottery studio is easy to recognize on the west side of Hwy. 285. The meeting begins at 9:30 on September 9.

Bonanza resident Mark Perkovich approached the commissioners about the disincorporation of Bonanza. Perkovich is the only full-time resident at present, and he said he is concerned about people who don't live in Bonanza taking over. He said, "I'd like to see it dis-incorporated." Commissioners will likely be discussing Bonanza's status on September 9. Holding the meeting in Villa Grove should make it easier for residents of the Bonanza area to attend.

Hearings on abatements for Crestone area properties were held July 31 and August 1. Several property owners attended, and now await the decisions by the County Board of Equalization. Those decisions will be rendered on September 8, beginning at 9:30am.

Saguache County has a new Director of Social Services. Director Jeannie Norris will be stepping down at the end of the year. She has chosen to stay on long enough to train our new Social Services Director, Linda Warsh. Warsh has been employed by the department as an accountant, so she is very familiar with the services, the employees and the clients served by the many programs. Social Services offers programs that support families with children, as well as seniors. The department also offers food assistance (the old food stamps), commodities programs, and an emergency food bank. Call Social Services at 655-2537 for more information on their programs.

*Personal Note: I will be stepping down as reporter for the Saguache County news. This is my last issue for the foreseeable future. I have enjoyed my time as a news reporter for The Crestone Eagle. Thank you for reading.*

# Baca POA Board of Directors' meeting report:

## Sommers runs meeting, newsletter accuracy questioned

by Earl W. Sutherland

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) was held on August 14. The meeting was called to order at 4:40pm and soon dissolved to an executive session, which was lacking Directors Garnett and Lakish. Director and President Garnett arrived at 5pm, but left at about 5:05pm after the other directors had voted to replace his leadership role as board president with that of Charles Sommers, hired at \$50 per hour as facilitator of meetings. When the regular meeting resumed, Director Lakish was connected by speaker-phone. The temporary Community Manager provided by Hammersmith, Stephanie Langlais, recorded minutes.

In a change from the usual format, the members' forum then followed. The agenda was revised also in that it was specified that members may only comment and then only at limited points in the proceedings. The refusal to allow questions was itself questioned, with the following responses: "If you want answers go to the Manager" (Director Fuller); "If you have questions put it in writing" (Director McDonald); "These are business meetings run for the benefit of the business" (Facilitator Sommers).

Noah Baen from the Committee for Natural Surroundings reported his investigation of a newly created bicycle trail along Spanish Creek near the home of Lisa Scalise. It was unclear if there are any

penalties for this kind of unauthorized modification of POA greenbelt, but it will be looked into. Martin Macaulay expressed concern about the appearance of a lot with a large, windowless, airplane hangar-like structure in the Grants, off Camino del Rey, near North Stallion. The location also hosts several tepees, which, according to Facilitator Sommers (who's also chair of the regulatory Environmental and Architectural Committee, E&AC), are permitted as storage structures during construction.

Fire Chief Ryker presented a proposed Memorandum of Understanding concerning fire management issues with the spiritual centers, which will be discussed at the next meeting. Chief Ryker also requested a "gag order" against Nathan Good for reportedly threatening "to go postal". The issues involved were not disclosed and Director Lakish, who has known Good for a long time, feels this would be an extremely unusual comment for him to make and wanted more information.

The Finance Committee's Lisa Cyriacks provided a summary of their recent actions. Despite a lack of charter giving them direction the Finance Committee (Cyriacks and Directors Garnett and Thomas) advertise for and receive applications for candidates for "On-site, trained personnel to handle the bookkeeping tasks". This action presumes that Hammersmith Management (HMI), which currently performs most of these duties, will have been fired, which is actually a current matter of contention and not approved by the board. Although the hiring of such a bookkeeper was approved by the board at the June 12 meeting, it would appear that the implications of such an action have not been studied carefully. The only reported findings so far of the fraud examiner, for whom the Finance Committee is to act as board liaison, are that certain procedural changes ought be made. No fraud found. Director Thomas,

Board Treasurer, reports that her current collaboration with HMI is working smoothly and the company is providing requested information. Director McDonald says that he wants to take over managing the steps needed to assure data access himself and has already initiated the process, since the Finance Committee, he feels, hasn't provided good information yet.

Further discussion of the Hammersmith contract was tabled.

The Ad Hoc Dues Structure Committee was on the agenda to present, but they were unaware of that. This is the committee established to look at the issue of lot consolidation in the context of the overall structure of POA dues. The issue of lot consolidation has been removed from consideration as a ballot initiative this year, but the substantial issues involved still remain. Nevertheless, Director McDonald moved to abolish the committee immediately and he was backed in this by Directors Fuller and Thomas, opposed by Director Lakish. The committee is gone, but its good work and collection of relevant information remains to be considered in saner times.

Although the accuracy of the soon-to-be-mailed POA Newsletter was attacked by members of the audience as a collection of innuendo and opinions by Director McDonald, it was approved by the board by a vote of 3 to 1, again, Director Lakish opposing. The contents of this "newsletter", never

revealed to the public, were shocking to those few who did see it, evoking fears of possible lawsuits from Hammersmith and exhibiting many errors of fact and dubious legal opinions. It is intended to be sent out to members in conjunction with the election. Director McDonald asserted that his writings had been "gone over" by General Counsel Schwiesow.

Claudia Wolfe presented a plea to the board to bring action against several homesites that are severely in violation of E&AC rules and expectations. In particular, lots on Quail Run Trail and on Cottonwood Creek Road near Brook Trout, have fenced-in spaces with greenhouses but no sign of imminent house construction and are believed to be incipient grow sites for marijuana. Land Use Manager Joe Heilig has estimated that there are over 100 marijuana growers in the Baca, others say even more. It appears that neither county, state, nor federal authorities are willing to regulate the growing of marijuana, even if it's in violation of local commercial activities, according to Ms. Wolfe. Michael Onewing spoke eloquently about the decrement in her land values from the activities of marijuana growers. It seems our community is seen as a good place to grow and we may be powerless to regulate it. At the next meeting some of the most egregious violators' cases will be presented to be forwarded to our General Counsel. This had been done several years ago, but the attorney then, a different one, never acted on them.

This was the most discouraging board meeting I can recall—and that's saying something.

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Crestone Tribal  
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live music

& entertainment all day long!

gates open 10am - 10pm

# Yaktoberfest

*continued from page 1*

will ignite the Yaktoberfest stage with their high-intensity, all-drums, booming pure Samba rhythms. The ensemble hails from the Adams State University Music Department, and features seasoned percussionists and students of Brazilian music.

Already well-loved by Crestone audiences, Liam Christy plays traditional flamenco as well as bossa nova, Gypsy, Middle Eastern fusion, jazz and Cuban guitar. Liam is a musical explorer known for his beautifully inventive, original compositions and passionate performances.

Yaktoberfest is happy to have a local favorite, Plan B, a Crestone-based trio who woo audiences with seductively original Gypsy mountain rock and roll.

Sweet Radish is an Alamosa



Special thanks to Tom Whitehead for helping to make the Kali carnival a success. photo by Yak n Cracker Cafe

band. They are a down-to-earth acoustic string band, singing from the soil and the hearts of our strings. Sweet Radish's Mission to



Our yak petting zoo was a big hit with the kids.

photo by Chokurei Ranch

is give the community a reason and a place to get down.

At last year's festival there were over 500 people on a beautiful sun-filled October day. This year the festival will happen a couple of weeks earlier with this incredible lineup of fun activities and great organic GMO-free food and drinks. This year's Yaktoberfest will be yak-tacular!

Chokurei Ranch would like to

sincerely thank the community for their support of last year's Yaktoberfest. A special thanks goes out to Crestone Performances, sponsors and vendors, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, the amazing people who donated money, and all of the volunteers. Thanks to the all this help, last year Yaktoberfest raised \$3,500 for an ill Crestone resident.




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## Local Food Coalition 2nd Annual Harvest Soiree Sept. 20

### Cultivando el Futuro

Join the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition in celebrating all the amazing work and partnerships that are taking place with local producers, education programs and community activists to create sustainable food ways in the San Luis Valley as it holds its second annual fundraiser.

The soiree will be held on Saturday September 20 at the future location of the Rio Grande Healthy Living Park at 6935 Hwy. 17 just northeast of Alamosa. The signature celebration will exclusively feature the delicious and abundant valley harvest prepared by talented local cooks, chefs and caterers and served to you in a fancy outdoor setting with regional teas, beers and wines, and great local music.

And there is lots to celebrate this year!

The acquisition of the Rio Grande Healthy Living Park property in partnership with the Trust for Public Land is one miracle. Another celebration is the startup of a local food aggregation and distribution center in Mosca, CO with support from a great community advisory board, the Colorado Health Foundation and the Laura Musser Fund. The Cooking Matters program has expanded to offer Spanish and English classes teaching nutrition and cooking on a budget in partnership with Colorado's Share Our Strength. A great partnership with the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area allowed for the renovation of the Mobile Kitchen "MOKI" and the expansion of its presence in several valley farmers' markets, featuring cooking demonstrations with tasty healthy local recipes to share.

The soiree kicks off with a cash bar & appetizers during the celebration hour from 5-6pm, a fancy local farm dinner from 6-7pm, and dancing from 7-9pm. All the food served at the dinner is sourced from local farmers and ranchers and prepared locally.

The Local Foods Coalition is very appreciative of the support of Chokurei Ranch and the Yak 'n' Cracker to put on the first successful soiree in 2013.

Tickets are: Adult \$30; 11 & under \$10; 2 & under free.

The Inn of the Rio Grande is holding a block of rooms for \$89 + tax.

Please RSVP at 719-937-2319 or email [slvlocalfoods@gmail.com](mailto:slvlocalfoods@gmail.com) or visit [www.slvlocalfood.org](http://www.slvlocalfood.org) for more information.



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## Harvest Soiree

September 20, 2014  
Rio Grande Healthy Living Park  
Corner of Hwy 160 & Hwy 17  
Alamosa, CO

Celebration Hour 5pm - 6pm  
Dinner 6 pm - 7 pm  
Dancing 7 pm - 9 pm



**Cultivando el Futuro**

[www.slvlocalfood.org](http://www.slvlocalfood.org)

# Telluride MountainFilm returns Sept. 13

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is again sponsoring Telluride MountainFilm on September 12 at the Crestone Charter School. We are excited about the 17 diverse, inspirational and memorable films offered in afternoon and evening sessions. The afternoon program starts at 2pm and the evening is at 6:30. We ask for a \$10 donation at each session. You will want to attend both programs which are packed with excitement, adventure, exquisite scenery, and heartwarming stories.

Ever wonder how you would round up a herd of buffalo? Come view a film, *Duke and the Buffalo*, to see how they do manage to round up this herd to inspect their health. It will be shown during the afternoon program.

One of the featured films shown in the evening is *Mending the Line*, a story of a man who landed on the beaches of Normandy in 1944. For years he daydreamed of returning to fish the bucolic streams in the French countryside. He never made it back until 2014, when at age 90, he completes the dream with his wife and son by his side. There may not be a dry eye at the end of this movie.

Mountainfilm is dedicated to educating and inspiring audiences about issues that matter, cultures worth exploring, environments worth preserving and conversations worth sustaining. We hope to see you!



*Tashi and the Monk. In a remote community in the foothills of the Himalaya, a former monk struggles under the weight of his calling. Once a spiritual teacher in the U.S., Lobsang returned to India to create a community for orphaned and neglected children. Tashi—the newest arrival and youngest child with a troubled past and alcoholic father—acts out and challenges her elders every step of the way. But there is a spark in her that Lobsang sees clearly: a person inside the hurt, abandoned child with the potential to blossom and grow.*



*Mending the Line. In 1944, 20-year-old Frank Moore landed on the beaches of Normandy. Crossing through the occupied French countryside, the young soldier daydreamed about coming back in peacetime to fish the bucolic streams. After the war, he returned to the States, married, had a family and built a life centered around fly fishing. But he never made it back to those streams in France. Until 2014. Now 90 years old, but with the energy of a man 20 years younger, Moore completes the dream with his wife and son by his side.*



*Duke and the Buffalo. Duke is a cowboy. The buffalo are part of the largest conservation herd of bison in the United States. Every year, Duke organizes a roundup of these buffalo to inspect the health of the herd and yield income to sustain the Nature Conservancy-owned ranch where the buffalo roam. It turns out that bison aren't as easily herded as cattle.*



*In The Karsts of China, climbers Cedar Wright, Emily Harrington and Matt Segal and National Geographic photographer Carsten Peter spend a month roaming the country, seeking otherworldly formations and unclimbed routes in an exploration of wild and incredible landscapes.*

## '100 Thousand Poets for Change' coming to Crestone Sept. 28

All across the globe this September, poets will be gathering and offering their creativity for environmental, social, and political healing in the name of peace.

Now in its fourth year and hosted in over 500 locations, "100 Thousand Poets for Change" taps into the potential of creating massive transformation for the benefit of humankind. What better place for this "100th monkey" artistic experiment than right here in Crestone!

On Sunday, September 28 at The Cloud Station, Awakening The Phoenix presents "e=mcPoetry2".

Our beloved local poets will be performing their take on this enticing theme. The featured poet for the evening, Lyla June Johnston, offers the spirit of what this global event aims to be.

Lyla is a Diné/Cheyenne poet raised in Taos, New Mexico. Her Cheyenne ancestors strove to make "every breath a prayer." She writes her poetry in the same manner by seeing every poem as a prayer for healing, inspiration and unification. As an anthropologist, economist, musician and community organizer, she holds this vision to help create a culture of peace and generosity.

"To write for peace is to serve humanity and in doing so strengthen our own capacity to love. When we tap into this explosive force of compassion, this is when the muse can truly work through us and make each word a prayer for all things."

Lyla is also the steward of a global prayer festival for children and teens: [www.regeneration-festival.com](http://www.regeneration-festival.com)

Please join us for an evening of empowering the emerging voice and the culture of peace. Your contribution is \$10. Doors open at 6pm. Mark your calendars. Bring a friend. You won't want to miss this!

For more information, contact Cristina Cabeza-Kinney at [cabezadelamor@gmail.com](mailto:cabezadelamor@gmail.com) [www.AwakeningThePhoenix.com](http://www.AwakeningThePhoenix.com)

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Session 2 Sun, September 14 ~ 10am-2pm**

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# CrestoneArtists Studio Tour, October 4-5

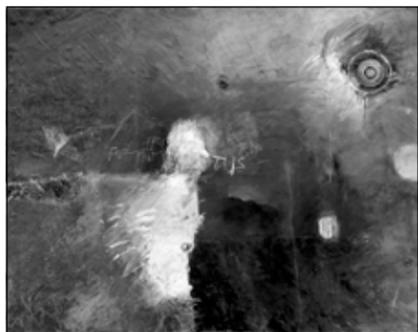
## Exploring the contemplative art community in Crestone

by **Robin Ross**

Mark your calendars for our 3rd Annual CrestoneArtists Open Studio Tour, Saturday and Sunday, October 4-5, 1-6pm.

Calling all art lovers, collectors and the curious! Come and be welcomed into 17 individual artist studios in Crestone and the Baca.

On this self-guided tour you'll enter artists' studios and be swept into their worlds. They invite close-up viewing, conversation, questions and



Robin Ross, *From the Pen to the Lotus*, oil on canvas, 52"x60".

dialogue giving further insight into the background, training, philosophy and driving forces of each artist. Witness the creative process in real time! In the viewing and interchange you can expect to experience beauty, passion, honesty and perhaps a dash of outrageousness.

Our CrestoneArtists are diverse in media, intention and focus. You'll experience a wide range of visual arts in the form of fine craft to fine art,



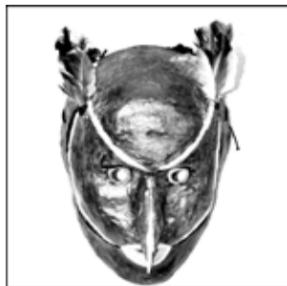
Knaughty Knitters, samples of knitwear.

from small and large work painted in watercolor or acrylic or oil or encaustics or pastels, from knitwear to hand-woven items, from photography to stone to environmental installations, from leatherwork to copper sculpture to artist books.

Jennifer Thomson will offer painting demonstrations, and Moira Forsythe will be working on her loom when you visit. Stephan Futral will do a small demo of how to make an encaustic painting.

This year's tour has an interactive treasure hunt! The artist stops marked with a red "TH" indicate that the artist in that studio is participating in the treasure hunt. Those studios will have a keycard to the hunt, providing close up images of what you will find in those studios upon close inspection, for example: if you see an image of a sailboat on the key then look for a sailboat in the work that artist has on display. When you find the sailboat, you are given a "treasure" from that artist! The participating artists in the treasure hunt have made special gifts for those who spot the image. There are 7 artists participating in the treasure hunt. Look on the brochure front and map to make sure to stop in at their studios.

This year's 17 artists are: Noah Baen with environmental installations and painting; Rose Burek with recycled metal and bead sculpture; Kaia Dercum with oil and acrylic painting; Barbara Stamm Dose with acrylic and pastel painting and hand made masks; Janet Dossigny with oil pastel painting; Mae Green with watercolor and renaissance glaze technique painting; Jo Ann Kiser with watercolor painting; the Knaughty Knitters with knitwear by four artisans; Robin Ross with oil painting and artist books; Emmy Savage with oil painting and pastels; Moira Forsythe with fiber arts; Stephen Futral with encaustics and acrylic painting; Shahna Lax with 3-dimensional copper work; Nancy Onizuka



Barbara Stamm Dose, *Mask*, mixed media, 16"x11".



Emmy Savage, *Road to Bear Valley*, oil on canvas, 18"x26".

with stone and leather work; Jennifer Thomson with acrylic and watercolor painting; Brenda Sue Tolian with acrylic and watercolor painting; and David Woodward with photography.

This event is a project of www.CrestoneArtists.com, fulfilling one of its missions of making professional artworks and education accessible to



Stephen Futral, *The Negation and Yearning of Xoh*, acrylic on canvas, 60"x48".

the community. We support monthly salon gatherings to facilitate mutual support, networking, and awareness of each other's work. We are a visual and active part of the Crestone experience.

We want to thank our visionary and manifestor sponsors from the community: Shumei Institute, Earth Art Village, Crestone Baca Grande Accommodations, I Am Harmony Bed & Breakfast, the Coll House Bed & Breakfast, Yak n' Cracker Farm Store and Crestone Real Estate (ERA Herman Group). We thank you all for your generosity in helping us to continue providing this exciting and free event for our community and beyond.

Look for brochures with detailed maps and images identifying each



Kaia Dercum, *Harbinger*, acrylic on canvas, 72"x48".



Shahna Lax, *Through the Thinning Door*, copper, mirror and enamel, 17.25"x27.75" x1.75".

artist and their locale. Brochures are available at Yak n' Cracker and in the town of Crestone and throughout the valley.

Downloadable maps are available at [www.crestoneartists.com/studio-tour-2014.html](http://www.crestoneartists.com/studio-tour-2014.html).

For more information about individual CrestoneArtists and to plan your stops, go to [www.crestoneartists.com/studio-tour-2014.html](http://www.crestoneartists.com/studio-tour-2014.html).

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# CrestoneArtists

## 3rd ANNUAL 2014

# STUDIO TOUR

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
OCT. 4 & 5  
1:00 - 6:00 PM

COME EXPLORE THE  
ARTISTIC COMMUNITY  
IN CRESTONE, CO

for MAP and further information: [www.CrestoneArtists.com](http://www.CrestoneArtists.com)



From the Artifact series by Thomas Schultz.

## Crestone Artisans Gallery features photographer Thomas Schultz

### Closing reception for Second Saturday Artwalk

by Robin Rosenberg

Crestone Artisans Gallery celebrates the closing of summer with an artist's reception on Saturday, September 13 from 2-5pm. Patrons can visit with our artists, enjoy wine & refreshments and relax with some local live music by Robin James.

Our highlighted artist for September is photographer Thomas Schultz. Born in Oceanside, California in 1967 and spending his youth and early adulthood traversing the Sonora and lower Mohave deserts of Arizona and California, Thomas has been following the decay of the western landscape for almost three decades. Using his camera, Thomas documents the interaction of human resolve and a harsh unforgiving environment. His subject matter could be considered mundane; sun-bleached highways, abandoned structures, derelict signs, collapsing shopping centers, vacant motels, deserted gas stations, and vast landscapes are prevalent in his work. Thomas captures the deep intense feeling of the southwest by incorporating big skies, open spaces and grand vistas with rusty relics and abandoned structures. Interested in reckoning disparities, Thomas' perspective presents the viewer with a visual narrative of the evolution of time, space, and structure while exploring issues of transformation, and transience, life and death, temporality and abandonment.

Thomas and his wife recently purchased property in Crestone and split their time between Arizona and Colorado. He joined the gallery this summer; a welcome addition to Crestone's artistic community! Don't miss this incredible opportunity to view art photography at its best. Contact information: 623-236-6405

or [www.behance.net/LoveBourn](http://www.behance.net/LoveBourn).

Crestone Artisans Gallery is an artist cooperative showing the works of 24 local artists and crafts persons. You can meet the artists currently showing at the gallery at the September "Second Saturday Artwalk!" reception from 2-5pm. Artisans Gallery is located in downtown Crestone, on the corner of Galena & Cottonwood. For more information: 719-256-5280 or visit our website at [www.crestoneartisansgallery.com](http://www.crestoneartisansgallery.com).

The gallery is open Wednesday through Monday 11-5, closed on Tuesday. Crestone Artisans Gallery is an active participant in the Crestone Creative District Candidacy program sponsored by the Boettcher Foundation and Colorado Creative Industries.

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Crestone Artisans Gallery  
represents 24 local artisans

**Second Saturday Artwalk!**  
Artist Reception  
Saturday, September 13th, 2 - 5pm  
Wine + Refreshments + Music  
with Robin James!

## Ken Saydak brings piano & blues to Shumei Sept. 5

Delmark Records recording artist Ken Saydak will perform at Shumei International Institute on Friday Sept. 5 at 7pm. Tickets are a \$10 suggested donation. With nearly forty years as a musician, writer, vocalist, and producer, Ken is sure to impress with his music, which he has dubbed Urban Americana. Firmly rooted in the blues, he employs an amalgam of American roots musical styles in his repertoire.

His work as a pianist and organist on over fifty albums is well known in the national and international blues scene. His 2005 release *It's My Soul*, on Evidence Records, follows his two previous CDs on the Delmark label, *Love Without Trust* and his solo debut *Foolish Man*. All of his recordings showcase his instantly recognizable vocal and piano styles as well as his insightful and engaging songwriting. A co-producer of the two Rounder Records CDs with his 1990s American roots band, Big Shoulders, Big Shoulders and Nickel History, he continued his growth as a producer on both of his own Delmark CDs as well as the label's critically em-



Saydak performs Sept. 5 at Shumei.

braced 2000 release, *Learned My Lesson*, for Chicago blues singer Zora Young.

Ken's career as a performer has taken him to concert and festival stages on four continents, including tours and appearances in Israel, South Africa, France, and Switzerland. The list of artists who have enlisted his talents include Johnny Winter, Otis Rush, Willie Kent, Lonnie Brooks, Koko Taylor, John Primer, Mighty Joe Young, Billy Boy Arnold, Sam Lay, Dave Specter, James Wheeler, Tad Robinson, Lurrie Bell, Johnny B. Moore, and Karen Carroll.

Ken joins us at Shumei for a solo performance. Comfortable weather permitting we will be outside, so come prepared for a beautiful night of music. Contact Shumei at [www.shumeiCrestone.org](http://www.shumeiCrestone.org) or call 719-256-5284 for more information. You can also hear tracks and learn more at [www.kensaydak.com](http://www.kensaydak.com).

## Stone worker & jeweler Brian Timm Shumei-featured artist for September

Brian Timm is much more than a jeweler. Carvings in stone and found pieces of nature make his pieces uniquely beautiful. His work will be on display in the Shumei Gallery for the month of September. An Art Symposium with Brian will be held Sunday September 21 from 3 to 5pm. Refreshments follow the artist's presentation.

Brian has lived in Crestone for over 10 years raising a family and acting as a teacher and student of tai chi. "My necklaces are one of my arts. This art has evolved over the last 15 years to what they are now. My necklaces include a lot of hand carved gemstone beads, and profound seeds and shells from different places in the world. They are



Brian Timm's jewelry is on display at Shumei in September.

very fine yet very earthy and most of them are ceremonial pieces, or power pieces."

Come meet Brian and learn more about his work. This event is free to the public. Visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 719-256-5284 for more information.



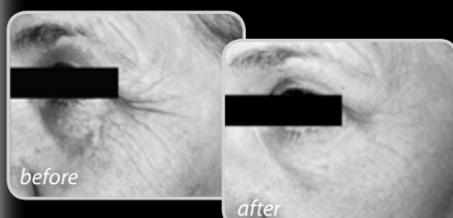
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## 21st Annual Saguache Fall Festival & Quilt Show Sept. 20

Start the day with the Fall Colors Run/Walk; registration begins at 7:30am with run/walk starting at 8am. Breakfast will be served by the Saguache County Museum—hot cakes & sausage for \$5 includes a beverage—starting at 9am. Live music will be played throughout the day to keep folks entertained. Stir up your appetite with performances by Polynesian Dancers along with the Crestone Tribal Belly Dancers. Children's activities will include face painting and hands-on craft making. The Pitkin Avenue Baptist Church also hosts fun activities for children including a bounce house and free treats. Sample green chilis roasting in the park. Stay for the auction which starts at 2pm.

After the festivities at the park, attend the annual melodrama hosted at the Ute Theatre. This year's melodrama is entitled *The Treasure of Shiver River*. Performances will be Friday afternoon, September 19, at 2pm and again on Saturday, September 20, at 5pm. Performers in costume can be seen strolling through the park during the day on Saturday to promote this event.



Pioneer dress at the Saguache Fall Festival. Come join the fun (and dress up if you want to!).

The Saguache Sagebrush Quilters will be featured at the Saguache Community Building along with other vendors. Outside in Otto Mears Park you will find a variety of vendors with food booths, jewelry and artisans displaying everything from handcrafted items to artworks. This festival is a partnership between the Town of Saguache Recreation Board and the Saguache Chamber of Commerce. It is the primary fundraiser for the chamber to support community activities.

Otto Mears Park is located on the east side of US 285 in Saguache between Pitkin and Christy.

## New Saguache businesses on the horizon

We are happy to announce two new businesses coming soon to downtown Saguache. Partners Scott and Pearl Alexander and Joel and Amber Johnson have recently purchased the two buildings at 401 4th Street in Saguache. These buildings will soon house a new movie theatre, "Cozy Castle Cinema", and pub-style restaurant, "Gateway Tap House".

All four partners are residents of Saguache and love this community, with three of the four graduating from Mountain Valley School and all having raised or are currently raising their children here. Additionally, all partners have served on several local boards and have countless hours of volunteer work under their belt. It is safe to say that their hearts and souls are very much connected with the Saguache community and they want to be a part of the growing downtown business district, collaborating with other downtown businesses to promote the area and attract visitors/customers to all businesses.

They wanted to provide something not currently offered. Movies are no longer being produced in 35mm, which has left an opening for first-run, digitally-projected movies. The movie theatre will use digital picture and sound, show first-run movies along with the occasional foreign film, offer full concessions and cozy, high-backed, rocker seats with plenty of leg room. They hope to open the Cozy Castle Theatre in the next few months.

In 2015, they plan to open the Gateway Tap House. This will be a pub-style Italian restaurant where the patrons will receive good food, good service and an inviting atmosphere. Their motto in the Tap House is, "Live, Laugh, Love".

Here's to you Saguache. Cheers!

**Many Nations**  
Saguache Pow-wow

An Annual Traditional Intertribal Event!

**One Community!**

Saturday, September 6th ~ 10 am-Sunset  
Otto Mears Park  
Grand Entry 11 am

**SAGUACHE FALL FESTIVAL & Quilt Show**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH  
OTTO MEARS PARK

**8 am - Fall Colors Run/Walk**  
**9-11am - Hot Cakes & Sausage Breakfast**  
**9 am - 4 pm**

Quilt Show • Arts & Crafts  
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## Library moves closer to getting new location

At the July 20 meeting, the Library District Board was presented with two possible locations to pursue. One of the sites was the overwhelming choice of the Facilities Committee, and the board voted unanimously to follow the group's recommendation. We have ordered a land appraisal of the parcel, and our attorney is drafting a contract. The library district must also go through the Town of Crestone's Conditional Use Permit process in order to proceed. Our architect, Burt Wadman, is working closely with the district and the town to provide all the required documents for the permit application.

In the meantime, we have be-

gun the next step: Hiring a consultant to do a fundraising feasibility study. This is standard procedure for large fundraising campaigns and will help determine if the financial capacity exists in the Crestone-Baca Grande community to proceed with purchasing land and building a new library.

The library district would like to thank the Facilities Committee, comprised of Crestone-Baca Grande residents, for all their hard work. They have been holding regular meetings (sometimes more than one a month!) for a year now, and have proceeded thoughtfully, yet rapidly, through this process. Your dedication is greatly appreciated!

## Death Cafe returns to Crestone in Oct.

Come join other community members and guests this October for another energetic and enthusiastic discussion of death. There will be tea and cookies to sweeten the mood of this event, sponsored by Informed Final Choices (the educational outreach branch of the Crestone End of Life Project/CEOLP.) Other "Cafes" are being planned for Salida, Saguache and the Roaring Fork Valley.

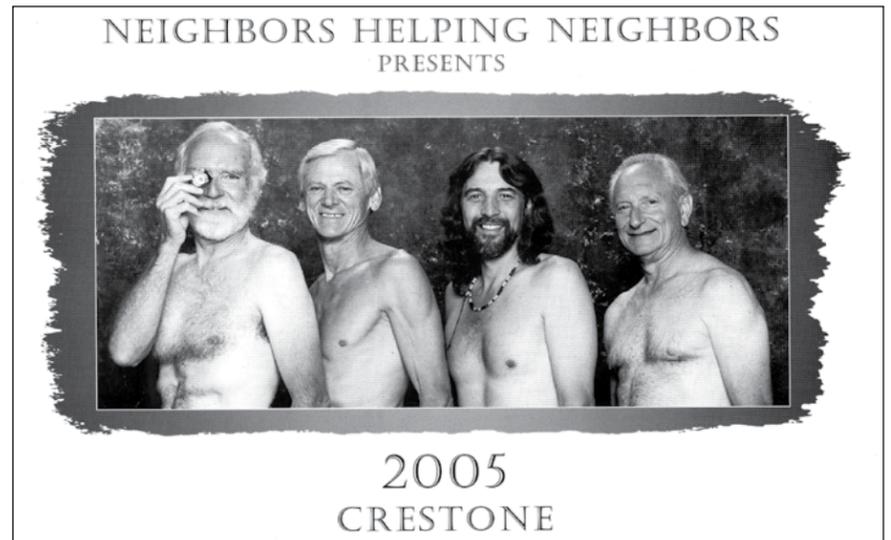
Informed Final Choices (IFC) will also be offering screenings of *Griefwalker*, a lyrical, poetic portrait documenting Stephen Jenkinson's work with the dying and medical professionals. Filmed over a 12-year period, Jenkinson expresses his views, deeply influ-

enced by his experience of native traditions, frankly and with great sensitivity, regarding the origins and consequences of his ideas for how we live or die.

Check *The Crestone Eagle* calendar for October dates, times and locations of these events.

If you are interested in learning more about the services provided by CEOLP or IFC, attend the monthly open meeting: Wednesday, September 10 at 7pm, 33 Sunset Overlook (behind the former Century 21 office). Call 256-4247 for information and directions.

For CEOLP registration materials, contact Lorraine Cazier at 937-7802.



For its 10-year anniversary, Neighbors Helping Neighbors will be putting out another Calendar Guys calendar. Up for some fun? Give NHN a call.

## NHN Crestone Calendar Guys 2015

Remember Crestone Calendar Guys Calendar 2005? Get ready for the 10 year anniversary issue available this fall! Neighbors Helping Neighbors had a wonderful response with the 2005 issue and we hope to include even more 50ish or older men in this 2015 calendar.

Members of this community donate everything for our fundraisers: money, time, talent, services, products, and for this calendar, body and soul. Goes to show, our Crestone Guys will do almost anything to help a neighbor in need!

We are so grateful for the many men who choose to help us help others by their participation. There will be categories for each month including two months that will be generic groups. Photos will be taken September 14 and 15 at Bill Ellzey's studio. Martin Macaulay is donating his photography skills. The schedule is as follows, and it will take less than an hour of

your time. If you are not contacted please just come and join the group you want. Please bring a prop (to hide behind?) appropriate to your group. Questions? Call Joany at 937-7790.

### Sunday, September 14:

10 am: Happy New Year (Generic Group)

11 am: Generic Group

1 pm: Writers

2 pm: Builders

3 pm: Healers

4 pm: Business Owners

### Monday, September 15:

9 am: Stewards of the Earth

10 am: Musicians

11 am: Sports

1 pm: Artists

2 pm: Emergency Responders

3 pm: Unity in Diversity

There will be a free autograph wine and cheese party to honor all these brave men! Watch for an announcement in the *Eagle* this fall, just in time for your holiday shopping.

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**ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER - October 10, 2014 7:00PM**  
 The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Baca Grande POA will be on Friday, October 10, 2014 at 7:00PM.

**POA CANDIDATES FORUM - Friday, September 26, 2014 7:00PM**  
 Candidates are Sugandha Jane Brooks, Joanna Theriault, Mate Belle Lakish, Eric Karlstrom and Stephen Smilack.

If you have any questions contact the POA office at 719-256-4171. Members may sign up on the website to access materials and receive information about upcoming news & events at [www.bacapo.org](http://www.bacapo.org).

## Headwaters Hoedown Sept. 14

Get your dancing shoes ready for the conservation celebration of the year! The community is invited to the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust's Fourth Annual Headwaters Hoedown on Sunday, September 14 from 1 to 6 pm at the beautiful Gilmore Ranch, just west of Alamosa on the Rio Grande. The event will celebrate the many landowners and partners who help the land trust conserve the valley's "land, water and way of life."

The afternoon will feature a local food feast, fine wine and beer, and live music by Mariachi San Luis and by Don Richmond & the Rifiers. There will be a walking ranch tour with Tom Gilmore, a studio tour with sculptor Jim Gilmore, and lots of fun activities for kids, so bring the whole family!

For information and tickets for the Headwaters Hoedown, visit [www.riograndelandtrust.org](http://www.riograndelandtrust.org) or call the Del Norte office at 719-657-0800.



Teresa Loftin, MD joined the Moffat Family Medical Center this spring. To make an appointment please call the Valley-Wide Health Systems at 719-589-3658.

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# HAPS

## Karate classes begin

Early Bird Training: Beginning Shotokan Karate 6-7am Monday through Friday at the Charter School. Traditional Japanese art, practical exercise, meditation and self defense. Instruction by Sara Grimes, 7th-degree black belt and certified instructor in the International Shotokan Karate Federation, a non-profit organization. To register and for more information, call Sara in Crestone at 413-219-7774. Registration for the fall session ends September 15.

## Assistance to veterans in need

The Saguache County Veteran Service Office is pleased to announce that homeless veterans and other veterans in financial need can receive help thanks to a five-county grant administered by the Chaffee County Veteran Service Office. Contact Jim Sheeran at 719-655-2680. Office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 9am to 4pm and Friday 9am to 3pm.

## Nath Souper Bowl Champ

Crestone and Santa Fe resident Kimnath (Nath) Nou was honored with the title of Best Seafood Soup at Food Depot of Santa Fe's fundraiser in August. Her business, Nath's Specialty Catering features a fusion of Thai, Vietnamese and Chinese Culinary styles. Nath brought her family tradition of cooking with her when she came to Crestone from Cambodia in 1999. She moved with her family to Santa Fe in 2009 and frequently brings her food back to Crestone. Her creations are in the deli case at Crestone Mercantile. The Food Depot in Santa Fe which put on the Souper Bowl competition fundraiser, is a mothership food bank providing services to eight counties in northern New Mexico.

## ChoKuRei Farm & Ranch presents the second annual Yaktoberfest

This year the Yaktoberfest happens Saturday, September 27 at the Challenger Golf Course on T Road in Crestone from 10am-10pm. This community fall festival returns with a wonderful lineup of live music and entertainment all day long, including Denver's Vine Street ("high energy feel-good psychedelic space funk"), Flamenco virtuoso Lliam Christy, and local talents Sweet Radish, CrestoneTribal Bellydance, Robin James, Plan Be and much more.

Yaktoberfest will feature vendors, games for all ages, delicious organic, GMO-free food and New Belgium beer. If you're interested in vending at Yaktoberfest, please call Deb at 719-256-4599.

## Breakfast at the Pow Wow September 6

The Saguache County Museum will host a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast in Otto Mears Park, 9-11am, at the Pow Wow, September 6, and at Harvest Festival, September 20. Cost is \$5/plate; they will work with families.

During both events, the museum will have a booth in the park and will be selling the Collectible Cookery cookbook, historical books, T-shirts including new designs, and other items.

The cookbook is expected to arrive at the museum by September 2. It will be for sale at the Crestone Mercantile.

The museum closes for the season at 4pm, September 13.



## The R.O.A.A.R. has been heard

This past April, local residents and GIA Wellness Ambassadors Dr. Moira Forsythe, ND, and her partner Bill Dobson set out on a multi-state car trip to spread information, awareness and solutions around the issue of electropollution and thriving in an ever-increasing wireless age. Their Reach Out Across America Roadtrip has taken them to almost a dozen states so far and they have spoken to dozens of school groups, parents, professionals and individuals. Their Facebook group page has reached individuals from Virginia to Vermont, California to Connecticut to Canada and just about everywhere in between. Several schools are working with them now to create more mindful technology installations in their facilities so as to enhance, and not diminish, the focus and concentration capacities for students and teachers alike.

## Develop your own food business

Crestone has a kitchen incubator program to train you to set up a retail or wholesale food business. We assist you with Health Dept. and FDA certification, recipe development and food safety issues plus an opportunity to use a fully equipped commercial kitchen. Call 256-5887 to register.

## Veteran service outreach

The Saguache County Veteran Service Officer will be doing outreach sessions monthly at the following locations: Crestone, YES building, on second Thursdays 9am to 4pm; and Center, Public Health building, on third Thursdays 9am to 4pm. The Saguache office is located in the Saguache County Comprehensive Health Clinic. Usual hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am to 4pm and Fridays 9am to 3pm. Phone 719-655-2680 for an appointment or just drop in.

## Hike to the sites' sights

Saguache Hiking Club had its inaugural hike Saturday August 16 with 4 young-at-heart ladies taking on the challenge. Coordinator Ellen Cox planned the first hike for Penitente Canyon Recreational area where Sara Fernandez led us around the Canyon Trail. Barbara Donahue enjoyed the scenery but pointed out that there is not as much air in Colorado as in California, and rounding out the group was Janet Nelson-Cox.

It was a great day and we would like to encourage all ages to come and join us for the next hike to the Bat Caves on Saturday August 30. We will meet at "Grandma's House" in Saguache at 3:30pm for a potluck BBQ and carpool to hike from there. For more info call 719-221-6902. We hope you will come explore our community and the wonderful outdoor opportunities available. Watch for pictures and info here, and coming soon, a new Facebook page.

## Little Ones' Story Time

New! Little Ones' Story Time starts at our Baca Grande Library beginning Tuesday Sept. 2 at 10am and runs weekly through the school year. This event is free and designed specifically for babies to 4-year-olds. Children with their caregivers are welcome to come sing, play, read and be together. Exposure to books, rhymes, and songs helps little ones learn early literacy skills. Come check it out and have fun!

To keep informed of POA actions and decisions go to [www.BacaGrandeActionForum.com](http://www.BacaGrandeActionForum.com)

## Crestone Botanic Garden

**SALE** – all plants over \$5 are **20% off**. The Garden will close for the season by mid-September. Open Mon. – Sat. 11 am – 4 pm. This project is sponsored by the Town of Crestone and Saguache County to promote economic development for disabled adults.

Your support is appreciated!

## Adler Canine Care

"Come hang out with us!"

719.221.1301

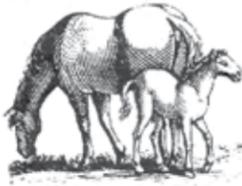


**Crestone End of Life Project**  
Promoting informed end-of-life choices and supporting their fulfillment  
Call 719.588.7415 or 719.937.7802 for information/materials  
[www.crestone-end-of-life.org](http://www.crestone-end-of-life.org) • email: [ceolp.info@gmail.com](mailto:ceolp.info@gmail.com)

**Even as a mother protects with her life, her child, her only child  
So with a boundless heart should one cherish all living beings.  
- A verse from the Metta Sutta**

Attend our meeting **Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm, at the Topping house, 33 Sunset Overlook (first left behind former Century 21 office). Call 256.4247 for information/directions.

**Baca Grande Stables**  
**BOARDING ~ LESSONS ~ TRAIL RIDES**



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Crestone, CO 81131

[www.bacagrandestables.com](http://www.bacagrandestables.com)  
[info@bacagrandestables.com](mailto:info@bacagrandestables.com)

**(719) 256-6200 Joanna and Eli Dokson**

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# Community Calendar—September 2014

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Monthly Events

### Saturday, August 30

- Hike to bat caves – 3:30 pm 719-221-6902
- Brian Rill @ Steel Horse Grill, 6-9pm [steelhorsegrill.com](http://steelhorsegrill.com) 719-655-2004

### Monday, September 1

- Labor Day – All Day

### Thursday, September 4

- Ceremony for release of Sand Dunes quarter coin, 10am, Dunes parking area 719-378-6341
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome– 4-6:00 pm free or by donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290

### Friday, September 5

- Saguache Pow Wow, Otto Mears Park, [thesingingstone.com/tag/saguache-powwow](http://thesingingstone.com/tag/saguache-powwow) 256-4612
- Ken Saydak plays piano blues at Shumei, 7:00 pm \$10 [www.kensaydak.com](http://www.kensaydak.com) 719-256-5284

### Saturday, September 6

- Paul Archuleta @ Steel Horse Grill, 6-9pm [steelhorsegrill.com](http://steelhorsegrill.com) 719-655-2004

### Monday, September 8

- Full Moon Fire Ceremony & Meal, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 256-4108
- Town of Crestone Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Crestone Town Ctr 1:30-6:30pm 256-4313
- Saguache Solar Site Visit, Open House, Sag. Rd. & Bridge, 3-6:30pm [blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/slvfo/solar.html](http://blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/slvfo/solar.html)

### Tuesday, September 9

- Rio Grande Roundtable – Saguache Road & Bridge Meeting Room 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

### Wednesday, September 10

- Crestone End of Life Project Monthly Open Meeting, Topping House 7-9pm 256-4247 / 588-7415

### Saturday, September 13

- Essence of the elements with Peter May – Dharma Ocean All Day [colorado.ligmincha.org](http://colorado.ligmincha.org)
- Artwalk closing reception, Crestone Artisans Gallery 2-5pm [crestoneartisansgallery.com](http://crestoneartisansgallery.com) 256-5280
- Telluride Mountainfilm, Crestone Charter School 2-9pm Afternoon & Evening programs \$10 each
- Yogic Cooking Workshop, Shakti Sharanam 3-8pm \$30-\$60 [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

- Majestic Mountains Cowboy Church, 9-1/2 miles west of Hwy 17 on T Road 5-7pm 719-655-0201

### Sunday, September 14

- RiGHT's Headwaters Hoedown, Gilmore Ranch 1-6pm [www.riograndelandtrust.org](http://www.riograndelandtrust.org) 719-657-0800
- Shumei's Monthly Sampai, 10:30am-noon Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284

### Tuesday, September 16

- Eric Karlstrom @ Steel Horse Grill – 6-9:00 pm [steelhorsegrill.com](http://steelhorsegrill.com) 719-655-2004

### Thursday, September 18

- Sufi Dhikr All Welcome – 7:30 pm-9:00 pm Free or by donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org)

### Friday, September 19

- 8 Manifestations of Sherab Chamma with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche – Dharma Ocean All Day \$275.00 [www.colorado.ligmincha.org](http://www.colorado.ligmincha.org)

### Saturday, September 20

- Camino de Crestone – All Day [www.caminodecrestone.com](http://www.caminodecrestone.com) 719-937-7697
- Saguache Harvest Festival – Otto Mears Park, Saguache, All Day
- Local Food Coalition Harvest Soiree, Rio Grande Healthy Living Park 5-9pm [www.slvlocalfood.org](http://www.slvlocalfood.org) 719-937-2319
- Guitar Steve @ Steel Horse Grill, 6-9pm [steelhorsegrill.com](http://steelhorsegrill.com) 719-655-2004

### Sunday, September 21

- Art Symposium w/Brian Timm, Shumei Featured Artist, 3-5pm Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 256-5284
- 5th International Peace Day Celebration, Music Mtn. Sanctuary 5:30-8:30pm \$11 719-588-2929

### Tuesday, September 23

- Jewish Rosh Hashanah Services – YES Building 7:30-9pm no cost, donations accepted 256-4890

### Wednesday, September 24

- New Moon Fire Ceremony & Meal, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 256-4108
- Jewish Rosh Hashanah Services, YES Building 10-11:30am no cost, donations accepted 256-4890

### Thursday, September 25

- Fall Navratri (Divine Mother Festival), Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 256-4108

### Saturday, September 27

- Yaktobefest – Challenger Golf Course 10:00 am-10:00 pm 719-256-4599
- River Blues Band @ Steel Horse Grill, 6-9pm [steelhorsegrill.com](http://steelhorsegrill.com) 719-655-2004

### Sunday, September 28

- 100 Thousand Poets and Artists for Change – Cloud Station 7pm 719-256-5843
- Children's Day at Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 11:00 am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 719-256-4108

### Wednesday, October 1

- Alla Prima Westcliffe – 3rd St Gallery All Day \$35 [SangresArtGuild.org](http://SangresArtGuild.org) 719-783-0886

### Friday, October 3

- Kol Nidre Yom Kippur Services, YES Building 7:30-8:30pm no cost, donations accepted 256-4890

### Saturday, October 4

- Ibn Arabi & Grammar of Cosmos, 9am-6pm \$20-50 suggested donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 256-4290
- CrestoneArtists Open Studio Tour 2014, 1-6pm free [www.CrestoneArtists.com](http://www.CrestoneArtists.com) 719-256-4182
- Yom Kippur Afternoon, Memorial and Concluding Services – YES Building 4:00 pm-5:30 pm no cost, donations accepted 256-4890

### Sunday, October 5

- CrestoneArtists Open Studio Tour 2014, 1-6pm free [www.CrestoneArtists.com](http://www.CrestoneArtists.com) 719-256-4182

### Friday, October 10

- BGPOA Board of Directors election, Baca POA office All Day [bacapoa.org](http://bacapoa.org) 719-256-4171

### Saturday, October 11

- Alferd Packer Festival – Historic Downtown Saguache All Day [www.alferdpackerfest.com](http://www.alferdpackerfest.com)

### Saturday, October 18

- Wild & Scenic Film Festival, Historic Ute Theatre 4:30-9:30pm \$12 pre-sale, \$15 door 719-347-5269

## Daily/Weekly Events

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

### Daily

- Mon-Fri, Beginning Shotokan Karate early bird classes, Charter School, 6-7am 413-219-7774
- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7am, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- Sampai & Jyorei, Shumei Sanctuary, please be seated by 7:50am and 5:50pm, 256-5284
- Tours, gallery and Jyorei, Shumei, 9am-5pm, 256-5284
- Evening Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 6pm, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)

### Sunday

- Weekly Sunday Mass at Nada Carmelite Hermitage Nada Carmelite Hermitage 9-10am
- Dorje Trolo practice White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-noon no charge 719-256-5773
- Alcoholics Anonymous Crestone Town Hall 7-8pm

### Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5:00 pm-6:45 pm By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, Baca library back door 7:30-8:30pm [crestonena@gmail.com](mailto:crestonena@gmail.com) 970-309-0710
- Little Ones Story Time Baca Grande Library 10:00 am-10:45 am Free 256-4100

### Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

### Thursday

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

### Friday

- Friday Yoga w/Cynthia Crestone Community Bldg (Old Schoolhouse) 10-11:30am 9 week session \$108 719-298-0360

### Saturday

- Crestone Saturday Market Crestone Parking Lot 10:00 am-2:00 pm 719-588-9020

## OPEN STUDIO TOUR

CRESTONE, COLORADO  
OCTOBER 4TH & 5TH ~ 1:00-6:00 PM

Come visit Crestone's annual Open Studio Tour this October. Visit 17 different artist's studios following the maps that can be found online at [www.crestoneartists.com](http://www.crestoneartists.com), KRZA, Yak & Cracker, Shumei & other downtown businesses.

Come to **FIRSTTHOUGHT STUDIOS** at 117 Skyview Way to view Stephen Futral (Ish) and Brenda Sue's provocative work along with a few other art studios on the same street.

As You Go About Your Day, Please Remember . . .

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Photos from this year's Crestone Music Festival, hosted annually by Crestone Performances, Inc. Collage design and most photos by Lori Nagel. Photos that have a white "star" on them were contributed by Ron Dessain.

# Salida welcomes Fiber Festival September 6 & 7

by Judy Reese

Maybe its allure is the ancient tradition of hands working across fleece. Maybe it grows from the ranching heritage of Central Colorado. Whatever the draw, the Salida Fiber Festival, now in its third year, always tempts day trippers and “fiber geeks” alike to make the journey on a fine autumn day—or a spectacular weekend—to the heart of the Rocky Mountains.

Salida, nestled beneath Sangre de Cristo and Sawatch fourteens, is a state-designated arts community. Its fiber festival unfolds at Riverside Park, alongside the city’s RiverWalk and in the center of the historic downtown. The two-day outdoor event attracts over 70 artists and vendors from across Colorado and neighboring states—people hawking fiber, roving, finished goods, and one-of-a-kind pieces. Visitors can explore tents filled with yarns, alpaca and wool roving, and hand-knitted, crocheted, or woven garments. Gifted fiber artists present wearable felt, beads, alpaca-fiber wall art, unique handmade pieces, and fiber-crafting supplies.

This year the festival will offer demonstrations in knitting, spinning, and felting. Fiber aficionados can also sign up for classes in spinning techniques, kitting with beads, tating, locker hooking, and fiber preparation. Other possibili-



Vendor Weldon Walker spins roving from his own sheep in the festival's open-air setting.

ties include an activities booth as well as a silent-auction booth filled with items donated by various professional vendors. A beer garden beneath the trees will be stocked with local beverages.

Last year’s festival drew 2,500 people, and the reputation of the event is growing. Salida boasts galleries and restaurants to satisfy such travelers, and it’s the heart of a region that’s a recreational paradise, too: hiking, cycling, fly-fishing, and water sports are always happening in autumn on the Arkansas

River.

Weldon Walker, a 2013 vendor from High Plains Fiber Werx, says “I have heard a lot of the people coming by say that they didn’t realize Salida was such a pretty town with an art district,” he said, spinning roving from his sheep as visitors strolled by.

The Salida Fiber Festival, September 6 and 7 in downtown Salida’s Riverside Park, offers sojourners a great Central Colorado escape. For more information, visit [www.salidafiberfestival.org](http://www.salidafiberfestival.org).

## For POA Directors, Please Vote **BROOKS - LAKISH - THERIAULT**



Sugandha Brooks



Matie Belle Lakish



Joanna Theriault

*This dedicated slate of candidates is committed to:*

- Maintaining and enhancing property values** by offering stable governance, cost effective services, and preserving the scenic beauty that makes our land valuable.
- Building a vibrant community** through great communication, honest transparency, and open decision-making.
- Generating a strong future** through effective leadership, high integrity, and innovative problem solving.
- Ending the frivolous lawsuits**, back-room deals and rampant misinformation that have so often characterized the actions of the current board.

**Our slate of candidates for a better Baca Grande:**

## **BROOKS - LAKISH - THERIAULT**

They have the commitment, skills and vision to return stability and harmony to our beautiful Baca Grande community through clear, honest, and positive communication with members. Come meet them at a fun musical event at Cloud Station in mid-September. Details to follow!

For more information on these candidates please visit: [www.BetterBaca.org](http://www.BetterBaca.org)  
 Email us if you have questions at: [BetterBaca@gmail.com](mailto:BetterBaca@gmail.com)  
 More community news and information at: [www.bacagrandeactionforum.com](http://www.bacagrandeactionforum.com)

**This is a very important election! Your vote matters! Ballots must be returned by October 10th!**

*Political Advertisement paid for by Friends of BLT*

## Upcoming teachings from Chamma Ling

### The Eight Manifestations of Sherab Chamma with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche returns to Crestone to continue the beautiful teachings of Sherab Chamma, The Wisdom Loving Mother—the embodiment of loving compassion. As an enlightened deity, she manifests in many different forms according to the needs of practitioners.

The eight manifestations that are the focus of this series of meditations are all peaceful forms that help us overcome and transform different types of struggles and fears, such as challenges with enemies, fears of illness, struggles with the unknown, and the fear of death.

Through the power of Sherab Chamma's wisdom and love, our fears are transformed into self-arising wisdom and we are able to creatively embrace the many challenges of our lives.

Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche is known for his clear, warm ap-

proach to the teachings, and his ability to relate the teachings to our everyday lives. He is a highly respected and beloved teacher to students throughout the world. Fluent in English, Tenzin Rinpoche is renowned for his depth of wisdom; his clear, engaging teaching style; and his ability to make the ancient Tibetan teachings highly accessible and relevant to the lives of Westerners.

Please join us on Friday, Sept. 19, 9am at Dharma Ocean's Blazing Mountain Retreat Center through Sunday, mid-day, Sept. 21. Cost: \$275, includes lunches plus our gala dinner and entertainment on Saturday evening. There will be an additional Calligraphy Workshop offered on Friday evening. This is the second part of a two part series but attendance of part one is not necessary.

### Nourishing Ourselves with the Essence of the Elements with Peter May

This unique event provides the practitioner a deep experience

in the wilderness of the Rockies with teaching and meditation focus on the Five Elements. Peter May, a long time student of Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, will lead the group near a mountain lake at 12,000'. The practices allow students an exquisite opportunity to submerge in the elements for six days and five nights.

### Initiation of the Red Garuda and the Ocean of Milk Offerings to the Nagas with Geshe Nyima Kunchap

Geshe Nyima Kunchap will be visiting Crestone from Dolpo, Nepal, land of the ancient Zhang Zhung and Bon. He is an exemplary lineage holder who embodies this practice and has achieved great renown for his achievements and realization.

The Red Garuda is associated with the fire element, and the wrathful wisdom that overcomes all obstacles and brings healing, protections and positive transformation to all beings. The Red Garuda is also known as the subdu-

er of the nagas, the nature beings who reside in the rivers, streams, oceans and underground waters. Frequently people disturb the nagas by pollution, blocking streams, drilling wells and other activities. The Red Garuda practice may be used to overcome these disturbances and heal illnesses that have been caused by the nagas.

This retreat will also share the Ocean of Milk Offerings to the Nagas, which can bring about restoration of harmony. Additionally, as part of the initiation Geshe Khunchap will give the refuge vows, which will support one's practice. The teaching will be from Oct. 24-26.

For further information on these events, and registration, please visit [www.colorado.ligmincha.org](http://www.colorado.ligmincha.org)



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[www.retrospectivegallery.net](http://www.retrospectivegallery.net)

# FALL MEDITATION INTENSIVE

A Week-long Retreat with Al Blum



In the unique environment of deep retreat, this week-long program connects us to the boundless inspiration, warmth, and depth of the somatic approach to meditation developed by Dr. Reggie Ray, *Meditating with the Body*. The program is perfect for beginning meditators wanting to establish a solid foundation of practice, and invaluable for experienced practitioners wishing to deepen their mastery. Al Blum encountered the Dharma over twenty years ago, after a long struggle with a near fatal illness inspired a search for deeper meaning and purpose. He has been teaching in a variety of Dharma Ocean programs since 2006.

October 11 - 19, 2014  
Blazing Mountain Retreat Center  
Crestone, Colorado



**For more information visit [www.dharmaocean.org](http://www.dharmaocean.org) or call 877-DHARMA-9**

# Chamma Ling

## Upcoming Events with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche



- ☞ Nourishing Ourselves with the Essence of the Elements  
September 13-18 North Crestone Lake  
*Peter May*
- ☞ Eight Manifestations of Sherab Chamma  
"Transform fear into self arising wisdom"  
September 19-21 Dharma Ocean's Blazing Mountain Retreat Center
- ☞ Calligraphy Workshop ~ September 19
- ☞ Initiation of the Red Garuda and the Ocean of Milk Offerings to the Naga  
October 24-26 Geshe Nyima Kunchap

**For further information and registration: [www.colorado.ligmincha.org](http://www.colorado.ligmincha.org)**

# Washington, DC: A commissioner's report

*(aka Mr. Anderson goes to Washington, or confessions of a Saguache County lobbyist)*

by Jason Anderson

"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.

I have always made it clear that I am a strong advocate of developing renewable energy. I believe coal-generated electricity, the way we power most of the west, including the vast majority of our county, is no longer a viable option for reasons of both environmental and human health. With the issues in our state around oil and gas, and its controversies, I believe the need to move toward renewables is greater now than ever. As a result, I have sought opportunities to bring renewable energy here, to what is arguably the best solar zone in the world. As of this writing we have not yet been successful; however, we continue to work on it in a changing energy landscape.

Last year I wrote an article in local papers concerning an update on the county's solar projects (*Crestone Eagle*, January 2014)—at the time the reports were not good. The renewable energy department of the Wilderness Society, a non-profit advocacy group whose mission is to "protect Wilderness and inspire Americans to care for wild places", picked up the article. They had been working on a bill known as the Public Lands Renewable Energy Act (H.R. 596, S.279) and asked if I would be interested in writing an opinion article about the benefits of renewable energy for rural Colorado. I wrote the article, and soon afterward was asked to go to Washington, DC to help support the bill, and to tell the story of my county.

The Public Lands Renewable Energy Bill began in 2005 when Congress passed the Energy Policy act, which set ambitious goals for wind and solar development on America's Public Lands—10,000

megawatts of renewable energy by 2015. The 10,000 megawatt goal has already been reached; however, many more projects are in application. What is needed is a system that ensures that the royalties from those developments benefit local communities, as well as the public lands that are being used. The Public Lands Renewable Energy Act would distribute royalties in the following manner—25% to the state, 25% to the county, 15% to the agencies to help process permits, 35% to a Renewable Energy Conservation Fund for fish, wildlife and land conservation. Needless to say a bill that promoted renewable energy and ensures economic benefit for my county had my support, especially considering that one of the BLM's Solar Development Energy Zones is located just to the east of the town of Saguache.

So I packed up my best suits, checked with other commissioners who had been on similar trips (the State is very specific about when and from whom an elected official can accept funds for travel); got the OK from the other Saguache Commissioners and our attorney; and most importantly did what any Commissioner would do in D.C . . . set up appointments for personal meetings with our Senators and Congressmen to talk about the issues of Saguache County.

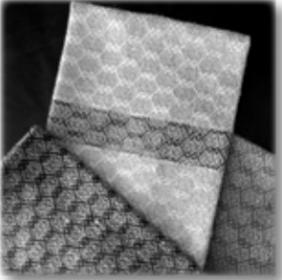
The trip itself was rather brutal: two days, 11 meetings, with aides from various Congressmen and Senators (Washington is run by really smart twenty-somethings), the Natural Resources Committee,

the Energy Committee, the Dept. of the Interior, the Dept. of Energy, and my own meetings with Senators Udall, Bennet, and Congressman Tipton. My message was fairly clear: my county is blessed with some of the best solar potential in the world, and yet we still have high poverty and a water situation that threatens our economy. A clean energy industry that benefits our citizens needs to be considered, and any legislation that would help that is needed. My personal meetings touched on a much broader range of topics including PILT funding (Payment in Lieu of Taxes), our water situation, education, our veterans' services, broadband, and the problems facing our public lands (see last month's article), including looking for funding options for a gasifier that would turn our miles of beetle-kill trees into electricity, and at the same time employ county residents. I was extremely grateful that each of our federal legislators was willing to take time out of their busy schedule and listen to my concerns for our county. On a side note, and a lesson for this western commissioner; the distance between the Senate offices and the House offices is about three blocks, in 90% humidity and 90° temps—try to schedule your meetings so you don't have to make the

walk too many times . . . especially in a black suit. I spent quite a bit of time trying to decide if it was better to be on time and soaked, or a bit late and dry.

The Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act (H.R. 596 and S.279) was heard in the House and Senate on July 29, 2014. Lawmakers and witnesses praised the bi-partisan nature of the legislation and the opportunities it presents to build new partnerships for renewable energy by linking conservation and community goals to development. Overall the hearings were positive, particularly in regards to redistributing revenue collected from renewable energy on public lands to conservation, states and counties. Lawmakers also discussed the need to build upon the competitive leasing pilot program established by the legislation, given that this summer BLM held their first successful competitive auction on public lands in Nevada. Congress is on recess until September, and when they return there will hopefully be opportunities to mark-up the legislation. August recess provides a great chance to thank members of Congress for their support and encourage swift action on the bill when they return to Washington.

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David Davis and Buddy Frank (far right) with practitioners finish a 6-day, 4-handed workshop in Crestone.

## Crestone College of Structural Integration offers classes, sessions

Crestone College of Structural Integration, which opened this spring, provides classes in the art and practice of Structural Integration, in the tradition of Dr. Ida P. Rolf. Founded by David Davis and Buddy Frank, CCSI offers foundational studies for new students and continuing education classes for

practitioners who wish to deepen their understanding of the work.

We see Structural Integration as a process of organizing the physical body in the field of gravity, using the "Line"—a conceptualized central vertical axis as our organizing principle. In a series of ten sessions, practitioners and clients

work together in a reciprocal relationship to bring vitality, energy, structural alignment and balance to their experience of the Line.

Accurately perceiving structure is a continuous challenge in the practice of Structural Integration. CCSI puts great emphasis on the art of seeing human structure as the starting place for a sensitive and mature SI practice. Relying on a traditional and rigorous curriculum, we introduce methods and practices that, over time, enhance the student's perception of structure, providing them with the sensitivity and skill to touch with more accurate empathy and compassionate presence.

Dr. Rolf described the technique that has come to be called "Rolfing" as Personal Structural Integration. It is a bodywork modality most commonly known for its powerful capacity for physical healing. At the core of the work exists a profound process of transformation and personal growth, both for the client and the practitioner. Crestone College of Structural Integration graduates gain not only a deep understanding of the Structural Integration process, but a personal practice that supports them through a lifetime.

CCSI will be teaching a basic training class from October through November, and will need teaching models. If you wish to be a class model, and receive a Ten-Series at a greatly reduced rate, please email Buddy at [info@crestonesi.org](mailto:info@crestonesi.org) or call 719-221-1151. Check us out on the web at [www.crestonesi.org](http://www.crestonesi.org)

## KRZA rolls up its sleeves—fall fund drive starts under new direction

Public radio station KRZA (88.7 Alamosa & Taos, 98.7 Saguache and 100.9FM South Fork & Del Norte) has a new board of directors and new interim general manager, and they're working to make the station more relevant to youth, more receptive to members and listeners of all age, and stronger financially (and also to get some new PSAs!). Suggestions, volunteers and board meeting attendees (5:30pm, third Thursdays, KRZA station at the corner of 9th & State, Alamosa) are all welcome.

KRZA will be running its Fall Fund Drive Sept. 15-Sept. 28. Among the media personalities you'll hear supporting KRZA on air will be Janet Woodman and Kizzen Laki on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2-4pm. Please tune in!

Please call 589-8844, 1-800-290-0887 or 575-758-1537, or email [program@krza.org](mailto:program@krza.org) if you would like to be involved with your community radio station. Help us make a new, refreshed KRZA!

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# Come celebrate the Great Sand Dunes quarter on Sept. 4

Great Sand Dunes National Park has been selected as the national site to represent the state of Colorado on the reverse side of the United States quarter-dollar coin. Great Sand Dunes National Park is the 24th coin-release in the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters Program, a multi-year initiative authorized by Public Law 110-456 (America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008).

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve has the tallest dunes in North America as the centerpiece of the site's diverse landscape of grasslands, wetlands, conifer and aspen forests, alpine lakes, and tundra. These can be experienced through hiking, sand sledding, splashing in Medano Creek and watching wildlife. The Great Sand Dunes National Park was first established as a national site on March 17, 1932. The reverse design features a father and son playing in the sand next to the creek bed. The distinctive mountains and sand dunes are featured in the background. "It is an honor to have been selected for the America the Beautiful Quarters Program", says Lisa Carrico, Park Superintendent. "We think this is a perfect way to highlight Great Sand Dunes and the unique experiences visitors can enjoy when visiting this truly amazing national park."

Great Sand Dunes will host a ceremony in honor of this historic event on Thursday, September 4 at 10am at the Dunes parking area. The ceremony will be supported by the United State Mint, Great Sand Dunes staff, community volunteers, and the Friends of the Dunes. Speakers, special guests, and musical performance will be announced within the next month. Please stay tuned. Parking will be limited, so plan to arrive early. Visitors may also utilize a temporary shuttle system within Great Sand Dunes to assist with the high volume of traffic during the event. Great

Sand Dunes will waive fees for the day in hopes of enticing visitors to enjoy the park and preserve before or after the event. The Friends of the Dunes will also provide complimentary refreshments for those attending the event. School groups are encouraged to attend the event since students will receive a complimentary quarter as a keepsake.

Great Sand Dunes will have a coin exchange shortly following the ceremony at 10:30am at the Dunes Parking Lot for those interested in a larger supply of the Great Sand Dunes quarter-dollar coin. The First Southwest Bank will serve as the sponsoring bank for this event and requires a 1 roll minimum and a 10-roll maximum for purchase at the event. Coin enthusiasts looking to ask questions about the United States Mint and its programs are invited to a Collectors Forum to be held on September 3, 2014 from 7-8pm at the Alamosa Recreation

Center.

The United States Mint will issue 56 quarter-dollar coins featuring designs depicting national parks and other national sites as part of the America the Beautiful Quarters Program. Five new national site designs, depicted on the reverse (tails), will be released each year in the order in which the honored site was first established as a national site. The 2014 United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters Program coins will be released in the following order: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN; Shenandoah National Park, VA; Arches National Park, UT; Great Sand Dunes National Park, CO; Everglades National Park, FL. To learn more about the America the Beautiful Quarters



Program, visit, [www.usmint.gov](http://www.usmint.gov). To learn more about Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, visit [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa).

Great Sand Dunes looks forward to celebrating this event with the local community and visitors. For more information on the event, contact Katherine Faz at 719-378-6341 or [Kathy\\_Faz@nps.gov](mailto:Kathy_Faz@nps.gov)

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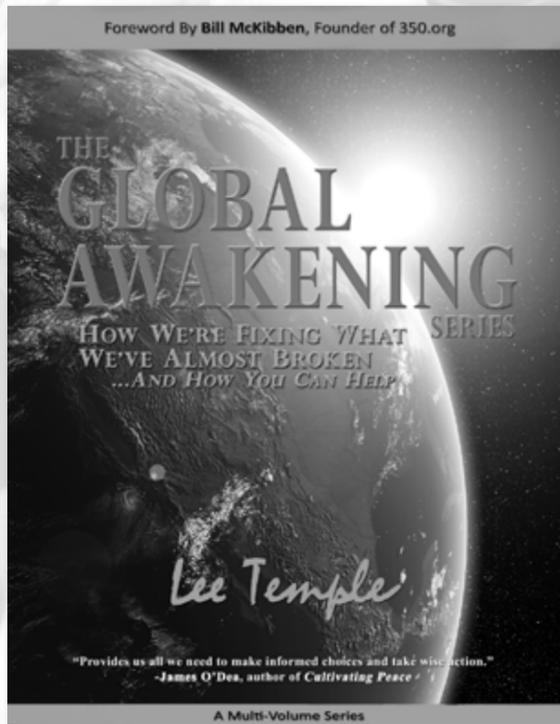
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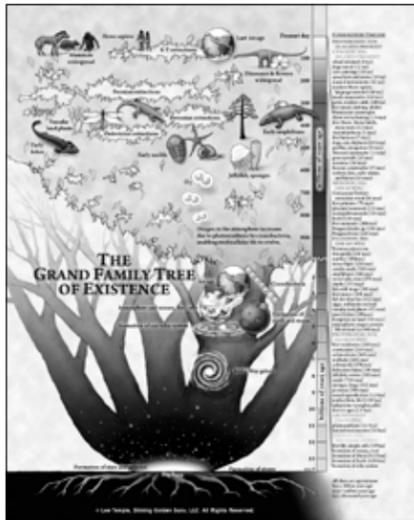


# Who We Are

## Lee Temple: Helping nudge us awake to heal the Earth

by Gussie Fauntleroy

As a young teen in Baltimore, Lee Temple was digging in his mother's rose garden one day, helping her weed and transplanting an oak seedling that had taken root there. As he pulled the delicate plant from the dirt, the acorn from which it emerged was still attached to the tiny roots and stem. Amazed



The Grand Family Tree of Existence, a cosmogenesis timeline that Lee developed for the Global Awakening series.

Cover drawn by scientific illustrator Emily S. Damstra.

and curious about the processes of sunlight, soil, water, and a small acorn to produce what he knew would eventually become a towering oak like others in his neighborhood, he decided to use it as his project for biology class. The experience added a fascinating scientific dimension to the sense of pure wonder he had felt since early boyhood as he rode his bike or walked under the grand old trees, watching shifting sunlight and hearing the breeze rustle leaves.

### The biggest view

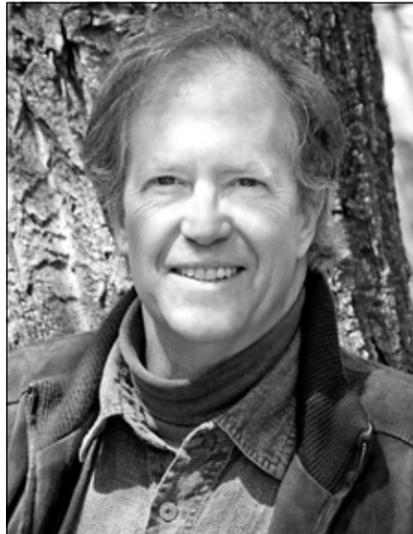
Decades later, Lee continues to deepen his understanding of material and spiritual perspectives on reality as equally valid, as two sides of the intrinsically single coin that is life. It is this inclusive vision that he believes is missing from many conversations and efforts related to humanity's greatest threat to this point: global climate change. For the past eight years, employing his considerable skills

in research, writing, synthesizing, and creative collaboration, he has been immersed in a monumental project aimed at transcending any single point of view and presenting concrete tools for engaging all of us in addressing this threat. The results include a forthcoming series of books, The Global Awakening Series, and an already active companion website, PrimaMundi.com. Together they represent an ongoing, multifaceted, in-depth effort to convey three fundamental truths, as Lee expresses them in the series preface: "We are all products of our world. Life on our precious Mother Earth is in mortal danger. We still have the capacity to join together and make things better."

The first two Global Awakening volumes are set to be released in early fall, with the rest to follow within the next few months. Each of the 23 slim volumes in the four-part series is highly readable, accessible and filled with compelling artwork, photography, graphics, poetry and inspiring quotes. Because humans experience and understand reality through the filters of various worldviews—the languages of science, social and cultural history, philosophy, spirituality and mythology among them—the series presents the same vital message in diverse, yet integrated ways, Lee explains. That message reflects the intimate interconnections among human population growth, unchecked development, fossil-fuel usage and carbon emissions, which are triggering dangerously escalating global climate change. Equally critical is awareness of what can be done and is being done around the world to turn the tide. And central to all of it, Lee believes, is what he calls a "larger sense of selfhood"—the necessary shift from "me-first" to a "world-first" view.

### Path to a low-impact life

One of Lee's earliest experiences of the power of united action took place when he was in elementary school. Hauling a box of empty cans and bottles to a basement room where his school's newly formed Ecology Club was holding its first recycling event, he immediately noticed that all types of people were in that room, enthu-



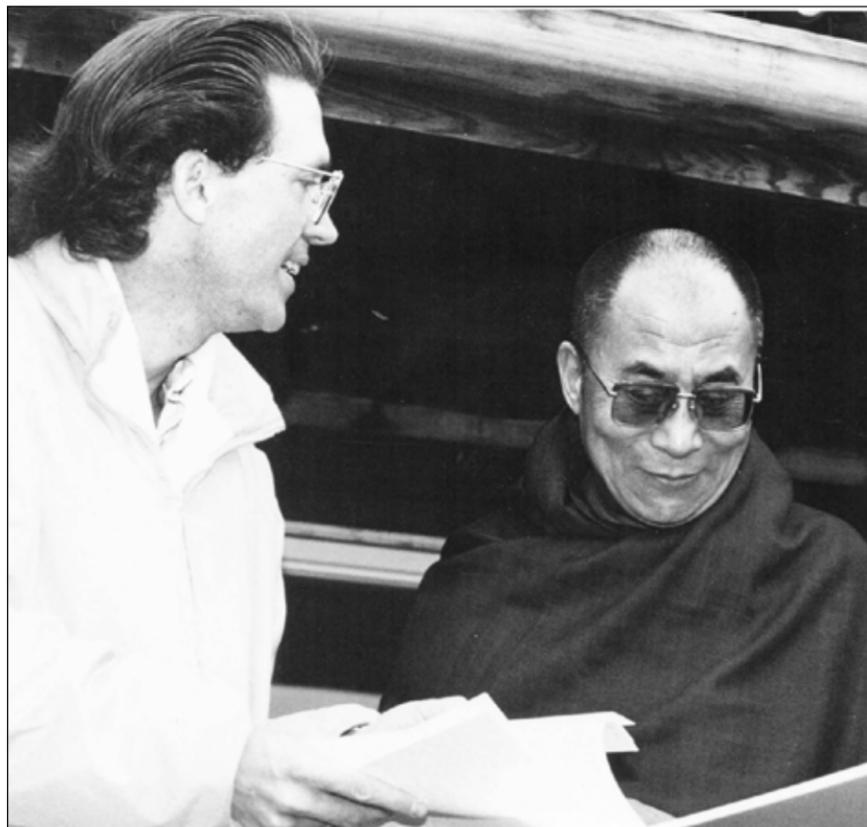
Lee Temple. photo by Lori Nagel

siastically working together. "This became my lasting We're all in this together! imprint," the 58-year-old Crestone-area resident relates. "It was the powerful sense that we were all uniting in action to make our world a better place."

Among other prominent land-

to heal the Earth. "It was uncommonly gentle, peaceful and quiet, yet compellingly powerful and comprehensive in its scope," Lee says of the vision. Immediately he wrote it down in the form of a complete table of contents—the kernel of what would become the series.

A year passed before he returned to the idea, and when he did he began an intensive research process involving hundreds of websites, books, articles and DVDs, eventually gathering a dedicated, creative team to assist in various aspects. Internationally known climate change activist Bill McKibben wrote the series foreword, while others worked on organizing, editing, book design, and website creation and maintenance. To help make carbon-footprint reduction accessible for everyone, a free interactive workbook, *Ten Steps to a Healthier, Safer Planet*, is downloadable from PrimaMundi.com, along with an ever-expanding network of ideas and opportunities for



Lee makes an architectural presentation to His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Wisdom's Goldenrod Center in Valois, New York, April 1991.

photo by Vic Mansfield

marks in his life since then: being introduced to the world's wisdom traditions by a professor at Cornell University while earning an architecture degree; traveling in Europe and consulting with several Swiss architecture firms; and teaching architecture and urban design at Cornell and elsewhere while working as a practicing architect for more than 15 years. Lee and life-partner Carol left Ithaca, New York and settled in Crestone in 1993. Since then they have lived in the low-carbon-footprint, off-grid homestead Lee designed and helped build.

### From acorn to oak

The immediate genesis of The Global Awakening project was a brief but unforgettable vision Lee experienced during meditation one December day in 2006. In it he became viscerally aware of interwoven layers of unity: the human being's internal integration; oneness among people at all levels, including family, community, nation and world; the bond between humans and all other species and the natural world; and the next step in human evolution in which we unite

making a difference. As volumes in the series are released, they will be available as print copies through Amazon and Barnes & Noble and as full-color, fixed-format E-books through Google Books and Google Play.

### Awakening now

While Lee's work reinforces his awareness of the urgency of our shared situation, it also provides him with elements of hope. He likens the present moment to a collective near-death experience with the potential to usher in a new epoch. Global awakening is happening, he believes, and convergent threads of consciousness are being spread and interwoven through such avenues as film, the Internet, grassroots activism, market forces, and countless organizations, communities, businesses and leadership figures worldwide. "Every day," he says, "I see clear and compelling evidence that in spite of the challenges remaining, in spite of the naysayers and the entrenched, resisting power structures, transformative change is indeed happening all around the world."



Participants at the sustainability conference Lee coordinated in Crestone, June 2007.

photo by Dennis Neuhaus

## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by **Ramloti**

August has been a very busy month at the Ashram, lots of visitors wanting to come and have the Divine Mother's and Baba's blessings before the school year. We had a lovely celebration for Lord Krishna's birthday with a special puja, fire ceremony, and feast. Our new-moon and full-moon fire ceremonies were also well attended.

The big event coming up at the end of September is our Fall Navratri, Divine Mother Festival.



Divine Mother Festival at the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram from Thursday, September 25 through Friday, October 3. All are invited.

This year it will begin the day after new-moon on Thursday, September 25 and continue for nine days until Friday, October 3. Each day will begin at 6:15am with paduka puja, chandan, and chanting. Morning aarati will begin at 7am followed

by a puja to different aspects of the Divine Mother, reading 700 verses in praise of Mother, and a big havan (fire ceremony) at 10am each day. This will be followed by a discourse on the Divine Mother and lunch. Evening aarati is at 6pm. We will honor the children on Sunday, September 28 at 11am. If you have a child under 10 years of age that would like to be honored, please call us at the Ashram at 719-256-4108, so we know how many gifts to prepare. This will be followed by an Indian feast.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Monday, September 8 and the new-moon fire ceremony (will be held at the smaller havan kund) is on Wednesday, September 24. 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) followed 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 on-line at <http://mahalakshmiashop.wazala.com>.

Please visit our website at [www.babajiashram.org](http://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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**At last**  
As our skin wrinkles, The poems we write, the paintings we paint, the songs we sing,

**and cells dry up,** the pains and shocks and ills we feel, the aspirations we can't

**we grow old;** ever express, are later discovered in the sands of time and the hearts of every lover, because we leave behind the remnants of all that we discover,

**As our hearts grow wise,** and the immortality that calls us secretly to create beyond

**with insights blest,** the scope of our limited views, and time, and space, and life's

**we can rest;** little plans, delivers everything we see and do into others' waiting hands. That is the cycle our blinded souls all follow, winding through the worlds of joy and sorrow.

**The world that we knew,** And so we gather shells upon the beaches of all lands, and so

**embattled still,** we stand alone upon the edges of all seas, breathing in the air of distant

**sets us free;** skies, feeling the currents pulling at our feet, and gazing into unknown emptiness. There we have stood, - east, west, north, south, - and there the sails of love and war

**As our knowledge glows,** have passed, while behind us in the vast shadows, in the corridors

**our minds find light,** and caverns of great cities, encoded in the revelations of the language of the

**we can see;** gods, in the records of the unfolding of the meaning of time, sit the treasures of the minds of other men, and the memory of the history of the world. There

we have delved through the layers of

**Then our fears dissolve,** our past and discovered the buried origins, and the reasons, the cosmic

**we dwell in peace,** purposes and the laws, the ancient designs that were hidden by our ancestors

**and pure love;** for us to find, and by our labor to learn and understand and be free. Because we have lived fully and this has been our destined path, we have reached the shores of liberation.

**We have reached the end,** Here we can stand on the edges of infinity, bringing into focus every peak

**where all are one,** every distant sun, feeling the tree of life rising from below us, exploring every leaf

**and all begin.** and bud and flower; every idea and power, as it rises in our veins and reaches skyward.

(Thanks to P. Nikolayev for the idea. [www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/247208](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/247208))



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## Enjoying everyday life First things first

by Joyce Meyer  
First things first

Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (NIV). The key to living the abundant life God has for us is learning to make Him our first priority.

So, why do many people seek the "things" first? Many people's top priorities seem to be jobs, houses, cars or other material things. To seek means "to crave, pursue, to make sacrifices to get, to go after with all of your strength and all of your heart." It is a mistake to crave and pursue possessions, believing they will give us the lasting peace, joy and contentment that only come from God's presence in our lives.

Take a moment and ask yourself, "What am I seeking? What do I spend most of my time thinking or talking about? How do I invest the majority of my energy?" These are important questions you need to answer from your heart.

### Deep & wide

I got to a place in my life some years ago where I had a bunch of material things but I still wasn't very happy. Have you ever been in this place? Maybe you've wondered what's wrong with me, like I did. Well, when I asked God that question, His answer to me was, "Joyce, you're shallow. It's time to step out into the deep."

That was a wake-up call. I was a shallow Christian. I wanted the "fruit" of God's Spirit—love, joys, peace, patience—and all operating in my life but I wasn't seeking that, so my "roots" weren't very deep at all. I had it backwards...as many of us do at times. We want the money, the house, the platform or whatever our thing is. So we pursue that rather than the true treasure of God's presence.

Just like a tree needs roots to go down deep and spread wide in the soil for it to grow strong, healthy branches that can withstand the el-

ements, Christians need to develop deep spiritual roots in Christ. Our lives need to be deeply rooted and grounded in the Word of God and in His love—not our "stuff." We soon find that out when the storms of life come, and our "things" don't make us so happy anymore. That's because those things can't give us what we truly need. And it doesn't matter how much stuff you have if you're miserable.

Don't get me wrong; I'm not saying it's bad to want nice belongings or to desire a good life. But we need to examine our priorities when it comes to those things. We need to learn to seek God's face and not His hand. If we will seek His face, His hand will always be open to us.

### Cultivate

We need to take time to cultivate a relationship with God . . . to get to know Him. We are to pursue God in prayer, crave time in His Word, and go after a relationship with Him with all of our heart and strength, even if it means sacrificing some of our desires.

### Getting what we really want out of life

It seems that so much of the time, we get it the other way around, going after possessions as if we'll never get what we want if we don't. But I encourage you to think about what it will be like at the end of your life. I know that's not a pleasant thought, but do you really think you'll be concerned about your stuff? Or do you think you'll want family near?

The key is to seek the Kingdom first. Pursue God; seek His face and not His hand. Go after a relationship with Him as if it is everything! You will find that if you seek His face, His hand will always be open to you. So, learn to be content in your relationship with God; He knows everything you need.



## Pet Partners welcomes veterinarian Dr. Linda Behrns, DVM

by Patrick Moore

Pet Partners is excited to welcome Dr. Linda Behrns, DVM to our community. Her presence means regular, consistent, expert care for our pets and animals. She can help us be better partners to the four-legged members of our community.

Linda moved to Crestone in June from Denver where she was born and raised. She earned her undergraduate, masters and doctorate degrees from CSU and then practiced veterinary medicine in the Denver area for more than 15 years.

I recently sat down with Linda for three hours to interview her about her background, experiences in animal care and her journey to Crestone. I discovered she is quite an awesome person. I asked her "What do you want to do in this community?" She said, "I want to be like an old-fashion country vet, taking care of pets' basic needs and keeping them healthy. I'd like to be the first line of animal care in the community, caring for animals in a way that fits with their owner's beliefs and financial means, and when animals need more care than I can provide to help people decide what to do next." I recently had the opportunity to see Linda in action. I was at the house of friends when their beloved pet started having seizures. It was a dramatic and scary situation for us humans. We called Linda immediately. She arrived in under ten minutes and was able to calm the seizures quickly after a brief medical history from the pet's owners. She was calm, knowledgeable, professional and kind to pet and owners.

Through Pet Partners I am also aware of another situation where Linda has gone far above the



Please welcome Dr. Linda Behrns, DVM to our community.

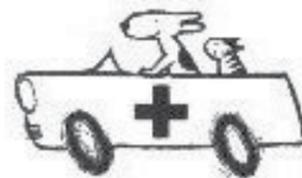
call of duty to assist many pets in one home and then spent days helping the pets' owner obtain some personal professional assistance.

Though she's been in Crestone just three months, Linda is devoted to the community. She has graciously agreed to be a Directing Partner of Pet Partners to help identify and assist pets in need in our community and to help Pet Partners best use resources and develop programs.

Linda's veterinary practice will be mobile, making professional visits to the pets' homes. She is on call for such services Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm. She is also available for emergencies as necessary to assist, consult and refer to emergency facilities in the valley. Her professional rates are reasonable, fair and when necessary, negotiable. You can reach her at 719-588-4024 or visit her website at Crestonemobilevet.com and email at Crestonemobilevet@gmail.com.

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## A Company of Players interview with Peter & Rosalie Anderson

This interview is the seventh in a series of interviews about members of The Company of Players. Peter Anderson (PA) is a long time friend of the company, first volunteering to format playbills and then donating advertising space for productions II through V. He also was a teacher in the series of company workshops that preceded rehearsals for last year's StoryVille III at the college. He will debut in the next production, scheduled for mid-November, tentatively titled *To Go Boldly where No Man Went before; Inner and Outer Space*. Rosalie Anderson, his daughter, (RA) starred in Act II of the most recent production, *Radio Daze*, writing and acting in an interview about Hamlet, using quotations from the play, and also creating a hilarious parody of signing for the listening audience (!) Rosalie is 14 and in 9th grade at

the Crestone Charter School.

**AK:** Ammi Kohn (AK) is the interviewer. This interview has been edited for style and length.

**AK:** Peter, you've seen all the productions but one. Any comments about the evolution of the company?

**PA:** I thought the storytellers in previous productions showed a high level of vulnerability, integrity, and just plain humanity in the stories they shared they with us. *Radio Daze* was a different format, more of a collective effort, which I thought worked well for the kind of satire and comedy you all were doing. It was good to laugh at ourselves and our community.

**AK:** Thanks for the compliments. I really was not fishing for them, but thanks anyway. Any suggestions for the production after *To Go Boldly*? How would you like to see the company further develop?

**PA:** The more people the company can involve, the better. One way to do that might be to invite people in the community to tell their coming-to-Crestone stories. I've never heard one that wasn't interesting.

**AK:** Rosalea, did your father involve you in *Radio Daze*? How did you happen to become part of the Company?

**RA:** No, Jodi (last name?) asked me to write an interview of Hamlet, after the Charter School production. And also the "signing" I did in *Radio Daze* was a lot of fun. I was more relaxed in the first performance when I knew fewer people in the audience.

**AK:** Will you be in the next production?

**RA:** Maybe.

**AK:** What do you do for fun?

**RA:** You don't realize how boring your life is until someone asks what you do for fun. I read, think about things, and watch movies.

**AK:** Well then, lets talk about the future which might be more interesting. What might be your career goals?

**RA:** Engineering, philosophy, acting, music.



A new twist, an interview with father and daughter, Peter and Rosalea Anderson.

**AK:** Very cool and interesting. For both of you, any last words for this interview?

**PA:** I'm glad that you and others created the Company of Players. It's a great outlet for creativity and a fun way to build community. I'm looking forward to future productions.

**RA:** I enjoyed working with everybody in the last one.

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Four Shillings Short will be appearing in area schools.

## Four Shillings Short performs in county schools

Crestone Performances is producing the amazing duo Four Shillings Short September 24-26 in all Saguache County schools and the Boys' and Girls' Club of Alamosa.

These are multi-instrumentalists and vocalists who play a variety of musical styles on instruments from around the world. They present traditional music from Ireland, Scotland, England, Medieval & Renaissance Europe, the Americas and India. They play 30 instruments, including hammered dulcimer, mandolin, mandola, bouzouki, Medieval and Renaissance woodwinds, recorder, tinwhistle, banjo, north Indian sitar, Medieval psalter, charango from Bolivia,

bodhran, doumbek, spoons and vocals.

Their program is tailored to fit the audience and specific music educational curriculum where appropriate. During the program they introduce each instrument, talk about its history, introduce musical concepts and follow with a demonstration in the form of a song or instrumental piece.

These shows will bring Crestone Performances' total of school presentations to 175, with 30 different artists, and are made possible by a Saguache County sales tax grant. For more information please see us at [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) or call 719-256-4533.

## Festival thanks . . . help!

by Tom Dessain

A big "Thank You" to all who attended, vended, volunteered, cheered, worked, sponsored, played or smiled and swayed at the 16th Annual Crestone Music Festival. Overall, the festival had a nice mix of musical styles, vendors, food, libations, contests and activities. Not to mention killer headliners and supreme acts. I even won the men's wood chopping contest, by a total fluke of a miracle of course, but . . . I won! There is a God.

Festival feedback has been very positive and mishaps were negligible. The festival was, however, very challenging with our worst rain ever on Friday and then a big wreck near Fairplay on Saturday that closed Hwy 285 South from Denver. Two Saturday groups had part of their bands rerouted and many festival friends were turned back. We were able to reschedule SHEL for Sunday and the other band made it in time, but attendance was down. Unfortunately, that brought down many areas of income like camping, parking, merchandise, libations and raffle ticket sales.

So, we'll need help to pull out of this but I'm confident we can; we have done it before, but not without community help. This would be a good time to step up and become a member. Members get different perks for different levels but they all know they are supporting the community by supporting us. We'll be trimming the edges and holding some more fundraisers, so stay tuned. We also listen so if you want to comment, complain, commend, conject or connect, please call 719-256-4533 or email [crestfest@crestfest.org](mailto:crestfest@crestfest.org). Thanks again to everyone. Keep on Festin' in the free world!

### Join us!

Please consider becoming a member of Crestone Performances Inc. and help us continue our community services. Those services include producing the Crestone Music Festi-

val, now in its 17th year; our Youth Enrichment Program now in its' 13th year; and our free consulting and technical assistance service to other worthwhile community endeavors. There are three ways to contribute. First, just make a donation on line at [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org). Next would be to become a member and donate annually. Thirdly, my favorite is to have a monthly withdraw. It's totally safe through San Luis Valley Savings and Loan. I personally do \$15 a month. Even \$5 a month would be huge, so please consider it. There are levels of support that have great perks, including an "All Access Pass" to next year's festival, so check them out below.

We have five levels of membership:

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

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

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

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

**5. Platinum Member** - all of the above and the moon.

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

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Robin teaching at Sand Dunes National Junior Ranger Day.

## Charter School welcomes Robin Blankenship

We are delighted to announce that Robin Blankenship will be the classroom teacher for the 4th and 5th grade. Robin has been teaching outdoor education and sustainable agriculture at the Charter School for the last two years.

In our community she is best known for teaching survival and outdoor living skills through her program Earth Knack, for the exciting international travel adventures that she orchestrates, for her work in the Crestone Curve Cooperative Gardens, for her happy and positive disposition, and her constant and active community-building over the years.

Less known is that she has been a certified Colorado elementary teacher since 1990, that she taught at several public schools before coming to the Crestone community, and has experience teaching Waldorf and Montessori. She has been a National Outdoor Leadership instructor and also taught for Outward Bound. She has been passionately involved in education of all kinds for 34 years.

Robin invites any and all community members to come by the school, visit the classroom, and share ideas about educating our community youth. Don't be surprised if you are asked to get involved, or asked to be a guest speaker or demonstrator during Expedition Thursdays! What's that? Come by and talk to "Miss Robin" to find out!

## Two CCS Middle School films win entry to 2014 Southern Colorado Film Festival

The 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at the Crestone Charter School began a successful journey as Documentary Filmmakers in October and premiered 7 short docs at the springtime CCS Film Festival in March 2014.

Each group drew upon the inspiration that developed into their documentary. All groups of 1 to 4 students responded to Q&A from their peers, community members and other professionals in the field.

All seven films were submitted to the 2014 Southern Colorado Film Festival: [www.socofilmfest.org](http://www.socofilmfest.org) @ Adams State University from Sept 11 to 14th.

Congratulations, Vanaiah Baca, Jo Davis, Shannon Beelen-dorf, and Evan Rude! Your submission, *A Shelter Animal's Life* has been accepted for the Southern Colorado Film Festival (SCFF) and will be showing on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 2pm as part of the "Student Showcase".

And congratulations to Ryker Poor, and Cedar Ross! Your submission, *A Very Cheesy Movie* has been accepted for the Southern Colorado Film Festival (SCFF) and will be showing on Sunday, Sept. 14 at 2pm as part of the "Local Food and Culture Showcase".

Local filmmakers Cynthia Nielsen and Scott McCumber brought their joy of teaching and appreciation of documentary filmmaking to these endeavoring students during the 5 months of hands-on instruction.

Challenges of scriptwriting and designating technical roles

within the groups were met and overcome.

Seven iMac computers with the current Final Cut 10 software were essential in the post/editing and each team created their project from conception to completion.

"... we are super excited about our local student filmmakers participation in the Southern Colorado Film Festival, and showcasing their work to a broader audience around the world," Scott and Cynthia shared.



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by David Lindsey  
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## County veteran service officers available to help valley veterans

by **Jim Sheeran**

Veterans who live in the San Luis Valley can easily find help when they want to file a claim for benefits they have earned. It is what county Veteran Service Officers who work in the valley's six counties do every day. They are men and women dedicated to serving the needs of veterans. Those needs can be as simple as accessing health care through the Veterans' Administration to obtaining a burial flag for a deceased veteran's family. There are a wide range of benefits available to veterans and the county VSOS can help speed up the claims process.

The Colorado Division of Veteran Affairs, headquartered in Denver, has a large contingent of Veteran Service Officers who assist hundreds of veterans each year. They are also available to answer any questions the county VSOs may have in their efforts to develop claims. At every level of the claims process the veteran service officer is there to serve veterans and their dependents.

Between 75% and 90% of claims presented to the Veterans' Administration each year originate in a county veteran service office. This is proof of the easy accessibility of the county VSO. Each county

Veteran Service Officer may have standardized training at the state and national level. The national association of county Veteran Service Officers is dedicated to training county VSOs in claims development and advocacy. They have approximately 2400 employees serving veterans in twenty-eight states.

County Veteran Service Officers partner with national service organizations such as the American Legion and the VFW. They are, in fact, an extension of government much like the VA itself. They exist to speed up the claims process and help service men and women transition to civilian life.

The name and phone number of the Veteran Service Officer in your county is listed below. They are there to serve you, the honorably discharged veteran.

Alamosa County: Frank Muniz 589-1109

Conejos County: Orlando Gallardo 376-6725

Costilla County: Dave Marquez 672-3004

Mineral County: Mike Atwater 658-2416 x404

Rio Grande County: Jack Rudder 852-5118

Saguache County: Jim Sheeran 655-2680



We've been getting amazing cloud formations in Crestone with all the rain this summer! Taken on 7/30/14. photo by lori Nagel

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## The Washington Beat

### Summer is over: Ferguson, & unraveling foreign policy

by David Nicholas  
Immigration bill passes

Congress stayed over the beginning of the August Recess and passed an immigration bill that funneled a measly \$600 million+, far from the \$3.7 billion that the administration had asked for to handle the border crisis. It was badly handled and messy, largely guilt money that was more a sop to Hispanic voters than a genuine attempt to get a handle on the problem of kids arriving at the border and processing them through the immigration system.

The GOP was in such disarray about even trying to get a bill in some form, that the new/reorganized leadership under House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) were slapped down by the Tea Party faction. A closed meeting called by Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) killed the bill the leadership introduced, pegged at \$1.7bn. That 11 members of the Tea Party faction could kill a bill their own leadership introduced was one for the books.

All that was that was before the August recess.

Now in September Congress is scheduled to meet for a total of about twenty days until the November midterms. You gotta love those working hours for a “do-nothing Congress” to ensure it does nothing. Staggeringly stupid, but it’s Speaker John Boehner’s (R-OH) Congress to call the schedule as he sees it. On his head be it.

#### Ferguson

Michael Brown—a black teenager—was shot dead in broad daylight in the middle of a street by a white police officer in a predominantly (67%) black suburb of St Louis, Ferguson. He was shot six times—twice in the head—which for standing in the middle of the road with his hands raised in surrender is an extreme outcome.

The Ferguson police department has exactly three black police officers in department that has 50 personnel. Essentially the status quo is a white police department exercising authority over a black community. If it was barely tolerated before Mr. Brown was shot, it’s not anymore. The community doesn’t trust the Ferguson Police or the Missouri State Police.

The local PD was ill equipped to reach out to a community mistrustful of white law enforcement. When asked about law enforcement out-

reach, the Ferguson Police Chief could only stammer a way through an answer, but essentially no, his department doesn’t do that.

It didn’t take much before social media went ballistic and angry Ferguson residents took to the streets. The hashtag #HandsUpDon’tShoot went national and the situation got out of hand.

The police department brought in its SWAT/military unit and ordered the demonstrators to disperse. When they refused, police opened up on the demonstrators with stun grenades and tear gas and for successive nights since August 8—when Mr. Brown was shot—rioting and looting intensified.

President Obama on August 12 offered his “deepest condolences” to the family and community. The President said that the 18-year-old’s death has “prompted strong passions” but urged people to remember Brown, through “reflection and understanding.”

“I know the events of the past few days have prompted strong passions, but as details unfold, I urge everyone in Ferguson, Missouri, and across the country, to remember this young man through reflection and understanding,” Obama said.

“We should comfort each other and talk with one another in a way that heals, not in a way that wounds. Along with our prayers, that’s what Michael and his family, and our broader American community, deserve.”

But his intention was short-lived because CCTV footage was released which purported to show Mr. Brown stealing from a convenience store. The video was released three days after the shooting and set off the rioting yet again. The rioting didn’t subside as authorities expected, and it ended with a nightly curfew being imposed over the weekend.

The Sunday talk shows on August 17 devoted half of their programming to the situation in Ferguson and what should be done to ease tension and rebuild community trust in authorities. Not a lot of answers to address the fury of residents. Missouri Governor Jay Nixon (R-MO) denounced the release of the video, but it was too little too late.

That said, on August 18, the Governor ended the curfew but called



out the National Guard, the wisdom of which elevated the last week of anger and violence to the level of a major conflict in the national psyche. If memory of the Watts riots in LA and DC riots in 1968 have faded over the years, Ferguson was a jarring reminder that history can repeat itself, turning instantly in the blink of an eye.

President Obama came out immediately for a second time to remind the Governor that the National Guard is there to aid in bringing calm to the community, not to exacerbate the anger. In so doing, he distanced his administration from consequences that could arise from the tension of armed troops patrolling the streets.

Mr. Obama told reporters at the White House that he had talked to Mr. Nixon and expressed “an interest in making sure that if in fact the National Guard is used, it is used in a limited and appropriate way.”

“I’ll be watching over the next several days, to assess whether, in fact, it’s helping rather than hindering progress in Ferguson,” Mr. Obama said. Meaning he’s going to be hands-on as much as protocol allows—federal-state jurisdiction without publicly interfering in a state issue.

In that vein the US Attorney-General Eric Holder travelled to Ferguson on Wednesday, August 20. He joined Ronald Davis, the director of the Justice Department’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, who was on the ground Tuesday, August 19 to work with police officials.

At time of writing emotions were still high and the community mood was not conciliatory. On top of that a second black man was killed in St Louis. Police were quick to justify the killing, saying that officers have the right to defend themselves. This man threatened police with a knife and taunted the officers to kill him. We will see how this plays out.

#### Iraq: Chaos anyone?

Iraq unraveling is the President’s current foreign policy dilemma and while this was set well before he came to office in 2009, he is being blamed for not doing enough to over the last two years to “make things right”. Pity but this is where it is today.

First the good news is that the impasse between Nouri al-Maliki and the rest of the Iraqi national government was resolved with the former Prime Minister handing in his resignation. He wasn’t going to go but in the end his Shiite allies—the Shia Clerics—deserted him for a candidate for Prime Minister who is perceived as moderate Shiite—is there such a thing?

Haidar al-Abadi is the new Prime Minister of Iraq. Mr. al-Abadi

is an outsider in that he was in exile for a major part of Saddam Hussein’s dictatorship, so his Shiite connections within the clerical hierarchy in Iraq is at best distant. He’s an Ahmed Chalabi cohort who figured on coming in and governing Iraq on behalf of us and the Coalition of the Willing with cheering crowds welcoming the new occupiers. They were laughed out of the room actually when they tried to take power and we ended up with L. Paul Bremer as viceroy and all the hell that his reign brought.

The odds on Mr. al-Abadi wresting control of Iraq’s Kurds and Sunnis, not to mention his Shiite majority in Baghdad, are long. A very long shot in that it would require a declared period of calm and Mr. al-Abadi doesn’t have that.

It’s clear to this writer that the Sunnis won’t stand for Shiite governance much longer and this is because Saudi Arabia—the Wahabi House of Saud—is now actively interfering in Iraq’s domestic affairs. It’s the major financier of the ISIL/ISIS/the Islamic State. Which leads me to the bad news.

#### The Saudis & the Islamic State

The Islamic State/ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and Levant) is well anchored, flush with money and foreigners willing to fight the jihad. The Saudis finance these terrorists for the most part. Bahrain and some other Persian Gulf emirates are also providing money.

If ever there was a state to hold responsible for the horrific execution/beheading of the GlobalPost journalist James Foley, it would be the Kingdom of the House of Saud. The misapprehension about Saudi Arabia is that because it is pro-Western in its outlook, it is thought to be a moderate Islamic republic. Saudi Arabia is a Wahabi Sunni Islamic state. Politically, it’s a state of fanatics that actually make Iran look like a picture of moderate Islamic tolerance.

Wahabis don’t allow women to drive and they make sure by using their secret police that women stay three steps behind the men when walking in public. They actually don’t like us having a military presence on their soil but rather they see it as matter of expediency and up until recently what kept the Saudis on our side was that their enemies were ours.

That Saudi influence in Washington is both influential and powerful. In DC when you go looking for the Saudi Embassy, it’s the big building opposite the Watergate apartments overlooking the Potomac. No mansion on embassy row in the DC exclusive Northwest for the Wahabis. It’s the largest embassy in DC and you can’t approach it without a security officer approaching before you get to the door to ask you what your business is with the Kingdom. Right now our relations with the Saudis are strained.

The Saudis financed the Islamic State in part to demonstrate its anger toward the United States, that President Obama did not act on his drawing the red line in the sand when it came to actively entering into the fight against the Assad regime in Syria.

Then, the problem President Obama had with the coup by the Egyptian army of the democratically elected government of Mohammad Morsy, and the Obama Administration’s general reluctance to support the \$15bn IMF loan to finance Egypt when current President Fattah al-Sisi

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took power, just exacerbated our relationship. The Kingdom had to step up and bankroll this inept regime. The generally incompetent Egyptian government is hemorrhaging money with few foreign/tourist dollars coming in. While the pyramids may allure tourists, many western governments have posted caution flags and are telling people to stay away. That has to do with the incarceration and trumped up evidence by Egyptian authorities against three Aljazeera journalists who were sentenced to seven-ten years when they came to report on the Muslim Brotherhood last year.

The Islamic State is a Saudi manifestation, and stopping this hydra is going to be much harder than setting it into motion. That it's the Saudis who have made the Islamic State the ruthless and bloodthirsty fighters/terrorists is not mentioned in the mainstream US press. This is due to our strategic and national interests.

Our dependence on Saudi oil and our military air bases (such as the Prince Sultan Air base in Al Khar, the main reason for Osama bin Laden's initial anger at us) are why the Saudis are never held to account by the numerous administrations over the years. Also, we continue to backpedal on the fact that 15 of the 19 terrorists who flew planes into the World Trade Center on 9/11 were Saudis.

We weren't watching when ISIL (Islamic State for Iraq and Levant) started out as one of many groups fighting the Assad regime in Syria in 2012. Nobody questioned the new Toyota trucks used by ISIL, nor that the sophisticated armaments weren't being supplied from the usual AK-47 arms depots in Egypt, nor that the up-to-date RPGs and surface-to-air

missiles they were using in Syria with much success were not coming from the US or Europe weapons manufacturers. Nobody gave much attention to the fact that ISIL wasn't joining the Syrian National Council—the political arm of Syria's opposition to Assad—nor the Syria Free Army which in comparison were bumbling, arguing incompetents.

As they have eliminated the old imperial borders between Syria and northwestern Iraq, and spurred on by their relatively spectacular success taking over major Iraqi cities, ISIL is an effective fighting force. While not a juggernaut, it's formidable, and bombing by drones or by fighter jets isn't going to halt their advance.

Their agenda in Iraq is to place a Wahabi/Sharia regime in leadership of Iraq. Because—as they say—they are fighting on fronts not borders they can melt into the Sunni cities in Anbar Province at will. They are hard targets to eliminate.

They are supported by the Iraqi Sunni clans who made their pact with the Saudi sinners because they weren't getting their grievances heard in Baghdad under al-Maliki. They may actually have ensured their own destruction. Sunni clans who are moderates both politically and religiously telling the Islamic State to cease and desist—to turn on and off like a spigot—are engaged in wishful thinking.

The Saudis want Iraq as their sphere of influence. They want a form of control in Baghdad or wherever the Sunnis have their center of control. They want the threat of Iran (whom they see as their mortal foe due largely to the role the Islamic Republic is playing supporting Assad and the

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



by Ish

**1/ The Great Magician:** Set in 1920s Beijing a group of talented performers gather to show off their skills. There is a challenge to reproduce a magic trick called the Eight Immortals. ★★★★★

**2/ Mortal Transfer:** In this foreign but comic thriller a psychoanalyst falls asleep during one of his patient's sessions and awakens to her dead body on the couch. He commences to have to deal with the body and the possibility that he could be the killer. ★★★★★

**3/ Samuel Bleak:** In this Indie drama a child runaway surfaces nearly 20 years later, mute and living in the woods. His return leads to a larger mystery. ★★★★★

**4/ Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins:** In this action comedy a street-smart NYC cop, Remo Williams, is given a new face and identity and recruited into a secret organization that finds powerful crooks. With the help of a mischievous martial arts trainer Remo will become the agency's arm of justice. ★★★★★

**5/ A Late Quartet:** In this Indie drama, starring Christopher Walken and Philip Seymour Hoffman, tempers flare and old jealousies catch fire while new passions are sparked when the members of a world-renowned string quartet are preparing to celebrate their 25th anniversary. They find out their leader has to step down due to a ominous medical diagnosis. ★★★★★

Hezbollah fighters in Syria) neutralized, or they want to ensure that there is a sufficient buffer that their Wahabi state cannot be threatened. So it's horrific and hostile.

### President orders air strikes in Iraq

On August 7, President Obama ordered fighter and drone strikes to help a humanitarian effort to rescue what they thought were 40,000 Yazidis/Christians atop a mountain in northeastern Iraq. They were surrounded by the Islamic State who had threatened them to become Muslims or die. There were 35 sorties as food and water were airdropped on to the mountain.

Subsequently, it was found that most of the 40,000 had either left the mountain and fled to Kurdish-controlled Syria or liked living on the mountain. After a week President Obama called it off, declaring success. However the air/drone strikes continue, specifically to support the Iraqi Kurdish army. The one operation at time of writing was the recapture of the Mosul Dam—which holds back the largest body of fresh water for Iraq—from the Islamic State. The fight has been going back and forth and currently the Kurds have regained control of the dam. But in coming days nothing is secure in Iraq.

Does it mean we are re-engaging in Iraq? No, not for now. But we'll see how long it lasts. The midterms loom and military engagements are political expediency right now.

### The Gaza narrative

The Gaza death toll now stands at 2000+, some 12,000 wounded and 500,000 homeless due to Israeli bombing in a populated area as crowded as

the German city of Dresden when the Allies bombed it in February 1945. True, the Israeli bombing of Gaza wasn't the carpet bombing of unarmed populace as with Dresden, but the righteous annihilation of innocents (because they can't find where Hamas and other groups stockpile their rockets) has lost the Jewish state much international support.

In fact, the only reason that Israel is observing the cease fire so that negotiations can be conducted indirectly between Hamas and Israel (the Israelis won't meet Hamas representatives face to face, with Egyptian reps acting as the go-betweens) is because world opinion about Israel is dropping like a stone.

At time of writing the second cease fire period started August 11 as a 72-hour ceasefire, later was expanded to an additional five days and now is extended for another 24 hours. But if there is agreement then the attacks will begin again and it's more likely than not. For a permanent peace, Hamas has to agree to demilitarize the Gaza Strip—which it really cannot do because of other Israeli factions present there. On the other hand, Israel has to agree to allow free access to a major supply route between Egypt and Gaza at the Rafah border crossing—which they're not likely to do.

Meanwhile Israel's UN Ambassador on August 18 was busy trying to "win hearts and minds" by proffering documents for the western press which state that Hamas has instructed that children be held hostage to hide weapon stashes. It's sort of spurious because Israel still kills them whether they are hostages or not.

And the beat goes on.

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# 2014 Colorado General Election ballot measures

## *Labeling of GMO's (maybe), personhood (again), gambling & open meetings*

by Lisa Cyriacks

The 2014 election ballot has shaped up to be a “below-average” year for ballot initiatives. There are currently four ballot questions approved to be voted on by Colorado voters. An average number of six measures have appeared annually on the ballot since 1996.

Currently on the ballot is Amendment 67, “Colorado Definition of Person and Child Initiative”. If approved by the voters, the measure would include unborn human beings under the definition of person and child in the Colorado criminal code including fetuses in all areas of law. Personhood Colorado, which sponsored the initiative, turned in over 140,000 signatures, surpassing the 86,105 required signatures by a significant margin.

The second measure on the ballot is the “Colorado Horse Racetrack Limited Gaming Proceeds for K-12 Education Amendment”. The measure, if approved, would establish an education fund to address local educational needs. The fund would be capitalized through additional revenues generated by expanded gaming such as slot machines, card games, roulette and craps at horse racetracks in Arapahoe, Mesa, and Pueblo Counties.

Gambling revenue taxes are

not currently allocated specifically to K-12 education. Instead, these taxes are allocated to local communities, historic preservation, community colleges, tourism promotion and the state’s general fund. Gambling revenues in Colorado are subject to a graduated tax with a maximum assessment of 20%. In 2013 this came to approximately \$104.3 million. Colorado legalized casinos in 1990 and as of 2013 had 41 operating casinos employing 9,278 people.

The third measure is “Colorado School Board Open Meetings Initiative”. This initiative would require that meetings during which collective bargaining negotiations or employment contract negotiations take place in meetings be open to the public. The ballot question was approved by the Secretary of State’s office August 13 after proponents submitted 129,850 signatures.

On August 20 the Secretary of State certified the fourth measure on the ballot “Colorado Mandatory Labeling of GMOs”. The measure would require any raw, processed, or prepackaged commodity that has been produced using genetic modification to include on the label: “Produced with genetic engineering.” The law would go into effect beginning January 1, 2016.

Colorado Right to Know de-

livered 167,950 signatures—almost twice the required amount of 86,105—on August 5 to the Secretary of State’s office for verification.

Foods from animals that are not genetically modified but have been fed or injected with genetically modified food or drugs are exempt, as are unpackaged foods for immediate consumption, alcoholic beverages, food for animals and medically prescribed foods.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment would be responsible for regulating the labeling under the proposed statute.

It is estimated that more than 80% of processed foods contain genetically engineered ingredients, primarily from GMO corn, soy, canola, cotton, sugar beets and other GMO crops. In a July 2013 *New York Times* survey, 93% of respondents support GMO labeling. More than 64 other countries require mandatory labeling of GMO food. If approved to the ballot, Colorado joins more than two dozen other states calling for GMO labeling legislation.

Withdrawn from this year’s ballot were four oil- and gas-related amendments. Signatures for measures were submitted August 4, but as part of a compromise brokered by Governor John Hickenlooper and US Represent-

ative Jarod Polis, the initiatives were withdrawn from the Colorado Secretary of State.

The measures were at the heart of a costly political battle over whether local governments should have more control over oil and gas activity in Colorado, which is currently managed by the state Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. The deal also calls for the state to withdraw its lawsuit against the City of Longmont. Longmont two years ago had passed zoning ordinances limiting oil and gas activity in residential areas. The state had sued the city contending that it had superseded its authority.

The other pivotal part of the compromise entails the formation of an 18-person task force charged with making recommendations to the legislature to help minimize land use conflicts that can occur when siting oil and gas facilities near homes, schools, businesses and recreational areas. The task force will include six residents and local officials; six people from industry, including oil and gas, homebuilders and agriculture; and six “respected Coloradans.” La Plata County Commissioner Gwen Lachelt and XTO Energy President Randy Cleveland will chair the task force.

## Crestone tax adjustments

*continued from page 1*

the state almost two years ago. Property owners who did not file a protest but are impacted by the decision will receive a notice of determination advising them of the change in value.

On August 4 the Town of Crestone trustees received a letter from the county commissioners that acknowledged the importance of finding a long-term solution to valuing property in Crestone fairly—despite a history of insufficient comparable sales. The commissioners: “Otherwise, whether next year, or in 3 years or 5, we’ll be visited with the same situation again and again.”

The letter speaks to the commissioners’ contention that “speculative, high-end property purchases and development skew property values up dramatically for everyone,” creating a disparity between actual values and those reflected by purchasers who, for one reason or another, pay more than a property is actually worth.

In addition the commissioners in their letter encouraged the town to develop its own land use mechanisms that influence property values and ultimately taxes, as one possible solution. For a second time, the commissioners offered a work session to the town in order to explore this approach.

The commissioners also expressed their deep concern about the local impacts of the state’s reevaluation on the local economy. A second proposed solution suggested was to approach the state legislature to approve a tiered taxation plan to equalize local taxes as had happened historically in the early days of the Baca Grande.

Jason Anderson, County Commissioner for Crestone/Baca, explains his thoughts on the decision, “After one year of education, I have a better understanding of the process—especially that the Board of Equalization has more leeway under the statutes than the assessor does. Before I did not realize that I could take into consideration the impact of tax increases on the Town of Crestone. Basically, I do not want to say to my constituents that if they have the money to go to court, then we will lower your tax rate (valuation). After we settled the lawsuit, accepting those values, then we have better reasons to give the State Board of Equalization for our decisions.”

County Assessor Jackie Stephens clarified the process that will be triggered by the steps taken in the protest hearings: “The decision made on August 1st does not automatically affect the 2013 abatements. The Board of Equalization will be scheduling a hearing on those soon.”

The decision to revise all lots in Crestone will be turned over to the state on August 25. Stephens expects to be contacted by Wildrose Appraisers who are conducting the

2014 audit of Saguache County property values which is due to be completed September 15.

In their letter to the Town of Crestone, the county commissioners explain that they have asked any state-ordered appraisal, due to non-compliance, be conducted as part of the normal 2015 reappraisal schedule, under the direction of the county assessor.

Jason Anderson’s comment when asked what he would say to the incoming county assessor regarding 2015 assessments, “That the appraisals be thorough, consistent and fair is of vital importance if we are to address the problem at its root.”

In Resolution 2014-1 by the Saguache County Board of Equalization (Rec. No. 376902), the Board acknowledged the role played by the Saguache County District Court Case 2013 CV 30024. From the Resolution: “WHEREAS, the Board has had the opportunity to review and consider the information provided as part of the appeal filed by certain property owners in Saguache District Court Case 2013 CV 30024, information by property owners protesting their 2014 valuations, and other information obtained by the Board in discussions with the Colorado State Board of Equalization . . .”

The Resolution goes on to read: “At the meeting on August 1, 2014, the Board of Equalization determined that the value of the properties located in the commercial zone of the Town of Crestone

are not properly valued at \$36,875 for 50 foot lots . . . that the value for residential property located in the Town of Crestone are not properly valued at \$7,000 for 50 foot lots . . .”

The Resolution then instructs Jackie Stephens, the County Assessor, to set the following values for the 2014 tax year in the Town of Crestone:

Commercial 25 foot lots @ \$6,250.00 (were \$20,000)

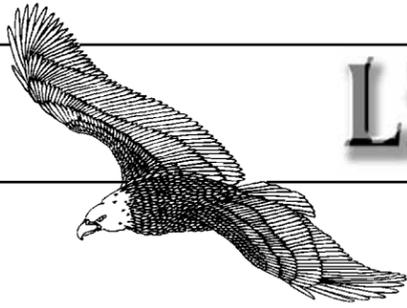
Commercial 50 foot lots @ \$12,500.00 (were \$40,000)

Residential 25 foot lots @ \$1,818.75 (were \$3,500)

Residential 50 foot lots @ \$3,637.50 (were \$7,000)

The motion to pass the Resolution was made by Commissioner Jason Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Linda Joseph; they both voted in favor of the Resolution and Commissioner Ken Anderson voted against the Resolution.

Elaine Johnson said, “I still believe that, if they did the valuations correctly throughout Saguache County, they would add an incredible number of improvements to the tax roll, the values across the county would be more fairly equalized, more tax revenue would be generated, and, it would probably pass the audit! If changing values for a small number of lots in the Town of Crestone to make them more consistent with Colorado law and the true fair market values causes the county fail an audit, then the focus needs to be on the remaining thousands of lots throughout the rest of the county.”



# Living on the Earth

## Baca National Wildlife Refuge to open visitor center

by Larry Joseph Calloway

The Baca National Wildlife Refuge is coming out of rehab. It's going cautiously public, without enough money.

A 3,300-square-foot visitor center with a striking view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains is under construction at the historic Baca Ranch headquarters. And the long-considered 15-year management plan will become available this month for the final 60 days of public comment.

Called a Comprehensive Conservation Plan, it will propose some trails and roads for wildlife viewing and hunting. A preliminary map shows a one-mile trail at the visitor center taking in North and South Crestone Creeks and two short walking loops taking in Cottonwood Creek. A horseback trail starts near the Baca Grande Stables. Interpretive viewpoints are marked along the subdivision border and elsewhere. A motor vehicle touring road, with a spur to the old Cottonwood Creek cow camp, follows a dog-leg route between County Road T and Colorado Highway 17.

For 11 years since acquisition of the ranch, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has kept it closed



Corrina Hanson is a biologist and law enforcement officer on the refuge.  
photo by Larry Calloway

to the public. With added parcels it is now 92,500 acres joining Great Sand Dunes National Park. During the decade the agency, on a limited budget, has studied what it acquired. It has gotten a good start on rehabilitation of a wild environment modified by more than a century of livestock production. This process has been gradual because, for example, if you suddenly eliminate hay fields and grazing, the first opportunists at the door will be non-native plants called "invasive species."

Ron Garcia, manager of the Baca refuge, discussed some fea-

tures of the plan and its associated environmental impact statement before they were released. In a mid-August talk, one of several given on summer tours for local residents, he focused on two probably controversial issues: hunting and bison.

Rifle seasons will be restricted to the center third of the refuge that includes Deadman Creek. Hunting in the north will be limited to bow and black-powder specialists. Big and small game seasons will be observed, but the primary targets for



Ron Garcia, Manager of the Baca National Wildlife Refuge.  
photo by Dave Miller

regulated hunting will be elk.

Over-population by elk is an environmental problem on the refuge because they eat streamside willows and cottonwood sprouts. Twelve high-fence "exclosures" have been built to protect riparian areas, but these are only a fraction of the 21 miles of streams in the refuge. The elk population is too dense, and it apparently did not exist during the cattle-growing decades. The number of males is about 40 in 100, while 20 in 100 is normal.

So hunting would help cull the elk. Introducing predator wolves was rejected because the refuge is in the middle of a large agricultural area, Garcia said. A Crestone opponent of hunting confronted the leader of a Salida hunting group during Garcia's talk, asking the hunter if he would mind shooting propagation-sterilizing darts instead of bullets. He shot down the idea.

The Nature Conservancy keeps about 1700 buffalo on the well-fenced 6,600-acre Medano Ranch, which is to become part of the wildlife refuge. Under the management plan the animals will



Wetlands deep in the refuge extend for 5 miles.

photo by Larry Calloway

have to be removed, except for a small group for research purposes. The American bison is a native of the plains, but the thundering herds were only periodic visitors to the San Luis Valley, and they would "clean up and move on," according to Garcia. "We don't want to become a bison refuge," he said.

Earlier in the summer Garcia put a cow's skull on a post to illustrate the derivation of the Baca name. Cabeza de Baca (or Vaca) was the full heraldic surname of Jose Maria Baca of New Mexico, the recipient of the 1864 Congressional land grant for which the ranch (appropriated by Colorado Anglos)

is named. The bleached skull also symbolized something else (to me): that the era of legendary cattle ranches is history.

The skull-white empty buildings at the ranch headquarters and the silent cattle sales barn down the road will probably attract as many visitors as the wildlife and vistas, and the Fish and Wildlife Service intends to preserve the oldest buildings as historic properties. This is not the main mandate of the agency, charged with enhancing wildlife, but it would be negligence to ignore this resource. Two buildings predating Crestone are adobe, and the design of the visitor center reflects their unique portales.

A permanent exhibit of artifacts offered by Bob Bunker, a self-described cowboy who worked on the ranch for 21 years, will include Clovis points, Basketmaker bone needles as well as typical plains arrowheads. Bunker led one of the summer tours, reciting lore that otherwise would be forgotten. There are indentations, for example, in one early building that he said were rifle portals in case of Indian raids.

Bunker took a group to one

of the old cow camps where there was a clapboard house and sorting pens, but not a moo to be heard. Bunker explained that in the old days each cowboy was responsible for about 1,000 cattle, grazing in the spring on the valley floor and in the mountains in the summer and fed hay at the cow camps in winter. Bunker said he seldom got off his horse during the day and when he rode the high country, "I could go three months and not meet another soul."

The tour led by biologist Corrina Hanson was about invasive species. These include white tops, Canada thistle, salt cedar, toad flax, cheat grass, bindweed, kosha, and others. One secret weapon against some species has been sheep. If they are moved quickly they will eat only certain leaves and forbs. Cows eat grass.

The refuge, Crestone's "front yard," looks dry and boring from a high distance, but it is distinctly divided between the "sand sheet" uplands and the lower wetlands, two rich Darwinian worlds.

Hanson began her tour at the prairie-dog town that flanks Road T and sprawls along both sides of what will be the access road to the visitor center. They are of the Gunnison species that occurs only in this region. In the dry environment of rabbit brush and bunch grass live ground-nesting birds including sparrows and mourning doves. We even saw some burrowing owls. Holes in the ground, nests covered by brush or grass and camouflage are critical for protection in these parts. The predators (besides humans) include an air force of Swainson's hawks, red tail hawks and surprisingly abundant golden eagles, plus "paws on the ground" of coyotes. Adjoining all this war-riving life, we saw fields of tall Rocky Mountain bee plants visited by hundreds of hummingbirds.

The refuge's remote wetlands comprise playas, which are natural ponds, and wet meadows where the six creeks that pour into the refuge from the mountains, some diverted through ditches, settle and sink. Here are the splashiest birds—among them, red wing blackbirds,

continued on page B-7

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Before you start funding an emergency savings account, determine how much you need to set aside each payday to cover living expenses for an extended length of time. Women in their 50s or 60s are more likely to face rising health-care costs and longer lengths of unemployment in the event of job loss. Aim to save six months to a year's worth of expenses for long-term emergency savings, and \$1,000 to \$2,000 for immediate emergency savings.

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### 2014 Crestone Music Festival

Aventa was a proud sponsor of the 2014 Crestone Music Festival and was on hand with our new Mobile Branch with ATM. We enjoyed talking to the festivalgoers about Aventa's products and services and handing out goodies such as fans, backpacks, water bottles and more. Aventa CEO, Mr. Greg Mills, also presented a \$500 music education scholarship to one local student. Thank you to all who attended the festival and we look forward to seeing you again next year!



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by Kim Malville

Overhead in the August evenings is the super-constellation known as the Summer Triangle. It consists of three of the brightest stars of the northern skies: Vega, which is directly overhead at 9pm in early September; Altair, below it to the south; and Deneb to the northeast. Each one of these stars is the brightest of its own constellation: Lyra (Vega), Aquilla (Altair) and Cygnus (Deneb). The Milky Way flows past these constellations. Deneb is in the tail feathers of Cygnus the Swan, which is flying to the south along the Milky Way.

**September 22:** Autumnal equinox at 8:29pm MDT.

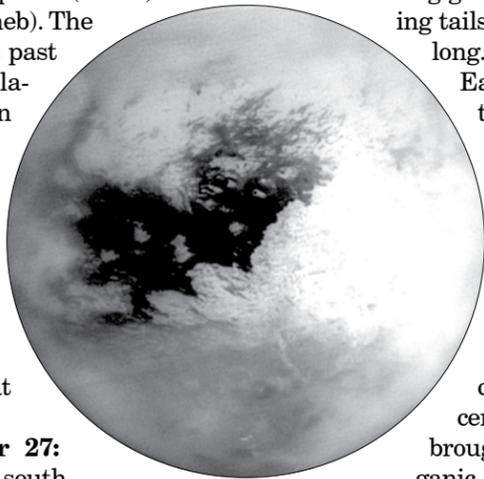
**September 27:** At dusk, in the southwestern skies, Mars passes close to Antares, the red heart of Scorpius. The two have about the same ruddy color, but Mars will be a little brighter. Also in the same area of the sky look for the crescent moon and Saturn. It should be a nice show.

**September 28 and 29:** Get outside again on these two nights and look to the southwest. The crescent moon passes Mars and Antares.

**Rosetta and its comet**

Last month I wrote about Rosetta approaching its "holy grail" in the darkness of interplanetary space. It was an amazing piece of navigation and celestial mechanics when, after ten years of flight, the Rosetta space craft met up with a distant comet on August 6. The orbit of the comet and path of the space craft were calculated with extraordinary precision. Why is it so wonderful to rendezvous with a tiny comet? On its pitch-black flanks and icy interior, this comet contains memories

of the ancient days in our solar system. Planets have changed and evolved, continents have drifted, mountains have eroded, but comets remain frozen in time, unchanged for 4.5 billion years. They are as black as coal because they are covered by dark tar-like carbon compounds. Only where there is a gap in the coating does gas evaporate to



The dark waters of Shangri-La on Titan. The dark area is called Shangri-La, a lake of liquefied methane. photo courtesy of NASA

become gigantic plumes forming tails millions of miles long. The oceans of Earth, as well as those that once covered Venus, may have been formed by comets. We don't know how much of our water on Earth came from comets, but it is certain is that they brought complex organic molecules such as amino acids to the earth. Comets could have been the triggers for life on Earth.

This particular comet was discovered in 1967 by two astronomers at the Kiev Astronomical Observatory, Klim Churyumov and Svetlana Gerasimenko, for whom it is now named: 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. 67P means it's number 67 on a list of short period comets. The comet orbits the sun every 6.45 years and spins on its axis every 12.7 hours. Kudos to Ukraine!

Rosetta has not yet been captured by the gravity of the comet and is firing its thrusters to execute a series of triangular paths bringing it closer and closer to the comet. On October 7, it will be within 18 miles of the comet, at which time it is hoped that the gravity of the comet will kick in, and its orbit will become circular. Thrusters will be used to lower it to 12 miles, where it should orbit the comet at the same rate it is spinning, like a geosynchronous satellite,

keeping Rosetta always above its sunlit side. These new photographs are stunning. Dust has apparently settled into the valley between the two blobs and there apparently has been an avalanche, which carried large rocks into that valley.

**The oceans & sand dunes of Titan**

Another space craft, Cassini, has been trolling the space around Saturn for seven years. Among other spectacular discoveries, it has found seven new moons, bringing Saturn's family to 62 named moons. Titan is the largest and the second largest moon in the solar system, after Jupiter's moon Ganymede. Titan is the only other world in the entire solar system with liquid lakes and oceans. Interestingly, these are not oceans of water, but liquid nitrogen. Titan is bitter cold. Receiving only 1% of the sunlight that Earth receives, its temperature is -292°F. Its nitrogen-based weather creates surface features similar to those of Earth: sand dunes, eroded river beds and river deltas.

Titan is one of the few other spots in our solar system that could host some form of life. The chances of any form of life ever existed on this brutally cold world seem low. However, Cassini has recently detected polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) in its atmosphere. These complex molecules could have been the foundation for more complex biological molecules. Both good and bad, they come in many forms: one PAH is a carcinogen in cigarette smoke

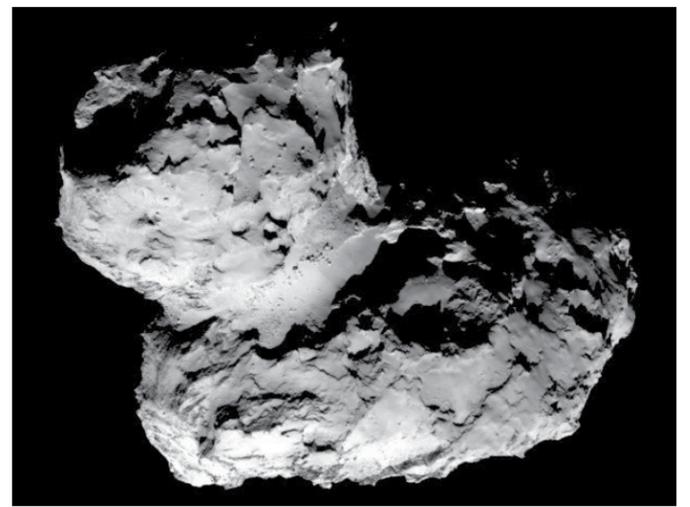
Titan has sand dunes, great sand dunes, in fact. They are up to 300 ft high and hundreds of miles long. Powerful winds that produced dunes are the result of tidal forces from Saturn on Titan's atmosphere. These tides are 400 times stronger than the tidal forces of the Moon on Earth. As the atmospheric tides raise the atmosphere, low pressure areas are created, pulling winds toward the equator. This wind pattern causes sand dunes to build up in long



The neck of the comet: a truly alien world. photo courtesy of European Space Agency

parallel lines aligned, as you might expect, west-to-east. The sand on Titan is not made up of small grains of silicates like the sand on Earth, but instead is formed when liquid methane rains pour down on water ice bedrock, eroding small away tiny pellets of ice covered with soil.

Just recently hints of waves sloshing on Titan's oceans have been found by Cassini. Titan has oceans



Out of the darkness it appeared: the comet as seen by Rosetta from a distance of 60 miles. photo courtesy of European Space Agency

at its poles and scattered lakes at the equator, of which Shangri-La is one of the largest. It is one-third the size of Great Salt Lake and is filled with liquid methane, some three to five feet deep. Liquid methane is thick and viscous, like molasses, and doesn't easily budge. Strong winds are necessary to move the thick black liquid around. Possible reflections of radar signals off of waves on one of its oceans were recently detected by the Cassini spacecraft. However, don't see your travel agent quite yet: it's not a surfer's paradise. The waves reach terrifying heights of three-quarters of an inch.

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# State Engineer Rules Committee—water flow is up, but so are curtailments

by *Bea Ferrigno*

Division 3 Engineer Craig Cotten opened the August 14 rules committee meeting with a report of increasing flows, and increasing curtailments, on both the Rio Grande and Conejos rivers. Although the Rio Grande was flowing at 620,000 acre feet or 95% of its long term normal in mid-August, due to Rio Grande Compact (RGC) provisions, 170,000 acre feet were being passed to downstream states. The delivery obligation was 27% of the flow at Del Norte, but due to return flows below Manassa, the curtailment was only 15%. The Conejos was flowing at 235,000 acre feet or 71% of its longterm normal, but the downstream obligation was 66,000 acre feet or 47%, a difficult situation. Because RGC obligations are first determined by the estimated flow on April 1, inaccurate forecasts can lead to changes in curtailments through the growing season. A peculiarity of the RGC is that higher flows result in less water available for use in the valley. The September-November precipitation outlook, however, was for better than average rainfall.

In what may turn out to be the penultimate advisory committee meeting, State Engineer Dick Wolfe stepped through revisions to the draft rules, many of which were for clarity and consistency. Discussion centered

on the determination of the composite water head (CWH) which will be assessed in each response area (RA) by means of mostly existing and some new wells that will monitor the pressure of the artesian (deep) aquifer. The measurements from each well will be weighted according to the ratio of each well area to the extent of each RA in order to determine the CWH.

The CWH, besides being required under the legislation that enables groundwater rules, will be used to evaluate whether a sustainable level is being established by specified timelines. The measurements will be taken outside the irrigation season, in February and March. Once several years of measurements are recorded, the Rio Grande Decision Support System (the "model") will be used to calculate what the CWH was between 1978 and 2000, the period selected by the legislature to represent sustainable aquifers. At present, there are insufficient well records to determine that level.

The monitoring network is expected to be in place by next March. The CWH will be established for each response area and must improve by a five-year checkpoint. If it does not increase, pumping must be reduced to levels—presumably their average—recorded between 1978 and 2000. A similar benchmark is set for 10 years

to supplement limited data from the confined aquifer; in years 11-20, the CWH must be maintained at least three years in 10; and in year 20, an "absolute sustainability requirement" must be met.

The procedure of looking back each year over a 10-year period to find three qualified years evoked several questions; it will be clarified at the next round, perhaps with a chart or graph.

In other discussions, Leroy Salazar, a member of the peer review team which is making final refinements to the model, observed that the legislated period selected to represent sustainable aquifers may have been based on a faulty assumption and might not be "the right target, especially in light of climate change." Assistant State Engineer Mike Sullivan explained that the 1978-2000 period was selected because it included a full range of climate conditions. Still, Salazar noted that a more robust database is needed for that period, also that the question might eventually have to be referred to the legislature.

Steve Vandiver, manager of the Rio Grande Water Conservation District, raised the point that in subdistrict 1 the opportunity to overpay depletions actually exists. He would like the rules to provide a way to credit subdistricts for over-restoration of

their depletions. Apparently this situation arises from the disparity between actual runoff and predicted conditions. The possibility of water replacement credit swaps was mentioned. Wolfe remarked that he would prefer to see this handled in the sub-district's annual replacement plan in order to leave more flexibility in the actual rules.

One last rules committee meeting may take place later this month, after which the rules will be submitted to water court. Then there will be a 60-day period for objections, which can also be supportive remarks. Wolfe would like to streamline the process by addressing objections or new ideas and arriving at stipulations, thus avoiding a trial, as happened in Division 2. If this approach succeeds, the rules could be implemented next year.

## Rio Grande Basin Roundtable to meet in Saguache

There is no Rio Grande Roundtable report this month because the August meeting was cancelled. The September meeting will be held in Saguache on Tuesday, the 9th, from 2 to 5 pm at the County Road and Bridge building, 305 Third Street.

## BLM meets in Crestone, offers tour of Saguache solar site

by *Bea Ferrigno*

The Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) met at the Crestone Charter School on August 20. Among items of local interest were discussions of three areas within the San Luis Valley slated for solar development. Workshops and tours are scheduled to offer information and receive public input for mitigation plans. On September 8, starting from Saguache Road and Bridge, there will be a tour of De Tilla Gulch east of Saguache at 3pm, followed by an open house back at Saguache R&B from 4 to 6:30. Additional tours and workshops will be held in Antonito on September 9, Alamosa on the 10th, and Romeo on the 11th. The Alamosa event is an all-day workshop on landscape assessment and solar mitigation. RSVPs are requested to SolarMitigation@blm.gov. Further in-

formation is at [www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/slvfo/solar.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/slvfo/solar.html).

During the discussion on solar mitigation, County Commissioner Jason Anderson spoke in favor of pending federal legislation that would provide benefits to local areas from development of renewable energy generation and provide for better law enforcement on public lands. He mentioned that local providers are not well compensated for their services and suggested that legislation to change the situation needs to be passed before there is much more development on public lands. Paul Tigan of the BLM SLV field office added that public land royalties go to the federal government and trickle back, but there is no logical connection to PILT (payments in lieu of taxes).

Other federal land agencies in the area presented updates of their activities. Ron Garcia, acting direc-

tor of the San Luis Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, explained that unlike the Monte Vista and Alamosa refuges, which are multiple use areas, the Baca NWR has a single mandate for wildlife habitat so any other uses must be compatible. Thus the BNWR is closed to the public until it can be demonstrated that public uses won't affect the wildlife there. Certain activities that are dependent on wildlife are permitted, for instance interpretation, observation, photography, hunting, and environmental education. Grazing is used to manage weeds and grass on refuge lands and an interim elk management plan is in place until the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (due in draft this month) is complete.

Other announcements and discussions included reports on Gunnison Sage Grouse conservation efforts; the ongoing landscape assessment of the entire SLV, from Poncha Pass to

Española in New Mexico; and Tigan announced that after 3 years of trying to consolidate offices into one location, a new BLM field office will open this fall east of Monte Vista at the former Ford dealership.

The RAC holds quarterly public meetings at various locations within the BLM's Front Range District.

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Peggy Godfrey, Bill Sutherland and May Engquist enjoy refreshments after a hot and informative afternoon.

## Soil health: Regional farmers using new versions of old methods

by Bill Sutherland  
photos by Bea Ferrigno

A very interesting tour of newly evolved farming methods in the central San Luis Valley was provided on the hot afternoon of July 22. It was attended by more than fifty participants, mostly regional farmers and ranchers who more than filled two school buses. The generous and helpful sponsors included the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS, of the US Department of Agriculture), MillerCoors (yes, the beer company), Colorado State University Extension, the Monte Vista Co-Op and the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

Informative and well-presented talks were offered at the three farms we visited, MillerCoors Farm, Rocky Farms, and Lyle Nissen's farm. Overall the tour aimed to show approaches to reduce the requirements for crop inputs: water, fertilizer, and pest- and herbicides. Good handouts were provided so that ill-informed reporters and others could grasp the principles involved, essentially those of soil health. Soil health matters because of the enormous amount of living organisms in the soil. This sub-surface ecosystem can be thought of as a living factory in which the good and bad effects of small and microscopic workers on cash crops, such as potatoes and malting barley, can be seen. The MillerCoors Farm is experimenting with companion crops planted with an earlier maturing form of barley called "Pop." In separate plots different legumes (pea-like plants) or a mixture of plants were planted with "Pop" or the local standard barley, M69. The companion plants provide nutrients, may reduce pests, reduce water loss and improve water retention. The experiment is to compare yields and to examine soil health by a standardized test (Haney Soil Analysis). As a grain, the barley can be separated out, but a study will be done to determine the best way to meet the purity standards of MillerCoors.

Rockey Farms particularly exemplifies the "retro" aspect of these methods. Here potatoes are the cash crop. The circle of potatoes is surrounded by a swath of various plants chosen for specific reasons. All provide "green manure," adding nutrients to the soil and physically improving its structure. The wreath of green attracts aphids, deflecting them from the potatoes. This year flowering species were added to attract predatory insects, the ones who eat the bad guys. The potatoes themselves are

companion-cropped with legumes. In the most obvious throwback to older times, some plots are planted only in "green manure" (used to be called "crop rotation") and also grazed by cattle before being planted with potatoes. George Whitten, a well known local rancher outspoken in his advocacy of grazing to improve the land, discussed the vital need for farmers and ranchers to once again join forces to gain the benefits of grazing animals on land that is to be planted. Brief "mob grazing" by many animals per unit of surface area allows them to eat part, not all, of the plant; their manure and urine replenish the soil and hooves break down some of the remaining forage. Electrified fencing and automated gating make it possible to move animals between zones. Several people commented on how that was what their grandparents did it, without the fancy gadgets.

At Lyle Nissen's farm, non-tillage and light tilling of barley residues are being studied as means of reducing disturbance of soil. It appears that leaving fairly substantial stubble does not impair the planting of potatoes or of cover crops. In answer to a Crestonian's question about whether any of these techniques could reduce the dust that inundates us every spring and help save the topsoil, there was cautious optimism. However, the margin of profit on potatoes and barley is small enough that most farmers can't afford to gamble on possible lost yields on a forty- or sixty-acre circle of a cash crop. There seems to be some, but very limited, state and federal money to support such experimentation. In its absence, all the more reason the efforts of these private individuals and MillerCoors are to be praised. By about 5pm we were back to a shady grove at our starting point for some ice cold beer and other refreshments courtesy of our hosts. Several tour participants remained to discuss the informative afternoon.

## Researching 'Instream Flow Rights' in the Baca Grande

by Bea Ferrigno

Concern about dry streams, vanishing wetlands, and shrinking riparian areas within the Baca Grande subdivision prompted the Natural Surroundings Committee (NSC) of the Property Owners Association (POA) to convene a meeting with several water administrators on July 28. Linda Bassi, Chief of the Stream and Lake Protection Section (SLPS) of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), described the work of the SLPS which was established in 1973 to "correlate human activities with some reasonable preservation of the natural environment." The SLPS acquires—from willing owners—or appropriates junior water rights to preserve natural environments and habitats for many aquatic and riparian species, such as black swifts that nest behind waterfalls. All instream flow (ISF) rights are held by the CWCB as junior rights to provide "the minimum required to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree." Such rights "can be limited by water availability and may not be feasible on some over-appropriated streams." The process of securing an ISF takes two years and includes a field investigation and thorough examination of all other water rights that might be affected to ensure they will not be injured by the ISF.

Although the CWCB holds ISFs on streams in the Baca subdivision, they are rarely in priority because the senior rights are held by the Baca National Wildlife Refuge (BNWR), and it is their duty to make full use of them for wildlife habitat. The BNWR management of streams within the Baca subdivision has led to some controversies, particularly over which channel of Cottonwood Creek is the natural stream. The southern branch has been dry for several years, possibly due to the effects of the extended drought, but also because of a reportedly unadjudicated diversion at the fork where the current ISF ends. And a branch of Spanish Creek, now blocked, formerly watered Spanish Meadow. These are conditions the BNWR inherited from the former owners; apparently they cannot be changed until the pending refuge plan is in place. The BNWR also honors a perpetual lease of water to the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District.

Ms. Bassi suggested that securing additional or upgraded ISFs might not be the most effective way to improve conditions in the subdivision; rather, it is a matter best negotiated with the BNWR. Travis Smith, Rio Grande Basin representative on the CWCB, concurred, suggesting that the POA might do well, especially in a time of drought, to find some common ground with the Fish and Wildlife Service which manages the

BNWR. A step in that direction was taken a few months back when the NSC, as directed by the POA board, met with refuge staff to discuss opening the overgrown channel of Spanish Creek near the refuge boundary. Even though Mother Nature filled the creek bed with grasses, the POA was about to be fined substantial amounts for allowing the stream to be obstructed, so it was agreed that the refuge could dig out the stream bed. That was done to restore flow to an extensive wetland, about 10% of which lies within the subdivision.

It would seem, from the guiding documents of both the Baca subdivision and the BNWR (see sidebar below), that considerable agreement exists in principle, but as a practical matter, the subdivision cannot retain, divert, or otherwise tamper with any of the waters that pass through it, though it might be permissible to undertake a stream restoration program such as the one at Kerber Creek. As NSC member Noah Baen pointed out, the Baca subdivision streams flow over alluvial terrain where they recharge the aquifers, but they also braid, branch, flow underground, and re-emerge at seemingly unconnected locations. Mike Gibson, chairman of the Rio Grande Interbasin Water Conservation Roundtable (RGRT), suggested that a hydrological study to clarify where the water really goes could be funded through the roundtable; he also suggested that the RGRT could help facilitate discussions with the BNWR.

With the refuge about to release its Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) and open a period of public comment, it seems timely for concerned residents to explore what can legally be done to improve stream conditions and restore riparian areas and wetlands within the Baca Grande subdivision. For instance, the subdivision might request that water be sent into dry stream beds outside of the irrigation season, or, as Ms. Bassi suggested—despite her indication that it might not be the most effective course of action—the POA could apply for an ISF right on the south branch of Cottonwood Creek which formerly watered an area of high biodiversity. This would need to begin with an assessment of how much water would be needed to supply that reach of the stream and how it might affect the water supply in the BNWR. Although losses to evaporation and vegetation would have to be considered, it is possible that a healthy natural stream with pools and meanders could carry more water and support more habitat than the shorter branch that seems to be used as an irrigation ditch.

### From Article 1 of the Baca Grande POA's Declaration of Covenants:

"... to preserve the natural environments, and to encourage the protection of environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, wildlife corridors and streambeds."

### From the BNWR's stated purpose:

"... to restore, enhance, and maintain wetlands, upland, and riparian, and other habitats for native wildlife, plant, and fish species in the San Luis Valley."

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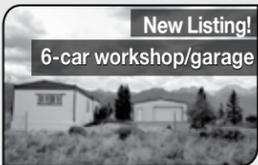
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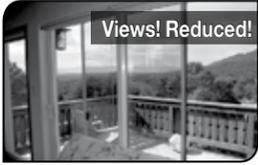
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*by Todd Ryker,  
Baca Grande Fire Chief*

I am happy to report that our risk this wildfire season is very low due to all the rain we have been getting. There is still mild danger if we get any lightning strikes in the heavier timber. With that said, I am also happy to report that 99% of the firefighters have received their Wildland certifications, and the remaining will be complete by end of the season. Next we will be focusing on structure firefighting and plan on sponsoring a Firefighter I and II academy in the fall for the San Luis Valley fire departments.

I am very thankful and proud that we have received our new 1994

Custom Pumper 8-man cab and it's now in service as a multi-functional all hazards truck. This truck is ready to assist in the protection of the Baca and our Mutual-Aid requirements.

I would like to invite everyone out to our next open house which will be held on Saturday September 6 from 9am to 2pm. We are trying to have a catered meal and BBQ as a fund raiser. Soft drinks and juice are provided. The new truck will be on display for the kids.

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## Refuge visitor center

continued from page B-1

phalaropes, avocets, Wilson's snipes, mallard and teal ducks. One green meadow extends uninterrupted for nearly five miles.

We stopped at a placid puddle in a road. It turned out to be a very busy place—tiny salamanders, toads and frogs were going about their business. Sometimes hungry coyotes will slurp the amphibian soup. At a ditch we saw minnows: the Rio Grande sucker and the Rio Grande chub, both rare curiosities for biologists. Some apparently have learned to bypass fish gates, installed for research, by flipping around them through the meadows.

All this wildlife—plus human history, plus camera-friendly vistas—awaits visitors in the areas to be opened under the management plan. That's the good news. The bad news—it's political—is that the wait, in Garcia's words, "may take years."

In my view this all has to do



Bob Bunker

with the appropriations of Congress, where the west is outnumbered and things like wildlife refuges go unloved and even feared. The federal government may have generously provided millions to buy the ranch (less mineral rights), but nothing has ever been appropriated to staff the resulting Baca refuge. Its three employees—Garcia, Hanson and a maintenance man—are on the budgets of the other San Luis Valley refuges. Hanson doubles as a federally trained law enforcement officer.

"We will rely heavily on volunteers," Garcia said. Students have been dusting prairie dog burrows to kill plague-carrying fleas. A Texas couple living in a recreational vehicle watch the place in the summer, but they are part of a national program for unpaid retirees. Garcia proposes more pads with hookups for the RV's of future volunteers.

Summing up, the refuge manager said, "It's all contingent on adequate resources." He meant money. The other resources on this fabled Colorado land grant are more than adequate.

## Firewise funding renewed

Just as funds rolled over from last year were exhausted, Saguache County was able to secure the long-expected Firewise funding for 2014. For career firefighter Daniel S. Johnson, this means he can continue doing free assessments and help homeowners mitigate fire hazards before a wildfire threatens.

Over the past 6 years, Johnson has personally done 270 assessments to date and 145 hands-on mitigations in Saguache County. "This has been an extremely popular service featuring grant money secured by the Saguache County Commissioners from the federal Firewise Communities program," Johnson says. "Firefighters usually have a short window to decide if we can save a house or not, with a wildfire rapidly approaching. Making a plan for each house to keep fire on the ground as it passes will result in many more homes surviving."

Not everyone realizes the danger that comes with moving into a heavily treed area—they believe this is natural. "But our forests are seriously overgrown," Johnson points out, "due to 100% fire suppression over the past 120 years. Every seedling that would have naturally burned, now has a chance to become a tree, crowding the old-growth forests and making them more vulnerable to disease, insects and wildfires."

Johnson assures participants in the program that the finished prod-

uct can still be beautiful. By opening up the canopies, more light can hit the ground, which can make more wildflowers. Lower branches can be artfully removed and trees shaped to look more like the forest looked 100 years ago, when buffalo rubbed off the low hanging branches, and fires kept the regrowth in check.

Another reason Colorado residents are becoming more alert about living in the Wildland/Urban Interface is the new rules concerning insurance coverage now demanded by many insurers. "Often, all the insurance companies know is that fires cost them money," says Johnson. "They have latched onto federal concepts of hazard zones, with zone one being the first 30 feet around a structure. Instead of treating this zone for ladder fuels, thinning and planting fire-resistant trees and bushes, some insurance companies are demanding full clear cutting in this zone, then doing nothing in zones 2 and 3. It's because they don't know how fire spreads."

Any Saguache County homeowner can call Johnson for a free assessment and hands-on help at 719-480-9764. Landowners who are planning to build in fire-sensitive areas can also get free help in siting; and recommendations for building materials. There is a waiting list, but this latest round of funding should last into 2015.

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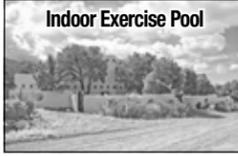
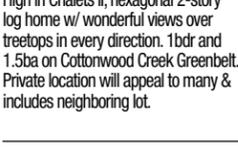
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SEPT 2014 Listings



**Dara Blumenhein**  
Associate Broker



<p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>1004C Badger Road - \$149,000</b> This 8BD/3.75BA home sits on 1.119 acres in Chalet I. 1,913sf on main level &amp; 1,762sf walk-out basement. Kitchens on both levels, this unique property offers plenty of space for 2 families or retreats.</p>		<p><b>Town of Crestone!</b></p>  <p><b>375 S. Cedar - \$134,500</b> Built in 2010, this charming, 1110sf 2BD/1BA 2-story home is located conveniently to downtown. Large BD upstairs, BD &amp; BA on main level, open kitchen with gas range &amp; breakfast bar, comfy living area with wood-burning stove.</p>		<p><b>New Listings</b></p>  <p><b>1967 Rockyview Way - \$495,000</b> Luxurious 3BD/2.75BA/Office/3-car Garage 2953sf home sits on 2.374 acres &amp; has a 2-room upstairs Master Suite. Beautifully landscaped courtyards &amp; gardens with custom fence &amp; deck. Chef's kitchen with Wolf stove.</p>		<p><b>Town of Crestone</b></p>  <p><b>170 E. Golden - \$189,500</b> This 3BD/2BA 1500sf home is beautifully situated with attention to detail. High ceilings, bright skylights &amp; fenced-in back yard make this a must-see property!</p>		<p><b>Reduced! Was \$189,000</b></p>  <p><b>345 S. Cedar - NOW \$179,000</b> A short walk to the post office, coffee shops, restaurants and shopping, this Victorian style 1434-sf home has three bedrooms and two baths.</p>			
<p><b>Town of Crestone</b></p>  <p><b>370 S. Alder - \$179,000</b> 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!</p>		<p><b>Off-Grid</b></p>  <p><b>765CRR Heatherbrae Rd - \$329,000</b> 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 &amp; well water.</p>		<p><b>Rustic meets Modern- 15.31 acres</b></p>  <p><b>358 Birch Road - \$289,000</b> Off grid home with 3bd/1.75ba, office, 2nd living room, modern efficient kitchen &amp; elegant bathrooms-an inspired renovation. Natural light, expansive &amp; unobstructed views.</p>		<p><b>Baca Meadows Townhomes</b></p>  <p><b>Townhouse #13 Baca Meadows \$150,000</b> Beautiful townhome, 2 floors with 2BD upstairs &amp; 2 full baths. Master bedroom has private balcony view of mountains. 2nd bedroom w/ walk out balcony. Spacious open design living room.</p>		<p><b>Townhouse #11 Baca Meadows \$150,000</b> 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.</p>			
<p><b>Valley Property</b></p>  <p><b>27378 Red Cloud Road-\$185,000</b> 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 &amp; septic w/leach field, easy access from Hwy 17. Spectacular Views!</p>		<p><b>Baca Grande Properties</b></p>  <p><b>637 Panorama Way - \$699,000</b> Magnificent ~3000sf 3bd/3ba 1-1/2 story custom home with exquisite detailing &amp; beautiful woodwork. 750sf det. garage w/studio apt. above. Stone fireplace, net meter solar, Viking appliances.</p>		<p><b>Private</b></p>  <p><b>2795CR Brook Terrace - \$499,500</b> The castle tucked away on a private cul-de-sac on 2.765 wooded acres. 3 level stone &amp; stucco with views to the sky. Artistic with quality &amp; attention to detail. A must see home!</p>		<p><b>Rustic Elegance</b></p>  <p><b>923C Blue Spruce OL - \$399,000</b> Handcrafted home w/ spectacular views. ~2350sf on 1.92 acres. 2bd/2ba, spacious artist studio&amp; meditation room. Surround windows &amp; south facing 2nd floor deck. Patio deck off studio. Private.</p>		<p><b>Grants in Trees</b></p>  <p><b>499C Willow Trail - \$349,000</b> A unique &amp; rare find! ~3900sf with 4bd/3ba/office/sunroom + attached greenhouse. 20+ acres. Tall trees. Private, long cul de sac &amp; backs to Conservation Easement, offering extreme privacy. Well water.</p>			
<p><b>Was \$349,000</b></p>  <p><b>4262C Serene Way - \$299,900</b> Immaculate 2500SF 3-level home on .98 acres 5bd/2.75ba. Custom finishes, fire resistant, energy efficient, magnificent views, extensive patios. Private. Good retreat home.</p>		<p><b>A lovely sanctuary</b></p>  <p><b>3919 Cordial Way - \$299,000</b> Two story, 3BD/2.5BA ~2400 sf home has a walled courtyard &amp; 4 intimate decks w/ great views. Southwest style home gracefully adorned with fine details and finishes.</p>		<p><b>Was \$349,000</b></p>  <p><b>22 Alpine Way - \$295,000</b> CUSTOM 3bd/2.5ba/2 car garage 2232sf home close to town. Screened porch &amp; wrap deck. Gracious Living with exceptional views!</p>		<p><b>Was \$499,000</b></p>  <p><b>1234C Brookview - NOW \$419,000</b> Lee Mitchell custom home. 2400sf 3BD/2.5BA/Office/attached 2 car garage, balconies. Magnificent views, gorgeous Master suite, with exquisite Master bath. Includes 3rd lot.</p>		<p><b>REDUCED! Was \$428,000</b></p>  <p><b>149 Moonlight Way - \$279,000</b> Beautiful 3bd/2ba 2118sf home w/ 2 living areas - extensively updated &amp; immaculate condition. Cathedral ceilings &amp; a wall of glass w/ great views. Adjoins greenbelt &amp; creek.</p>		<p><b>MILLION \$ VIEWS!</b></p>  <p><b>1234 Laredo Trail - \$ 265,000</b> 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.</p>	
<p><b>Was \$295,000</b></p>  <p><b>733C N. Rendezvous OL - \$244,000</b> This 1972sf 2bd/1.75ba/large studio/office Southwestern style strawbale home is located on 1.14 acres at end of secluded cul-de-sac. Adjacent lots avail.</p>		<p><b>New Construction</b></p>  <p><b>1647C Willow Creek Way - \$229,000</b> Brand New Terrapin Construction. 1760sf 3bd/2ba home on .98 acre w/2 decks + flagstone patio/walkway. Hardwood floors, spacious kitchen. Separate wings for bedrooms. Backs to Greenbelt Views.</p>		<p><b>Was \$249,000</b></p>  <p><b>1564 Wagon Wheel Road - \$229,000</b> A 2,192sf beautiful single level ranch style home built in 1997 on 1.66 acres. 3bd/2ba, great room, living room &amp; 2 car attached garage. Well and septic. Great value!</p>		<p><b>WAS \$260,000</b></p>  <p><b>4511C Ridgecrest Way - \$224,950</b> Straw bale home on 1.59 acres. Backs to greenbelt and national park. 2 adjacent building lots available. Built by Paul Koppana. Adobe floors. Diamond finish walls.</p>		<p><b>Reduced! - Was \$212,000</b></p>  <p><b>1447 Chaparral Way - \$199,000</b> 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.</p>			
<p><b>Reduced! Was \$209,000</b></p>  <p><b>2715C Happy Hollow Way - \$197,000</b> 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!</p>		<p><b>Separate Office/Workshop</b></p>  <p><b>3704 Carefree Way - \$195,000</b> Immaculate like new 3 bd/1.75ba, 1316sf home has wood floors, stucco privacy wall, single car garage, beautiful views of the mountains.</p>		<p><b>Possible Owner Finance</b></p>  <p><b>1541 Camino Real - \$179,000</b> This 1799sf, 3BR/1.75BA home built in 1974 &amp; 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.</p>		<p><b>REDUCED! - WAS \$149,000</b></p>  <p><b>3732C Cordial Way - \$169,000</b> Private &amp; unique hexagonal 2 bd, 1.75 ba home on 1.36 treed acres. Separate 384sf. building incl. heated &amp; finished office &amp; workshop/storage area. Great views, wrap around deck.</p>		<p><b>Garage &amp; Greenhouse</b></p>  <p><b>3705 Carefree Way - NOW \$165,000</b> This 1874 sf, 3 bdr/1.75 ba home built in 1995 as a passive solar home. Great value &amp; offers lots of space for price. Also includes the upper adjacent lot to protect the views to the mountains.</p>			
<p><b>Reduced! - Was \$147,000</b></p>  <p><b>4327 &amp; 28 Tranquil Way \$150,000</b> 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 &amp; includes neighboring lot.</p>		<p><b>Lots of Space</b></p>  <p><b>1914 Lone Pine Way - \$142,000</b> Built in 1999, this 1bd (+Loft) / 1ba 900sf house is in a convenient location off the main road in Chalet One with lots of privacy. It is sunny &amp; bright with lots of windows. Energy efficient with passive solar and in-floor radiant heat.</p>		<p><b>REDUCED! - WAS \$149,000</b></p>  <p><b>4406C Twin View Terrace - \$139,000</b> Artistic straw bale home located high in Chalet II on consolidated 1.417 acres w/ privacy, amazing mountain &amp; valley views. ~1450sf, 2-story, 2-bd, 1-ba, w/ studio/office space, passive solar design.</p>		<p><b>Reduced! - WAS \$149,000</b></p>  <p><b>1372N Saddlerock Trail - \$139,000</b> This 1960 sf 3 bed 1.75 bath has a three room master suite &amp; a 200sf sunroom. Panoramic views of three mountain ranges on 2.03 acres bordering the Willow Creek greenbelt. Well &amp; septic.</p>		<p><b>Reduced! - Was \$69,999</b></p>  <p><b>2776 N. Carefree Way - \$139,000</b> This 2-story, 2BD/1BA, 1338sf wood &amp; stone home set in the trees high in Chalet II. Great mountain &amp; valley views, close to retreat centers. A cozy mountain feel, very private and quiet.</p>			
<p><b>Reduced! - Was \$117,000</b></p>  <p><b>36 Camino Baca Grande - \$115,000</b> 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.</p>		<p><b>Casita Park</b></p>  <p><b>381CR Del Sol Lane - \$64,500</b> 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 &amp; privacy. Includes attached 660sf 2 car garage</p>									

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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.

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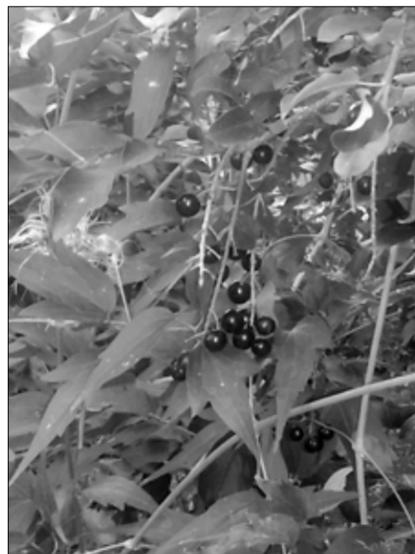
by Dorje Root

**Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana)**



My introduction to Chokecherry goes back quite a few years to my epic hitchhiking journey from East to West. Meeting a young Native American man somewhere in South Dakota, we were offered a bottle of homemade Chokecherry wine in exchange for another intoxicating substance. When I think back to when I first encountered various medicinal herbs, there were quite a few such notable and

Medicinally, the bark of the Chokecherry is used. The best way to gather the bark is to look for trunks that have been knocked over, or to take a few medium branches and leave the rest of the tree. The bark can be gathered in spring or fall, peeled off the branches and then allowed to dry. Chokecherry bark is most commonly used for coughs—in cough syrup. It can soothe a cough, especially the kind that gets active at bedtime and won't let you sleep. I make a very simple cough syrup for myself—it's a bit hardcore. I mix Chokecherry bark tincture with equal parts of Osha tincture, then add honey to equal the total amount of tincture. Mix well and take by the dropperful. A one ounce bottle of this lasts a long time and fits nicely in purse or pocket. For children, or people less accustomed to the taste of herbs I use a more elaborate recipe.



Chokecherry berries.

Chokecherries are somewhat bitter and very astringent when eaten raw, but do make delightful jellies and wines. If you have the patience to split and pit the cherries, they also make a very nice dried fruit snack. Pick the cherries when they are nearly black, from July through fall, but don't expect to find a lot later in the season. Chokecherries are also a favorite of birds, squirrels, deer, elk, and bears who probably have first dibs.

memorable meetings that took place long before I was formally an herbalist.

Chokecherry grows as a large shrub or small tree. It's easy to identify in the spring with its hanging inflorescences of white to yellowish flowers. The cherries are red in the early summer turning to a dark blue or black when they are ripe.

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

SEPTEMBER 2014 Listings

**DARLENE YARBROUGH REAL ESTATE FEATURED PROPERTIES**

**23 Acre Estate**



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**



4460C Ridgecrest Way - NOW \$399,000  
Residential Retreat Complex w/3025sf central complex w/ Chartres labyrinth as the centerpiece. 1000sf 2/1 home; 450sf office; 707sf yurt plus grow dome. A beautiful property.

**Commercial Property**



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

**Historic Hotel**



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

**Dream Home!**



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!

**Town of Crestone**



322 E. Mica Ave - \$449,000  
Spectacular Strawbale 3BR/2BA/ Office custom home w/ enormous chef's kitchen, located on North Crestone Creek. Lush, grassy yard & huge trees. Detached 950sf barn could be great as enclosed yoga/art studio!

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## As the Worm Turns Crestone cold storage

by Leigh Mills

Modern times with plentiful electricity and just-in-time shopping habits have reduced our need to store fresh garden produce for long periods of time. While there are many methods to preserve all types of food (drying, fermenting, pickling, smoking, salting, honeying, freezing and canning) there are also a few ways to keep food fresh for extended amounts of time if you have certain areas in and around your home that can maintain constant cool or cold temperatures with varying humidity, depending on the type of fresh food being stored. I found a few folks in the Crestone area who have had success with storing certain fruits, vegetables, and other products without electricity, or with reduced electricity, and thought I'd share their methods.

The main elements to consider when storing fresh produce are temperature, humidity, and darkness. Creating areas that will maintain a constant temperature, humidity level, and darkness will help keep various fruits and vegetables fresh for long periods of time and enable you to enjoy the harvest throughout the late fall and winter months; maybe even until the next harvest. Kizzen Laki has a pantry on the north side of her home with an insulated cold box that was built next to the stem wall. With a little bit of pampering and a careful eye on the room's temperature, she is able to store potatoes and other fresh food in this area over the winter. "When the outside temps drop to -20° F," she says, "I will put an extra layer of insulation, like a blanket, in the box so the food doesn't freeze." Kizzen understands how important it is that we can adequately store our harvests and suggests that "every house needs a cold room or pantry on their north side" to store their food (whether in dry bulk, canned, or fresh) and help keep it fresher for long periods of time.

While potatoes need a cool (40°F), moist (90% humidity) environment to keep them fresh, vegetables like pumpkins and winter squash need to be stored in warmer (50-55°F) and dryer (50-75% humidity) settings. I've heard of folks keeping their squashes fresh for months by storing them under their beds, or in closets. If you have a warm attic area that won't freeze during the winter, that is a good place to store your squashes, too. Storing them in cool/cold and moist environments

will promote molding as Kizzen, and I, have found out.

If you have a little bit of space, some construction skills, access to a used window air conditioner and a few assorted electrical gadgets, you can build a large refrigerator to store lots of fresh fruit and other tender vegetables for long periods of time, or until you can process them into other forms. Nick Chambers did this exact thing and now has a 5' x 10' walk-in cooler to store fruits like peaches, cherries, pears, and apples as well as garden veggies for weeks. Apples and carrots need cold (32-40°F) temps and high humidity levels (90%) to stay fresh. If you can provide this environment—usually a refrigerator—these items can stay fresh for 2-6 months. Note: It's advisable to store fruits like apples separately (such as a few feet apart or in separate containers) from vegetables because apples emit a gas that will accelerate the vegetables' ripening process. Garlic and onions also need to be kept separate from fruit and other vegetables because their odor will permeate and affect their taste; store garlic in onions in a cold (32°F), dry (65-70% humidity) place.

If you don't have a large 'fridge, there are other ways to keep fruits, vegetables, and other perishable items for days or weeks without electricity. I asked Robin Blankenship what methods she uses and I was delighted by her resourcefulness. She built a root cellar under her house, where her apples and other vegetables stay fresh throughout the winter months. She keeps her apples in a 50-gallon cardboard container she got from Rainbow Foods years ago and can store up to two bushels in it throughout the winter. She gets specific apples that ripen late and store well for this purpose, and the cardboard keeps the apples' gas from contami-



Robin's root cellar is located underneath the main house and can hold lots of canned items, a 50-gallon cardboard container of fresh apples, hang several mesh bags of onions and garlic and still have room for other goodies. This root cellar is one of several ways she stores the many products she harvests from nature.

nating the other vegetables. When asked about storing carrots, she says that she cans most of them, but will also store some in containers with sand. She uses plastic buckets and

says, "I place the carrots with their ends down and tips up, making sure they don't touch, and layer them between an inch or two of damp sand." She mentioned that method does take up a lot of space and prefers to keep her carrots, beets, spinach, and potatoes in the ground as long as she can, allowing Mother Nature to be the storage container. Robin says, "Just make sure to put a couple of inches of clean, dry straw over the garden beds and top it with a layer of plastic to keep out the moisture and

prevent the ground from freezing." I've used this method at the Heyokah Homestead with my carrots too and can attest to its viability. Just make sure to harvest any root crops by the winter solstice because they will start to get woody and tough as the days get longer.

Other non-electric methods Robin employs to keep her food fresh include a cold box built into the clay floor on the north side of her hogan. This box is about 4' long, 2' wide and 2' deep. The temps remain steady enough where she can store milk

for 4-5 days. During the summer months, she uses a platform she built in the middle of the creek running through her property. The platform rests in the creek and on this sit plastic crates she fills with jars and other non-porous containers with their labels removed so they don't come off and float downstream. She attaches the crates to the creek bank with rope so they don't float downstream either. If you choose to use this method, make sure the crates are sitting in 2-3 inches of water to help maintain the cool temperatures and keep whatever you're storing fresh.

If you use the internet, you can search and find lots of information about storing fresh food and preserving the harvest. "About.com" is one site I found filled with useful information as well as documents written by Cornell University ([www.gardening.cornell.edu/factsheets/vegetables/storage.pdf](http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/factsheets/vegetables/storage.pdf)) and the University of Wisconsin Extension office (<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/assets/pdfs/A3823.pdf>). I thank Kizzen, Nick, and Robin for their time and knowledge in researching this article. Happy Fall Equinox!



Kizzen's cold box can hold many pounds of potatoes and a few assorted other veggies. She drilled ventilation holes into the very bottom of the box (not pictured), and has a thermometer and little fan to help gauge the temperature and help ventilate the area. The cold box was built into the north wall of her pantry and is well insulated to help keep the temperatures above freezing.

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creek running through it, just  
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secluded. About 200 feet of  
creek. Call Terry on 681507R



Lovely contemporary home on 8  
acres. Creek runs thru the back-  
yard, greenhouse, studio apt.,  
open floor plan, exceptional  
price for this beautiful property.



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



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



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!"



Lovely contemporary home  
with 3 spacious bedrooms and  
2.5 baths. Kitchen features gas  
range, refrigerator, and micro-  
wave. formal dining.



Straw bale home. New sun-  
room addition. In-floor heat-  
ing. Nice open floor plan  
downstairs. Spacious kitchen.  
Two bedrooms upstairs.



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



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.



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



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.



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.



Amazingly beautiful creek lots.  
2.08 acres bordering Cotton-  
wood Creek. Home is contem-  
porary open-floor plan with  
one large bedroom.



3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a  
larger Master in the upstairs loft.  
Kitchen features built-in range  
oven, refrigerator, and dish-  
washer.



This 2 story stucco home has  
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Open  
kitchen with pantry area. Ap-  
pliances included. Master  
bedroom & a master bath.



Creekside home. Large fire-  
place, spacious kitchen. There is  
1 bedroom and 2 loft rooms on  
the upper levels, and a bath-  
room.



Great 5.25 acres for your  
horses or dogs. Backs to Willow  
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Thoughtfully built straw bale, 3  
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bath home built by Terrapin  
construction, near Pundarika.  
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Charming home in Crestone.  
4 bedrooms and 2 bath, newly  
painted, new wood laminate  
floors upstairs. Large green-  
house on the back of the home.



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



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



Complete remodel on this home  
in 2011, new windows, roof,  
exterior siding, and interior  
remodel. 4 bedrooms and 2  
baths. Separate studio.



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. Gas  
stainless range & oven.



This property is under construc-  
tion- the shop is finished, and  
the garage is being constructed  
currently. Price includes com-  
pletion of the garage. New well  
and septic, all work is quality  
craftsmanship.



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.



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



New roof, new carpet, new  
paint. Bank-owned manufac-  
tured home on 1 acre of land in  
Lazy KV subdivision. Spacious  
living Room, and open kitchen.



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



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.



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

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1.78 ac. in The Grants, walk to creek, adjoining lot available- \$4250  
495 Moonlight Way-\$4,900 close in , seller will finance!

1320-1323- 4 lots on Creek and greenbelt, tap fee paid beautiful  
location, secluded, private cul-de-sac \$68,000

1478 Spanish Creek Rd.-1.68 acres with beautiful view of the moun-  
tains- \$4,000

Lots 1396 & 1397 in The Grants, nice private area, walk to the  
Creek for a dip! priced at only \$4,250 each acreage totals 3.5 acres

2862 & 2863 Carefree Way-backs to greenbelt, beautiful mountain  
views, only \$2,000 each, buy them both!



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# In Search of Economic Reality

## Video cameras in the classroom

by Ed Lyell, Prof. of Business & Economics, Adams State U.

I just saw a report on of the value of full time video from cameras attached to police officers. A town of 100,000 people in California used federal grants to put body-worn cameras on each of their police officers. They recorded full color video for up to 12 hours which was then automatically uploaded at the end of each shift to be analyzed in a central database. The police department did a randomized controlled study showing that after cameras were introduced in February 2012, public complaints against officers plunged 88% compared with the previous 12 months. Officers' use of force fell by 60%. Instead of using diminished war spending to give police departments weapons of mass destruction, we should give them technology for mass improvement, and let's include this for our nation's schools.

In 1998 I was at a national meeting of education policy makers including governors, state superintendents of instruction, union leaders, big city superintendents, and in total over 300 people who were the nation's educational policy makers. At that meeting I spoke and recommended that we should video tape every classroom, every day, in order to have information to help teachers improve. My argument was that almost every other business uses recording technology to improve employee performance and to have evidence

when disputes arise. Since almost every classroom has internet access, paid for by the public, this would be a small incremental cost to help create better teachers.

Every study of school quality ends by concluding that teacher quality is the most important factor for improving student achievement. A good teacher with 40 students does a better job than an average or below-average teacher even with just 12 students. Thus we must focus on improving teacher quality. Yet, when I recommended video recording of every classroom it caused chaos among the top education policy makers. A state teacher union leader stood up and cried out about "teacher privacy rights". Before I, or anyone on the panel, could speak others rose up and shouted, what about student rights to a quality education. The room became a shouting and pushing arena which took hotel security to settle and clear the room. For the next 2 days I was stopped in the hallways with words of support, and hate.

Why is it that we place our children in the hands of people afraid of being observed? Why not permit parents to observe classrooms? Why not use recorded classrooms to help teachers develop better skills and strategies? Why not make teachers and students accountable for their actions in school? I have observed hundreds of classrooms over my 40 years in education and was often brought in by superintendents to observe teach-

ers that they wanted to remove. I have seen not just wasted time, but wasted lives caused by bad teachers. I have also seen students inspired to great lives by great teachers. Why not use the tools available to improve quality and accountability for all?

Are not our children even more important to help than using video to help a sales person to improve sales? In a world of increasing anonymity video recording and reporting may be the only way to get back to the small town accountability that helped improve all of America for centuries. It has proven successful in industry, and now police, and would in education. My classes have always been open to observation and when I would invite college presidents or others to attend, and they did, many of my faculty peers were angry with me for open-

ing the door to the world. Classroom video recording will not be easy, but is necessary. And like most change it must be pushed by outsiders.

Congress is dysfunctional ever since they gerrymandered districts to avoid competition. When capitalism was working it was because better ideas and companies came forward and replaced low-performing status quo companies, instead of today's too-big-to-fail cartel-like corporations. Public education is a geographic monopoly with over-protected teachers who do not have to improve to keep their jobs. Police don't want the video cameras, yet perform better and are accountable with them.

It will take outside parent and taxpayer pressure to improve teachers. All people resist change. The only humans that I have consistently seen cry out for changes are babies with wet diapers and even then someone else must do it for them. We must insist upon classroom video recording and the use of these recordings to inform parents and others while using them to help teachers become more effective.



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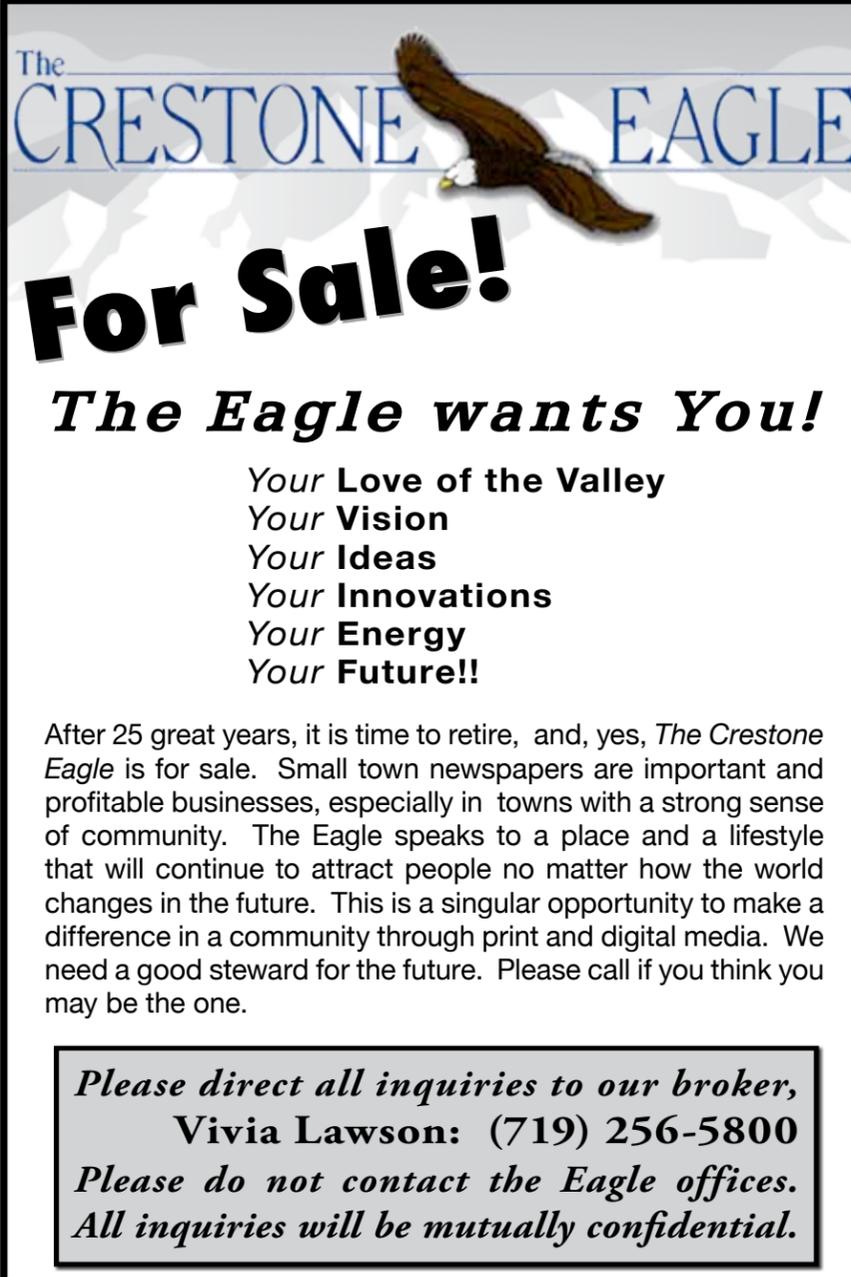
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# Baca Grande Library News



by **Suzanne McGregor**

Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read, is an annual event hosted by the American Library Association

that celebrates the freedom to access reading materials and the importance of the First Amendment. Held during the last week of September, Banned Books Week highlights the benefits of free and open access to information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted bannings of books across the United States.

Imagine how many more books might be challenged—and possibly banned or restricted—if we did not use Banned Books Week each year to teach the importance of our First Amendment.

It is extremely important for us to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society. The library will observe this honorable tradition during the week of September 21-27 by featuring the books in our collection that have been targets of censorship throughout the years. Please celebrate your freedom to read them by checking them out.

Many thanks to those who helped celebrate the Baca Grande Friends of the Library (FOL) newly-acquired 501(c)(3) status at our

Open House the last week of August. This is a major accomplishment for the FOL and such a boost for our future fundraising efforts. This status with the IRS enables the group to write grants through their non-profit organization and for you to make tax-deductible contributions to the group. It is a win-win situation for both of us, so thank you to Thom Ontko and his assistants for this valuable achievement!

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

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6 consolidated acres in the Grants; corner of Wagon Wheel & Cottonwood Creek. Close to Natl Park border, tidy neighbors, stunning views. \$8500 www.crestonelandforsale.com

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next to boca grande fire station. consolidated lot 178/179 camino boca grande, great location, tap fee paid. \$19,000. call 662-549-2276

## New Classifieds online daily. Check www.crestoneeagle.com!

#### The Magic Meadow – trees AND views

Chalet I lot 936C. Large consolidated lot 936/937/943 between Moonlight & Portage Ovlk. Incredible views of mountains and plains in the middle of the lot. "The Magic Meadow". \$11,500 520-881-4771

#### Green Home for Sale!

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#### Furnished Off-Grid Uniquely Custom Designed Home

2 BR/1.5 Bath, Wood stove, Propane, Washer Available Oct. 1, 6-9 mo. lease Pics/data: [www.thelongandshortofrenting.com](http://www.thelongandshortofrenting.com) [madamebwolfe@gmail.com](mailto:madamebwolfe@gmail.com)

#### 3 bedroom 2 bath home on 35 acres

3 bedroom 2 bath home on 35 acres. Wood stove, well & outbuilding. \$890 month. First last and deposit. Utilities not included. Cnty Rd T Towards crestone. 719-256-5439.

#### CUSTOM BUILT 2 BR/1.5 BA

CUSTOM BUILT 2 BR/1.5 BA Off-Grid Home Unfurnished, Avail. Oct.1, pics/data [www.thelongandshortofrenting.com](http://www.thelongandshortofrenting.com) NO GROWERS/smokers 719-256-4585 prefer 6 mos.+ lease

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Beautiful tree and creek property on 6 acres, FURNISHED 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, 2200 sq. ft. Off the grid, all SOLAR. Octagon great Living room, skylight, beams, airy high ceilings, kitchen with granite island, wood stove, radiant heat, retreat house for artists/writers, GREAT VIEWS. Seek responsible person(s), no smoking or growing, pet OK. Small greenhouse for veggies. References. Avail. Oct. 1 to July 1, 2015 lease or possibly longer. \$875 plus propane. Minimum util. off grid, great well water. 719-588-0777

#### Furnished Log Cabin Studio: Quiet/Private

2 sleeping areas, LOTS of storage, Kitchenette, Views, Steam Shower! Pics/Data: [www.thelongandshortofrenting.com](http://www.thelongandshortofrenting.com) [madamebwolfe@gmail.com](mailto:madamebwolfe@gmail.com)

#### personal retreat

Cabin, beautiful self contained. From September 10th for 6 weeks. \$700.00 per month plus propane. Part of 40 acre retreat with meditation dome available for practice. Vegetarian non smoking refined. Pics on request. Contact 719-2564829

#### Rentals Now & New Shamanic Healing House

Houses available now, long or Short term, Large or small. furnished or unfurnished \$750 to \$1200 \* Yurt Downtown \$400 utilities included \* New Shamanic Healing House BNB Free Session Included. Chalet 1 next to Spiritual Centers. Please Call Electrum for Availability 719-588-2114 Please text for immediate accommodations.

#### Apartments/Rooms/Misc. for Rent

##### 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.

#### Eloquently Furn. Master Suite/Pvt. BA & Patio

Perfect get-away for writers/retreats, VIEWS! Pvt.patio, ensuite BR/soaking tub w/view, walk-in closet, Pics/Rates: [www.thelongandshortofrenting.com](http://www.thelongandshortofrenting.com) 719-256-5075

#### Downtown Crestone Lodging

Casa del Soul—Downtown 1 & 2 bedroom fully furnished suites with full kitchens, wifi, Direct TV, pet friendly. Smoke free property. Nightly & weekly rates. (719) 256-5788

#### NOTICE OF SALES TAX INITIATIVE PUBLIC COMMENT

SHALL SAGUACHE COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED ANNUALLY BY AN ESTIMATED \$256,843.00 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR INCREASE STARING IN 2015) AND BY SUCH AMOUNT ANNUALLY THEREAFTER FROM AN ADDITIONAL COUNTY-WIDE SALES TAX OF ONE PERCENT SALES TAX ON ALL PURCHASES AT RETAIL OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AND THE FURNISHING OF CERTAIN SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN C.R.S 1973, TITLE 39, ARTICLE 26, AS AMENDED, WITHIN THE COUNTY; REVENUE AND INTEREST FROM THE 1% SALES TAX INCREASE SHALL BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF: 85% LANDFILL AND RECYCLING OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE OPERATING SUPPLIES, EMPLOYEE RELATED COSTS EQUIPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE; 15 % OF REVENUE FOR LANDFILL AND RECYCLING CENTER'S COSTS FOR PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE SERVICES; FARM EQUIPMENT, PHARMACEUTICALS AND PROSTHETIC DEVICES WILL BE EXEMPT FROM THE INCREASED SALES TAX; THE INCREASED SALES TAX SHALL BE LEVIED AND IMPOSED COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2015 AND SHALL THE REVENUE AND EARNINGS ON INVESTMENT OF PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX, REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT, CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE; ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

RESOLUTION NO. G-2014-4

Written public comments on the proposed question may be filed with Randal H. Arredondo by email at [raredondo@saguachecounty-co.gov](mailto:raredondo@saguachecounty-co.gov); by mail at Randal H. Arredondo, Attn: Public Comment, PO Box 476, Saguache, CO 81149; or by hand at the Saguache County Road and Bridge, 305 3rd Street, Saguache, Colorado. Public comments must be received by Randal H. Arredondo prior to the close of business on September 19, 2014.



**FOR SALE**  
1454 Wagon Wheel  
Crestone  
~~\$319,000~~  
**\$279,000**

Call for a showing of this spacious Southwest-style home located on the Willow Creek greenbelt near the stables. The gracious floor plan offers many possibilities with a large 500 square-foot private master with views and screen porch, a living area featuring dramatic high ceilings and arched windows, an open kitchen/dining area, and three additional bedrooms privately located down a passive solar breezeway. This home boasts mountain and valley views, is desirably situated on 3.16 acres, near a paved road, and is five minutes to town. It is well-suited for many lifestyles with its varied possibilities for office space, studio, income, and living. So much to offer. Was \$319,000, now \$279,000! Great Value! Contact Vivia to view: (719) 480-9384-cell

Contact Vivia Lawson for further information



**ERA Herman Group**  
Real Estate  
(719)256-5800  
[www.crestonerealestate.net](http://www.crestonerealestate.net)

# ...Classifieds

continued from  
Page B-14

## Services

### Welding

Sand Pit Metal Works, LLC Mobile Welding, D1.1 Certified in STICK, MIG, TIG, Aluminum welding, Gates, stairs, railings, metal repairs, Structural steel & fabrication, Ivan Lakish, 719-588-5819 or 256-4252

### Affordable Renewable Energy

Offset the cost of your utility bills with solar electric or with solar heating and domestic systems. Efficient, cost effective, reliable and professional service. New & used photovoltaic panels, OutBack inverters, deep cycle batteries, and custom racking systems. Call Talmath with New Gen Energy at (719) 588-8276 or visit us online: [newgenenergy.com](http://newgenenergy.com)

### Outlets, Wiring, Network and Satellite: Home and Office

Need Phone Outlets added to your house or office? I do Phone, Computer Network, Satellite TV and Stereo wiring. New construction, existing, troubleshooting. Call Dennis 256-4110

### Craig Electric Services

Craig Electric for all your electrical needs. Prompt, reliable, generous rates. Contact Steve at 256-5951, [sdossenback@gmail.com](mailto:sdossenback@gmail.com)

### Computer Service/Repairs

Computer Service/Repairs—22 years Computer Technician with full shop in the Baca. Windows, VIRUS fixes and prevention, networking. Call Dennis 256-4110

### Looking for a Healthcare Practitioner?

Looking for a health care practitioner in Crestone? Massage therapists, herbalists, energy healers, doulas, and more. Also lodging, hot springs, gift certificates. [www.crestonehealers.com](http://www.crestonehealers.com).

### Licensed Real Estate Appraiser

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

### 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.

### Tiny Little Crestone Clinic

The Tiny Little Crestone will be closed from September 11 until October 6, 2014. I will be incommunicado during that time. If you have medications that will need renewal then, please call before September 10th. Preservative-free flu shots will be available in October. 256-5118.



**Kozy up with**

**Fall Fund Drive**

September 15-28, 2014

1-800-290-0887

[www.krza.org](http://www.krza.org)

## New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)!

### Help Wanted

#### Love my kitties, hate housework!

Looking for stay over cat sitter for occasional one or 2 week vacations and house cleaner for occasional times when the housework gets away from me. References appreciated for both jobs. Thank you! Catherine 256-4248

#### Overnight Dog/Cat Sitter needed in my Chalet 1 home

Maddy (11.5yo Great Dane) & Sassakat (3yo cat) need a responsible, animal loving person to hang out with them while I'm away the following dates: Sept 3-9, 11-15 & Nov 5-15. Please email [anamaria@intentiontraining.com](mailto:anamaria@intentiontraining.com) with your experience, references, availability & rates

### Reporter Wanted

The Crestone Eagle is looking for a Saguache County News reporter. Must have good writing skills, be accurate, objective and able to attend the County Commissioner meetings in Saguache. Send a letter of interest with a description of your skills to [editor@crestoneeagle.com](mailto:editor@crestoneeagle.com)

### Software company in Crestone! We're hiring!

Seeking an asp.net Developer, ideally with SQL database experience. [www.SilverEarth.com](http://www.SilverEarth.com). We are a cloud-based eCommerce and POS multi-channel platform, and rather cutting edge. Yes, right here in Crestone! Also looking for people skilled in technical onboarding with Account Management experience. Visit [www.SilverEarth.com](http://www.SilverEarth.com)

### Misc. Wanted

#### Straw Bales – New or Old

New & golden or old & moldin', our garden needs 'em. Please call Janet at 719-937-3767 or stop by the Crestone Eagle office.

#### WANTED: Bodhisattvas

For the benefit of all beings, starting with all beings here and now! [tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas](http://tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas)

### Misc. for Sale

#### Horse riding opportunity

Beautiful horse to lease to local resident. 8yr old Polish/Basque pure bred Arabian mare is a wonderful riding horse. Potential lease-to-buy option. Call 303-746-6095 for more details.

#### Gas Fireplace Needs New Home!

Used Heat'n Glow vented gas fireplace with fan in tile cabinet (3'9 W, 20 D, 4 H). Model# SL-36GDV. \$725 obo. 719-256-4859. Also, bentwood style rocker & clean propane grill

#### Discounted printer cartridges

Brand new unopened cartridges for HP printer (ours died). HP74 (originally \$15.99) \$12.00. HP75 (originally \$20.99) \$17.00. One each. The Crestone Eagle 256-4956 or [janet@crestoneeagle.com](mailto:janet@crestoneeagle.com).

### Vehicles for Sale

#### 2007 Subaru Forester

2007 Subaru Forester wagon, 5 speed manual. 76,000 mostly highway miles. Well maintained, good gas mileage, clean. Rodent-proofed. \$8000 – below blue book! 303-641-4997 (Crestone)

#### 2001 Silver Nissan Altima

2001 Silver Nissan Altima standard 149k good tires \$2995 cash. 719-256-5439

#### 1995 Subaru Legacy Lxi Sedan

Very comfortable and well-maintained. Good condition. Reg 7/15. 250k. Engine, Trans, Struts, Brakes/Rotors, Rad, Batt, more, all new in last 50k., with receipts. Leather, Auto, cc, air, power everything. Yakima roof rack, Sirius sat radio, new snow chains. Bought new car and ready to let this go. \$2600 firm. Call/text 310-696-9118 or [teyeb@gmail.com](mailto:teyeb@gmail.com).

### Community Service

#### CB Village – Local Help, Give & Receive

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

#### Need a Caregiver?

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

### Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales

#### Big Garage Sale

Big garage sale with lots of items, kitchen, bedroom, tools and much more. 27th and 28th of September at 1351 Brookview Way Chalet 1 Crestone Colorado, 9am-1pm Saturday & Sunday

#### Massive Moving Sale

Ava's Massive Moving Sale in front of Bliss Cafe Sat Sept 20. A variety of stuff like you wouldn't believe! Bread maker, sewing machine, large roaster with 3 tray steamer option, ice chests, plug in travel cooler, suit cases, dishes & small appliances galore, shoes & clothes (not just my size), yarn, cases of books, Brand new gifts from gift shop. Items too numerous to mention! Ava 970 618 2213

### Events

Healing the Healer – 2 For Tuesdays At Hopes Castle, Twin View Overlook. CMTs only. Free Practice/Exchange. Introduction of one new technique weekly. RSVPs only. 256-5521, Grace. Throughout the season Fall 2014-Spring 2015.

#### What's Happening in Crestone?

Look in the Eagle's print calendar (located in the centerfold of the first section) for northern Saguache County events as of the first of this month. For the very latest, go online to <http://www.crestoneeagle.com/calendar>.

### Free

#### Designing the Earth Anew Together:

We have to first together decide what the ideal world should be, before we can together start creating it! [www.ModelEarth.Org](http://www.ModelEarth.Org)

#### Free Manure

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



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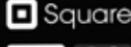
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**350' Spanish Creek Frontage**

719.496.0975 / [soularquest@gmail.com](mailto:soularquest@gmail.com)



View from the top of the road, past all the spiritual centers, at the upper Buddhist stupa. Taken on 8/10/14. photo by Lori Nagel



by Keno

**You have noted the start-up date for weather records in Crestone was in 1982, but what about Alamosa, Saguache, and the entire state of Colorado? When did records start being taken at these locations?**

For Alamosa, official records started to be kept in 1906, but their daily weather data taken between 1908, up till 1932, was somehow lost many years ago. For Saguache, their official records go back even further, all the way to May, 1894! However, they lost their official weather record keeper in January of 2009 and no official records have been kept there since, other than there is a unmanned weather station at the airport. If you live in Saguache and would like to keep official weather records for the town, you should contact the NWS's Pueblo office to find out what it takes. I can tell you that you would need to be trained first on how to use official equipment, be totally dedicated to working 7 days a week at a volunteer job, have somebody available to fill in for you on the days when you would be away or unable to record the daily stats (that usually means a family member), and take the readings from the same official location every day, which more than likely would be near your home on open space or any location where the weather equipment can be set up properly.

Now, back to our question. For the entire state of Colorado, the very first known weather records were taken not too far away from Crestone, long before Colorado was even a state! They were recorded by the US Army at Fort Massachusetts between 1852 and 1855. So just where was Fort Massachusetts (aka "Fort Mass") located? The fort, established on June 22, 1852, was built in the foothills on the west bank of Ute (Utah) Creek. Its primary function was to protect travellers and settlers in the San Luis Valley (which then was a part of the New Mexico Territory) from Indian attacks. In 1855, Ft. Mass was moved about six miles down

Ute Creek and renamed "Fort Garland", which in 1883 became an official town. If you would like to read up on Fort Mass's interesting history, you can do so at [www.museumtrail.org/FortMassachusetts.asp](http://www.museumtrail.org/FortMassachusetts.asp).

**Is it true that the lowest average annual precipitation in Colorado takes place in the San Luis Valley?**

Yes, it's true. Center, Colorado is the place, with an average total of only 7.04" of precipitation per year. Center also sees the least amount of snowfall for any location in Colorado, as only 28" per year falls. The average US city gets 25" of snow per year, so that might not seem so low a total, but the snowiest location for snow in Colorado is just up the road, at Wolf Creek Pass, where just under 500" of snow can be expected to fall each year! In case you're wondering, Crestone sees around 13.14" of precip, with 65" of snow a year, but snowfall records before 2001 are incomplete and missing data, and I believe the real amount is a bit more than that. Also, if you live just outside of Crestone or the Baca Chalets, say in the Grants, the average snow there is only around 40" a year. So being anywhere in the San Luis Valley means experiencing both less rain and less snow per year that your neighbors in the foothills and mountains experience.

*Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/vws](http://www.keno.org/vws).*

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno

July 21 to August 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip: 3.29"

Snow: 0.0"

Measurable precip. fell on 14 days.

Measurable rain fell on 14 days.

A trace of rain fell on 8 days.

Hail fell on 2 days.

11 thunderstorms occurred.

No snow occurred.

Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1: 9.33"

Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1: 37.7"

Snow Season\*: 0.0"

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

**Temperatures for the period:**

High temp: 90.0°F on July 23

Low temp: 44.7°F on August 11

Avg. high: 79.1°F

Avg. low: 48.6°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 90°: 1

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 80°: 14

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 50°: 15

**Winds for the period:**

Avg. speed: 3.0mph

Highest gust: 40mph on Aug. 10

Main direction: Out of the east.

**Weather summary**

Precipitation was above normal. We saw our wettest July in seven years, with all of the rain falling in the afternoon or evening hours, with mostly sunny mornings. On July 27, right around 3pm, 0.48 inches of rain and hail fell during a 45-minute period. We also saw a record amount of rain fall on August 1, when 0.84 inches was recorded for the day, with .80 inches falling in

less than an hour's time starting at 5:20pm. The old record for the day was 0.42 inches, set in 1998. Then 0.41 inches of rain and hail fell in one hour's time 2 days later on Aug 3. We also didn't see a single day in July with the humidity falling below 10%. It has been several years since that last happened.

Temperatures were around normal, which means it was a nice and cool! Yet we still managed to hit 90° on July 23, making this the 15th year in a row seeing at least one day with the temp at 90° or more for Crestone/Baca, and also for 22 out of the last 23 years. Before that time, Crestone would see temperatures below the 90° mark for an entire summer every 2 years on average.

**Outlook for September**

September is our third wettest month of the year, averaging 1.45" of precip. The wettest September on record was set just last year, when 3.71" fell. Snow used to accumulate every 1 out of 3 Septembers on average, but that hasn't been the case not only for our area, but all of Colorado, for years now. In the last 11 years, although snow has fallen in the month 4 different times, accumulation has only occurred twice.

Temperatures for September, as everybody knows, cool off big time. On September 1 we average highs and lows of 75° and 44°, but by the end of the month, they drop off to an average high of 66°, and a low of around 35°. The warmest temp recorded in September was 87° on Sept. 4, 1995, with the coldest low being 18° on Sept. 29, 1999.

The 30-day forecast for September is calling for normal temps along with, once again, above normal precip.

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