

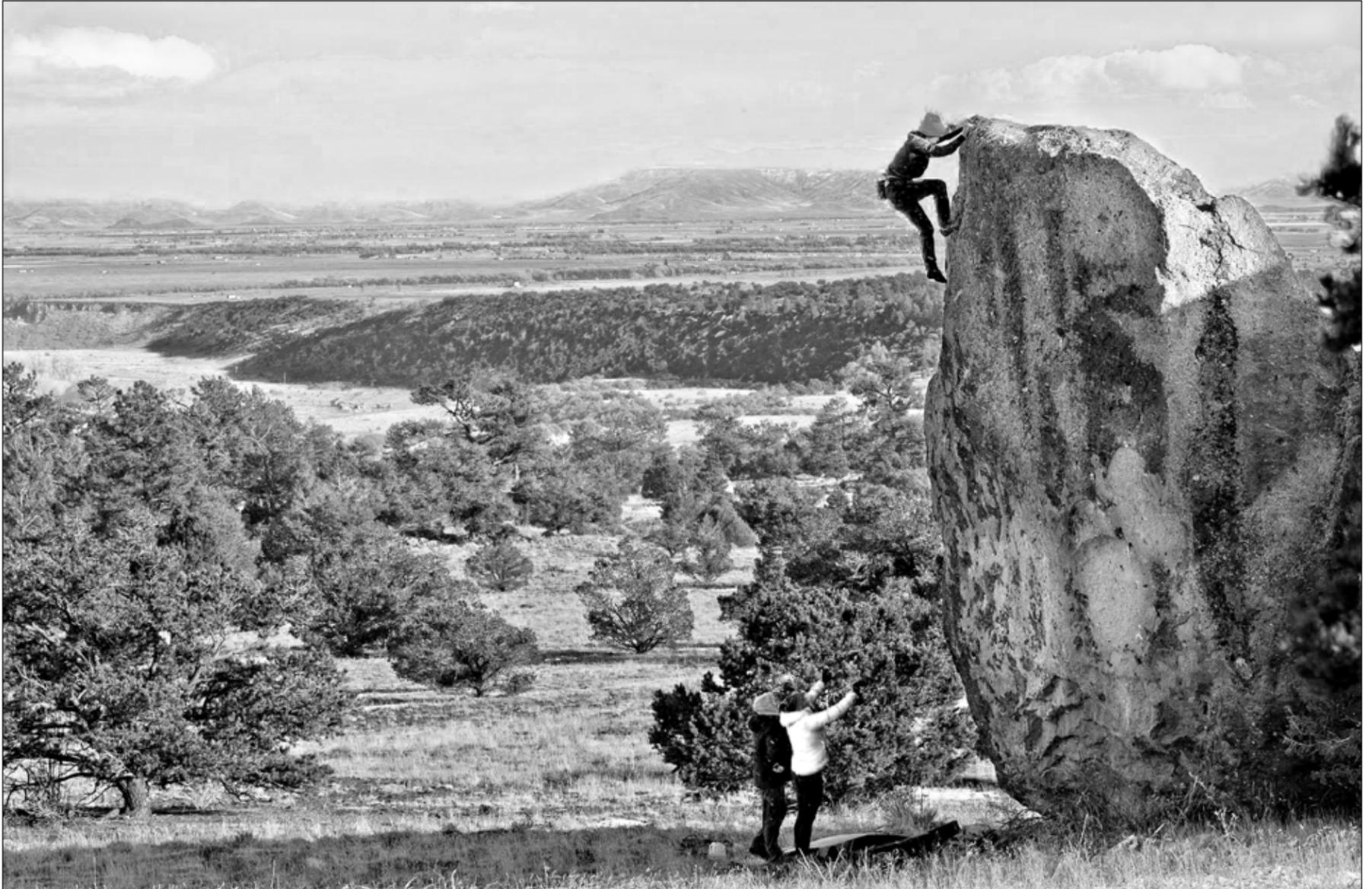
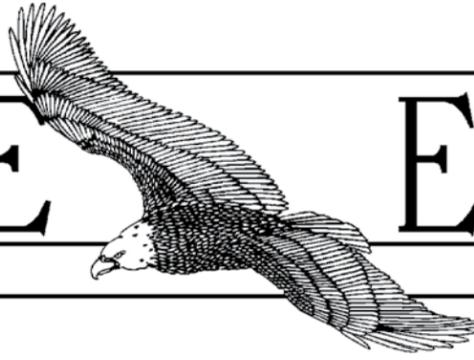
# The CRESTONE EAGLE

Crestone, Colorado Volume 26, Number 6

June, 2015 \$1

26 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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William Mondragon on a boulder climbing problem, located in Jacob's Hill in the San Luis Valley. See article about local climbing in our special **Summer Fun** section.

photo by Nate Liles. To see this photo and more in color, visit our website at [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)

## Saguache County property tax Notice of Valuations received; local residents have questions

by Lisa Cyriacks

In early May Notices of Valuation were mailed to all property owners in Saguache County. Controversies in valuations over the past couple of years, including a lawsuit against the County, have increased awareness by property owners of what these valuations might mean when it comes to next year's property tax bill.

"The valuations I am aware of appear to more of the same arbitrary, across-the-board valuations that were driven by the State for

2011 and 2013," property owner Elaine Johnson stated. Johnson was one of several property owners that participated in a lawsuit that was settled in a 2014 in favor of the property owners by Saguache County.

Peter Peterson, the newly elected County Assessor, acknowledges he has a big job sorting through a myriad of problems created by the database and historical inaccuracies. Not to mention the learning curve.

"Property owners need to un-

derstand that I am confined by statutes as to the amount of leeway I have in issuing valuations," Peterson commented. "I am willing to work with any property owner who thinks their valuation is not fair, within those limitations prescribed by statute. I have already corrected some valuations that had square footage incorrect or the year of construction wrong or the grade (i.e. condition of the house) listed inappropriately."

Peterson describes what he

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Michael Byer moving his new Tiny Home built by Clothesline Tiny Homes. See our feature on the Tiny Home movement on page B-1.

## Final decision grants Wolf Creek land exchange

Forest Service ignores court orders; continues to conceal 13,000 pages of emails

by Christine Canaly & Friends of Wolf Creek

The Forest Service, finalizing its Record of Decision, is paving the way to provide a Texas billionaire, Red McCombs, with public land to develop the private inholding known as the "Village at Wolf Creek." A large part of this controversy is the secrecy surrounding how the Forest Service reached its decision, using limited impacts

analysis to justify the land exchange.

In order to understand how the Forest Service made this decision, Rocky Mountain Wild (RMW) filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request on two separate occasions (February and November, 2014), requesting correspondence between the Forest Service, other agencies, the project proponent, and the consultants hired by the

developers. The Forest Service has been unwilling to release the communications that altered the structure and narrowed the scope of the environmental review, citing "exemptions" and claiming that the public is not entitled to review "deliberations" that took place between the Forest Service, developers and their consultants.

The Forest Service's recently

*continued on page B-3*

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**Summer Fun Special Section!**  
 Guide to events, places to go & fun things to do

## The Crestone Eagle

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Letters to the Editor must be 300 words or less.

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



## Thank you

To the community,

As Kali's parents we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation and thanks to all of you in Crestone who have shown our family what friendship and love is truly all about. A special thank you to those who cared for Kali on a 24/7 basis, providing transportation, food and other personal needs she required. The outpouring of love and tribute has meant so much to us. The love you have shown us at this most difficult time is exemplary. We again wish to thank each and every one of you. Crestone . . . you are a family.

Roz and Harvey Micklin

## Correction to the Mother's Day message

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to present a correction to the "Mother's Day Message" on the Letters to the Editor page in the May *Eagle* issue. I really appreciate you printing the poem "Children Live What They Learn," but it is not by anonymous. This poem was written by Dorothy Law Nolte, PhD, one of Dr. Ida Rolf's original students of Structural Integration. In addition to her focus on family dynamics, Dr. Nolte created a movement program called Structural Awareness, which is used extensively throughout the Structural Integration community.

Dr. Nolte's poem was expanded into a book, published in 1998, called *Children Learn What They Live* available at <http://amzn.to/1IKbWOL>.

Thanks again for printing Dr. Nolte's poem, and I continue to appreciate all of your great work with the *Eagle*!

—Buddy Frank

## Compassion where/when it counts

Dear Editor,

The knock came on a Sunday night/Monday morning at 2am. It was the single bark of my dog that woke me up, and as I walked downstairs, I saw the glare of a flashlight near my front door. I opened the door to a single Saguache County sheriff and a middle-aged woman in civilian clothes.

I have been in this position eight times in my life, as a civilian. At least a dozen times when I was working as a paramedic in Los Angeles in the 80s.

As a civilian, I was at the homes of friends or parishioners when the men in blue, or in two cases, when uniformed soldiers came to the door.

I knew why they were here.

I also knew that the next words that were to leave the deputy's lips would change my, or my sleeping housemate's, life forever.

"Does ----- live here?" It was my housemate. Yes . . . who died?"

"Her sister" . . . "Please come in."

You can imagine the horror that followed.

When the light of day came, and my housemate was resting, I made the round of calls to each of my family, telling them of my love for them—so so grateful that the call wasn't for me, wasn't for them.

I know that Saguache County is known for being the poorest county in the state. But, may I suggest, that they spent their money wisely. They woke up a grief counselor from her home at midnight to travel 100 miles round trip to accompany the deputy, to be there when the news was announced. In my experience, this was a first.

I am proud to call Crestone my home, and I equally am proud to call Saguache County my home.

—Tevye Belous

## Thanks to everyone

Dear Editor:

I wanted to thank Benji Buyers and Michelle Beelendorf for offering Cloud Station as a gathering space on May 17 to discuss a new Crestone/Baca Library, and for a wonderful dinner thanks to their tireless efforts as well as some great food provided by the Crestone/Baca Friends of the Library. Thanks also to everyone who attended and offered their comments and questions. Those who were unable attend will soon be able to see the slides from local architect Burt Wadman's presentation on a preliminary library design at the website for Northern Saguache County Library District website ([nsclcd.colibraries.org](http://nsclcd.colibraries.org)). Additional questions and comments on the new library project are also welcome and can be sent to Sarah Koehn Frey, Director, NSCLD, PO Box 448, Saguache, CO 81149.

—Peter Anderson  
 Chair, NSCLD

## Helping out a neighbor

Dear Editor,

As a professional coach with a specialization in transitional challenges, one of the areas in which I practice is the subspecialty of grief coaching. In this capacity I have found very creative opportunities to be of service to others as they process the changes in life that come as loved ones, partners, faithful pets transition onwards. This spring brought one particularly sweet connection that enriched my life and deepened my respect for both sides of the process.

When Mary Palermo passed in early February she left behind a devoted partner of over 25 years who faced the enormous challenge of a vast array of items collected over the course of her 50+ years of adulthood. With no children or siblings to dispense these items to, it became another layer of work for a grieving spouse which I became inspired to offer support with.

The experience of cataloging, researching values and history of the many items of Native American regalia, Victorian adornments, vintage jewelry and classic 70s art-wear was a delightful journey into an amazing woman's taste and artistic sensibility. It was a process uniquely Crestonian thanks to enthusiastic participation from oth-

ers to help a neighbor transform items no longer of service to them into something of better value: cash!

The pre-Mother's Day "Estate Sale" held at my home brought friends and strangers alike out to admire her beautiful pieces and select special items for self or others. Almost \$2000 was raised in a very short time which will provide some relief for end-of-life bills that Vince faces. Items not sold will be posted onto an eBay account or taken to consignment shops for the upcoming tourist season. Checks should be arriving for a while for Vince's benefit as items move along to new homes.

Opening our hearts, our homes and our pocketbooks for one another with such grace and love is one of the reasons I love where I live: Crestone, an amazing place to call home.

—Moirra Forsythe

## Fruition

Dear *Eagle* Editor,

I want to thank the leadership of the Northern Saguache County Library District (NSCLD), the Friends of the Library and the Steering Committee for the New Library Project for the inspiring evening of community education and engagement on Sunday, May 17 at the Cloud Station in Crestone.

The professional presentation by architect Burt Wadman of the plans for a library facility was well done and deeply informative. The meeting was skillfully and gently facilitated by Pete Anderson, Chair of the NSCLD and Kim Smoyer of Saguache and NSCLD board member. Kudos to Tom Ontko, Chair of the Friends of the Library, for bringing a vision of a new library for Crestone into form. Sarah Koehn Frey, Director of the Library District, has repeatedly demonstrated her leadership and management skills as she navigates the ever-changing waters of district growth, public financing, and day-to-day operations. The great food provided by The Friends of the Library and prepared by volunteers as well as the generous folks of Cloud Station was plentiful and tasty and helped to create an atmosphere of well-being in the community.

The Steering Committee for the New Library Project invites community members to participate in the fundraising and capital campaign for the new library. Representatives of the library district have initiated discussions with charitable foundations from the Front Range.

The current design of the library reflects approximately a 5,000 square foot space that includes a community room, teen and children book rooms and all the other kinds of space that a modern library would accommodate. In the design shown to the group, the community room is the largest of the rooms. When Pete Anderson pointed out that this space is half the size of the Cloud Station (which was packed with people listening and eating), a reality check settled over the crowd. 5,000 square feet is actually at the small end of the range of rural libraries found in

## Editor's Notes

### For the birds

Grace's and yellow warbler, both pygmy and full-size nuthatch, yellow finch, goldfinch, red finch, pine siskin, flicker, junco, sparrow, and bluebirds who built a nest in the birdhouse at my garden. Yellow & orange, black & red grossbeaks, mud swallows, red-wing blackbirds, grackle, hummingbirds, robins, owls and hawks galore. Crestone has become a bird-watching paradise.

Every evening I head out to my garden and watch and listen. The place is abuzz with birds. A large raven swooped low over my head, so low I ducked, and on its tail was a fiercely pursuing magpie. The golden eagles fly out from the cliffs above town along with turkey vultures. Raucous jays in the piñons compete with relentless robin song.

I'm seeing birds here I've never seen before—unidentified flying objects—until I grab my binoculars and bird book. Migration change? Or return?

This spring has been one of the wettest on record and is greener than I've seen in decades. Most all of us have gotten tired of all the rain. Can you imagine us being tired of rain! After a dozen years of a drought so fierce we used terms like "100-year", then "1000-year". When we prayed for and blessed every single drop of rain that fell. (A bit soggy, but I'm still blessing the rain!)

As we enter June, the Sangres are still covered in deep snow. White when just a few years ago they were bare and on the edge of burning. The creeks are running full to overflowing even though snowmelt still hasn't fully happened. Our yards could get even wetter with overflow. Maybe next month I'll spot water birds in Crestone—like ducks, geese and wading herons!

Happy green summer,  
 —Kizzen

### Thomas "Eric" Hart Feb. 27, 1953 - May 13, 2015

Thomas "Eric" Hart, PhD passed away on May 13, 2015. He moved to Crestone in 2013. He was born February 27, 1953. Born and raised in Fulton, NY. He spent much of his adult life in the west, living from Alaska to the southern regions of Mexico. Tom was a compassionate man and deep lover of Nature, kindness and beauty. He was a sculptor, musician and scholar. He earned his BFA at Colorado State University; his MA at Naropa University; and his PhD at California Institute of Integral Studies. Tom was predeceased by his father Edward Hart and mother Dorothy Hart. He is survived by his brother Douglas Hart and sister Judy Flynn; nieces Amy Palombo and Kelly Burdick; nephews Marcus Hart and Joe Crahan; grandnieces Lorelai Palombo, Eleanor and Margaret Burdick.

Tom planted many generous and loving seeds in the hearts of his family, friends and community. With gratitude and respect, we will continue to cherish and nurture these gifts for the generations to come.

Tom's family and friends wish to extend our gratitude to Crestone End of Life Project. Memorial contributions can be made to CEOLP.

places like Ridgeway, South Fork, Dolores and Mancos. I encourage all those who are driving this project to Think Big and Design for the Future—which is Now.

A library that provides educational resources as well as community space, and reflects in its architecture the environmental values of Crestone-Baca, is a beacon for economic well-being and tribal health. An aesthetically pleasing and well-designed building offers a refuge of harmony, reflection and gathering that is sorely lacking at present.

The new library project represents the brilliant sanity of human nature seeking to grow and improve its collective situation. May we not get in our own way. May the new library come to fruition in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,  
Marta Shoman

## Libraries are community

Dear Editor,

Libraries are not only important within a community, they are the leaders of culture.

The library is not only a depository of knowledge and history, it is the ongoing learning resource center of a community. Because of these functions, libraries are vitally important for the future of every community.

Generally the main support group for a library is the Friends of the Library. The Baca Grande Friends of the Library (FOL) was revived in 2011: after much hard and diligent work, we were granted exempt 501(c)(3) status by the IRS. Exempt status means that all donations to the library raised by the Friends are exempt from taxes.



### Beth Danica

Nov. 30, 1952-May 1, 2015

After a 5-year "Dance with Cancer" as she called it, Katherine "Beth" Danica made her journey Home on May 1. She was surrounded by friends and family—both physically and etherically—when she made her transition.

In Crestone, Beth leaves behind her husband, spiritual partner, teacher, student and best friend Bob Ellingham and her sweet felines Gabby and Yoda. She is also survived by her sister, Chris Saltis, and Chris' significant other, Lanny Walker; niece, Jenn Bissett; nephews, Dan Saltis and Andy Bissett; and great-nephew, Walker Saltis. She loved them all.

Beth began her life as Kathy Pakos in Lorain, OH in 1952. Ditching college for the work world after high school, she evolved through a series of secretarial jobs before finally getting the higher-education bug in her 30s. She turned her BA into a successful career as a freelance writer and photographer until her eyes opened to the spiritual world and drew her away from a life that she never fully felt comfortable in.

After a couple of years of being a free spirit, during which she met Bob, they landed in the Baca Grande to visit Bob's friends. An hour later, Beth found herself saying that this was the place they needed to be. And that was almost 18 years ago, making her and Bob unofficial old-timers.

Beth loved her home in the Baca, especially walking the trails along the creeks.

In lieu of a memorial gathering, Beth asks that anyone wishing to do so to spend a few moments thinking about a special memory with her. That memory can then be sent to her on a thought or a prayer so that you can share them together.

Donations can be made to Neighbors Helping Neighbors, PO Box 822, Crestone, CO 81131.

With that first meeting in September 2011, the Friends initiated discussion about a new library facility, to be located in Crestone. This idea was a major focus of all meetings, and was eventually adopted as a viable plan by the Northern Saguache County Library District (NSCLD). As you know, eventually the plan is to locate the new library close to the Charter School so there is opportunity for maximum

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### Kalisama

Nov. 30, 1964-April 27, 2015

Lisa "Kalisama" Micklin passed away peacefully in her home on West Galena Ave in Crestone holding the hands of dear friends and with her cat Raja close by, on April 27 at 1:08pm after a long battle with Metastatic Melanoma. She was fifty years old. Her father, mother and brother had been at her bedside the weekend before she died. Many dear friends and not blood family were able to come by, visit, laugh, tell stories and say goodbye to our dear sister and friend.

Born in Brooklyn, NY on November, 30, 1964 she was raised in North Woodmere, NY, graduated from Lawrence High School in Cedarhurst, NY and earned a BA in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1986. She then moved to Austin, TX where she studied journalism and advertising at the University of Texas. She came to Crestone on a vision quest in 1990/1991 and moved here in 1992. Her father, Harvey Micklin of Broomfield, said of his daughter, "She was always a very talented artist and writer."

Kali wore many hats during her years here. She worked at *The Crestone Eagle* for several years. Always a "foodie", she managed a Whole Foods deli in Austin. Kali worked in various restaurant settings in Crestone, perhaps the most notable at the Kitchen Table Restaurant in the old Roadkill building. She did private caterings and helped people plan cleansing diets with meals. A stellar teckie, Kali taught computer classes and helped many businesses with web pages and consultations. She worked remotely for companies in NYC and worldwide doing tech work and consulting.

Kali was very eclectic spiritually and explored many paths. She was always respectful of traditions and felt close to her deities of choice. She loved the Earth and all of nature. Close companions for many years were her dog Bodhi who preceded her in death and her cat Raja. Kali had many friends from all segments of the community. She loved Crestone very much although she like many of us had left more than once. She served on the Town of Crestone Board of Directors, a job she saw as very important.

Her passion was always music. She brought many wonderful musical events to us at the

Crestone Music Festival and the old Silver Crest Palace. As music production became a bigger and bigger part of her life, she teamed up with Avery Runner and others in the production Company Native Circuit to bring the Emerging Arts Festival to Crestone and produce other shows and events. She became a sought after DJ and producer who was doing events nationally. Her following is international and adds layers to her Crestone family which nourished her in her journey.

Kali put her Melanoma in remission for fifteen years after first being diagnosed. When it came back over two years ago like gangbusters, she chose to do experimental cancer medicines which put her in remission for about eight months. This also served other cancer patients. She spent the last month of her life at home with the help of friends and the wonderful care provided by Hospice del Valle. She was cremated at the Crestone End of Life Project Cremation site. At the ceremony many shared heartfelt remembrances of Kali and how she had woven into their lives. She was a blessing among us and will be greatly missed by many.

### Untitled

Fifteen years ago, they gave me three to five,

I forgot I was dying.

I became poor, a musician, met my global tribe,

I became rich.

I forgot I was dying.

Six months ago my brain shut down.

I forgot how to write, how to talk, how to drive

They cut open my brain and removed walnuts and golfballs

I remembered I was dying.

They gave me medicine that cost \$32000 per day

My guts exploded.

They cut me open so I could shit out of my stomach.

I remembered I was dying.

I came home to my cat and my friends still loved me.

I forgot I was dying.

I lost weight, looked good in my clothes

When I had the strength to get dressed

I forgot I was dying.

They shot me with radioactive sugar

So pretty, so colorful

Rainbow auras like from the 80's

I still forgot I was dying.

Three days have passed.

I see only love surrounding me.

I've denied their poison

And slowly, ever so slowly

I'm forgetting that I am dying

Live for the day, live in the now.

Forget we are all dying.

Be in the moment, with cat, with the friend

It is in this blessed ignorance that freedom is found.

—Lisa Kalisama Micklin

12/25/13

## Saguache County Crime Report

by Mary Lowers

Many arrests in Saguache County this past month seem to be addressing old business, cleaning things up as it were. A 35-year-old Center man was taken to jail for Parole Violation and Possession of a Controlled Substance. His bail was set at \$2500. Failure to comply with a warrant landed a 33-year-old Center man in jail with \$1000 bail. A summons to appear in court was issued to a 38-year-old San Angelo, TX man who allegedly committed third degree assault, knowingly and recklessly causing bodily injury to a victim in the Mineral Hot Springs Estates area. Charges of Habitually Driving on a Revoked License sent a 34-year-old Center man to jail with a bail of \$458 set.

Domestic incidents, which are always a large part of rural policing, were part of the crime scene in the county this past month. A Saguache woman, 39, was jailed with no bail listed for violating a restraining order. A Coal Creek man was taken into custody in Saguache on two felony counts of False Imprisonment and Menacing. His bail was set at \$5000.

In Crestone, a 38-year-old Virginia man was cited for Careless Driving and Failure to Notify Police of an Accident which occurred on Mica Ave. The County Deputies have been patrolling more in Crestone, issuing warnings for speeding and failure to stop at stop signs. Speeding tickets in the county show we are beginning the tourist season. Remind visiting friends and family not to speed in Saguache County.



"Snowmobile". The Mother's Day snowstorm was a big surprise! People woke up on Sunday morning to see a foot and a half of wet snow. photo by Martin Macaulay

## Mother's Day Snowstorm wallops the greater Crestone area

by Keno

The greater Crestone area was hit with a major spring snowstorm on May 9, and into the early morning hours of May 10. Although the storm system hit the entire state, only some areas were hit hard, and that rang true for this neck of the woods.

At the Crestone/Baca weather station in the Baca's Chalet I, where weather records are officially kept, 18.3" of snow was recorded over the 2-day period, with most of that falling on the night of May 9. For several hours that evening, 2" of snow per hour came down, and with the temperature at 30°, it was a wet, heavy snow that fell and cause widespread damage to many trees in the area. Electric power also went out for some for short periods of time.

Lucky there was little wind with this storm or things could have been even worst, although the lack of wind allowed the snow to pile up on the trees and cause so many broken branches. This storm was localized even for this area; it just depended on where you lived as to how much snow you saw. The more to the east and higher up in the mountains you were, the more snow you experienced. Over 20" was reported at the Crestone campground north of town, yet the town of Crestone saw less snow than in Chalet I, as was the case out in the Grants, where around a foot was reported. To the south of Crestone, near the Great Sand Dunes National Park, only 3.3" of snow were recorded, to the north in Villa Grove, 7.4" fell, and out in Center, and for most of the San Luis Valley, less than an inch was reported. Alamosa only saw a trace of snow.

The 18.4" of snow that has fallen so far in May is an all-time record snowfall for the month, breaking the previous record of 15 inches, which fell in 2001, plus the 2.95" of liquid precipitation for the month (so far, there's half a month to go as I write this) is also a new record, breaking the old mark of 2.18", set in 1993.

With even more snow falling up high in our mountains the snowpack has improved over the last 6 weeks. It was melting at a much faster rate than normal for late March, and April. Where the snowpack was down to less than 50% of normal in most spots, after the last several snowfalls, it is now closer to an average of around 80% of normal.



The heavy wet snow of the Mother's Day snowstorm left behind lots of broken trees. Branches and even trees came down under the snow load. photo by Robert Fisher

## Letters

continued from page 3

usage by our children. That was voted to be our first priority. The new location is also situated so that it is conveniently accessible to be enjoyed by all.

The Friends has had a strong history of support by dedicated members; however, new membership is now needed. If you love libraries and want to see quality growth for Crestone, please consider supporting your library by joining the Friends. Our meetings are once a month at the Crestone Town Hall Conference room, 1:30pm, always on a Friday. Please check the *Eagle* Calendar or call Thom Ontko, (256-5653) for dates.

The Aspen Institute recently stated that "Libraries have become the living-rooms of a community." Wow, that is quite a statement. Shall we ideally take advantage and grab hold of this wonderful opportunity? Know that your energy counts. Lets leave more than

a fingerprint of having been here.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thom Ontko, Chair,  
Friends of the Library

*P.S. And a very special thanks to the art students at the Charter School. They used their ideas and talents decorating all four sides of a large wooden stand for a large donations bottle. The donations will go toward the new library building fund. Wowie—Kabam & Kaboom. What talent—great job!*



Mother's Day brunch on the patio anyone? photo by Vonda Jones



### The Crestone Experience

- Spend 3 Days of Activation in one of the Most Potent Spiritual Vortexes on the Planet
- Experience the Unified Field of Co-Creation
- Dance Peace into the World

~ Bernie Skydrummer ~ Jennifer Friedman ~ Wonder Bob ~  
(Rooms Available or Free Camping)

August 13th-16th Event \$88

- ~ Hindu Fire Ceremony ~
- ~ Buddhist Stupa Practice ~
- ~ Lakota Yuwipi Ceremony ~
- ~ Ziggurat Dance ~

Registration: 719-937-3057

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# Saguache County News

## County assessments: Balancing public trust with broken systems

by Sandia Belgrade

All real property in the state must be reassessed every two years. In Saguache County property assessments this year have been challenging for property owners and the County itself. Some property owners in the Baca have found the increases in assessments confounding. At the same time, the Saguache County Assessor's office has faced the dilemma of reconciling both residents' claims and the computer system in Pueblo which calculates the data. Information provided at the Saguache Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meetings illustrated the complexity of the problem.

Assessor Peter Peterson stated that the assessments were based on residential house values going up 36% county-wide during the reappraisal period which was from July 1, 2012 to June 31, 2014, analyzing all qualified sales during that time period. Vacant land values went down. This was a statewide phenomenon driven primarily by extremely low mortgage interest rates.

The Assessor's office says it submitted a large file with the correct values to the vendor in Pueblo. But the knowledgeable tech person there left. The person fixing the system was not conversant with the assessor codes and could not adjust codes correctly. Peterson said the valuation stats submitted were correct. The file was then sent to Master's Touch in Oregon, the vendor that does the actual printing and mailing of roughly 15,000 Special Notices of Valuation (NOV). These NOV's are being sent out now, addressing vacant land values because the adjusted values that were input to the Pueblo system did not roll over when the file was sent to Master's Touch. A form was made available on the back of the NOV to protest, and residents had until June 1 to file. If information

is incorrect, be it square footage, year built, or quality of structure, it can be readjusted.

Residents have experienced the ups and downs of previous assessments where some property owners paid more taxes while others got off without paying their share because property records hadn't been brought up to date.

Saguache is not the only county in the valley affected. Rio Grande and Costilla counties are also having problems with the Pueblo system, which is still in free fall. Saguache County will probably switch over to another vendor but not till the end of the year.

### Crestone Area Business Alliance

Vickie Helm and Alberto Oliva of Crestone Area Business Alliance (CABA), a volunteer organization, has received approval to work on improving the kiosk located at the Y on Road T as it comes into Crestone and the Baca. They noted that July 4 is a prime time for visitors, and sprucing it up would improve the initial reaction guests have to the community. This will include: basic repair, beautification, painting, landscaping, computerizing(?) and providing maps for hikers as well as for those coming to the retreat centers. They have given the commissioners a written proposal, and will provide further details. The BOCC authorized the first phases of the work.

### Public lands monthly discussion

Mike Blakeman, Public Affairs officer for the Rio Grande National Forest, addressed the BOCC regarding the extent of the beetle infestation in the Rio Grande National Forest. 550,000 acres of spruce have been infested, including almost every spruce tree 5" in diameter and larger. The implications of the forest being 95% beetle-infested is not all negative. According to Blakeman, there is a positive aspect to this in the natural cycle of nature. Trees dying allows more sunlight to reach the forest floor, helping young trees to grow faster. Fallen, rotting trees become part of the nutrients in the soil and habitat for other creatures.

Ron Garcia, Manager of the Baca Wildlife Refuge, wants to do more towards establishing partnerships, and creating accessible trails, such as bicycling paths, to get people into the refuge.

### RAC openings

The Rio Grande Advisory Council (RAC) is a network of citizens—educators, students, professionals, land owners, federal, state, and local governmental agencies, and other stakeholders—who share a common concern for the conservation of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo watershed. The Rio Grande National Forest is seeking to fill openings for the RAC. Blakeman recommended combining the Upper Rio Grande and Saguache RACS. This would make it possible to get a quorum (usually 15 voting members). A quorum will assure Saguache County can recommend projects and be able to act on funding under Title II provisions of the Secure Rural Schools Act (SRS).

2014 SRS funds will not be sequestered. Funding can go to roads or schools. Title II funds can also be used for improvement to the forest, including watershed, trails, and even weeding alongside the roads leading to the forest. With Title III money, the County can receive a percentage for fire education. Matthew Crowley, Peter May, and Sam Pace of Crestone presently serve on the Saguache RAC.

### One more recycling effort

Jason Anderson talked to Bill Burch of "Waste Free SLV" who was referred by Orient Land Trust. Burch turned in a proposal to take over landfill recycling and recycling in the county. He believes they can make money and intends to take care of infrastructure. The BOCC feels that handing over recycling to a private group is good idea providing they have insurance.

### Comp time excesses

Lyn Lambert, County Co-Administrator, said that the county has no policy on how much comp time an employee can carry. They will have to review this because if some of them quit in the near future it could be financially difficult. Road and Bridge Department employees were over 2300 hours. Some employees may be getting comp time that shouldn't be. A policy review appears to be in order.

### 2015 budget complaint

There is an investigation into possible statutory violations regarding the Saguache County Commissioners' publicizing the proposed 2015 budget. Ben Gibbons, County Attorney, briefly discussed the complaint and said that it doesn't constitute malfeasance which would be wrongdoing with ill will by a public official.

### Board of Social Services client addresses BOCC

A county resident came before the board to explain a bureaucratic snag with Social Services (SS) and Medicaid. She received a letter stating that Medicaid coverage was cancelled because she no longer wanted medical assistance. Then she was told Medicaid was not cancelled, but when she went to fill a prescription there was no coverage. Medicaid makes their determination based on the County's Social Services. What she experienced was frustrating, and while some of it may have been the result of Social Services mistakes, there were also details the client could have attended to. The client will appeal and Linda Warsh, Director of SS, will review why case calls are not being returned by Social Services. Warsh attended a timeliness and accuracy forum. The intent is to put together a better grievance process.

### UAV discussions & planning

Commissioners have been attending meetings and discussions regarding unmanned UAVs (un-



Beaver pond and bright green aspens. Summer comes to the high country.

manned aerial vehicles). Ken Anderson went to Longmont and met with FAA officials and others. According to Anderson, they are impressed with Saguache County because Leach and Saguache airports have room and elevation ideal for their requirements. In order for the Air Force to use the airports for flying practice, the County would want to develop a memorandum of agreement. (MOA) with the Air Force. While awaiting a final ruling, they are making preparations including defining land and boundaries for Saguache Airport. The County will send out a Request for Proposal and decide what company to designate as a surveyor. Most recently the BOCC met with Paige Wilson of the company Selex to discuss a possible arrangement to provide training at county airports which might include any of several components: training for unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) pilots, crews, and maintenance personnel. For training purposes the airports need more infrastructure and classrooms.

### Public Health report

The County is advertising for a new Public Health Director. In the meantime the tuberculosis issue remains complex. The State noted a lack of resources. The department needs a Registered Nurse for medication. The Rio Grande director is coming in to help with the active case. There are several more latent cases requiring follow-up, and in mid June they're getting another TB patient with child. The electricity at the center often goes off which is problematic since the TB vaccine can only be unrefrigerated for one half-hour. They will apply for an emergency sales tax grant to purchase a battery backup.

### Northern Saguache County Library Board

The BOCC approved Carla Quintana's appointment to the Northern Saguache County Library Board. Patricia Miller resigned from the NSLD. BOCC also approved a staggering of terms so that each year there is only one opening from each community. Michael Hayes of Crestone is taking over the second year of Dennis Davidson's term. Hayes will serve until 2016.

Adler  
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with us!"

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Deer munch on all the lush green grass by the Crestone creek. photo by Lori Nagel

## Public meeting for POA management strategies announced

by John Rowe

The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) met as regularly scheduled on April 23. All five board members were present with Board President Matie Belle Lakish presiding and twelve audience members attending. A private board executive session began at 6pm and the regular public meeting began at 7:10pm.

The first item of business was to approve the agenda. President Lakish moved to add discussion of more law enforcement present in the community. The motion passed on a three to two vote, with Directors Fuller and McDonald dissenting.

The Member Forum was brief and primarily concerned with the possible addition of so called "smart meters" on all homes by the San Luis Valley Electric Company (SLVEC). These would involve micro waves that are believed by some to be harmful to human health. The board requested more information before the possibility of any opinion or action would take place.

The minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved and were followed by department reports.

Ambulance Department head Pam Gripp announced that EMT school would run from this July through December. Pam Gripp will be retiring at year's end and plans are in place for a newly licensed paramedic to be through training and back in the Baca by then.

Acting Fire Chief Chris Botz reported that the POA now has a fourteen-member roster with nine "Red Card" members. Red Card designation means that a member has passed a rigorous physical and classroom course in fire fighting tactics in our climate and terrain. Acting Chief Botz assessed the current fire department as having "quite a bit of capability". When asked if he was happy with the progress the fire department has made over the last year, he responded that he had a good comfort level with the way things are but will continue to strive to make the department better yet.

An administrative update by POA Manager Alison McClure included a vote with unanimous approval to change CD signees to reflect the current board. She also reported that 92 lots are slated to

be owned by the County by July of this year, meaning that a corresponding amount of POA dues will be lost until these lots are auctioned off.

An update of the Management Strategies Committee was given by committee chairperson Sugandha Brooks. Director Brooks stated that the committee is considering Hammersmith (the POA's management company) performance consistency, the possibility of local access to POA records and local hiring options.

Director Brooks announced that a public meeting to discuss management strategies for the POA's future, to include the possibility of local management (Hammersmith's contract expires on December 31, 2015) would be held at the POA hall on Monday, May 18 at 3pm.

A general board discussion ensued at this juncture concerning repairs and improvements to the POA hall. The most pressing needs were determined to be new carpet and ceiling tile. Alison McClure will be getting bids on both.

A motion to continue to provide fire service to Chama Ling and the HUA Ashram was passed unanimously.

Chokurei Restaurant was to close its doors permanently by the end of April, dismantling the kitchen, leaving the Pro Shop building needing a new tenant.

President Matie Belle Lakish wanted to discuss the possibility of a rent subsidy to any Saguache County Deputy who would live in the Baca. Alison McClure said that the new Saguache County Sheriff had announced that he would not consider such a proposal and the matter was summarily dropped. The meeting was adjourned at this time with no further discussion.

## POA Board airs important issues

by Earl W. Sutherland

The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) held its regular meeting on May 14 with all directors present and thirteen in the audience. The public meeting began at 6:40pm and was adjourned at 8:25.

The public meeting was preceded by an executive session of the board in which a vote was taken to "approve legal counsel advice". There was discussion as to whether such a vote was permitted, which seems to turn on whether the vote entailed the adoption of a rule or regulation, such a vote being prohibited by the Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act 38-33.3-308.6. That, of course, depended on what topic that "legal counsel advice" was related to, which was not revealed.

In light of a seeming abundance of legal consultations it was questioned in the Members' Forum how that process is billed and whether that information is public. Manager McClure said that attorneys' fees were individually billed and itemized but she did not know if these particular POA expenses could be revealed.

Someone had expressed concern that the Smart Meters used by the local electric utility were emanating dangerous electro-magnetic radiation. That person failed to submit documentation of her concerns as she had intended, nor did she appear at this night's meeting. It was suggested that regulation of such devices was outside the board's purview, but if warranted a statement of concern could be forwarded to the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Co-Operative. Presently no action is planned.

Director Brooks is promoting a Clean-Up Day for the pleasure of community union and the accomplishment of some needed improvements. This idea was warmly received and plans will be developed. The Clean-Up Day may begin at one of the parks. Audience members suggested that because of the recent storm the cleaning up of fallen branches would be a valuable "clean-up". The office of the POA can provide the telephone numbers of private individuals who may be able to help property owners with the fallen and damaged branches, but the POA itself cannot sponsor significant work on non-POA property.

Perceptions of rampant growing of marijuana in the Baca has prompted regulatory proposals. The

Environmental and Architectural Committee (EAC), administrators of the building process within the POA, has offered a three-component plan: (1) no other construction until the primary residence is substantially complete; (2) installed required septic system or hook-up to the Water and Sanitation District facility; (3) area of greenhouse not to exceed 350 square feet. These proposals are being put forth in conjunction with the Sub-Area Planning Commission. Manager McClure, in a meeting with County Land Use Administrator Wendy Maez, was urged to get the POA to adopt a greenhouse area of 500 square feet, which has been proposed as the County's standard. The figure of 350 square feet was based on a study indicating that as the approximate area needed to support the fruits and vegetables for a family of four, according to EAC chair, Charles Sommers. The board, after much discussion, chiefly over greenhouse size, was finally able to agree that a resolution be drafted for judgment at the next meeting. It was noted that those who had a good argument for a greenhouse bigger than regulation could petition the EAC. Unsettled was the question of what to do with existing greenhouses which were oversized. It also needed to be specified if the resolution referred to the total area of all greenhouses on the property.

An opinion by a legal firm assessing the risk of liability ensuing from fire damage to the area was voted by the board to be released to the public and is to appear on the POA website. Reportedly this opinion makes it doubtful that there is any financial risk to the membership, as POA members, from a catastrophic fire.

Marcia Heusted, although not present or known to all Directors, was unanimously approved to the Violations Appeal Panel. She replaces Harun Magnuson and joins chair Diane Dunlap, Judy Rose, Diana Moats, and Joy Hill.

On June 9 at 6pm the board is to meet at the POA with the Saguache County Board of Commissioners. Proposed topics of discussion in this work session were law enforcement, greenhouses, job creation, and marijuana.

After having been gone for a month, it's good to return to see a co-operative and productive meeting. Nice to be back, though hardly necessary in light of the fine reporting of John Rowe. Thanks, John.

### PROCESS FOR REPORTING DOG VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE BACA GRANDE POA

- Members, residents, guests, employees, Board and Committee members may file a dog at large complaint in three ways:
  - Phone the POA Office at 719-256-4171 and a staff member will record the complaint on the standard complaint form. You will be asked if you were able to take pictures of the dog. If pictures are available, the POA staff will instruct you on how to forward the pictures to the POA.
  - You may email a complaint to info@bacapoa.org. If you choose to email a complaint please include date of the incident, your name, your phone number, your lot number, the location and lot number (if possible) where the dog resides, what you witnessed, and attach pictures of the dog if possible.
  - You may come to the POA and fill out the form yourself. Please bring pictures with you so the staff can download or copy your pictures.
- If a dog acts aggressive, vicious, or bites you, a family member, friend, guest, tenant, or causes injuries to your dog, please call the Saguache County Sheriff at 719-655-2525. Please take pictures if possible. Do not call the Sheriff for barking dogs or dogs at large, they will not respond to those offenses.
- If you see a dog(s) harassing wildlife, please take pictures if possible, and contact the Division of Wildlife at 719-587-6900.

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ROOTS OF HEALING

# Crestone downtown revitalization project beginning soon

by Akia Tanara,  
Crestone Town Administrator

In the past few months, contracts were put into place for several CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) components, including architectural, grant administration, surveying and soil testing services. In mid-May, five test holes were excavated in the commercial district to document conditions existing prior to construction. Surveying of the project area was undertaken, and the Town adopted several resolutions required by the grantor, DOLA (Department of Local Affairs).

### Construction to begin

The construction package was advertised for bid in late May, and a contractor should be selected by the Town Board of Trustees by the end of June or early July. And then the fun begins! Please join us in celebrating the inconveniences caused by the commercial district getting a make-over. The disruptions won't last long, and the downtown will be greatly improved before year-end. This project will mostly focus on infrastructure—getting drainage established by adding curb & gutter, installing sidewalks and ADA-approved intersections and crosswalks, and adding underground rough-ins for future electrical and plumbing components.

Significant improvements will be made to Little Pearl Park. The Crestone Creative District has submitted and had approved by the Town board a design for a circular geometric mosaic design that

incorporates symbolic elements of many local faiths as well as being a non-denominational art display, and will be collaborating with local artists and fundraising to complete this project.

The downtown project will be incorporating the “Crestone Conglomerate” which is unique to our area. According to local geologist, Jim McCalpin, the “Crestone Conglomerate . . . is a rich complex rock with a story to tell,” and “. . . it comprises the core of the high Sangres.” The conglomerate contains many different rock types, including granite, quartzite, metamorphic rocks and others, in a matrix of sand and silt that is harder than granite. We plan to feature this rock in the stone walls of the Little Pearl Park Plaza, as well as other areas, and are seeking specimen boulders in sizes no smaller than 18” in diameter, up to large boulders of about 4’ in diameter. If you have some nice conglomerates that you would be willing to part with, please contact Akia at Town Hall, 256-4313.

### You can help!

We are also hoping to include some antique iron artifacts from the agricultural and past mining era in the downtown project. These items will be embedded in walls and perhaps other surfaces where they will represent the history of our community. Once we have interesting items to work with we will know better how to incorporate them in the work. If you or somebody you know has a precious heap

of old parts that you would like to make a part of Crestone’s history, please give us a call and we’d be delighted to take a look.

As reported in earlier updates on this project, the Town did not receive all the funding it requested for downtown revitalization, and consequently many of the beautification features of this project have been deferred. If you would like to sponsor a tree, contribute to

the landscaping budget, or provide money to purchase a decorative street lamp, your donations will be happily received. Downtown Revitalization is an Enterprise Zone Project, which means that significant tax deductions are available for cash donations. The Enterprise Zone Credit is 12.5% and preapproval is required, which Town staff will help to arrange.



by Gretchen Nelson,  
Crestone Town Clerk

### The Town finally owns a vehicle

For the first time in history (as far as we know), the Town of Crestone now owns a public works vehicle. The Town purchased a Ford F150 truck with attached snowplow from Shumei. The Town is very grateful to have obtained this truck, which will help control costs for snowplowing. The Town would like to thank Matthew Crowley and Shumei for their generosity.

### What a doozie of a snow storm!

On Mother’s Day the community woke up to a blanket of heavy spring snow. The outcome of that storm was severe tree damage due

to the weight of the snow. Mitigation workers began the cleanup that same day and will continue the work until all the remaining debris is cleared. We are appreciative of Title III funds from Saguache County, which allow the Town to work on mitigation projects each year, and very thankful for our volunteer firefighters, who perform a majority of the mitigation work.

### Resolutions adopted

On May 11, 2015 the Board of Trustees signed Resolutions 004 & 005, which adopted policies for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Resolution 006-2015 was adopted, supporting the grant application for a Community Facilities Grant from USDA for purchase of a tractor.

## CRESTONE MERCANTILE

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*Happy Father’s Day!  
From Steaks to Power Tools, we have  
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*Bob’s Place - Country Dining at its Best  
A Place Bob would love!!*

*Dad’s Meal is 1/2 off on Father’s Day*



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The BEST STOCKED Hardware store in the  
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Meet all of your camping, automotive,  
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right here in CRESTONE!

+ August 7, 8 & 9 +  
**Crestone Music Festival**  
 + 2015 +



Double rainbow over the Crestone Music Festival

photo by Lori Nagel

+ **Headliners** +

by Tom Dessain

Get your tickets now for the 17th Annual Crestone Music Festival August 7, 8, & 9 at last year's prices! The festival is a 22-act, 2-stage, multi-genre, multicultural event with camping, arts & crafts, great food, Colorado libations, a kid's zone and all-age activities.



Lunar Fire performs Friday night.

**Friday night: Lunar Fire**

The Friday night headliner is Lunar Fire. They originated in 2002 on Lake Atitlan in Guatemala. They are a multimedia, trans-cultural, musical spectacle with costumed dance, trapeze artists, fire dancers

and world class musicians. Opening for Lunar Fire is the nature-friendly funk band Global Soul Experience.

**Saturday night: Robben Ford**

Saturday night will feature 5-time Grammy-nominated and renowned guitarist, Robben Ford. Robben began his career supporting harmonica virtuoso Charlie Musselwhite. He then joined the historic fusion group Tom Scott & The L.A. Express and began touring with Joni Mitchell. Ford went on to record and tour with Bonnie Raitt, Bob Dylan, Phil Lesh and a host of others. By the time he joined the Miles Davis' group, he'd developed a signature approach based on an axis of blues, jazz, pop and rock. Opening for Robben Ford is Todo Mundo, an award-winning Latin band with killer horns from San Diego.

**Sunday night: Young Dubliners**

Sunday features the legendary Young Dubliners! The Young Dubliners consider themselves to be ambassadors of Celtic and American rock. The band members' dual Irish and American heritage has always resulted in a distinctive and richly varied musical palette. Opening for the Young Dubliners is the Americana New Grass band sensation, Gipsy Moon.

Other acts include soul from Mama Magnolia, cello reggae from Intuit, smooth progressive country



Five-time Grammy-nominated guitarist Robben Ford plays Saturday night.

from the Rifiers, Ghana drum and dance from Logo Liji, plus much more. We also have bellydancing, the Salida Circus, wood-chopping, pie-eating, limbo contests and a pile of good music. Please see the *Eagle* article this month for this year's local assortment of talent.

All ticket prices have been frozen from last year. Advance prices are: Under 12 free; teens are \$10 a day or \$25 for the weekend; adults

are \$27 Friday, \$37 Saturday, \$27 Sunday or \$75 for the weekend; seniors are \$17 Friday, \$22 Saturday, \$17 Sunday or \$45 for the weekend. Please visit [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) and order your tickets or call our office at 719-256-4533 or toll free at 855-85MUSIC.

*The Crestone Music Festival is a production of Crestone Performances Inc., a 501c3 non-profit community service organization.*



The Young Dubliners, self-proclaimed ambassadors of Celtic and American rock, perform Sunday night.



The Crestone Tribal Bellydance project returns to the stage with a rich blend of folkloric and fusion pieces.

**Crestone Music Festival position open**

The Crestone Music Festival is looking for a new carpenter to coordinate building our stages. After 16 years, Tim Brenner is retiring and, though it will be difficult to do, we need to replace him. This is his last rodeo so he will be training the new coordinator this year. The job requires carpentry experience, getting volunteer helpers, people skills and tools. The job pays \$599, happens once a year and can be a lot of fun. Plus you work before and after the festival so you can enjoy the show. Please call 719-256-4533 to talk with Tom about your interest in the job.

## + local Music festival acts announced +

We have a great assortment of local acts this year with some newcomers and some surprises:



The River Bottom Blues Band, ready to rock their third Crestone Music Festival.

### River Bottom Blues Band

The River Bottom Blues Band returns, delivering rockin' blues spanning five decades. Crestone residents River, Dee, Jim and Tedd rock hard and steady. Don't miss your chance to hear, see and dance to the smokin'est band in these parts.

### Rusty Lovell

Rusty is so new to town, I don't know him! I do know that he is a long time guitar player who has traveled a long road and played with a lot of folks. He's a fresh face with original music that scampers from acoustic blues to jam band. Come on out and see what he's about.

### Crestone Tribal Bellydance

Crestone's own improvisational, folkloric, tribal and fusion dance ensemble. Their performances are colorful and dynamic with many diverse and creative choreographies. Their dancing is based on traditions from the Middle East, Spain and India. So beautiful, get a bellyful.

### Cari & James

Cari & James were new last year and have settled in to the Crestone zone. They are from South Africa, have collaborated for more than a decade, and have traveled the world playing original folk and rock songs as an acoustic duet. It's good to have them here. Great stuff, don't miss them!



Blue Rooster CrestFest Crown.

### Blue Rooster

New in town is Blue Rooster. Four guys that strut with spunky, funky blues-a-tude. This straight-up rock n' roll set-up will set your feet a twirlin' and your ears a yearnin'. Come on out and get a shot of Blue Rooster booster.

### Seat of The Pants String Band

This band features Thad and Sue Englert plus special guest Eric Karlstrom. Born out of the dust of the valley, this is an ole timey folk grass band that plays and sings traditional songs, from Woody Guthrie to Pete Seeger. Their music makes you want to sit back, relax and smile.

### Fiji Acoustic

This ensemble has been playing music together for thousands of seconds. They have a great array of originals but take on favorite classics with poise and fervor. If you want to see a bunch of friends clowning it up but laying it down, don't miss these guys.



CB Jazz.

### CB Jazz

CB Jazz is one of the longest standing bands from Crestone. They play older jazz classics with horn, bass, keys and drum. You'll hear swing, bossanova, blues and timeless standards! They are well seasoned and seem to like each other. So stay cool in the shade with some jazz for your day.



Teddy and the Tarantulas.

### Teddy and the Tarantulas

Another new band from Crestone is Teddy and the Tarantulas. They play all original music that is high energy fun with tons of talent and likeable licks! From two-step to stomp grass, you'll be dancin' and delightin' to the country rock these guys knock out.

### Sonic Apothecary

OK folks, I saved this for last cause it's a whopper. Sonic Apothecary will be sharing Music of the Plants with us and it is way strange, cool and new. Scientifically, it is the measurement of electromagnetic variations of the surface of plant leaves and roots through the use of clips and ground wires that connect to a unique device. The impulses are translated to tones. The plants respond to musical stimulus from a world-wide assortment of singers and instruments live on stage. Then the musicians respond to the plants and pretty soon . . . well, it's completely unpredictable but totally amazing! The knowledge of this has just been recently released to the public due to the inventor's death. Interested yet? Do you want to hear an aloe or a pinyon or geraniums or ponderosas with didgeridoos, flutes, vibes and vocals? Listen, do waa do, do you want to know a secret? We think you do, come and experience something new!



Mito returns to Shumei June 19th at 7pm.

## Mito returns to Shumei June 19 at 7pm for an evening of Flamenco

If you missed him last few times he was in town you certainly heard about the show. Shumei International Institute is happy to welcome back Flamenco guitarist, composer, musician, and vocalist Miguel "Mito" de Soto on Friday, June 19 at 7pm.

Presently based in Santa Fe, Mito utilizes various instruments in his music including transverse wooden flutes and a dobro tuned to a harmonic minor scale. Also a classical guitarist, Mito's trademark as a classical composer is personified in his ability to mask complex chord structures under a searing melody line. Although Mito continues to have many of his classical compositions performed publicly, he professes his enduring love for Flamenco music.

There are many music styles worldwide that influence and shape a musician throughout his/her life. For Mito, paternal and maternal

family members have always been instrumental at introducing him to a diverse montage of musical instruments, such as mouth harps, various stringed instruments, flutes, guitars, clapping (*palmas*) & stomping, and of course, plenty of singing.

Mito studied with world-renowned percussionist Alex Acuña and plays using poly-rhythms of five beats against three beats (accenting beat one for each measure). Mito also uses poly-metric (multiple changing beats per piece) drumming time signatures from Senegal & Ghana, East Indian rhythms in 9 and 10 beat measures and 12/8-count measures in Flamenco rhythms.

Tickets for the concert are a \$10 suggested donation, and all proceeds benefit the artist directly. He brings with him his newest CD. For information call 719-256-5284 or visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org).

## Sophia Dixon Dillo to be Shumei's Featured Artist for June

Local artist Sophia Dixon Dillo has her work on display at the Shumei Gallery in Crestone for the month of June. A symposium with Sophia will be held on Sunday June 14 starting at 3-5pm. A reception will follow.

Sophia Dixon Dillo has a MFA in painting from Colorado State University. She developed her interest in light as an active medium during her graduate years at CSU. For an independent study in sculpture, she made large-scale installations using light to illuminate sheer walls of fishing line. These works were pivotal to her artistic path, and eventually led her away from traditional means of painting and toward an explorative dialogue between painting, sculpture, and light.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay area, Dillo grew up watching her father, artist Willard Dixon, paint in his studio. She learned to draw from observation at a young age. Struck by the power and simplicity of Mark Rothko's paintings, she began to explore abstract painting in her early artist years. Dillo has studied art at the Lacoste Ecole des Arts in Lacoste, France and received an artist residency grant from the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vermont. She has a BA in philosophy from



Untitled, 7"x7", incised paper as part of the "Emergence Series."

Colorado College, and completed her academic education with a MFA from Colorado State University.

Dillo's current work continues to focus on light. She uses minimal, all-over patterning so that the viewer's attention can shift from the particular to the whole, and back again. Giving each part equal weight emphasizes the appearance of the piece as a whole. Quiet and subtle, her works prove difficult to capture in photographs. The works are experiential. They require the viewer's presence in order to witness the ever-shifting effects of light and movement on the pieces.

Come meet Sophia and learn more about her work on June 14. This event is free to the public. Please visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 256-5284 for more information. The Shumei gallery is open every day 9 to 5pm.



*Kai Beetch Design*

- ~ Blinds
- ~ Shades
- ~ Drapes
- ~ Repairs

Crestone 256-4498



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Art Symposia, Exhibitions, Concerts and Special Events

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

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## Popular string group here June 28

A fine group of classically oriented string instrumentalists will perform in Crestone on Sunday, June 28. The Sona Trio, led by Sarah Off, which has performed here before to great admiration, will be augmented by cellist Mathieu D'Ordine. The program will contain works by Bach, Rossini, Kreisler, O'Connor, Sachse, Mozart, and Britten. The Sona Trio consists of Sarah Off, violin; Anne Sorensen-Wang, violin; and Chunyang Wang, double bass.



The Sona Trio, from left to right: Sarah Off, violin; Anne Sorensen-Wang, violin; Chunyang Wang, double bass.

These young musicians have a breadth of musical tastes and experiences informed by extensive academic studies as well as an impressive extent of performance. Ms. Off is a native of Del Norte and champions the place of performing musical arts in the rural west in addition to her many other musical endeavors. She is currently working on a Doctorate of Musical Arts at Arizona State University where she has served as Concertmaster at the several orchestras there. She has performed in concert with several Colorado orchestras and at Avery Fisher Hall and toured in Latvia and Iceland. She is an avid music teacher at several studios.



Mathieu D'Ordine, cello.  
photo by Adam Riggs

Nebraskan Anne Sorensen-Wang received a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Nebraska and taught music for three years. She performed in the Lincoln and Omaha Symphonies and with the MAHR String Quartet. She pursued her performer and educator goals by earning a Master of Violin Performance at Arizona State University. She's since performed across the United States and in Canada, Italy, and Russia. Besides her performance schedule, she's an active educator in the Mesa, AZ, public schools. Harbin, China native Chunyang Wang came from a family of double bassists and began music early.

From Beijing Mr. Wang traveled to the Interlochen Arts Academy, then to the Julliard School where he received his bachelors and masters degrees. He's now a doctoral candidate at Arizona State University. Mr. Wang has received many awards and the privilege of performing with the Brentano and Julliard String Quartets. He's served as Principal Bass with five orchestras and performs regularly in Arizona symphony orchestras. He also is a prize-winning composer for his instrument. The concert will be held at the Colorado College facility on Sunday June 28 at 2pm. A contribution of \$15 would be appreciated; students, free.

## North African Dance & Music Anthropologist Amel Tafout to be Crestone Tribal Bellydance guest teacher

The Crestone Tribal Bellydance Project is very pleased to present a Summer Solstice Immersion with the Algerian-born dancer, musician, scholar and dance anthropologist Amel Tafout. This event will be held at Joyful Journey Hot Springs on June 19-21.

Amel has lectured, danced, taught, sung and conducted anthropological research in many countries. Her research focuses on ritual in Maghreb dances and on dance as a healing form. She explores the rich tapestry of movement and rhythm that has been woven over time between Spain and the Maghreb, Africa and the Middle East, the Mediterranean Sea and Europe. She has developed, reconstructed and stylised Maghreb dances through her own experience: her research, teaching and performances. She has mesmerized audiences around the world with the earthy fluidity of her dance and her stunning stage presence.

Raised in Algeria among the finest traditional dancers and musicians, Amel was fascinated by dance and music since childhood. In her early twenties, she moved to Germany, where she founded the pan-Arabic dance company Banat As Sahara. In the late 80s, she moved to London, where she taught and performed at various dance and music festivals. While currently living in the USA, she is still performing and teaching worldwide. A voyager between countries and cultures, having worked and lived all over the world, Amel is fluent in 5 languages. Unsurprisingly, migration has been a constant theme in her work. Amel is one of the finest ambassadors of Maghreb and Berber folkloric arts alive today, sharing the dance and musical tra-



Amel performing Algerian dance.

ditions from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia with passion and warmth.

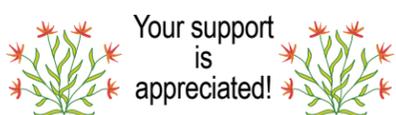
Friday, June 19 will feature an immersion in the healing arts, chants and whirling dance of the Sufi tradition. Saturday, June 20, Amel will offer a beginning Frame Drum class, and a dance class: Dancing to Raï, the Algerian blues. That evening, Amel will perform and offer a cultural presentation and Q&A. On Sunday, June 21, the Frame Drumming class will continue, with the addition of voice, song and dance. In the afternoon, an intensive called "Journey through the Maghreb" will introduce many of the dance steps known from bellydance, with their folk roots and background explained.

No experience is necessary to attend any of the classes, and participants may register for single classes or various packages. Please go to [www.crestonetribal.com](http://www.crestonetribal.com) or contact Katie at 719-588-9255 for registration information. To learn more about Amel, please see [www.ameltafout.com](http://www.ameltafout.com).

### Crestone Botanic Garden

The Crestone Botanic Garden is open Monday – Saturday, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at Crestone Town Center.

Shop locally for beautiful house plants, garden starts and planting supplies. This project is sponsored by the Town of Crestone and Saguache County to promote economic development for disabled adults.



SUMMER SOLSTICE  
WITH AMEL TAFSOUT

June 19 - 21 2015  
JOYFUL JOURNEY  
HOT SPRINGS  
San Luis Valley, Colorado

North African Maghreb, Amazigh-Berber & Sufi  
Dance, Music and Ritual

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Morocco  
and Tunisia

presented by  
[crestonetribal.com](http://crestonetribal.com)  
719 588 9255



Craig, Alberto, Scott, Don, Robin and Vickie have come together to bring an amazing new business to Crestone, a part of which will be an ice cream shop with homemade ice cream! Stay tuned for more details. photo by Lori Nagel

## New ice cream shop opening soon

by Vickie Helm

July 4 weekend will be the grand opening of Crestone Creamery, located at 150 Silver Avenue in downtown Crestone. The Creamery will feature small-batch ice cream made fresh right here in Crestone.

The Creamery will be serving all your favorite flavors in a cup or cone in both hard batch and what the Crestone Creamery team is calling "Fresh Batch." Owner and Head Ice Cream Chef Alberto Olivas said, "Our ice cream maker is able to produce six quarts of ice cream in approximately 8 minutes which leaves us the ability to produce the freshest ice cream and serve it right away from the ice cream maker to our community. It's just delicious served fresh and it's really fun to watch the children enjoy fresh homemade ice cream."

The the Creamery is the brainchild of three couples who wanted to give a gift to the town and create a fun, safe place for

Crestone community families to bring their children to enjoy real homemade ice cream. Owner Don Gifford said, "We wanted to create a brand of ice cream that was exclusive to Crestone and we all felt that we could make an ice cream product that was fresh and flavorful using only fresh high quality ingredients. Our vanilla bean ice cream has organic raw vanilla and our Chocolate Moose ice cream is made with high quality cacao and is melt-in-your-mouth delicious. Come in and try some."

Robin and Vickie Helm, Don Gifford, Scott Stevens, Craig Tomaski and Alberto Olivas started the Crestone Creamery project in September, 2014, and are excited to have their Grand Opening during National Ice Cream Month, July.

Come and join them for their Grand Opening July 4 weekend and taste a local treat at Crestone Creamery's Fresh Batch ice cream shop.

## An art-filled summer at the Crestone Artisans Gallery—open 7 days a week!

by Moira

As hard as it may be to believe, summer is just around the corner. Although snow is still deep on the peaks, our artists have been preparing an abundance of artwork meant to warm your soul and lift your spirits to new heights this month. Painting the gallery with new colors and creating a richly hued feature wall has brought fresh attention to many of the photography and wall art pieces.

Elegant hairpins from shed antlers by Dancing Elk Designs or sparkling new jewelry sets by Sasha Lovelace will brighten anyone's daily ritual of personal adornment. Woodworker Pat Tesauro-Jackson has expanded her display of gnarled vases and lamps created from reclaimed trees. And this month's featured artist, Paula Hudson, has filled our reconfigured back room with her expressive western watercolors and cowboy collage art. Check out more of her work at [www.crestoneartisansgallery.org](http://www.crestoneartisansgallery.org).

Judy Arnold, one of our talented ceramic artists, has added new ceramic faces and an array of

birds just waiting to sing for you. Many of the other 24+ members of the gallery have added new work for the summer season as well. All of it is "one of a kind" in nature, so come on in soon to select the pieces that are looking to go home with you.

The gallery will have incredible hours this summer, open 7 days a week from 10am-5pm every day. All our artists will have plenty of "floor time" in the gallery to meet you and speak about their work personally. Make time to stop on in next time you're in town for mail or groceries, and we'll look forward to seeing you! 719-256-5280.

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## Good Ole Red, White & Blue! July 4 celebration being planned

by Gretchen Nelson,  
Crestone Town Clerk

The Board of Trustees has chosen to have the 4th of July theme be "Good Ole Red, White and Blue".

This fantastic day-long downtown celebration is already shaping up for enjoyment by all ages. Thanks to contributions and volunteering efforts by the Crestone Creative District and Crestone Area Business Alliance groups, this enhanced celebration will have a variety of events to please everyone.

There will be the traditional 5 km "Run, Walk, or Crawl Race", the "Big Splash" dunk tank; an 18'x18' Bouncy House for all ages; vendors and music in the park; and as always the noon parade. Anyone can join the parade; just show up at 11am on Copper Ave. & Cottonwood St., follow the parade coordinators' instructions for line-up and have a great time.

Throughout the day enjoy the live music and vendors located in both Artisans & Little Pearl Parks. The Town welcomes vendors and sells 10'x10' booth spaces at \$10 for non-food and \$75 for food vendors. Everyone can participate in the scheduled events for this celebration. We welcome new and previous volunteers to coordinate or assist in the areas of need. Here's what you can do to get involved:

- Become a vendor; rent a booth space for your merchandise,

ideas, or services.

- Get in shape, enter the 5K race or simply volunteer for this event.

- Decorate a float, your wagon, tractor, autos, bicycles or motorcycles and come join the parade.

- Costumed parade walkers, jugglers and marching units, etc. are always welcome.

- Become an equestrian unit; just be sure to pick up after the horses and "leave no animal trace".

- Organize a group; get involved and help volunteer for this event to ensure a safe, family-filled day.

For coordinating & volunteering opportunities, reservations and general event information, contact Gretchen at [crestoneclerk@fairpoint.net](mailto:crestoneclerk@fairpoint.net) or call Town Hall at 719-256-4313, M-F from 9am-1pm.

Here are a few important changes for the 2015 annual event. The parade route has been reversed and will now travel due north on Cottonwood St. from Golden Ave., right on Iron Ave., continue south on Alder St. and end at the intersection of Golden Ave. & Cottonwood St. Updated parade route maps, including event schedules, will be handed out by community youth.

For more information, schedule and to sign up for booths or events visit [www.crestoneevents.wix.com/4thofjuly](http://www.crestoneevents.wix.com/4thofjuly)

### Crestone, Colorado

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of  
July

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The Trubelos at the Cloud Station

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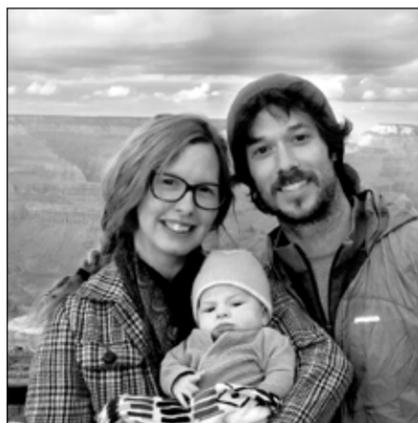
INTERNATIONAL FOOD

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Sponsored by the Town of Crestone,  
the Crestone Area Business Alliance!  
and the Crestone Creative District



# HAPS



### Michael & Sabra's new baby

Michael and Sabra Byer, former Crestone residents, welcomed new son Sam Oliver Love Byer into the world on March 24, 2015. Sam was born in Salida where Sabra and Michael are currently residing.

### CCC summer programming for 13 to 18-year-olds

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 9:30-11am: *new* Health & Fitness Club. Crystal Price-Wade will be hosting a new Health & Fitness Club which will focus on physical activity, nutrition and healthy living.

Tuesdays from 4-7pm – Outdoor, athletic and experiential activities

Thursdays from 4-8pm – Council Meetings, Dinner & Bonfires

For more information about Crestone Creative Council, please contact Lisa Bodey at 719-480-5925 or bodeycrestone@gmail.com.

### Workshops offered

Informed Final Choices, the sister organization of Crestone End of Life, will be offering several workshops July through September. Some topics include Advanced Directives, Death Café, The Art of Dying, and Care of the Body. These classes will be grouped together, two per day, with a morning class from 10-12 and an afternoon class 1-3. Participants could attend one or both. Look in July's *Eagle* for dates and venue. Hope to see you there.



### Jessica & Chris tied the knot

Jessica Hollopetter and Chris Calaway would like to announce their marriage. The wedding took place on May 9 at a small family gathering.

### NHN phone book correction

Please change Bayard Cobb's number to 719-298-3002

### Tea Circle

Tea Circle is Wednesday, June 3 at 4:30. Potluck supper at 6 pm . . . save the date, you are invited!

What is a Tea Circle gathering? Conversations of the heart . . . exploring kindness and community.

Part 1: tea served in a circle!

Part 2: personal creative expression :)

Part 3: respectful dialogue ~~

\*\*Please bring a cushion to sit on and a teacup (for the circle), and a plate/bowl & spoon (for the potluck.)

RSVP (please reply—yes or no—so we know how to prepare) to Paul 719-256-4656 and for questions and directions.

## Woody Allen in Crestone! Movie Night features *Sleeper* June 12

Crestone Performances will present the futuristic comedy cult classic *Sleeper* by Woody Allen. The show will be Friday, June 12 at the Crestone Charter School. The movie starts at 7pm and homemade chili, drinks and popcorn will be available.

New this month will be a free children's theatre that will run simultaneously with the grown-up movie. It will show in Clancy's classroom with an adult present at all times. The kids that show up will get to pick what they want to see. The Kratt Brothers will be high on the list of possibilities. No violent or scary shows will be allowed. As parents, you can come with suggestions. Fun educational shows will be the primary focus.

*Sleeper* was partially filmed in Colorado, and is about a nerdy health-food store owner, Miles Monroe (Woody Allen), who enters the hospital for a routine gall bladder operation in 1973. When he expires on the operating table, Miles' sister requests permission to cryogenically freeze her brother's body. After 200 years, Miles is unwrapped by a group of scientists and awakens to a "brave new world" of deadening conformity, ruled with an iron fist by a never-seen leader. Miles is forced to flee for his life when the scientists—actually a group of revolutionary activists—are overpowered by the leader's police. He eludes the cops by pretending to be an android, and in this guise is sent to work at the home of Luna (Diane Keaton), a composer of greeting cards who thinks that the world of the future is perfect as it stands.

*Sleeper* is the most visual of Woody Allen's earlier films with goofy futuristic props like giant food and Prius-looking cars. There's more, but why spoil your fun? The Dixieland score is performed by the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

This is a continuation of our Friday Movie Night fundraiser held every second Friday of each month. It's been fun so far and the fun goes on with this groundbreaking movie. Suggested admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for teens.

But wait! Become a member of Crestone Performances for \$50 or more a year or \$5 or more a month and get in for free that night! You can even make a pledge to become a member and get in free. CPI annually produces the Crestone Music Festival, now in its 17th year; has produced free school performances for over 13 years; and provides free production and consultation to other organizations. For more information, please contact us at 719-256-4533, see our web site at crestfest.org, or write to CPI, P.O. Box 6, Crestone CO 81131. CPI is a 501c3 community service organization. All donations are tax deductible.

### Shamanic Drum Journey June 18

The steady beat of Naomi Lake's drum guides participants into an expanded state of awareness to access direct guidance and healings from Spirit helpers. Thursday June 18, 7-9:30pm (starts promptly!) \$20 RSVP Naomi Lake 719-937-7803

### Valenzuela is finalist

Crestone resident T. J. Valenzuela's book *The Road To Eden* has been named a finalist in the General Fiction/Novel (under 80,000 words) category of the 2015 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. There will be an awards reception for all finalists and winners at the Harvard Club of New York City from 5 to 7pm on Wed., May 27.

### ENCAUSTIC PAINTING WORKSHOP

Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>  
or  
Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>

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All levels welcome!

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### 2015 Crestone Adventure Day Camp

Brought To You By:  
CYP (Crestone Youth Plaza) & Saguache County Commissioners with The Town of Crestone, Parents, and Community Donors

Session One: June 8 - June 25

Session Two: July 13 - July 30

Mon - Thurs 10am - 4pm

Questions? Call Patte Smith 256-4712



Every Day Is An Adventure  
At Day Camp

# Community Calendar—June 2015

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).

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

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

To list your event in the upcoming edition of the *Eagle*, please submit it by the 22nd of the month via our website, [www.crestoneeagle.com/myevent](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.

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

## Monthly Events

### Monday, June 1

- Sustainability course, Adams State University \$200 full course or \$35 individual class 587-8209

### Tuesday, June 2

- Full Moon – All Day
- Full Moon Fire Ceremony Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 719-256-4108
- Riwo Sangchö: smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-10:45 am
- The Buddha's Enlightenment – Tashi Gomang Stupa 10:00 am-11:00 am Free 360-370-7770

### Wednesday, June 3

- Tea Circle – Tea Circle 4:30 pm-7:30 pm free 719-256-4656

### Thursday, June 4

- Flow: The Key to Integrated Wellness – The Book Haven 6:00 pm-8:00 pm \$45 719-539-9629

### Friday, June 5

- Retreat w/Latri Khempo Nyima Dakpa Rinpoche Chamma Ling All Day <http://colorado.ligmincha.org>

### Saturday, June 6

- Camino de Crestone pilgrimage – All Day [www.caminodecrestone.com](http://www.caminodecrestone.com)
- Earth Knack Free Open House – Earth Knack School Site / Blankenship Residence 10am-5pm Free! [www.earthknack.com](http://www.earthknack.com) 719-256-4909
- Republican Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser – Mtn. Valley School 12:15pm Adults \$25, Kids 12 & under \$10 719-655-0299, 719-655-6202

### Sunday, June 7

- Monthly Sampai for June, Shumei Sanctuary 10:30am Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 256-5284

### Monday, June 8

- Town of Crestone Board of Trustees regular meeting, Crestone Town Ctr 1:30-6:30pm 256-4313

### Tuesday, June 9

- Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable – SLV Water Conservancy District 2-5pm

### Wednesday, June 10

- Crestone End of Life Project monthly meeting – Topping House 7:00 pm-9:00 pm free 256-4247

### Thursday, June 11

- Wetlands Workshop for landowners, Antonito Parish Hall 8am-4pm [riograndelandtrust.org](http://riograndelandtrust.org) 719-657-0800
- Sufi Dhikr & potluck – 4:00 pm-6:00 pm free or by donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290

### Friday, June 12

- Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser, Bistro Rialto 6-10pm \$50 <http://restorativeprograms.org> 589-5255
- Dakini Tsok (Vajrayana communal feast) – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
- Movie night: Sleeper – CCS 7:00 pm Adults \$5, Teens \$2, Under 12 free 719-256-4533

### Saturday, June 13

- Worldwide Knit in Public Day, Bob's Place 1-3pm [www.facebook.com/events/107692792898214/](http://www.facebook.com/events/107692792898214/)
- Storytelling by Company of Players – Cloud Station 7:00 pm \$10 719-937-3308

### Sunday, June 14

- Drop-in Meditation – Choying Dzong 10am-1pm
- Storytelling by Company of Players – Cloud Station 2:00 pm \$10 719-937-3308
- Art Symposium for Sophia Dillo, Shumei Gallery 3-5pm free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org), 256-5284

### Tuesday, June 16

- New Moon Fire Ceremony, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 256-4108
- Riwo Sangchö: smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-10:45 am

### Wednesday, June 17

- Start of Ramadan – 8:30 pm

### Thursday, June 18

- Shamanic Drum Journey – 7:00 pm-9:30 pm \$20 719-937-7803

### Friday, June 19

- C/BG Friends of Library meeting – Crestone Town Hall Meeting Room 1:30 pm

- Amel Tafsout teaches bellydance, Joyful Journey Hot Springs [www.crestonetribal.com](http://www.crestonetribal.com) 719-588-9255
- Flamenco guitarist Mito at Shumei 7-9pm \$10 [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284

### Saturday, June 20

- Art Day at Wolf Creek – Wolf Creek Ski Area 12:00 am [www.slvec.org](http://www.slvec.org) 719-589-1518

### Sunday, June 21

- Fathers Day – All Day
- Summer Solstice

### Thursday, June 25

- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome, 4-6pm Free or by donation [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290

### Friday, June 26

- HH 17th Karmapa's Birthday Party – Tashi Gomang Stupa 10:00 am-11:00 am 360-370-7770
- Guru Rinpoché Tsok (Vajrayana communal feast) – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

### Sunday, June 28

- Start of Wilderness-focused Teen Retreat, Dharma Ocean \$35-\$1500 <https://sit.ibme.info/bodeycrestone> 978-254-7082
- Drop-in Meditation – Choying Dzong 10am-1pm
- Sona Trio performs – Colorado College Conference Ctr. 2:00 pm \$15 suggested
- 2 Bit Palomino performs, Cole Park 6-8pm free [www.almaonline.org/sundays-six](http://www.almaonline.org/sundays-six) 719-937-1255

### Monday, June 29

- VBS Vacation Bible School starts – Crestone Baptist Church 9:00 am-noon

### Wednesday, July 1

- Full Moon Fire Ceremony, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10am free [babajashram.org](http://babajashram.org) 256-4108
- Tea Circle, 4:30 pm-7:30 pm free 719-256-4656

### Saturday, July 4

- US Independence Day – All Day

It's best to give while your hand is still warm. *-Philip Roth*

## Daily/Weekly Events

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

### Daily

- Morning Aarati, Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 7am, 256-4108, [info@babajashram.org](mailto:info@babajashram.org), [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)
- 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, [www.babajashram.org](http://www.babajashram.org)

### Sunday

- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Town Hall 7:00 pm-8:00 pm 719 937 7769

### Monday

- CCC Health & Fitness Club Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 9:30 am-11:00 am
- Karate Summer Training CCS 6:15-7:30pm \$50 adults; \$30 students & family members 413-219-7774

### Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5-6:45pm By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

- Basic Mindfulness Meditation instruction & practice KTTG shrine room, 243 Baca Grant Way 6:30-8pm Free KTTG.org 360-370-7770, 256-4764
- Narcotics Anonymous open meeting marijuana users welcome Baca Library back door 7:30 pm-8:30 pm [crestonena@gmail.com](mailto:crestonena@gmail.com) 970-309-0710
- Kids Summer Reading Program Baca Grande Library 10:30 am-11:30 am Free 719-655-2551
- CCC Outdoor, athletic and experiential activities Old Schoolhouse 4:00 pm-7:00 pm
- Karate Summer Training CCS 6:15-7:30pm \$50 adults; \$30 students & family members 413-219-7774

### Wednesday

- Yoga Fundamentals & Refinements Shakti Sharanam 8:30 am-10:00 am By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Crestone Food Bank Crestone Town Hall 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
- iNtEgRaTiVe Yoga YES Bldg next to library 9:15 am-10:30 am 719.298.0360
- CCC Health & Fitness Club Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 9:30 am-11:00 am

- Gentle Yoga YES Building 11:00 am-12:30 pm 719.298.0360
- Karate Summer Training CCS 6:15-7:30pm \$50 adults; \$30 students & family members 413-219-7774

### Thursday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5-6:45 pm By donation 719-256-5668
- Council Meeting, Dinner, & Bonfire Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4-8pm
- Karate Summer Training CCS 6:15-7:30pm \$50 adults; \$30 students & family members 413-219-7774

### Friday

- Encaustics Workshop Firstthought Studios 1:00 pm-3:00 pm \$50.00 includes supplies <http://www.facebook.com/Firstthought> 719.256.4848
- June 05 through June 26
- CCC Health & Fitness Club Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 9:30 am-11:00 am

### Saturday

- Dorje Trolo Practice White Jewel Mountain 10:00 am-12:00 pm no charge 719-480-5403



## Native plants are singing in Crestone

by Peter May

On May 18 Robin Blankenship's 4th and 5th grade class joined E3 KFM in restoring native fruit trees and shrubs as well as roses and other wild flowers along South Crestone Creek on the Colorado College Baca Campus. Before they started, they were greeted by a singing Narrowleaf Cottonwood sapling, which was singing with the help of a special musical instrument digital interface (MIDI) from Damanhur (a United Nations award-winning sustainable eco-community in Italy) and a speaker. The students responded with two songs of their own, "Leaning on the Infinite" and "Fly Me to the Moon," and the sapling continued to sing along.

Some of the students filmed this event under the gentle guidance of Cynthia and Scott. The other students planted many seedlings along the creek and they protected them with standing baskets and watered them. Then just before leaving, they got to hear a baby wild rose that they had planted, sing through the Damanhur MIDI as they spoke with it. To see the videos of their experience, go to these links: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cdrJNH4R8s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9cdrJNH4R8s); [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VGqbmVWguA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VGqbmVWguA); and [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk6RWh2bqXk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk6RWh2bqXk)

E3 KFM is producing another ElementsCamp for Kids this year. It runs from July 5-10, and this year the program is called Awakening the Natural Genius. It includes interaction with the music of the plants through MIDI. There is a fundraising campaign to help local kids attend this camp. Last year over 50% of the local kids received scholarships. This year, more local kids are interested, so there is a greater need for additional funding. Last year there were 18 locals, this year 25 are expected.

Aventa Credit Union is supporting the scholarship fundraising campaign. When you go to the credit union, you can give directly to this fund by direct deposit into the E3 KFM-PranaCamp account. Kim or Marilyn at Aventa will be happy to help you. Or you can send a check to E3 KFM, Re: ElementsCamp for Kids Scholarships, PO Box 686, Crestone, Colorado 81131. E3 KFM, which produces ElementsCamp for Kids and PranaCamp for Adults, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and all donations given to it are fully tax deductible.



4th and 5th grade students from the Crestone Charter School work with the Damanhur Music of the Plants MIDI and listen to the songs of native plant species.



Participants of the Regional Listening Tour enjoy lunch at the Desert Sage.

## Rural Philanthropy Days Listening Tour came to Crestone

Front Range grant-making foundations visited Crestone on April 24 as part of the 2015 Rural Philanthropy Days Listening Tour.

The regional Listening Tour was developed in 2012 as an opportunity to better inform grant-making foundations of the challenges that rural communities face. The delegation heard from high level community leaders about the character of the San Luis Valley region, existing needs and the current actions being taken to address those needs. Two primary questions were asked: 1) How would you describe the personality and culture of your community? and 2) What do you see as a key issue in your community? The tour made stops in San Luis, La Jara, Alamosa, Creede, Del Norte and Crestone.

Crestone was the host community for Saguache County. The event was held at the Desert Sage restaurant followed by an old-fashioned pot luck for the Funder Delegation, sponsored by Crestone Creative District (CCD), at Cre-

stone's 134-year-old historic community building.

Local donations made this event a huge success. Countless community members and organizations donated a variety of delicious foods, as well as flowers, art, cleaning, and table settings. The grantor representatives loved the luncheon!

The Regional Listening Tour takes place in preparation for the Rural Philanthropy Days conference, which will take place September 23-25 in Creede. The Rural Philanthropy Days program provides a powerful opportunity for the state's most influential funders and local grantseekers to strengthen partnerships to better meet the needs of rural Colorado communities. It results in increased access to funding resources, relationships and skill-building opportunities for important community projects.

### What's happening in the Crestone Creative District?

The Fourth of July will be bigger and better than ever. The Crestone Creative District is supporting the Town event. Great opportunity to vend, join the World Famous Greater Crestone Kosmic Kazoo Bands (hornets and the baby bees) or just come and have fun.

Celebratory banners are being designed and will debut on the 4th of July, and enter the alchemical plant realm as you listen to the plants sing in Peter May's SoundGarden. Absolutely amazing!

A brochure promoting local artists is being prepared by Jim McCalpin and will be distributed regionally.

Work is progressing on the Post Office cleanup and planting expansions. A public art donation event is coming soon, a donated tapestry by Vince Palermo.

Trails Project Planning Grant was awarded and a survey is underway. A local IMBA chapter is forming. Contact Moira Forsythe at [level7living@gmail.com](mailto:level7living@gmail.com) for registration information

Help is wanted. Contact the volunteer hotline: [crestonecreativedistrict@gmail.com](mailto:crestonecreativedistrict@gmail.com).

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100% Scholarships for 3 local kids:	\$1,650.00
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RAISED TO DATE THRU DONATIONS AND GRANTS: \$3,500.00

**GOAL: \$6,600.00 BY JUNE 15, 2015**

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## Sara Grimes & Master Teruyuki Okazaki offers karate training

The Crestone Mountain Karate Club, a member of the International Shotokan Karate Federation (ISKF), will begin Summer Training at 6:15pm Monday, June 8, at the Crestone Charter School, four days a week, 6:15-7:30pm, Monday through Thursday through the end of August. As a new club, classes will be offered at the beginning level.

Instruction is by Sara Grimes, a 7th-degree black belt and certified instructor in the International Shotokan Karate Federation (ISKF), who moved to Crestone last year.

A traditional Japanese art with development of character as its ultimate goal, Shotokan karate is a weaponless system of self-defense. Its benefits include an excellent all-around fitness regimen, exercising most of the body's muscles in a combination of aerobic and anaerobic workouts.

All ages over six years are welcome. For children, karate can help concentration and discipline. For youth and young adults, karate also can help channel energy. For adults in their middle years, karate can help maintain physical, mental and spiritual health. For the elderly, karate can help increase energy and lift spirit.

To earn a black belt—which represents accomplishment in the basic technical skills of punching, kicking and striking for self-defense—it generally takes at least two years through a system of examinations from white-yellow-orange-green-purple-brown to black belt. Students are tested on basic techniques; sparring, which is non-contact; and kata, a series of defensive movements against imaginary opponents in set forms.

Students of all ranks and ages also can participate in sports kara-



Sara Grimes and ISKF chief instructor Master Okazaki.

te. Tournaments promote goodwill and learning, as do other events such as our international Masters Camp outside Philadelphia in June, and our regional ISKF Summer Camp at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley July 30-Aug. 2.

All karate training takes place in a Dojo (place to study the Way), following traditions seeped in Confucian, Daoist, and Zen Buddhist philosophies that inform other Japanese arts like Ikebana (flower arranging), Chanoyu (tea ceremony), Judo, Kendo, etc. Principles such as non-violence and self-control are considered more important than technical ability.

The Crestone Mountain Karate Club follows a schedule of summer, fall, winter and spring trainings. Dues for the summer training: \$50 for adults; \$30 for students; and \$30 for family members. Visitors and spectators are welcome to watch classes but are asked to observe quietly.

Beginning students may wear comfortable clothing for exercise. Those eligible to take an examination after three months of regular training need a white karate gi or uniform, \$25 examination fee and \$45 for an individual annual ISKF membership card that is recognized by all ISKF clubs in the US and around the world.

For further information, please call Sara Grimes at 1-413-219-7774 or email her at sgrimes@umass.edu.

## Deputy Wayne Clark, the new cop in town

by Mary Lowers

Two-and-a-half years ago, then-Albuquerque Police Officer Wayne Clark and his family traveled up to the San Luis Valley for a vacation and visited Crestone. Over a cup of coffee at Bob's Diner, now-Saguache County Deputy Wayne Clark told me, "We loved it and wanted to move up here. I have three daughters and you do not have the issues here that you have in the big city. People are incredibly nice. We like it."

The Clark family currently resides in Casita Park but is looking for larger accommodations. They have children attending the Crestone Charter School and Moffat School. "We like the people here. Most of the people out here have been incredible to us. It is amazing to me that and my family is part of and invested in the community."

The challenges Deputy Clark faces here are different from urban policing. He says the sheer amount of geographic space in the county makes policing a challenge. The Saguache County Sheriff's Department patrols 3100 square miles with four to six deputies on the road at any one time. As a poor rural county, resources are limited here compared to larger departments in more populated areas but "deputies are so dedicated because they want to be here and are supported by the sheriff. Sheriff Dan Warrick is doing an amazing job with what he has to work with."

Deputy Clark, looking at the role of deputies, says, "To protect and serve is our job. If we stop you for speeding we could be stopping an accident." Try not to slide through the stop signs in town, you guys—he does notice.

Despite success in the private sector, Deputy Clark kept returning to jobs that serve the community. He has been a well trained firefighter certified in Wildland Firefighting I, Structural Firefighting, and Firefighter I. He also became an EMT which "I stopped because I wanted to be a cop"—that was in 1999. His resume includes many training certifications including training to field train other officers, interacting with

persons with mental impairments, crime scene photography, and crisis negotiation training with the NM Police and the FBI. He is certified to train instructors to teach domestic violence awareness classes, which could be helpful here where we have a high number of domestic calls. Deputy Clark has completed



Saguache County Deputy Wayne Clark has moved to the Crestone area.

Small Town and Rural Training with all requirements necessary to be a STAR instructor at the National Center for State and Local Law Enforcement.

I asked Deputy Clark what we as citizens can do to have the best possible relationship with local law enforcement. After a moment's thought he responded, "Realize we are not the enemy. We are here to help as an entire department, from the top brass on down."

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## The Crestone Mountain Karate Club

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\$50 for adults; \$30 for students\* (over 6 years of age);  
\$30 for family members

\*Eligible students who test for rank at end of summer pay related examination fees.

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# PROFILES IN MUSIC: KOFI



## Kofi of Jah Kings: Funky roots reggae in the neighborhood

by **Eli Dokson**

Kofi, also known as Alexander Kofi Washington, has been living here in Crestone for three years. He has been gigging professionally for twenty-three years, and every seven years or so he takes a break from the music biz. His latest hiatus started about the time he moved here to start a new chapter of life.

Now Kofi is getting ready to go back on tour with his band, Jah Kings, and is warming up by performing local shows here in Crestone (look for him on July 3 at the Cloud Station), June 13 at TommyKnockers in Creede, a July 4th benefit in Paonia, as well as a recent show at Del Norte's Ruth Marie Center.

Kofi's story starts in the projects of Gary, IN, where he was born (December 28, 1962) and raised, in fact in the same neighborhood where Diana Ross discovered the Jackson 5. Young Alexander started out on homemade drums, but making a lot of noise was not an option where he lived. Playing unplugged guitar, starting at age 9, worked well enough so that by age 12 Alexander was playing rhythm guitar in his first band, "Purple Haze." His next band, "Gary I-N-D" (which included a Jackson cousin, Keith) performed successfully at big talent shows in Gary. By the time high school rolled around, his band "Born to Love," had a manager, was rehearsing hours each day to get super tight, and was ready to go on the road. But Alexander's mother had a different idea for her 15-year-old son.

Education was a very important value in Kofi's family, especially in the projects of Gary in

the '60s and '70s where gangs and violence were a pervasive presence. Preparing to go to college—not leaving school to become a professional musician—was the choice Kofi made. Concentrating on sports, he developed into an outstanding track athlete and received a full track scholarship to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he went on to set school records in the high hurdles.

I could go on about Kofi's sports accomplishments, but this article is supposed to be about music, so suffice it to say he was on the U.S. National Track and Field team, qualified for the 1984 Olympic trials, and was continuing to do very well in his sport when, in 1988, while racing in Belfast, Northern Ireland, he found himself in the midst a bomb threat. When he prayed for guidance he was told "get back to the music." He left world-class track after the 1988 Olympic trials and formed the Jah Kings in 1990.

Though his background had been in R&B, blues, funk and jazz, Kofi got turned on to reggae music by his college trainer's Cuban cousin. Listening to bands such as Steel Pulse, Third World, the Abyssinians, Black Uhuru, the Gladiators, and eventually Bob Marley and the Wailers, Kofi (still Alexander at this time), was drawn to both the political and spiritual nature of Reggae music. The themes of healing and the African Diaspora run throughout reggae and resonated deeply for Kofi.

In 2007, Alexander traveled to the West African nation of Ghana, where his mother traced



Kofi performs with Jah Kings.

her roots through the Ashanti tribe. This 3-month journey was both a pilgrimage of self-discovery and an opportunity to perform his music. It was at this time Alexander was given the Ghanaian name "Kofi," meaning "Friday Born," by the aunts and grandmothers of a close friend.

He was embraced by the government and people of Ghana through the Ministry of Diasporian Relations, involved in reconciliation, forgiveness and healing related to the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Many of Kofi's original songs, such as "African Diaspora" and "Slavery," address these themes and can be heard on the Jah Kings' album *Our World* ([www.reverbNation.com/jahkingsfeaturingalexanderkofi](http://www.reverbNation.com/jahkingsfeaturingalexanderkofi)).

Space does not allow me to discuss the full range of this talented musician's journey and accomplishments. I have just scratched the surface, so check out [jahkingsmusic.com](http://jahkingsmusic.com), [sevendayrecords.com](http://sevendayrecords.com), and Jah Kings-Wounded Knee on YouTube to hear great music from this Crestone treasure.

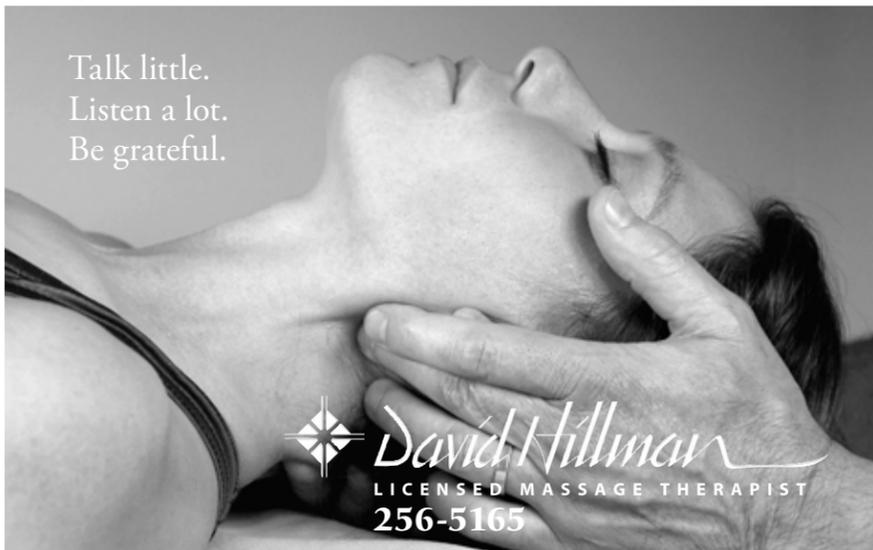
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# Who We Are

## Vince Palermo: Choosing the pearl of great price

by Gussie Fauntleroy

Vince Palermo's life story is divided roughly in half, before and after the decisive moment he refers to as "the three words." (And no, those words are not "I love

you," although love is deeply intertwined with what ensued.) Before that moment on a summer night in 1987 in Sedona, Arizona, Vince's life was rolling along a fairly predictable, mainstream, mostly quite pleasant track: traditional Catholic upbringing in Tampa, Florida, good education—thanks to the far-sighted dedication of his working class parents—medical school, marriage, six wonderful sons, divorce.

He was enjoying a highly satisfying position as a respected, well-liked pathologist at what was considered the best private hospital in St. Louis, a position which, at 53, he had held for 20 years. It's true that a few cracks were beginning to form in his life's conventional edifice. He was living in a solar house he designed and built, was involved in anti-nuclear activism, and had taken the first small

steps on a spiritual quest. Still, he imagined things continuing more or less along the same path.

Then came the voice. After hiking the Sedona energy vortices for a couple of days with a friend,

Vince fell ill and went to bed. Awake in the middle of the night, he heard an inner voice with perfect clarity say, *It is finished.* "I don't hear voices, but it was unmistakable. I had no idea what it meant," he recalls, sitting on the sofa in his comfortable, modest solar home in the wooded foothills outside Crestone. That morning when he turned on the

television, Phil Donahue was interviewing three successful professionals who had all quit their jobs. The next morning Vince attended a New Age church in Sedona where the minister gave a talk about change. It was as if the minister's words were aimed directly at Vince. "When I walked out of the church, in my mind I had quit my job," he says.

He returned to St. Louis and waited a month, checking in with himself each morning, and every morning receiving the same clear



Vince Palermo as a young man beginning medical school in St. Louis.



Vince and Mary in the mid-1990s, enjoying nature together.

directive: to leave all he knew and invest himself in a new life. He reflected on the Biblical parable of the pearl of great price, about a merchant who sold everything he owned in order to purchase a single perfect pearl—symbolizing the kingdom of heaven. Vince's pearl was a seeking for spiritual truth, a journey he ended up sharing with his beloved wife, Mary, for 26 years before she passed away in February of this year.

In early 1988 Vince moved to a small intentional spiritual community in eastern Oklahoma called Sparrow Hawk Village, which cultivated an esoteric mix of Eastern mysticism and Catholicism. Meanwhile in Washington, D.C., Mary was answering a similar life-changing call. Having left her marriage and a successful corporate marketing career, she experienced a profound spiritual awakening. She was drawn to Sparrow Hawk Village. There, she and Vince met, fell in love, and recognized in each other a reflection of their own deep spiritual thirst. They were married in October 1989. "I've been trying to put into words what it was about Mary that made me feel so good," Vince reflects in his gentle, articulate manner. "It was her presence, so unassuming yet so connecting. She was wonderful, very intuitive, with an inner knowing. It was just about being."

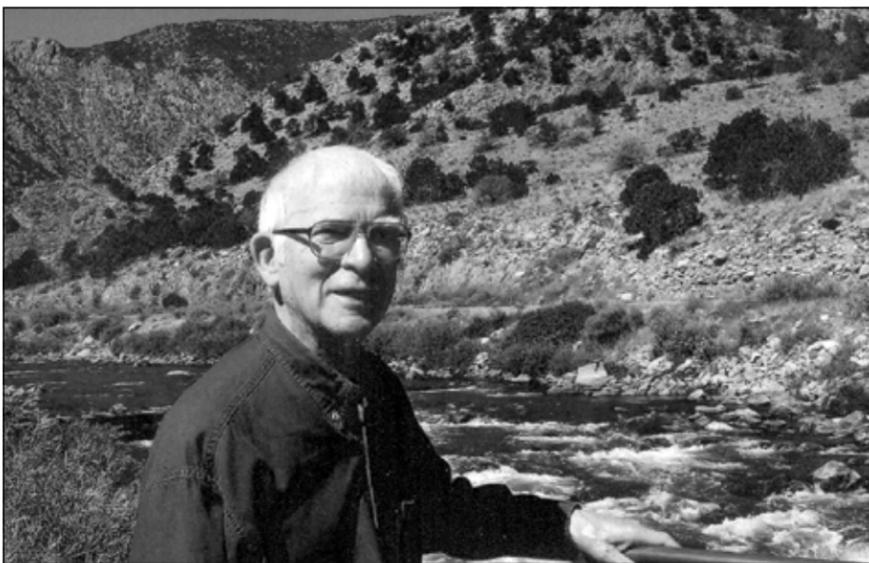
After eight years at Sparrow Hawk, Vince and Mary lived in Crestone for two years before following a compelling pull to England, where their spiritual and environmental interests found expression. They connected with like-minded people, visited sacred sites, and were active in successful efforts in GMO labeling and shutting down an aging British nuclear plant. In 2003 they returned to Crestone and remained. Here their outward focus included working with Lee Temple to host a highly successful sustainability conference in 2007; attempting (unsuccessfully) to have the San Luis Valley Rural Electric Co-op establish a solar photovoltaic generation plant; and for Vince, working closely with solar designer Michael Wasserman in setting up the Crestone Charter School's state-

of-the-art solar thermal heating system.

Vince and Mary also worked together obtaining sound level measurements in various parts of the Crestone/Baca area to determine the quality of quiet that exists here. Their scientifically precise data revealed an extraordinary level of quiet and helped build a case against invasive and noise-producing industries including oil and gas exploration and the proposed Tessera Solar plant in 2009. Indeed, the dyad of quiet and sound represents one of the strongest links between the Palermos' inner and outer pursuits, and a thread throughout Vince's life. At 10 he carved a delicate, 2-inch-long miniature violin from wood. (He is not a musician but has always had a deep appreciation for the soul-stirring beauty of classical music.) As a teen in the early 1950s he studied acoustics on his own and designed and built his first hi-fi system at a time when that term was brand new.

Now 81, Vince finds himself more drawn to the non-material qualities of experience than to its physical counterparts—an inner quietude that attends the auditory sense of quiet here, for instance. "The interesting thing is, before I left St. Louis I didn't believe in anything I couldn't see, touch, measure, or quantify—that's the only thing I thought was real. Now, what I think is truly real is what I can't see, touch, or measure." It's a view that has grown out of sharing life with Mary, caring for her during her last few years, and his fathomless love and uninterrupted connection with her, despite her departure. "Our lives were so tied together," he says. "Of all the endeavors I have pursued, all the things I've done in my life, the most important thing I've done was to take care of Mary and support her through her transition. Everything else pales, because she was such an extraordinary spirit. She was the constant in my life that kept my heart filled. In my wildest dreams I could not imagine having a better life."

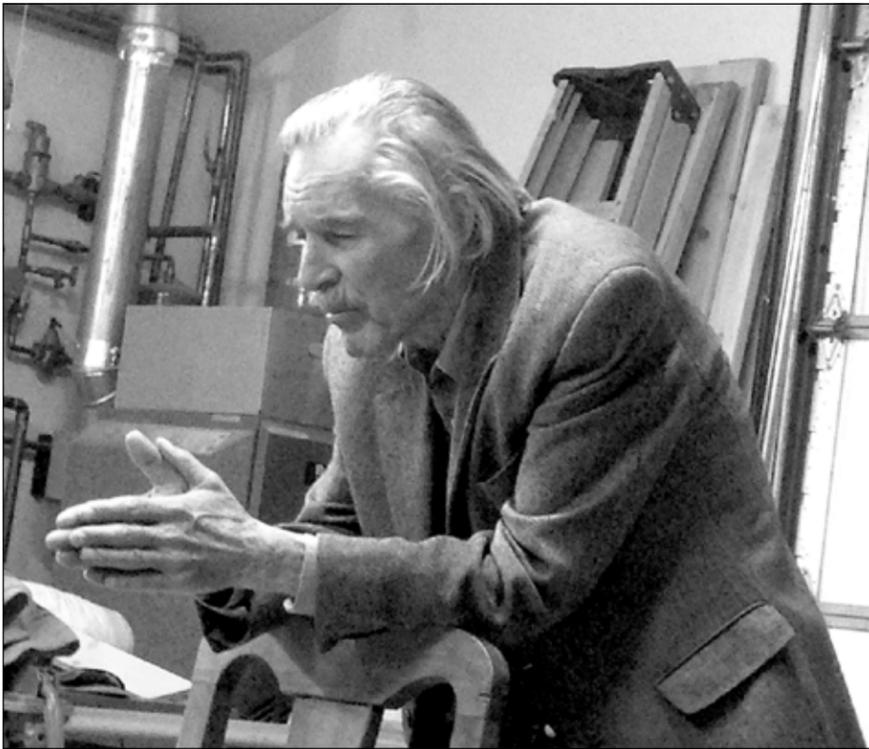
Gussie welcomes ideas for this ongoing series on Crestone area residents: [gussie7@fairpoint.net](mailto:gussie7@fairpoint.net).



Vince Palermo beside the Arkansas River, late summer 2014.

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## A Company of Players interview with Richard Collier



Company of Players: Richard Collier.

From time to time the Company of Players features short interviews with one of the company.

Richard Collier (RC), a co-founder of The Company in 2009 with Ammi Kohn (AK), is featured this month. Richard will be presenting a dramatic piece about his cousin in this month's production at the Cloud Station on Saturday night June 13 at 7pm, and Sunday afternoon June 14 at 2pm. The interview has been shortened and edited for length and style by Ammi.

**AK** You paint, write, act, direct. Was your family artistic?

**RC** Both my parents wrote a lot, though never published. My father was a "Sunday Painter" and a fundraiser for cultural events, which is how I met Sam Pace. Sam's father was a contributor. My father started a puppet theater and also created a summer stock theater in Booth Bay, ME.

**AK** Did you work with him?

**RC** Oh yeah! I loved him. I worked with my dad in all areas of summer stock for three year before going into the air force. My dad and I and my brother grew ten acres of corn in WWII. We hired a

man with a mule and plow because of gas rationing. I raised pigs and chickens.

**AK** You've been a director in Denver.

**RC** I started two theater groups, The Trident and Slightly Off Center.

**AK** Do you prefer acting or directing?

**RC** Directing.

**AK** What plays did you direct?

**RC** *Waiting for Godot*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *A View From the River*, *Equus*.

**AK** Your dramatic piece for the June production is autobiographical. Can you reveal some of it?

**RC** I've performed some of it before in Crestone, but its been substantially revised. There is more dialogue now. Also, I'm using music and sound, some of it based on Japanese theater. My cousin was a schizophrenic genius, a painter, a mathematician. He had a complex life. We were very close for fifty years till he died.

**AK** Any last words?

**RC** No.



Company of Players in rehearsal: (from left to right) Ammi Kohn, Findlay Demko and Kelly Hosner.

## The Company of Players

The benefits of many hours of rehearsal and collaboration will light up the stage of the Cloud Station in downtown Crestone on Saturday, June 13 at 7pm and Sunday, June 14 at 2pm with performances of live comedy and drama. Expanding and improving, the Crestone Company of Players will perform live one-act plays and monologue for the first time.

Storyville favorites Ammi Kohn, Richard Collier, Findley Demko and Kelly Hosner all show versatility in the roles they have created, and locals Jennifer Thompson, Dean Lloyd and Everett will be joined by a special guest, all with tales designed to entertain and delight. Some of the pieces will have musical interludes beautifully supplied by Bruce Becker, a local Native American flute-maker and teacher. Julia Voss, a nationally recognized storyteller who now lives in Salida, will tell a traditional tale. The troupe of dedicated artists have used the confidence gained during the last nine years performing in various formats

Suggested donation is \$10 at the door. The performers are sure attendees will want to show their appreciation for the long hours required to bring this great event to the stage by their generous donations to the Friends of the Crestone/Baca Library.

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# Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

What a great month May has been with all of the precipitation; the trees and plants all look so happy. We have had lots of visitors to the Ashram as well as several student groups.

Thank you to all who supported the Ashram's 7th Annual On-line Auction with your donations and bids—it was a great success! It has become a big part of the Ashram yearly budget, so we are deeply grateful to all who participated.

Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Tuesday, June 2 and the new-moon fire ceremony is on Tuesday, June 16. The following full-moon fire ceremony will be on Wednesday, July 1. The fire ceremonies begin at 10am and are followed by a meal. Morning aarati is at 7am and evening aarati is at 6pm. There is generally a small fire ceremony after morning aarti at about 8am each day that we do not have a large one at 10am. Please call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies.

A heads-up for summertime: our Children's Camp with concurrent workshop for adults will run from Tuesday, July 21 through Thursday, July 23 from 10am until 1pm daily. The Children's Camp is a free offering to the community from the Ashram. A parent or guardian needs to be on the Ashram premises at all times,



Ashram Kids' Camp July 21 through July 23. Read article for more information or call the ashram at 719-256-4108.

however.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop is well stocked and ready to serve you. The shop is open every day from 10am until 5pm. We invite you to come in and if you mention that you are an *Eagle* reader, we will happily give you a 10% discount on your non-sale purchases. We deeply appreciate your support. You may view some of what is in our shop on our website at <http://mahalakshmiashop.wazala.com>.

For more information about the Ashram, please visit our website at [www.babajiaashram.org](http://www.babajiaashram.org) where you will find a calendar of upcoming events, many stories by devotees, writings about Shri Babaji and the Divine Mother, and the Ashram schedule. We also invite you to visit the Ashram at any time. We love to share Shri Babaji's and Mother's home with others. Just drop by or give us a call at 719-256-4108.

# Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

## We Must Choose

A prescient architect of Fate and Chance

Who builds our lives on a foreseen design

The meaning knows and consequence of each step

And watches the inferior stumbling powers.

Upon her silent heights she was aware

Of a calm Presence throned above her brows

Who saw the goal and chose each fateful curve . . .

-Sri Aurobindo, *Savitri*

"One cannot do Yoga (union with the Divine) if one does not take it seriously. For one must be very serious to have a constant aspiration. If one is not serious, for five minutes one has an aspiration and for ten hours one hasn't; for one day there is a great urge and for a month nothing. Aspiration is a thing to be developed, educated, like all activities of the being. (Sri Aurobindo) says you must choose and if you do not choose you will not be able to advance. Our will is free, it is deliberately left free and you have to choose. It is you who decide whether to seek the Light or not, whether to be the servitor of the Truth or not—it is you. Or whether to have an aspiration or not, it is you who choose. And even when you are told, 'Make your surrender total and the work will be done for you', it is quite all right, but to make your surrender total, every day and at every moment you must choose to make your surrender total, otherwise you will not do it, it will not get done by itself. When it is done, all goes well, when you have the Knowledge also, all goes well, and when you are identified with the Divine, all goes even better, but till then you must will, choose and decide."

-The Mother, *Collected Works*,



Sri Aurobindo, 1907.

1950-51

At Savitri House, the gardens are being cleaned, amended and planted. Soon visitors from the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry, India and other centers in America and Europe will arrive.

This is an exciting time, culminating in the annual Savitri Immersion which ends on Sri Aurobindo's birthday, August 15. This date is the birthday of India's Independence from Britain, August 15, 1947 as well. Sri Aurobindo was a major influence on India's drive for independence, rejecting "home rule" and demanding withdrawal of the colonizing forces. He is regarded as a great revolutionary and a father of India's freedom.

The Integral Yoga and practice of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother are studied each Tuesday evening at 6pm, following a potluck dinner. Savitri House is located at 83 Baca Grant Way. Please call 256-4917 for information.



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## Moving Up Higher A place at the table

by Joyce Meyer

In Psalm 42:5 (AMP), the psalmist asked, "Why are you cast down, O my inner self? And why should you moan over me and be disquieted within me?" It seems to be that way with many people today. Because of the pressures of everyday life—in our work, finances, our homes or relationships—there is some form of depression, discouragement, or discontentment in almost everyone you see.

But it really doesn't have to be that way. We do not need to live our lives downcast. We can be content, encouraged and joyful even in the midst of troubles.

For many years I felt bad about myself because of the abuse I endured for most of my childhood. I felt damaged and ashamed and focused more on what I did wrong than anything else. That is until I came to an understanding of who I am in Christ!

You see, what we think of ourselves has a lot to do with how we feel about ourselves. You don't have to be mad at yourself because you don't do everything right. You can enjoy your life even while you have a problem! The question is can you see yourself the way God sees you—the way He says you are in His Word? Will you trust the Holy Spirit to work in you until you can see it? Don't worry . . . you don't have to wait until He's done; the work is ongoing. You just need to trust Him.

### Come to the table

In a book I read about shepherds and sheep, it talks about how a shepherd will go to the "table lands," a high plateau that is difficult to reach but where there is good, healthy grass for the sheep to graze. He goes and "prepares" the land by removing any poisonous grasses and flowers that could harm the sheep. In Psalm 23:5 (AMP), David says, "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies . . ." And 2 Samuel, chapter 9 tells a beautiful story that conveys how welcome we are at that table.

Some time after the death of King Saul and his son Jonathan, David began to search for someone in the bloodline of Saul to be good to in Jonathan's memory. Jonathan had been like a brother to David and he wanted to honor his friend by showing favor to any of his descendants. David found out that Jonathan had a son who was still

alive. But he was told that the young man had "issues." His feet were lame. That was no matter to King David, who sent for the young man, Mephibosheth, to be brought to him.

Of course, Mephibosheth came in fear and shame, bowing and asking, "What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I am?" Many of us come to God that way because we do not feel good enough or that we deserve God's love, grace and mercy. I felt this way for a long time, so I understand what it's like. But we don't have to be good enough to come to God. He wants us to come to Him just as we are, and then He will change the things about us that need to be changed as we grow in our relationship with Him.

David assured Mephibosheth, saying, "Fear not, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your father [grandfather], and you shall eat at my table always."

The last verse of that chapter says, "So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king's table, [even though] he was lame in both feet." What a beautiful account of unconditional love, acceptance and redemption!

### You are always welcome

This is our story as well. The table has been prepared for us in the presence of all our enemies—all our issues and problems. The Lord welcomes us to His table and anoints our heads with oil, which symbolizes the Holy Spirit. The custom in those days was to anoint the body with oil mixed with perfume to refresh and invigorate. In the same way, the anointing of the Holy Spirit refreshes and energizes our hearts.

Another custom was the filling of the cup. As long as the host continued to fill a guest's cup, it meant that the guest was welcome. In Psalm 23:5-6, David says, "You anoint my head with oil; my [brimming] cup runs over . . . and through the length of my days the house of the Lord [and His presence] shall be my dwelling place."

When the Lord is your Shepherd, there is no reason for you to feel insecure, ashamed or fearful before Him. You will always be welcome at the table in the presence of God!



## Summer & the Fire Element

by Jan Foster Miller, L.Ac.

Spring turns to summer this month, bringing the warmth of the Fire Element, with which it is associated in Chinese medicine. While spring brought fresh energy and rapid change, summer brings maturity and expansion. Gardens branch out, leaf and fruit; trees spread their canopy; creeks meander. The same is true for us. The warmth of summer gives us the ability to reach out, transforming the narrow spring focus of charging straight ahead to connection with the world around us.

The sun, now at its height, is the external emissary of the fire element, giving us warmth and light, allowing us to grow. After the hard work of spring we have more time to relax and enjoy the sun's warmth and the warmth of relationships, because Fire is all about relationships. Summer is traditionally a time for reconnecting with friends and family. Think July 4 in Crestone where all emerge from winter hibernation to enjoy the midsummer celebration of community. Since the fire element rules the heart and feelings of impartial love, you may now find yourself more open-hearted and tolerant of your neighbor or that family member who bugs you. Laughter is the sound of the fire element. We hear it when humans gather and in the babbling of creeks. Joy is the emotion. Summer reminds us we can have fun, play, and even enjoy work!

Physically, the fire element rules the heart, small intestine (think digestive fire), body temperature, circulatory system, and sexual function. It pumps and governs the blood and transforms the food we eat into nutrients the body can use. As always, it's not just physical but mind and spirit as well. A strong fire element helps us communicate with ease, gives us enthusiasm, and offers the capacity

to love and experience passion.

The taste for the fire element is bitter, like ashes. This may not sound appealing, but it includes the abundance of leafy greens that are now available to build strong blood for winter, and bitter herbs that support digestion. Plus everyone's favorite, chocolate, which supports the heart and blood vessels, gives us feelings of well-being, and even mimics feelings of romantic love. Like all good things, it is best consumed in moderation. Other fire foods and cooking methods are summer favorites: corn, tomatoes, barbecuing and grilling.

Imbalances in the fire element can show up as too much or too little fire, i.e., being burned out or raging out of control; lack of or too much joy; physical or emotional coldness or overheating. Other imbalances are palpitations, irregular heartbeat, nervousness, unease, blood problems, challenges with relationships, weak metabolism, and inflammation.

This summer I hope you'll take time out from your busy schedule to slow down with the long days and connect with those who feed your fire. Now is the time to store all the warmth of summer for the year ahead!

Jan Foster Miller is a licensed acupuncturist trained in the Classical Five-Element tradition, which works with the laws of nature to optimize health on all levels.



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## Sand Dunes Swimming Pool created a new greenhouse paradise

by Mary Lowers

With little fanfare the new adult-only soaking area at the Sand Dunes Pool (known to many locals as the Hooper Pool) opened in late April. The new facility has been under construction in the old greenhouses north of the existing pool. The 10,000-square-foot space offers a soaking area that is truly unique. It features three smaller soaking tubs of varying temperature and a large zero-entry pool (you walk into the pool down a gradual slope into deeper water), like getting into an ocean kept at 98°, and including a lovely water feature. There's also a ten-person sauna, garden, deck and patio space as well as the Steel Box Bar serving beer and wine. It's like a whole other world in there! Patio areas, gardens and decks offer lots of space to chill.

General Manager Carly Harmon told me "We are known as a family destination but did not have the adults-only quiet soaking space that other hot springs offer. We decided to start designing the space. This really expands our facility and provides something for everyone, while focusing on what we are all about . . . our amazing hot water." The Sand Dunes Recreation folks attract lots of visitors to the SLV which helps our whole economy. Carly says, "We don't advertise very often and rely on word-of-mouth and return visitors."

The designing of the space was very organic. "It may be hard to believe, but we started out with a rough drawing and came up with actual ideas while building. There are lots of unique and small details that really make the space special," Carly shared. The 1929 lifeguard chair used as a plant stand is just one ex-



One large pool and several smaller pools plus a sauna make for a wonderful adult soaking space.

ample of this quirky creativity.

The Steel Box Bar is a welded wonder. The process of licensing has been a long one. Carly told me, "We will receive our beer and wine license in the next month or so. This will be a great addition to the greenhouse. We will offer tons of Colorado microbrews and some nice wines." No intoxication is allowed. There will be a three-drink minimum and no alcohol will be allowed outside The greenhouse. You must be 21 with ID to access the greenhouse.

Sand Dunes Recreation is proud to have used all local labor on the creation of the greenhouse. "Amazing work done by J&J Contracting who did all the cement and tub work, Altitude Construction who built all of the decks and the roof over the sauna and the storage container hallway that connects the pool spaces together, Vemco Electric did all of the new wiring, and ArcMan Welding creating the Steel Box Bar sign that sits upon our new bar. It was an amazing team effort to get this job done," Carly said.

It's an exciting new getaway. It's date night in the valley. Don't miss checking out the greenhouse soon! You can call 719-378-2807 or check it out online at [www.sanddunespool.com](http://www.sanddunespool.com).

## Ask Dr. B about pets

by Linda Behrns, DVM

Should dogs and cats be neutered or spayed? There is a bit of controversy on this subject, but in general pets lead happier, healthier lives if they are spayed or neutered. For one thing they tend to roam less, and staying close to home decreases the chance of encounters with cars, coyotes, and other hazards, and makes for happier neighbors.

Spaying females before their first heat almost eliminates the chance of mammary (breast) cancer. The probability of mammary cancer increases with every heat up until the animal is four or five years old. Intact females are also susceptible to pyometra, a uterine infection that is life-threatening. Pregnancy and giving birth also have many potentially life-threatening issues such as eclampsia (hypocalcemia) and dystocia (difficulty giving birth).

Surgically neutering dogs does eliminate the chance for testicular cancer and can help with some prostate problems, but new research is showing that there might be some detrimental effects to male dogs who have a total lack of testosterone. Chemically neutering with an injection of zinc gluconate will destroy the sperm-producing cells while sparing many of the cells that produce testosterone. Dogs neutered this way will not be able to impregnate a female, but will still have 20-30% of their former testosterone level. This can help with behavioral issues such as roaming, while providing the health benefits of the testosterone. Dogs that are having serious behavior issues might be better off with a surgical neuter.

Male cats, on the other hand, do best with surgical neuters. Non-neutered male cats tend to roam more frequently and further from home. They are usually more territorial and aggressive. Their urine has a very strong smell and they are likely to spray urine in the house.

Of course the best reason to spay and neuter your pets is to lessen the pet overpopulation problem. We all think our pets are wonderful, but that really isn't a good reason to breed them. Even if you could find homes for the puppies or kittens, it means some other puppy or kitten might not. The shelters here in the valley have more animals that need homes than people to take them in.

I can surgically neuter cats and neuter dogs with the zinc gluconate injection. For spays and surgically neutering dogs, pets need to go into town to a clinic. The ideal time to spay and neuter pets is around six months of age: prior to

females going into heat and before any behavioral issues start.

Pet Partners offers financial assistance for spaying and neutering if needed: 719-588-6431.

If your dog does have puppies, or if you bring a new puppy into your home, make sure to have them vaccinated for Parvovirus. Parvovirus causes severe diarrhea and dehydration in young dogs. It is very expensive to treat and is often fatal. I've been told that there has been a problem with Parvovirus in the past here, and it can live in the soil for up to two years in our climate.

### Carrot Horse Treat Recipe

I don't treat horses, but thought that is no reason not to include a recipe for them:

Ingredients

2 cups grated carrots (about 4 large carrots)

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

1/4 cup molasses

1 teaspoon salt

1 cup oats

1 cup flour

Optional: 1/2 cup of your horse's feed or a sweet feed

Preheat the oven to 350°. In a large bowl mix together the carrots, oil, and molasses until combined. Add the salt, oats, flour and optional feed and stir until it's combined. It will be a sticky, dough-like consistency. Form into small 1" size balls with your hands, or use a small metal scoop. Place them on a parchment or sil-pat lined baking sheet and bake for about 20-25 minutes, or until they are golden.

From [SarahHearts.com/2013-08-29/horse-treats](http://SarahHearts.com/2013-08-29/horse-treats).

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# Good-bye, Yak n' Cracker, hello, Sacred Valley Medicine

story & photos by Lori Nagel

For the last 5 years, the Chokurei ranch, owned & operated by Kyle Grote, has harvested and processed fresh, organic, non-GMO vegetables every week, all year round. They have also run the Yak n' Cracker Café, using their own vegetables from their ranch, as well as the most local, organic, and non-GMO foods they could find. The Yak n' Cracker served over 40,000 GMO-free meals, the cleanest food in the valley. Heck, probably some of the healthiest food in the whole darn U.S. of A.!

Last summer, Kyle and his wife Teanna had a very difficult business decision to make. They were faced with the choice to do all café & sell the ranch, or do the ranch & discontinue the café. Since Kyle would rather be in the field than in the kitchen, it made the decision easier. Also, they didn't want to run a café if they'd have to feed people bad food in order to turn a profit. The lowest cost food makes sense business-wise, but "if I make money and you're sick, that is not a win-win," Kyle said.

On April 25 the Yak n' Cracker had a rockin' farewell bash, with 2 bands and a full house of patrons. The Chokurei Ranch has closed the Yak n' Cracker Café and will be taking at least a year off from growing and selling vegetables.

They will still be feeding our community good food with their yaks & chickens, and they will continue to grow their own hay. Also, they process every part of every yak—fiber, pelts, skulls and meat—like the Native Americans did, and

they provide education via their Yak Tours. These are the business operations that will continue.

## What's new?

Enter Sacred Valley Medicine, a cannabis farm with the same ideals & principles in their mission-based business. They will produce high-quality organic marijuana, to be used for medicinal & recreational purposes, some of which they plan to keep local.

## Why no more veggies?

The Yak n' Cracker Café and produce sales were just not making enough money.

Kyle had every intention of feeding lots of people here in Crestone and in the valley when he started out in this business. He is a firm believer that food is medicine—the better we eat, the better we feel, the better we treat other people.

Unfortunately, since so many people grow their own food around here, summers got to be tough on the produce business—with sales wavering & labor wages remaining steady. And while Kyle originally thought he could help feed all these beautiful people, he's come to realize he doesn't need to.

## Need to make this a sustainable ranch

While Kyle's conservative side struggled with the fact that it's not legal federally, he recalls the best advice his father ever gave him: "If you always do everything on the up and up, you never have to look over your shoulder."

Ultimately, he finally gave in to the idea of cannabis-growing because he wants to keep feeding



So many people in our community showed up for the farewell party at the Yak n' Cracker Café on April 25. These are a few of them.



Soraya Grote poses with her dad, Kyle, out on the golf course at the Yak n' Cracker's farewell party.



Tedd Brumm & Peter Taylor hammin' it up while they're jammin' out at the Yak n' Cracker's farewell party.

people, contributing to their overall health. And if he lost the ranch completely, that wouldn't be possible.

Just like with good food, this is good organic medicine they're going to grow. He'd like to focus part of the business on the CBD. "The cool thing about high CBD and low THC in plants is that sick people can use it as very effective medicine without getting the head high," Kyle explained.

Their new business is based on the same principles and missions they've always had, and they plan to keep protecting the land and water. Kyle and Teanna believe this new endeavor will help support the bigger picture of giving back to the local community.

They've got their license and they're all set up. Now, they're just waiting for inspections and then they'll be ready to begin the growing process.

## What does Kyle want to say to our Crestone community?

Kyle would like to send out a huge, heartfelt thank you to the community. He's so grateful to be here and it meant so much to him that so many came out to support him at the farewell party. So much good has come out of the café and produce businesses, and he very much appreciates the relationships they've developed as a result of them.

Vote with your dollar! Even though he's only one person, he's making a difference by choosing to spend his money on organic & non-

GMO products every day. He has been GMO-free for two years.

Kyle is very proud of the school lunch program and our incredible team who volunteered countless hours serving the kids organic meals. Even though the café is closed, several team members are making plans to continue the school lunch program.

Kyle also wants to give out a special thanks to all employees that worked both in the kitchen and in the field over the last 5 years. Almost all of them worked there because they believed in what they were doing.

"I'm going to miss the Yaktoberfest the most!" Kyle exclaimed at the conclusion of our interview. "The first year was so great because it doubled as fundraisers for Kali & Neighbors Helping Neighbors. I still think we should have some kind of end-of-the-season party, though!"

Teanna adds, "We may not be growing as much or selling commercial, but we're getting back to our roots by simplifying, and that feels a lot more balanced."

Kyle finishes: "Growing veggies just took so much time & work, with so little return on our investment. Labor costs were huge for what we were doing. We are shifting gears, but we are still feeding a lot of people. We would like to thank the community for your past support, and your continued support with buying our hay, eggs and yak products."

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## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

### —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

**1/ The Road:** A rather dark post-apocalyptic movie noir where a father and son travel for some hope of some kind of salvation of a better life in this ash-covered wasteland. Stars Viggo Mortensen, Robert Duvall and Charlize Theron. ★★★

**2/ Jolene:** This Indie romantic drama is based on a book by E.L. Doctorow, and is a character study following a decade-long journey and all the exploits of an aimless adventure encompassing romance, heartbreak, chaos and inspiration. Stars Jessica Chastain, Chazz Palminteri, Rupert Friend, Denise Richards and others. ★★★

**3/ Our Idiot Brother:** In this Indie comedy an earnest idealist brother who is seemingly clueless has three sisters. He puts them through the ringer after they have to take care of him once his girlfriend dumps him and he loses custody of his dog. Stars Paul Rudd, Elizabeth Banks, Zooey Deschanel, Emily Mortimer and others. ★★★

**4/ Parker:** I happen to really like Jason Stratham and this crime thriller brings out the qualities I like about him (or at least his roles). He is a thief with his own set of morals. You don't steal from those who can't afford it and don't hurt people that don't deserve it. His own crew double crosses him and he teams up with an unexpected partner to take his revenge. Stars include Jason Stratham, Jennifer Lopez, Michael Chiklis, Bobby Cannavale, Nick Nolte and others. ★★★★★

**5/ Intimate Affairs:** This gray, not dark, romantic comedy-of-sorts has a great cast of intellectuals who attempt to probe the science of sex. There is a catch, in that the two stenographers are very tempting and distracting to these high-minded men. Filled with sarcasm and pointed jabs; has a good pace. Stars Nick Nolte, Alan Cumming, Dermot Mulroney, Neve Campbell, Robin Turney, Julie Delpy, Tuesday Weld and others. ★★★★★

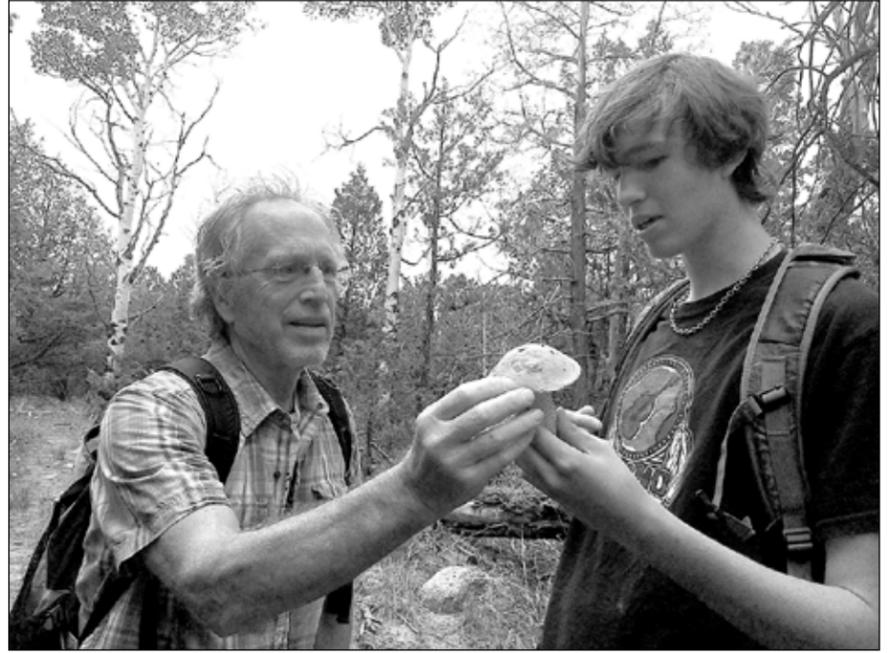
**6/ The Life of Pi:** Another film based on a best-selling book is an adventure that pits Pi, an Indian boy and sole survivor of a shipwreck, with a large Bengal tiger. Stars include Gerard Depardieu. ★★★★★

**7/ Scandal:** This is an utterly enthralling TV series spanning 4 seasons that one can fully binge on. Unfortunately for those of us that believe our government is corrupt this series cuts too close to the bone. Olivia Pope heads a team of DC lawyers and misfits who specialize in making scandal disappear all the way up to the highest levels. Filled with intrigue and interlopers engaging you at every turn. Well written and cast. Stars Kerry Washington, Columbus Short, Darby Stanchfield and others. ★★★★★

**8/ Strange Days:** Larry Nero, an ex-cop who is a pusher of potent and illegal virtual reality clips; sex and violence to the masses in LA. A high profile murder shows up in his collection and he becomes ensnared in a fast paced manhunt. Stars Ralph Fiennes, Angela Basset, Juliette Lewis, Tom Sizemore, Vincent D'Onofrio and others. ★★★

**9/ Blood Money:** For those who are into martial arts and action this is a good film. A Shaolin warrior, after his family is brutalized, is hired by the Triad as a hitman. Has high tech weapons and good martial arts. ★★★

**10/ A Perfect Ending:** This is a movie about exploring sexuality. Once a secret is divulged by repressed housewife Rebecca Westbridge, she is encouraged to explore her sexuality with a high priced call girl. Apprehensive yet intrigued she pursues this erotic tryst. ★★★★★



Nick Meisman discusses local mushrooms with iBme Instructor, John Brahman.

photo by Lisa Bodey

## Inward Bound Mindfulness returns to Crestone for Colorado wilderness-focused teen retreat

Inward Bound Mindfulness Education (iBme) returns to Crestone for a wilderness-focused teen retreat from June 28-July 4 at Blazing Mountain Retreat Center (Dharma Ocean). The program is open to teens 15-19 years of age to help them cultivate calm, concentration, self-awareness, and caring for themselves, others, and the natural world. Participants stay overnight in this gorgeous local retreat center and delicious organic meals are prepared by their staff each day.

iBme teachings combine training in mindfulness, social-emotional learning and nature awareness. Time is spent each day learning mindfulness meditation—a scientifically proven practice that builds emotional resilience, inner strength and well being. Teens also participate in small group discussions, yoga and creative workshops including arts, nature, and mindful sports activities. Small group discussions are held twice daily to introduce participants to games and shared inquiry practices that help them explore their inner emo-

tional lives and develop empathy and compassion for others. Nature awareness practices include guided walks, identifying wildlife and edible plants, and nature art and poetry.

The iBme retreat is an amazing setting to meet new friends from all over the country in a safe and accepting space. Lisa Bodey, CCC Youth Programs Director, will be a volunteer staff member for the retreat and is hoping to have 4-6 local youth attend with her. The price for the retreat is \$35-\$1500 with the guideline being 1% of annual family income. No teen has ever been turned away for lack of funds, and Lisa would be happy to discuss scholarship and work-trade options with local families. She can be reached at 719-480-5925 or bodeycrestone@gmail.com. For more info or to register, please email contact@ibme.info or call 978-254-7082 or visit their website at www.ibme.info.

Lisa is also hoping to raise \$1000 for local youth scholarships. Donations can be made on her fundraising page at <https://sit.ibme.info/bodeycrestone>.

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## Students experience Europe with the LINK travel program

by Benjamin Potter

Since the beginning the LINK travel program has played a vital role in helping students understand more about the world and themselves. Through this program kids have the opportunity to develop themselves as world citizens and culturally diverse people. The knowledge that students gain from this program can be implemented in their lives. They've learned skills like working with a group, traveling in a city, communicating with other people, respect for your surroundings and a greater awareness of self and environment.

In the beginning, the LINK travel program was created to help several student who had a hard time appreciating what they had. That year, students went backpacking in Mexico to experience what having nothing really looks like. Many came back with an experience they won't forget. Since then the program has grown to much more. To me the program represents the opportunity for kids to get out and see the world for themselves, create

their own views and most importantly to see that there is more to the world than Crestone or the San Luis Valley or even Colorado. The LINK travel program helps these student realize dreams and opportunities.

One year the students went to Japan through the Shumei International Center. Upon arrival they got split into groups that would stay with different families, many of whom spoke little English, each night. These kids were fully immersed in Japanese culture. They came back with stories about the kind of food the Japanese eat, how they eat, what's polite, what isn't and how they communicated with each other. Despite the great hospitality of the families there were still some obstacles that the student had to overcome. They had to walk everywhere, they had to eat strange foods that wouldn't even be served in the US, they had to develop a heightened sense of awareness to keep together, and above all they learned how to be a group. This experience stuck with most of those



LINK students somewhere above Lucerne, Switzerland.

students, especially one student in particular. This student loved the Japanese culture so much that he learned Japanese and became an American ambassador for Shumei in Japan.

For me this program has definitely expanded my views of different cultures. Through this wonderful program I've been to seven European countries and Chile. Each place offered me unique experiences that I will treasure for the rest of my life. The first trip I took I went to Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic. On this trip I saw my first Gothic churches, I saw the marks and ashes of war, I saw the Berlin Wall that split a country in half and changed the world. I saw people who dressed differently, talked differently, ate differently and lived differently. In these countries I learned how respect my surroundings and work with the other students of the group. These countries taught me life skills that I carry with me today. Their culture and lifestyles deeply impacted the way I thought about these countries. Suddenly these place went from textbook fantasies to tangible experiences. On this first trip I realized that the world was more than the States.

On our more recent trip we traveled to France, Spain, Italy and Switzerland. This year the seniors, with the help of Michael Hayes and Karen Potter, worked on budgeting the trip. We had to account for trains, food, other travel, and contingency money. Through this process we learned just how much work it takes to plan a trip for twenty-three people. Once we got there this trip showed me a lot about our group and me as a person.

In France I was shocked at how dirty Paris really is. I thought the city of love would have more to it, but what I saw showed me a different side of the city. I saw many

depressed people living life to the necessary extent. I also saw a city filled with people who smoked like chimneys. I saw some of the most beautiful places in the world dominated by tourist shops and people there only to take a picture to say they've been there. From this, I created a view about Paris that would never have been learned in a classroom.

Barcelona, Spain, however, was very different. We encountered a different type of people. They were generally happier and more easygoing. The people had more smiles on their faces and were more likely to strike up a conversation. The beaches and famous places had few tourist shops and more people enjoying themselves. The extreme contrast between the two cities showed me how much diversity you can see by going a few hours in any direction. Italy showed me something unexplainable. The science, art and architecture developed in this place certainly brought out my wish to be a scientist or artist or maybe an architect. The history that I read about in books started to come alive. I would see one structure or statue and say, "OMG I've seen that in my books and here it is."

It's this wonder and realization that students experience that make the LINK travel program so incredibly amazing. The program teaches us about the expense of travel, because each student has to contribute \$500-\$1000. It teaches self awareness, being able to move in a city as a group and notice things around you. It teaches you responsibility, keeping track of your stuff, acting appropriately in the city, owning your actions because every action has a consequence. Most importantly this program teaches you how to better yourself to become a world citizen, someone who understands the underlying pieces to the great puzzle of life.



LINK students at the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nice, France.



LINK students incognito in Venice, Italy.

## The Washington Beat

### SCOTUS: Over The Rainbow



by David Nicholas

#### SCOTUS hears same-sex arguments

The sitting of the US Supreme Court (SCOTUS) on April 28 was wild and whacky, which for the usually staid third branch of government is rare as hen's teeth, but animated it was.

SCOTUS was hearing arguments to make it legal for same-sex couples to marry across all 50 states. Those couples can do so now in 36 states and the District of Columbia.

The Justices grilled lawyers for both sides, including gay-marriage advocate Mary Bonauto and former Assistant to the Solicitor General Douglas Hallward-Drie-meier for the various plaintiffs; former Michigan Solicitor General John Bursch for several states on the opposing side; and U.S. Solicitor General Donald Verrilli to represent the federal government.

Currently, going on the questioning at the hearing, the court lines up 4-4 with the conservatives Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito and Chief Justice John Roberts against. Justices Ruth Bader-Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan are for expanding the law across 50 states.

The swing vote on this issue is seen to be Justice Anthony Kennedy whose questions were thorough while not appearing to favor one side or the other. Generally when this Justice does that he goes with the liberals on the court, but it's not a given.

Also, I wouldn't rule out how Chief Justice Roberts will vote. He is not a certain vote against. The Chief Justice likes to be on the side of history on these groundbreaking social issues and he could vote for the question. He did so the first time the Affordable Health Care law went before the Justices, which pretty much made it the law of the land.

Interestingly both same-sex marriage and the second case trying to over turn the Affordable Health Care Act decisions are due to be handed down sometime this month. If I had my druthers I'd say the court rules in favor of both same-sex marriage and Obamacare. My reasoning is that the country has majority of folks in favor of same-sex marriage, which is around 60% in current polling. With Affordable Health Care the amount of chaos this would bring upon people with state exchange healthcare plans losing healthcare coverage with the law no longer applying is short of madness. We shall see.

#### 2016 Politics Part 1: Hillary Campaign, where is it?

Mrs. Clinton hasn't been seen much of late, which for a presidential candidate is pretty low profile. In fact, if you would measure the amount of airtime that former President Bill Clinton has been on the airwaves versus Mrs. Clinton, the former President would win it hands down. The reason of course is due to the fury over the amount

of money foreign agents—agents meaning governments or corporations—have donated to the former President's non-profit, the Clinton Foundation, and whether these donations influenced Mrs. Clinton as Secretary of State.

Sense would say no, it didn't, but it has been the former President who has been fielding the press' questions, which is correct as it's his foundation, but it's just niggling that Mrs. Clinton won't get out on the front foot of these things right away and nip it in the bud and give the press nowhere to go. This is because the press always wants to go somewhere with a story—even when there is no story—and silence only fans the flames. Former Obama campaign manager David Axelrod said as much on NBC's MeetThePress on May 17.

As well, the GOP candidates have been sniping that since Mrs. Clinton announced that she has only answered between 9-13 questions, depending on whom you read over the last month. But at some point Mrs. Clinton needs to say something about foreign policy, which has been the feeding frenzy on the right on the campaign trail as well as in Congress, of which more below.

Mrs. Clinton needs to say something with authority, having been Secretary of State, on just a few of the following: the Trans Pacific Partnership, the foolish Saudi invasion of Yemen, the continuing collapse of Iraqi forces to the tide of ISIS advance in Anwar province, Syria, and the economic race with China to invest in Africa. Sooner than later would be good.

Just to goad the former first lady, Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) has been very vocal on the TPP—taking on the President over the issue—and she's getting the headlines, even though she's nowhere near the detailed negotiation or on the Senate committee whose bailiwick the TPP falls under. Just saying.

#### 2016 Politics Part2: Jeb Bush equivocating on the hypotheticals

If you knew then what we know now, would you have invaded Iraq? Hmm. My answer would be, I knew it would be a disaster in June 2002 when Bush43 announced his intention at the commencement ceremony at West Point. I was right then, I was right now and nothing which happened in-between made me question my decision.

But it took the former Florida Governor four days to get an answer, which made him the target of ridicule. The first answer was "Yes, he would have and so would have Hilary Clinton . . ." By Thursday, May 14, after eleven of his GOP colleagues seeking the Republican nomination had said it was a bad idea—not to mention his brother who invaded Iraq and who later re-

canted that the invasion was a disaster waiting to happen—his answer was that he "would not have gone into Iraq."

Some pundits would say that as Mr. Bush hadn't formally announced his candidacy and that he is not mortally wounded regarding the presidential race. But when it you know 22 of the same bunch of neocons who gave Bush43 the wisdom of their "war crimes advice" are now advising Jeb Bush, I would say he's dead, dead, dead. Even if Mr. Bush enters the race, which he may have done by the time you read this, these are millstones around his neck. There is only so much permanent war voters can stomach, and we would appear to be past saturation point these days.

It's said that Jeb Bush has raised more money than any of the eleven GOP candidates who have announced that they are running. If that is the case it's easier to return the funding.

#### 2016 Politics Part 3: Bernie Sanders throws his hat in the ring

I like the junior Senator from Vermont. He announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination on April 30. At 73, he promises to liven up the race, as his main issue is free college tuition for all. Senator Sanders is probably the one Senator who votes his conscience or political philosophy on every vote he casts, which is rare these days.

His opposite number in the GOP would be libertarian Rand Paul (D-KY), and strangely enough they might be agreeing on other issues, such as US foreign policy and not intervening in wars which are really none of our business or arguing that trade agreements on the horizon such as the TPP might not be in our national interest.

A long shot to win the Democratic nomination, he's going to use his candidacy to keep the light on domestic issues, which are needed. Also, he's not too old to be President. Ronald Reagan turned 70 when he took the oath of office in January 1981. Some of us remember.

#### 2016 Politics Part 4: Ted Cruz' Canadian/Spanish heritage

Habla español, Ted? Apparently not or not well. It was embarrassing as the junior Senator from Texas stared ahead saying nothing

when *Huffington Post's* Mark Halperin interrogated him on Spanish heritage credentials: favorite Cuban food and singer (Cruz has a Cuban father); did he mark the heritage box in his application to Princeton as Hispanic? (No answer); would he welcome Bernie Sanders, the left-wing Democratic candidate to the presidential race, in Spanish? (Cruz didn't).

Although Mr. Halperin later apologized for the segment after criticism from a commentator in the *Fresno Bee* that it was racist, the interview segment went viral on social media and it's telling. An apology doesn't erase the indelible impression of man non-plussed and squirming because he can't answer the question.

So was it racist? It could be seen as such. If the Senator had come back with retorts to fend off the questions, probably it would have been lost in the Internet ether, but that didn't happen. True, Mr. Halperin, who was formerly the online editor for *Time's* political "The Page" was brutal. But the Senator is counting on his name recognition to appeal to Hispanic voters, many who reside in Texas and have to be the key voter block the GOP needs to appeal to win the White House. He is not above using invective and ambiguous insinuation to advance his cause, so some would see it as comeuppance. In presidential politics you give as good as you get.

#### Other GOP candidates declare

The following GOP candidates announced in May, losers all:

a) Mike Huckabee. He threatened in April that he would announce in May, so lo and behold he did on Monday May 5. Formerly the Governor of Arkansas and a former commentator on the Fox News Channel, Mr. Huckabee's ambition knows no bounds. So we can look forward to the Governor taking up valuable air time in a crowded GOP race and he'll probably be the first to bow out when his funding sources dry up.

b) Dr. Ben Carson, former Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery as John Hopkins Hospital announced on Sunday, May 4. Big issue is anti-abortion and right-to-life issues. Also frets over EMP, electro-magnetic pulse, attacks being sent from North Korea, China and Russia. Breathless.

c) Carly Fiorina. Really? Fired

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from Hewlett Packard for being an administrative disaster, when she oversaw the merging of Compaq with HP. The merger culminated in the firing of 30,000 American workers and sending those jobs to Asia. Also, the woman couldn't stay on message if she tried. In 2008 when she worked for the McCain campaign, she was fired for making a gaffe—two actually—saying that John McCain couldn't run a major corporation. Doesn't matter that it was true, it's just you don't say that about the person who signs your checks. The gaffe saw the McCain campaign lose its leads in the polls, from which he never recovered. Enough said.

#### The TPP & all that jazz

Most of May has been the fight of whether Congress should vote to give the President the power to fast track the Trans Pacific Partnership, the TPP. Republicans agree with the President, while many Democrats oppose this agreement. And here's why there is opposition: 1) it's secret; 2) 60% of those providing input into this agreement were/are corporations; 3) it's anti-China; and 4) the fast track that the President wants Congress' okay for is just way too fast; when it comes to public review of the details in the agreement, it will be already signed and sealed.

Michael Wessel, a cleared liaison to two statutory advisory committees and was a commissioner on the U.S. Trade Deficit Review Commission, as well as the international trade co-chair for the Kerry-Edwards Presidential Campaign, has seen the agreement and is subject to the secrecy agreements for folks privy to the negotiations. He said this in his article on the Politico website, May 19:

"What I can tell you is that the administration is being unfair to those who are raising proper questions about the harms the TPP would do. To the administration, everyone who questions his or her approach is branded as a protectionist—or worse—dishonest. They broadly criticize organized labor, despite the fact that unions have been the primary force in America pushing for strong rules to promote opportunity and jobs. And they dismiss individuals like me who believe that, first and foremost, a trade agreement should promote the interests of domestic producers and their employees."

Readers will know of my opposition to the TPP because it assaults the price of labor. I haven't seen the agreement but I have been following the discussions in bits and pieces over the last few years. Discussions have been held in various Pacific regions and various delegates have commented in general terms, but overall the TPP is a future we should be very skeptical of, to say the least, and highly suspicious of at most. This is what's coming down the pike.

Of the twelve nations, four have wages and benefits that give a high or reasonable standard of living. These are the US, Australia, Canada and New Zealand and they have, by enlarge, higher hourly wages, usually hard won by trade unions.

On the other hand Japan, South Korea, Brunei, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam have wages that go from 10¢ to

\$1 an hour. Worse, trade unions to represent workers' interests were either savagely wiped out, as in Chile, or are just not allowed in the other countries.

One of the familiar terms used by pro-TPP pundits is that the TPP "levels the playing field." Yes, it certainly will level the playing field and not in terms that give folks here in the US any chance of working at manufacturing jobs. If folks don't have the training or inclination for working computer jobs, many are going to be left wanting.

Elizabeth Warren, the senior senator from Massachusetts, is right to be concerned. She is good to be taking on the President about this.

At present the actual legislation that would give the President the authority to fast track the deal is called the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA).

In the end, the President got the votes where it counted when the TPA passed the Senate 62-38 in the early hours of May 21. The bill almost didn't get up, as Democrats who opposed the bill stayed united. But Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), when it looked like the bill would be defeated, made last-minute deals to secure enough votes—mainly from Republicans—to override the required 60 votes for a filibuster.

Stay tuned; this issue will get hotter as we go forward.

#### ISIS is winning Iraq

Defence and Intelligence analyst David Kilcullen says to anyone who will listen that Islamic State/ISIL/ISIS says that these insurgents in Iraq and Syria are not losing, which means we, the US and our other allies involved in fighting IS, are not winning. Dr. Kilcullen served as advisor to General David Petraeus when he was the commanding General of the Multi-National Force-Iraq in 2007. He had some say on the strategy for bringing the Sunni "Sons of Iraq" (who were carrying out attacks against the Shia-dominated government in Baghdad) to work with US forces against al-Qaeda in Anwar province.

In an essay published in May in the Australian periodical *Quarterly Essay*, Dr. Kilcullen states: "ISIS has become the subject of intense debate. Is it a 'death cult' defined by extreme barbarity and a 7th century view of Islam? Is it the successor to al-Qaeda, a media-savvy transnational terrorist movement propagating a new-and-improved 'Jihad 2.0'? Is it a confederation of groups opposed to the Iraqi government, with primarily regional goals? Is it one side in a Sunni-Shiite version of Europe's ghastly Thirty Years' War?"

"Over time, I've come to believe that Islamic State (IS, also known as ISIS and ISIL) is more than any of these things. In my view, ISIS is fundamentally a state-building enterprise. Simply put, the Islamic State is, or is on the verge of becoming, what it claims to be: a state. I know this assertion is controversial, given that international leaders have been eager to deny ISIS the legitimacy of statehood. I understand the political logic—or, if you prefer, the propaganda value—of that standpoint.

"But consider the definition of

a state in international relations, which is generally agreed to require the fulfilment of four criteria: (1) a state must control a territory, (2) that territory must be inhabited by a fixed population, (3) that population must owe allegiance to a government, and (4) that government must be capable of entering into relations with other states.

"As of mid-2015, the Islamic State already meets, or is well on the way to meeting, all these criteria. It controls a territory that includes several major cities and covers a third each of Iraq and Syria, giving it an area significantly larger than Israel or Lebanon. This territory's resident population is roughly 4.6 million, a higher headcount than New Zealand, Kuwait or Qatar, and almost as high as Norway, Denmark, Singapore or Finland."

As someone who believes that in order to defeat your enemy, you have to know him or it well, Dr. Kilcullen's analysis explains better than anything SecStat John Kerry utters when he tries to sum up why IS isn't going away. As horrific as Islamic State is, it is good at doing what it does. It is worth understanding how well-organized IS operates in any mode, from street fighting in Syrian cities to open warfare in Iraq.

To this point, IS took control of Ramadi for the second time in a year when the Iraqi National Army retreated/fled the city on May 18.

\*This excerpt was from Quarterly Essay 58, "Blood Year: Terror and the Islamic State"

#### Cuba comes off the list of SSTs

I'm watching to see if Congress tries to block President Obama's decision to take Cuba off the list of States Sponsoring Terrorism. Cuba was due to come off the list in June after a 45-day period for Congress to debate the decision. At time of writing Congress hadn't addressed it. So it might happen.

#### Yemen—where is it again? Part 2

After six weeks of constant bombing Houthi positions to little effect (it would appear), and after a five-day truce to allow humanitarian aid to be flown in to provide food and water to Yemeni citizens, Saudi Arabia called a meeting in Riyadh of interested nations and Yemeni tribes to come together in some sort of national coalition to

defeat the rascally northern tribesmen. For three days they met on the Yemen crisis, with participants reiterating their support for exiled President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi and the Arab coalition.

The Houthi boycotted the Riyadh summit, saying they would not attend talks in Saudi Arabia or any other country involved in bombing Yemen.

The usual utterances were made. The conference called for the creation of a joint Arab force to secure cities in Yemen. It also called for the implementation of a UN resolution which calls for the Houthi to withdraw from areas it has secured.

"This will pave the way and lay a solid foundation for resolving all the issues," sort-of-President Hadi said at the end of the conference, adding that the Houthi had failed to meet the conditions of the recent pause in fighting. Uh-huh.

The problem is, all this was in Riyadh, not in Sanaa, the current capital of Yemen; and despite all the positive narrative, yada-yada-yada, a joint Arab force on the ground isn't the same as bombing from a great height. Sort-of-President Hadi can utter all the right words in a world away from the country he is supposed to be governing, but it didn't look good when he fled the port city of Aden to the comfort and security of a Saudi palace in Riyadh. Just saying.

The Houthi are seasoned fighters. While all the talk in Riyadh was going on, the tribesmen who are pretty good at street-to-street fighting were securing their positions and making gains in the cities they controlled.

So the Beat looks forward to see which joint Arab force is going to be the first to dip its/toes in this fight. I see talk, lots of talk. Arabs in the Middle East do a lot of talking, but rarely does it lead to action. We will see.

One last thing: the Patriot Act, which was passed in haste and mostly unread by members of Congress in October 2001, is up for renewal in June. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell wants to extend the current law for another two months. GOP members want certain provisions concerning the NSA data-gathering powers changed.

More on that next time because the Beat goes on.

Lori Nagel

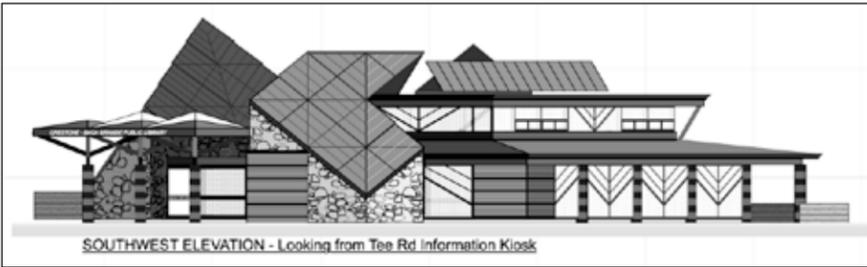
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# New Crestone library building plan presented to full house

by Peter Anderson

Community members packed the Cloud Station on Sunday evening May 17 for a lasagna dinner and informational meeting on a possible new library for Crestone/Baca. Peter Anderson, Chair of the Board of the Northern Saguache County Library District (NSCLD), thanked Benji Byers and Michelle Beelendorf for providing the meeting space and preparing the dinner along with volunteers. He introduced NSCLD board members and volunteers for Crestone/Baca Friends of the Library, all of whom were present to gather comments from Crestone residents on the project. He noted that conversations about a new library wouldn't be happening at all if it weren't for the vision and efforts of Tom Ontko, who re-established the Crestone/Baca Friends of the Library, and has worked hard to continue that organization's fundraising efforts. He also thanked our librarians who do a great job of managing the facility we currently have.

Local architect Burt Wadman then gave a presentation on the preliminary design for a new library, which was followed by a Q&A session. Questions centered around cost, design, and the future maintenance of a bigger facility. Wadman emphasized the energy efficiency of the design which relies heavily on passive solar as well as a rooftop photovoltaic system.

He explained the building's footprint is intended to maximize solar collection and minimize utility costs.

The preliminary design, as Wadman presented it, would be for a 5,200-square-foot building, roughly three times the size of the current Crestone/Baca Library. It would contain a gathering space for classes, lectures, meetings, and other events. It would include five computer stations, which would be supplemented with laptop check-outs. The design would allow for a larger children's reading area as well as an area for teens, a fiction section, and a nonfiction section (with reading space). Wadman emphasized the use of building materials such as logs, rock (Crestone conglomerate), and metal roofing as a good fit for Crestone. Those wanting more information on the preliminary design will soon be able to view the slides from his presentation on the NSCLD website (nscl.d.colibraries.org).

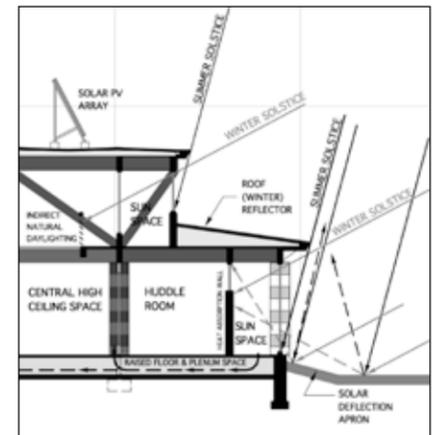
Several questions after Wadman's presentation focused on cost. He estimated the construction cost of the new building would be about 1.2 million dollars or about \$250 a square foot. He explained that commercial construction is always more than residential and that the projected cost of the Crestone/Baca Library would be in the middle range of libraries recently built in other mountain towns. He in-



cluded slides of libraries in Ridgeway, Ignacio, Mancos, and Dolores, among others, all of which are bigger buildings. He noted that the NSCLD does not intend to raise a mill levy to finance construction, but has decided instead to seek private donations and grants.

Library District director Sarah Koehn Frey added later in the evening that costs of the process thus far have been almost entirely financed by grants. As far as future maintenance costs are concerned, she pointed out that once the district makes a final payment to the Baca Grande POA in June, the NSCLD will have additional discretionary funds, some of which could be earmarked for future library maintenance.

Several questions addressed the need for a bigger community gathering space in the library. Anderson noted that the current design allows for a community meeting space that is about half the size of the Cloud Station room where the meeting took place. Oth-



Solar angles, summer and winter.

er questions concerned additional space for an art gallery or a bigger fiction section. Burt Wadman said that the design is flexible and could increase in size if there is community support for that. Anyone wishing to comment or ask questions about the library project is encouraged to write Sarah Koehn Frey at NSCLD, Box 448, Saguache, CO 81149. Donations for the project are also welcome and can be sent to the same address.

## Tax valuations

continued from page 1

believes drove the valuations for 2015, "Across the state, the trend was that land values went down, and house values went up. We (the Assessors) believe that the drop in mortgage interest rates drove the process of people being able to afford houses and pay more for houses. Lenders do not typically lend on vacant land."

According to local realtors, that message does not seem to correlate with their experience in the local market. Land values are dropping. The County Treasurer has a long list of lots the County is reclaiming due to unpaid taxes. Houses are selling, but at discounted prices—some after years of being on the market. Not at increased rates, as seems to be indicated by reported increases across the board in the property valuations received by the community.

Peterson asserts, "Across the board the county-wide sales data collected shows a 36% increase from the last reappraisal period. That 36% has been adjusted slightly for each of the five economic ar-

eas defined in the county. Residential valuations are market-driven. As Assessors, we cannot do fee appraisals on individual properties, we only look at sales data. For this cycle the County looked at two years worth of sales data for its statistical analysis."

From previous experience, property owners learned from the State that an "across-the-board" approach is commonly used. Then the system relies on individual owners filing protests to correct the anomalies based on specific factors about their homes: age, size, and condition.

"There are a lot of anomalies and glitches in the Pueblo system," Peterson acknowledges. "A lot of effort over the past couple of years went into updating vacant properties with improvements, but I have discovered errors in data and how it was entered into the system. I am already talking to the County commissioners about acquiring a new software system for the next cycle of valuations in 2017."

Elaine Johnson, one of the property owners who filed a lawsuit over 2013 valuations made herself available to assist property owners in completing protests over valuations at a presentation on May 26.

Protests needed to be postmarked or delivered to the Assessor's office on or before June 1. The assessor must make a decision on your protest and mail a Notice of Determination to you by the last regular working day in June for real property. If you are dissatisfied with the Assessor's decision, you may appeal to the County Board of Equalization by July 15.

### Property tax revenue

Property tax revenue supports public schools, county governments, special districts, municipal governments, and stays within the county.

Each year county commissioners, city councils, school boards, governing boards of special districts and other taxing entities determine the revenue needed and allowed by law by their entity to provide services for the following year. Each taxing authority calculates a tax rate based on the revenue needed from property tax and the local assessed valuations for real and personal property located in their boundary.

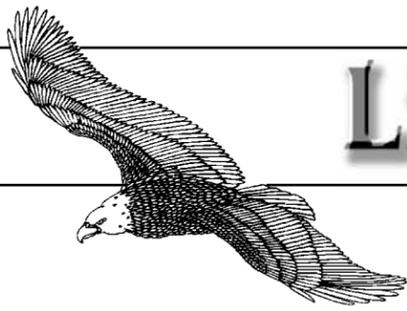
Public notices of budget hearings are published in the local newspaper. The public hearings are usually scheduled in September or October. By attending budget hearings, taxpayers may participate in

the budget process and become informed about the quality and cost of services provided in their area.

The Assessor's goal in years of re-evaluation should be to establish accurate values of all property located within the county, which in turn ensures that the tax burden is distributed fairly and equitably among all property owners.

A senior property tax exemption is available to senior citizens and the surviving spouses of senior citizens. The State reimburses the local governments for the loss in revenue. When the State of Colorado's budget allows, 50% of the first \$200,000 of actual value of the qualified applicant's primary residence is exempted. Forms are available online at the State Property Tax Division and at the local assessor's office. Completed applications should be submitted to the assessor on or before July 15 of the year for which exemption is requested.

A property tax exemption is available to qualifying disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. Completed veteran applications must be postmarked or delivered to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs by July 1 of the year exemption is requested.



# Living on the Earth

## Tiny houses: The next big thing, or too close for comfort?

by Carrie Caverly

In the land of “McMansions” where the average house size has swelled to 2,600sf, a petite countercultural version of home is rolling into the neighborhood: the Tiny House.

“Drawn by the prospect of financial freedom, a simpler lifestyle and limiting one’s environmental footprint, more buyers are opting to downsize—in some cases, to space no larger than 300 sq. ft.”—Tiny House Nation reality TV show.

Small living quarters are not entirely novel, or inherently hip, but they are enjoying wild popularity. No longer the sole realm of online bloggers, tiny houses are all over the media, featured on Oprah, in *Forbes* magazine, CNN, the BBC, and a slew of local news stations. There are two documentary films now: *Tiny: The*

*Movie*, streamable on Netflix, and *Small is Beautiful: A Tiny House Documentary*, with select screenings starting in April 2015. There are three reality TV shows: *Tiny House Nation*, *Tiny House Hunters*, and *Tiny House Builders*. *Fortune* magazine lists micro dwellings in the top 5 home trends of 2015, saying “micro and tiny are huge.”

In case you’ve missed the hype, a “Tiny House” is exactly what it sounds like: a (very) tiny house. Usually less than 200sf and only 8’-0” wide, tiny houses are typically built with conventional framing methods and resemble quaint wooden cabins. Built on dual-axle trailers, they are exempt from zoning and building codes. Highway towing restrictions constrain the height to 13’-6” and width to 8’-6”, though you could build up to 14’-0” wide with a towing permit on moving day.

What’s being called the “Tiny House Movement” is described by some as revolutionary, anti-establishment, and anti-American-Dream. Other tiny house enthusiasts resist the idea of being a “movement” at all, and definitely don’t relate to being revolutionary or anti-establishment. They’re just trying to simplify their lives and live within their means in a progressively unstable economy.

Perhaps the desire to own your home, regardless of size, is the essence of the elusive American Dream. “I believe the ‘movement’ is about ownership. We want to own a house, albeit a small one, and we want to own our time. I don’t think working as hard as I do that the majority of my income should go into someone else’s pocket,” one tiny house enthusiast commented on popular tiny house blog <http://tinyrevolution.us>.

Their diminutive size means that tiny houses cost more per sq.

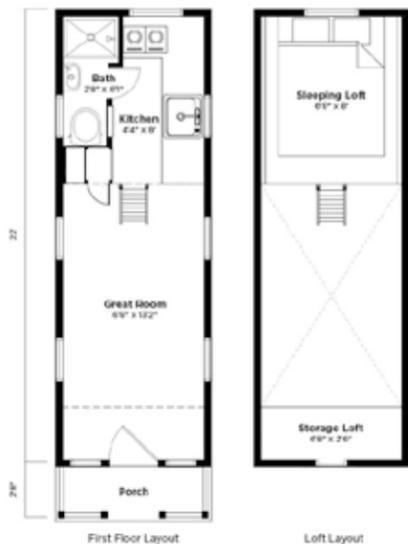


Tiny houses are built on dual-axle trailer foundations both for mobility and exemption from zoning and building codes. In August of 2012 when work dried up in Arizona we simply hitched up and moved our house to Santa Fe, NM. I blogged about our tiny adventures at <http://clotheslinetinyhomes.com>.

photo by Carrie Caverly



Many tiny houses are built like this Tumbleweed model called the Cypress. The sleeping loft is located above the bath and kitchen and accessed by a ladder.

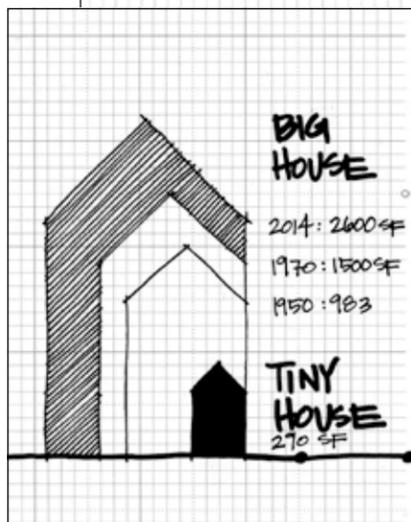
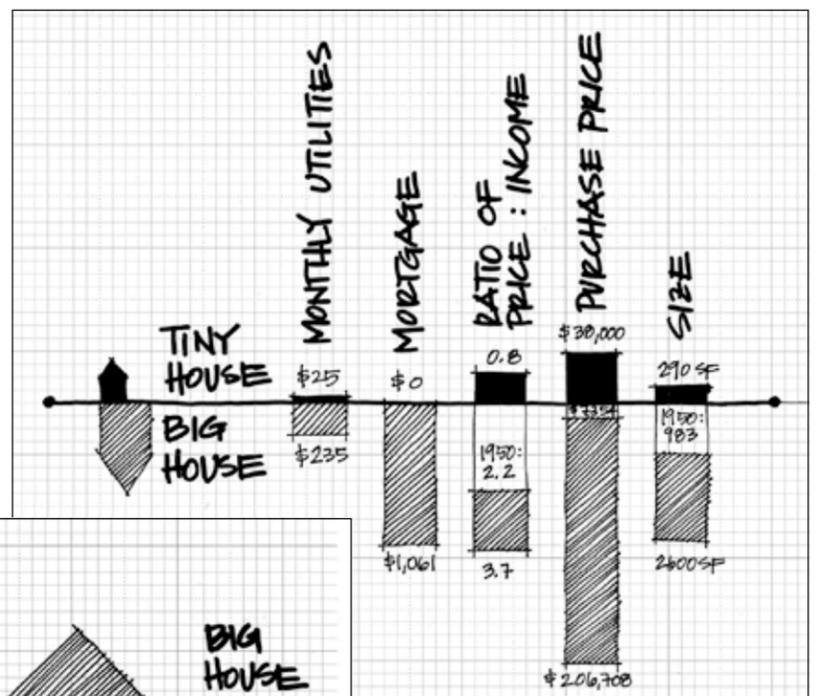


Tumbleweed’s Elm model is 7’-6” wide x 24’-0” long x 13’-4” high. Compact living for one occupant; 161sf on the main level with 46sf of space in the 3’-6” high sleeping loft accessed via a ladder. \$66,000 to purchase fully built from Tumbleweed.



Tumbleweed Tiny Homes is the tiny house giant, teaching tiny house construction workshops, selling plans, kits, and fully constructed tiny houses.

photos courtesy of [www.tumbleweedhouses.com](http://www.tumbleweedhouses.com)



The size of the average American home has grown from 983sf in 1950 to 2,600sf in 2014. At 200-300sf, tiny houses are a miniscule 10% of the square footage of a big house.

graphic by Carrie Caverly.

Tiny houses definitely cost less to buy and live in than big houses, but are the challenges of tiny living too big of a price to pay?

graphic by Carrie Caverly.

ed guides) all empower laypeople to build their own tiny house.

We decided to design and build our 204sf tiny house in February 2012 as a step toward financial freedom. I created a blog at the same time, <http://clotheslinetinyhomes.com>, which generated much-needed moral support and over 820,000 views in the past three years. We saw that a tiny house would allow us to live inexpensively while saving to build a house, debt-free. In fact, a tiny house seemed to be the only way to save enough money to get into a house without a mortgage.

We lived in our tiny house full-time for almost two years, cumulatively, and while I can’t conclusively credit the tiny house for the accomplishment of our goal, saving \$1,000 a month in housing costs certainly didn’t hurt. Though challenging, tiny living was a revelatory design experiment; cutting back to the bare minimum we were able to see the basic essentials required in a house.

So, are tiny houses the cure to what ails us financially and environmentally? Or are we just fascinated by extremes . . . craning our necks to gape at a train wreck?

continued on page B-9

ft., but also allow the inclusion of high-end design features usually reserved for luxury homes. The typical tiny house candidate wants to save money and build their own house, often with salvaged materials, and there are a myriad of tools available to assist them. Workshops, websites, blogs, and plans (not just blueprints, but extensively illustrat-



**by Kim Malville**  
**The planets of June**

June is a great month for hanging out at night, and this June will be especially rewarding. Two of our brightest planets, Jupiter and Venus, come together for a conjunction at the end of the month. These very bright worlds will be impossible to miss. Venus and Jupiter rank third-brightest and fourth-brightest objects in the sky after the sun and moon.

As dusk turns into darkness in early June, note the star Regulus (the brightest star of the constellation of Leo, the Lion) above Jupiter, forming a line with Venus and Jupiter. Day by day, watch as Venus and Jupiter race toward Regulus, moving along the ecliptic. The ecliptic is the path of the sun in the sky, which is the Earth's orbital plane projected onto the sky's dome. Because the planets orbit the sun on nearly the same plane that Earth does, the solar system planets are always found on or near the ecliptic.

At present, Venus and Jupiter are both heading eastward (upward) along the ecliptic, toward Regulus. You might think Jupiter should reach Regulus first, since the King of the Gods is so much closer to Regulus, the only 1st-magnitude star to sit almost squarely on the ecliptic. However, the closer that a planet resides to the sun, the faster that the planet travels in its smaller orbit. Venus, the second planet outward from the sun, races through space along at 22 miles per second whereas Jupiter, the fifth planet outward, plods along at 8 miles per second. Furthermore, Jupiter's orbit is 7 times longer than that of Venus. For these reasons, Venus will sprint toward Regulus, while Jupiter will crawl at a snail's pace.

**June 1:** Venus and Jupiter start out this month 20° apart and finish the month 60 times closer. Venus will be high in the western sky at sunset, setting more than three hours after the sun in a totally dark sky. Venus will be in line

with Pollux and Castor of Gemini the Twins. The three will be almost equally spaced in a nearly horizontal line.

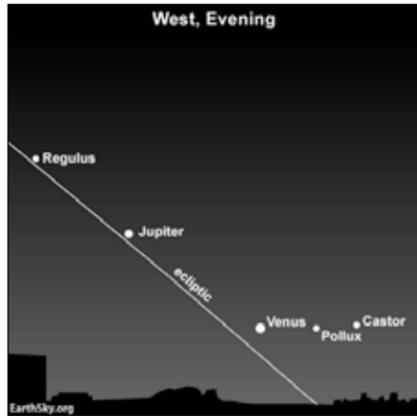
**June 6:** Venus reaches its greatest apparent distance from the sun in the sky.

**June 13:** Venus and Jupiter in the west forming another line with Regulus.

**June 19:** Look below Venus and Jupiter to see the newly born thin crescent moon.

**June 21:** Summer solstice, longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere, 10:38am MDT

**June 21:** The moon is left of Regulus with Venus and Jupiter to the lower right.



Venus and Jupiter in early June.

**June 27:** Venus is less than 2° from Jupiter and they will remain close together for another 7 days. Watch them for the next few nights as they come even closer to each other, reaching conjunction on June 30.

**June 30:** After the sun sets look for Jupiter and Venus low in the western sky, only one third of a degree apart. Venus will be 15 times brighter than Jupiter. A similar conjunction of Venus and Jupiter would have been observed in Bethlehem in 3-2 BC. Some have suggested this conjunction was the "Christmas Star."

**The stars of June**

To the south you will see Scorpio, one of the most realistic

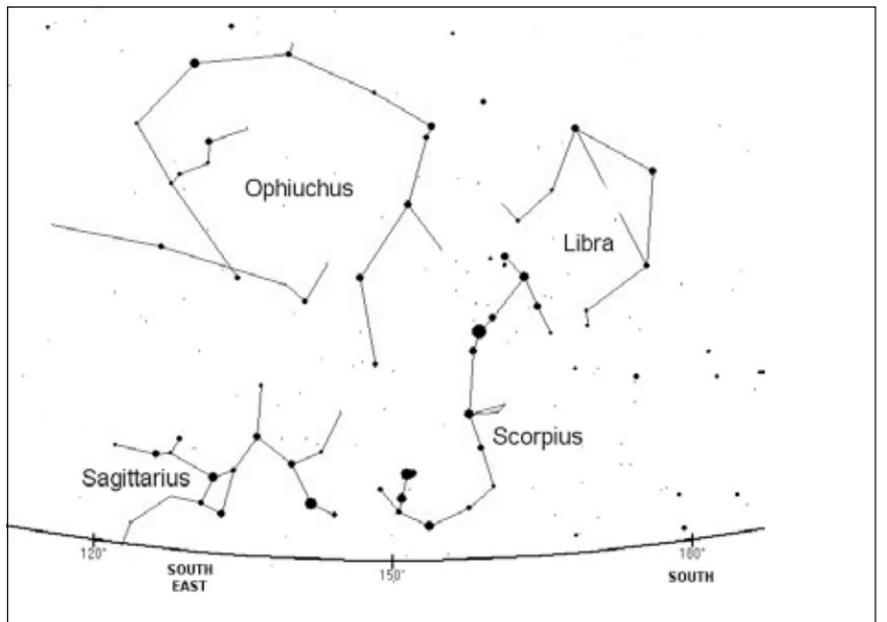


Ophiuchus, The Serpent Charmer standing on the head of the Scorpion.

constellations that has been concocted. The head of the scorpion contains the bright red supergiant star Antares, known as the Rival of Mars. To its right is Libra, the Scales, one of the least realistic of constellations. Its two bright stars (Zubeneschamali and Zubenelgenubi) used to be the claws of the scorpion, but someone in the past decided there need to be 12 zodiacal signs and invented Libra, cutting off the poor scorpions claws. It still has a tail and two stingers, which are also known, strangely enough, as the Cat's Eyes. According to Greek legends, Orion was killed by a bite from the scorpion.

Orion and the scorpion were placed in exactly opposite regions of heaven by Zeus. Antares exceeds in size all the bright stars in our skies except Betelgeuse in Orion. It is some 700 times larger than our sun, with a radius of 300 million miles. If it were to replace our sun, it would engulf all the inner planets, Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars.

Above Scorpio is the large constellation of Ophiuchus, the serpent charmer, known as the thirteenth zodiacal constellation. Note that his foot is on the head of the scorpion to keep him from stinging anyone else in the sky.



June sky looking south.

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# Wolf Creek development still contested

*continued from page 1*

released Record of Decision (ROD) is also wrought with internal conflict since the reviewing officer for the Objections, Maribeth Gustafson, Deputy Regional Forester, was also heavily involved in developing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) content, and most likely, the Final Decision itself. The Forest Service has not subjected these decisions to independent review within the agency. The few documents that have been obtained through FOIA litigation reveal that Ms. Gustafson served as reviewing officer of her own decision.

Matt Sandler, attorney representing Rocky Mountain Wild believes "Many of the same problems involving undue influence and bias that resulted in an Injunction last time have still not been addressed. It seems Federal Court is the only place our comments and objections will get a fair and independent review."

At issue is that portions of the National Forest are being provided to a development group led by Red McCombs that plans to construct a city the size of Aspen, housing 6,000-10,000 people, rotating through 1,700 units. This high-altitude location receives an average of 428" of snow annually, and is an important wildlife corridor for many species.

This development has been at the center of controversy since 1986 when the Forest Service

first confirmed that the Village proposal and land trade would not serve the public interest, and then reversed its decision two weeks later.

Conservation groups identified the lack of lynx protections in their objection to the Forest Supervisor's decision to promote and approve the land exchange. "This land exchange decision violates the Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment and the planned development is in the middle of a lynx corridor that connects habitat critical to lynx survival and recovery," said Christine Canaly, Executive Director of the San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) successfully reintroduced lynx to the southern Rockies beginning in 1999, selecting the San Juan Mountains core area as the reintroduction site, owing to its status as the largest contiguous block of high quality lynx habitat in Colorado. Wolf Creek Pass bisects the San Juan Mountains core area and consequently serves as the principal linkage for lynx moving between the South San Juan Wilderness and the main body of the San Juan Mountains core area.

"Climate change is reducing snow pack in western North American mountains and shifting distribution of forests northward and up mountain slopes. High elevation linkage zones like Wolf Creek Pass, known for its concentration of snow pack, will become critical areas to maintain and protect water quality and supply for our south western rivers and agricultural lands. We need these intact ecological zones to be able to buffer and adapt to changing conditions in order to maintain the critical economic drivers to local, rural communities," said Frank Simms, Chair of the Chama Peak Land Alliance.

For more info, visit <http://friendsofwolfcreek.org> and <http://slvec.org>.

## All-day celebration: Art for the Endangered Landscape honors Wolf Creek June 20

Interested artists can pre-register for the Wolf Creek Art Day and following show and sale through [http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event\\_info&event\\_id=960](http://www.juriedartservices.com/index.php?content=event_info&event_id=960)

Painters, poets and musicians will converge on Wolf Creek Pass for an all-day celebration.

This Art Day will be an opportunity for artists of all persuasions to honor the beauty and majesty of this high country straddling the Continental Divide as it runs through the San Juan Mountains of southern Colorado. Facilitation, orientation and amenities will be available from 10am to 5 pm at the Wolf Creek Ski Area parking lot.

Artists and craftsmen will have ample time to observe the landscape, using the longest daylight of the year, Summer Solstice.

The Art for the Endangered Landscape (AEL): Honoring Wolf Creek project consists of two parts:

The first event, on Saturday, June 20, will celebrate the existing conditions of Wolf Creek through various artistic avenues: painting, prose, drawing, photography, videography, songwriting, sculpture, print-making, poetry, dance, etc. during the on-location Art Day. Educational professionals are encouraged to bring their students on the Art Day for a unique learning opportunity.

The public is also invited to come up to the pass on June 20 to watch as artists and craftsmen spend the day painting, writing, sculpting etc., in and around the Wolf Creek Ski Area. Registration, orientation and amenities will be available. Lunch will be provided for registered artists. Art fans and interested public may also dine for a suggested donation.

Artists will then offer their creations of Wolf Creek for the second aspect of this project, a travelling show and sale. Shows are slated for Pagosa Springs in September, Durango in November and Alamosa for December.

AEL sponsors include San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, Colorado Creative Industries, Adams State University Community Partnerships, San Juan Citizens Alliance and Rocky Mountain Wild.

A portion of the art sales will be donations to show sponsors for their continuing efforts to promote public involvement in land management. As evident the title of the show, many feel this area in the San Juan Mountains is endangered.

This proposed development, dubbed "The Village at Wolf Creek", has been a controversial issue since 1986. Opponents point to this date when a land exchange for the initial tract at the base of the Wolf Creek Ski Area was denied developers, after local interests and the Rio Grande National Forest itself turned it down. That decision was overturned during the Reagan administration, moving the exchange forward, as the first of what many consider repeated instances of private interests trumping public interest with this forest land.

The viability of an introduced population of threatened Canada lynx has also been an issue of concern for development opponents. The planned development is in the middle of a lynx corridor that connects habitat critical to lynx survival and recovery, according to Christine Canaly, Executive Director of the SLVEC. Other wildlife will also be adversely affected, from trout to elk, states Jimbo Buickerood with the San Juan Citizens Alliance.

For more information, contact San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, [www.slvec.org](http://www.slvec.org) 719-589-1518.

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## West Nile Virus: Protect & prevent

As we move into mosquito season, public health officials remind SLV residents to take precautions against mosquito-borne West Nile Virus (WNV). In 2014, a total of 118 cases of human WNV were reported in Colorado, resulting in four deaths.

The most effective way to avoid West Nile Virus is to prevent mosquito bites. Use insect repellents when you go outdoors. When weather permits, wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks outside. Take extra care during peak mosquito biting hours at around dusk and dawn. Use screens to keep mosquitos out of your home, and remove standing water on your property.

Livestock water tanks and ornamental ponds may be treated with *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), a type of bacteria that kills mosquito larvae but is safe for animals. Do not handle dead birds with your bare hands. Birds may also carry WNV, transmitting it to mosquitoes, and on to humans.

One in five people infected

with WNV may develop fever, headache, body aches, nausea, and vomiting. These flu-like symptoms usually appear within three to 14 days of being infected and often end after a few days to several weeks. Many more people are infected but do not develop symptoms.

Of those who develop symptoms, a small percentage will develop more severe symptoms, including high fever, headache, neck stiffness, confusion, convulsions, vision loss, paralysis, coma, and even death. Serious illness can occur in people of any age, but the elderly and those with weakened immune function are particularly at risk. Symptoms may last from several weeks to years, and effects may be permanent. If any of these symptoms occur, medical attention should be sought immediately.

For more information about West Nile Virus prevention and control, including the latest guidelines on insect repellents, go to [www.cdc.gov/westnile](http://www.cdc.gov/westnile). Or, call your local public health agency.

## Groundwater rules consultations end

by Bea Ferrigno

On May 12 State Engineer Dick Wolfe concluded six years of consultation at a brief meeting with the lengthily-named San Luis Valley Advisory Committee to the State Engineer Concerning Rules and Regulations for Ground Water Use in the Rio Grande Basin in Colorado, aka the Rules Committee. Nonetheless, considerable work remains before the draft rules can be submitted to court.

At last month's meeting, a few questions were addressed and some new provisions were discussed, but Wolfe made it clear that any further input from committee members would be received by e-mail or phone. Discussion focused on the lower limit of reliability (LLR) used in the Rio Grande Decision Support Model (RGDSS); this was established as 50 acre feet through litigation over Subdistrict 1 and is now adopted in all the Colorado groundwater models. It pertains to the model, not the response functions which determine depletions that must be replaced by each subdistrict. The model will simply not generate depletions that amount to less than 50 acre feet on a given stream reach.

Changes announced at the meeting included dividing the annual report due from subdistricts on March 1 into a preliminary report on the same date, followed by the complete report in July. Another adjustment was made so that well owners who commit to join a subdistrict that has not yet been established will not be required to have augmentation plans during the subdistrict's petition process.

The Peer Review Team is still working on the response functions but they are expected to be done this month. Then the staff will have to complete the Statement of Basis and Purpose, which serves as an introduction to the proposed rules, a technical memo, and other documentation required in court. All the documents are posted at <http://water.state.co.us/SurfaceWater/RulemakingAndAdvising/SLVAC/Pages/SLVNews.aspx>

The Rio Grande Water Conservation Roundtable (RGRT) held no meeting in May. Its next scheduled gathering will be on June 9, 2-5 pm at the SLV Water Conservancy District conference room, 623 Fourth Street, Alamosa.

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## Adams State holding sustainability course for students and community

Dr. Nick Parker, former professor of Texas Tech University, has been at the forefront of the environmental movement for decades. Over the course of his career, Parker has innovated and brought to light new and more sustainable methods of utilizing energy, making use of available resources, and minimizing negative impact on the environment. He has applied them to agricultural operations, businesses, nonprofits, and everything in between. Through a class hosted by ASU Community Partnerships and SEED Park, International, Parker will be imparting his experience and expertise to students and community members in the San Luis Valley, empowering locals to bring practical improvements to our own region.

This Sustainability 101 course, open to Adams State students as well as the San Luis Valley community, will teach participants to tackle environmental challenges

from a variety of levels, whether working as an individual, operating a business, or taking leadership of a community. This is not just a simple, lecture-based class. In addition to providing classroom instruction, the class will also take students to local organizations such as the Colorado Gators Reptile Park so students can see practical examples of how the San Luis Valley is reacting to environmental challenges.

The Sustainability 101 course will be available for credit for current for ASU students, and non-credit for community members, and will be held from June 1 to June 6 in room 142 of ASU's School of Business. Sessions will run Monday through Thursday, 6pm to 9pm, 4pm to 9pm on Friday, and 9am to 5pm on Saturday. Students can register through ASU as they would any other course (Sustainability 101, ID 179, and CRN 11565). Community members who wish to sign up for the class should get in touch with Karl Jolliff directly at 719-587-8209. Registration fees are covered through the normal registration process for ASU students, and are \$200 for the full course or \$35 for individual classes for community members. For more information, or for help with registering, please contact Karl Jolliff at jolliffkg@adams.edu or call 719-587-8209.



## The Bears are back! Be bear aware!

Black bears have lived in the foothills and forests of Colorado since long before the pioneers arrived. Today black bears are trying to share space with an ever-growing human population. With many more people living and playing in bear country, human-bear encounters are on the rise.

Every year, bears attracted to human food sources damage property, vehicles and even homes. Bears don't know they're doing anything wrong. They're just following their super-sensitive noses to the most calories they can find.

Bears that find food around homes, campgrounds and communities often lose their natural wariness of people. Even though black bears are not naturally aggressive and seldom attack or injure people, they are still strong, powerful animals. A bear intent on getting a meal could injure someone who gets in its way. Every year bears that have become too comfortable around people have to be destroyed.

### Bears need your help

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is charged with protecting and preserving the state's wildlife. Every time we must destroy a bear, it's not just the bear that loses. We all lose a little piece of the wildness that makes Colorado so special.

Most conflicts between people and bears can be traced to easy-to-get-at human food, garbage, pet food, bird seed or other attractants. When people allow bears to find food, a bear's natural drive to

eat can overcome its wariness of humans.

Bears that get too comfortable around people can destroy property or even become a threat to human safety. Habituated bears must often be destroyed. Please don't let bears die needlessly. Do your part to bear-proof your home and property, and help keep bears alive and wild.

### Garbage kills bears

Much of what people throw away smells like food to a hungry bear. Standard metal or plastic trash cans won't keep out bears. Once bears learn where it's easy to get at the garbage, they'll come back again and again.

Never leave trash or recyclables out overnight. Empty cans and boxes still smell like food. One study showed that simply putting trash out the morning of pick up cuts the chances of a bear visit from 70% to 2%. To avoid attracting bears, clean containers regularly with ammonia or bleach.

Bears that learn garbage = food sometimes come inside homes looking for more. Don't make it easy for bears to visit; keep bear-accessible windows and doors in your home and garage locked.

Don't leave food, trash, coolers, air fresheners or anything that smells in your vehicle.

### If you see a bear

If a bear comes near your home, do your best to chase it away. Yell, blow a whistle, clap your hands, and make other loud noises. But never approach a bear.

## Join Aventa Credit Union for some Flip Floppin' Fun

Flip on over, flop on by, we're having a membership appreciation celebration so stop on by. We will be providing a complimentary BBQ lunch, plus fun and prizes. Not a member? Join now so you don't miss out!

**When:** Thursday, June 18, 2015

**Where:** Aventa Credit Union  
110 East Silver Avenue  
Crestone, CO 81131

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



**MUST RSVP BY JUNE 11, 2015.** To receive lunch, you must have a ticket that will be given out at the branch on the day of the event. For questions and to RSVP, please stop by the Crestone Branch or call 800.555.6665.

Federally insured by NCUA. Membership qualifications apply.

# TIME FOR SOMETHING NEW!

## New Hours at Aventa's Saguache Branch starting June 15th!

We have some exciting *news* to share - Aventa Credit Union will be extending our Saguache Branch hours to better serve your needs. We will now be open 5 days a week! Our *new* hours are as follows:

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Closed for Lunch**  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Not a member of Aventa?** Now is the time to try something *new* and join! We offer a wide range of products and services plus convenient access to your accounts. Questions? Give us a call at 800.555.6665.

Federally insured by NCUA. Membership qualifications apply.



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JUNE 2015 Listings



SOBA  
Member

**SOLD!**



**1479 Badger Rd - \$175,000**  
Custom 3BD/1.75BA home, built in 2004, backs to open space. Immaculate condition. Beautifully crafted w/diamond plastered walls, wood ceilings, wood floors, in-floor radiant heat, & wood stove.

**SOLD!**



**1266 Forest Grove OL - \$330,000**  
Extraordinary --2238sf on .97 acres, 2bd/2ba home with 408sf sunroom, 624sf 1 bd apt over 624 sf detached garage. Custom built. Magnificent views at top of Chalet I.

**Under Contract**



**397 N Chaparral Way - \$209,000**  
Lee Mitchell Home, 1410sf, 3 bd, 2 ba, 2-story stucco home has magnificent mountain and valley views. Gorgeous Master Suite on entire 2nd floor. Private suite is complete w/ large closets, master bath.

**UNDER CONTRACT**



**275 W. Iron Ave - \$189,000**  
2 high-quality 1BR/1BA cabins, built in 2012, in a secluded area of the Town of Crestone. Both contain Amish hand crafted timber frame trusses, hickory hardwood flooring, structural insulated roof panels with tongue & groove white pine ceilings.

**UNDER CONTRACT**



**315 E. Iron Ave - \$150,000**  
Built in 1951-2,400sf log home on a full city block (12 lots) is ready for your TLC. Well permit allows irrigation of 1/2 acre & watering of domestic animals. Land can be divided into 3 additional building sites

**UNDER CONTRACT**



**36 Camino Baca Grande - \$98,000**  
This lovely chalet style home with soaring windows and high ceilings has 3bd/1.75ba, a loft sitting area and attached sunroom. Wood fireplace, Toyostove heater.

**New Listings**



**6.775ac on Creek Greenbelt!**  
**937C Spanish Creek Trail - \$229,000**  
This lovely 3BD/2BA+Office home sits on 6.775ac & backs to the Spanish Creek Greenbelt. Built in 2007, this 1680sf home has wood floors, a woodstove, 2 flagstone patios & boasts amazing mtn views.

**New Listings**



**3705 Carefree Way - \$179,000**  
This 1874sf 3BD/1.75BA home was built in 1995 as a passive solar home. Very spacious w/detached 2-car garage & greenhouse. Also includes the upper adj lot to protect mtn views.

**Cabin in the Woods**



**2167 Indian Well Way - \$169,000**  
This adorable 3BD/1BA cabin was built in 2001 & sits in a great location on a wooded lot. The lovely deck, wood floors, woodstove, storm doors, outdoor swing, mtn views and storage shed complete this charming home.

**A Special Home**



**995C Pinon Rd - \$165,000**  
Light-filled, recently remodeled 1BD/1BA 1204sf home on a 0.03ac includes 8x13 retreat cabin & 13x8 toolshed. Set up for horses w/10x12 loafing shed & hay barn. Exquisite mtn views w/lots of privacy. Well.

**Commercial Property**



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

**Historic Hotel**



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

**Town of Crestone**



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

**Baca Meadows**



**Baca Meadows Townhome #10 \$189,000**  
Exquisite town house completely remodeled in 2008. 1480sf 2-story 2BD/2BA features redesigned kitchen & bathrooms, updated heat & lighting systems, beautiful patio. Must see!

**Baca Grande - Chalets**



**2795CR Brook Terrace - \$499,500**  
The castle tucked away on a private cul-de-sac on 2.765 wooded acres. 3 level stone & stucco with views to the sky. Artistic with quality & attention to detail. A must see home!



**1967 Rockyview Way - \$465,000**  
Luxurious 3BD/2.75BA/Office/3-car Garage 2953sf home sits on 2.374 acres & has a 2-room upstairs Master Suite. Beautifully landscaped courtyards & gardens with custom fence & deck.



**786C Panorama Way - \$419,000**  
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!



**1275C Bear Grass Way - \$399,000**  
Unique, 2-story 2BD/2BA 2040sf+loft hexagon energy efficient Rastra home up high in Ch1, adjacent to greenbelt on ~2 acres. In-floor radiant heat, passive-solar, woodstove. 352sf guest house. Gorgeous, must-see home!



**340C Palomino Way - \$389,000**  
Immaculate 1820sf, 2-story, 3BD/2BA home on 1.79 acres, meditation gardens w/rock lined pathways & patios. Solar h/w, woodstove & solarium. Detached double garage w/396sf studio space w/full bath, possible kitchen.



**4262C Serene Way - \$299,900**  
Immaculate 2500sf 5BD/2.75BA 3-level home on .98 acres. Custom finishes, fire resistant, energy efficient, magnificent views, extensive patios. Private. Good retreat home.



**557 & 560 Panorama Way - \$299,000**  
This spacious 7BD/3BA home has functioned as a B&B - fantastic for owner occupied &/or retreat space. Amazing 360 views, nearby creek w/ cottonwood & aspen trees. A must-see property.



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



**3615CR Splendid Terrace - \$275,000**  
1938sf 3BD/2.5BA, meticulous, Southwestern style home with arched windows & doorways sits on 1.132 acres is immaculate! Great kitchen, master suite w/ elegant master bath. Upstairs sitting room, bonus room and balcony.



**3919 Cordial Way - \$275,000**  
Two story, 3BD/2.5BA ~2400 sf home has a walled courtyard & 4 intimate decks w/ great views. Southwest style home gracefully adorned with fine details and finishes.



**149 Moonlight Way - \$269,000**  
Beautiful 3bd/2ba 2118sf home w/ 2 living areas - extensively updated & immaculate condition. Cathedral ceilings & a wall of glass w/ great views. Adjoins greenbelt & creek. Great space for entertaining!



**1255C Eagle OL - \$267,000**  
Beautiful 2075sf 2-story home with 2BD/2BA/Office/Sunroom in a private cul-de-sac on 1.766 acres in Chalets 1. Dramatic view windows, vaulted ceilings, master suite w/soak tub.



**207C Foothill OL - \$259,000**  
2-story 3BD/2.5BA/Study stucco home with a 2-car attached carport is non-toxic with Bloshield paints & oil finishes, Bamboo floors & natural pine ceilings. Spacious Master Suite w/Jacuzzi tub, separate shower, porcelain tiles & marble counter.



**1540C Willow Creek Way - \$249,000**  
2-story 3BD/2.5BA 1946sf classic farmhouse, 1.3 acres, backs to greenbelt & w/ 2 screened porches & southern deck. Separate log-cabin studio, w/steam-shower bathroom, kitchenette, and covered porch.



**909C Brookview Way - \$240,000**  
Home on 1.12 acres w/ spectacular views at top of Baca waiting for the right person to complete the vision. 2324sf & designed with 3bd/2ba. Separate 576sf guest house w/kitch.



**1216C Chaparral Way - \$235,000**  
Custom built 2005-Teahen home, 1710sf 2-story, 3bd/2.5b home on 1.132 acres is immaculate! Great kitchen, master suite w/ elegant master bath. Upstairs sitting room, bonus room and balcony.



**4454C Ridgecrest Way - \$229,000**  
Beautiful custom 2-story, 3BD/2.5BA/Office on 1.508 acres backs to Cottonwood Creek gmbt. Master Ste w/attached sun room & meditation room. Energy-efficient quality construction.



**2145 Indian Well Way - \$209,000**  
This 2BD/1BA is a new construction w/huge windows & rooftop deck for gorgeous views. Aspen panel ceiling in Great Room, ETS heat, stainless kitchen appliances w/granite tile & butcher block countertops. Soak tub w/separate shower.



**3356C Camino Del Rey - \$199,900**  
2 story, 1981sf, 2bd/1.75ba home w/ passive solar sunroom - great views on .864 acres . Master suite w/clawfoot tub, pine floors, pellet stove. Propane heat, great appliances.



**333 Palomino Way - \$199,000**  
Built in 2011, this 2-story 1685sf home offers 3BD/Study/2.5BA in a very functional floorplan. Passive solar, fire-resistant siding, carport, spacious kitchens with concrete countertops,



**1447 Chaparral Way - \$189,000**  
This 1440sf 2bd/2ba home is a complete remodel with bamboo flooring, Jenn-Air stainless appliances, maple cabinets, granite countertops, travertine bathrooms, master bath soak tub. Adjacent lot available.



**3949C Cheerful Way - \$189,000**  
Built by Terry Anderson in 2002, 1110sf, 2-story 2BD/1.75BA carport on .699 acres. Balcony w/ outstanding views, diamond plastered walls, soak tub. Private location w/ trees. Retreat home, private getaway, full time residence.



**635C Panorama Way - \$179,900**  
This 1504sf 3BD/2BA home sits on 1.013 acres & has an open, flowing floorplan w/lots of windows for natural light. Hardwood floors, custom made cabinets, screened porch, honeycomb window blinds.



**3704 Carefree Way - \$179,000**  
Immaculate like new 3 bd/1.75ba,1316sf home has wood floors, stucco privacy wall, single car garage, beautiful views of the mountains.



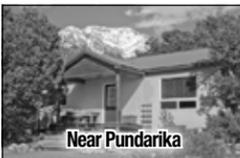
**3376 Genial Way - \$169,000**  
Tri-level 3BD/1.75BA home, lovely screened porch w/trex deck off living room. Lots of windows in the living space, offering amazing views, lots of light, and passive solar. ETS heat.



**1573C Kings Hill OL - \$159,000**  
Light & bright 3bd/2ba, 1480sf, 1.5 level stucco with large south facing windows and view deck on .84 acres. Easy access off paved road. Hot water baseboard heat/passive solar. New roof.



**3732C Cordial Way - \$159,000**  
Private & unique hexagonal 2 bd, 1.75 ba home on 1.36 treed acres. Separate 384sf. building incl. heated & finished office & workshop/storage area. Great views, wrap around deck.



**1221 Chaparral Way - \$149,000**  
This lovely one owner 2BD/1BA 1008sf Terrapin home has hot water baseboard heat, Vermont casting wood stove, stucco exterior & beautiful views. Landscaped, fenced yard & off the road for privacy. Near Pundarika retreat property.

**Baca Grande - Grants**



**499C Willow Trail - \$349,000**  
A unique & rare find! ~3900sf with 4bd/3ba/office/sunroom + attached greenhouse. 20+ acres. Tall trees. Private, long cul de sac & backs to Conservation Easement, offering extreme privacy. Well water.



**765CRR Heatherbrae Rd - \$295,000**  
Off-Grid - Exquisite, custom 2-story traditional home located on 11.94 acres offering amazing views and lots of privacy. Bonus attached garage with an upstairs studio apartment. Solar electric & well water.



**56 Wagon Wheel Road - \$295,000**  
Luxurious ~1800sf 2BD/2BA southwest-style ranch home built in 2002. 2-car garage w/studio. Large windows in great room w/stone fireplace & amazing views. 4.6 acres, well & septic.



**1234 Laredo Trail - \$265,000**  
This strawbale 1831sf 3bd/2ba home with detached studio on 1.86 acres has magnificent views & fine finishes, an open floor plan, a Ma. Ste w/ soak tub, deck with bamboo fencing and plenty of privacy.



**1564 Wagon Wheel Road - \$229,000**  
A 2,192sf beautiful single level ranch style home built in 1997 on 1.66 acres. 3bd/2ba, great room, living room & 2 car attached garage. Well and septic. Great value!



**1175 Golden Eagle Tr - \$185,500**  
2BD/2BA 1196sf Ranch-style home on 2.15 acres, built in 2006. Cozy luxury in the Grants. Mstr suite has tremendous views, full bath, walk-in closet, patio & garden. ETS heat. Well & septic



**600 Heatherbrae Road - \$185,000**  
Off-Grid - Beautiful 1240sf 2BD/1.5BA home on 2.61 acres, borders Conservation Easement. 220sf enclosed passive solar porch, 105sf shower & deck, 528sf deck & 8'x12' storage room. Well & septic.

# In Search of Economic Reality

## Why does the US only invest in the Middle East, not America?

by Ed Lyell

The average American now recognizes how much the USA has fallen in all quality of life and economic success indicators. The Social Progress project has a great web-based interactive that permits one to see the rankings of over 100 countries in terms of health care outcomes, educational attainment, voter participation, etc. Harvard's Professor Michael Porter directed this massive multiyear effort and was very surprised to see how far and fast America has fallen behind every other developed nation since 2001. Porter is the world's most referenced business professor and is a conservative Republican. His interview with CNN's Fareed Zakaria highlights this conservative academic's acceptance of what liberal professors like Paul Krugman and me have been saying for years. (<http://cnn.it/1LgYLCm>)

Professors from both the conservative and liberal sides have produced hundreds of research reports documenting why America has fallen behind and what it takes to get better. The most important effort is to invest in more and better physical and human capital infrastructure. Yet the US Congress, and most state governments, are refusing to even maintain the current diminishing investment in infrastructure. America used to have great roads, trains, bridges, and provided nearly free college to every American. That caused 50 years of USA-led economic success and improved life for two generations. Now those taxpayer supports are gone in a cut-my-taxes mantra produced by

the wealthy 1%. Then we look at spending on dams, bridges, trains, planes and roads in America. In 2014, the federal government spent \$96 billion on transportation and water infrastructure, marking a decline in real federal spending of 21% from its high of \$122 billion (in 2014 dollars) in 2002. (<http://1.usa.gov/1Hxnx3p>)

Recently Congress again cut federal spending on Amtrak's road beds and safety measures, even as we had a deadly train derailment in Philadelphia, and oil-transporting trains blowing up towns as they pass through. The average American knows that "Improving education for the low income" is the best way to reduce inequality in America. In a recent CNBC poll, 83% of Americans listed this as the most important way to reduce income and wealth inequality in America—64% would raise taxes on the wealthy to get the money.

Some political scientists have advanced their view as to why the current US Congress is ignoring the average American's desire to improve infrastructure spending. It is sad that Congress is putting political posturing above our country's future success and the prosperity of millions. The political scientists state five reasons for Congress cutting spending on infrastructure:

1. The most accepted (or easily reported) explanation is that today's Republican Party is dominated by southern states, the center of heavy infrastructure (and costs) is located in the northeast, and Republicans refuse to spend on states that don't vote Republican.

2. For Republicans, the hundreds of billions to trillions of unmet infrastructure spending represents a massive, annual, golden opportunity to extort draconian cuts to social, regulatory, and non-defense spending.

3. Republicans—at the behest of their mega-bank/private equity patrons—really, deeply want to privatize the nation's infrastructure and turn such public resources into privately owned profit centers.

4. Under current law, state and local governments are allowed, effectively, to delegate the ability to issue tax-free bonds to private corporations and investors. As a result, the private investors have the lower borrowing costs associated with government financing and the interest earned on such bonds is tax-free at both the federal and state level.

5. Finally, Republicans refuse to fund infrastructure spending because the larger goal is to repeal or weaken labor and environmental laws associated with

such large scale construction projects. (Taken primarily from: <http://bit.ly/1Kn17md>)

The US Congress will invest in building schools, bridges, dams and other infrastructure if in Iraq and Afghanistan. How many Congressmen are motivated to do so because their political contributors get the billions of dollars in US taxpayer money to do the work there?

The US has invested more in reconstructing Iraq and Afghanistan than it did rebuilding Germany after World War II—\$60.45 billion has been spent in Iraq, more than \$100 billion in Afghanistan. For comparison, the U.S. spent less than \$35 billion in today's dollars in Germany from 1946 through 1952. Total defense department spending has been over \$1.4 trillion in Afghanistan and Iraq since 2001. (<http://bit.ly/1cQxjA2>)

The American Civil Engineers report that we need over \$3.4 trillion for domestic physical infrastructure [www.infrastructurereportcard.org](http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org). For years now the Federal Reserve has been printing billions of dollars a month to pump up the stock market, yet it would be better to use this near-free money to pay millions of US workers to rebuild America.

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### Walking the Walk

Annual Meeting 2015

June 9, 2015  
Registration starts @ 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting begins @ 7 p.m.  
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(Formerly Inn of the Rio Grande)  
Please RSVP by June 4, 2015  
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# There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

## Scarlet globemallow



**by Dorje Root**  
**Scarlet globemallow or Ye-rba de la Negrita (Sphaeralcea spp.)**

There is something so beautiful about Scarlet globemallow! Its little apricot-colored flower is fairly unusual for a high mountain desert plant. It just seems to light up the landscape.

Scarlet globemallow is a member of the Malvacea or mallow family, along with hibiscus, hollyhock, marshmallow, and the little "weedy" Malva neglecta, also known as "cheeseweed". They share certain characteristics in common—five separated petals, and a pistil with the multiple stamens fused around it. Look inside a hibiscus or hollyhock flower and you'll know what I mean. They also share certain medicinal properties. The mallows have a mucilaginous (slimy) quality. In herbal terms, the plant is a "demulcent", meaning it soothes and heals tissues. Marshmallow is the strongest mallow in this regard. If you've ever worked with it you'll know that an infusion of the root has a lovely slippery or slimy quality. It soothes coughs and inflamed lungs, stomach and digestive tract, including irritable bowel syndrome, and urinary tract

irritations and infections (along with antimicrobial herbs). When my husband had a kidney stone many years ago, I gave him herbal tinctures in marshmallow root tea to soothe and prevent any further irritation of his urinary tract.

Scarlet globemallow has all of the characteristics of marshmallow—just to a milder degree. One can use the whole plant, root, leaves, and flower, in an infusion. It may take a bit longer but drinking two cups of the tea a day for a week or so can accomplish the same purpose. Scarlet globemallow has also been used for burns and sunburns by crushing the leaves and applying the slimy juice to the burn. The plant is mild, nontoxic, and edible.

When harvesting Scarlet globemallow (or any local herb) make sure to notice three things. 1. Make sure there are enough plants in any location to take a few. A general rule of thumb is to take no more than 10% of any stand (and that's if no one else has harvested before you!). 2. Don't take plants from near the road or in areas that have been sprayed. Plants tend to absorb any pollutants from cars. 3. Don't take plants along the sides of trails—they may have been peed on by dogs.



Scarlet Globemallow.

Scarlet globemallow is not commonly used as a flower essence, but I have seen a reference of its use for "anger and intolerance that is directed inwards", and perhaps that may help to heal the anger and intolerance directed outwards that seems to be prevalent in our times!

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

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# Tiny houses

continued from page B-1

Rising housing costs coupled with stagnant wages and an unstable job market have forced 20-and-30-somethings to find creative ways to live within their means. Insecure retirement funds (20% of Americans nearing retirement age have zero money saved) are requiring Baby Boomers to cut expenditures quickly. Two out of 5 tiny house owners are over the age of 55.

A tiny house can be had for \$30k-\$60k (\$10k-\$20k if you build it yourself). Meanwhile, the median purchase price of a house in the US is over \$206k (\$350k in Denver) and with interest on your 30-year mortgage you'll pay double the purchase price. Average monthly rents are \$1,400, while a place to park your tiny house, including utilities, will only cost you \$300-\$400 a month. At 10% the size of an average American home, tiny houses definitely have a smaller environmental footprint.

## How do you fit in a tiny house?

First, get rid of 95% of your stuff. Then, maximize every inch of that 200sf space. Build drawers on the floor behind cabinet toe kicks, sleep in a loft, and have a folding dining table. Wash your dishes by hand in a tiny sink and cook on a 2-burner RV range.

Also, it wouldn't hurt if you were like Vancouver student Samuel Baron, interviewed for a BBC story: "Between work and school, I'm rarely home," said Baron. "My suite functions as a place to simply store my possessions, and for sleeping, because I live in a neighborhood that has plenty of coffee shops, res-



We designed our 204sf tiny house to be suitable for two occupants. Pocket doors separate the pass-through bathroom from the bedroom in the back and the great room and kitchen in the front. photo by Carrie Caverly

taurants and pubs."

## Drawbacks of a tiny house?

Well, there's the obvious: they're too small. And the less obvious: they might not be legal . . . and if they are, you may not be able to find a place to park them. And the awkward, but unavoidable: everyone poops and it's not like you're rolling down a train track in India . . . you have to find somewhere to put that stuff.

## Are tiny houses too small?

We decided our tiny house was definitely too small for two people. "If I was single . . . I could totally live in this tiny house!" We took turns bringing up that helpful point during arguments. Would we have been arguing if we weren't cramming two adults' personal and professional lives, plus one small (but hyper) dog into a space the size

of a bedroom? Not about our tiny house. It gets irritating bumping your elbows on walls and each other, knocking your head on the ceiling, removing and replacing four things every time you want to get the toaster out. Or eat dinner.

## Are tiny houses legal?

Yes. Sort of. It depends. The wheels allow tiny houses freedom from local zoning and building codes. This exemption doesn't mean they aren't built to code though; quite the opposite. Most tiny houses are constructed to specifications beyond building codes, sturdy enough to withstand the earthquake and hurricane-like forces inflicted while barreling down the interstate at 75 mph.

So it doesn't matter what the local minimum square footage requirements are; those apply to houses, and, technically, tiny houses fall in the realm of the DMV (who has no idea what to do with them). They're not actually an RV either (you'll find that out when you try to get insurance or move to an RV park), but if your neighborhood allows RVs to be parked on lots, then you could park a tiny house there. Could you live in it full-time or call it your primary residence? That depends on your local jurisdiction.

Many tiny houses find homes in the backyards of friends, family, or generous strangers. Some property owners are installing RV hookups on their land to generate a little extra income by renting out an RV space for \$300-\$400 a month. A tiny house's quaint aesthetic definitely helps them gain acceptance to the neighborhood. Other tiny housers buy rural land away from prying eyes and have an off-grid vacation cabin. "Where to park?" is the question that stops a lot of tiny



Our custom tiny home plan. Storage compartments are below and in the arms of the built-in couch. We didn't want to have to climb a ladder into a loft, so the bed is located over the gooseneck hitch, accessed via stairs with built in dresser drawers on either side. A half-height clothes closet is tucked under the foot of the bed. <http://clotheslinetinyhomes.com>

house enthusiasts in the planning stages. Search Craigslist and you're bound to find a few brave souls, house in tow, searching for a place to park their brand new tiny home.

Everyone poops, and without the convenience of connection to a sewage system, finding an alternative means of disposing of human waste is one of the biggest challenges tiny housers face. The blog I wrote about tiny house toilet options is the most viewed post on our site: 50,000 views in three years. Our search for an alternative toilet seems like a comedy sketch now, but it was not at all funny at the time. I vented all the gory details on our blog and found we weren't alone in our struggle.

Some people instantly know they would never want to live in a small space, with or without another person. Others are more curious . . . more open to the idea of extreme living, or at least willing to weigh the pros and cons and see that a tiny house may be the best route to financial freedom. Either way, tiny houses are a very brave solution to very real and pervasive economic problems.

Carrie Caverly & Shane Caverly currently design and build "normal" sized custom homes in Crestone, CO through their firm Crestone Mountain Builders.



The second annual Tiny House Conference drew over 400 attendees to Portland, OR April 18 & 19. Colorado Springs will host the upcoming "Tiny House Jamboree" August 7-9, 2015. Go to [www.tinyhousejamboree.com](http://www.tinyhousejamboree.com) for all the details.

photo courtesy of Off Grid Quest



Boneyard Studios is the name of a tiny house community in Washington, DC founded in 2012 by three friends. They jumped through all the legal hoops to get an alley lot approved for use as a tiny house village, only to be torn apart by disputes among the founding members over governance and property ownership resulting in the disintegration of the community. photo courtesy of [www.boneyardstudios.org](http://www.boneyardstudios.org)



Four retiring couples bought land along the Llano River just outside Austin, TX and had four 400sf cabins and a communal living space constructed in a move they're calling "The Llano Exit Strategy" but the media has dubbed "Bestie Row." Will tiny houses be the next move for Americans nearing retirement? photo by Alexander Stross

# BACA GRANDE WATER and SANITATION DISTRICT

## 2015 Drinking Water Quality Report

### for Calendar Year 2014

Public Water System ID: C00155200

*Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca. We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact Operations Manager, Justin DeBon, at 719-256-4310 with any questions about the Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Rule (CCR) or for public participation opportunities that may affect the water quality.*

### General Information

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
  - **Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
  - **Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
  - **Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
  - **Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

### Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit <http://wqcd.compliance.com/ccr>. The report is located under "Source Water Assessment Reports", and then "Assessment Report by County". Select Saguache County and find 155200; Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District or by contacting Operations Manager, Justin DeBon at 719-256-4310. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System							
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic	2014	0.25	0 to 1	4	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2014	0.04	0.04 to 0.04	4	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2014	0.25	0 to 1	4	ppb	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2014	0.12	0 to 0.18	3	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2014	0.15	0 to 0.4	4	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2014	0.25	0 to 1	4	ppb	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

### Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

No violations or Formal Enforcement Actions

Significant Deficiencies		
Date Identified	Deficiency Description	Steps Taking to Correct and Progress To Date
04/29/2014	RS40 - DESIGN APPROVAL; System has not received plans and specs approval for the system or for renovations to the system, including the addition of new sources, changes in treatment or changes in the distribution system. This is an alleged violation of CPDWR 1.1	A response package has been submitted and approved by the Division.
		Estimated Completion Date October 23, 2016.

### Our Water Sources

Source	Source Type	Water Type	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
MOTEL WELL NO 1	Well	Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indirect sources from forest, agriculture (row crops, pasture hay), septic systems, and runoff from roads.</li> </ul>
WELL NO 18	Well	Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing or abandoned mine sites.</li> </ul>

### Terms and Abbreviations

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- Picouries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.

### Detected Contaminants

Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

**Note:** Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources	
Copper	06/27/2014 to 07/31/2014	0.72	10	ppm	1.3		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead	06/27/2014 to 07/31/2014	5	10	ppb	15		No		

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System										
Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Value	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	2.8	2.4 to 3.2	2	ppb	80	N/A		No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Combined Radium	2014	0.05	0 to 0.1	2	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	2014	2.4	2.4 to 2.4	1	pCi/L*	50	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

\*The MCL for Gross Beta Particle Activity is 4 mrem/year. Since there is no simple conversion between mrem/year and pCi/L EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Gross Beta Particle Activity.



**Shirley Motz** 719.937.1691

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\$420,000 41 pristine acres in the Grants. A great retreat property. Solar system, new batteries. 3550 sq ft with home and meeting/retreat building. Creek runs through property. 703497



\$330,000 Amazing contemporary home on 1 acre with separate 1BD apartment above the detached garage. Kitchen features all the modern amenities. 701128



REDUCED TO \$298,000! Unique property with 2 units and office space, 3BD 2 3/4 BA, full sauna, 33' grow dome, orchard. Borders greenbelt & Cottonwood Creek. 699764



REDUCED TO \$254,000 1.5 story 2BD 1.75BA, tile & wood floors w/radiant heat. Amazing ambience, sunroom, fenced yard, steam shower. Private cul-de-sac, high on the mountain! 699605



\$269,500 Just north of town, 5 acres with North Crestone Creek running through it! Secluded 960 sq ft home. About 200 feet of creek. 681507



\$249,500 Large home on 7+ acres in the Grants, tons of charm! Built in 1998, 2552 sq ft with additional guest cottage, out-buildings. Off-grid for self-sustainability. 699783



\$245,000 Cozy, energy-efficient straw bale home on 2.5 acres near Cottonwood Creek & greenbelt. Elegant feel, 2-car oversized carport with workshop area. 700945



\$239,000 2BD 2BA, spacious straw bale home. Radiant heat and a wood burning stove. Amazing views off decks and patio. Creak meanders through the property! 699757



\$229,000 5BD 3 3/4 BA with additional room off Master suite. Kitchen has plenty of cabinet space. Attached 2-car garage. 699746



\$215,000 This home has 40 acres with an artesian well. The lovely home has 3BD and 3 BA. Horse set-up, equipment barn and fenced pastures. 699756



\$211,000 Large home on greenbelt and Willow Creek. Remodeled in 2014; sits back on lot with lots of trees for privacy. Nicely appointed, this home has been a vacation rental with good income history. 705548



\$199,900 New construction, 2BD 1 1/2 BA. Backs to greenbelt & creek. Passive solar, year-round warm earth mass floor. Custom kitchen with maple cabinets. Bathroom has a garden tub. 699761



\$199,000 Secluded beautiful home on 40 acres. Completely off-grid with top-of-the-line solar system. 2BD, office, formal dining room, nice outbuildings. 360° views. 700012



\$198,000 Perfect retirement home! Santa Fe-style home on 1 acre. Detached 1 car garage, garden area, beautiful kitchen, tile floors, wood stove, radiant heat, large porch. 2BD 1BA. 703882



\$198,000 3BD 2BA home with a larger Master in the upstairs loft. Amazing views from porch. Kitchen features built-in range oven, refrigerator, and dishwasher. 699742



\$195,000 Superbly constructed monolithic dome, R-60 energy efficiency. Extremely fire and element-resistant structure. 5BD 2BA. Has large Quonset for multiple uses. 699782



\$189,500 Cozy 3BD 2BA 1500 sq ft beautifully situated Victorian Ross Chapin cottage. ETS & baseboard heat. High ceilings, sky lights & fenced-in back yard. 699770



\$189,000 2 high-quality cabins. Built in 2002 as show cabins, secluded within the town. Amazing interior! 1BD 1BA main cabin, 288sq.ft. guest cabin. 699742



\$179,500 3BD 2BA 1434 sq ft cute Victorian Ross Chapin cottage home. ETS & baseboard heat. High ceilings, skylights, private balcony with amazing views. Convenient to town. 699771



\$179,500 Recently remodeled, bright, spacious, cozy duplex with private patios 5BD 3BA. Conveniently located on the edge of town. Close to Charter School & grocery store. 699772



\$179,000 Creek-side home! Large fireplace, spacious kitchen, deck with hot tub, views of the mountains. Great vacation home! 1BD, 2 loft rooms, 1BA, adjoining room downstairs. 699746



\$169,900 Walking distance to Dharma Ocean Institute. High up on the mountain with amazing panoramic views. 2BD 1 1/2 BA, office. 699803



\$165,000 Great 5.25 acres for horses and dogs. Backs to Willow Creek greenbelt for trail riding. Thoughtfully built straw bale 3BD 2BA home. Solar hot water. 699780



\$159,000 Surrounded by trees, spacious 3BD 2BA, 1817sq ft. LR, DR, large family room with fireplace opens to rear deck & views. Master Suite has 5 piece bath. 2 car garage. 705185



\$150,000 Nestled in between the town of Crestone & Chalets I. 2 floors, 2BD, 2 BA, bright, spacious living room with high ceilings, private balcony and patio. 699773



\$149,500 Great getaway home near Cottonwood Creek. Builder's own home, great room with vaulted ceilings, quality craftsmanship; loft could be guest area. 699734



\$147,000 Beautiful Baca Meadows Town Home. 2 floors, 2BD 2BA, spacious living room with high ceilings, private balcony & patio areas. Convenient to town. 699781



\$139,000 A great buy! This ranch-style home has 3BD, 2BA, lots of light. Detached garage with workshop area, grow home for year-round growing. On a very private cul-de-sac. 703303



\$134,000 Energy-&self-sufficient homestead. New wood siding & metal roof. 3BD 2 BA. Solar, grid backup, greenhouse, 2-car garage, root cellar, garden, chicken coop, water storage tank, storage sheds. 706055



\$130,000 Just reduced for quick sale! Large 2176sq ft home on over 2 acres, adjoining creek & greenbelt! Very spacious open floor plan, 3BD 3BA. 360 degree views. 706319



\$79,000 Nice 3BD 1BA starter on retirement home. Wood stove, garage, metal roof. Situated on 6 lots with expansive mountain views & garden space, on shared well. FHA, VA or USDA 705685



\$37,500 PRICE REDUCED! Nice open floor plan, spacious kitchen, separate dining room. Wood burning stove in living room. Community fishing pond and clubhouse! 699737



\$32,000 Great price in Casita Park! Walking distance to library, golf & tennis courts. Great retirement home. Stucco finish, sweeping views of the mountains. Sold as-is. 699736



\$25,000 3BD 2BA mobile in Laz y KV water is included with yearly HOA. On 1 acre with a new greenhouse and beautiful mountain views. 703451



This fully equipped commercial restaurant in downtown Crestone is for lease! Call today for details! Great location, great opportunities!

719-256-4444

### FEATURED LAND LISTINGS

Please stop by the office for the brochure of the full lot list!

- 4318 Serene Court: on cul-de-sac, baking to miles of National Forest \$10,000
- 2862 & 2863 Carefree: adjoining lots with expansive mountain views, near paved road. Priced to sell at only \$2,000 each.
- 163 Moonlight & 164 Canyon Overlook: close to park, trails and creek \$7,000
- 3821C Virtue Way: near Cottonwood Creek, very private, prime lots. Consolidated. \$24,000

- 102, 103 & 104 Wagon Wheel: Owner financing available! 11.6 acres \$29,000
- 1437 N. Whispering Winds Trail: nice size lot, beautiful views! \$4,600
- 2057 Condor Overlook: on a cul-de-sac with panoramic views \$5,000
- 1133C Homestead Road: two consolidated lots in the Grants, all the way at the end of the Baca. Quiet, off-grid, near the swimming hole. Only \$4,000!

# Garden Guru

Thank goodness it's June!



by **Matie Belle Lakish**

June! At last we can plant all those favorites that hate the cold. Tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, squash, corn and beans will likely be safe from freezing now. No guarantees, of course. There are last frost dates for the valley well into June. However, with the warming trends we are seeing in our weather,

er, we should be safe. Keep some covers handy though, in case the temperature dips below 32°.

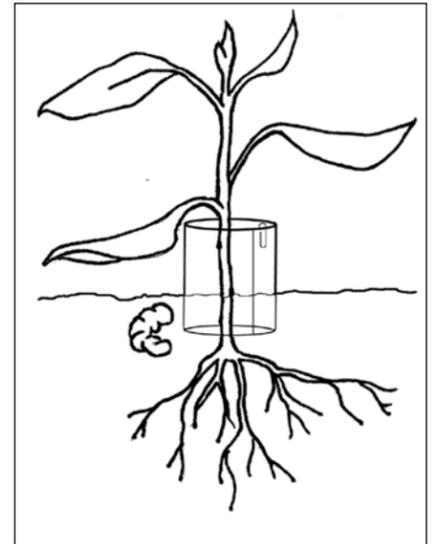
Because we have such a short growing season (officially, 90 days), variety selection makes a big difference if you plan to plant these frost-sensitive plants outdoors. When I'm looking at most of these heat-loving plants, I look at the maturity dates listed in the catalogs, and I usually order those varieties that are short-season. For instance, most sweet corn will not mature here. Corn likes a warm soil temperature to germinate, and by the time the soil warms enough for the plants to germinate, there will not be enough time to mature cobs by the first frost at 8000'. There are a few exceptions, primarily early hybrids. Look for maturity days in the 60's when choosing sweet corn.

### What is mowing down my little plants?

When succulent greens appear in the spring, we're not the only ones eager for a salad. I have planted out young broccoli plants, only to find them all mowed down the next morning. Lettuces and spinaches have a habit of disappearing overnight, as well. Generally, nightshade family, such as tomatoes and peppers are not as



Rock Squirrels are large, with a body about one foot long. Note the frosty mane on the back and shoulders of a mature squirrel. *photo courtesy summitpost.org*



A cutworm collar tucked into the soil around the plant.

*illustration by Janet Woodman*

vulnerable, but they too, can be a tasty treat for a cutworm. So how to tell who the culprit is, and what to do about it?

Generally, if the plant is cut off close to the soil line with the plant laying wilted on the ground, it is a cutworm. These caterpillars live in the soil and come out at night looking for a treat. Deter them by fitting your young broccoli, cauliflowers, and cabbages with collars. Wrap a piece of cardboard about three inches by six inches around the bottom of each plant when you transplant it out and staple or paperclip the ends. Push the collar about an inch into the soil so that the plant has a two-inch-tall wall around it. The cutworm, which lives in the soil, will not be able to climb over the collars you have made. An easy alternative is to cut the bottom out of a small paper drink cup and fit it around the plant.

If you wake up and inspect your lettuce and spinach plants and find them mowed down and gone, it is likely a rodent. Rabbits are pos-

sible if your garden isn't fenced. Another critter that loves early salads is the Rock Squirrel. Rock squirrels are an invasive species from the south that arrived within the last decade or so. They look like big grey squirrels, but prefer to run along the ground and find a hole to jump in than to climb into a tree. They love young spring greens. Deter them by covering your plants at night or putting netting such as is used to discourage birds over your rows of tender lettuce or kale. Alternatively, you can create a spray with soap and garlic and hot pepper to use on the tender young greens. Generally, the rodents don't care for more mature plants, such as kale or chard that is ready to pick, so you can stop spraying once the plants are an edible size.



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# EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers  
About Our Environment

## Global warming? Where to live?

Dear EarthTalk: Where will be the best places to live if global warming gets the best of us?

—Cynthia McIntosh, Jasper, WY

If temperatures around the globe continue to rise in the face of human-induced climate change as climatologists expect, some of the world's most populous areas could become uninhabitable. Rising sea levels will flood out coastal areas, while increasing drought will make survival in already arid areas difficult at best. While we may have at least a few decades of runway to prepare ourselves for the worst, advance planners might want to think carefully about where to put down roots now.

According to the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN) which measures and ranks 175 countries based on vulnerability and readiness to adapt to climate change, Scandinavian countries—Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark—just might be the safest spot in the carbon-compromised world of the future.

ND-GAIN researchers stress that residents of just about any developed country (including the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, China and most of Europe) will likely be fine staying put given the fact that better-heeled governments are already gearing up to adapt to warmer temperatures, more intense storms, rising sea levels and other expected changes. On the flip side, the worst places to be may be mid-latitude developing countries, including most of Africa and South Asia. The countries ND-GAIN predicts will be hardest hit by climate change include Chad, Eritrea, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Niger, Haiti, Afghanistan and Guinée Bissau.

Americans looking for the best place to live domestically as the world warms should also look north. Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, both blessed with plenty of water and plenty of terrain well above sea level, are generally acknowledged to be the best parts of the country to be in under a new climate regime. In fact, University of Washington atmospheric science professor Cliff Mass believes the Pacific Northwest will be “a potential climate refuge” in coming decades. He writes in his

popular weather blog that Washington state could soon become the nation's premiere wine production region as California's vineyards continue to be slammed by years and years of drought.

Meanwhile, UCLA environmental economics professor Matthew Kahn says that otherwise fading cities like Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Detroit will become more and more attractive as their counterparts to the south (Miami, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Diego) take the brunt of global warming's fury. In his 2010 book, *Climatopolis*, Kahn predicts that Detroit will be one of the nation's most desirable cities by 2100. Other climate change winners could include Vermont, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Colorado.

Not everyone agrees that Detroit will be the golden city of our future world. Author Giles Slade contends in his 2013 book, *American Exodus*, that we all may be heading for northern Canada when global warming's fury really starts to kick in. “The safest places will be significant communities in the north that are not isolated, that have abundant water, that have the possibility of agricultural self-sufficiency, that have little immediate risk of forest fires, that are well elevated, and that are built on solid rock,” he writes. “Our northern lands are our Noah's ark—a vital refuge against the moment of mankind's greatest need.”

Contacts: Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN), [www.gain.org](http://www.gain.org); Cliff Mass Weather Blog, [cliffmass.blogspot.com](http://cliffmass.blogspot.com).

## Point of no return for climate change?

Dear EarthTalk: What is the best way to measure how close we are to the dreaded “point of no return” with climate change? In other words, when do we think we will have gone too far?

—David Johnston

While we may not yet have reached the “point of no return”—when no amount of cutbacks on greenhouse gas emissions will save us from potentially catastrophic global warming—climate scientists warn we may be getting awfully close. Since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution a century ago, the average global temperature has risen some 1.6°F. Most climatologists agree that, while the warming to date is already causing environmental problems, another 0.4°F rise in temperature, representing a global average atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) of 450 parts per million (ppm), could set in motion unprecedented changes in global climate and a significant increase in the severity of natural disasters—and as such could represent the dreaded point of no return.



Some consider Seattle and the Pacific Northwest to be a potential refuge for Americans looking to escape drought-stricken southern states. photo by Howard Ignatius, FlickrCC

Currently the atmospheric concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> (the leading greenhouse gas) is approximately 398.55 ppm. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the federal scientific agency tasked with monitoring the health of our oceans and atmosphere, the current average annual rate of increase of 1.92 ppm means we could reach the point of no return by 2042.

Environmental leaders point out that this doesn't give us much time to turn the tide. Greenpeace, a leading environmental advocacy group, says we have until around 2020 to significantly cut back on greenhouse gas output around the world—to the tune of a 5% annual reduction in emissions overall—if we are to avoid so-called “runaway” climate change. “The world is fast approaching a ‘point of no return’ beyond which extremely dangerous climate change impacts can become unavoidable,” reports the group. “Within this time period, we will have to radically change our approach to energy production and consumption.”

In a recent lecture at Georgetown University, World Bank president Jim Yong Kim reported that whether we are able to cut emissions enough to prevent catastrophe likely depends on the policies of the world's largest economies and the widespread adoption of so-called carbon pricing systems (such as emissions trading plans and carbon taxes). International negotiators meeting in Paris next December are

already working to hammer out an agreement mandating that governments adopt these types of systems to facilitate emissions reductions. “A price on carbon is the single most important thing we have to get out of a Paris agreement,” Kim stated. “It will unleash market forces.”

While carbon pricing will be key to mitigating global warming, Greenpeace adds that stemming the tide of deforestation in the world's tropical rainforests and beyond and adapting our food systems to changing climatic conditions and increasingly limited resources will also be crucial to the health of the planet.

“Without additional mitigation, and even with adaptation, warming by the end of the 21st century will lead to high to very high risk of severe, widespread and irreversible impacts globally,” reports the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), an international group of leading climate experts convened by the United Nations to review and assess the most recent scientific, technical and socio-economic information on global warming. Indeed, there's no time like the present to start changing our ways.

Contacts: NOAA, [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov); World Bank, [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org); Greenpeace, [www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org); IPCC, [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch).

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by Kizzen Laki

Colorado's Mount Antero is a high peak gem field know for brilliant aquamarine, topaz and smoky quartz. Prospectors guard their finds, working high on dangerous scree slopes just below the 14,276' peak. Not a job for the faint of heart or those with weak lungs or those who are novices to the ferocity of sudden summer storms.

Back in the 70s I lived in Chalk Creek Canyon in a cluster of cabins at the foot of Mount Antero. I had a couple of friends who would spend several weeks during the summers up high on Antero's slopes hunting for aquamarine crystals. Randy and his brother Bus would brave the elements in order to bring back a bucket of gems. I love the color of aquamarine stones, and the smoky topaz is rich and mysterious.

One summer day we planned a day hike up to the top of Antero to see what we could find. We drove up Chalk Creek Canyon and parked our truck at the Baldwin trailhead and started the long hike up. If you had a jeep you could drive up to the timberline region and park there. Of if you had a really rugged Willys Jeep, nerves of steel and a death wish

you could driver further on a one-way track above timberline that had you driving forward to one switchback and then backing up to the next. No room for turning, or turning back. Hugging the side of a bare mountain with dropoffs of thousands of feet. A narrow track that sloped off the side.

We walked.

Up and up we hiked carrying our day packs and rock hammers. Full of enthusiasm for picking up crystals. Higher and higher until we were at timberline. I was in my 20s and my knees were good and Earl was part mountain goat. We followed the jeep road way up high on the scree slope with me hugging the inside as cold winds buffeted us. We reached a high rocky bowl where we were told the crystals were and stopped. Amazed.

The high mountain bowls were vast. The landscape huge, inaccessible to our novice eyes. Steep, scree, gravel, huge and did I say vast? Where to even go? What to even look for? We were totally out of our league.

We poked around a little bit, not daring to venture out into such wilderness without a guide. (We were young but not totally stupid). Let's stick to the trail we decided, and head for the peak of



The exposed switching Jeep road and the peak of Mount Antero.

photo courtesy of www.summit-fever.com

the beautiful Mt. Antero.

So we climbed higher, enjoying the views of the Collegiate Peak range—Mount Princeton, Mount Yale, Mount Harvard. As we climbed we noticed dark storm clouds coming from the northwest, tracking down the range and moving in on Mount Yale. Go higher? Yeah, we're almost there ("almost" is so misleading when approaching a mountain peak). The clouds covered Mount Yale, the wind picked up, the temps dropped. The clouds lifted off of Yale revealing now a totally white mountain. Hail on Yale. The big thunderhead was moving *our* way, flashing brilliant lightning in its dark interior. Hail Mary. Run!

We were above 13,000', 2,000' above any trees, any cover. We started running down that switching jeep track with everything we had. Crraaacckkk KA BMM! as lightning moved in on the peak. We ran with the hair on our arms, on our necks, on our heads standing straight up. KA BMM! all around us as we ran with no cover at all. It started to hail. Big hail pelting the ground and us. We ran, slipping on hail as the electric cloud swallowed us. We were soaking wet, perfect electrical conductors. There was a moment of blue electric clarity where I realized, so very very clearly, that in this majestic awesome moment, we could die here. Most likely die here. Right now. That thought lifted my feet in the air, lifted my being into the mountain spirit.

We ran—with just one primal terrified thought—"get down off of this mountain!"

Right around tree line the trail spilled into a rocky gully. We dove under and into a rocky overhang—not much bigger than a crack. Trying to make ourselves small and one with the mountain.

Hail rained, lightning struck and thundered on the cliffs above us, wind swept down the gully. We huddled and laughed with relief. Woo hoo! NOW it was fun!

We watched as the storm finally passed to go batter Mount White. Bedraggled and soaked we continued on down the trail. Limping with knees complaining and hips hurting from absorbing the impacts of a pell-mell downhill run. We made it down to our truck where home was just a mile down the canyon where dry clothes and hot drinks waited.

I never did make it back up to the very top of Mount Antero. But I do have an aquamarine crystal, a gift from my friend Randy, in my medicine box. And to this day I wear an ice blue Mount Antero aquamarine stud in my ear. A reminder of the power and beauty of that mountain—and the grace that let me fly through electric air.

*In the 1970's Kizzen and her family lived in a cluster of old cabins in the Colorado mountains with other assorted young folk. The chopped wood and hauled water. This is a story from those days.*

**Lightning safety**

PS, Running down the exposed mountain was not the wisest thing for us to do. If you should find yourself in an open exposed area with lightning, do NOT be the tallest thing around. National Geographic recommends "If caught outside away from a building or car, stay clear of water bodies and tall objects like trees. Find a low spot or depression and crouch down as low as possible, but don't lie down on the ground. Lightning can move in and along the ground surface, and many victims are struck not by bolts but by this current."

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	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
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# DISPATCH

from the edge 

by Peter Anderson

We are in a library in a small mountain town. Another late spring storm has just arrived, bringing with it rain, hail, and several inches of new snow. A traveler who has pitched his tent at the campground outside of town sits in this library looking at the weather through big windows facing the storm. He is grateful to be here in a warm place, reading about a National Geographic expedition to the Arctic. Sometimes armchair travel is so fine, maybe even better than the real deal.

He is new to town so he has yet to discover the fireplace on the other side of the library, where two elderly locals are sitting in easy chairs reading books by the same author, although they haven't figured that out yet. The man finishes a chapter, puts down his book, and notices she is reading *Charlotte's Web*, by E.B. White. He has just

finished an essay by the same author, a poignant piece about barnyard chickens. "I love E.B. White," he says.

"Oh you do?" she says, looking up from her book. "He's my absolute favorite. When I was little, this was the first book I fell in love with. And when I got older, he taught me more about good writing than anyone. Remember *The Elements of Style*?"

"Freshman composition," he says. "Omit needless words. I've never forgotten that rule." And so begins a conversation that will spark a new friendship.

On the other side of the non-fiction stacks is a little nook where two high school students have also come in out of the storm. They both told their parents they were going downtown to hang out for a while. Their parents are glad for some time alone but worry a little about their kids hanging out downtown, whatever that means. Then again

their children are fourteen now and need some independence. The boy has just taken a volume of MC Escher drawings off the shelf. "Hey check these out," he says, as they both lay down on the floor over by a window looking at one of Escher's illustrations.

"Whoa," she says. "Which way is that staircase going?"

"Right?" he says. "Pretty trippy, huh?"

On the other side of a wall, just to the west in this new library, there is a room where classes, lectures, and other gatherings take place. Today a dozen people are here for an AA meeting. A young man introduces himself to the group and tells the story of his DUI and how his license has been suspended and how he won't be able to drive to his job in a nearby town. After the meeting, an older man who has just celebrated his twentieth year of sobriety, says that he is retired now, has some time on his hands, and would be willing to drive the young man to his job. "But you'll have to get another ride home," he says. "I may be retired but I still got things that need getting' done."

Meanwhile, over on the other side of the library at the checkout desk, a single mom is chatting up the librarian as she checks out a second copy of *Charlotte's Web*, the illustrated edition, which she found

in the children's section. She will take her young son home, and they will get underneath a heavy quilt, and they will study the lovely illustrations together as she begins to read him the story. He will never again look at a spider quite the same way.

And now it's closing time at the library. The last patrons have just left and the two librarians are talking quietly. One of them says, "You know I remember someone asking me a few years ago if we needed a new library. . . ."

"Yeah? What did you say?" asked the other librarian.

"I said, no we don't need a new library, I mean we can keep our books in this old doublewide. And we don't need a new library the way we need food or shelter. But a new library, with room for people to come and just be? It sure would do this town a lot of good."

*Peter Anderson is one of many volunteers hoping to find funding for a new library in Crestone. Recently, he was awarded the George Bennett Writer-in-Residence Fellowship in Exeter, New Hampshire where he will spend the 2015-16 school year working on a novel set in a Colorado mountain town, not unlike Crestone, called Mirage. He hopes to resume Dispatch from the Edge in July of 2016.*

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## Baca Grande Library News



**This summer: Every hero has a story!**

*by Suzanne McGregor*

Calling all youngsters! The summer reading program at the

Baca Grande Library will begin on Tuesday, June 2 from 10:30-11:30 and will continue every Tuesday morning for eight weeks. The program, "Every Hero Has a Story!" is for toddlers through age 10 and will be presented by Penny from the Saguache Public Library. This summer, the program will focus on who we think of as heroes, many unexpected! There will be stories, crafts, and a reading contest (with prizes!) for the youngsters. There is no charge for the program, and registration forms are available in

the library. Drop-ins are welcome, and healthy snacks will be served. Parents are encouraged to stay for the program if they choose to do so, and older kids are welcome to assist the younger ones who might need a helping hand.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) is always seeking interested community members for input and direct involvement in developing fundraising projects and planning activities for our present library and for the new library relocation project. Please

ask at the library for meeting schedules and for more information on this group. And many thanks to those who attended the lasagna dinner at Cloud Station last month to see the proposed new library presentation.

Just a note—if you are missing your sunglasses, fancy water bottle, keys, notebook, etc. please take a look in our Lost and Found box.

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

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**...Classifieds**  
continued from  
Page B-18

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**Help Wanted**

**Youth Work Force Coordinator**

Town of Crestone is accepting applications for part-time Youth Work Force Coordinator for the Crestone Creative Council youth job program. Coordinate & supervise youth employees, organize schedules, maintain contact with clients, monthly reporting.

**New Classifieds online daily. Check [www.crestoneeagle.com](http://www.crestoneeagle.com)!**

Applicant must have cell phone, email account and internet access. Strong administrative & communication skills and Microsoft Office experience. HS Diploma or GED. 5-7 hours/week at \$10-12/hr. For a job description and application, please contact Town Hall 719-256-4313 or [crestone@fairpoint.net](mailto:crestone@fairpoint.net).

**Misc. Wanted**

**WANTED: Bodhisattvas**

For the benefit of all beings, starting with all beings here and now! [tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas](http://tinyurl.com/Bodhisattvas)

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**Straw Bales – New or Old**

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**English Bulldog Purebred Puppies for sale**

English Bulldog Purebred Puppies for sale. They are Akc Reg, Shots, Brindle, Champion Bloodline, Outstanding Pedigrees, Health

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**Dandy Treadmill**

Weslo Cascade 5.0 treadmill, gently used, \$110. 256-5657.

**TNT FARM & GARDEN**

TNT Farm & Garden is opening to the public June 1st. Come pick your own perennials, bedding plants, & hanging baskets. Call Mark or Sheila at 496-0965 for directions.

**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.

**Yard/Garage/Moving/Estate Sales**

**Garage Sale June 13 & 14**

Garage Sale Sat/Sun June 13 & 14 10a-4p. 8 Baca Grant Way. Hand tools, Table saw, router, knives, collectibles, books, household items.

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**Job Announcement:** Paramedic/Administrator

**Opportunities Available:** Full Time Position or Two Part Time Positions depending on qualifications.

**Work Hours:** Negotiable, depending on qualifications for full or part time position. Full time combination Paramedic/Administrator would be salaried. Salary would be based on experience and qualifications. A part time Paramedic or Administrator will be paid at an hourly rate. The rate will be based on experience.

**Minimum Experience:** Prefer 5 years' experience as Paramedic, EMT Intermediate, or RN with Emergency Medical experience. For full time position would need 2 years administrative experience in ambulance administration.

**Special Considerations:** We are a 911 response service covering the northeast corner of Saguache County covering approximately 500 square miles of frontier rural landscape. Our average length of call from page out to back in quarters is 4 hours.

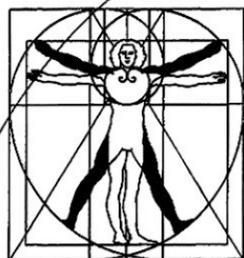
**Paid Benefits:** Retirement plan, health, dental, and vision plans for a full time position. Paid vacation, PTO and sick time based on full or part time employment.

Interested applicants must submit this pre-employment packet containing current and legible copies of the following documents:

- A resume and cover letter
- A completed Baca Grande Property Owners Association application available at [www.bacapoa.org](http://www.bacapoa.org)
- High School Diploma or equivalent
- Current Colorado Driver's License
- Driving Record Check (current to within 2 weeks of interviews)
- Current Colorado State Paramedic License and National Registry Card
- An example of your patient care narrative writing abilities
- Current AHA Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support BLS certificate or equivalent
- Current AHA Advance Life Support ACLS certificate or equivalent
- Current AHA Pediatric Advanced Life Support PALS certificate or equivalent
- NIMS IS 700, IS100, and IS200
- Prefer also MCICS 100, MCICS 200, and MCICS 300

**Please submit pre-interview packet via US mail, e-mail, or fax to:**  
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Baca/Crestone Ambulance  
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**by Keno**  
**We see so many small hail storms hit us around here each year. What can you tell us about hail?**

Colorado is the most hail-prone state in the US, and in the Crestone foothills we see as much small hail as anyplace else on earth. Yet just to the west of Crestone, the Grants and Casita Park, along with the rest of the valley, most of the storms miss.

Colorado's hail season runs usually from April 15 to September 15. Here in Crestone we are lucky, as we almost never seen large, destructive hail, but we do see about 10 small hail events per year, a tie with parts of the Colorado Front Range. The most destructive hail occurs most often in the U.S. Great Plains. The worst spot is near the conjunction of Wyoming, Nebraska, and Colorado. Hailstones of 1" to 2" diameter (which can fall at a rate of 80mph) occur in eastern Colorado each summer, but fortunately over small areas. Stones as large as 4.5" diameter have been observed in northeastern Colorado. Stones of that size have been known to penetrate some roofs. One death and numerous injuries have occurred in Colorado as a result of large hail.

Hail can be clear or white, and can be hard or soft. Wind patterns usually form hailstones into balls, but they can also appear as cones, discs, stars, pyramids, or



Spring view! Mother's Day snow in Crestone.

photo by Ashley Quinn

pointy blobs. There have even been reports of donut-shaped stones.

On July 23, 2010, the largest hailstone ever recorded in the US fell in Vivian, SD. The stone had a diameter of 8.0" with a circumference of 18.64", and weighed 2 pounds. This hailstone broke the previous US hail size record for diameter, 7.0", which fell in Aurora, NE June 22, 2003. But the Aurora hailstone retains the record for circumference (18.75").

Hail suppression has been tried over the years, including here in Colorado and in the San Luis Valley, using different methods including silver iodide cloud seeding. Hail cannons, whose loud acoustic

burst is believed to break up hail while it is just forming, have been used near Center, CO.

Hail is found around the world. In June 1932 a hailstorm killed an estimated 200 people and injured thousands more in China. Other countries with frequent hailstorms include southern and western Germany, northern Italy, northern India, and Croatia. But the foothills of the Himalayas, along with the foothills of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, are the 2 most common places for hail storms in the entire world.

*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

April 21 to May 20

**Total precipitation for period:**

Liquid precip: 4.34"

Snow: 20.0"

Measurable precipitation fell on 12 days.

Measurable rain fell on 9 days.

Measurable snow fell on 4 days.

A trace of rain fell on 5 days.

A trace of snow fell on 3 days.

Hail fell on 4 days

2 thunderstorms occurred.

Total precipitation year to date:

Since Jan 1: 7.11"

Total snow to date:

Since Jan 1: 58.1"

Snow Season\*: 89.5"

\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30

Temperatures for the period:

High temp: 71.8°F on April 30

Low temp: 24.4°F on April 28

Avg. high: 58.6°F

Avg. low: 32.7°F

Number of days with the high temperature at or above 70°: 1

Number of days with the low temperature at or below 32°: 15

Winds for the period:

Avg. speed: 4.0 mph

Highest gust: 39 mph on May 1

Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the southwest during the day.

### Weather summary:

Very wet and cool sums up the weather for this period. Precipitation was as much above normal as it has ever been for the late spring around here, with the month of May surpassing its record for total precip before half the month had passed, and as of May 20, it was not only the wettest May ever on record (3.98"), but the sixth wettest month ever since 1982. Snowfall-wise, the same deal, with the snowiest May ever, including a record snowfall on May 9-10 of 18.3". A total of 7 new precipitation records were set during the entire period.

Temperatures were very much below normal, with May being cooler than April was. But only one record low was reached. Still, this was as cool a late spring the greater Crestone has seen in years.

### Outlook for June:

June is our fifth driest month of the year, or in other words, it's an average month for seeing rainfall, with an average of .90" falling. It has snowed 3 times in June in the last 33 years, but not since 1999, with the most snow being 1" in 1983. Temperature-wise, June is our third warmest month of the year. In the first week we see average highs and lows of 72° and 40°, and by the end of June it warms up to averages of 80° and 47°. Record high for June is 95° set first on June 30, 1990, and then again on June 29, 1998, while the record low is 24°, reached on June 2, 1990.

The 30-day outlook from the National Weather Service for June calls for below average temperatures, along with above normal precipitation.

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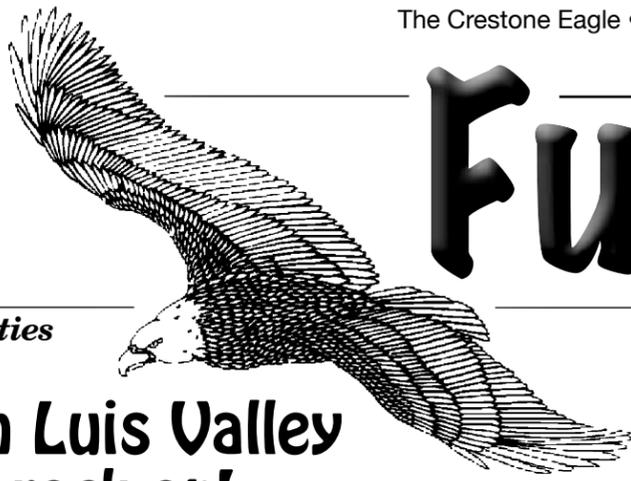
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# Summer Fun



The Crestone Eagle's guide to regional events & activities

June, 2015

## Climbing in the San Luis Valley Get your rock on!



William Mondragon climbing "The Journey to Ixtlan" in Penitente Canyon. photo by Nate Liles

*by Alma Sever*  
Ever heard of Penitente Canyon? It is one of the many hidden treasures of the San Luis Valley, primarily known for being a sport climbing destination. Made of volcanic tuff, the rock in Penitente Canyon provides smooth hand holds with great friction. With climbs from beginner to advanced, yet leaning on the intermediate to advanced side, all routes are mostly vertical to slab (an angle less steep than vertical, known as

"slab", is characterized by very small holds, forcing climbers to depend on the technical rather than the physical) with technical small hand holds (a.k.a. crimps), and delicate footwork required.

Surrounding Penitente, there is a wealth of climbing in the San Luis Valley; however, hardly any climbers are ever seen. The valley is 8,000 square miles and is the world's largest alpine valley with an altitude of over 7,500', and it contains over 400 established climbing routes. "The San Luis Valley is really spread out—there is no large concentration of climbers. The population in the valley is small in the first place," says avid climber Lily Cornett. "It's more secluded and remote out here." It has been 16 years since a climbing guidebook for the San Luis Valley has been published.

However, there are plenty of online resources, comments, and reviews of established boulders and new routes that have been bolted.

Sport climbing and bouldering developer William Mondragon (known as "WT") does not recommend Penitente Canyon for beginners. "It can be very scary." How could such short sport climbs, averaging 30', be scary? Although some of the climbs have been re-bolted for safer lead climbing, some of the bolting can be sparse, which means longer distances to fall between clipping points. "All the beginner climbs are slab with a more traditional rating system," says Cornett, "which means if you're used to climbing in a gym you're gonna have a hard time adjusting."

Elephant Rocks, just three miles

*continued on page C-6*

## Crestone Artisan's Gallery Second Saturday Art Walk



Please visit us for the Second Saturday Art Walk and see just what a friendly and creative community Crestone is! Crestone Artisans Gallery will be holding its monthly Artists' Reception from 2-5pm on the second Saturday of every month this summer. Refreshments and wine will be served with live music in Artisan's Park.

The gallery represents over 24 local artists and craftspersons showing works in many media including paintings in oil, acrylic & watercolor; jewelry; glass; leather work; pottery; hand-turned wood; furniture; textiles; handmade paper; sculpture; wind chimes; and photography. We have several new members showing this summer. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the artists!



## Yak Tours + Cho ku rei Ranch



You have to see a yak up close and personal to realize this is indeed a very special creature on the earth.

Yaks are very engaging and alert. Our yak tours have become a popular attraction for agri-tourists and other guests of the ranch. Visitors are taken out on the ranch in our army troop carrier to see the yaks in their natural environment. The carrier is open on 3 sides and is ideal for kids as well as adults. Tours can be arranged most any day if we have ample notice.

Tours are \$10 for an adult; \$5 for kids.

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# The Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve

The tallest sand dunes in North America are visible from Crestone and located a mere 20 miles southeast, as the crow flies, or an hour's drive of 57 miles via State Hwy 17 south and County Lane 6 east.

Activity possibilities at the Park abound, whether an educational tour of the Visitor's Center, a rugged high-clearance 4WD adventure up Medano Pass Road, or a cooling splash in the seasonal flows of Medano Creek.

Heavy May rain and snow has Medano Creek flowing above average, and Park officials forecast substantial flow to continue through mid-July.

Wander across any part of the 30-square-mile dunefield, or escape summer heat by hiking along the forested Montville Nature Trail or Mosca Pass Trail. For expansive views of the entire dunefield, hike about 1 hour to the top of "High Dune." The tallest dune at 750', "Star Dune" is another popular hiking



destination. Expect to hike about 5 hours round trip.

Sandboarding or sand sledding are fun with the right gear and right conditions. Gear can be rented year round from Kristi Mountain Sports in Alamosa or April-October at the Oasis Store just outside the park entrance.

In summer months, limit any activities on the dunes to morning and evening to avoid the 150°F sand temperatures.

The Great Sand Dunes visitor center and store are open 9am-4:30pm; however, Great Sand Dunes is open 24 hours a day. Entrance fees are \$3 per person for 16 years and older and free for anyone younger than 16.

Check the park's website, [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa), for accurate weather information and trail and road conditions before your visit. You can also call the park's Visitor Center at 719-378-6399 for more information.

## Swim at the Sand Dunes Pool

On Highway 17, north of Hooper, turn east on Road B (the water billboard). Follow the signs 2.5 miles to the Sand Dunes Swimming Pool. Heated by geothermal water, this pool has a diving boards, a kiddies' pool, toys, a therapy pool and a concession stand that was voted "Best in Colorado." New Adults Only Greenhouse Area available to 21+. Additional fee applies. RV & tent camping as well as cabin rentals available year-round. Visit our website for details. Admission: \$12/adult, \$8/child (3-12yrs), children under 2 are free. Seniors 65+, students with ID and military are \$10. Last Hour of the Day Deal: Arrive 1 hour prior to closing to receive half price discount. March 1-November 30. 10am-10pm. Closed every Thursday for draining and cleaning. For more information and to learn about passes, punch cards and group discounts, call 719-378-2807 or visit [sanddunespool.com](http://sanddunespool.com).



## San Luis Valley

## UFO Watchtower

The UFO Watchtower will be hosting a potluck BBQ on July 25 starting at 5pm. There will be entertainment and a sky watch to follow. Reservations for camping are suggested. There is also a Bed & Breakfast available.

To date, seventy-seven UFOs have been seen, spotted from the tower's observation deck.

It is said two energy vortices draw UFOs to our area! You can

peruse a gift shop full of books on the subject, and shop for out-of-this-world souvenirs. Just 3 miles north of Hooper on Highway 17. Admission is \$2/person or \$5/car. Primitive camping is available for

\$10 per night. Call 719-378-2296 or log on to [ufowatchtower.com](http://ufowatchtower.com) for full details. For conference reservations call Judy at 719-378-2296.



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PHOTO BY RUSS BURTON



## Pathfinders 4x4

Rent your adventure with PathFinders 4X4 Jeep Rentals & Tours. View abundant wildflowers and animal life as you explore the majestic high country of the San Luis Valley.

If you have your own 4x4, you can accompany PathFinders 4X4 on their escorted self-drive tours. Their guided talking tours are very popular. The tour guide gives insight about the geologic forces that formed this part of Colorado. Mining also played an important role in shaping the Centennial State in the late 1800s. Their knowledgeable guides will thoroughly explain the historic sights encountered along the way.

Do you need to improve your off-road driving skills? PathFinders 4X4 offers a 1-day school to learn driving techniques, mechanical tricks, and how to deal with worst case scenarios when Jeeping in the backcountry. Expedition and overnight trips are also available. PathFinders 4X4 can be reached at 719-496-6288 or online at [www.PathFinders4X4.com](http://www.PathFinders4X4.com).

## Granite Mountain Outfitters

Granite Mountain Outfitters is committed to offering an excellent riding experience throughout the late spring, summer and fall seasons. They specialize in western outdoor and ranch fun for everyone, from beginner to experienced riders. Small group sizes ensure that guests receive the personal attention they deserve to have in a truly interactive horseback experience.

Choose from one-hour or two-hour, up to half-day or full-day (with lunch) horseback rides. Private rides are available also. Granite Mountain Outfitters also offers overnight accommodations in their Dorsey Creek Cabin. The cabin is perfect for 4 people, but will accommodate six. Granite Mountain Outfitters has over 20 years experience in the outfitting business. Contact them today: [www.granitemountainoutfitters.com](http://www.granitemountainoutfitters.com), 719-221-3479 or 719-530-0480.



## San Luis Valley



## Mirage Trading Co.

The Mirage Trading Co., in Moffat, is a true oasis on Hwy. 17, in the middle of the San Luis Valley. The Mirage has "the best coffee in the valley," roasted on the premises under the name of Mirage Roasting Co. Delighted by the smell of roasting and brewing coffee, many a passerby is astounded by the superb quality of the coffee and of the local art produced by the many talented local artists. Stop by to check out the art. Sample the freshly roasted organic, fair-trade coffee and take "a little bit of the valley" home with you. Hours are 8am-4pm, 7 days a week. PO Box 412, 17555 Hwy 17, Moffat, CO 81143, 719-256-4357. Log on at: [miragetradingco.com](http://miragetradingco.com).

## Villa Grove Trade

After soaking and swimming at the hot springs, food and accommodations await at the Villa Grove Trade. A small town general store since 1882, it features live music and dinner specials every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 6-8pm.

Villa Grove has several old west buildings that date back to the railroad days. The Trade offers mighty fine meals, home baked desserts, wi-fi, local art, general supplies, ice, snacks and beverages, specialty coffees and espresso. There are also a couple of quaint rooms for rent. \$55 for single, \$65 for double, pets \$10 each. Location: 34094 U.S. Hwy 285, Villa Grove. 8am-4pm daily. 719-655-2203, [www.villagrovetrade.com](http://www.villagrovetrade.com).



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# The Zacheis Planetarium

# Alamosa

This summer Adams State University's Zacheis Planetarium is trying something new—double features every Thursday night. The first movie will start at 7pm and the second will start at 7:45pm. There will be a break between movies to allow visitors to go in and out of the theater.

"If the double feature idea proves to be popular, we will continue it into the fall semester," said Dr. Robert Astalos, Planetarium Director.

All shows are free and open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 6:45. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Schedule (7pm movie listed first):

- June 4 – Black Holes; Undiscovered Worlds
- June 11 – Natural Selection; Experience the Aurora
- June 18 – Dynamic Earth; Back to the Moon for Good
- June 25 – Tales of the Maya Skies; Ultimate Universe
- July 2 – Dark; Saturn: Jewel of the Heavens
- July 9 – Into the Deep; Bella Gaia
- July 16 – Robot Explorers; Origins of Life
- July 23 – Earthquake; Lamps of Atlantis
- July 30 – Life: A Cosmic Story; Hubble Vision 2
- August 6 – Escher's Universe; Extreme Planets
- August 13 – Bad Astronomy; Exploding Universe
- August 20 – Astronaut 2012; Dream to Fly

Visitors may attend both movies, or just one, on any given night.

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



# Kristi Mountain Sports

Kristi Mountain Sports is the San Luis Valley's specialist in human- and gravity-powered sports. We stock only the best equipment to outfit all of your outdoor summer adventures! Bike, hike, pack, camp, climb, paddle, sandboard . . . we do it all. Find all your maps and literature for local adventures including USGS quads, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Maps, GPS units and more. Our full-service bike repair shop is equipped for any repair your iron steed may need. Try something different this summer—rent a sandboard or sand sled and go slide down the dunes! Family-owned and operated since 1969.

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*Frank Band*

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*Hard Hitting - High Energy*

**5:00 PM**  
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MARTIN EPP - BASS, VOCALS  
BONES - DRUMS, VOCALS  
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Riverside Park | 12:00 NOON | JULY 4, 2015

# Saguache County Museum

Come see the new exhibits at the Saguache County Museum. The Bunker Site Artifacts Exhibit, from north of Crestone, date within the old Spanish Trail Era of Significance (1829-1848). The Souvenir Spoons Exhibit includes 32 local spoons—collection was a popular hobby from the 1880s through World War I. Be amazed by the Cameras Through Time Exhibit. The Museum's School Room has been refurbished and rearranged.



Find new books for your summer reading, and new crafts in the Gift Shop. The Saguache County Museum is open daily 9am to 4pm. Admission: Adults \$5, Children 12 and under \$1.



**Don't Miss a Trip to The Saguache County Museum**  
on Hwy 285 in Saguache  
**Open daily: May 24 through mid-September 9am to 4pm**  
**Open for special groups until mid-October**  
**Admission \$5.00 adults- children 12 and under \$1.00**

## 4th Street Diner & Bakery

Family and quality is what made the 4th Street Diner a great addition to Saguache. Esther Last and her sons Reed and Tom invite you to a wholesome breakfast or fresh lunch seven days a week from 7am-3pm. We are now serving a mouth-watering dinner Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights 6pm-9pm. 4th Street Diner offers a variety of baked goods and jams. Impress your guests with cream puffs or a banana cream pie. Their handcrafted bakery goods can be ordered by calling 719-655-6411. Enjoy free soup and endless conversation with great locals every Wednesday night from 6-7pm.

## The Cozy Castle Cinema

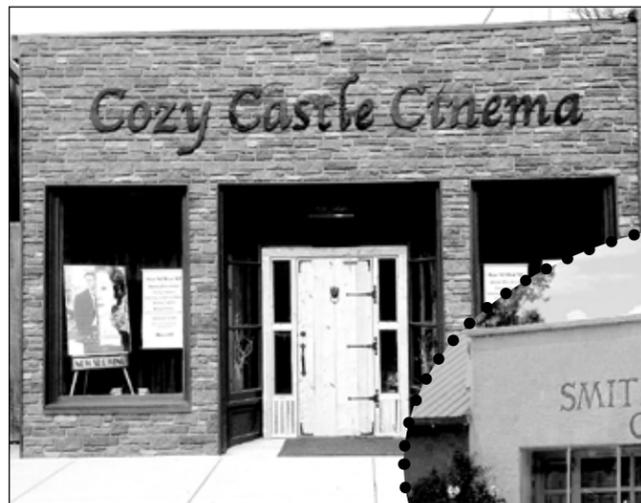
The Cozy Castle Cinema, located at 403 4th Street in downtown Saguache, operates year round showing first-run movies and foreign films. First-run movies are shown every weekend. All showtimes are Friday 7pm, Saturday 4pm and 7pm, and Sunday 7pm.

In addition to first-run movies, the cinema also showcases foreign films the first Thursday of every month starting at 7pm. Ticket prices are \$7 for all ages; children 3 and under are free. Cozy Castle Cinema features an all-digital cinema, amazing DTS 7.1 surround sound, all carpeted floors, high back rocker chairs, extended leg room, and a fully stocked concession stand. All this plus a warm, inviting, cozy atmosphere.

Cozy Castle Cinema owners, Scott and Pearl Alexander, welcome you to experience a movie with us. Come by the cinema, sit back and enjoy the show. You won't be disappointed.

For feature film and showtime information, call the movie hotline at 719-221-4159. Hope to see you here!

*Pies!* **Saguache's** *WiFi!*  
**4th Street Diner & Bakery**  
719.655.6411



## Summer days at the Smith Market Gallery

You are cordially invited to visit the Smith Market Gallery. The last few months have been very productive. Owner Byron Williams has a beautiful "fresh" collection of intricately designed gourds and baskets, many with antler embellishments or handles. We have added to our interesting collection of western decorating items, which includes saddles and other vintage horse-related items, and tobacciana of all types. You might even find an already-broken-in pair of cowboy boots to make your western outfit complete. If you are looking for antlers to decorate your house or garden, be sure to stop in and see our selection.



Additionally, the well-known SLV artist, Yvonne Halburian, continues to amaze us with her ability to capture the clarity and beauty of the Valley in her watercolors. We are privileged to have in stock prints of Yvonne's famous maps of the Valley's Rock Art and the Old Spanish Trail. We are also featuring some recent work by the wood artist, Slim Wolfe. His furniture is both creative and functional.

We look forward to your visit, but suggest you call to insure we are open, 719-655-0155.

 **Cozy Castle Cinema**  
**First-Run Movies & Foreign Films**  
401 4th Street Saguache, CO  
Movie Hotline 719-221-4159

**SMITH MARKET GALLERY**  
Saguache, Colorado  
Byron Williams, Prop.  
Art & Fine Craft - Collectibles  
Antlers Bought, Sold, Traded  
301 5th Street (corner of 5th & Denver)  
719-655-0155      [www.artgourdsbybyron.com](http://www.artgourdsbybyron.com)

# ElementsCamp for kids

E3 KFM is offering the third annual ElementsCamp for Kids at Manitou Camp July 5-10. This year the program theme is "Awakening the Natural Genius." This program brings together the best of past elemental programs with the work of Fröbel. This union of programs helps the kids find their own inner openness, and then connect it with their own natural awareness. This combination can then evolve as they grow up, blossoming some day into elemental wisdom. E3 KFM will also be offering a high elevation ElementsCamp for Kids mountain backpacking adventure in August for ages 13 and up. [elementscamp1@gmail.com](mailto:elementscamp1@gmail.com).



# Encaustic painting workshops

I learned encaustics as an accident while living at Ein Hod Art Colony in Israel. There was no electricity and to paint at night I used candles. After knocking them over a few times and throwing out my paintings I decided to pour the wax onto the paper with gouache and india ink and crayons. When I brought my portfolio to various NYC art schools I was told I worked in encaustics. I said you mean there's a name to my mistakes? I continued painting with encaustic for several years and re-enlivened it in the past five years, teaching at the local middle school and the HS mentorship program. I've also offered it as a two-hour workshop at my studio. I've gone to four art schools in Israel and NYC, taught myself jewelry, did a Utica Club beer commercial with Bert Stern, decaled a Rolls Royce with Peter Max and was the assistant art director for Martin Scorsese.

<b>E3 KFM Summer 2015 Program Schedule</b>
July 5 thru 10 ElementsCamp for Kids - Ages 7 to 12, 13 & up
August 17 thru 22 High Elevation ElementsCamp for Kids - Ages 13 & up
August 24 thru 30 High Elevation PranaCamp - Ages 18 & up
<b>PranaCamp Gateway to Life Force Awareness</b>
<a href="mailto:elementscamp1@gmail.com">elementscamp1@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:pranacamp@gmail.com">pranacamp@gmail.com</a>

## Cloud Station music venue & café

The Cloud Station is the only venue in town to see world class live performances every week. Check out Crestone Cloud Station on Facebook to see a schedule of coming performances. The Cloud Station is located next to the Elephant Cloud Market and serves coffee, tea, breakfast and lunch 7:30am-3:30pm every day.



## Climbing

*continued from page C-1*

outside of Penitente Canyon, boasts two valleys and two hillsides full of boulders for short, non-rope, climbs. Although much is not developed, a climber equipped with the proper gear can find a lifetime's worth of moderate climbs.

Another great sport climbing area is Rattler Cliff, between Monte Vista and Del Norte. Classic climbs include Banana Boat, (5.10c Sport, 5 bolts), a short five-bolt jaunt up festive huecos of various sizes, and Transmissions to Horace (5.12c Sport,

8 bolts). On the other side of the valley, tucked up in the Sangre de Cristo mountains near Crestone are hidden alpine bouldering problems by Willow Lake. Climbing routes in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains tend to be harder to find, involving talking to the locals or hiking at least 3 miles to a destination, but the views and beauty compensate for any trouble finding them. Colorado has become one of the most popular rock climbing destinations in the world, where climbing areas are now national and international meeting grounds. Climbing in the remote San Luis Valley can offer an isolation unique from any other climbing area in the world.

*the* Cloud Station

**Crestone's Venue & Café**  
 Weekly Music Shows  
 Live Entertainment  
 Local Events

6.10.2015  
 Dirty Bourbon  
 River Show  
 -Big Brass Circus Rock-

6.20.2015  
 Beth Quist & Friends  
 -Fundraiser Event-

6.21.2015  
 Edith Makes a Paperchain  
 -Indie-folk Ensemble-

7.3.2015  
 Jah Kings  
 -Funky Reggae-

7.4.2015  
 Trubelos  
 -Americana-

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**ENCAUSTIC WORKSHOPS ALL SUMMER!**

OFFERED AT FIRSTTHOUGHT STUDIOS WITH ISH  
 Classes include supplies  
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**Two hour increments are offered Fridays & Saturdays 1-3pm**  
 Call or Email for Location and Pricing  
 Stephen Futral aka Ish 719.256.4848 | [stephenfutral@fairpoint.net](mailto:stephenfutral@fairpoint.net)

## Biodynamic body-work

This Fathers Day, treat Dad to the balancing gift of biodynamic bodywork! Amulya Dawn Beechwood of Illuminated Therapies is happy to offer biodynamic craniosacral therapy, reflexology, and reiki for adults as well as infants and children. She also offers pregnancy massage, can teach families to massage their infants, and loves working with infants using craniosacral therapy to give babies a harmonious start to life. See [illuminatedtherapies.com](http://illuminatedtherapies.com) or call 719-256-4743 for more information.



## Visit the Ashram & gift shop

The Haidakhandi Universal Ashram welcomes you to visit, sunrise to sunset. Our temple is home to the Divine Mother and Shri Babaji. Aarati (chanting) takes place at 7am and 6pm with a small fire ceremony each morning at 8am. Check the Eagle events for dates of our larger full and new moon fire ceremonies, which are at 10am. In addition to the temple, garden, greenhouse, and dorm, the Maha Lakshmi gift shop is open 10-5 daily. The shop carries incense, shawls, oils, jewelry, prayer flags, singing bowls, books, clothing, puja items, art, keychains, magnets, and much more. Call 719-256-4108 or go to our website at [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org) or stop in with questions.



## Horseback riding at the Baca Grande stables

Come visit the Baca Grande Stables. See the area on horseback or ride in our arena—Western and English riders of all ability levels are welcome. Our Summer Children's Riding Program for kids aged 6-15 is comprised of a week of fun lessons.

Call or e-mail us to schedule a trail ride or lesson, or to arrange an overnight stay for you and your horse: 719-256-6200, [info@bacagrandestables.com](mailto:info@bacagrandestables.com).



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[info@IlluminatedTherapies.com](mailto:info@IlluminatedTherapies.com)  
 719 256 4743

Come visit the:  
**Haidakhandi Universal Ashram  
 &  
 Maha Lakshmi Gift Shop!**  
 Temple open all day/ Aarati 7 AM & 6 PM / Gift shop open 10-5 daily  
 719-256-4108 (see some shop items below)

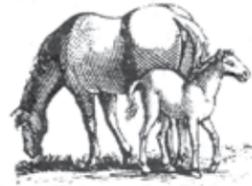


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[info@bacagrandestables.com](mailto:info@bacagrandestables.com)

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

# Whitewater rafting

Some of the most exciting activities in the area are the spectacular rafting trips offered on the Arkansas River by Independent Whitewater located just over Poncha Pass north of Crestone. You don't have to be a thrill-seeker to enjoy rafting, because we've got trips for all difficulty levels and ages all summer long. June will offer the best flows for thrill-seekers and high water enthusiasts. There's a reason we're the valley's number one choice for rafting on the Arkansas River. Join us for a great day of family fun. See us at [www.independentrafting.com](http://www.independentrafting.com) or call us at 1-800-428-1479.



# Salida

more intimate setting of Salida. Always appreciative, our enthusiastic audiences bring performers, like Joyce Yang, back to Salida year after year. As a 501(c)(3), our goals are to present classical music at an affordable price, and increase interest and appreciation of the world of classical music. To further that goal, the board presents annual music scholarships to students pursuing a music major in college.

# Aspen concert series

Salida Concerts, Inc. is proud to partner with the Aspen Music Festival and School to present world-class performers in the smaller, more intimate setting of Salida. Always appreciative, our enthusiastic audiences bring performers, like Joyce Yang, back to Salida year after year. As a 501(c)(3), our goals are to present classical music at an affordable price, and increase interest and appreciation of the world of classical music. To further that goal, the board presents annual music scholarships to students pursuing a music major in college.



# Gallery 150

Gallery 150 artists are a diverse group, at once local and from around the country. Our main categories are contemporary hand-made jewelry; wall art, which includes paintings, pastels and mixed media; ceramics and pottery; small table sculpture; fine studio furniture; and lots of glass art. The jewelry you will find at Gallery 150 is as varied as the Colorado weather. We have original studio jewelry from \$22 to \$20 thousand. Jerry Scavezze and Toni Tischer hand-forge gold and silver into wonderfully classic heirloom designs, using a technique called Anticlastic Raising. On special occasions such as Art Walk we bring in guest artists, fabulous masters who graciously consent to share their work with us for limited engagements.

Please watch our website for those announcements: [gallery150.com](http://gallery150.com).

New Work by our extraordinary Gallery Artists

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wearable & nonwearable art

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[www.info@gallery150.com](http://www.info@gallery150.com) • 719-539-2971

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

Come see why we're the valley's #1 choice for river fun!

# Kids crafts at Salida Art Walk

Visit Kaleidoscope Toys in downtown Salida for all your summer adventures. We have lots of fun and unique outdoor toys to take to the park or river. Art Walk is the last weekend of June and we'll be doing fun crafts with the kids all day Saturday. Look for our booth in Riverside Park on July 4 for sweet treats and light-up toys. Join our email list, like us on Facebook or check our website ([kaltoys.com](http://kaltoys.com)) for details about sales and events throughout the summer.



Something Fun for EVERYONE

**Kaleidoscope TOYS**

Unique educational toys & games - Childrens books - Travel toys - Baby gifts  
Arts & crafts - Lego - Playmobil - Puppets - Fun jewelry - Novelties

**Bring the kids to do crafts in our entryway during Art Walk, Saturday June 27th**

116 F. Street, Downtown Salida [www.kaltoys.com](http://www.kaltoys.com)  
719-530-0533 • OPEN Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm

# Salida Aspen Concerts

39<sup>th</sup> Season

Bringing Top International Stars  
From Aspen Music Festival & School

<b>SAT JULY 11</b>	Chamber music ensemble <i>Students From Aspen Music Festival</i> <i>Underwritten by Mountain River Credit Union</i>
<b>SAT JULY 18</b>	Piano recital with <b>ORION WEISS</b> <i>Pianist</i> <b>SHAI WOSNER</b> <i>Pianist</i> <i>Underwritten by Elise Backinger &amp; Kent Strickland</i>
<b>MON JULY 27</b>	Irish piano recital with <b>JOHN O'CONNOR</b> <i>Pianist</i> <i>Underwritten by David B. Wancura, CPA</i>
<b>SAT AUG 1</b>	Piano & Violin recital with <b>JOYCE YANG</b> <i>Pianist</i> <b>AUGUSTIN HADELICH</b> <i>Violinist</i> <i>Underwritten by High Country Bank</i>
<b>SAT AUG 8</b>	Piano & Violin recital with <b>ANTON NEL</b> <i>Pianist</i> <b>CHAMBER MUSICIANS</b> <i>Underwritten by F Street Five &amp; Dime</i>
<b>THUR AUG 13</b>	String quartet <b>EDGAR MEYER</b> <i>Bassist, Composer</i> <i>Underwritten by Collegiate Peaks Bank</i>

Ticket price \$15 (\$3 for students) at door or online at [www.SalidaAspenConcerts.org](http://www.SalidaAspenConcerts.org)  
All concerts at Salida High School  
26 Jones Avenue, Salida CO  
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. - Performance begins at 7:30 p.m.