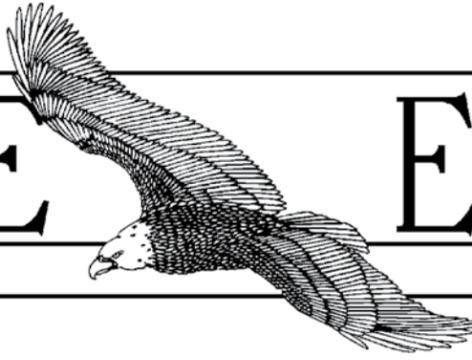


# The CRESTONE EAGLE



Crestone, Colorado Volume 26, Number 9

September, 2015 \$1

26 years serving the Northern San Luis Valley

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"Stag party." Elk in the Baca Grande. photo by John Conrad

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## One-day tax holiday on marijuana September 16 Colo. marijuana TABOR refund measure on Nov. 3 ballot

by Lisa Cyriacks

Colorado will repeal sales taxes on marijuana September 16—for one day. The impetus is the Taxpayer Bill of Rights also known as TABOR.

When triggered, TABOR requires the tax rate to be cut to zero. State lawmakers agreed to eliminate the sales tax for one day to meet the constitutional obligations and then to restore it. The tax holiday could cost the state about \$100,000 in revenue. A bigger reve-

nue loss will be the \$3.6 million the state anticipates losing in revenue for a one-day elimination of the 15% excise tax on marijuana sales from cultivators to retailers.

The little-noticed provision is part of a larger bill that Gov. John Hickenlooper signed into law in June that includes a ballot initiative in November and a permanent tax cut on recreational pot sales in 2017.

The Colorado Marijuana TABOR refund measure is a legis-

lative referred measure to the ballot. With voter approval, the measure would allow the state government to avoid paying a TABOR refund on revenue from taxes on marijuana that exceeded budget estimations found in the 2013 Colorado Blue Book for Proposition AA.

This amounts to about \$58 million. Under the measure, if approved by voters, the funds would be distributed as follows: \$40 million going to the public school capital

*continued on page 28*



The Moffat Cowboy school mascot says, "Go ahead, make my day" as he sneers at the bulldozer that's about to take him down on the old school wall.

See feature story about the opening of the beautiful new school on page B-1.

photo by Lori Nagel

## Search & Rescue has a very busy month finding missing & injured hikers in the Sangre mtns.

by Mary Lowers

From Friday August 14 through Sunday August 16 Saguache County Search and Rescue (SCSR) and Custer County Search and Rescue (CCSR) were very busy. According to the Wet Mountain Tribune, on Friday afternoon CCSR received a call from a hiker with a possible broken ankle. Cell phone contact with a second subject determined that both hikers were together in the Cottonwood Basin area. One of the victims had fallen in the all-too-familiar Red Gully

area where a climber fell to his death last month while descending Crestone Peak. SCSR and CCSR sent up a two-person team who accessed the victim's condition and moved him to a landing zone. They spent a cold night before Flight for Life's Air Guard 3 picked up the injured man and transported him to an area hospital.

On Saturday, August 15 SCSR received two calls, both from the Kit Carson Peak area. The first was a lost hiker alert for a climber who was twenty-four hours over-

due. The second call came from a three-person team that became disoriented/lost descending the peak through the Spanish Creek drainage rather than the usual route. Flight for Life had no luck finding the missing climber. The missing man was located through interviews with other climbers at the Willow Lake campground by SCSR.

A brief but intense storm Saturday evening, August 15 caused

*continued on page 3*

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## The Crestone Eagle

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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.

## Editor's Notes

### Drug trouble

This month we have a news article about there being a problem with meth and heroin in the greater Crestone area and Saguache County. This is a "heads up" article on a subject we will be following more frequently and in-depth.

Methamphetamine and heroin can be a HUGE problem to any community it moves into. These drugs devastate lives. And not just for the short term. They cause serious addiction problems, ruin a persons health, destroy relationships, lead to crime and all too often cause death.

I have been hearing from people about the heroin problem. First-hand accounts. Names have been given to the Sheriff's department. But any real success of winning this particular drug war in our community is going to have to come from friends, family and neighbors getting involved.

Attention parents: We are hearing that many new users of these drugs are teenagers. The drugs are cheap, available and a real temptation. Want to get high for only ten bucks? Are you cool? Pot's easy and common—want to get *really* stoned? You may sometimes think your teenager looks stoned—probably it's only marijuana you assure yourself. No big deal you may think. But, are you sure? Really sure? Maybe it's meth, maybe it's black tar heroin. Maybe your kid is starting on a path to hell. Maybe you really need to pay attention and take action.

Who is cooking meth in the hood or selling heroin? Let the police know. Talk to your kids or your friends if you think they are using. If you know someone who is using, try to get them help.

It is time to save some lives here—and our community.

With concern,

—Kizzen



## Thanks for the love

Dear friends in the community,

Zack Miller, Pavita Decorah's son, and Sandia Belgrade would like to thank the many people who expressed their love for Pavita. Many stopped by with flowers, prayers, food and stories. We especially want to thank the beautiful and giving people of the Crestone End of Life Project and the stable of riders and horses who included her horse Ski Ski in the celebration of her life. We cannot name all of you but in particular we would like to thank Julia, Tilly, Scott, Q, Michael Onewing, Janet, Kizzen, Findley, Renee, Sam, Barry, Josh, Treat, Kimberly, Nancy, Jo Anne Kiser and Savitri House, Stephanie and McGregor Gaines who gave us strength and kept us going. It is a blessing to be held in this loving community.

—Zack Miller and Sandia Belgrade

## The parking lot angel

Dear Editor,

Friday Aug. 7 I attended the Crestone Music Festival, parking at the east end of the driving range. I had my Aventa debit card in my pocket and inadvertently pulled it out with my cell phone. It dropped to the ground unbeknownst to me. A righteous person picked up the card and turned it in to Robin Blankenship at the entrance booth. I am forever grateful to this honest person for your act of kindness. Thank you so much! I am sending much love, light and blessings your way!

Janie Thomas

## Please vote

Dear Editor,

I was elected to the Baca Grande POA Board of Directors last year. I believe I was fulfilling the final year of Russell Schreiber's term. That's appropriate, as he was my inspiration in even considering running for the board.

This past year has been challenging and gratifying and so I am choosing to run again for a full three-year term. As it turns out there are only two vacant seats and only two candidates. The results may be a given but we still need your votes to meet the requirement of a quorum.

In announcing my candidacy, I can only say that this past year has deepened my commitment to serve.

Thank you.

Joanna Theriault

## Why spay & neuter?

"If I stated that I had just returned from a country that manufactured 20,000 "widgets" a day, even though they had hundreds of thousands of widgets sitting unused in warehouses, and then also



### Pavita Decorah

April 15, 1937-August 10, 2015

Our lives are made up of the paths and song lines we follow. Pavita Decorah, who passed peacefully in her home August 10, followed a far reaching path of love and touched people with her magic. She was born Karen Jean Brock April 15, 1937 in Denver to John and Lois Brock. From there her life flowed, allowing her to experience what many do not in the short span of time that we are here.

She married Aaron Miller in New York and they adopted their son Zack. When Pavita and Zack went to India, Mirra Alfassa, known to her followers as The Mother, and the spiritual collaborator of Sri Aurobindo, bless-

ed them and gave her the name Pavita meaning "purification" in Sanskrit. Later she crossed the country from Maine to New Mexico on a motorcycle and became one of the founders of the women's land community in Santa Fe (ARF).

She met and married Carl Decorah, a Ho Chunk Native and member of the Native American Church. They lived with their family and community, whom she loved, in Oklahoma and Wisconsin.

When Carl passed, she returned to Colorado where she felt at home with this land under the enchanting sky that mirrored her blue eyes. She remained a life long devotee of the Mother and Sri Aurobindo, and it was Seyril, who founded Savitri House, who helped bring Pavita to Crestone. She came with her beloved dog Scottie and horse Ski Ski, and later brought Sandia here, who has been a partner and companion for 40 years. The love she manifested, her passion for justice and the community of women was reflected back to her at the celebration of her life.

"You came into our lives and made them better

You touched our hearts and made them happier."

## Pavita's horse Ski Ski needs your help

When Pavita arrived in Crestone twelve years ago, her beautiful Missouri fox trotter, SkiSki, arrived with her. He was a gift from her Ho Chunk husband, Carl. Pavita and Ski Ski were very close—she just had to call his name and he would come running to her. Pavita rode Ski Ski very often, and friend and riding partner Jo Anne Kiser described Pavita and Ski Ski as "a horse and rider together, a single profile. Fluid." Pavita was devoted to Ski Ski.

Donations to help with Ski Ski's ongoing care at the Baca Grande Stables can be made to the Atalanta Association, PO Box 105, Crestone, CO 81131. All donations are tax deductible. Please request a letter of receipt. Thank you.



daily destroyed 16,000 widgets because there was no more room to store them, you would think I had visited a nation of backwards morons. That is exactly what is happening in this country every day, except the "widgets" are living beings who often suffer horribly before having their lives prematurely ended." —Kris King

The Humane Society of the United States says that four million cats and dogs—about one every eight seconds—are put down in U.S. shelters each year. Often these animals are the offspring of cherished family pets. Spay/neuter is a proven way to reduce pet overpopulation, ensuring that every pet has a family to love them.

Many cats and dogs who die as a result of pet overpopulation could have made wonderful pets. Between six and eight million dogs and cats enter U.S. shelters

every year; far too many to all find homes.

A solution is possible and starts with each of us taking one small step: [http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/pet\\_overpopulation/facts/why\\_spay\\_neuter.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/pet_overpopulation/facts/why_spay_neuter.html) getting our own pets fixed. To help stop pet overpopulation further, [http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/adopt/tips/adopting\\_from\\_shelter\\_rescue.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/adopt/tips/adopting_from_shelter_rescue.html). Consider adopting your next pet from an animal shelter.

Something has happened

To my understanding of existence

That now makes my heart always full of wonder

And kindness.

—Hafiz

## Search & rescue

*continued from page 1*

more problems in the high country. CCSR made contact with a Lonetree man who had fallen twice after ascending Crestone Peak and traversing the Crestone Needle. Although injured he was walking out with the help of a bystander. The good samaritan transported the injured climber to an area hospital where he was treated, to be discharged Tuesday August 18. A Pueblo West man and his two sons were reported missing but were able to hike out after being delayed by storms.

Search and Rescue teams encourage everyone to pay close attention to the weather. Folks should leave very early in the day when going to the high country. Everyone should be prepared for an unexpected overnight.

## West Nile Virus case in Costilla

Public health officials identified a case of West Nile virus (WNV) in a resident of Costilla County. It is unknown whether the exposure occurred in Costilla County or elsewhere in the San Luis Valley.

The most effective way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites. Use insect repellents when you go outdoors, wear long sleeves, and take extra care around dusk and dawn. Use screens to keep mosquitos out of your home, and remove standing water on your property.

Early symptoms of WNV may appear 3-7 days after being infected, and include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, and vomiting. Many people never develop symptoms. Of those who do, a small per-

## Saguache County Crime report

*by Mary Lowers*

Saguache County robbery suspect Mathew Myers, 20, was taken into custody in Salida and held at the Chaffee County Jail on \$20,000 bail. Myers faces charges including second degree burglary, theft, and criminal mischief for breaking into the Sargent Store.

Several late summer revelers went too far in August and wound up facing expensive charges. A Moffat man, 20, was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs and/or Alcohol (DUI) and Driving with Excessive Alcohol Content. His bail was set at \$500. A Baca man, 25, was held in jail with \$10,000 bail for DUI and other charges, including no evidence of insurance, expired plates, failure to notify police of an accident and having an open container in the vehicle. A Denver man, 23, was arrested in the

Baca in the same incident for prohibited use of a weapon and processing an automatic rifle while intoxicated. His bail was set at \$500. A Blanca man, 24, was arrest on DUI and other charges near the Crestone Baptist Church. He was also charged with failure to drive in a single lane, having an uninsured vehicle and failure to inform police of an accident. He was held in the Saguache County Jail on \$500 bail.

A Saguache woman, 53, was summoned to appear in court on charges of failing to notify police of an accident, backing unsafely into a parking area and interfering with traffic. A Boulder man, 31, was summoned to appear in court for charges of reckless endangerment stemming from an incident in Moffat in July. A Del Norte man, 53, is to appear in court on charges of harassment

and striking victim. Charges of knowingly and recklessly causing injury and annoying and alarming a victim in a public place will bring a Moffat man, 84, to court in Saguache. A Center man, 30, was jailed on charges of failure to appear in court. His bail was set at \$500. An Alamosa man, 34, was held on \$550 bail for being a fugitive from justice and failure to appear in court.

Lots of speeding violation and tickets were issued on County Road T last month. People were going faster when stopped for 10 to 20 miles per hour over the posted limit as opposed to the usual 5 to 10 mph. This increases the fine substantially and gets you there maybe five minutes sooner (if you don't get stopped). Slow down, Saguache County, it promises to be a beautiful fall.

centage 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.

## Meth & heroin worries

*by Mary Lowers*

Saguache County Sheriff Dan Warrick took some time out of his schedule to talk with me about the concerns voiced by Crestone/Baca citizens regarding the spread of methamphetamine and heroin use in our communities. The sheriff is not taking these concerns lightly. In order to get a handle on the situation the sheriff's office needs more than just names. "We need evidence, testimony and people willing to sign an affidavit."

The need for "probable cause" to search an individual's property is the reason for a signed affidavit. People need to be willing to go on record and be

willing to testify to jump start the investigation of heroin and meth use.

Drugs are only one problem faced by law enforcement in the county. All over the state, crime is up and manpower is down. "The Colorado Drug Enforcement Agency is very busy . . . every jurisdiction in the state is super busy," Sheriff Warrick told me. Evidence and willingness to testify and go on record would give law enforcement the necessary facts to pursue an aggressive investigation. The sheriff is continuing to look into drug problems in Saguache County.

## 2015 Election Notice

The 2015 Coordinated Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Ballots will be mailed to all active, registered voters beginning October 12, 2015. Voted ballots need to returned to the Clerk's office at the Saguache County Courthouse, 501 4th Street, PO Box 176, Saguache. The Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC) located in the Courthouse, will be open beginning October 26 through November 3rd from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm, and from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm on Election Day. The VSPC will also be open on Saturday, October 31st from 6:30 am until 10:30 am. Voted ballots can be returned to the Clerk' Office by mail or they may be hand delivered to the VSPC on the days indicated above. Ballots may also be deposited into the drive-up Ballot Drop Box located in the south parking lot of the Courthouse off of Pitkin Ave. Please keep in mind that ballots received after 7:00 pm on Election Day will not be counted and that postmarks do not count. The exception to this is only overseas/military ballots.

 <p>Spanish Creek Mountain Medicine *Acupuncture *Herbal Medicine</p>	<p>For appointment: Call or text <b>719-588-9816</b></p>
	
<p>Catherine Alcyunas, RN, DOM <a href="mailto:doctordolma@yahoo.com">doctordolma@yahoo.com</a> <i>-A Crestone Tradition for more than 20 years</i></p>	



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# Saguache County News

by Sandia Belgrade

## Balancing residential, spiritual & conservation needs

Land Use Administrator Wendi Maez introduced a complex issue. Bruce Elaine Waltemyer of Crestone has applied for a conditional use building permit so that they can hold ceremonies to preserve the Native American way of life and prayer before they are gone. She and Chris Long, who accompanied her, said it is to honor ancestors of this valley and the spiritual traditions for future generations. Long said the Native American church is in a unique legal category as it is federally protected. They've been doing ceremonies here for 20 years. He feels the County deserves to make this acknowledgement. It will bring people into the county to live.

## Opposition view

The Baca Grande Property Owners' Association (POA) environmental & architectural committee voted to deny the request as did the Board of Directors of the POA and the Crestone Baca Sub Area Planning Commission. Neighbors have expressed a negative response at POA meetings. James Sheppard, who has property near the proposed site, appeared before the commissioners to express his objection. He cited the number of people that would attend the gatherings, the need for fire protection, and the use of roads. He's been there 9 years because of the peace and dark sky. He feels these factors and the large structure would impact the residential neighborhood.

Earl Sutherland presented the viewpoint of the Crestone-Baca Land Trust whose mission is to preserve open space, ecological integrity and wildlife heritage. Sutherland said that the property is across from conservation easements. It is the begin-

ning of a pathway for elk, and it is important as a spring calving and winter grazing area. These were the principal concerns as well as the sanctity of the land. Both men affirmed they were not questioning the legitimacy of the group nor their religion. It was that the location where they would be holding gatherings is in a residential and important conservation area.

Attorney Ben Gibbons suggested they could look at the request in a work session (it is scheduled for the BOCC agenda for September 15) and reflect on concerns more thoroughly before bringing it into open session. An actual site visit might be deemed appropriate.

## Public Lands monthly discussion

Andrew Archuleta, field manager of the SLV Bureau of Land Management, has issued a permit for the La Garita 12 hours of Penitence Endurance Mountain Bike Race which benefits the Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado. A Saguache County Sales Tax Grant is helping sponsor the race which will take place October 18. They are now finalizing the operating plan and have one last piece of trail to construct. The race will stay on BLM land. Jason will be participating in the race.

## Public Health Director

After months of searching for a public health director, the Saguache commissioners are weighing a decision to look into sharing the director of Rio Grande County Public Health or becoming a joint department with them. The details will be heard September 16 in a meeting with elected officials to hear proposals. Emily Brown is the current director of Rio Grande County. Alyssa O'Brien and Crowfox Christi Fleming have been acting as co-directors of Saguache County Public Health. Saguache County is already part of the San Luis Valley Public Health Partnership which includes Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, and Rio Grande County. Thus, collaborating with another county might be a workable solution. Their joint mission is to develop, implement and sustain a model

of shared public health services that increase capacity, contain costs, maximize assets, and positively impact the health of residents.

## County audit

Wall, Smith and Bateman Accounting presented results of an independent audit in accordance with government standards. While too detailed numerically to report in depth here, some key figures are: capital assets 13.3 million; liability 1 million; net equity 10.4 million dollars. Federal moneys are being spent well. At the end of the day the audit had good numbers to report, but it took a lot to get there. The structure in place needs to be firmed up. Different departments function differently, but there needs to be some financial common ground. Finances are a constant work in progress, and the same is encountered everywhere for all small governments.

## Valley 4-H conquers Washington, DC

A dozen young participants in the SLV 4-H came before the board to express their thanks and show the results of the County's backing. SLV 4-H president Mason Torr went to the Citizenship Washington focus, a week-long 4-H leadership program for high school youth, grades 9-12, from across the country. Nearly 1,500 young people participate in this week-long program for youth. Torr sat in on a congressional session and experienced government first hand. He thanked the commissioners and said they are constantly doing outreach to get kids in their program. About ten members spoke and showed pictures of their projects. One member worked with Nubians, an unusual breed of goat. A young girl's project was pigs and dogs. Commissioner Lovato said it might be the most important thing that happened during the session since these young people represent the future.

## Conditional Use request for marijuana cultivation approved

Barry Sullens, doing business as Kind Baron LLC, gave a presentation regarding his business plan for retail marijuana cultivation with edibles as the end product. The site will be off a dead end road in Saguache, on a property that was in disarray. There will be a separate structure for grow-

ing that is fenced in, and 7 trailers. Visitors will have to show a badge. Strictly cultivation for wholesale use. The planning commission had already approved his application. Commissioner Jason Anderson asked him how it will benefit our county. Sullen replied he is employing local people: Wilfong Solar and Electric; Ken Skogland, road work; a local fence builder; and one full time helper at first. He is also buying materials locally. Note: the County's only tax revenue in the marijuana industry comes from retail outlets in the unincorporated parts of the county, and there are no such retail outlets yet. Commissioner Tim Lovato raised the question of water. Sullen replied he has a contract to buy water from McDonald Farms Enterprises of Loveland which will truck water in. Salida has a fill station. The BOCC moved to approve, providing there is a viable water contract.

## District Attorney report

David Mahoney, Saguache County District Attorney, appreciated the grant approved this year. It meant getting a fifth attorney, for which there is a need. He spoke highly about the pilot program for restorative justice. Rather than file charges for first-time juvenile offenders, thus initiating a criminal history, restorative justice provides opportunities for alternative dispute resolutions for high-risk youth offenders to repair the harm and to help ensure positive future choices. This youth program decreases the rates of recidivism.

## Northern Saguache County Library Board appointment

The board approved the appointment of Michael Pacheco to finish Peter Anderson's term on the Library Board. Pacheco is the Crestone Charter School's first onsite IT coordinator.

## Lot consolidations in Crestone

The policy of lot consolidations in the Crestone Baca area are being questioned. Nigel Fuller said he was coming as a private citizen to express concern with lot consolidations, a policy which he feels has been abused. (He is on the Baca Grande Property Owners' Association Board) Consolidations are used to reduce property assessments and in the process also reduces POA assets. The POA has lost 1500 lots.

Ben Gibbons, Saguache County Attorney, stated there is no clear case law in any Colorado court that one land use enabling act dominates the other but there is tension between different approaches such as POA lot regulations and the common property act. The policy of this state is to clarify and provide broad authority to local governments to plan for and regulate the use of land within their respective jurisdictions. Gibbons offered suggestions: postpone these consolidations or impose a moratorium, perhaps refer this to the planning commission

## Colorado Counties

Jason Anderson has been the Saguache representative to Colorado Counties (CCI). CCI offers assistance to county commissioners, mayors and council members and encourages counties to work together on common issues. They work to present a united voice to the Colorado General Assembly and other government and regulatory bodies to help shape the future. It is important for small rural counties like Saguache to have their voice heard. The BOCC gave Jason a vote of approval to continue the appointment for another year.

# THE 2ND ANNUAL ALFERD PACKER DAY



CONTESTS  
BEER GARDEN  
VENDORS

5K  
GHOULISH RUN  
LIVE MUSIC

Alferd Packer - Not a Local

## SATURDAY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 10AM-4PM

### 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET & SAN JUAN AVENUE SAGUACHE, COLORADO

## Petition for large marijuana operation infrastructure in Baca denied

by John Rowe

The Crestone Baca Sub-Area Planning Commission met at 9am on August 12 at the POA Hall to vote on, among other things, whether or not Larry Baer should be granted a variance to erect eight 1000SF greenhouses in the old Sai Ma parcel in or near Challet III for the purpose of growing a legally permitted commercial marijuana crop. At least thirty audience members were present, a very large number for such a meeting. By comparison, POA board meetings average 2-5 audience members and even a special POA Board/ County Commissioners Meeting last month drew an audience of only eight.

Petitioner Larry Baer gave an impassioned plea to be allowed to grow medical marijuana to help cancer patients and told of his own late wife's difficulty in obtaining medical cannabis to aid her in the late stages of her disease. He insisted that he would not be selling any of the 198 plants he is licensed to legally grow but could not say exactly what such a large quantity could be used for, as he is licensed for personal use only. He would only say that he wanted to help other people with cancer.

Audience members were invited to speak and all of them expressed sympathy for Mr. Baer's loss but all firmly stated that they did not want these green houses in a residential neighborhood and several reasons were given. The smell emanating from commercial marijuana greenhouses is notoriously noxious, the dust and Baca road wear from many water trucks coming in every month could be substantial, the possible bright growing lights would disrupt peace and harmony, and many, many trees would be destroyed in clearing the 10,000SF in this wooded parcel necessary to accommodate the greenhouses. And all stated that the character of the Baca would be inalterably damaged by these large and unsightly commercial operations.

No audience member spoke in defense of Mr. Baer or commercial cannabis growing in the Baca.

POA Manager Alison McClure provided clear evidence that this parcel of land is indeed in the Baca and subject to all POA regulations. This had been in dispute and went unresolved until this meeting.

Subcommittee Chair Bill Dobson, and subcommittee members Kairina Danforth, Jerry Burton, and Clay Bridgeford all voted no to the proposed variance and committee member Matie Belle Lakish voted to abstain, citing that she worked with a Baer family member and should not vote. It is important to note that this committee only makes recommendations to the Saguache County Commissioners, and does not set policy in and of itself. It would be unusual, however, for the County Commissioners to buck the recommendations of its Planning Commission and grant any variance not endorsed by the planners.

It is unclear whether Mr. Baer can proceed with his growing operation now without the greenhouses. There are indications that Mr. Baer may have intentions of growing a crop with or without indoor infrastructure. This large question concerning appropriate land use in the Baca went unmentioned and unresolved.

Can Mr. Baer or anyone else legally grow a large allotment of marijuana plants out in the open with no greenhouse, provided they are properly permitted and can demonstrate they are not hurting neighbors in any substantive way? Can any of us clear hundreds of trees to do this, despite the fact that some of these trees will certainly be 800-1000 years old? Can someone turn their entire lot into a large cannabis field, providing they truck the crop water in and don't cut down trees? Can any Baca resident put extra strain on POA roads and create dust hazards by running many large water tanker trucks in every month? If any who attended this meeting hoped to have any of these questions answered definitively, they must have left sorely disappointed.

The Crestone Baca Sub-Area Planning Commission came into existence several years ago in response to pleas of citizens who stated that the issues of the Baca are much different than the county as a whole and it was decided to have a somewhat separate entity to decide planning and zoning issues within the Crestone/Baca community. To alleviate any confusion, this entity is wholly separate from POA jurisdiction and is part of Saguache County government.



## The state of marijuana

by Sandia Belgrade

The first retail sales of recreational marijuana anywhere in the world were legally authorized to begin in Colorado on Jan. 1, 2014 in licensed stores, subject to inspections. What is the state of marijuana now that it's legal in Colorado? Ron Kammerzell, the senior director of enforcement at Colorado Department of Revenue, stated that he's pretty pleased with where we're at—considering it had never been done before. He thinks the regulatory framework is in place, and Colorado has done a very responsible job.

If you think the drug is heady, take in these figures: According to the state, marijuana tax revenues jumped from \$25 million in the first five months of 2014 to \$44 million in the first five months of this year. The industry has sold nearly 75 tons (148,000 pounds) of cannabis flower, and to nearly everyone's surprise, almost 50 million units of pot edibles. The Enforcement Division says the state sold nearly \$700 million of medical and recreational marijuana in 2014. More than half of that, or \$386 million, was spent on medical marijuana. Recreational use accounted for \$313 million. The majority of sales, more than 109,000 pounds, went to the medical industry.

Colorado collected \$44 million in tax revenue from recreational marijuana sales alone in 2014 and about \$76 million in total tax dollars from marijuana, which included medical marijuana tax revenue and fees. Denver, with about 100 retail marijuana licenses granted thus far, has reaped a large chunk from local sales tax revenue—\$7.6 million, about half of that from a special 3.5% tax approved by vot-

ers. It's also gotten a share of a state marijuana tax. The city in June tapped \$3.4 million of the expected proceeds to beef up its inspection and regulatory staffs, expand public safety efforts and pay for a public education campaign. Impressive numbers, considering that while 53 cities and towns across the state have chosen to permit retail marijuana, many have not. The Drug Policy Alliance (DPA) which is an organization promoting drug policies grounded in science, compassion, health and human rights, examined state statistics and found crime is down, tax revenues are up. Colorado saved millions of dollars because it was no longer locking up as many people for marijuana violations.

However there's much yet to be done, and still as many questions as answers. While legalization has worked out better than many expected, there is a lot of fine tuning and much tweaking needed in various counties, Saguache County included. When you break new ground with no previous model, the realities that arise necessitate change. This column will explore some of the key issues coming up. How do we effectively deal with the caregiver model and medical marijuana? Is legalization wiping out the black market? How to inform those daunted by regulation, uncertainty and taxation? Do those who choose not to join the legal ranks need more information? What about water issues with marijuana cultivation? How to provide banking and financial services to legal marijuana businesses? And what about edibles? To the surprise of most analysts, marijuana edibles accounted for nearly 50% of Colorado's legal pot marketplace.

# \$50,000 in mitigation funds available to Crestone/Baca Area

by John Rowe

The Board of Directors of the Baca Grande Property Owners Association (POA) met as regularly scheduled on July 23 at 6:30pm following an hour-long private session. All five board members were present with Board President Matie Belle Lakish presiding. Exactly one audience member was present.

I was unable to attend this meeting or find someone else who could and have pieced together pertinent although incomplete information from attendees.

My apologies for those wanting more detail. Please contact a board member to fill in the blanks. The gist of the meeting should be all here and more substantive issues will certainly surface again soon, they always do.

The 2016 budgeting process is being prepared and the board will take on a piece of the budget at every meeting throughout the fall. Next meeting's agenda will cover the fire and administrative portion of the budget.

Discussion centered on upcoming interviews with the POA's current management company, HMI (Hammersmith), and a prospective management candidate, Proactive, and perhaps a third management candidate to be named later. Once again there was substantial back and forth about the various possibilities; self-management, renewing HMI's contract, choosing a new management company, or a hybrid of sorts, self-management with some consultant support from one of the management candidates. The board will take a meeting off from further discussion as some members want to do further investigation and digest the information gained from the management candidate interviews. The discussion will resume on August 27.

### August 13 meeting

The Board of Directors met again on June 25 after a 1 3/4 hour executive session. All five members were present with Matie Belle Lakish presiding. Eight audience members were present at the beginning of the meeting.

The agenda was approved unanimously as were the previous meeting's minutes.

Member Forum was brief and concerned a question of why discussion of future management of the POA was not on the evening's agenda. President Lakish commented that everyone was doing further investigation and Director McDonald stated that he was doing some analysis of the workings of the POA as a whole,



"Buffy" and some great-looking clouds around the town of Crestone on the evening of August 1.

photo by Lori Nagel

presumably to help see how viable the option of self-management is.

No old business was, therefore, on the agenda and the discussion moved to the biggest new business of the evening, the use and dispersal of Title III Mitigation/Firewise Funds. Baca Fire Chief Chris Botz oversaw the presentation of the Title III program presentation. The Baca Volunteer Fire Department, the Kundalini Brigade and the Crestone Fire Department will all share in \$50,000 of allotted funds. These are funds dispersed by the state to appropriate fire fighting entities, for them to determine and prioritize mitigation needs. The overall purpose is to keep fires on the ground and out of the canopy, where they can spread much more quickly and are much harder to control. Daniel Johnson, a long-time fire-fighting veteran, will be available to make recommendations to homeowners as to what needs to be done. He sought and received permission to go onto the Baca greenbelts as situations require. Along with the home owner, Mr. Johnson will determine what the homeowner can do and what professional help will be needed.

Fire Chief Botz emphasized that, while we can do good things with this amount of money and good local expertise in executing the mitigation directive, this is not a tenth of what we would really need to address the issue of deadfall in the greenbelts and the number of homes that could really use some help. Chief Botz cautioned that all resources will be allocated on a "most needed" basis. An audience question for the board was: had they ever considered allocating funds to clean up the deadfall in all greenbelts, much of which was produced by the drought of the last ten years? The answer was no, it is way too expensive, an opinion that was supported by Chief Botz.

The Fire Department portion of the 2016 budget was briefly discussed. Chief Botz wanted

a \$10,000 increase over last year, with a fire-fighting gear washing machine the biggest part of that. The board decide to investigate that further and tabled further discussion until POA Manager McClure could put the proposed figures for both the Fire and Administrative figures in a more readable format.

Most people think the POA Hall smells bad and needs some attention. Manager McClure thought buying two carbon air

filters at a cost of \$1,100 is a good way to go. They work by absorbing chemicals and leave no residual odors. This passed three to two on a board vote.

Selected agenda items for next meeting are: further discussion of management options, the future use of Elk Park, and 2016 budgets for the Fire and Administrative departments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

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Community Calendar

May 2015						
<<	S	M	T	W	T	F
	26	27	28	29	30	1
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29
	31	1	2	3	4	5



by Akia Tanara,  
Crestone Town Administrator

There is so much going on in our small town right now; 'tis the season to get outdoor projects completed before freezing temperatures set in!

**Crestone Town Center exterior renovations**

This project was put out for bid twice, with no contractors responding. Permission was obtained from Department of Local Affairs for the Town to become the general contractor for the project. Local building contractor Don Jensen will be completing this project, which includes new siding, new paint and a new greenhouse. If there is enough money, the deck rails will be completed and wagon wheels repaired and reinstalled. The project of renovating the Town Hall building began in 2009, the same time the economy tanked. It will be a pleasure to see the building finally completed and looking better than new!

**Downtown revitalization**

This project was put out for bid in June, and once again, no bids were submitted. It's great that local and valley contractors are so busy this year, but we would really like to get moving ahead on improving our downtown. Following the news that no bids had been received, the Board of Trustees approved Architect Burt Wadman to divide the project into two segments: one of standard street improvements (drainage, paving, sidewalks); and the other separating out the more artistic components. The second segment went out for bid in mid-August, and hopefully bids will have been received for the Board to review in September. Our goal is to get some portion of the work completed in 2015.

**Recovery from high water issues**

The Board of Trustees has chosen to pursue FEMA reimbursement for physical and financial damages incurred during the high water events in early June. This is an onerous process but will be worthwhile if reimbursement is received. The folks from FEMA have been helpful so far in assisting the Town in identifying every item that can be charged to the event claim, and have also been offering recommendations on how the Town can improve its infrastructure to reduce future damages, while identifying potential sources of funding for improvements.

**Changes**

Previous Town Clerk Gretchen Nelson has resigned, and Allyson Ransom has been hired as Clerk Assistant. Allyson has many years' experience working for a municipality in Arkansas, along with other great skills. Please welcome her to Town Hall when you speak with her.

Be sure to enjoy the season of no mosquitoes before the snow begins to fall. It was the worst mosquito season I've seen in 22+ years, and both the Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission are working on plans for reducing the mosquito population in future years.



Workers begin exterior renovations on the Town Hall building in Crestone. photo by Carrie Caverly

**Moose spotted in the Baca**

by Mary Lowers

When Kizzen phoned asking me to check out a story about moose on the Baca, she said "This place is getting more and more like Northern Exposure" the comedy set in a small Alaska town that featured a moose wandering around downtown. But it turns out that moose are quietly or as quietly as a critter up to 6ft tall and weighing as much as 1000 lbs can, encroaching upon the SLV. Pretty cool when you think there was nary a moose in Colorado twenty years ago.

Moose were reintroduced to Colorado in 1978 up near Walden in the northwestern part of the state. They were fruitful and multiplied so the Colorado Department of Fish and Wildlife placed more moose in the Rio Grande drainage, up near Creede in 1991 and 1992. Moose are in many ways suited to Valley life. They are resistant to extreme cold, love wetlands and find the red willow that grow abundantly here a delicious meal.

After a bit of moose research I was prepared for the story my friend Martin Macaulay told me of his encounter with "a small bull moose" on Tuesday August 18. "It was about 10pm in the Grants near Wagon Wheel and Two Trees (Camino Real) when I saw the creature. It was a bull moose...wasn't

huge but good size...it tapped across the road in front of me... crossing east to west."

Moose live in small family groups. They are excellent swimmers. The Eagle ran a story last summer about a young moose spotted by Peter May and some monks up at Willow Lake. Gussie Fauntleroy told me she and her partner Dearing had seen some moose in the north end of the Valley almost two weeks before Martin's encounter on the Grants. Gussie said that on the weekend of August 9 "We saw two huge cow moose, from a distance but unmistakably moose. It was the first time I really believed they're in the Valley at all."

The Fauntleroy's were smart to view the moose from a distance. Moose have treed people. The moose population in Wyoming and Montana's gone down but Colorado moose are growing in numbers. It's estimated there are around 3000 moose in the state. It is illegal to shoot a moose but there is a Colorado moose hunting season.

If you happen to spot that ranging moose in the Baca, keep your distance—but if you have a camera with a telephoto lens, try to snap a photo for the *Eagle*. It's wild out there!

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## Shumei features collaborative photography show for September

Shumei's September art symposium is a group photography show highlighting Shumei's farming project in Zambia. The art symposium will be Sunday September 20 at 3pm. The show runs the entire month of September.

Photography from a number of local artists including Sensei Alan Imai, Bill Ellzey, Mitsunari Kato and Matthew Crowley highlight the Zambia project as well as projects like it in service throughout the world. The Zambia project was intended to empower women farmers in rural Zambia through Natural Agriculture. Mbabala Women Farmers' Cooperative Union (MBAWOFA) was founded in 2003 in an effort to improve women's household status and income through their involvement in agriculture. In 2004 Shumei International partnered with the Mbabala Women Farmers' Co-op Union to improve the livelihood of small-scale farmers in Zambia by promoting affordable and environmentally friendly ways of farming with Natural Agriculture. The overall goal was not only to improve crops and yields to feed fami-

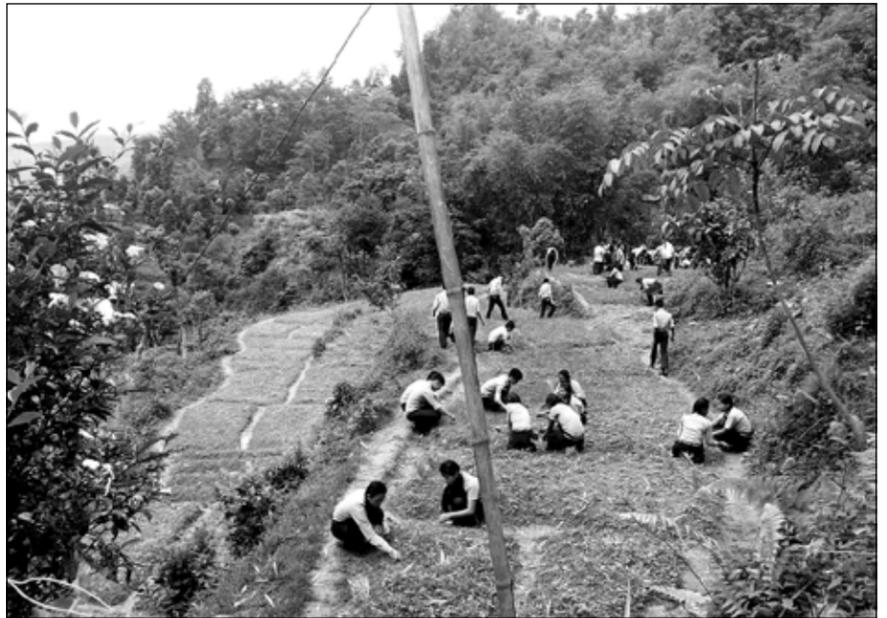
lies and generate income, but also to support the long term health of the land and natural resources for future generations.

The project started with 1,000 famers and has grown to over 4,000 participants. The project works closely with local elders, observing and interviewing them to gain knowledge of indigenous crops and the region's climate. Seeds are saved and distributed and workshops are provided on traditional Zambian farming practices aligned with Natural Agriculture. The collection of photographs provides a glimpse into the participants and shows the impact on farmers and families. Farmers no longer have to purchase seeds and fertilizers and their crop yields are higher while seed stores increase with each season.

Join us on Sunday September 20 at 3pm to 5pm as we travel to Zambia through photographs and learn more about this incredible project. This event is free to the public. For more information visit [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) or call 719-256-5284.



Natural Agriculture garden at a school in Nepal.



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                           *Sunday*                            *9am-5pm*

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 for an up to date schedule

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## 6th annual Peace Within Peace Without celebration on International Peace Day Sept. 21

Be part of an exhilarating event celebrating Peace Within Peace Without. Artists gather together from different creative styles to collaborate in an exciting evening, honoring the creative process that binds us all. Inspired by prayer, art, poetry, music and dance. As Deepak Chopra says, Art is the gateway to the soul. Hanne Strong founding force and visionary of Crestone will be the keynote speaker. Hanne and Maurice Strong learned that since antiquity indigenous peoples had revered this pristine wilderness as a place for conducting their vision quests and receiving shamanic trainings. It is prophesied that the world's religious traditions will gather here and help move the world toward globally conscious co-existence and co-creation.

Signe Ramstrom, master

dancer of 43 years in Kathak and middle eastern traditions. Will be sharing creative, connection with Spirit through dance. There will be art works of the Spirit by local artists Robin Ross and Noah Baen featuring a group of Robin's paintings and a contemplative environmental installation in nature by Noah. You are invited you to participate in an open mic to present your own thoughts & prayers on what peace within means to you and how you hold that state.

The Sacred Arts Club AKA Ancient Dance School will present our Our 6th Peace with in Peace with out event a collaboration of Artists held on International Peace Day Celebration at Dancing Music Mountain Sanctuary, 3564 Double Tree Overlook, 5:30pm, September 21; suggested donation \$10.

The intention of the Sacred Arts Club AKA Ancient Dance School is to preserve and enrich sacred ancient arts. Please call 719-588-2929 for information or reservations, or email to ancientdanceschool@gmail.



### Crestone Botanic Garden

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



## Free solar training September 11-13 for Saguache County residents

by Paul Shippee

Living with the sun is fun! You can take a hot shower every day using free energy from the sun. Learn how-to at Crestone Solar School's upcoming free solar workshop funded by a Saguache County 2015 Sales Tax Grant award.

Living with the sun is a 21st century reality. Why not take the opportunity to learn how to do it? You can get free energy from brother sun to run an electric ice-maker in the summertime (ask Ed!) In winter you can harness that big furnace in the sky to provide most of your home's heating needs with free radiant fuel coming down to the earth from the sun. And Federal Tax Credits of 30% are available for one more year to help you pay for your solar dream. We are a solar civilization.

Colorado Sunworks (Paul Shippee's solar design, consulting and building company) and Crestone Solar School (a division of Colorado Sunworks) has teamed up with Saguache County via a generous sales tax grant award to provide free solar training on the weekend of September 11-13, 2015.

This is a rare opportunity to learn both the theory and the nuts & bolts of solar technologies—both solar thermal for home heating & domestic hot water and PV (photovoltaics).

Hands-on demonstrations, solar home tours and plenty of solar technology instruction, including take-home workbooks, will be valuable parts of this special weekend workshop.

Paul Shippee, the presenter, has been teaching and training people in solar applications for more than 30 years. With a degree in Civil Engineering he is an award-winning solar designer, engineer, consultant and builder. He has designed and built every kind of passive solar home and installed many active solar heating systems in Boulder, Larimer, Chaffee and Saguache counties over the years.

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## San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition hosts Harvest Soirée

The San Luis Valley is an incredibly productive place, and the bounty of its diverse local harvest is the jewel of the Third Annual Harvest Soirée at the beautiful Rio Grande Healthy Living Park in Alamosa Sept. 19 from 12 to 5pm.

The event will feature Tapas on the Rio, and will include farm food and libations sourced from those who till the earth and tend the animals in the San Luis Valley. This family-friendly event will feature hayrides, games and plenty of live local music. Proceeds will benefit the SLV Local Foods Coalition's programs.

"Our mission is to foster an equitable local foods system that restores the health of the people, community, economy and ecosystem; what better way to celebrate this than to at home bring our friends and friends we haven't met yet together on the beautiful Rio Grande Healthy Living Park at the bend of the Rio and spend our food dollars on our local farmers and chefs. Come be part of this incred-

ible day," said Liza Marron, executive director of the San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition.

### Tickets and business sponsorships:

Supporters can buy tickets online at [www.tapasbytherio.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.tapasbytherio.brownpapertickets.com). For information on business sponsorships, contact Julie Mordecai at 719-580-0379 or [mordecai@gojade.org](mailto:mordecai@gojade.org).

*The SLV Local Foods Coalition aims to create a more equitable local food system and encourage the health of the farmers, environment, people, and economy of the valley.*

*The Rio Grande Healthy Living Park is an innovative, multi-use agricultural park designed to provide public economic development and a space for the community to gather and learn about sustainable food. When finished, it will feature walking trails, a working farm, a commercial kitchen and more.*

Visit [www.slvlocalfoods.org/mission.html](http://www.slvlocalfoods.org/mission.html) and <http://healthylivingpark.org/about> for more information.



## Scorch-folk musicians Hogan & Moss perform September 5 in Del Norte

Scorch-folk: Appalachian tradition and original songs with old souls. Gospel and blues married to their punk-rock cousins. Part power-folk, part vintage valentine, it swings with mad harmonies, Maybelle-Carter-style picking, yodeling, scat, upright bass and an archtop-guitar rhythm chop that's like a driving wheel. It's a fast, full-bodied blend of old-time and original songs that's uplifting and dark, modal, modern, and haunting.

"Exhilarating, heartbreaking, wild, epic, microcosmic, toe-tapping, head-nodding, gut busting, soul searching . . . They made us live an extra year of our lives in a couple of hours." —*Navasota Current*

" . . . mixes Hogan's originals with vintage public-domain tunes like "Mill Room Blues" and "Coo Coo" about as seamlessly as even Gillian Welch & David Rawlings could." —*Houston Press*

" . . . strumming maniacs, possessed by old-time music. It's as though if you touched them they might electrocute you." —*Missoula Independent*

Hogan & Moss will perform more than 200 shows this year throughout Texas, the Southwest, and the Rocky Mountains. Their shows range from high-energy full-band dance celebrations to house-

concert duo performances. They also give talks on old-time music at colleges and libraries.

They've played some of the top venues in America, including Anderson Fair, Houston; Poor David's, Dallas; the Blue Door, Oklahoma City; the Top Hat Lounge, Missoula; the Back Yard, Austin; and the Evening Muse, Charlotte. Among the house concert series they've played are Uncle Calvin's, Dallas; Wildwood Sounds, Del Norte; Abrams' House Concerts, Houston; Fransen House Concerts, Jackson, MN; and Miller House Concerts, Oklahoma City.

Jon Hogan has been a regional winner in the Kerrville Folk Festival's New Folk songwriter contest and was presented with the Key to the City of El Paso for preservation of American heritage music.

Jon Hogan has been a full-time folk musician for more than twenty years. He grew up in the American West, immersed from childhood in traditional mountain, gospel and country music. He's written hundreds of ballads, love songs, and waltzes rooted in his love of traditional music. He's also an engaging speaker on the history of Appalachian music, helping listeners understand the difference between old-time and bluegrass, and illustrating their connection to modern popular genres.

Maria grew up in Houston, but spent summers as a child soaking up the music of her father's East Tennessee roots. Through Houston's vibrant arts scene, she found the blues and folk music she loved to play reflected in Southern folk, self-taught, outsider and visionary art. After graduating from the University of Houston, she wrote for newspapers—including a two-year post-college stint at the Houston bureau of *The New York Times*—edited city magazines, freelanced about art, food and travel for national publications, and was co-author of two books. In 2007, while recovering from a serious illness, guitar took center stage in her life, and she found her unique, driving finger-picking style.

Ticket price is \$15; call to reserve 719-657-4757. Doors open at 6:30, showtime at 7. This is a sweets and snacks potluck so please bring your favorite treat to share; coffee and tea on the house. Wildwood Sounds is located at 850 Grande Ave. (Hwy. 160) in Del Norte.



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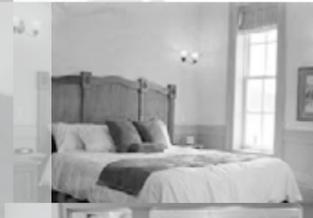
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## Chamma Ling offers events in Sept. 5-day wilderness practice; teachings with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche

Nourishing Ourselves with the Essence of the Elements with Peter May, September 12-17: A 6-day wilderness opportunity to experience and practice with the Five Elements in the Sangre de Cristos.

Living with Joy, Dying in Peace with Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, September 18-20 at the Blazing Mountain Retreat Center: Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, founder and spiritual director of Chamma Ling, will teach on the methods for recognizing death as the doorway to opening the heart and achieving self-realization.

Living with Joy, Dying with Peace Applications in One's Personal and Professional Life with Alejandro Chaoul, PhD., September 21-23 at Chamma Ling Community House: An interactive workshop to deepen the weekend's Bardo teachings from Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche and instructions on how to apply them to life as well as in a professional healthcare environment.

For registration and further information on all 3 events, including lodging options, meals, childcare and the annual auction, visit: [www.chammaling.org](http://www.chammaling.org)



"Himalayan Black Pea" watercolor by Mae Green.

## Crestone Artisan's Gallery honors Artist of the Month Mae Green

by Carolyn Victoria

"Art, to me, is an external expression of inward thoughts, feelings, flashes of insight, and reflections of the creative realm." says artist Mae Green. "A blank paper or canvas is an opening to an unseen and unknown world stirred to Self Expression. Often as an artist it is tempting to say a finished painting is "my drawing, my painting, my technique...". In reality artists are only the tools through which creativity articulates itself.

"Sitting in silence, open palms against a blank canvas, asking to be shown the unfolding images, a subtle shift in awareness occurs. Colors come into view, sometimes images appear at first, sometimes throughout the development of the art, sometimes clarity of design occurs, sometimes just playing with paint happens, sometimes a vivid clear image jumps into the still mind. Once in a while one knows from the onset what the painting is going to be. Sometimes nothing happens; a good time to just spread paint and wait for inspiration.

"I started drawing and painting in grade school and have continued throughout my life. Graduating as an Art Therapist from Naropa

University in Boulder, Colorado I spent some years working in the mental health field. On weekends often I attended workshops. At home I painted and decompressed



"Abstract Iris". Oil painting by Mae Green.

by drawing mandalas or circle drawings – inspired by the renowned psychiatrist Carl G. Jung.

"I create in pastels, collage, watercolor, oil (Renaissance Glaze Technique), water based oil and multimedia. Today much inspiration comes from walks in nature in beautiful Crestone, from a thought or vision in meditation, or simply letting a painting develop from 'nowhere'."

### Gallery Events:

Saturday, September 5th from 3 to 6pm. Ice Cream Social - End of the Summer Gathering Featuring Talk of the Town (Dave Nelson & Al) performing!

CRESTONE ARTISANS GALLERY  
FINE ART & GIFTS  
Corner of Cottonwood & Galena  
in Downtown Crestone  
719-256-5280

Gallery:  
10am-5pm  
Wednesday-Monday  
Closed Tuesday

Crestone Artisans Gallery represents 24 local artists & craftspersons  
Thank You for shopping locally!

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK AT  
CRESTONEARTISANS GALLERY AND OUR WEB PAGE  
CRESTONEARTISANS GALLERY.ORG

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Enjoy greater happiness,  
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[susanfey@live.com](mailto:susanfey@live.com) (719) 496-0977

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Soothing Your Mind  
Nourishing Your Soul**

Specializing in LaStone Therapy & therapeutic massage with exquisite Floracopeia & Dr. Hauschka aromatic oils

**719. 256. 5469**

**Nourishing Ourselves with the  
Essence of the Elements**  
with Peter May, September 12-17  
*A 6 day wilderness opportunity to experience and practice with the Five Elements in the Sangre de Cristos*

**Living with Joy, Dying in Peace**  
With Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, September 18-20  
Blazing Mountain Retreat Center  
*Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche, founder and spiritual director of Chamma Ling, will teach on the methods for recognizing death as the doorway to opening the heart and achieving self-realization.*

**Living with Joy, Dying with Peace**  
**Applications in One's Personal and Professional Life**  
With Alejandro Chaoul, PhD., September 21-23  
Chamma Ling Community House  
*An interactive workshop to deepen the weekend's Bardo teachings from Tenzin Wangyal Rinpoche and instructions on how to apply them to life as well as in a professional healthcare environment.*

**For registration and further information on all 3 events, including lodging options, meals available, childcare and the annual auction visit: [www.chammaling.org](http://www.chammaling.org)**

## Crestone Creative District news

by Kairina Danforth

This month the Crestone Creative District is completing an inventory of our creatives (artists, painters, potters, poets, musicians, writers, jewelers, etc.). This will assist us in establishing the breadth and depth of our creative community and how to assist in its future development economically and artistically. If you have not already provided information to us, please send email to crestonecreativedistrict@gmail.com with your name, business name (if any), brief description of creative activity and email/telephone contact information. We need this information not sooner rather than later, but now!

Swaha has been recruited to coordinate certification metrics and reporting data. Part of the mandated metrics include tracking the various community events. Help us meet these requirements and continue our journey towards the hoped-for certification next July by providing the name, place and date of your event and how many people attended. A flyer, if you have one, is extremely helpful. Events include all performances, art exhibi-

tions, studio tours, any educational events or classes, nature walks, etc. Email Swaha, SvahaUS@gmail.com ("v" not "w"). If using Facebook to promote your event, please send a FB invite to Swaha US. This precious data must not be lost. Your help is needed.

The Crestone Creative District has been awarded a Colorado Tourism Office's Cultural, Heritage/Agritourism Mentor Program (CHAMP), mentorship grant for marketing and public relations by the Colorado Tourism Office. Mentorship assistance will include website development, social media, Colorado Tourism Office resources, and free press opportunities. Their help will extend over the next three months, ending in November 2015.

Recognizing that cultural, heritage/agriculture has the potential to generate additional revenue, educate the public on Colorado's assets and preserve historical sites and local culture, CHAMP exists to stimulate the development of high-quality/cultural, heritage and agricultural experiences for travelers in Colorado.



Doraine Gasseling, Saguache County Museum Director, visits with Julia Pitcher Berens, great-granddaughter of Otto and Mary Mears, during her recent visit. Otto Mears was a true Saguache pioneer. Julia's grandfather was James Robertson Pitcher, who was married to Cora Mears, Otto and Mary Mears' daughter.

## Saguache County Museum events

The Saguache County Museum announces that the new book about Bess Shellabarger, *Three Stuffed Suitcases* by Alice S. Stephenson, is now available. Alice, her great-niece, wrote the book using Bess's diaries that she kept for 60 years. "A dedicated nurse, Bess served in World War I and spent the rest of her career paving the way for other women to attain an education and contribute to the work force."

Bill Hazard will present a free fall concert at the Hazard House Museum at 1:30pm, September 13.

Come to the Pancake & Sausage Breakfast in Otto Mears Park during the Fall Festival, 7-11am, September 19. This is a Museum fund raiser.

## CEOLP helps with the passage

On a glorious blue sky morning, the Crestone End of Life Project (CEOLP) had the honor of serving beloved community member, Pavita Decorah, her family and friends. Pavita's watch was found among the ashes. It had stopped at 7:16am, just after the pyre was lit. This verse from the Kiowa tradition seemed apt:

This land is Beautiful,  
O Sun, now for the last time,  
Come greet me again.

CEOLP registration packets are available from Lorraine Cazier, 937-7802. Forms can be downloaded at [www.crestone-end-of-life.org](http://www.crestone-end-of-life.org). For information on end-of-life issues, i.e. advance directives, patient rights, etc. call Stephanie Gaines at 588-7415 or visit [www.informedfinalchoices.org](http://www.informedfinalchoices.org).

The CEOLP/Informed Final Choices monthly open meeting will be September 9, 7pm at the Topping House, 33 Sunset Overlook. For directions call Wayne, 719-256-4247.



## 22nd Annual Fall Festival & Quilt Show

Sept 19, 2015  
Otto Mears Park  
Saguache, CO

7am - 11am

Hot Cakes & Sausage Breakfast  
prepared by Saguache County  
Museum

8am

Fall Colors Run/Walk

9am - 4pm

Arts 'n Crafts Vendors  
Food Vendors & Kids Activities  
Hot Roasted Chilies  
Live Entertainment - Music  
Quilt Show (including  
demonstrations)  
Tournament of Games

3:30pm

Silent Auction Winners Announced

5pm

UTE Theatre-Annual Melodrama:  
"Stop the Presses"



**STILL MOUNTAIN**  
Classical Five-Element  
**ACUPUNCTURE**  
Jan Foster Miller, M.Ac., L.Ac.  
Call for your fall tune-up now!  
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The Living Vortex Water Jug

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- Ionized • Energized
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Your body deserves it!

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Call Anna Louise  
970.290.7710  
[annalouise55@gmail.com](mailto:annalouise55@gmail.com)  
LivingVortexWater.com

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

## Cozy Castle Cinema

First-Run Movies & Foreign Films  
Showtimes: FRI 7pm & 10pm, SAT 4pm & 7pm, SUN 7pm  
403 4th Street Saguache, CO  
Movie Hotline 719-221-4159

**Crestone End of Life Project**  
Promoting informed end-of-life choices and supporting their fulfillment  
PO Box 1238, Crestone, CO 81131  
[www.crestone-end-of-life.org](http://www.crestone-end-of-life.org) • 719.588.7415 or 719.937.7802 • [ceolp.info@gmail.com](mailto:ceolp.info@gmail.com)

One small positive thought in the morning  
Will change your whole day!

Attend our meeting **Wednesday, September 9** at 7pm, at the Topping house, 33 Sunset Overlook (first left behind former Century 21 office). Call 256.4247 for information/directions.

# HAPS

## Special events at Shakti Sharanam

Shakti Sharanam will be hosting three special functions this month. Annie will be teaching:

- **Yogic cooking workshop**, Sat., Sept. 5, 3-8pm, \$30-\$60 sliding scale. Registration required.

- **Restorative yoga**, Sun., Sept. 13, 3-5pm, \$20-\$40 sliding scale

- **Kirtan—devotional chanting**, Fri., Sept. 18, 5pm, by donation

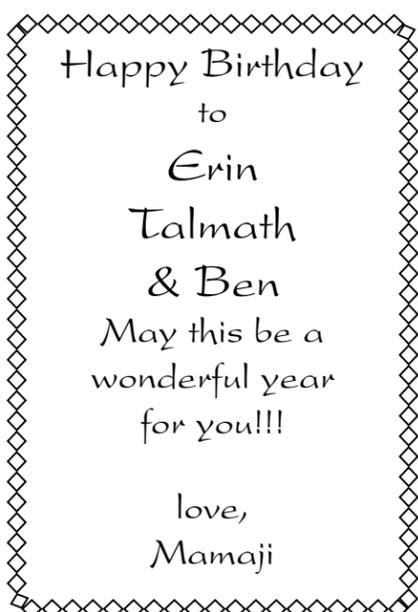
Annie's immersion in the yogic sciences for over 35 years, largely in India, has graced her with both the qualification and capacity to transmit these ancient gifts. For more info see [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) and please pre-register by calling 719-256-5668. Namasté!

## Meet the Authors in Salida

The second annual Meet the Authors event is set for 1 to 5pm Saturday, Sept. 5 at the Salida Community Center, Third and F streets in Salida. The event is free to the public and will feature ten (and possibly more) local and regional authors signing and selling their books and giving a brief description and readings from their works.

Author readings will start about 1:30 and last for a total of about one hour. Drop in anytime during the afternoon for snacks, beverages and conversation with the authors.

Some authors will have drawings for free books. For more information call Bruce Dunavin 719-942-4864 or Nancy Oswald 719-942-4361.



## Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur observances

Happy New Year! Services for the Jewish High Holidays will be at the YES building, next to the library. Rosh Hashanah begins on Sunday, Sept. 13 with Services beginning at 7pm and on Monday Sept. 14 at 10am. Yom Kippur services begin with Kol Nidre Services on Sept. 22 at 7:30pm. There will be no morning Yom Kippur service due to the room being already occupied. We will have afternoon, memorial, and concluding services beginning at 4. There is no charge for services, but donations are accepted. All are welcome to respectfully attend. For more information, please call Meryl Ennis at 256-4890.

## Shree Baba Haidakhand Charitable & Research Hospital

This month the Haidakhandi Universal Ashram will have a special event on Sunday, September 13 at 11am. It will be a short presentation on the Shree Baba Haidakhand Charitable and Research Hospital in Chilianaula, Ranikeht, India. Mr. Uday Chatterly will be traveling here from India to make this presentation and we hope many of you can attend to learn more about this worthy cause that is bringing eyesight to thousands in this poor Komoan Hill District in the foothills of the Himalayas. This will be followed by an Indian feast. It will begin directly after our new-moon fire ceremony, which is on Sunday, September 13. For more information please call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 or email us at [info@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org).

## La Puente Outreach Services has additional funds

La Puente's Office of Outreach Services has received additional energy funding. We will accept applications on a case-by-case basis for people who find themselves in immediate need of energy assistance. Our office hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm. Any questions can be directed to 587-3781.

## Clerk's office closed Sept. 15 & 16

The Saguache County Clerk & Recorder announces that the driver's license service will not be available on Tuesday, September 15, due to training, and will also be closed on Wednesday, September 16, to attend a Clerk's Conference. The office will reopen on Thursday, September 17, for normal hours.



## Crestone Saturday Market needs food vendors

Bring those cookies & quiches, barbecues & burritos! There are hungry browsers who need, and are willing to pay for, sustenance at the Saturday Market! Just show up and display your fares; vendor fee \$5. For more info call Diane at 256-5912 or email [mdiane-bairstow@gmail.com](mailto:mdiane-bairstow@gmail.com).

## Call for vendors

It is official. The 2015 Alferd Packer Festival will take place Saturday, 10 October, from 10am to 4pm. The street festival will be on 4th St. between San Juan and Christy in Saguache, no matter the weather. Vendors of all avenues are welcome. Set up is the day of festival starting at 9am, and vendors must be in place by 9:45am. Come be part of a home-grown, small town festival. Vendors' cost is \$10. Deadline is noon, Wednesday 7 October. A Town Waiver is required. Contact by message or text: 719-850-0051.

## CB Village potluck

On Sunday September 13 from 1-4pm Crestone/Baca Village will be having a potluck at 383 N.Chaparral. Don Tullos will be smoking a turkey so bring a dish to complement. Crestone/Baca Village is a network of community members who help each other out in a variety of ways. Membership is free and easy to join! [www.cbvillage.net](http://www.cbvillage.net) 480-8757.

## Chalk-a-Walk in Alamosa

Chalk about fun! Alamosa's first-ever sidewalk chalk festival is coming to State Avenue on September 19. The Chalk-a-Walk is open to all ages and talent levels and will be fun for all. Come on down to chalk the town, or just mosey by for a chance to see the art. There will be crafts, fun activities, and food! Mark your calendar now so you don't miss this fun-filled new event.

For more information or official rules and registration, please email [events@alamosa.org](mailto:events@alamosa.org)

## New bike race at Penitente Canyon

Penitente Canyon is hidden in the low-browed volcanic foothills on the western side of the San Luis Valley. Long ago, Penitente Canyon served as a place of worship for Los Hermanos Penitente, or the Penitent Brothers. The Brothers—men of deep faith—preferred to live secluded in the foothills and canyons of the San Juan and Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

### 12 Hours of Penitence

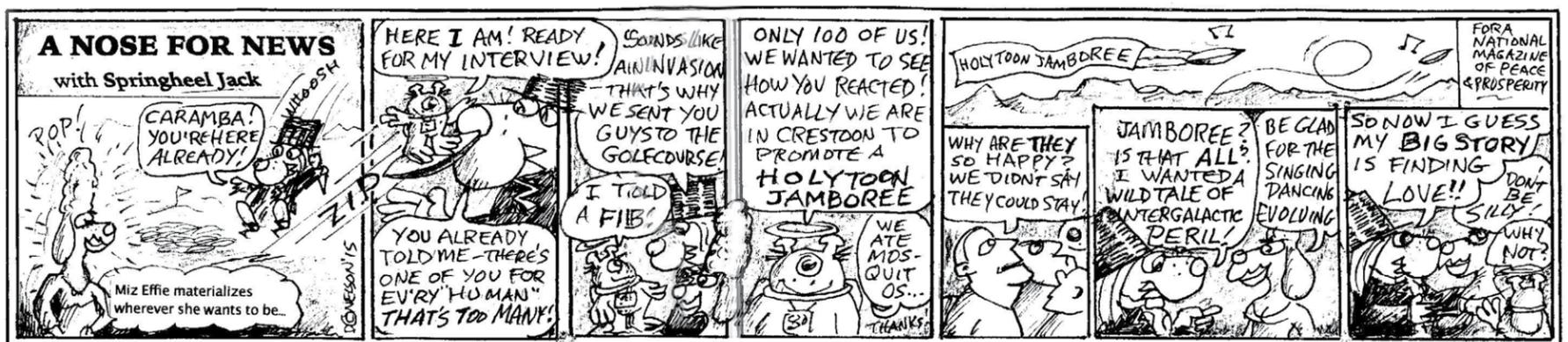
12 Hours of Penitence is a new bike race at Penitente Canyon. The race consists of a 21-mile lap that gains less than 2,000' in elevation. Solo riders will achieve as many laps as they can within the 12-hour time limit. Duo and team riders will ride the course as a relay, having only one team member on the course at any given time.

Register now at [www.12hoursofpenitence.com](http://www.12hoursofpenitence.com).

## Homegrown Totes

Wanted: Experienced seamsters with or without a sewing machine for full or part time work.

Join the Homegrown Totes Project, a fiber arts cottage industry based in Saguache. Piece rates paid for Homegrown Totes sewed in your home and delivered to the factory in downtown Saguache. Interested parties call Saguache Works @ 719-655-0216, or stop by 404 4th St., Saguache.



# Community Calendar—September 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).

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

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

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

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

## Monthly Events

### Tuesday, September 1

- Public meeting on statewide water plan, Crestone,

### Wednesday, September 2

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

### Thursday, September 3

- Baca Nat'l Wildlife Refuge tour: Fall Mgmt. – Baca National Wildlife Refuge 9:00 am-1:00 pm <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/baca> 719-256-5527
- CCC Meeting and Dinner – Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Friday, September 4

- Sacred Symbols Glass Show, Sand Dunes Pool-Greenhouse [www.sanddunespool.com](http://www.sanddunespool.com) 719-378-2807
- CCC Carwash! Downtown Crestone 10am-3pm
- CCC field trip to Alamosa Art Hop – Downtown Alamosa 4:00 pm-10:00 pm

### Saturday, September 5

- Meet the Authors, Salida Community Center, 3rd & F St., 1-5pm, free, 719-942-4864, 4361
- Ice Cream Social - End of the Summer Gathering, Crestone Artisans Gallery, live music 3-6pm
- Yogic Cooking Workshop – Shakti Sharanam 3-8pm [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

### Sunday, September 6

- Fellowship Sunday – Crestone Baptist Church 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

### Monday, September 7

- Mellow Yellow Lemon Run – Cole Park 8:30 am-2:00 pm <http://bit.ly/MYLRinfo> 719-580-0887
- Dakini Tsok (Vajrayana communal feast) – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

### Tuesday, September 8

- Awakening Artist – Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:00 pm-7:15 pm

### Wednesday, September 9

- Crestone End of Life Project monthly open meeting – The Topping House 7:00 pm-9:00 pm [crestone-end-of-life.org](http://crestone-end-of-life.org) 719.256.4247/588.7415

### Thursday, September 10

- CCC meeting and dinner – Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:00 pm-8:00 pm
- Rumi Study Circle. All welcome! 4-6pm Free. Donation appreciated. [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 256-4290

### Friday, September 11

- Free Solar Training – Paul Shippee Home All Day Free 719-256-4656

### Saturday, September 12

- Camino de Crestone pilgrimage – All Day [www.caminodecrestone.com](http://www.caminodecrestone.com)
- Nourishing Ourselves with Essence of Elements – All Day [www.chammaling.org](http://www.chammaling.org)

### Sunday, September 13

- New-moon Fire Ceremony – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 10:00 am-12:30 pm [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org) 719-256-4108
- Riwo Sangchö: Buddhist smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-11:00 am
- Shumei Monthly Sampai for September 2015 – Shumei Sanctuary 10:30 am-12:00 pm Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 719-256-5284
- Communion Sunday – Crestone Baptist Church 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Presentation on Shree Baba Haidakhan Charitable Hospital – Haidakhandi Universal Ashram 11-11:30am [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org) 719-256-4108
- Crestone/Baca Village potluck, 383 N Chaparral, 1-4pm, [cbvillage.net](http://cbvillage.net), 719-480-8757
- Restorative Yoga Shakti Sharanam 3-8pm [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Erev Rosh Hashanah – YES Building 7:00 pm-8:30 pm by donation 256-4890

### Monday, September 14

- CCC break – Crestone Community Building-County Commissioner hours in Crestone – Crestone Realty 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- Morning Services Rosh Hashanah, YES Bldg next to library 10-11:30am by donation 256-4890

### Wednesday, September 16

- One-day marijuana tax holiday in Colorado

### Thursday, September 17

- Comments due on CO Water Plan <http://coloradowaterplan.com>

### Friday, September 18

- Living with Joy, Dying in Peace – Blazing Mountain Retreat Center [chammaling.org](http://chammaling.org)
- Chamma Ling Annual Fall Retreat, All Day [www.chammaling.org](http://www.chammaling.org)
- Kirtan—Devotional Chanting – Shakti Sharanam 5pm [www.shaktisharanam.com](http://www.shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668

### Saturday, September 19

- 22nd Annual Fall Festival & Quilt Show, Saguache 7am-3:30pm [www.SaguacheChamber.org](http://www.SaguacheChamber.org)
- SLV Local Foods Coalition Harvest Soiree, Rio Grande Healthy Living Park, Alamosa, noon-5pm

### Sunday, September 20

- Group photography show symposium, Shumei Gallery 3-5pm Free [www.shumeicrestone.org](http://www.shumeicrestone.org) 256-5284

### Monday, September 21

- 6th Annual Peace Within Peace Without celebration on International Peace Day, Dancing Music Mountain Sanctuary, 5:30-8:30pm \$10 adult \$5 child, [ancientdanceschool.com](http://ancientdanceschool.com) 719-588-2929
- Living with Joy, Dying with Peace workshop – Chamma Ling Community House All Day [chammaling.org](http://chammaling.org)

### Tuesday, September 22

- Sufi Talk & Dhikr – 7-9:00 pm Free. Donation appreciated. [nurashkijerrahi.org](http://nurashkijerrahi.org) 719-256-4290
- Kol Nidre Yom Kippur Services – YES Bldg next to library 7:30 pm-8:30 pm by donation 256-4890

### Wednesday, September 23

- Autumnal equinox
- 2015 Rural Philanthropy Days <http://cramerica.org/rural-philanthropy-days/regional-websites/san-luis-valley/scholarship-information> 719-655-0104
- Afternoon, Memorial, Concluding Services for Yom Kippur, YES Bldg, 4-5:30pm by donation 256-4890
- Guru Rinpoché Tsok (Vajrayana communal feast) – Choying Dzong 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

### Thursday, September 24

- Baca Nat'l Wildlife Refuge tour: Elk Mgmt./Viewing, 9am-1pm [www.fws.gov/refuge/baca](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/baca) 256-5527

### Sunday, September 27

- Full-Moon Fire Ceremony – HUA 10-noon [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org) 256-4108
- Total lunar eclipse 8:15-9:15pm

### Monday, September 28

- Commissioner J. Anderson's hours in Crestone – Crestone Realty 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- Riwo Sangchö: Buddhist smoke offering (outdoors) – Choying Dzong 10:00 am-11:00 am

### Tuesday, September 29

- Awakening Artist – Crestone Community Building (Old Schoolhouse) 4:00 pm-7:00 pm

### Wednesday, October 7

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

I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.  
-Galileo Galilei

## 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@babajiashram.org](mailto:info@babajiashram.org), [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org)
- Tours, Temple, & Gift Shop ~ Haidakhandi Universal Ashram, 256-4108, org, [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.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.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.org)

### Sunday

- Sunday mass, Nada Carmelite Hermitage chapel 9-10:00 am 719-256-4778

- Sunday morning Bible Study & Service Crestone Baptist Church 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- Drop-in Meditation Choying Dzong 10am-1pm 719-256-5224
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Town Hall 7-8pm

### Tuesday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style 5-6:45 By donation [shaktisharanam.com](http://shaktisharanam.com) 719-256-5668
- Feldenkrais Awareness Thru Movement Lessons 1538 Willow Creek Way 5:45-6:45pm \$2 256-4480
- Basic Mindfulness Meditation, KTTG, 6:30-8pm Free KTTG.org 360-370-7770, 719-256-4764

### Wednesday

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

- iNtEgRaTiVe Yoga YES Bldg next to library 9:15 am-10:30 am \$11 719.298.0360
- Gentle Yoga YES Bldg next to library 11:00 am-12:30 pm 719-298-0360
- Crestone Food Bank Crestone Town Hall 1-3pm
- Yoga at the Ranch, Historic Everson Ranch 5-6:15pm \$10 to \$12 719-298-0360
- Wednesday night Bible study Crestone Baptist Church 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

### Thursday

- Continuing Ashtanga Yoga, Mysore Style Shakti Sharanam 5-6:45 pm By donation 719-256-5668
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting Crestone Baptist Church noon-1pm

### Saturday

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

# PROFILES IN MUSIC: PATRICK LEE HAMMOND

## Songwriter, musician, recording artist

by Eli Dokson

Patrick Hammond keeps a low profile here in Crestone, where he and his wife Sandra have lived for ten years. Patrick spends about four hours a day working on his craft—songwriting, his spiritual practice manifested in the world. World-class musicians make the trek to Crestone to record with Patrick in his home recording studio, where he is currently finishing up his second solo CD, a followup to *One Taste*, his evocative, cinematic first solo release. But more about that later.

Patrick would prefer to not dwell on his past musical career, since he is not the “wild man” he was back when he started gigging as a bass player in the late sixties in the vibrant music scene that was happening in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. The kind of original music he is making today, and his whole approach to artistic creativity, has changed dramatically over the years, but I kept pressing him for details from his colorful history.

Growing up in Oklahoma, Patrick moved to Rantoul, IL for high school, after which he attended nearby University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which was where he hooked up with his friend Bill Fiorio, an excellent blues guitar player (who would soon to join

a local band named REO Speedwagon and then take the stage name of Duke Tomatoe.) I did not know that Champaign was such a hotbed of music where many great artists got their start, quite a few with the help of a young local promoter named Irving Azoff (including Dan Fogelberg, Michael McDonald and REO; Azoff went on to represent the Eagles and Steely Dan to name but a few). With Chicago just 137 miles north, Patrick was immersed in the blues scene from an early age.

After working in films for a couple of years in Los Angeles, Patrick returned to Champaign-Urbana where he joined Duke Tomatoe and the All Star Frogs. Patrick played bass with this popular band from 1975-83, mostly touring the midwest, where they achieved great success opening for such well known artists as Cheap Trick, James Cotton, Elvin Bishop, Johnny Winter, John Hammond, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Bo Diddley, the Crusaders and Little Feat.

I could go on with Patrick's early musical career, but suffice it to say that in 1981 he decided to deal with his growing cocaine addiction, went into therapy and turned his life in a different direction. Playing in a bar band for many years—albeit a great one—Patrick came to the reali-

zation that he was less in the music business than the liquor business. He turned to songwriting and publishing, recording demos in L.A. and Nashville (where he worked with a young unknown singer named Garth Brooks), along with a talented songwriting partner, Dana Walden. Patrick's composition “Exception To The Rule” was the title cut on Arnold McCuller's solo release, which included two other Hammond songs. You might recognize Arnold McCuller as the talented backup singer in James Taylor's band, as well as singing with Lyle Lovett and Bonnie Raitt. Patrick also began practicing Aikido, which he continued for twenty years, giving him the focus and discipline which has helped him in all aspects of his life.

Space does not allow me to elaborate on many of the interesting paths Patrick Lee Hammond has traversed on his journey: becoming a practicing psychotherapist, working for Tibetan Master Tsoknyi Rinpoche and the Pundarika Foundation, and playing bass and touring for several years with well-known kirtan artist Krishna Das, garnering a 2013 Grammy



nomination in the New Age category for the CD *Live Ananda*. Which brings us back to where we started—writing songs and recording them right here in Crestone.

Patrick has been blessed to work with gifted musician, songwriter, recording engineer, and producer, Justin Z. Walden (son of Dana, Patrick's songwriting partner). Justin, who has lived in Crestone briefly, now commutes from L.A. to add his mojo to Patrick's music (think soundtrack on a Quentin Tarantino movie and you get the idea). Be sure to check out Patrick Lee Hammond's CD *One Taste*, available on iTunes, Amazon, CD Baby and Spotify. His newest project, *Reflections In Chrome* (working title), will be released next spring.

Another hidden musical gem in Crestone!

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# + 2015 Crestone Music Festival +



Once again, crowds of music-lovers gathered together to celebrate yet another Crestone Music Festival. I hope you enjoy viewing these photos as much as I enjoyed taking them. collage and all photos by Lori Nagel

# + 2015 Crestone Music Festival +

by Tom Dessain

A big "Thank you" to all who attended, vended, volunteered, cheered, worked, sponsored, played or smiled and swayed at the 17th Annual Crestone Music Festival. Overall, the festival had a nice mix of musical styles, vendors, food, libations, contests and activities. Not to mention killer headliners and delightful bands. Festival feedback has been very positive and mishaps were negligible. We did have a pile of competition this year and were down a few hundred folks. We're still sweeping up the settling dust. Stay tuned and check-out the October *Eagle* for more info.

This would be a good time to step up and become a member. Members get different perks for different levels but they all know they are supporting our community by supporting us. We also listen so if you want to comment, complain, commend, conjet or connect, please call 719-256-4533 or email [crestfest@crestfest.org](mailto:crestfest@crestfest.org). Thanks again to everyone.

**We need members!**

Please consider becoming a member of Crestone Performances Inc. and help us continue our programs. Those programs are the Crestone Music Festival, our Youth Enrichment Program and our Community Service Program. There are three ways to contribute. First, just make a donation online at [crestfest.org](http://crestfest.org) and receive a tax deduction. Next would be to become a member and donate annually. Thirdly, my favorite is to have a monthly withdraw. It's totally safe through San Luis Valley Savings and Loan. Even \$5 a month would be huge so please consider. There are levels of support that have great perks, including an "All Access Pass" to next year's festival, so check them out below.

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2. Bronze - \$150 single/\$250 couple, the above plus an invitation to be on the guest list at schools for our Youth Enrichment Programs.
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4. Gold - \$400 single/\$500 couple/family, all of the above plus all access passes to the Crestone Music Festival.
5. Platinum – all of the above and the moon.

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

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Lilith flying at the Music Festival.

photo by Ron Dessain



A Global Soul Experience incites a 'love train' conga line.

photo by Ron Dessain



Crestone Music Festival sponsor Aventa Credit Union awards scholarships to students Chloe Off (right) and Quincy Meisman (left).

photo by Ron Dessain



Congratulations to the winners of the women's wood splitting contest. Heather D'Alessio (left) took first place.



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# Who We Are

## Anna Louise Stewart: Living at the speed of life

by Gussie Fauntleroy

Here's an event from Anna Louise Stewart's past that you may not have imagined: hanging out as part of the crew on a 120-foot Dutch sailing vessel chartered by an Ethiopian female journalist and a couple of men and children who planned to do a "reverse exodus," sailing from a Caribbean island to Africa and then walking across the continent to Ethiopia. But with no money for the charter, the group instead squatted on the ship in the harbor for a week, flying a Rastafarian flag, hacking open coconuts with machetes and insisting that because of historical injustices, the Dutch owned them a voyage across the sea. Finally, not receiving the publicity they sought, the "Family Jah" gave up and left. "It was a trip," Anna Louise says, smiling.

Now 46, Danish-born Anna Louise is known in Crestone primarily for her work as a massage therapist, colon therapist and dedicated volunteer with the Crestone End of Life Project. As she relaxes on her living room sofa, sharing a plate of fresh peach slices and dark chocolate, she reveals other perhaps-surprising chapters of her earlier life. For one, how she came to the United States: At 19, she and a friend travelled on a six-month visa to Puerto Rico, where she traded her all-black, Goth-inspired Copenhagen wardrobe for the colors of the Caribbean and a virtually full-time bathing suit. In Puerto Rico she fell in love with Kerry, an American marina worker from Florida who taught her boat repair skills and shared adventures on the water and rum and Cokes on the beach. When Anna Louise found herself in jail (immigration detention for overstaying her visa), first on the island of Saint Martin and then in Miami, Kerry eventually charmed officials into letting her fly back to Denmark, where they married.

### Out of place in the Sunshine State

Returning to Florida, Anna Louise and Kerry spent 13 years in North Palm Beach County,

where their daughter Zienna was born. Anna Louise also helped raise Kerry's two other children while working in a boatyard and puzzling out what she saw as the craziness of American culture.

"In Denmark there's incredible male/female equality," she says. "I was not used to walking up to a group of guys and they all shut up because I'm a woman." Between that and other aspects of transient, materialist South Florida culture, she quickly realized, "I did not fit." Still, it was in Florida that she experienced another pivotal

shift. After years of abdominal problems she underwent her first colonic. Her health so radically improved as a result that she decided to train in hydro-colon therapy, which in Florida meant she was required first to become a licensed massage therapist. "I really feel like up till then, my life just kind of happened," she says. "I don't remember really making the choices before that."

### Danish rural roots

Anna Louise's journey began in rural Denmark with a self-taught journalist mother and physician father, who divorced when she was young. At 14 she began trying on her own identity and found it incompatible with small town conformity. As a young teen she and her mother lived communally with other families in a large, aging mansion with a private beach and a goldfish basin set into a marble floor. At 16, realizing school did not agree with her, she quit and moved to Copenhagen, later finishing the Danish equivalent of high school and some art school. She was talented in drawing, icon painting and photography as a teen, and now sees her creative inclination finding fulfillment in Zienna, a gifted young artist heading in the direction of a fine art career. Anna Louise's own self-expression these days takes the form of writing, especially poetry, which suddenly began flowing out of her in September 2014.

Anna Louise's first visit to Crestone took place in 2000 on a retreat with a Florida-based rebirthing-breathwork group. At

that time, she remembers, "I got out of the car, looked at the mountains and said, I'm home." She and Zienna moved here four years later. Finally finding her tribe, as she puts it, initiated enormous emotional and spiritual growth, "like having been hibernating and suddenly opening up." The joy of that experience was tempered during the first couple of years by the pain of divorce. At the same time, she found deep satisfaction in her healing work, involvement with the Crestone End of Life Project (CEOLP) and in raising Zienna, whom she calls "the crown jewel of my life."

### Elements in the spiritual blend

In 2010 another important door opened when Anna Louise was serendipitously introduced to a Taoist healing practice called Chi Nei Tsang. Since then she has integrated the powerful practice, which involves hands-on energy work primarily focused on the abdomen and affecting the internal organs, into her other healing modalities. Chi Nei Tsang "changed my being and my capacity to be present, and it also allowed my work to get much deeper since I'm able to work on an energetic level," she says. For a time she conducted her business, Hands with Heart Healing, both in Crestone and Fort Collins. Now she again lives full-time in Crestone and recently celebrated the eighth anniversary of life partnership with her love, Mark Talbot.

Two years after moving to Crestone, Anna Louise heard about an effort to establish a volunteer organization for legally facilitating open-air cremations, which became CEOLP. "There was no thought—I just knew I had to be involved," she recalls. She has been on CEOLP's board since its inception and has volunteered in virtually every capacity, although her focus is care of the body. Raised with Danish pragmatism, she finds herself able to step into the emotionally intense circumstances surrounding a death and offer a comforting presence of openness and calm. This activity, along with her healing work, daily meditation, and absorbing non-duality teachings, forms the core of her spiritual approach. Another element in the mix, she believes, is the land and the Crestone community itself. Especially after having lived in South Florida and Fort Collins, she says, "the silence and



The Dutch sailing vessel, Gertrude, on which Anna Louise was a crew member and spent a week in a Caribbean harbor with Rastafarian would-be voyagers.



Happy mother and baby Zienna in Florida.



Anna Louise and Zienna after they moved to Crestone, 2004.



Anna Louise and Mark Talbot at Twin Lakes on their first (blind) date, 2007.

the space are so conducive to spiritual practice. Here, we can slow down and live at the speed of life."

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# Crestone Wilderness Stewards

## Maintaining local wilderness trails

by *Cathy Amenta*

The Crestone Wilderness Stewards had our first trail workday on August 20 and it was indeed a spectacular day. With a crew of seven stewards, we hiked up North Crestone Trail towards the lake and proceeded to clear approximately 10 downed logs that were across the trail, along with clearing brush and small Aspen trees that were encroaching onto the trail.

We hiked a total of 9.4 miles and gained 2,233 vertical feet up to the meadow below the lake. The trail is now in great shape and is clear of all major obstacles.

We hope to be getting a new Wilderness sign installed at the creek crossing sometime soon. We also observed, and will be address-

ing, a new illegal campsite that was installed this year about a mile up the trail next to the large boulders along the creek where many people hang out, rest, and meditate.

Our next schedule workday will be in September. I would like to personally thank the following members who showed up and worked very hard cleaning up the trail. They had great attitudes and we ended up having a fantastic workday. Special thanks goes out to Dave Miller, Don Tullos, Emmy Savage, Margot Williams, Robert Long and Curtis Goodnight. It was a privilege and honor to work with all of you!

The Crestone Wilderness Stewards is a volunteer program created to take care of and maintain our wilderness trail system



Discussing the workday with Curtis Goodnight, Margot Williams, Robert Long and Don Tullos leading the way.

here in Crestone and the San Luis Valley.

If you are interested in joining our group, please email me at cath-

yamenta@gmail.com or look for our group page on Facebook under "Crestone Wilderness Stewards". Happy Trails!



The crew clearing three logs across the trail that had diverted the trail around them to the right. Now the trail is clear and the side trail has been blocked.



Illegal campsite and fire ring where tree poles have been nailed into the trees. This is about a mile up from the trailhead.

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- Creates a sustainable local economy*

## Your money spent Outside of Crestone:

*.....insures an enhanced standard of living for those living someplace else*

## The Sri Aurobindo Learning Center

"The Many in the universe are sometimes called parts of the universal Brahman as the waves are parts of the sea. But, in truth, these waves are each of them that sea, their diversities being those of frontal or superficial appearances caused by the sea's motion. . . Even in asserting Oneness, we must remember that Brahman is beyond our mental distinctions and is a fact not of Thought that discriminates, but of Being which is absolute, infinite and escapes discrimination."

This is a quotation from Sri Aurobindo's commentary on the Isha Upanishad, and it has the simplicity and power to open the discussion that has preoccupied philosophy for most of the past two thousand years. Can our thinking know the Being of things, or does it only know the impressions of our senses and the ideas that are based on those impressions. The philosopher Hume in the 18th century articulated the question most clearly in modern times, but it was prominent in the thinking of ancient Greece and India, and it is the hallmark of scepticism. But the phenomenology of Hegel and German Idealism followed in the 19th century, with the understanding that Consciousness can rise above the senses and rational thought to a direct awareness of the universals and essences that are knowable behind the appearances of things. However, this kind of knowing requires that we stand back from and, in a sense, negate our mental constructions. This is a discipline taught in most

schools of Yoga and it is a practice that was known at least as early as the Upanishads. It is relevant again today after a century of rationalistic science which tends to see the manipulation of objects as an end in itself, without concern for their being, and is not likely to be able to solve the problems that it has created.

Our Savitri Immersion Workshop in August included a survey of this wisdom, expressed by various philosophers and traditions, culminating in the teachings of Sri Aurobindo and his Integral Yoga. The workshop was attended this year by a brilliant constellation of participants from many states and from abroad, and our local members who provided the usual fare of tantalizing meals and warm hospitality. Sadly, we were informed during our opening meditation that a longtime member of our group, Pavita Bluedeer, had passed away. She had been with us just the previous morning, as genuinely present as she had always been for the past 15 years, and we continued to feel her presence, clarity, and devotion with us throughout the week. For the past year her articles have appeared here regularly as a witness to her deep devotion to this center and its mission. We remember her with respect and gratitude.

Center activities for the next month will include Sunday morning teachings from 10 to 12 and Tuesday evening potluck and teachings from 6 to 8:30. For more information please call 256-4917 or 256-6010.



Some of the staff of the Shree Baba Haidakhan Charitable Hospital in India on which a short presentation will be given at the Ashram on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 11am, followed by an Indian Feast. The New Moon Fire Ceremony begins at 10am.

## Haidakhandi Universal Ashram news

by Ramloti

August has been full and wonderful with many visitors and guests. I was in Italy at the beginning of the month for the completion of the International Guru Purnima Celebration. This is held every year in a European Ashram of Shri Babaji and this year it was in Cisternino, Italy. Hundreds of devotees attend these gatherings and it was momentous and inspirational as always.

A special event this month will be a short presentation on the Shree Baba Haidakhand Charitable and Research Hospital in Chilianaula, Ranikeht, India. Mr. Uday Chatterly will travel here from India to make this presentation and we hope many of you can attend to learn more about this worthy cause that is bringing eyesight to thousands in this poor Komoan Hill District in the foothills of the Himalayas. This will be held at 11am and will be followed by an Indian feast. It will begin directly after our new-moon fire ceremony, which is on Sunday, September 13. Our full-moon fire ceremony this month is on Sunday, September 27. 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 when we do not have a large one at 10am. Please call the Ashram at 719-256-4108 or email us at info@babajiashram.org for proper protocol for attending fire ceremonies and any other questions.

Some upcoming dates to put on your calendar would be Fall Navratri (the Divine Mother Festival) October 13-21 and the Movie Manor Ashram Extravaganza November 7 & 8. Once again, call or email the ashram if you have questions about these or wish to make a reservation.

The Maha Lakshmi Shop still has carloads of silk saris, bedspreads, drapes, tablecloths, runners, pillow shams, duvet covers, and bolts of raw silk fabric. These exquisite items previously sold at such stores as Neimin Marcus but now the owner has changed professions, so she donated everything to the ashram. We are selling these amazing pieces for less than 10 to 15% of their value, so come in soon to get the best choice. We have decided not to hold a Saturday bazaar in town, so call us instead at 719-256-4108 so we can have the fabrics and other items ready to show 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://mahalakshmiashram.org>.

For more information about the ashram, please visit our newly designed website at [www.babajiashram.org](http://www.babajiashram.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.



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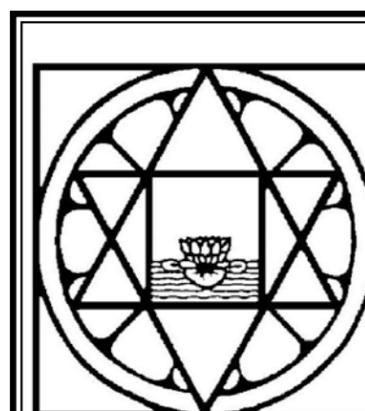


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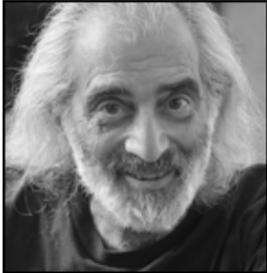
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# Aging as an art

by Ammi Kohn

*I enjoy talking with older people. They have gone before us on a road which we, too, may have to travel. I think we do well to learn from them what it is like...*

—Socrates, in Plato's *The Republic*

*To enter the country of old age is a new experience, different from what you supposed it to be. Nobody, man or woman, knows the country until he has lived in it and taken out his citizenship papers.*

—Malcolm Crowley, *The View from Eighty*

Yesterday, when I talked to Carmin about how I feel myself getting older, she laughed. "You said the same thing last year, two years ago, and three years ago." So, I hereby formally take out my citizenship papers, acknowledge that "I am beginning to enter that country", and vow to stop obsessing about aging changes. My passport is stamped "82 in November, heart disease (6 graft bypass), hearing aids, arthritis kicking in, and my fair share of getting up morning aches and pains".

Well, I have lots of company in Crestone!

Aggregation of census data for a 7-mile ring around Crestone reveals how rapidly Crestone/Baca is aging. Projections are by Community Partnerships, Alamosa State University.

	45 - 54	55 - 64	65+	Population
2000	26.9%	17.4%	12.3%	778 (95 persons 65+)
2010	15.3	26.5	22.0	1161 (255 persons 65+)
2017	14.9	22.9	27.9	1287 (360 persons 65+)

The percentage of the Crestone/Baca population 65+ leaps from 12.3% in 2000 to a projected 27.9% in 2017, a 220% increase. While our population increases 60%, the percentage of 65+ increases 220%.

What are the implications of this increase for Crestonians? I'll explore this question in future issues of the *Eagle*, with an emphasis on aging as an art. The column will discuss the many facets of becoming an Elder; cultural attitudes towards aging, Elder health issues in Crestone/Baca, Elder parents and children, taste buds, local support systems, creativity in Elder years, the larger meaning of assisted living, Living Treasures, etc.

And each column may have comments by my friend, Faust.

Faust: "Aging as an art. Very pretty words. But that doesn't help my case. It doesn't provide rides to the doctor."

Ammi: "Yes, beautiful words because I want my aging to be a model to my children. Maybe I'll change my tune when I get older. As Malcolm Corwley says, 'Nobody, man or woman, knows the country until he has lived in it...'"



Clare Stefanek, CCC Youth Work Force Coordinator.

photo by Jayson Stefanek

## Crestone Creative Council hires Youth Work Force coordinator

by Lisa Bodey

The Crestone Creative Council (CCC) is pleased to announce that we have hired Clare Stefanek as our new Youth Work Force Coordinator. The Youth Work Force (YWF) is a job program for youth 13-24 years of age which partners them with clients in the community to assist with their home & work projects. We would like to thank all of our existing clients as you have helped us create over 600 jobs and over \$80K in job revenue for youth since our program inception in 2011. This program helps to develop intergenerational relationships, supports young people in a very poor & unstable economic environment, and promotes stimulation of our local economy.

Clare was born in New York but mostly grew up in the suburbs of Ohio. She first came to Crestone in 2012 and fell in love with the slow pace and simple beauty the town exuded. Clare has worked in secretarial and administrative positions over the last 20 years and is excited to use her knowledge to help with the Crestone Youth Work Force. Clare got married last February and she and her husband Jayson decided to follow their dreams and

move to Crestone permanently. She has an 18-year-old daughter who starts college this fall in Ohio and a 15-year-old step daughter who is currently in high school. Clare is excited to continue helping children and young adults get ready for the future by promoting good work ethics and new skills that can be used within the community. We are excited to have her join our team and strengthen our program.

Some of the projects the YWF assists with are: gardening, firewood stacking, moving projects, fire mitigation, technology/computer assistance, snow shoveling, yardwork, construction, house cleaning, house/pet sitting, event set-up & clean-up. Please be mindful of the time it takes to set up the logistics for your job and allow 3-5 days for scheduling. To hire local youth, please contact Clare at 719-849-8382 or email at: claresyc@gmail.com. Lisa Bodey will continue to provide overall supervision for the program and can be contacted regarding CCC programs at 719-480-5925 or email at: bodeycrestone@gmail.com.

Please support CCC at our next car wash fundraiser on Friday, September 4 from 10am-3pm at the Crestone Fire Department. Cars exteriors are washed for donations only and unfortunately we can not offer interior cleaning at this point. Thank you to everyone who supported our August car wash and our gratitude to the Town of Crestone, Aventa Credit Union and the Crestone Fire Department for your support of these events.



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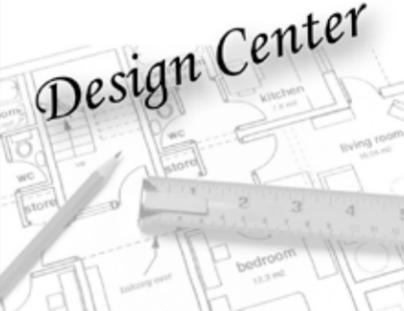
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## Moving Up Higher Enjoying Everyday Life



by Joyce Meyer

### You're all right: How to enjoy complete acceptance and right standing with God

We all have a deep need to feel all right. And we can spend a lot of time and energy trying to do things that make us feel like we're okay—okay with ourselves, with others and even God. But we don't need to wear ourselves out trying to be right with God through our own effort. The truth is we can't make our lives right on our own, but we can receive the righteousness of God by putting our faith in Christ.

Self-righteousness is believing we are made right with God through our own works. For example, a person might think, "Well, if I read through my Bible every year, then God will be pleased with me." But the truth is we don't have to read our Bible to please God; we read it because it helps us in our everyday life. It's for our own good. In the same way, my preaching doesn't make me a righteous person. The only way we are made righteous (right with God) is by having faith in Jesus Christ—it's not something we can ever earn in our own effort.

I used to really struggle with self-righteousness. Many years ago somebody came to the church I was attending and suggested that we all read through the Bible in a year. The pastor got on board, and every Sunday he'd ask, "Who's been doing your Bible reading?" Well, I didn't want to be the one not standing up, so I got really serious about it.

We all got a calendar so we could check off the days we read the chapters. I put it up on the refrigerator so everybody who came in would ask me what it was, and I was so proud. As long as I had all my checkmarks, I liked that calendar. But then I got 36 chapters behind and had these big, gaping holes! It was like a nightmare for me.

So one day I decided I was going to catch up, and I zipped right through the chapters. And honestly, when I closed my Bible I felt so relieved. But then I almost immediately heard the Holy Spirit say to me, "So, tell Me, what did you learn?" And I realized I could not remember one thing!

God taught me an important lesson that day. He would rather we read one verse and actually get something out of it and connect with Him than read 36 chapters and learn nothing. The point is we need to have the right motives for

the things we do and stop making laws out of tasks that make us feel better about ourselves but are unfruitful.

You might say, "Well, Joyce, shouldn't we try to do what's right?" Absolutely! God wants us to live through faith in Christ. Then, as we have a personal relationship with Him, we'll do the right thing by His grace because we want to do the right thing. He puts the desire in us to do what's right.

In Philippians 3:3 (NLT), Paul explains that "we rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort." He says he obeyed the law without fault, and if any person had a reason to have confidence in himself by the law's standard, he had more of a reason than anyone.

In verses 7 through 9 (NLT) of that chapter, Paul goes on to say, "I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith."

Yes, what we do matters, but our good works do not make us acceptable to God. We are only made right with Him by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. And when we put our faith in Christ, we can rest in knowing that everything is all right.

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"A Gift for the Grangers" was a recruitment poster for the National Grange printed in 1873. An organization focused on community, Grange membership around this period was estimated by some to be as high as 2 million. Today it is less than 2,000.

## Crestone locals consider forming a Grange-type group

by Nathan Good

In June of this year about 12 food- and animal-friendly people met for a potluck at the Cloud Station, sharing conversation and networking for a closer look at the different types of homestead projects families are building. Focused mainly in healthy practices of growing food, milking goats, building shelter, and basic living skills, a fun time was had. An emphasis of cooperation with our community and each other was the theme.

A petition asking the Town of Crestone and Baca Grande Property Owners Association to promote safer practices and ban the use of Round-Up weed killer in our communities was signed by attendees and will be submitted when ready.

My intention and invitation is to meet and check in with anyone who wants to form a group based on a bio-friendly community Grange platform.

Why? An increased desire to live with ease, in concert with nature, choosing bio-cooperation. My goal is to cut 90% of my fossil fuel use by 2017 and look into new and old wisdom about maintaining the planet for our descendants. Looking for support, I googled "ethics" and eventually the Grange movement from 1867 popped up. Most of it resonated with me. Interested, I excerpted from Wikipedia:

Officially referred to as 'The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry.' As a fraternal organization in the United States, it encourages families to band together to promote the economic and political well-being of community and agriculture, supporting opportunities for individuals and families to develop to their highest potential creating a stronger community, state, and nation.

A grassroots organization, the Grange motto is: "In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity." The word "grange" itself

comes from a Latin word for grain, and was also an early English name for farms.

After the Civil War, president Andrew Johnson commissioned Oliver Kelley to travel and study the war torn land in hopes to improve agriculture and the quality of life. He found the need for an organization that would bring people from the North and South together, in a spirit of mutual cooperation. After many letters and consultations, seven men and one woman co-founded the Grange.

'Grangers' grew dramatically from 1873 (200,000) to 1875 (858,000). Many of the state and local granges adopted non-partisan political resolutions, especially regarding the regulation of railroad transportation costs.

The organization was unusual at this time because women and any teen old enough to draw a plow were encouraged to participate. The importance of women was reinforced by requiring that four of the elected positions could be held only by women.

The Granger movement succeeded in lobbying for fair market prices to farms from the markets. The birth of Cooperative Extension Service Systems was largely credited to the Grange. Local Granges focused more on community service, although the State and National Granges remain a national political force.

So, the age-old question remains: how to better balance life? One primary factor of distraction is the chasing of money.

Does the adventure to chop wood and carry water start over? Humanity, faced with awakenings throughout time, like the hardships of early farming, is similar and most certainly related to our challenge of finding healthy food today.

Will a Crestone Grange-type group form? Whatever we are, we are just forming, and may not fit the traditional Grange, but could find some tools from its history. If you're bio-curious, attend our next potluck meeting Sunday September 30 at noon, location TBA. We will be meeting the last Sunday of every month at various locations.



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# Ask Dr. B about pets

by Linda Behrns, DVM

Quite a few dogs and even cats have had kennel cough in Crestone and the Baca lately. Kennel cough, or canine infectious tracheobronchitis, can be caused by a wide variety of bacteria and viruses including Bordetella bronchiseptica, parainfluenza virus, canine adenovirus, and canine herpes virus.

The variety we have seems to be extremely contagious, causes a fairly severe hacking cough with few other symptoms and resolves on its own in anywhere from a few days to a week. I suspect it is caused by the Bordetella bacteria as cats are also being affected. A vaccine is available for dogs and can help prevent dogs from getting the cough, or at least minimize the symptoms and duration if they do get it.

If your dog or cat develops a cough chances are it will clear up on its own in a few days. If your pet is lethargic, has a green or yellow discharge from the nose or eyes, isn't eating or drinking, act-

ing unwell in any way, or coughing for more than two or three weeks, give me a call.

If you have a dog or cat that is coughing please keep them inside and away from other animals until the cough is gone. To help prevent the spread of the disease wash your hands and even clothes if you have been around a coughing animal before you come into contact with your own or other animals.

One more hot weather dog treat before the weather changes:

### Frozen Yogurt, Banana & Peanut Butter Dog Treats

32 ounces of plain or vanilla yogurt

1 large banana

2-3 tablespoons peanut butter

1 tablespoon honey

Mix all ingredients in a blender. Pour the mix into ice cube trays and put in the freezer until frozen. Once frozen remove from the ice trays and store in the freezer in a container or plastic bag. Great for kids too!

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

### —MOVIE RECOMMENDATIONS



by Ish

#### 1/ The Holy Land: ★★★

An ultra-Orthodox Rabbinical student, Mendy is told by his Rabbi to visit a brothel to get his secular leanings out of his system. He's smitten with a Russian immigrant Sasha who has a friend that owns a bar. Convincing his parents that living in the Holy City may re-inspire his religious beliefs, he gets a job in the bar. He begins to learn the ways of the world from the various patrons.

#### 2/ My Worst Nightmare: ★★★

She lives with her husband and son in a posh apartment. He lives with his son in the back of a van and from there you can get the picture. They should never have met but their sons are inseparable.

#### 3/ Upside Down: ★★★

An interesting story bordering on sci-fi as Adam and Eden live on twinned worlds with gravities that pull in opposite directions. He's gone through a 10-year "forced" separation and is now trying to reconnect with his love, though it be a dangerous quest.

#### 4/ The Sword With No Name: ★★★

When the queen he secretly loves is caught in a dangerous political battle, and the queen's bodyguard realizes it could prove fatal, he takes action to save her life.

#### 5/ Agora: ★★★

Toward the end of the 4th Century A.D., Christianity is gaining a hold in Roman Egypt. A young slave weighs his desire for freedom against his growing love for his mistress, an atheist and professor of philosophy.

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## First week back to school at Moffat is a huge success

Another school year has started and our children have another year to acquire more knowledge, develop their minds and build on their character.

During the first week of school the students were all issued picture I.D.s for safety and to support our new Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program that was introduced to all students and was well received.

The three PBIS over-arching expectations when anyone enters our school community are: Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Safe.

Come to Open House Night on Thursday, August 27 from 4 to 6pm to find more out about our new PBIS program and the other exciting things that we have going on in our new PK-12 facility.

We are looking forward to seeing you then!



2nd/3rd grade teacher, Mr. Dale Smith, is walking his students through a map key lesson.



High school English teacher, Kaley VanArsdale, is using her interactive whiteboard and projector during her junior English class.



4th/5th grade teacher, Mr. Brian Rhodes, is having a discussion with his students about the book they are reading.



The elementary students are enjoying the lunch break with their friends.

## How to pack an organic school lunch for under \$5

Deciding what to pack for lunchbox meals is an important part of the back-to-school experience for parents and kids. Proper nutrition is essential to positive learning and growth, and many families aim to eat healthfully, while also saving money. But packing a wholesome, organic lunch doesn't have to cost big bucks.

Here are five tips for building an organic lunch for under \$5:

- Make a shopping list. Do an audit of your current kitchen inventory and write a shopping list before hitting the store. This will help you stay organized and keep you from buying extra items you don't need.

- Look for store brands. Not every organic brand is pricey. For example, some brands even offer products that are cheaper than the non-organic alternative, such as Whole Foods Market's 365 Everyday Value line. Plus, their products are made without artificial colors, flavors, sweeteners, preservatives or hydrogenated fats.

- Shop for ingredients that do more. Foods like rotisserie chicken can be used for an entire week's worth of school lunches using a different recipe each day. Think sand-

wich, taco, salad, wrap and casserole.

- Buy in bulk. Buying in bulk is often cheaper than purchasing packaged items, and you get the added benefit of controlling how much food you pay for. At some stores, like Whole Foods Market, you can even get a discounted price when you buy a full case of packaged products.

- Use coupons. Coupons are a great way to save extra money on purchases you will actually use. Search through coupons online and at the grocery store, too.

Have a kitchen full of ingredients but don't know what to make for lunch tomorrow? Try this simple and quick Lentil Mac & Cheese recipe that can be easily customized by adding your favorite spice or flavor:

Ingredients:

- 1 (6-ounce) box macaroni & cheese
- 1 cup red lentils
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup lowfat (1%) milk
- Pinch fine sea salt

Directions:

Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil. Add pasta and lentils and return to a boil. Cook until len-

tils and pasta are tender, about 10 minutes. Drain well.

Return pasta and lentils to the pan and stir in butter, milk, the contents of the sauce packet and salt. Continue to stir until blended and warmed through.

In the midst of a busy back-to-school season, don't put good-for-you lunches on the back burner. Simple tips can help you from spending a fortune.



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# Charter School welcomes new staff members

by Michael Hayes

CCS is fortunate to have a number of new members of our professional community this year. All of these new staff bring a strong growth mindset to our community and the willingness to grow into their respective positions.

Emily Donaldson joins us from Silver Spring, MD. Emily brings a degree in Secondary Education and experience working with a diverse high school population in the humanities and the arts. She will work with our students in the LINK program in language arts, humanities, and the arts.

Emily brings a high degree of creativity and innovation to her professional practice and she is “excited to be in a school and community where individual spirit and emotional health are so carefully nurtured.” She also brings a wealth of experience in effective instructional techniques and a willingness to step into our LINK performances, learning adventures, and student culture.

TJ Walling will join our middle school team and work with our students in the Middle School program in the areas of science and mathematics. TJ most recently comes from a secondary public school on the front range. He has earned a Master’s in Education in Teacher Leadership and has experience delivering science, math, and literacy instruction to students with a wide range of skills and knowledge.

TJ believes, “The best tools to achieve the delicate balance of a functional school classroom are com-

munication, respect, forgiveness, and trust.” Further, he says “The relationship triad of student-parent-teacher needs to be one of trust; it must remain positive and that is the teacher’s responsibility foremost.” We look forward to TJ bringing his skills and experience to our community.

Pamela Jones will work with our students in the Primary classroom. Pamela earned her Master’s degree in Education and has served as an English and literacy teacher for students with diverse academic and emotional needs.

Pamela is “committed to providing a motivational and engaging learning environment for all students.” Her wealth of experience in education as a classroom teacher and an instructional leader will strengthen all of our work at CCS.

Lyndsay Rose-Duebber will work with our students in the Early

Elementary classroom. Many in our community will recognize Lyndsay as a returning community member who was most recently enrolled at Antioch University in a Master’s program in Elementary education. Lyndsay is excited to continue her education studies while teaching at CCS.

Lyndsay states, “I strive to nourish the child’s innate intelligence and offer them tools to navigate the world as empowered learners. My classroom is a place of friendship, inspiration, and creativity in learning. The natural world is woven through the curriculum to support both students and teacher in personal development.” The community is looking forward to Lyndsay bringing her blend of academic skills and values-based education to CCS.

In addition to these new staff members, Ryan Johns, who formerly served in our middle school program

will transition into our LINK program. Ryan will bring his background in the sciences and outdoor education to LINK students and families.

Finally, three Americorps members will join the Charter School this year. They will provide support in literacy and math instruction throughout our secondary program. This will allow us to provide effective instructional support to those students who need it.

The professional team at the charter school began work in mid-August. They are inspired and excited to continue to enhance the educational experience of each child and are well into the work of bringing shared practices to all classrooms that strengthen our effectiveness in delivering a high quality mission driven education to every child.



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## The Washington Beat

*Could it be Bernie?*

*And that debate*

by David Nicholas

### This winning season and the politics of reticence

Summer is over and the race is quickening. Could it be that Bernie Sanders has a shot at winning the Democratic nomination? As Bugs Bunny would say, "Eh-hhh, could be!" This is a wild political season right now, not crazy but wild. The leading contenders of both parties who are assumed to be the nominees a year from now are stumbling badly and/or falling over simple things in full public view and it's just head shaking.

The Beat said in June that Hillary Clinton needed to address the issues hanging over her head with full transparency and get them out of the way. The issues were those emails on her private server when she was Secretary of State, particularly those emails over the attack on the US Embassy in Libya; and could donations to Bill Clinton's foundation affected her foreign policy decisions? That I am still writing about this is just staggering. Yet here we are.

Four months later the questions are still there and only recently did Madame Secretary hand over her private computer server to the FBI for checking in order to give better transparency. Given that Mrs. Clinton has shied away from addressing the media regularly, it has left the naysayers and her critics a free hand to discredit her. What is she not getting about a presidential election? That the media holds sway? And if you can't give them a narrative they will create one?

Clearly this thing that is the Hillary Campaign really believes it can get this all under control at some point and they hope that all this will be largely irrelevant by the time Super Tuesday rolls around in March 2016. But the damage being heaped upon her character right at this time—going to trust and confidence—may not be so easily recovered as they think. What is clear is that there isn't time to get this right. There was, six months ago, but Mrs. Clinton will have to do it on the run now, if she does it at all. Her biggest problem is her campaign style which—up until now—has been reticent.

Reticence may be a good tool in some political races but clearly not in presidential ones. Presidential politics at the moment is best described as being "in your face," and the one driving this form of narrative is the Donald whose bombast has overshadowed all comers and dominates the nightly news and Sunday talk shows. We are talking mid-August here and the polls are showing it.

Why Hillary's approach is a mistake is that there are now five Democratic contenders who think they have a good chance at getting the nomination, whereas if she had come out of the gate running when she announced, the field would be clear to make her run. Yet here we are and she's not controlling the

agenda of her campaign.

Mrs. Clinton has had to come out fighting, issuing a "no bed-wetting" statement to supporters over the email issue and Emily's List representative charging GOP presidential contenders with an obsession "to chase the shiny objects" (her email). Whether this is of any consequence going into mid-September is questionable. Does it matter? No, not to Democrats, but it's registered independents and women who carry the day for the presidency. It's still a big deal.

### Heere comes Bernie

Crowds come to see him in Washington state (27,000) and in California (25,000) and he's just overcome Hillary Clinton in polling in New Hampshire according to the *Boston Herald*/Franklin Pierce University poll taken August 7-10. Mr. Sanders leads 44% to Mrs. Clinton's 37%. Two other polls, three to four weeks earlier, had Mrs. Clinton leading by 4-6 percentage points. What it says is that the momentum right now is with Bernie Sanders. People want to see him and hear what he has to say. Democrats want a populist leftist/social democrat right now who is saying things about what concerns them most: a stable economic future, free tuition and a stable healthcare plan. Mr. Sanders fills the bill on these issues and he is clearly sucking up all the oxygen of the Democratic front-runner. His success is not being lost on the Hillary campaign and has forced the front-runner to match him on these issues.

While the mainstream media said that he handled his initial interaction with the Black Lives Matter movement at a Seattle rally in late July clumsily, turning the event over to BLM speakers, he is still not losing because of the subsequent action he has taken. He met with them and he put one BLM person on his campaign staff. While it is said that BLM has targeted Mr. Sanders for the demonstrations at campaign events, he seems to be OK, rolling with it.

The national polls still give a wide lead to Mrs. Clinton—NBC/WSJ at the end of July has Mrs. Clinton leading Mr. Sanders 59-25%, Fox News polling in mid-August had Mrs. Clinton leading 49% to Mr. Sander's 30%. The narrative therefore is Mr. Sanders' star is on the rise as of August 17.

The conventional wisdom says that only a fool would bet against Hillary Clinton getting the nomination, and there is enough history in presidential politics to say that this is so. But Mr. Sanders is forcing the centrist Mrs. Clinton to embrace Democratic leftist issues and concerns. Usually a Democratic frontrunner at this stage will still have the nomination locked a year from now. But my gut is telling me that Mrs. Clinton is capable of im-



ploding, if she doesn't take control of her campaign and start dictating what it is she wants. Meanwhile Bernie Sanders has the spotlight.

### Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter has become the next step in the civil rights movement, and while it has taken many by surprise, black youth are a force to be reckoned with, especially in this 2016 political season and probably beyond.

Black Lives Matter is a grassroots activist movement in the United States that began in the wake of the July 2013 acquittal of George Zimmerman in the Florida shooting death of African-American teen Trayvon Martin. The Black Lives Matter movement campaigns against what it calls police brutality against African Americans in the United States. Clearly a movement whose time has come.

The group received fresh impetus from the 2014 deaths of two unarmed African Americans, teenager Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, where it appeared as an organization for the first time, and Eric Garner in New York City. In both cases the grand jury did not indict the officers and no charges were brought. Several unarmed African Americans who died at the hands of law enforcement have had their deaths protested by the movement, including Tamir Rice, Eric Harris, Walter Scott, and Freddie Gray (whose death sparked the 2015 Baltimore protests).

Although there is a central website and a formal organization, it is for the most part a decentralized network and has no formal hierarchy or structure.

### That debate and does it matter?

True, the Fox News Channel's Republican Debate attracted 24 million viewers including yours truly. Four hours of Fox News is way longer than I give it at any other time, but this was presidential politics so I persevered and it was pretty interesting.

The question you ask yourself after this debate was there any one candidate who looked like they could win the presidency in 2016? I have four who I thought might make it to Super Tuesday 2016.

There was Jeb! who was his usually nondescript colorless self, muttering about being Governor in Florida 9 years ago and who could be described as still trying to find his feet in this horse race. He was unremarkable in the debate, which is a plus, and can be remembered fondly as not having blown it too soon.

There was Ohio Governor John Kasick who was pretty moderate and came across as a pretty decent guy, mostly unknown outside of Ohio, and he was interesting get to know. He doesn't set you on fire, but at this stage being measured in your responses is ok.

There was Carly Fiorina who wasn't on prime time but whom every Republican pundit thought was the winner in both debates. Given the current intensifying political swirl, she came across as strong and credible.

Finally, and by far the best of the four, was Senator Marco Rubio who has the best chance of beating Hillary. He came across as being politically clear and making sense. He mainly stayed out of the fray

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and the chaos that Donald Trump was waging against the world, the GOP and any other “deviants” who criticized him “unjustly.”

As for the other seventeen mainstream candidates, Texas Senator Ted Cruz and former Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker (candidates some consider to have some chance at winning the brass ring) were buried under the Donald bombast.

It was clear that steering clear of the Donald was the best strategy, and those who did that are still standing. The rest are toast. The yelling match Rand Paul got into with Chris Christie was just unseemly. Donor money for these will dry up. One by one these hopefuls will start falling away and they won't be in the race by Super Tuesday 2016. This includes the Donald.

### **Trumpy Dumbty Part 2 & that great, great wall**

There is nothing as spectacular as watching Donald Trump bellowing to the devoted. A good portion of the record 24 million viewers that were watching the debate on Fox were there because of him. Fox News normally has a viewership of 2 million+ at any one time, so the Donald can claim credit for drawing a large chunk of the audience.

The analysis in late August was that his debate performance with his outrageous comments didn't hurt him in the beginning run-up to Iowa, but it's early yet. The CNN/ORC poll conducted in Iowa and released on August 12 had him leading at 22%. Dr Ben Carson was second with 14%, relegating former Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker to 11%. Ted Cruz had 8%, former Hewlett Packard CEO Carly Fiorina and former Congressman Mike Huckabee were tied at 7%, while Florida's Marco Rubio, Kentucky's Rand Paul, and Jeb! were at 5%. The rest were 3% or less. Most notably, of the respondents polled who were voters likely to attend the Iowa caucuses, 57% were men 15% and were women.

The national CNN/ORC poll taken August 15-16 has Trump leading as the Republican front-runner at 24%, Jeb! at 13%, Ben Carson at 9%, Marco Rubio and Scott Walker at 8%, Rand Paul 6%, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina and John Kasich 5%.

The issue that has the Donald boiling now is undocumented workers he calls illegal immigrants. He has pledged to build a “great, great wall” and he is going to get Mexico to pay for it! Really? First off, is he going to replace the steel monstrosity that rises out of the Pacific, a wall that already exists, with a thicker wall (a la China) and moat part of it with the Rio Grande? I look forward to that engineering feat. Hey, it's job creation and perhaps it offers employment to millions of Hispanic workers who live along the dotted line.

Second, this getting Mexico to pay for it. Yea, right! There is no reason why it would be in Mexico's interest to pony up trillions, or even one peso, to building the Great Trump Wall. The thought of how this might play out is just too mind-boggling to consider.

Respect is a lot cheaper than

this Donald nonsense.

Meanwhile the second debate on September 16 by CNN might give a better idea on how the GOP field will play out.

### **Rum and cola for the Yankee dollar Part 2**

Old Glory was raised at the US Embassy compound in Havana on August 14, marking the first time the flag was raised on Cuban soil since 1961, formally re-establishing full diplomatic relations—announced on July 20 this year—with the island nation after 54 years. SecStat John Kerry was present, marking the first time a Secretary of State had visited the island since 1945.

While the trade embargo is still in place and while only Congress can lift the trade restrictions, it's not rocket science that there will be ways enterprising US companies and dedicated tourists will get around it. You still need to qualify for a visa through the US State Department under any of the 12 specific conditions regulated by President Obama's executive order, but as tourist pressures for greater US access to the island mount, it will be easier for the trade embargo to be lifted. Quite likely the embargo will be rendered meaningless when such things simply become out-dated.

### **Congress to vote on Iran deal this month**

Congress has until September 16 to vote on the deal SecStat John Kerry, along with other members of the P5+1, hammered out with Iran to curb their nuclear power program. Currently, it looks like it will be touch-and-go up to moments before members take a vote.

The question, of course, is not whether the deal will pass the House and Senate (because on that score it's likely it will be not agreed to), but whether there will be enough votes in either chamber to override a Presidential veto.

So if all 435 members of the House of Representatives vote, then at least 290 must vote to override. If all 100 Senate members vote, then at least 67 must vote for the veto. A two-thirds vote is technically considered a supermajority, which is much more difficult to get than a traditional simple majority. Fewer than 10% of all presidential vetoes have been overridden by a vote in the chambers of Congress.

Essentially, it will take a lot of Democrats to vote against the bill to override a veto. Despite Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) saying he would vote against the deal and Senators Bob Corker (R-TN) and Bob Menendez (D-NJ) signaling they will vote against it, it is unlikely that the majority of Dems in either the House or Senate will vote to overturn it.

On Mr. Schumer, it's hard to say if the New York Senator's no vote will take a large block of Democrats with him. The scuttlebutt says he came out against the deal knowing there would be enough Dems to make sure the President's veto wasn't overridden. How this affects his ambition to be the Senate Minority Leader when Nevada Senator Harry Reid retires from the job remains to be seen. Unlikely, but you never know.

And the beat goes on.

## **Opinion**

### **About police brutality**

*by Michael Miller*

Around 1997 my college student daughter threw a party at our house. She introduced me to a friend who had attended high school with her. He was now an Orlando policeman. I asked him how he liked his new job. He surprised me by replying that he didn't enjoy it much. I asked why. He replied, “I wanted to become a policeman so I could protect the public. But when I got into the police academy I was taught that the public is our main enemy. Now I am, frankly, disillusioned.”

Years later when I began to read about police brutality, I remembered this conversation. A little further research (the internet is so wonderful!) has revealed the following to me.

This is my understanding of how our city policeman has gone from being our best friend to someone who is feared and not trusted.

1. In the 1970s Bill Clinton promised a crackdown on crime. One of his solutions was to introduce federal police training for all municipal police departments.

2. To accomplish this training, police department training tactics and practices were brought to us by Israeli police training units. They set up much of the resultant police academy agendas and tactics that were established in most of our significant towns and cities.

3. The emphasis of this training was “control”. Police in Israel, that hotbed of political strife and violence, dealt with control issues more than they did protection of the public. I doubt that the Israeli trainers knew much about the US Constitution and our Bill of Rights.

4. So, over time, our police have been indoctrinated that “control” is paramount in their procedures.

Thus it is that if you wish to dispute or question what a policeman is doing, he perceives the action differently than you do. You consider it your constitutional right to understand what he is doing. You have the right, in your mind, to question his actions.

He, on the other hand, has been trained to control you and the situation. He, as a result, views any such action by you as resisting his control of the situation. He sees your actions as resistance. He reacts many times in the unfortunate manner that leads to all types of charges of police brutality.

There are a lot of videos on the internet showing examples of police reacting violently to the public. Study these videos carefully. What you will usually see is a situation where the civilian asked a question or demands clarification for the policeman's actions. Rather than patiently explain their action or request, the policeman, interpreting the action as resistance to control, reacts in a violent manner.

A classic is where the policeman says, “Get out of the car.” The auto driver replies something like, “Why do I have to get out of the car?” The policeman then assaults the driver, dragging him out of the car, handcuffing and arresting him.

Why did the policeman do this? Because the driver did not instantly follow the policeman's orders. Because, by the policeman's academy training, this driver was resisting control, and control is what the policeman must maintain.

If you watch these videos you will see a repeating pattern of the policeman issues an order, the civilian questions or defies the order, and the policeman reacts with violence. It is his training to do so.

This is unfortunate for everyone. It is especially unfortunate for the policeman. Underpaid and overworked, they should at least get respect for what they do. But the public's respect has disappeared as we begin to see them as “oppressors” rather than “protectors”. In many ways it is not the policeman's fault. They have, by the interference of federal police training, been badly and improperly trained. The problem is their training, not their personal dedication to the job.

This is also unfortunate for the public. I remember that as a child I was taught that the policeman is my friend. I taught this to my kids, until they, as teenagers, began to show me examples of police action that proved me wrong.

I miss the good ole days when the policeman was my friend. I miss the good ole days when the policeman understood my constitutional rights as well as I do.

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# Can local jurisdictions ban 'fracking'?

*Court cases referred to Colo. Supreme Court*

by Lisa Cyriacks

There are two cases (Colorado Oil & Gas Association vs. City of Longmont and Colorado Oil & Gas Association vs. City of Fort Collins) which involved challenges by the oil and gas industry and the State to local laws. These local laws were passed to restrict hydraulic fracturing (aka "fracking") and related operations within the boundaries of a city. They have been referred by the Colorado Court of Appeals to the Colorado Supreme Court.

The Colorado Court of Appeals, in their referral, said these matters are of significant public interest and involved "legal principles of major significance."

The Longmont case involves a change that voters approved to the city's charter in November to ban fracking within the city limits. Colorado Oil & Gas Assn. (COGA) filed a complaint seeking a declaratory judgment that the resolution was not valid. Colorado Oil & Gas Commission, the agency that regulates oil and gas operations in the state, was later added as a plaintiff.

In a summary judgment, the district court declared the resolution invalid (declared the local laws invalid) and enjoined its enforcement, but stayed a final decision pending completion of the appeal.

The Fort Collins case involves a citizen-initiated city ordinance, which placed a five-year moratorium on fracking and the storage of fracking waste within city limits. COGA sued the city and a district court ruled in COGA's favor on summary judgment. The district court declined to stay its ruling pending appeal of the case.

Even a Supreme Court decision in the cases is not likely to resolve the ongoing controversy over the use of fracking in Colorado.

Last fall several initiatives were proposed for the November ballot, both in support of fracking and calling for a statewide ban.

Advocates withdrew those

ballot initiatives after Governor John Hickenlooper promised to appoint a task force to examine fracking and other drilling-related issues throughout the state.

The task force found that local governments should have some say in oil and gas development decisions, allowing for a consulting role for community leaders but stopping short of granting local jurisdictions any enforcement authority. The group also failed to sort out who gets priority in surface-owner versus mineral-owner disputes.

Already, several task force recommendations have been executed since their presentation to the Governor earlier this year. State legislators this year allocated \$1.4 million to pay for 12 new employees to improve government oversight of the state's currently active 50,000 wells. Another \$361,000 was allocated to create a hot line and website for information and a forum for raising concerns about operations. And \$403,000 has been allocated to create a mobile air-monitoring unit. During next winter's legislative session, legislators will address the recommendation to conduct a health risk assessment.

Still unresolved is how exactly to give local jurisdictions a greater voice in oversight without relinquishing state authority. The recommendations from the task force about how to share oversight with local regulators are to be taken up by the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission at a future date.

Only in the case of oil and gas drilling does the state trump local authority. Even in the case of hard-rock mining, local governments have the final say in land-use decisions.

The battle over this issue remains. What has yet to be established is whether the discussion will end with a Colorado Supreme Court ruling, the voters' voice on potential ballot issues in 2016, or further policy recommendations from the state.



A cowboy herds sheep on the Baca Ranch on a summer day. Not a bad life.

photo by Kate Steichen

## Marijuana tax

*continued from page 1*

construction assistance fund, \$12 million going to youth programs, marijuana education and prevention programs, law enforcement services, substance abuse programs, poison control services, and the local government retail marijuana impact grant program, and \$6 million remaining in the general fund.

If the voters reject the measure, \$13.3 million of the revenue would be refunded through a reduction in the marijuana sales tax from 10% to 0.1% on January 1, 2016 until collections reach \$13.3 million or until June 30, 2016. The remainder would be divided with \$19.7 million refunded to marijuana cultivation facilities; and \$25 million refunded through a sales and use tax refund.

Colorado was the first state to legalize marijuana for recreational use, and now it's passed a marijuana tax relief. Regardless of whether the ballot initiative passes, Colorado did lower the sales tax on marijuana from 10% to 8% beginning July 2017, a move designed to cut into Colorado's black market.

**Petitions to establish universal health coverage under state-run system**

ColoradoCare is currently circulating petitions for a 2016 ballot question, Initiative #20, to

establish universal health coverage under a state-run single payer system.

The ballot initiative seeks to establish a constitutional right to health care in Colorado.

The proposed system, which the state would create in 2017 under a provision of the Affordable Care Act called Section 1332, "innovation waivers," would do away with the state health insurance exchange, Connect for Health Colorado, and private insurance carriers. However, the state would still receive federal assistance, including Medicare and Medicaid.

Under the plan, a tax of varying rates on all income would be collected to raise the \$25 billion needed for the single payer. It would be called ColoradoCare, function as a political subdivision of the state governed by a 21-member board of trustees. It is proposed that it would administer the payment system and control the per-capita cost of health care by contracting with medical providers.

ColoradoCare has until October 23, 2015 to collect the required Friday total of 98,492 signatures.

Other potential ballot measures shaping up for the 2016 ballot include: banning concealed carry on campuses, a measure keeping Daylight Savings Time year-around in Colorado, and creation of a public trust for the natural and environmental resources under public ownership.

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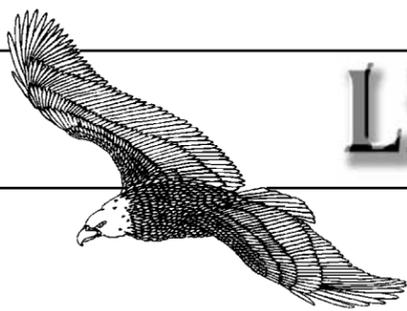
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# Living on the Earth

## The new Moffat School is open for classes

by Larry Joseph Calloway

After a delightful ribbon-cutting, the new Moffat Consolidated School is now open for classes from preschool through 12th grade. It's a friendly and secure digital-age complex attuned to the harsh climate of the San Luis Valley.

It has energy-efficient solar heating and natural cooling.

It has operable north-facing windows in all classrooms.

It has innovative solar-tube skylights and LED lamps throughout.

The wide main entrance opens onto a sunny patio with planters.

The gym has a regulation basketball court and risers that can seat 250.

The cafeteria converts into a theater with a stage and a screen on one side and a 40-foot hangar door to the gym on the other side.

The wood and metal shops are soundproofed and safety-ventilated.

The library has a glass-enclosed quiet room with an array of computers.

Since this is a traditional public school, most learning will be in the long classroom wing – with preschool, kindergarten and elementary students on the first floor and mid-school and high school students on the second floor. The upper classrooms open onto wide balcony and a south-facing wall of solar glass. A computerized ventilation system brings in night air to draw heat

from the polished concrete floors and interior concrete block walls for cooling in warm seasons.

The long days of desks in rows confronted by screechy blackboards are over, of course. Secondary math teacher Lori Lovato was exploring her room on dedication day. With the help of an early student she tried



School Secretary Virginia Drake hands out scissors to all the students who came forward to assist with the actual cutting of the ribbon at the Moffat School ribbon cutting ceremony on August 7. photo by Lori Nagel



Superintendent Kirk Banghart speaks at the new Moffat School's ribbon cutting ceremony. photo by Lori Nagel



Wide halls are set up for socializing. photo by Larry Calloway

out arrangements of the parabolic desks that can be grouped or individualized. Like the other academic classrooms hers has a white board in front with an overhead digital projector. She said the wireless system will make it easy for her to use a digital tablet to demonstrate problems on the screen or project pages from electronic textbooks.

The wide halls are furnished for socializing, and video monitors everywhere are set up to show student creations as well as official notices.

Security was a foremost concern in the design. Outside doors are electronically locked during school hours, when the only accessible entrance or exit is a single security door within direct view of a desk in the main office with a buzzer.

The opening speaker at the ribbon-cutting on August 7 was Sage Brown of Crestone. As head of the elected school board for nearly 10 years she has presided over the creation of both the Moffat Consolidated School and the Crestone Charter School. "We are blessed



The general public spilling into the Moffat School for the first time ever, looking around in awe and wonderment, immediately following the ribbon cutting ceremony. photo by Lori Nagel



As Moffat students begin classes in their new school, a bulldozer plows through a pile of rubble, demolishing the old school right next door. photo by Lori Nagel

continued on page B-8



**by Kim Malville**  
**Spectacular total lunar eclipse September 27**

This will be a big one! A lunar eclipse occurs when the moon passes into the shadow of the earth. This particular moon will be a supermoon, when the moon is very close to the earth, at perihelion in its orbit. In fact, it will be the largest and brightest full moon to be eclipsed in your life time. The next total lunar eclipse will be on January 31, 2018 and will not be as good as this one.

A lunar eclipse reveals the shadow of the earth as well as the relative sizes of the earth and moon. The sun is behind the viewer and is casting its shadow outward into space. The full moon is always opposite the sun in the sky, and as it moves across the sky it gives us an awesome view of the earth's shadow imprinted upon it.



An eclipse of the sun by Pluto viewed from the New Horizons Spacecraft.

Sometime around 350 BCE Aristotle, believing that a lunar eclipse occurred because the moon had entered the earth's shadow, concluded the earth could not be flat because of the curved shadow it cast on the moon. It could be a sphere or, if you are a member of the flat earth society, it could be a round disk. Then, nearly a hundred years later, Aristarchus of Samos noticed that shadow of the earth is less rounded than moon itself. He concluded that if the sun is very far away, the earth must be about 3 times larger than the moon. He was incredibly close. The actual value is 3.7. This was a major breakthrough in humankind's understanding of our cosmos: big earth, small moon, distant and very big sun. That was not bad for 23 millennia ago. A few years later Eratosthenes, a younger contemporary of Aristarchus, measured the diameter of the earth by comparing the shadows of the sun in wells at Alexandria and Syene in Egypt. That was the end of the flat earth. It had to be a sphere.

Back to our eclipse. The total eclipse will last 1 hour and 12 minutes, beginning at 8:11 in the evening and ending at 9:23. The par-

tial phase will start at 7:07 when the edge of the dark center of the earth's shadow, the umbra, begins eating one lunar crater after another. It will take just over an hour for the moon to be fully consumed. The moon may become increasingly forboding, in its blood red color. The shadow contains the light that has skimmed the earth's atmosphere and has been bent inward. It is the light of all the sunset and sunrises of the earth. Pretty wonderful, when you think about it. An astronaut standing on the moon would see the earth surrounded by an orange glow, which would be strong enough to color the surrounding surface of the moon.

**Autumn starts September 23**

The sun crosses the celestial equator on September 23. Equinox occurs on 2:21 am Mountain Daylight Time.

Seven hours after its July 14 closest approach to Pluto, the New Horizons spacecraft looked back and captured this spectacular image of the dwarf planet's remarkable atmosphere, backlit by the sun. The image reveals layers of haze as high as 80 miles above its surface, several times higher than predicted. This is much different from a solar eclipse viewed on the earth. Our moon is dry rock and has no atmosphere, because of the way it was formed. The moon was produced by a fiery collision between

the earth and a wandering planetoid the size of Mars. The heat of that collision evaporated volatile compounds such as water or methane from its surface. Pluto, on the other hand, was formed in the outer solar system, and contains the icy compounds that existed in the early solar system, far from the heat of the sun.

"My jaw was on the ground when I saw this first image of an alien atmosphere in the Kuiper Belt," said New Horizons Principal Investigator Alan Stern of our Southwest Research Institute in Boulder. "It reminds us that exploration brings us more than just incredible discoveries--it brings incredible beauty."

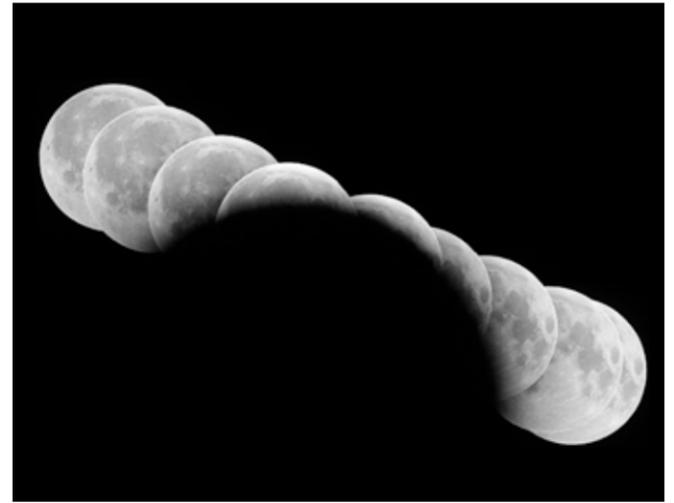
The haze in Pluto's atmosphere forms when ultraviolet sunlight breaks apart methane gas, which evaporates from its surface due to heating from the sun. The breakdown of methane produces complex hydrocarbon gases, such as ethylene and acetylene. As these gaseous hydrocarbons fall to the lower, colder parts of the atmosphere, they condense into ice particles, forming the haze.

**Rosetta's Comet is heating up**

Last month the European Space Agency released images of comet 67P taken by Rosetta from about 100 miles away, showing jets of dust and gas streaming from the nucleus. Although beautiful and dramatic these plumes of dust and gas make it hard to navigate the spacecraft. The space craft stabilizes itself and navigates using images of stars. The small telescopes that lock on to stars are confused by bright particles ejected from the comet.

The comet reached perihelion last month when it was 186 million km from the Sun, placing it between the orbits of Earth and Mars. Perihelion is an important event in the life of a comet, when it is subjected to the greatest amount of solar radiation, and it releases the largest amount of gas and dust. These cometary jets produce the magnificent glowing tails of comets and also drop dust particles along its orbit. When the earth passes through certain of these dust stream, we get meteor showers such as that of the Pleiades, which we experienced last month. This particular perihelion is especially exciting because this will be the first time a spacecraft has followed a comet to this state of maximum activity. It has always been a puzzle how and where the eruptions of gas and dust occur on the comet's surface. The surface is coated with a dark tar-like substance, and these jets appear where there are gaps in the coating.

As you may remember the nucleus of the comet looks like a huge rubber ducky, with a mass of some 10 billion tons. The mission



Montage of a lunar eclipse. You can see the shape of the earth's shadow.

is planned to continue until September 2016. The managers of the spacecraft hope that during this time they might even be able to land it on the comet's surface, which would be another space spectacular.



Plume of gas ejected by the comet at its closest approach to the sun. These are the plumes that produce the tail of the comet.

Usually, the jets are faint compared to the nucleus, but this one in the photograph is brighter than the nucleus. This jet appeared suddenly and was gone after 18 minutes. Wow! Never before have we gotten such an intimate view of such an alien body. And then, to touch its surface and get really intimate will be the crowning climax.

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Daniel S. Johnson removes a hazard tree only feet from a house.

## 2015 Firewise funding approved? County program provides help to homeowners for mitigation

At the time of this publication, funding for the 2015 Title 3 Firewise Program is expected to be passed at the September 1 Saguache County Commissioners' meeting. Amounts granted to the four requesting entities will be decided at that time unless unforeseen problems arise.

"For all of you on the waiting list, I will be calling soon," said Daniel S. Johnson, who has done free assessments and mitigation projects for private homeowners over the past 6 years. At the Baca Grande POA meeting on August 13, the directors voted to allow Johnson, among others, access to mitigate wildfire hazards on POA greenbelt property as long as it is within 200 feet of a structure and the owner of said structure has asked for this service. "Many homes which I previously mitigated are still at risk from overgrowth on greenbelts," Johnson notes. "These homeowners can simply call me at 719-480-9764 to revisit the site and complete the mitigation project."

Peter May and Frederick Dunets of E3 KFM have focused their past efforts on the spiritual centers around the Baca, but will also participate in greenbelt mitigation this year. "(We) will concentrate on thinning and removal and/or repositioning of dead and down hazardous fuels to encourage more rapid decomposition within the home ignition zone (200'), and along the various greenbelts where the home ignition zone intersects with these areas," Dunets stated in his proposal. All greenbelt work will be overseen by Fire Chief Christopher

Botz and/or POA manager Alison McClure. The natural aesthetics of these wild areas will be maintained as much as possible.

Johnson, Dunets and May will also offer community programs with specific themes concerning wildfire hazards and how to mitigate them. "When it comes to wildfire mitigation, we try to pull neighbors together, not simply complete a home here and there," Peter May says. "Many creek greenbelts are clogged with aspen and cottonwood blow down making them impossible for even animals to navigate."

The third grant requesting entity is the Baca Grande Volunteer Fire Department who, due to losing all their qualified sawyers, will participate in the greenbelt projects as "swampers", tasked with removing or repositioning the cut material. "Each participant will receive a good inbriefing, training, safety reminders, hourly pay and an After Action Review every day they work," promises Johnson. If proven proficient, these swampers can attend fire camp saw training and move into future sawyer positions.

The fourth requester of Title 3 grants funding is the Town of Crestone. Akia Tanara, Town of Crestone Administrator said "The Town will continue its program of limbing aging cottonwood trees and removing dying trees, particularly throughout the commercial district. Firewise training will be provided to interested property owners, including the basics of defensible space and landscaping techniques that reduce potential wildfire fuel."

# SMOKE COLUMN

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION ON FIRST RESPONSE

### Meet our new Baca Ambulance Service Director

Hello everyone, I am Darrick Garcia. I am the new Administrator of the Baca/Crestone Ambulance Service. A little about myself: I am from Antonito, Colorado. I have lived there my whole life and truly love the valley and would not give it up for anything. I am an avid outdoorsman, for which the valley is perfect. I am currently attending nursing school at Adams State University to continue my education in health care.

I have been in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for 12 years in a busy valley ambulance service. During my time in EMS I have expanded my knowledge in every aspect of it, from trauma to medical to critical care. I have vast experience in frontier/rural EMS.

Over the last two months I have

enjoyed my time here. We have made great progress in training and in obtaining new equipment. This will improve the quality of care the community receives. We will continue the training, to service the community at the highest level of care possible. EMS is a fast-paced profession that requires continuous training and health promotion.

The crew is amazing and excited. This is motivating and exciting to me. I am privileged to work with such an amazing staff of highly trained and motivated individuals.

I want to thank everyone for their support and look forward to meeting more of the community. In a non-medical way, of course.

Darrick Garcia

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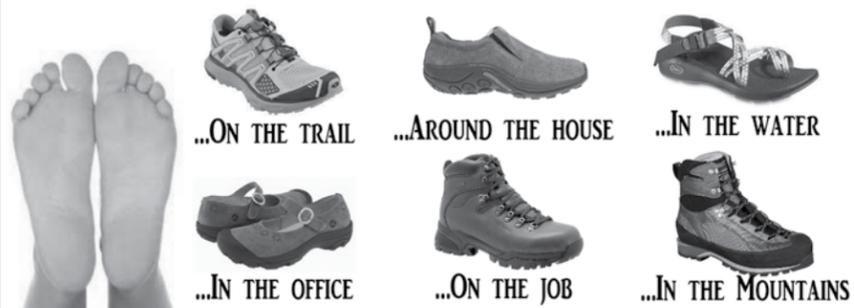
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# Rio Grande Basin Roundtable recent water meetings—state water plan meetings scheduled, illegal marijuana crops cause concern

by Bea Ferrigno

The August 11 meeting of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable (RGRT) opened with reports from Costilla County of water being taken illegally to irrigate marijuana crops. A ditch rider who approached one of the growers was threatened. Division 3 Engineer Craig Cotten said he would meet with Costilla County commissioners to discuss options, considering that the Division of Water Resources (DWR) has limited (and time-consuming) enforcement provisions.

The group approved both the revised bylaws and some newly developed guidelines for funding applicants. There was a presentation on the second draft of the statewide water plan followed by one on new weather forecasting equipment that has been deployed in the valley. Joe Busto of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) described a collaborative project, funded earlier through the RGRT, designed to improve snowpack and runoff estimates and thereby ease compliance with the Rio Grande Compact requirements. Radar with a 75-mile range over 360° was installed at the Alamosa airport and succeeded in obtaining improved views of precipitation. In addition, several monitoring stations were installed in the Conejos River drainage along with four new stream gauges and three NASA overflights. With the added equipment, it was determined that the pre-existing SNOTEL sites and gauges tended to over-estimate snowfall in the Rio Grande drainage, while under-estimating it in the Conejos area. The plan for the 2016 snow season includes adding satellite communication capacity to some of the existing monitoring sites and additional radar that can distinguish between rain and snow: warm rainfall on deep snowpack can bring dangerously rapid runoff, particularly from burned

areas. Additional monitoring will be helpful during the strengthening El Niño which is expected to bring heavy precipitation to the southwest.

### Extended meeting next month

On September 8 there will be a joint session of the RGRT with the Watershed Wildfire Protection Group. A number of topics will be discussed by representatives of the State Forest Service, water providers, Trout Unlimited, Tom Spezze of RWEACT, Dan Dallas, US Forest Service Supervisor, and others. In order to cover the extended agenda, the meeting will begin at 1pm rather than 2, at the usual location, the conference room of the SLV Water Conservancy District, 623 Fourth Street, Alamosa.

### Statewide water plan: second draft open for comments, Crestone meeting in early September

The Water Resources Review Committee met in Alamosa on August 10 to present and receive comments on the second draft of the statewide water plan. Some 2400 responses to the first draft have been addressed and are on record at the plan's website, <http://coloradowaterplan.com>. Attention was drawn to Chapter 10 which includes some 182 specific actions to address the water shortfall anticipated as Colorado's population increases. The "critical actions" are grouped into six sections, each with several specific items listed. The broad categories include developing a multi-purpose funding plan, promoting multi-purpose initiatives, promoting vibrant and sustainable cities, addressing agricultural viability and efficiency, supporting a strong environment and a robust recreation industry, and preparing for an uncertain future. One member of the public, a fourth-generation rancher, expressed concern about the amount of water that leaves



South Crestone Creek running full this summer.

photo by Ann Lachman

Colorado, primarily via the South Platte river; apparently some 1.2 million acre feet of Colorado's entitlement escaped this year for lack of storage. Another expressed concern about the diversion of agricultural water to other purposes. A public meeting on the plan is to be held in Crestone September 9 at 6:30 pm. at the Moffat School. Comments on the second draft are due by September 19.

### Groundwater rules going to court

During the first week of August, Assistant State Engineer Mike Sullivan sent two sizeable batches of documents to members of the SLV advisory committee and other interested parties. Included were the rules developed over several years of collaboration, along with supporting materials such

as the Statement of Basis and Purpose. Also included were the long-awaited response functions for Saguache and San Luis creek areas. Altogether, the documents comprise the entire package that was expected to be sent to court last month or this. A full report will appear here next month.

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# EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers  
About Our Environment

From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

**Dear EarthTalk: There's a lot of talk about the potential for renewable energy sources like solar and wind. But cheap, abundant coal is still going to power the world for a long time. How can we harness the energy from coal without emitting our way into a much warmer future?**

—Sally Ristau, Erie, PA

Today coal still accounts for some 40% of worldwide electricity generation. The International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts that global demand will continue rising to record levels, topping nine billion metric tons annually by 2019. And despite efforts by China to moderate coal consumption, China still accounts for three-fifths of this short-term "demand growth." Meanwhile, India and other countries in Asia are also ramping up their coal use, offsetting declines in Europe and the U.S.

"The world is not going to stop using coal . . . so we have to change how the world does use it," says Eric Redman, an outspoken advocate for realistic clean energy solutions and co-chair of the Seattle-based Summit Power Group. He says that the key is in teaching the world how to utilize carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies, which take carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions out of smokestacks and reuses them or stores them in forms so they won't enter the atmosphere and exacerbate climate change.

In October 2014, Canadian utility SaskPower launched the world's first full-scale "clean coal" plant in Saskatchewan. Named one of National Geographic's "10 Energy Breakthroughs of 2014 that Could Change Your Life" and winner of the 2015 "POWER Plant

of the Year" award, the Boundary Dam Power Station Unit 3 CCS project has now exceeded expectations, capturing 135,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in less than a year. The plant is on target to absorb as much as a million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually.

And in June 2015, SaskPower opened its Capture Test Facility, a lab that lets researchers test equipment, chemical innovation and engineering designs in a highly controlled environment. Other companies are also using the facility to develop and test CCS technologies for potential use in their own power plants.

Other promising CCS technologies in the works include coal gasification, whereby energy from coal is converted into a gas that can be burned as CO<sub>2</sub> is removed, and the Polaris Membrane System, which uses a specially-designed membrane to capture 90% of the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from a coal-burning power plant.

These technologies are indeed promising, but cost still remains the main obstacle to making CCS mainstream. "It is obviously cheaper to dump something in the atmosphere (for free) than to pay the capital and operating costs of capturing and sequestering it," says Summit Power's Redman. "There are very few mechanisms currently available to help pay those costs," he says, adding: "Globally we've so far spent on carbon capture and sequestration less than one percent of what we've already spent on renewable energy, so naturally we are not yet very far down the CCS cost curve."

And while many environmentalists shudder to think that we will continue to burn coal at all, we may not have a choice. "I think most climate experts would agree that the maximum realistic deployment of renewables, efficiency and nuclear power will not, by themselves, allow us to limit atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> to 450 parts per million by mid-century," says Redman, adding that CCS is both necessary and ultimately inevitable. "But we need to move more rapidly."

Contacts: IEA, [www.iea.org](http://www.iea.org); Summit Power, [www.summitpower.com](http://www.summitpower.com); SaskPower, [www.saskpower.com](http://www.saskpower.com).



Environmentalists are increasingly putting drone technology to work to further their conservation and related causes.

**Dear EarthTalk: How are environmentalists putting drones to use to help further their causes?**

—Joe Martin, Baltimore, MD

Conservationists are utilizing drone or "unmanned aerial systems" (UAS) technology to gather highly detailed imagery and other environmental data that is traditionally challenging to obtain. Wildlife biologist John Takekawa and his team at the U.S. Geological Survey's Western Ecological Research Center (WERC), for example, are using drones to obtain aerial images of San Francisco Bay marshlands.

"It's very hard to get some of the data sets in some of these areas that are remote or hard to reach in the marshes," Takekawa explains. "If you have something that can fly over and get sensors that can report back to your computer, that's what we're looking for in exploring these types of technologies."

Dr. Amy Woodget, a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Worcester in the UK, uses her small Draganflyer X6 UAS to collect high-resolution imagery of river channels. The images map the physical conditions within the rivers, including the channel topography, water depth and surface flow patterns, data all crucial for gauging river health and habitat conditions essential to the survival of local wildlife.

"The results obtained using UAS technologies provide unprecedented levels of detail concerning these physical river habitat parameters, with high levels of accuracy and precision," Woodget says.

Drones are also helping preserve the Peruvian Amazon forest, where illegal gold mining and logging has cleared mahogany, Span-

ish cedar and other old-growth trees. Carlos Castaneda, coordinator of the Amazon Basin Conservation Association's Los Amigos Conservation Concession, monitors the 550-square-mile Los Amigos reserve in southeastern Peru, home to a large diversity of plant and animal species, including palm swamps, bamboo thickets, giant otters, harpy eagles, spider monkeys and jaguars. Small drones weighing less than five pounds enable detection of any deforestation within the area.

Considering that more and more drones are being launched for conservation research, Linda Rothschild, an evolutionary biologist at NASA's Ames Research Center, was concerned when she found out that UAVs sometimes get lost in coral reefs or other sensitive habitats. "As I started to hear about this, I thought, 'Well, wouldn't it be useful if the UAV was biodegradable, so if it crashed somewhere that was sensitive, it wouldn't matter if it dissolved,'" Rothschild says.

So Rothschild created a biodegradable drone with a team of students in the 2014 International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition. The team's prototype took its first short flight in November 2014 at the iGEM competition in Boston. The drone, which resembles a cardboard cup holder, is made primarily of mycelium grown by New York-based Ecovative Design. The team grew cellulose leather-like sheets to coat the mycelium body and then covered the sheets with proteins sourced from the saliva of paper wasps—a water resistant material that the insects use to cover their nests. The biodegradable drone body is certainly a step forward, though the drone still uses a standard battery, motor and propellers.

Rothschild's dream is to make a UAV where every part is made with something biodegradable, but for now, she says, "realistically, this is going to be much more of a hybrid vehicle."

Contacts: WERC, [www.werc.usgs.gov](http://www.werc.usgs.gov); Los Amigos Conservation Concession, [www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/conservation.html](http://www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/conservation.html); iGEM, [www.igem.org](http://www.igem.org).

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SEPTEMBER 2015 Listings



**New Listing**



**Eco-Friendly**  
**1738C Willow Creek Way - \$249,000**  
Built in 2013, this Paul Koppa strawbale eco-friendly home sits up high in Chalet 1. 2BD/2BA, 1532sf on .91 acres. Strong passive solar. Solar radiant floor heat & domestic hot water. Energy efficient.

**Commercial Property**



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



**Reduced! Was \$499,000**  
**Creekside in 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**



**Beautifully Ren ovated**  
**Baca 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!

**Income Potential**



**Income Potential**  
**Baca Townhome #16 - \$179,000**  
A lovely 3BD/3BA/sunroom 1622sf one story townhouse located close to N. Crestone Creek walking path & convenient to town. Great for full time homeowner or can be as rental. Excellent separation of master suite and guest bedrooms.

**Baca Grande - Chalets**



**Private**  
**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!

**Baca Grande - Chalets**



**Indoor Exercise Pool**  
**REDUCED! Was \$495,000**  
**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.



**Was \$459,000**  
**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!



**Guest House**  
**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!



**Garage + Studio**  
**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.



**Was \$349,000**  
**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.



**Silver Star B&B**  
**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.



**Magnificent Views**  
**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!



**Gracious Living**  
**757 Rendezvous Way - \$289,000**  
Very lovely 1868sf 3-or-4BD/2BA + dining screen porch, sunroom w/ fireplace, yoga/exercise room, deck w/amazing views & hot tub. Private, but close-in. Beautifully landscaped.



**Guest House**  
**3615CR Splendid Terrace - \$275,000**  
1938sf 3BD/2.5BA, meticulous, Southwestern style home with arched windows & doorways sits on 1.719 acres. 400sf detached Casita Apt w/kitchenette & full bath.



**A lovely sanctuary**  
**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.



**Detached Studio**  
**1540C Willow Creek Way - \$269,000**  
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.



**360° View Deck**  
**418 Moonlight Way - \$259,000**  
Octagonal 2BD/1BA 1200sf home w/view deck, attached studio & exquisite custom details, super high Rvalue, outbuildings, shop, fenced garden and huge greenhouse. Backs to greenbelt w/trails & creek! Views.



**WAS \$279,000**  
**149 Moonlight Way - \$259,000**  
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!



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



**MILLION \$ VIEWS!**  
**Reduced! Was \$299,000**  
**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.



**WAS \$245,000**  
**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.



**New Construction: Paul Koppa**  
**1867C Rockyview Way - \$229,000**  
3BD/2BA 1520sf New Construction by Paul Koppa, energy efficient design. Active solar hot water sys thru radiant floor grid + domestic hot water. Very insulated, triple pane windows & heat recovery ventilation, airtight construction.



**Private**  
**705 Rendezvous Way - \$220,000**  
Add your finishing touches to this large 2923sf one story stucco home. Fully livable w/ETS & woodstove heat, a completed kitchen and bathrooms. Large great room offers lots of space. 2 car garage w/ two story enclosed unfinished space.



**Great Reduction! Was \$259,000**  
**4454C Ridgecrest Way - \$219,000**  
Beautiful custom 2-story, 3BD/2.5BA/Office on 1.508 acres backs to Cottonwood Creek grmbt. Master Ste w/attached sun room & meditation room. Energy-efficient quality construction.



**New 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, Stainless kitchen appliances w/granite tile & butcher block countertops. Soak tub w/ separate shower.



**WAS \$210,000**  
**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.



**Easy Access**  
**Was \$199,000**  
**333 Palomino Way - \$189,000**  
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 kitchen with concrete countertops.



**Reduced! - Was \$212,000**  
**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.



**Private**  
**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.



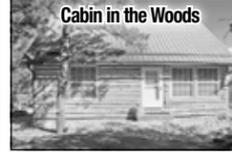
**\$93/sf + garage/greenhouse**  
**Reduced! Was \$179,000**  
**3705 Carefree Way - \$174,000**  
This 1874sf 3BD/1.75BA home was built in 1995 as a passive solar home. Very spacious w/detached 2-car garage & greenhouse. Also includes the upper adj lot to protect mtn views. Great value!



**WAS \$195,000**  
**3704 Carefree Way - \$169,000**  
Immaculate like new 3 bd/1.75ba, 1316sf home has wood floors, stucco privacy wall, single car garage, beautiful views of the mountains.



**Great Value!**  
**35 Camino Baca Grande - \$169,000**  
Lovely 3BD/2.5BA 2013sf 1.5 story home remodeled in 2010. Lg living rm w/cath ceiling, kitchen opens to patio w/mtn views. Master suite w/lg walk-in closet, soak tub. 2 lg bdms & bath w/ full-length deck. Paved road, easy access to town.



**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.



**Great Screened Porch!**  
**Was \$179,000**  
**3376 Genial Way - \$162,500**  
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.



**New Construction**  
**1911 Lone Pine Way - \$160,000**  
This 2BD/1BA, 1020sf New Construction by Art Reeves. Efficient, great design & views. Rustic wood & metal siding, hrdwd floors & vaulted ceiling in Great Room. Modern kitchen w/stainless appliances. Spacious Master bdrm, & bath.



**Backs to greenbelt**  
**11 N. Baca Grant Way - \$159,000**  
Octagonal 3BD/1.75BA 1452sf. Updated w/stucco exterior. Wood fireplace & propane heat stove, electric backup. Large deck facing Greenbelt at the front of the Baca on paved road.



**One-Story**  
**635C Panorama Way - \$159,000**  
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.



**Was \$169,000**  
**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.



**Near Pundarika**  
**Was \$149,000**  
**1221 Chaparral Way - \$142,500**  
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.



**Small Home, Small Price!**  
**4485 Ridgecrest Way - \$74,500**  
Unique, small 394sf home, with 2nd structure in Chalet 3. Fixer-upper, but can be a home in the Baca at an affordable price. Woodstove, loft sleeping area w/wood ceilings. Full kitchen w/cookstove, fridge & combo w/d. Shower bath.

**Baca Grande - Grants**



**Grants in Trees**  
**20+ acres!**  
**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.



**Fantastic Great Room!**  
**56 Wagon Wheel Road - \$295,500**  
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.



**Reduced! Was \$355,000**  
**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.



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



**Was \$249,000**  
**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!



**Soak Tub with Views**  
**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



**Off-Grid**  
**600 Heatherbrae Road - \$175,000**  
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

## American schools continue a downward trend in quality

by Ed Lyell

American schools have continued a downward trend in quality and now rank 28th in educational outcomes among all developed nations. The fourteen school districts in the San Luis Valley are almost all on academic accreditation probation because of low student achievement. Nearly 60% of US high school graduates require remedial courses in reading, writing, or math when they get to college. Most students who take remedial courses never get a bachelor's degree, but do incur thousands of dollars of student loans. Remedial education was already a problem in the 1980s when I was on the Colorado State Board of Education. Then it cost Colorado taxpayers about \$25 million to fix what the high schools failed to do. Now it is closer to \$50 million, yet the taxpayer does not pay, since the burden is now put on the student. Remedial courses do not count for college graduation and do not get taxpayer subsidy. Instead the cost is put on the student's loans, now over \$1.2 trillion. I still recommend what I did in 1990, that the bill for a remedial college course should be paid by the high school that gave the student a diploma when the student was not yet competent.

We know what works for high quality student learning. Yet all too many American schools keep doing the same thing while spending the most money per student in the world. This is especially true in the San Luis Valley wherein almost all high schools have as many as 70% of their graduates needing college remedial courses. (It should be noted that Crestone Charter School and Sangre de Cristo are both ranked

as top A level schools. <http://coloradoschoolgrades.com/Default.aspx>).

Teacher quality is the most important factor, as is a curriculum that focuses on activity-based or project-based learning to meet high global standards. Schools should not administer the tests that are important for school progress and college admission. That should be done by a separate state or national program such that teachers cannot teach to a test and must focus on broader standards. In America the student is afraid to show the teacher what they do not know because the teacher gives grades that matter. Teachers should not give grades but instead urge students to show their ignorance so that the teacher and student together can fill in the learning gaps between expectation and current knowledge. Diagnostic testing to show what a student does not yet know permits the teacher and student to focus on closing the gaps between desired competencies and what is now known. It is better to measure progress in what Colorado now does with its "Growth Model". ([https://edx.cde.state.co.us/growth\\_model/public/index.htm](https://edx.cde.state.co.us/growth_model/public/index.htm)). This Value Added Measurement technique follows what I developed for the Colorado Dept. of Education in 1971, but until recently was shelved by the political power of the local school boards.

School choice is touted by many education reformers as a tool for parent empowerment and school improvement through competitive pressure. Yet it is more important to give parents a choice among teachers in each school and teachers who do not get students must be retrained or replaced. Variation within schools accounts for 70% of the

differences in scores on the international PISA exam, while variation between schools makes up the rest. I have always said that if you want to know who are the good teachers find out how many teachers want their own child in which class.

The largest waste of money has been the quest to reduce class size. Most of the highest-performing education systems in the world have average class sizes of 33. Research has proven that having a good teacher in a class of 40 is better than a bad teacher in a class of 20. It does matter that teachers are coached and supported to change the way they teach—to collaborate, offer personalized feedback and continuously measure their own improvement. And more money is not the big difference. America has very wide di-

versity in how much money is given to school districts, both within and between states. Most noteworthy is that Utah spends the least per student and has the highest scores, whereas the District of Columbia spends the most and has the lowest scores. Based on just this data one might conclude that spending less improves student achievement. For example, Korea and Finland far outscore the U.S. while spending \$60,000 and \$75,000 per student's education compared with \$105,000 per student in the US. In 2011, the United States spent \$11,841 per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student on elementary and secondary education, an amount 35% higher than the OECD average of \$8,789. At the postsecondary level, U.S. expenditures per FTE student were \$26,021, almost twice as high as the OECD average of \$13,619. ([http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_cmd.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cmd.asp))

Ed Lyell, PhD is Professor of Business and Economics at Adams State University, [ehlyell@adams.edu](mailto:ehlyell@adams.edu).

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### 2015 Year-To-Date Home Sales

<b>SOLD</b>	<b>4460C Ridgecrest Way – Temple of Consciousness</b>	<b>\$375,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>1266C Forest Grove</b>	<b>\$330,000</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>397 N. Chaparral</b>	<b>\$209,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>275 W. Iron</b>	<b>\$189,000</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>2715C Happy Hollow Way</b>	<b>\$189,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>1541 Camino Real</b>	<b>\$179,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>1479 Badger</b>	<b>\$175,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>995C Pinon</b>	<b>\$165,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>198C Evergreen OL</b>	<b>\$159,500</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>315 E Iron</b>	<b>\$150,000 *</b>

<b>SOLD</b>	<b>1561 Rocky Mountain Tr</b>	<b>\$136,500</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>29 Sunset OL</b>	<b>\$125,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>23 Alpine OL</b>	<b>\$89,000 *</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>110 Pinewood</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
<b>SOLD</b>	<b>381 Del Sol Lane</b>	<b>\$59,999 *</b>
<b>UNDER CONTRACT!</b>	<b>937C Spanish Creek Road</b>	<b>\$229,000 *</b>
<b>UNDER CONTRACT!</b>	<b>1679 King's Hill</b>	<b>\$189,900</b>
<b>UNDER CONTRACT!</b>	<b>3732C Cordial Way</b>	<b>\$159,000 *</b>
<b>UNDER CONTRACT!</b>	<b>263C Moonlight Way</b>	<b>\$159,000 *</b>
<b>UNDER CONTRACT!</b>	<b>36 Camino Baca Grande</b>	<b>\$98,000 *</b>

\* Denotes Listed and Sold

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*continued from page B-1*

## Moffat School project completed

with two fine schools," she said. The small rural district has just published a color brochure on this theme that every local real estate agent will want to have a stack of. "We have two recently built schools that provide families the freedom to make unique learning choices," it says.

Angry competition between the agrarians of the valley floor and the spiritualists of the foothills for per-pupil state school funding began with the contentious founding of the charter school nearly 20 years ago. The old district school board undermined it. Crestone voters responded by recalling the school board. Under peacemaker Sage (known by her first name), the district taxpayers approved a bond issue for the \$5.6 million green-designed charter school, which opened in 2013.

Planning for the equally state-of-the-art Moffat Consolidated School began that same year against a chorus of old graduates who saw nothing wrong with saving a few million by fixing up the original red brick edifice, built in phases starting in 1921. The board and administrators answered with pictures of crumbling foundations, dripping pipes and twisted wires. The added district bond issue for the \$17.6 million campus was approved by taxpayers that November. (Alums were not forgotten. Interior design incorporates bricks from the old school and boards from its memory-soaked gym floor. The historic trophy case, with contents, has a place of honor at the entrance.)

The Crestone Charter School is at capacity, 95 students. The Moffat School so far has about 100 with a capacity of 250 when classroom dividers are shut. District transfers are al-

lowed in Colorado.

Property taxes alone could not have funded either project. Both received about three-quarters of their construction money from a Colorado Lottery program called BEST. Of the 63 project applications in 2013 Moffat's was among only four winners.

At the ribbon-cutting, Superintendent Kirk Banghart emotionally applauded the school board, the bond committee, the design committee, the contractor and the architect of the steel, glass and wood-beam building. "It's not a square box. It's something that speaks to who we are," he said.

A student speaker, Joe-deelee Rigdon, said, "This new school shows how much our community cares about us. . . . We won't have to worry about the water not working or the floors sinking beneath our feet."

State Sen. Larry Crowder presented an American flag and a Colorado flag for the staff at the entrance. They had been flown in honor over the Capitol for a few days.

Finally, scissors were passed out to a swarm of excited children, who helped the grownups cut the ribbon guarding the entrance.

Douglas Abernethy of RTA Architects in Colorado Springs said his project was finished on time and on budget by the contractor, DSI of Salida. "This doesn't look like any other building we've ever done," he said, adding later that the district's design advisory committee in 10 productive meetings "inspired us." What's the most unique thing? After some thought he said it's probably "how this building takes advantage of daylight and the view."

The view from a picture window at the end of the classroom wing frames the Crestone Mountains. It is fitting that a window at the main stairs of the Crestone Charter School frames the valley floor.



The ribbon cutting ceremony August 7 unveiled the new Moffat School library, with lots of windows for natural light. photo by Lori Nagel

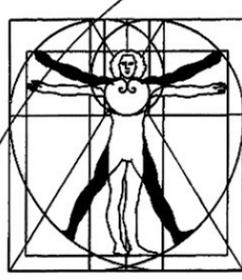


Solar windows light the classroom wing. photo by Larry Calloway



Futuristic playground is sheltered from wind. photo by Larry Calloway

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\$475,000 Partially finished construction, this property is part of an estate. Seller is open to offers. In the town of Crestone, commercial district. Residential/multi-use possibilities. 709800



\$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



REDUCED! \$275,000! Seller will finance. Unique property with 2 units and office space, 3BD 2 3/4BA, full sauna, 33' grow dome, orchard. Borders greenbelt & creek. 699764



REDUCED! \$254,000 1.5 story 2BD 1.75BA, tile & wood floors w/radiant heat. Sunroom, fenced yard, steam shower. Private cul-de-sac, high on the mountain! 699605



\$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



\$249,000 Just north of town, 5 acres with North Crestone Creek running through it! Secluded 960 sq ft home. About 200 feet of creek. 681507



\$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



\$235,000 3BD 2BA, spacious, light classic Colorado home. Fireplace, vaulted ceilings, new carport; sits on 2 consolidated lots, at the end of the street. Downstairs has own entrance. 708971



\$229,000 5BD 3 3/4 BA with additional room off Master suite. Kitchen has plenty of cabinet space. Attached 2-car garage. 699746



\$227,500 3BA 2BA, attached garage. Home for large family; spacious rooms, vaulted ceilings, 6 panel doors, tiled floor, fenced yard, deck. Sits on 3 lots, in cul-de-sac. 709053



\$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, lots of trees for privacy. This home has been a vacation rental with good income history. 705548



\$199,900 New construction, 2BD 1 1/2BA. 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 1acre. 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, skylights & fenced-in back yard. 699770



\$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



\$175,000 Estate sale, sold "as-is", unfinished. Concrete constructed, 6" walls, on 5 prime lots in the Baca, with creek, greenbelt, large trees. Radiant-floor heat, boiler installed. 709580



\$169,000 REDUCED! Creek-side home! Fireplace, spacious kitchen, deck with hot tub, views of the mountains. Great vacation home! 1BD, 2 loft rooms, 1BA, adjoining room downstairs. 699746



\$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



PRICE REDUCED! \$164,800 Walking distance to Dharma Ocean Institute. High up on the mountain with amazing panoramic views. 2BD 1 1/2BA, office. 699803



\$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



\$139,000 7.71 acres, town artesian well, 1352 sq ft. 2BD 2BA, high ceilings, great views, plenty of storage. Detached garage, storage container, shed. Commercial/residential zoning.



\$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



\$79,000 Conveniently located 2BD 1BA, on 3 acres. Recently added utility room. Extra insulated. Large, screened-in porch, town artesian well. No covenants, commercial/residential zoning.



\$59,500 3BD 2BA, 5-piece Master bath, large kitchen, separate studio, huge living room. 32 lots w/11 hookups for RVs, bath house, restrooms, near Great Sand Dunes. 709342



\$50,000 Nice retirement home, 3BD 2BA, 5-piece bath w/garden bath; spacious kitchen, utility room, washer/dryer hookups. Stucco finish. 710076



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# Garden Guru

It's harvest time!



by **Matie Belle Lakish**

It's that time of year when gardeners and farmers see the fruits of their labors finally come to the table. August and September are prime harvest months in the San Luis Valley.

If gardeners have timed it right, they've been eating green salads since mid-June, but the real harvest season in the mountains seems to happen quickly and intensively in a two-month period.

Early kale, radishes, lettuces and edible-podded peas gave way to broccoli, summer squashes, green beans, good-sized carrots, garlic, onions, cauliflower, cabbages, and then to tomatoes, peppers and corn. Winter squash finish the year, along with the digging of potatoes.

This year was good for raspberries, both spring bearing (actually summer, in the mountains) and ever-bearing (meaning fall).

Most apricot blossoms got frozen early, but apples seem abundant, as long as the bears stay away. I even have a few peaches and plums, most of which the rock squirrels and raccoons have already stolen.

I've been saving seed and selecting varieties for several years in an attempt to find the varieties that do the best under our mountain growing conditions. Many cool-weather crops are easy to grow here, such as lettuce, spinach and arugula. Cabbages seem to do well, as long as the aphids are kept at bay. Broccoli can be variable in terms of days to maturity. I prefer early varieties that put out nice side shoots. My favorite, so far, is Nutribud. Romanesco broccoli (or cauliflower) is also a favorite, making beautiful conical heads that are made up of ever tinier cones.

Purple beans germinate in cooler soil and give gardeners a head start on green beans (purple turns green when cooked). Put green, purple, and wax beans together with garbanzos for a beautiful bean salad. Corn grown in the valley is a rare treat, but possible if you planted the earliest varieties. Only a few varieties of peppers will mature in Crestone, and I'm still seeking a melon that will mature and be sweet and juicy.

Tomatoes are my favorite challenge. Many gardeners in the mountains don't plant tomatoes outdoors, but I enjoy the challenge, and I *really* enjoy eating vine-ripened tomatoes. I like to have enough to can for winter, so I typically plant about 40 plants.

Since my greenhouse is taking forever to manifest, I've learned a lot about growing tomatoes in the San Luis Valley at 8000' out-of-doors. I can now get my first tomatoes in late July, with



A selection of open-pollinated tomatoes ripened outdoors in August.

a main crop coming in mid to late August and continuing well into September with the help of covers against frost. When a hard freeze is imminent, I cut a few whole vines to hang to ripen tomatoes indoors, and also pick any sizable green tomatoes, which will also ripen indoors. I usually have my last indoor-ripened tomatoes for Thanksgiving dinner. Variety selection is key to this process, and I'll discuss varieties more when it's time to purchase seeds.

Winter squash, or hard squash for storing, is another area of experimentation. Again,

our short season influences what varieties to plant. However, if the first freeze catches you with immature squashes, you can cut them up and put them in the freezer like summer squash, or blanch and dry them, then rehydrate for cooking during the winter. Butternut squash seldom mature for me, but Hubbard often does. My favorites however, are the mid-sized squash that mature earlier, are the right size for a tasty meal, and keep well into the winter. I hope you have plenty. Happy Harvesting.

**Matie Belle Lakish**  
**Garden Guru**

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# There's No Such Thing As A Weed

by Dorje Root

Licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*)



Our local licorice is different from the commonly used licorice root (*G. glabra*) in that it lacks that intensely sweet taste. As I know people who either love or despise that taste, this can be a mixed bag. Other than that the local variety can be used medicinally in the same way.

Licorice is in the pea (Fabaceae or Leguminosae) family, a plant family which contains a number of toxic members. I say that as a note of caution to make sure you positively identify this plant before harvesting. The plant grows as a small shrub, with white flowers which become whitish green and then brown seed pods that look like little inside-out pin cushions. It grows along streams, irrigation ditches, pastures and prairies. It's the root that is used, and roots are generally harvested when the tops of the plant have died back (late fall) and the energy is once again in the roots.

Licorice is one of the most amazing anti-inflammatory herbs we have. It can heal ulcers, soothe indigestion, soothe and calm lung infections and coughs, and works on the liver, adrenals and reproductive system. Licorice is anti-viral and can help prevent flus along with Echinacea and Red Root. In



Licorice in bloom.

addition to being anti-inflammatory, Licorice is a demulcent, meaning it soothes tissues in addition to reducing inflammation. Recent go-to uses for licorice: unable to sleep because of indigestion—get up and cap up a few caps of licorice powder—almost instant relief; grandson has upset stomach, throwing up—chewing on a piece of licorice root provides a soothing anti-viral. It's important to know that for the most part, licorice candy does not contain any actual licorice root.

Prolonged use and overuse can cause high blood pressure in



Licorice: immature seed pods.

susceptible individuals. Licorice is not recommended in pregnancy.

As a flower essence, licorice helps “when you experience adrenal fatigue or stress and have lost touch with the sweetness of life, especially if you have inflammatory conditions.”

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

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## Make it a Reality

### Sales tip for September:

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## Baca Grande Library News



by Suzanne McGregor

Banned Books Week is an annual event hosted by the American Library Association that celebrates our freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment. Held during the last week of September,

Banned Books Week highlights the benefits of free and open access to information while drawing attention to the harms of censorship by spotlighting actual or attempted bannings of books across the United States.

The library will observe this honorable tradition during the week of September 27-October 3 by featuring the books in our collection that have been targets of censorship throughout the years.

Please come in and check out one of these books during Banned Books Week

to celebrate your freedom to read, a right given to us by the First Amendment in the U.S. Constitution. If you would like more information on this topic (and many others), visit [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org), the American Library Association website.

Calling all artists! We are inviting community members (no age limit!) to submit original designs for the logo for the planning stages of the new Crestone Baca Grande Library. The theme is the honeybee in colors of black and gold. The submission of the logo design is a donation and be-

comes the property of the Northern Saguache County Library District.

Drop off designs at the library or mail to Friends of the Library, PO Box 36, Crestone CO 81131. The deadline for submissions is September 30, 2015. Please contact Joy at 480-3938 if you have questions or need further information.

Notice: The library will be closed on Labor Day, Monday September 7.

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

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## Tips on dealing with smoke from wildfires spilling into the San Luis Valley

The San Luis Valley and many places in Colorado have been seeing smoky hazy air due to numerous western wildfires. Health officials offer advice on how to deal with the smoky air.

Doctors and air quality officials have a simple rule to breathe easier in wildfire season: If you can see smoke or smell it, take care. Air quality and medical officials agree on an easy five-mile standard for the public to follow. Pick a landmark you know is about five miles away; if it is extremely hazy or obscured altogether, then it's a good day to stay indoors and look for other ways to minimize particles in your lungs.

Reduce the amount of time spent outdoors. This can usually provide some protection, especially in a tightly closed, air-conditioned house in which the air conditioner can be set to re-circulate air instead of bringing in outdoor air.

The elderly, very young children, and anyone with respiratory

issues should limit activity when smoke is obvious by smell or sight. Pets with small airways are also included in the warnings.

Reduce the amount of time engaged in vigorous outdoor physical activity. This can be an important and effective strategy to decrease exposure to inhaled air pollutants and minimize health risks during a smoke event.

Individuals with heart disease or lung diseases such as asthma should follow their health care providers' advice about prevention and treatment of symptoms.

Breathing through a damp cloth can help, but if it's that bad, consider leaving your neighborhood.

Reduce other sources of indoor air pollution such as burning cigarettes and candles.

If those with respiratory conditions are not helped by regular medicine or an allowable boost, they should contact an emergency room.



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ACROSS

1. Fisherman's \_\_\_\_ in San Francisco
6. Rejuvenating spot
9. Tom, as opposed to tabby
13. Drawing support
14. Center of activity
15. John Hancock, e.g.
16. Novelist Jong
17. Pilot's announcement
18. Bar order, with "the"
19. \*Bull
1. \*Part of Watery Trigon
23. Once around
24. Bank deposit
25. Skedaddle
28. Russian parliament
30. Psychologist of classical conditioning fame
35. Author Murdoch
37. It "was made for you and me"
39. Judd of country music
40. "Well" to Sofia Loren
41. Formed a curve
43. Ski lift
44. Haile Selassie's disciple
46. \*One point of constellation
47. Spilled the beans
48. Base that dissolves in water, chem.
50. U in I.C.U.
52. Spanish river
53. Type of rich soil
55. Romanian money
57. \*Castor and Pollux
60. \*"Wandering Star"
63. Conical dwelling
64. Make a knot
66. Socialite Hilton
68. Change the Constitution
69. Cathode-ray tube
70. Speak like Cicero
71. Hand-me-down
72. "For \_\_\_\_ a jolly..."
73. Famous for biting an ear

DOWN

1. Bitty
2. Robert Wagner or Stefanie Powers, 1979-1984
3. "Heat of the Moment" band
4. Happen again
5. Like bell-bottoms
6. "\_\_\_\_ So Fine," song
7. "He \_\_\_\_ in his thumb, and pulled out a plum"
8. Old-time calculators
9. Catchall abbr.
10. Flu symptom
11. Baron Munchhausen, e.g.
12. Architectural add-on
15. Result of beach bathing
20. Palate lobe
22. One of The Alps
24. Holy place
25. \*Balance in the sky
26. "He's \_\_\_\_ nowhere man," Beatles
27. Capital of Belarus
29. \*Named after God of War
31. Giant kettles
32. Relating to a lobe
33. Yemeni neighbor
34. \*Celestial maiden
36. Bristle
38. Jerry Lewis' sidekick
42. DeWALT product
45. Like U.S. and U.S.S.R. in WWII
49. It can be positive or negative
51. Mrs. Potts of "Beauty and the Beast"
54. Pronunciation of letter H
56. Opposite of binary
57. Emeralds and rubies
58. "All for one, one for all" sword
59. "Cobbler, cobbler, \_\_\_\_ my shoe"
60. Four-legged friends, e.g.
61. \*Each astrological age contains 12 of these
62. Mambo king Puente
63. \*Taurus abbreviation
65. Anger management issue
67. D.C. bigwig

# Classifieds

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Get us your classified + payment and it will be listed online within 2 business days.

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#### Property for Sale by Owner on One Acre

1480 Sq Feet, 2 bed, 2 bath with attached greenhouse. PLUS 1 bedroom, 1 bath separate apartment. 2 car garage, 20 ft yurt, 15 fruit trees with a fruit cellar inside floor. Set up for solar and hot water. 1/2 mile to Crestone. \$189k 719-256-5439.

#### Baca Grande Property For Sale

Baca Grande property for sale. Cottonwood Creek front on green belt. 1.42 consolidated acres, flat building site, good access from road. Tap paid. Private. 3887C Caprice Way Chalet 2. \$49,500. 970-927-3881

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

### Beautiful Baca Grants Property

Lot 483C, 6.33 acres off-grid. NW corner Cottonwood Creek and Camino Real. Near dead end and boundary of Sand Dunes NP. Owner financing possible. \$14,900. Matthew 505-920-8870

### 3.7 Acres near Crestone Colorado – Land for building home

For Sale by Owner – 3.7A \$7,650. Beautiful view of Sangre peaks. Build-able flat lot with abundant wildlife. 607 Quail Run Trail call 303 nine 7 “4000 – 16 “400 5 Thank you <http://denver.craigslist.org/for/5147592754.html>

### LOTS FOR SALE

Several Exceptional Building Lots For Sale. Chalet I: #1480-81, 1537, 1548, 1554, 1848-9, 1869-71. Chalet II: 238-40, 4083, 4200. Grants: 1205-06, 1210, 1250-51. Chuck. 720-480-2066

### GRANTS LOT 495 FOR SALE

Grants Lot: 4.5 acres +/- Off the grid. On NW corner of Camino Real and Camino Del Ray. Owner will hold mortgage with down payment. Motivated seller. 256 5110

### Victorian & Guest House

Victorian & guesthouse, 35A, \$365K; strawbale 2bd/1.75b Grants Spanish Creek \$235K; New 2bd/1.5b aspen t&g interior, custom kitchen Cottonwood Creek \$199,900. Other choice creek lots. 719-937-1039

### “Angel’s Nest” For Sale

”Angel’s Nest” 5 bedroom 3 bath on 5 lots right up against national forest. Breath taking Eagle Eye views. Chalet II Owner financing possible. \$279,000 719-221-1730.

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Four 1/2 acre lots for sale by owner. Great location in Chalet II with amazing views. Tap paid.

<http://enchantedforestcrestone.weebly.com/lots-for-sale.html>

### CHALET 1 LOTS FOR SALE

2 CHALET 1 LOTS FOR SALE Time to let go. Inherited from my mother 2 adjoining lots, great location, tap fees paid, lots 186 & 187, corner of Moonlight & Cascade, walking distance to Baca Park. \$9k for both lots. Call for video tour: (505) 920-5429

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#### Victorian & Guesthouse For Rent

VICTORIAN & GUESTHOUSE, unfurnished, 35A, organic garden, 2bd/1.75b and 2bd/.75b, 1st,last,damage deposit, references, shown by appt. 719-937-1039 or [soularquest@gmail.com](mailto:soularquest@gmail.com)

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room; gourmet kitchen with seating for 8-10; spacious master suite with marble bathtub and large walk-in shower with rainfall showerhead. 1st,last,damage deposit, references, 6 month lease. Pic/details/contact Seva Property Mgt 719 937 4226

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By Appointment Only

**...Classifieds**  
continued from  
Page B-14

**Studio For Rent**

Studio, spacious and light, kitchenette, large bath, large walk in closet, Baca close in, non smoker, references, \$350 plus utilities, 6 mos lease, avail. Oct 1, 937 7802

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NEW Solar equipment for sale: 1) SunEarth 4'x8 Solar Thermal Collector for \$900. Retail \$1200. 2) Canadian Solar 250watt PV module for \$250. Please contact Talmath at 719-588-8276

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**Ask the Weatherman**  
by Keno  
The leaves on some of our trees will be changing soon. Why does this happen each fall?

Each year when our long summer days start to turn into cooler and longer nights, the annual fall color show gets under way across Colorado. It happens when the production of chlorophyll in deciduous plants and trees slows down and stops. Chlorophyll is what gives leaves their green color in the summer. As the production of chlorophyll tapers off, carotenoids, which produce yellow, orange and brown colors, and anthocyanins, which produce red, purple and blue colors, take over inside the leaf. This process produces a brilliant canvas of color. The colors remain until the leaves die and drop. Here in Colorado, yellow and gold are the most common colors which we see, and around the greater Crestone region, this is especially true in foothills where stands of aspen trees intermingle with pinyon pines (and like all evergreens, pine needles stay green; they replace their needles gradually throughout the year as the leaves age and fall).

The local weather does play a major role in how vivid the color show will be each year. We see the best fall color when late summer weather features dry, sunny days and cool, dry nights, with just an occasional light rain shower here and there. This allows for a slow and steady conversion of color in the leaves as the chlorophyll production gradually slows down. Sudden and unseasonable cold snaps or storms with a lot of wind and precipitation can impact the color, including how long it lasts.

**When should the fall colors around here peak?**

Peak viewing time in Colorado is typically the third or fourth



An abundance of rain this summer made for great gardening. Raspberries are in full harvest in Kizzen's and Janet's garden.

week of September through the middle of October. But again, it depends on the weather. The trees could peak early if an unexpected cold snap happens just before the normal peak time. For our area, we're right on the border line between what is called Phase 2 and 3 in our state, so the first week in October is usually around the peak time around here.

**When they say a storm will hit the lee side of the mountains, is that the side that Crestone is on?**

It can be, but not usually. It all depends on which way the wind is blowing, and normally around here, we are not on the lee side of the mountains, but on what is called the "windward" side. Windward is the direction upwind from the point of reference, where leeward is the direction downwind from the point of reference. So the side or part of the mountain that is sheltered or turned away from the wind is its lee side. Since we normally see our weather patterns move from west to east, the western side of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, including the greater Crestone area, is usually not its lee side, but on some occasions, it can be.

*Note: For current Crestone weather conditions visit Keno's web site: [www.keno.org/vws](http://www.keno.org/vws).*

## Crestone-Baca Weather Report

by Keno  
July 21 to August 20

Total precipitation for period:  
Liquid precip: 1.88"  
Snow: 0.0"  
Measurable precipitation fell on 11 days.  
Measurable rain fell on 11 days.  
A trace of rain fell on 6 days.  
4 thunderstorms occurred  
No hail or snow fell.  
Total precipitation year to date:  
Since Jan 1: 13.55"  
Total snow to date:  
Since Jan 1: 58.1"  
Snow Season \*: 0.0"  
\*Snow season runs from July 1 to June 30  
Temperatures for the period:  
High temp: 88.8°F on August 15  
Low temp: 41.3°F on August 19  
Avg. high: 80.8°F  
Avg. low: 50.0°F  
Number of days with the high temperature at or above 90°: None  
Number of days with the high temperature at or above 80°: 18  
Number of days with the low temperature below 50°: 15  
Winds for the period:  
Avg. speed: 2.5 mph  
Highest gust: 40 mph on July 21  
Main direction: Out of the east at night, out of the west during the day.

### Weather summary:

We continued to see above normal precipitation throughout the period and for the entire year. Some folks have been asking me if this has been the wettest summer ever here, well, it's still too soon to know for sure, but as of now, it don't look like we'll reach that mark, however, at this rate we do have a shot for the wettest year ever, although we still got 4 months to go on that and lots could happen till the end of the year rolls around. But so far for this year, our area has already seen by August, the total amount of precipitation that we should see in an entire year, so that's something to take notice of.

Temperature wise, for the last 10 days in July, and for the entire month for that matter, we saw

readings well below normal, with the average high almost 4 degrees below where it should have been, along with 8 record low readings set. But as soon as August came around, things warmed up fast, and as of this writing, both daytime and nighttime temps have been several degrees above normal, with one record high reading set on August 15 at 89 degrees. The old record for the date was 88 degrees in 2002.

### Outlook for September:

For this month, we average 1.44 inch of precipitation, making September the third wettest month of the year. The wettest September took place just 2 years ago when 3.71 inches fell.

It used to not be unusual to see our first measurable snow of the year fall in September, when up till the year 1999, there was a 1 in 3 chance that could happen. However, since then, we have only seen measurable snow in 2 of the last 15 Septembers (in '02 and '06).

Temperature wise, this is the month fall arrives and there is a big difference in highs and lows as the month progresses. We start off the first week with average highs and lows of 75 and 44 degrees, and by the end of the month see readings average 66 and 35 degrees. The warmest temperature for the month took place on September 5, 2013, with a reading of 87 degrees, and the coldest it has gotten was on September 29, 1999, when it bottomed out at 18 degrees.

Our average first freeze is around September 15, but as most of us local gardeners know, if we cover our outside plants up on the coldest nights, our gardens can live on to as late as the first week in October (depending on the year of course). The earliest first freeze date recorded during the growing season (since 1982) was 30° on September 4, 2004, and the latest date recorded to end the growing season was October 9, 1990.

The 30 day outlook for September issued by the NWS, is calling for below average temperatures along with above average precipitation.

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