2020

Year in Review

THE Monte Vista JOURNAL

THE CONEJOS COUNTY CITIZEN

The Mineral County Miner
1892 - 2019
'...there is no night in Creede.'

CENTER POST-DISPATCH

THE SOUTH FORK TIMES
Gateway to the Silver Thread

The Del Norte Prospector
"Gateway to the San Juans"

Valley Publishing 719-852-3531

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

January

January 2, 2020 *South Fork Times*

Photo by Christi Bode, Wolf Creek Ski Area.

Over the end of December and beginning of January, Wolf Creek Ski Resort received a staggering 54 inches according to reports coming from the mountain. This season so far has yielded a large amount of snow, bringing the total accumulation for the year to 193 inches. Though it was looking like a slow start for the resort, Mother Nature came through with flying colors and had people sliding to the area to enjoy the fresh powder, short lift lines and epic skiing.

January 15, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Photo by Stephen Jiron

Monte Vista senior Jarren Chavez (1) eases in an uncontested layup on a break away during a game with Pueblo Central.

January 15, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Courier photo by Stephen Jiron.

'No One Fights Alone' Centauri's wrestling team warms up in Leukemia awareness orange in support of Aundre Chavez prior to their dual with Alamosa on January 9.

January 23, 2020 *Mineral County Miner*

Photos by Keith R. Cerny

Hundreds of spectators and more than a dozen teams took to the ice just north of Creede over the weekend for the Golden Pick Tommyknocker Pond Hockey Tournament. Members of the "Bottom of the Barrel" team (gray shirts) representing SLV Rural Electric Co-op are shown in action against "Hard Pass."

January 23, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Photo by Teresa L. Benns

Sargent School students wear T-shirts in memory of fellow student Tristen Benns on the one month anniversary of his death. Students helped sell the T-shirts as a fundraiser for Tristen's family.

January 23, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Superintendent Chris Burr led the ribbon cutting ceremony in celebration of the new Upper Rio Grande school in Del Norte Thursday, Jan. 16.

February

February 13, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Courtesy Photo

The Federal Government's Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released its current 5-star rating, which was published January 2020. Rio Grande Hospital (RGH) scored high and was one of only two critical access hospitals in Colorado to achieve the top honors with this 5-star rating. The acknowledgment is awarded to a small percentage of hospitals nationally. RGH was among 12 Colorado hospitals to receive such accolades, and the only one in the San Luis Valley.

February

February 13, 2020 *South Fork Times* Courtesy Photo
Travis Steffens, a graduate and local resident of the San Luis Valley was recently recognized for his efforts to help change the lives of homeless U.S. citizens and Veterans across the Nation by President Donald Trump during his State of the Union Address.

February 20, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*
A fire on Feb. 14 totally destroyed the residence of Nicholas Ramirez, Sr. at 521 E. 3rd Street in Center. The fire was the result of arson by the homeowner's son.
Photo by Teresa L. Benns

February 19, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Each year, the Knights of Columbus #5512 from La Jara, Co hosts a Valentine's Day party for students with special needs. Offering them pizza, nachos, chips and dip, punch, ice cream and dancing.The KOC party has reached to 160 including teachers in attendance. This year community members decided to donate stuffed animals to each student.
Courtesy Photo

February 19, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*
Hearts, laughter and love songs, filled Homelake on Valentine's Day during their annual Valentine's program. Homelake has been participating with Valentine's for Veterans for over 15 years. Anne Launders started the program 31 years ago as a way to honor, remember, and thank veterans especially veterans in hospitals and care communities.Left to Right: Madalyn Clark, Charles Reeder, Barbara Cousineau, and Steven Graf where all crowned as Homelake 2020 royalty during Friday's Valentine program
Photo by Rebecca Copley

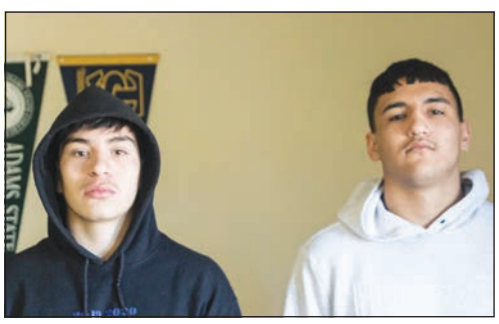
March

March 4, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen* Courtesy Photo
The San Luis Valley rece nt l y recognized their area nurses at the 16th Annual San Luis Valley Night-ingale Recog-nition Din-ner & Awards Presen-tation at Adam's State University. Out of all the nominations, three winners received the award and a chance to receive a higher accolade. The winners were Registered Nurses Jus-tine Bitler, Trudy Ruybal (both nurses at Rio Grande Hospi-tal) and Samantha Crawford from San Luis Valley Health.

March 5, 2020 *Mineral County Miner*
Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell
Tiernan King is pictured with Creede Board of Education member David Robinson. King was awarded first place at the Regional History Fair.

March 12, 2020 *South Fork Times* Courtesy Photo
South Fork Fire Rescue currently has a higher percentage of women members than the national average of 4 percent, with 33 percent of the membership being women. Left to right back row: Brittany Off, Shannon Goldsberry. Middle: Melanie Dickey, Linette Nye Schmidt, Courtney Junda. Front: Juda Filippi, Brantlee Webster, Aimee Blackmon.

March 5, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*
The San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group has initiated their Mobile Health Unit which visits almost all of the communities throughout the Valley once a week to offer mobile services to clients in need.
Courtesy photo



March 5, 2020 *Center Post Dispatch*
Center Viking Wrestlers Pablo Valencia and Eleazar Aguilar made it to the State Wrestling Finals.
Courtesy Photo

March 18, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal* Photo by Rebecca Copley
Students from Monte Vista High School's shop class were able to participate in a collaborative remodel project with the City of Monte Vista. High school students in the shop class from freshmen to senior classes all came out to help remodel the Veteran's Wastewater Plant laboratory. Mayor Dale Becker and Councilor Larry Foster came out to thank the students and hear about the project. (left to right) Utility Supervisor Bobby Abeyta, Monte Vista Superintendent Scott Wiedeman, Ben Michel, Pablo Aguilera, Karlitos Chacon, Adrian Vargas, Mayor Dale Becker, Guadalupe Lujan, Shop teacher Aaron Woodke, Monte Vista High school Principal Jose Ortega, Esteban Lujan, Braxton Fringer and Councilor Larry Foster, inside the newly remodeled water lab.

April

April 29, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen* Courtesy Photo
Alamosa and Carmel firefighters responded to a controlled burn that went out of control just before 3 p.m. Sunday, April 26. The fire was near the intersection of the 14 South and 105.

April 2, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*
A drive-up service at Center, Mountain Valley and Moffat Schools provides meals to Saguache County school children two days a week. Here a driver picks up a meal at Center Schools.
Photo by Teresa L. Benns

April 29, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*
Volunteers pack the "yellow bus" with goodies and lesson plans for Center students to work from home. Center Schools Transportation Department played a major role in keeping students connected, up-to-date on their lesson plans and well fed during the COVID-19 crisis, Center Schools teacher Susan Banning reported.
Photo by Teresa L. Benns

April 9, 2020 *Mineral County Miner* Courtesy Photo
Citizens of Creede came out of self-isolation long enough to serve their community and count ballots for the April 2020 Municipal Election. Mayor Jeffery Larson was seeking re-election unopposed and received a total of 113 votes. There were three seats up for election and four candidates running for trustee positions. Teresa Wall won her seat 91 votes, Jack Wyatt Hannah received 82 votes, James Kehr received 83 votes and Lori Dooley received 79. The two ballot questions asking voters to allow a 2 percent tax increase and approval for the City of Creede to take out a loan to help with costs associated with improving the city's water and sewer were also both approved. The first question pertaining to the tax increase received 103 for and 42 against while the second question, pertaining to the approval for a loan received 100 for and 36 against.

April 16, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector* Courtesy Photo
A "Heroes Work Here" sign appeared at Rio Grande Hospital (RGH) in Del Norte, Colorado, recently. It shows appreciation for healthcare workers. RGH was the first hospital in the San Luis Valley to get a positive COVID-19 case, and staff is dealing with this every day, along with their regular responsibilities. "Our staff's dedication and sacrifices are appreciated during this time, said Development and Commutations Officer Eva Timberlake, "We can feel the love and support from the community."

May

May 13, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*
Courtesy Photo
A controlled burn that got away drew firefighters for three days and eventually destroyed or badly damaged seven structures around Mogote. Heather Comstock, secretary of the Romeo Volunteer Fire Department said the initial fire was reported Saturday, May 9, and continued spreading.

May 6, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*
Photo by Trey Spaulding
The San Luis Valley was experiencing unseasonably warmer temperatures and a lack of any significant precipitation. We began the spring with a 102 percent of normal snowpack. The snowpack level for the Upper Rio Grande is now 41 percent of normal. Correspondingly the Rio Grande's streamflow at the Del Norte gauge was 70 percent above normal. The streamflow average over the past 10 days was 1609.8 cfs with a day to day variation of about 699.5cfs.

May 21, 2020 *Center Post Dispatch*
Photo by Teresa L. Benns
Center High School seniors were honored Saturday, May 16, during a parade that began in the school parking lot and wound around town. May 16 was the day set for graduation in the school gymnasium, but seniors voted to postpone officially receiving their diplomas until Aug. 1 to observe social distancing rules.

May 7, 2020 *South Fork Tines*
Courtesy Photo
On May 2, 2020 flags flew at half-mast at the South Fork Fire Rescue station. Members of South Fork Fire Rescue, the community of South Fork and surrounding emergency agencies gathered for a memorial procession in memory of Firefighter Chris Miyaki.

May 28, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector* Courtesy Photo
The Rio Grande Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health decided unanimously, May 22, to discharge Public Health Director Emily Brown and hire an interim director, Public Health Nurse Paul Wertz. Brown made national headlines for accusing the county of firing her for political reasons, after she and other public health officials received death threats on Facebook for COVID-19 restrictions. County officials denied this was their motivation, implying Brown was not giving them all of the information about active COVID cases.

May 28, 2020 *Mineral County Miner*
Mineral County Commissioner Scott Lamb leads Elks Lodge member Ray Dellenbaugh and Sargent Colonel Jason Whitehorn in the parade to honor fallen soldiers on Memorial Day in Creede.
Photo by Keith R. Cerny

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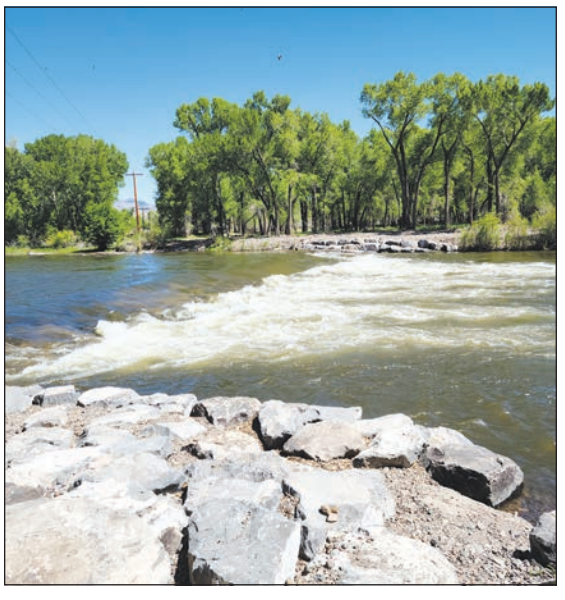
June

June 24, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal* Courtesy Photo

After decades of perseverance, the Monte Vista City Council voted unanimously at their June 9 council meeting to proceed with the final stages and design of the new Ski Hi Regional Event Center. Members of the City of Monte Vista, the Friends of Ski Hi, Alcon Construction and principals involved gathered on the Ski Hi grounds June 16 to christen a new sign depicting the architectural rendering of the new facility.



June 11, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project (RGHRP) Executive Director Emma Reesor welcomed a group of individuals from across the Valley to a webinar on Wednesday, June 3, to discuss the new playwave that was installed in the Rio Grande in Del Norte this spring. After years of planning and construction the Del Norte playwave on the Rio Grande is ready for whitewater recreation.

June 25, 2020 *South Fork Tines*

Courtesy Photo

In a meeting held by the Rio Grande County Commissioners, Chairman John Noffsker updated the board on the status of the SLRG Railroad and announced that it would be headed to state bankruptcy court July 1.

June 25, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch* Courtesy Photo

A residence fire on County Road 48 at the junction of county roads X and Y damaged a home and spread to a nearby haystack, which burned all night last Friday, June 19, as firefighters stood watch to put out any hotspots.

June 24, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen* Courtesy photos

Demolition began at the North Conejos parking lot and lighting. Construction began in June on the new Centauri High School.

July

July 2, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector* Photo by Lyndsie Ferrell

Law enforcement agencies from around the Valley and beyond were dispatched to the Lowes Valley Market in Del Norte at 11:40 a.m. Tuesday, June 30, due to the report of a suspicious package left on top of the propane rack containing multiple 20 pound propane tanks at the entrance to the store. DNPD questioned a person of interest but ultimately determined the box was computer parts that were not left there intentionally and no charges were filed.

July 22, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal* Photo by Trey Spaulding

After years of endurance by the communities of the Valley, Alcon Construction, Inc. in conjunction with the City of Monte Vista began demolition and construction activities at the Ski Hi Convention Complex July 20, 2020.

July 9, 2020 *South Fork Tines* Photos by Linette Schmidt

The Town of South Fork and South Fork Fire Rescue (SFFR) pulled off their Third of July events with flying colors and hit the celebration out of the park. SFFR firefighters and volunteers got their hands dirty preparing for their annual 3rd of July Catfish Fry fundraiser that served 660 drive-thru hungry guests

July 1, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Courtesy Photo

During this pandemic turmoil, social distancing and isolation are common terms used daily and quarantine has turned some family's lives upside down. Members of the Conejos County Rotary Club found a way to bridge the social distance between partners, friends and family members by preparing Quarantine/ Coronavirus care packages. Pictured left to right: Julie Gomez-Nuanes, Samantha Escobedo, Maryjane Valdez, Jason Coombs, Richard Ruybal, Steve Cordova and Lois Trenholm, pose with boxes of goods gathered for families impacted by the COVID-19 virus.

July 2, 2020 Mineral County Miner

Courtesy Photo from the Rio Grande National Forest Service

The lightning-caused Goose Creek Fire was reported in Mineral County on Sunday, June 28. It eventually grew to 171 of acres before being largely contained without damaging any structures. It was ruled fully contained on Sept. 10, although it was 85-90 percent contained by mid-July.

July 23, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Courtesy Photo

Former Saguache County Sheriff's Deputy Wayne Clark, who formerly worked with law enforcement in New Mexico, was charged with one count of first-degree official misconduct, a class two misdemeanor, according to a complaint and information document filed with the court stemming from an incident in May. Clark left the area and did not appear for his arraignment in August and is rumored to have left the state.

August

August 26, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen* File Photo

In the spring of this year, the Rio Grande County Commissioners in partnership with the Rio Grande National Forest Service and EPA representatives were able to finalize the Summitville land exchange. Negotiations and discussion pertaining to the agreement has been several years in the making and now that it is complete, the 1,400-acre Summitville Mine site is now owned by Rio Grande County in almost its entirety.

August 12, 2020 *Mineral County Miner*

Photo Courtesy of the Mineral County Sheriff's Office

The Mineral County Sheriff's Office received a report of an abandoned vehicle that was seemingly buried near Wolf Creek Pass. The car is registered to an owner out of New Mexico who could not be contacted by law enforcement, and the motive behind burying the vehicle and the location of the owner remain unknown.

August 5, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Photo by Rebecca Copley

The COVID-19 pandemic drastically changed high school seniors' last months in school all over the world. Monte Vista's class of 2020 was finally able to hold their graduation ceremony Saturday, Aug. 1. Trying to make the day as normal as possible, the ceremony was held outside on the school's football field with family and friends cheering from the bleachers behind masks.

August 6, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Photo by Teresa L. Benns

It was a beautiful Saturday, Aug. 1, 2020, evening and a great celebration for 27 Center High School graduates. The class chose the motto by Walt Disney, "Why worry? If you've done the very best you can… worrying won't make it better." The 2020 Class Valedictorian, Kristine Hoffner, and Salutatorian Dolores Estrada Hernandez both delivered moving messages. Class president, Jose Villagomez, also spoke to his fellow graduates and led the tassel exchange.Each family of a graduate was given a 20x20 foot chalk marked box where up to nine immediate family members could sit.

August 6, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

A petition to recall Rio Grande County Commissioner John Noffsker began collecting signatures, alleging Noffsker and the board under his leadership lacked transparency and had fired or caused the resignations of several qualified employees. The petition ultimately failed to collect enough signatures to trigger a special election/ recall at the end of September.

File Photo

September

September 23, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Courtesy Photo

The Monte Vista Police Department is asking for assistance in locating Ms. Korina Arroyo-Marquez. She was reported missing on Aug. 28, 2020. She was last seen in the Monte Vista area on Aug. 25 and may be in the Alamosa area.

Sept. 30, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Centauri's Richardson Tailleur (425) leads a group up a slight incline during the 2020 Pagosa Springs Cross-Country Challenge Sept. 25, within the town's forested Reservoir Hill Park. Tailleur placed 15th overall in 22:24—helping the Falcon boys total an adjusted 65 points and earn runner-up status in the team standings.

Photo by Joel Priest

September 3, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Photos Courtesy of Del Norte Bank

Counterfeit $100 and $20 bills circulated throughout Del Norte and the Valley through the fall and into winter. The $100 bills are stage bills used in movies. The texture of the bills feels like plastic. The $20 counterfeit bills have white corners, appear fuzzy and some have identical serial numbers and a paper texture.

September 3, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Moffat Mayor Patricia Reigel appeared before Municipal Judge Anna Ulrich Wednesday, Aug. 26, to answer charges of official misconduct and official oppression and has since learned she now faces new charges of third-degree assault, a Misdemeanor 1.

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September 10, 2020 *South Fork Tines*

Photo Courtesy of Linette Schmidt

During the winter storm that occurred during the evening of Tuesday, Sept. 8, South Fork Fire Rescue (SFFR) responders were kept busy from call to call until the early hours of the morning of Sept. 9. There were multiple power outages due to downed power lines resulting in multiple calls to SFFR.

September 24, 2020 *Mineral County Miner*

Photo by Sarah Efthim-Williamson

John Jayne of South Fork took "Best of Show" honors in the Cruisin' the Canyon Car Show for his 1932 Dodge Brothers Three-Window Coupe.

Sept. 16, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Courtesy Photo

The Conejos County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) and Colorado Bureau of Investigation began searching for Wilbert Archuleta, 39, who was reported missing Aug. 14. Archuleta was from Aurora and came to the area to visit family. His body was discovered in Los Sauces on Sept. 19.

Happy NEW YEAR!

Let's make some noise for 2021!

Thanks for sticking with us.

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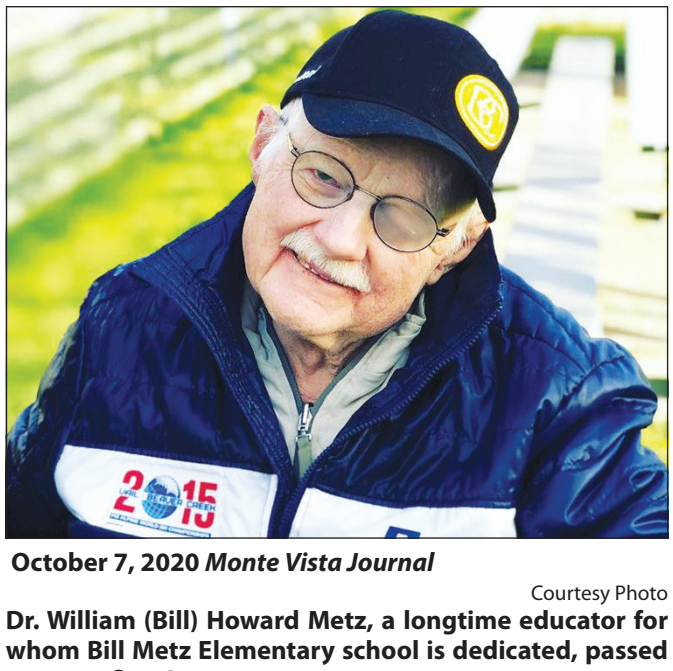
COOPERTIRES

October

October 14, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Photo courtesy of Rose Vialpando

Longtime resident of Conejos and popular musician, Lucy Jaramillo, recently received the Hilos Culturales Lifetime Music Award, Premio Hilos Culturales 2020.



October 7, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Courtesy Photo

Dr. William (Bill) Howard Metz, a longtime educator for whom Bill Metz Elementary school is dedicated, passed away on Oct. 1.

October 29, 2020 *South Fork Times*

Photo Courtesy of Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area was the first resort in the state of Colorado to open for the 2020-2021 winter ski season.

October 8, 2020 *South Fork Times*

The ACLU and the owners of Sol Mountain Farms, who also coordinate the South Fork Friday Market, questioned the town of South Fork for a letter they received halting the solicitation of donations at the market following a complaint that Sol Mountain Farms were raising money for Black Lives Matter at their booth.

Courtesy Photo

October 29, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Courtesy Photo

Del Norte Bank took first place in the annual Scarecrow Bash and received four $25 gift certificates to The Perks Coffeehouse for the four participants.

November

November 4, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Courtesy Photo

On Oct. 28, 2020, the Monte Vista Kiwanis Club delivered dictionaries to the 3rd graders at the Bill Metz Elementary School. Pictured are Kiwanis members Janet Noland and Colette Skeff and School Secretary, Laura Barnett.After 91 years of service to the community, the Monte Vista Kiwanis Club voted to dissolve the club on Sept. 30, 2020. Reasons cited included declining enrollment and the continuous challenge of unsuccessful recruitment of new members with the energy to continue the Club.

November 4, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Courtesy photo

The Centauri High School Class of 2033 is supervised by North Conejos Superintendent of Schools Curt Wilson as they break ground for the new high school Oct. 28. The ceremony wasn't held publicly, but was live streamed over the district's Facebook page. The honorees are kindergartners now.

November 25, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Former Costilla County Undersheriff Andrew Espinoza, 45, is on probation for a misdemeanor game violation, dropped from a class 5 felony through an agreement with the defense and DA. He was sentenced Nov. 18 by District Judge Martin Gonzales. The change in conviction and an appellate court order remanding the case to local court was due to the fact that the recording equipment in the courtroom at San Luis malfunctioned and it was difficult to reconstruct the case, so the Colorado Parks and Wildlife agreed to the lowered sentence — a 14-month deferred sentence backed up by probation and public service.

November 19, 2020 *Del Norte Prospector*

Rio Grande County announced Wednesday, Nov. 11 that they will be welcoming a new County Administrator, Leslie Klusmire. Klusmire comes to her position with a unique background that will help in several departments of the county, including planning and organization.

November 25, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen*

Courtesy Photos

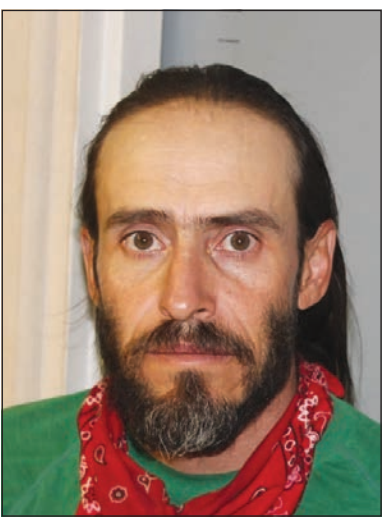
A law enforcement task force composed of representatives from the Colorado Bureau of Investigations, the Conejos County Sheriff's Office, the Alamosa Police Department, the Monte Vista Police Department and others announced at a press conference on Nov. 18 that three sets of human remains were found on a property in Los Sauces. The CCSO were executing a search warrant for stolen property and found the first set of remains, then formed the task force who discovered the other two sets of remains. They named Adre Baroz, 26, as a suspect. Baroz was arrested the following day in Gallup, New Mexico. He was charged with First Degree Homicide, First Degree Assault and Second Degree Kidnapping. In early December, one of the sets of human remains was identified as belonging to Myron Martinez, 37, of Del Norte who was reported missing in early November. Baroz has not yet been charged in connection with what happened to Martinez. Although her remains have not been officially identified, Baroz was charged with the murder of Selena Esquibel, 19, who was reported missing in early September.

December

December 9, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Courtesy Photo

On Dec. 7, 2020, officers with the Monte Vista Police Department and Agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) arrested Jimmy Garcia, 43, for the March 26, 2014, death of Jacqueline Jones who was 23, at the time of her death. Jacqueline's death was initially investigated as a suicide but in 2018 the Monte Vista Police Department started reinvestigating the case and discovered evidence which led investigators to believe her death was not self-induced but the result of a homicide and Garcia allegedly being responsible for her death.



December 10, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Courtesy Photo

An arrest has been made in the Saguache homicide occurring in the early morning hours of Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020. The suspect Donald Garcia (DOB: 07/31/1975) of Saguache was taken into custody Dec. 8. for his alleged connection to the homicide.The victim has been identified as Robert Turner Jr. (DOB: 09/14/1970). Investigators are not releasing how Turner died, as this is part of the active investigation.

December 3, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

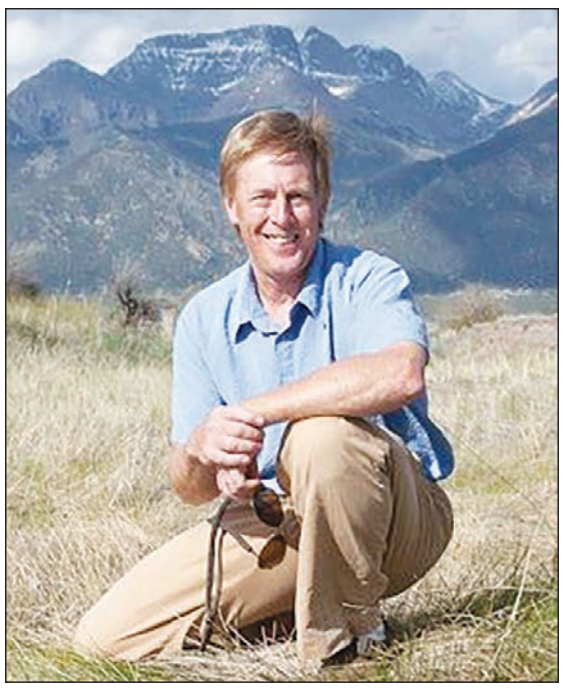
Photo by Patrick Shea

During their final meeting of 2020 on Dec. 1, board members picked through contracts for next year and analyzed a tight budget for the water subdistrict along San Luis Creek in the upper San Luis Valley. Subdistrict 4 includes this cemetery north of the Mirage ghost town where antelope roam the Cotton Creek drainage.

December 17, 2020 *South Fork Times*

Courtesy of Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area landed another first as the first resort to receive over 100" of snow for the 2020-2021 winter season



December 10, 2020 *Center Post-Dispatch*

Saguache County Commissioner Jason Anderson received the Commissioner of the Year Award for all of Colorado. Some counties have three or more commissioners. So, the field included well over 200 commissioners. "It was a bit of a surprise," Anderson admitted. "In my eight years, I never missed a steering committee meeting. I think this was more about eight years on the board, not just this last year."

Courtesy Photo

December 23, 2020 *Monte Vista Journal*

Photo by Trey Spaulding

The annual holiday festival in Monte Vista was a little different this year, with patrons driving to see stationary floats and homes decorated for Christmas, but the business window decorating contest and home decorating contest were as popular as ever. Pictured is the winner of the window contest, Southern Colorado Computer Services.

December 3, 2020 *South Fork Times*

Photo by Trey Spaulding

South Fork Chief of Police Hank Weber monitors traffic in one of the departments newly decaled patrol trucks. Chief Weber said that residents are commenting that they are noticing the department's patrols more often since the trucks received bolder identification on the sides and rear of the vehicles.

December 9, 2020 *Conejos County Citizen* Courtesy Photo

Students from the Justice and Heritage Academy enjoy snow Dec. 3 at La Manga Pass, courtesy of Conejos Clean Water.

Thank You

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Donations to Date: Grandstands(2008-2010)
Multi Purpose/Conference Center(2020-2021)

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$2,000,000 - $500,001
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Great Outdoors Colorado 2008/10

$500,000 - $100,001
Daniels Fund
El Pomar Foundation
Rio Grande County

$100,000 - $75,001
Stampede Committee
Boettcher Foundation
Cultivating Hearts
City of Monte Vista

$75,000 - $50,001
San Luis Valley Federal Bank
Rio Grande Savings & Loan

$50,000 - $25,001
Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation
Colorado Housing & Finance Authority
Alamosa State Bank
Colorado Potato Administration Committee
Farm Credit of Southern Colorado
Monte Vista Cooperative Assn.

$25,000 - $10,001
Trinchera Blanca Foundation
Alamosa County
1st Southwest Bank
Del Norte Federal Bank
CoBank of Denver
SLV Rural Electric Assn.
Magnolia Society
Monte Vista Rotary
Doug Shriver Memorial 2010

$10,000 - $5,001
Troy Plane Insurance
Sunflower Bank
Ray & Colette Skeff
Richard & Alana McNitt
Karla Shriver
Xcel Energy Foundation
Saguache County
Eugene & Evelyn Farrish
Mike Mitchell Farms
Price Farms

$5,000- $2,501
Rick Ellithorpe 2008
Monte Vista Potato Growers
SLV Rural Electric Assn.
Sorum Tractor
Wall, Smith, Bateman
Hi Land Potato Company
Worley Family Farms, LLC
Mountain West Insurance (Dell's)
Wenta Nip & Sanitizing, LLC
CIA-Leavitt Insurance Agency
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MV Lodge 73 A.F. & A.M.
Triple M Farms (Mueller Family)
John & Terri Brownell
Peterson Farms
Mike Kruse
Rick & Cheyl Santi
Mark Deacon
Palmgren Farms
Monte Vista Chamber
Blue Spruce & Sand Dunes Drifter 4-H Clubs
Mineral County
Rio Grande County 4-H Council
Carolyn Kawanabe

$2,500- $1,001
Alamosa County Farm Bureau
Bill & Kris Paddock
Mark Lounsbury/Gigi Dennis
White Rock Specialties
JDS Farms
Blue Sky Farms SLV, Inc
Memory of Melvin Getz
by Jackie Getz White & Brent White
Eastern Star
Antique Iron Club
Monte Vista Kwianis
Doug & Brenda Cooper
Glenn & Beatrice Getz
Debra Callahan (1000 + 25)

$1,000- $501
Jim & Cynthia Clare
Brian & Terry Harrison
Ken & Hope Salazar
Gary & Jerene Wilkinson
Merkley
Beau & Kim Temple
Cathryn Getz
Charles & Melanie Valdez
Nazarene Church Thrift Store
Monte Vista United Methodist Church
Sargent Community Church
The Bowen United Methodist Church
Wakasugi Family Land Partnership
Smith & Wakasugi, RLLP
Blanca Potato LLC
M&G Farms
Carlson, Hammond, Paddock
Conejos County
Costilla County
Crane Festival
Kathy & Shawn Woods
Sandhill solar

$500 - $1
Asplin & Associates
Hill & Robbins P.C.
Conquisterdors (Chamber Welcome Group)
Friends of SLV Nat. Wildlife Refuge
Friends of SLV NWR - Crane Festival Comm.
SLV Quilt Guild
Walter Fullwood
Mike & Crystal Hudson
Bob & Pam Gjellum
Gerald & Vickie Myers
Shon Davis
Michael Trujillo
Charles & Carol Keller
Thomas & Joy Biel
Bill and Tami Fassett
Rick & Betty Stoeber
Linda & Glenn Burnett ($250 twice)
Nissen Farms, LLC
Valley Courier
Valley Publishing
Anonymous from Las Vegas, NV
Del Norte Rotary Club
Shawn & Shelia Hicks
Steve Tonso
Jim & Debra Ehrlich
Katie Porter
Linda & Dwayne Weyers
Paul & Lynda Foster
Michael & Kellyn Ross
John & Judith Tillman
St. Stephens Episcopal Church (MV)
Brothers Keepers (subset Firefighters)
Erin Nissen
Emily & Kyler Brown
Alcon Construction
Jeff Keck
Tod Smith (Boulder)
Sleep Sanctuary
Southern Colorado Computers
Bridges of Health Therapeutic Challenge
Alamosa Rotary Club
Suzanne Devore & Mark Seaton
Elizabeth Clark
Wayne & Nancy Ross
Mona Syring
Barbara Zollars
John & Sandy Varner
David & Sophia Avila
Jarred & Linde Gardner
Cherrelyne Bratton
Kelly Motl
Peg (Marguerite) Schall
David & Carol Maes
Lyle & Sandra Dye
Deborah & Gerald Palmgren
William & Pauline Dey
Gary & Michelle Santi
Helen Smith
Jennifer Yund
Jerry Apker
Pamela & Kirby Self
Betty & Jack Cochran
Denise Heersink
Carl & Sandra Jo Hatch
Dale Becker
Tina Killinen
Ramona Archuleta
Hugh & Liinda Cozart
Marianna Young
Byron & Amie Urhich
Herman & Jamie Pruyser
Roberta Hatton
Forrest Neuerburg

SLV Federal Bank - Giving Program2019

In-Kind Contribution Time &/or Equipment
2008
Stampede Committee, time
Doug & Karl Shriver equipment
Terry Hillin equipment
Charlie Burd equipment
Monte Vista Co-op equipment
Cooley & Son, equipment and time
SLV Earthmovers, equipment and time
Chuck Bryant, equipment and time
4-H youth, parents, and leaders, time
Travis & Will Smith, time
2020
Jim Willschau
Adrian Absmeier
Troy Geringer
Cooley & Son
Cooper Drilling
Brian Mauloff
Rio Grande County Road & Bridge
Pro Mountain Farms - Karla Shriver
Monte Vista Chamber
Colorado Seed Staff - Terry Hillin

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE STILL BEING REQUESTED/NEEDED
Send to: P.O. Box 262, Monte Vista, CO 81144