

"If You're 50 Or Over You Should Read It!"

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Please Recycle

Cañon City — PUEBLO -- Colorado Springs Monthly Edition

### \*\*LOCAL NEWS\*\*

### **MEDICINE SHOPPE OPENS IN PUEBLO:**

### **EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PHARMACIST ROB GEBHARDS**

(PUEBLO, CO) How long have you been in business? In this business? *In other businesses?* 

I just opened this pharmacy. The official opening date was 11/13/2023. I have been a pharmacist for over 22 years. I graduated from Creighton University with my PharmD in May 2001.

What did you do before this busi-

Before opening my own pharmacy I worked at Jim Sajbel's Prescription Shop for a little over the last 10 years. Before that I worked for Kmart and Albertsons pharmacies

Why are you in business?

I want to give patients in Pueblo an alternative to the chain pharmacies. I feel that independent pharmacies give more personalized care than the chains or mail order pharmacies.

How did you get started in this business?

My 1st job was at a CVS drugstore in southern California at age 16, so I have always been in this business. I also had an uncle who was a pharmacist at a Skagway in Nebraska so I always saw how pharmacists help the community

► SEE PHARMA, PAGE 9

Medicine Shoppe COUPON! pg. 13

**Check out Boys & Girls** Club of Pueblo! pg. 2

# \*\*LOCAL WRITER\*\* **RED? BLUE?** WHO ARE YOU?

(Pueblo, CO) Last year, a group of Red and Blue citizens put in time, money, and miles obtaining signatures for a proposed citizen's ballot initiative for NO MAYOR and a return to our city charter's roots of a nonpartisan city government.

Red and Blue citizens also signed the petition. Red and Blue citizens conversed, organized, worked together, and celebrated together after obtaining signature goals, checking every signature, and following all orders from the city clerk and city attorney. All this accomplished in the middle of winter by mostly retired folks, who have the hours for such activism.

Unless you live under a rock, you are aware that the city attorney Dan Kogovsec was forced to retire related to "misinformation" given to petitioners. Just a FYI, the council had been requestioning counsel for years, prior to the mayor. But not now with the new City Attorney, George Hypolite.

So here we are, with another mayoral election. What some folks don't know is that efforts to 86 the mayor position wasn't about Gradisar. It was

► SEE **RED/BLUE**, PAGE 2

### \*\*LOCAL NEWS\*\* **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS IS LOOKING**

FOR VOLUNTEERS

(PUEBLO, CO) Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County is recruiting volunteers to assist Pueblo youth. In 2023, the Clubs served over 2,000 kids and teens across Pueblo County in nine different locations. Club programs, with the help of volunteers provide our future leaders with development of good character and leadership, athletics and fitness, healthy lifestyles programming, and set them up for academic success through STEM (Sci-

► SEE **CLUBS**, PAGE 9

### \*\*LOCAL NEWS\*\*

### LOCAL PUEBLOAN **HEATHER GRAHAM** FACES ENTRENCHED, DISLIKED INCUMBENT

Get to know Heather Graham As a longtime resident of this community, I care deeply about its future. After completing my degree in Psychology with a minor in Statistics at CSU-P, I spent years building successful businesses in this town. I currently operate four successful local businesses, including restaurants and

► SEE MAYOR, PAGE 9



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### ■ FROM **RED/BLUE** PAGE 1

about the political position of mayor which presents adverse consequences for citizens, employees, and our city charter. Not to mention the fear of future uneducated imbecilic mayors.

When I asked if folks wanted to sign, it was not presented as anti-Gradisar. It was anti-mayor and most that signed were not anti-Gradisar. They were anti-mayor for reasons just mentioned. Even though we had our small share of extremist, both Red and Blue that wanted to argue about politics in general.

The new city attorney George Hypolite isn't bowing to PURA or PEDCO. These board members have major financial interests in the city, heavily influencing the rest of the board and employees. Mr. Hypolite is citing actual policies, procedures, and laws. Shaking it up. That's if the city council listens, which will help Pueblo's future. A vote for Gradisar is a vote for George Hypolite.

The Board members and employees I am speaking about are Red. Thus, the reason so many Reds ran for mayor and major funds donated for the Red mayoral candidates. Just like the police union (which is another subject) they want a mayor wrapped around their finger. Again, there are many harmful consequences. We need a mayor that will plow through this, without "obligations."

If you want to know the reason for blight, poverty, and low pay, learn the history of PURA and PEDCO. If you are a business owner and want some advice, don't support the Pueblo Chamber. Support the Latino Chamber. They hire educated, qualified and intelligent folks. They also do background checks.

Until we can abolish this nonsense of mayor, Pueblo needs voters to put aside emotions, anger, Red, Blue and vote for the candidate with the most experience, the highest level of education, the most high-up connections, and someone that can speak intelligently without prep by the players or searching their notes for 3 and 4 syllable words.

Pretend that you are hiring someone for a high-level management position, or to be the next CEO of your company. Pretend you are going through resumes for the city manager position. Which resume would make it to the finals. Pretend that the resumes went through modern tech to select who moves on to an interview. Who would that person be?

The last council did a good job with moving this city forward. Some folks are making their choice based on who says they will take care of crime and homelessness. Have solutions been explained?

Sure, drugs are an issue, but it's not solely a Pueblo issue. It's deep and complex. We have a generation of drug users with children that have become drug users. It's generational like gangs at this point. This is all related to pain becoming the 5th vital sign pushed by pharma 1996, pain is now subjective. Mental health being a major contributor towards not only addiction but be-

coming incapable. Pueblo needs a cultural shift related to enabling the incapable. Gangs, multi-generation at this point, are also a national problem not unique to Pueblo. Most unsolved murders are, gang on gang, and I personally don't have a problem with that. Some cities have gang member relocation for nongenerational members which has been successful. Before submitting your ballot, take a moment and vote logically. This needs to be a big picture decision. One that is best for the city as a whole. No emotions. Use your head. It's important.

Lori Winner is a former At Large Representative on the Pueblo City Council



### \*\*LOCAL NEWS\*\*

### FLORENCE, CO RESTAURANT AIMS TO PLEASE

Two Sisters originally opened June 1, 2001 in Florence Colorado. It was opened by sisters Pat and Linda (Pope). Pat was the owner of the business and Linda ran it until her passing in 2003. In 2013 Pat passed away and her sister Connie took over the business to keep it going for family members to still have employment. In 2019 Cinda (Linda's daughter) bought it from Connie so she could return to ranching full time.

Cinda began working at the restaurant in October of 2001 and has worked there ever since and now is the proud owner. In 2023 the opportunity arose to move to a more up to date building with a better location in Penrose right on hwy 115. After a lot of consideration Cinda took the leap of faith to move the long established business miles up the hill.

Within 9 weeks of making the decision to move Two Sisters opened up December 1. 2023, at it's new location. Penrose has been very welcoming and business is booming. Cinda is very happy with the choice she made (with God's guidance) to move to Penrose.

Come see Cinda and her staff and enjoy a great home-cooked meal.

They are located on Highway 115 in Penrose and can be reached at (719) 784-4090.

### **LOVE**

When we think about love and all it entails, we are reminded of the most beautiful love chapter in the Bible – 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13. I would like to share part of that chapter with you:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am noth-



ing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave itself rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails...." (1 Corinthians 13:1-8a)

This chapter says it all! I love the last sentence..."Love never fails". Sometimes that scripture keeps us together when all else fails. And every day we have the opportunity to put this exhortation into practice. Reach out in love to someone who is lonely; someone who is confined to a skilled nursing care facility; someone you attend church with; someone who is homeless; someone who has lost their job, or someone you work with. And

don't forget the needs of your neighbor. Look for someone to love. You won't regret it! You will be blessed as much as those you reach out to love.

Remember, love is eternal, for God is Love.

Have a Perfect Valentine's Day in our Father's Perfect Love!!

Kay Owen-Larson is the co-founder and President of Crossroads Ministries

Presu	President of Crossroads Ministries										
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► SODUKU ANSWERS ► GAMES ON PAGE 14

### **OBSERVATIONS** FROM THE CAVE

**JAMES R. GRASSO** Former Chief Cook



appy New Year Everyone! I could stop here but I don't think the Publisher would be very happy with me if I did. Publisher Emeritus is my title but I don't want to overstep my authority.

You know, two years ago I was 60 and my early February birthday will be my 75th!!! Good grief, where did those 15 years go? I've had five, fifteen year segments of my life and I swear this last fifteen-year segment has flown with the speed of light in comparison to all the others. The first

fifteen years, in fact, were the slowest. They inched by waiting for certain milestones to pass like mastering balance so I could walk, then run, but getting those dang diapers off for good (I hope) seemed like an eternity. Then, starting school with all the learning and homework and different nuns to try and figure out. Never did. Then, waiting for the freedom to drive!!! How glorious that was but of course that was in my second segment. Getting to that second segment seemed like it took forever! The second segment lasted quite a while to begin with but it sped up about year 21 finishing college, getting married to my sweetheart wife Jeannie, having my great little boy, moving to Colorado Springs, leaving New York State and finally moving to Pueblo. But those first 30 years went pretty slow. I'm probably boring you by now, so if you want to stop reading this screed you have my permission!

Where was I, oh yes, 31-45. That segment was wild. It started with our second child. My first daughter was born, we bought a home and I scuffled around some until I decided to start Senior Beacon. It was fun, even made it into The Pueblo Chieftan. It was a nice article about the newspaper especially for seniors. The work schedule was difficult and slow going with a lot to learn but our little family seemed to thrive in those years. My feet were generally firmly planted on the ground and my wife and family became utterly wholesome. We had a second daughter in that third segment. Fifteen years went by especially well time-wise.

Forty-five to sixty was primarily back to very slow status which equaled that of the first 15. The two older kids graduated from college and got married and began their lives. We were blessed. Each one, thank God, live proper lives and are doing



quite well. There was a time though, that was very, very trying. The minutes went by like hours. But we came out the other side with my readers helping us with their prayers and good cheer and things came back to normal but it took a long time to heal. A good ten years and like all healing, scars abound in many ways. The past 15 years as I stated earlier have whizzed. Our youngest made us proud with a Valedictorian from High School and a Summa Cum Laude from college, and then all As for Masters grades. She joined her siblings in matrimony and they are doing well.

Then, Tempus Fugit (Latin for time flies) hit. It started slowly like a snowball rolling down a mountainside and a third of the way down it begins exploding with speed. And here I am. Soon to be 75. It's a milestone some would say. I thank the Lord for blessing me with longevity given the fact that my mom and dad passed in their 40s. I also thank the Lord for allowing me to taste the fruit of what a long life has to give. Lots of mistakes and embarrassments. Much love and happiness. Understanding what a full life is. Who knows what the next segment of fifteen years will bring. If He favors me with those next fifteen years, perhaps I'll finally get it right by Him. I will be sated by His love. I can't do it by myself!

Speaking of God. Would you like to go to heaven? I found a way you can gain points that will get you there. I came across a book about a nun in Poland named Maria Faustina Kowalska who lived during the Hitler years. It is a daily compilation of the young nun's spiritual attachment to Jesus. Yep, that one! It is explained in detail. You could probably find out the history of St. Faustina on the web. I am offering anyone who is willing to contact me with your name and address to srbeacon@gmail.com and I will send you a simple pamphlet that will open the door for you to heaven. No joke. No gimmicks. No strings! As soon as it's sent, your name and address is wiped from the computer. We all pass away from this orb and I believe that Jesus is real and a Supreme Being offers us the chance to be in heaven. This Chaplet of Divine Mercy that was given to St. Faustina will open that door to heaven.

Godspeed to you and yours.

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### Silver Key™ Connections Café

Monday

### Connections Café Menu January 2024

Friday

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-	,	,				We value
-	New Year's Day Silver Key Closed	2 Chicken Cacciatore WW Pasta Green Beans Diced Pears Milk	3 Beef Bourguignon Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Orange Milk	4 Sweet & Sour Chicken Brown Rice Asian Veg High Fiber Cookie Pear & Milk	5 Beef Burrito w/Green Sauce Spanish Rice SW Black Beans Diced Mangos Milk	your feed- back!! At the end of the month,
) <b>-</b>	8 Chicken Pot Pie w/Buttermilk Biscuit Lima Beans Pear Milk	9 Citrus Tilapia Lemon Herb Rice 5-Way Blend Veg WW Roll w/ Butter Diced Tropical Fruit Milk	10 Broccoli Cheese Soup Brown Rice WW Roll w/ Butter Peach Cobbler Apple & Milk	11 Pork Pot Roast w/Onions & Celery Roasted Red Potatoes Carrots Orange & Milk	12 Meatloaf w/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes Peas and Carrots WW Bread w/ Butter Orange & Milk	return your menu to your café specialist
-	Honey Curry Chicken Coconut Rice Peas and Carrots Apple, OJ Milk	16 Bratwurst w/ Mustard Roasted Potatoes Cabbage & Carrots, Orange Milk	17 Beef Stroganoff WW Penne Pasta Roasted Brussel Sprouts Apple Milk	18 Broccoli Stuffed Chicken Sweet Potatoes w/ Dates & Nuts Peas and Carrots Orange & Milk	19 Cheese Ravioli Succotash WW Roll w/Butter Diced Tropical Fruit Milk	and write in a 1-3 rank on the day's
	22 Shepherd's Pie Winter Blend Veg WW Roll w/ Butter Diced Peaches Milk	23 Chicken Teriyaki Brown Rice Succotash Orange Milk	24 Sweet & Sour Meatballs w/Pork Brown Rice Bahama Blend Veg Diced Mangos Milk	25 Breaded Chicken w/ Country Gravy Mashed Potatoes Succotash Apple Milk	26 Chef's Choice	entree.  1=Don't love it;  2=It's
	29 Chicken Marsala Roasted Red Potatoes Brussel Sprouts Apple Milk	30 Stuffed Bell Pepper Baby Bakers Carrots Orange Milk	31 Swedish Meatballs w/ Pork WW Pasta Green Beans Banana Milk	HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024		Good; 3=LOVE it!

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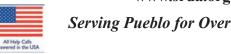
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# 'LIGHT FOR THE JOURNEY'

JAN MCLAUGHLIN Columnist & founder of an international prison ministry



"ARE YOU SCRATCHING THE FURNITURE OR JUMP-ING THE FENCE?"

> e have a have been raising him since he was a cute cuddly kitten. He is now over 2 years old, fat and very spoiled. I don't know how that happened. Spoiled I mean! I gave him all he needed. He has plenty of food, clean water every morning — filtered water at that! I clean out his litter box every day and he gets our undivided love and attention. He comes to us when he wants some treats and meows until he gets what he wants. He loves to go outside to explore, but we know he will jump the fence and wander off without a second thought, so we have to go with him and keep him within his safe boundaries.

We love our cat; we delight in him. And we're pretty sure he loves us, we think. Actually, his love for us is very fickle. He chooses to display his love for us when he feels like it. So often he simply wants to be left alone to sleep or to do his stealthy acts of misconduct. In our old age he



is like our child...a spoiled child who gets himself into lots of trouble. He is curious about everything and likes to explore areas and spaces and horizontal platforms where cats should never go. He scratches our furniture and sometimes meows incessantly. So, we squirt him with the water bottle to keep him under control. That's our warning signal. If he continues his bad behavior, he gets time out in the basement. He does not like that.

My cat, Buddy got me to thinking about God and the prophets and the Israelites in the Old Testament and modern people today. How we humans since the beginning of time are so much like my cat, Buddy. What humanity in general fails to understand is that God not only raised us up (He made us out of dirt—that ought to humble us) but He actually loves us and takes care of us by giving us everything we need for this life and for godliness. Just as I take care of and love and delight in Buddy, God does the same for us. He has given us a beautiful creation, food to eat, clothes to wear, homes to live in, mountains and oceans and flowers, trees, birds and so much more. He changes the seasons four times a year, so we have variety in our environment. He lights up the night sky, He paints a new sunrise and sunset every evening. He pours out refreshing showers that bring forth life from the earth and then caps off those showers with the exquisite heavenly jewelry of a rainbow.

And when we want to wander off and jump the fence of His commandments into the dark and dangerous world of our enemy, the devil, He

warns us by bringing trials upon us to call us back to Him. At times, when we persist in our bad behavior, He brings calamities upon us.

Here is what He says in Isaiah 45:5-7: "(NASB) I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these."

Do you wonder why we are going through so much chaos and turmoil in the world? Wars, violence, corruption in every arena of society, lies and deception, shameful breaking of God's commandments. Our great and merciful God has put up with so much of our bad behavior for thousands of years. On reading the prophetic books of the Bible, I hear our loving Creator repeatedly calling out to humanity, "Return to Me,"

The words in the book of Joel 2:12-14 especially brought me to tears: "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "Return to Me with all your heart, And with fasting, weeping and mourning; And rend your heart and not your garments." Now return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness and relenting of evil."

Hear these words from **Ezekiel 33:11:** "(NASB) Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord GOD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and

live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?' These words are not only for the Old Testament Israelites. They are for us right now.

Despite my cat Buddy's bad behavior, I love him. I don't know why, I just do. He doesn't deserve my love, my protection or all the comforts I provide for him. The same goes for us. We don't deserve all that God does for us. We don't deserve God's love. None of us do. Someday soon God's warnings will cease. He will cease to say, "Return to Me." Rather, the scariest words in the Bible come from the very mouth that called out the words Return to me. He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you are from; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU EVILDOERS.'

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# REELING

### POWERFUL AND PERSONAL HISTORY

### **BETTY JO TUCKER**





IRECTOR MICHELLE DANNER'S LATEST FILM, MIRAN-DA'S VICTIM, made me so angry I even shouted at the screen. But I also felt thankful for this movie because it helped me understand how difficult it is for women who have been raped and try to get justice.

What you will see, dear reader, involves how the Miranda Rights warning became required in the United States. It all started back in the 1960s in Phoenix, Arizona. The victim was 18 years old. She was walking home from her night job at a local theater when a man kidnapped and raped her. And, imagine this, she wanted him to pay for his crime! The film then shows how difficult it was for the young girl after she accused Ernesto Miranda.

MIRANDA'S VICTIM, no holds barred.

Watching it through sure can be

But powerful, in ways galore. When done, you know a whole lot more.

Michelle Danner looks at real life. Again she picks someone in strife. Brave young woman who tells her woes.

And how she suffers as trial goes.

But just one trial was not enough. So suffering is daily stuff. Abigail Breslin plays this part and shows she knows acting is Art.

Subject Miranda we see too. with lawyers who have lots to do. The U.S. Supreme Court appears to make a judgment someone fears.

All come together on the screen and history has now been seen.

In addition to Abigail Breslin's star performance, the wonderful support cast deserves praise, especially the lawyers played by Andy Garcia, Ryan Philippe, Luke Wilson and Supreme Court judge Donald Sutherland (in almost a cameo). Also, Sebastian Quinn delivers the goods as Miranda, and Mireille Enos does the same as the victim's worried mom,

Kudos for the writers too. Complicated but down-to-earth screenplay was written by J. Craig Stiles from his story with George Korber and Richard

# SENIOR LIVING AT VILLA PUEBLO



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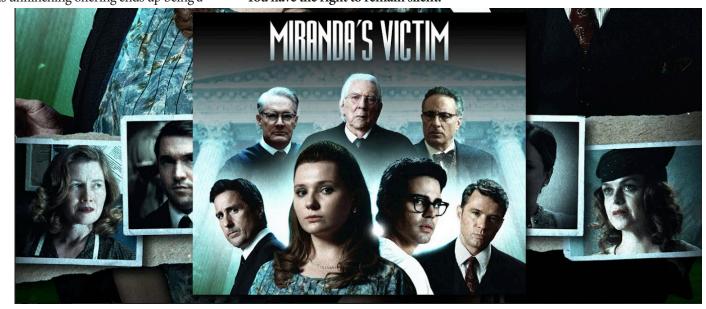
Lasser.

Miranda's Victim is not easy to watch. But like other Danner films (Hello Herman, Bad Impulse, and The Runner) this unflinching offering ends up being a movie that matters.

(Released by All in Films. Available on *Prime Video. Not rated by MPAA.)* 

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### ■ FROM PHARMA PAGE 1

Can you describe your customers?

My customers are too diverse to describe. They range from little babies to people in their 80's and 90's. I strive to be welcoming to everyone and treat them fairly.

Why do your customers select you over your competitors?

Customers choose me because they want to go to a pharmacy where they know the pharmacist and the technician and can easily ask them questions. I don't have a long phone answering system where you have multiple options to select from. When you call, you get an answer! And on the odd chance that we can't get to the phone on time, there is a simple message line and we call you back quickly.

Where do you see your business in the next year?

I see my business right here. I hope to build a loyal customer base that I can serve for many years to come.

Whom do you seek advice from for your business?

I have had the pleasure to work both for and with many skilled pharmacists over the years. I have a plethora of contacts I can reach out to. Cardinal Health, my primary wholesaler and The Medicine Shoppe franchise also provide many resources to reach out to for help. There are also other independent pharmacy owners that I know both in Pueblo and Colorado Springs that are always willing to help out with answers.

How has technology, such as computers and the internet, impacted how you conduct business?

Technology is essential to pharmacy practice. From physically typing in prescriptions to advertising you have to use technology. The main one is help in checking both drug and disease state interactions. Nobody could do that without the aid of computers. Technology like texts and refill apps also greatly improve your communication with patients.

How can our readers get ahold of you? The best way to reach me is to call. We still answer the phone! 719-501-5141. Or just stop on by and say hi. Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm and Saturday 9am to noon.

Other thoughts, ideas, comments: I offer many pharmacy services, including bubble packing of meds, delivery or drive-thru for people with mobility issues, non-sterile compounding and immunizations.

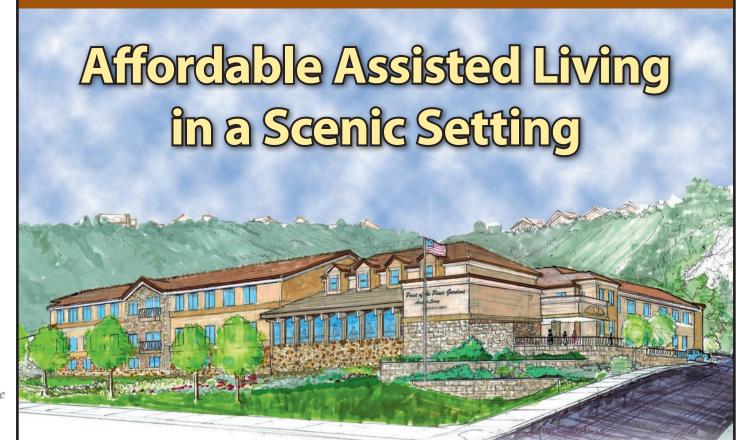
I take Colorado Medicaid and most insurances and give uninsured patients a good price as well.

### ■ FROM **CLUBS** PAGE 1

ence, Technology, Engineering & Math) tutoring and mentoring.

Boys & Girls Clubs volunteer opportunities assist staff in out-of-school programs including mentoring and tutoring in addition to teaching or co-facilitating activities in sports, arts and crafts, science, careers and more. After completing an application, interview and attending an orientation, volunteers may work in a specific Club to help with activities on a weekly basis and/or help on special events throughout the year.

According to Angela Giron, the President/CEO, "Becoming a Boys & Girls Clubs Volunteer is a great way for the community



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to support our mission of enabling all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible community members. Volunteers play a unique role in asset building in Clubs, and that's why your support is so valuable to us."

Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County provide healthy meals and quality educational programming for kids and teens age 6 to 18. Although is costs approximately \$2100 per member to provide program services for a year, thanks to grants and individual donors, there is no cost passed on to youth or their families.

Help support the great Pueblo organization that devotes all of their resources into helping Pueblo youth grow up to be successful adults. Club kids and teens report that 82% report feeling emotionally safe at their club; 78% have supportive adult connections at their club, and 95% of members say that club staff make them feel they will be a success.

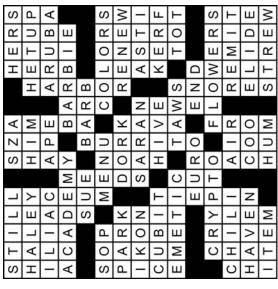
Check out the Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County website at **BGCPCkids**. **org** where you can fill out a Volunteer Interest card. Volunteer orientations occur on bi-monthly. You can get information on how to get started by emailing Jena Sanchez at JenaS@BGCPueblo.org or by calling **719-283-1690**.

# ■ FROM MAYOR PAGE 1

a gym. Prompted by the lack of supports for local businesses during the pandemic, I organized a group of business owners and community members to advocate for more funding and a plan for businesses to safely reopen. Along with the City and County, the team and I were successful in creating a system where businesses could get support to reopen which meant more people could go back to work and more businesses could give to the economy.

In 2021, I decided to run for City Council to ensure that small businesses were represented in policy making and have been elected as Council President since my first meeting. From joining City Council, I've been committed to working tirelessly to make sure that the needs of our community are met. As President, I have had the opportunity to lead the Council in

► CROSSWORD ANSWERS ► GAMES ON PAGE 14



finding practical solutions to the crucial issues affecting our community. I am dedicated to making sure that the city continues to thrive and grow in a way that benefits all of our citizens. Through my experience in governing, I came to know the people, the challenges, and the opportunities that this

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# **GOLDEN AGE CENTER**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 #13 Beef Barley Soup WW Crackers Sesame Broccoli Apricot Pineapple Compote WW Bread Apple	3 #66 Pot Roast w/Gravy Baby Carrots & New Potatoes Seasoned Green Beans Cantaloupe Raisin Nut Cup WW Bread w/Butter	#47 Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham Spinach Salad w/Mandarin Oranges Hard Boiled Egg Sliced Peaches WW Roll w/Butter	5 #56 Lemon Baked Fish Tarter Sauce/Lemon Rice Pilaf Creamy Coleslaw Green Beans w/Mushrooms Apple
8 #55 Kielbasa Parsley Buttered New Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Baked Acorn Squash Pineapple/Mandarin Orange Compote	9 #24 Chicken Cacciatore Green Beans Smashed Red Potatoes Banana WW Bread W/Butter	10 #94 Swiss Steak Mushroom Sauce Smashed Red Potatoes Seasoned Greens Salad w/Lite Ranch Orange WW Bread w/Butter	#20 California Veggie Bake Spinach Salad w/Egg and Lite Italian Pear Citrus Cup Oatmeal Raisin Cup WW Bread w/Butter	#82 Smothered Chicken Cornbread Stuffing Peas & Carrots Cauliflower& Broccoli Applesauce Waldorf Salad
15 CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	16 #44 Ham and Beans Collard Greens Cornbread Orange Juice	17 #40 Cream of Potato Soup Tuna Salad Wrap Shredded Romaine Lettuce & Tomato Slices Creamy Coleslaw Peaches	#68 Pueblo Beef Stew Sour Cream WW Crackers Brussels Sprouts Vegetable Salad w/Lite Ranch Banana	19 #88 Stuffed Peppers Chopped Spinach w/Malt Vinegar Applesauce Cake WW Bread w/Butter
#31 White Bean Chicken Chili Spinach Salad w/Lite Italian Dressing Cornbread Orange Juice	#109 Turkey Pot Pie Peas & Carrots Salad w/Lite Ranch WW Roll w/Butter Orange Oatmeal Cookie	24 #86 Spinach Lasagna Seasoned Green Beans Salad w/Lite Italian Banana WW Bread w/Butter	#28 Beef Stroganoff Orange Spiced Carrots Pickled Beet & Onion Salad Orange WW Bread w/Butter	26 #17 Black Bean & Tortilla Casserole Steamed Brown Rice Whipped Sweet Potatoes Mixed Fruit
29 #92 Sweet & Sour Pork Brown Rice California Mixed Vegetables Orange WW Dinner Roll	30 #63 Pasta Primavera Spinach Salad w/Egg & Lite Italian Apple Pear Salad w/Almonds Plums Garlic Bread	31 #27 Chicken Fried Steak w/Cream Gravy Smashed Red Potatoes California Mixed Vegetables Appl & WW Roll	A \$3.00 suggested donation per meal is appreciated, but not required.	Must have assessment form for our meal program on file with UAAACOG. Eligibility 60+.

### **FLORENCE SENIOR CENTER**

	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
	2	4	5
	#50 Honey BBQ Chicken	#47 Scalloped Potatoes w/	#56 Lemon Baked Fish
	<b>Oven Browned Potatoes</b>	<u>Ham</u>	Tarter Sauce & Lemon
	<b>Broccoli and Carrots</b>	Spinach Salad w/Mandarin	Rice Pilaf
	Diced Pears	Oranges	Creamy Coleslaw
	Carrifruit Salad	Hard Boiled Egg	Green Beans w/Mushrooms
+	WW Bread w/Butter	Sliced Peaches	Apple
		WW Roll w/Butter	
	9	11	12
	#32 Chili con Carne	#20 California Veggie Bake	#82 Smothered Chicken
	Steamed Broccoli	Spinach Salad w/Egg and Lite	Cornbread Stuffing
	Cornbread	Italian	Peas & Carrots
	Trail Mix w/Nuts & Raisins	Pear	Cauliflower& Broccoli
	Apple	Citrus Cup	Applesauce Waldorf Salad
		Oatmeal Raisin Cup	
		WW Bread w/Butter	
	16	18	19
	#75 Roast Pork Loin	#68 Pueblo Beef Stew	#88 Stuffed Peppers
	Brown Gravy	Sour Cream	Chopped Spinach w/Malt
	Smashed Red Potatoes	WW Crackers	Vinegar
	<b>Orange Spiced Carrots</b>	Brussels Sprouts	Applesauce Cake
	Orange	Vegetable Salad w/Lite	WW Bread w/Butter
1	Mitzie's WW Dinner Roll	Ranch	
		Banana	
	23	25	26
	#27 Chicken Fried Steak	#16 Beef Stroganoff	#17 Black Bean & Tortilla
	Cream Gravy	Orange Spiced Carrots	<u>Casserole</u>
	Smashed Red Potatoes	Pickled Beet & Onion Salad	Steamed Brown Rice
	California Mixed Vegetables	Orange	Whipped Sweet Potatoes
	Apple	WW Bread w/Butter	Mixed Fruit
	WW Dinner Roll		
	30	A \$3.00 suggested	Must have assessment
	#81 Sloppy Joe on a Bun Scalloped Potatoes	donation per meal is	form for our meal
	Broccoli and Carrots	appreciated, but not	program on file with
	Apple	required.	UAAACOG. Eligibility
	P.F.		60+.
			<del>007.</del>

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# Pneumococcal Pneumonia Can Be Life-Threatening

# HERE'S WHAT TO KNOW & DO

(StatePoint) Pneumococcal pneumonia can disrupt your life for weeks and, in some cases, be serious or even life-threatening. To help adults understand how they can help protect themselves against pneumococcal pneumonia, the American Lung Association and Pfizer are partnering to share important information and patient insights about the disease.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that this lung disease causes an estimated 150,000 hospitalizations annually nationwide. Symptoms include high fever, excessive sweating, shaking chills, coughing, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath and chest pain. Some symptoms can appear quickly and without warning.

**Risk Factors** 

The immune system naturally weakens with age, so even if you're healthy and

active, being 65 or older puts you at increased risk for pneumococcal pneumonia. In fact, adults 65

and older are over 10 times more likely to be hospitalized with pneumococcal pneumonia than those aged 18-49.

In adults 19 and older, certain factors increase pneumococcal pneumonia risk compared with healthy adults of the same age. These include smoking cigarettes, chronic lung diseases like asthma and COPD, chronic heart disease and diabetes.

### Prevention

Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination can help protect against the disease and is recommended for at-risk groups. For adults living with certain chronic health conditions and those 65 or older, vaccination helps protect against a potentially life-threatening illness.

"Having asthma can sometimes restrict me from doing things I love, so I really try to take proactive steps to help keep myself healthy, like avoiding my known asthma triggers and following my doctors' advice," says Catherine, a patient who was diagnosed with asthma in adulthood. "I didn't even think I was old enough to get vaccinated for pneumococcal pneumonia, but when my doctor recommended it, I got it because I trust him. I like the comfort of knowing it's helping to protect me against this potentially serious lung disease."

In addition to being up to date on your vaccinations, washing your hands, and not smoking are all habits that can help prevent pneumococcal pneumonia. Those with chronic illnesses should also follow the care recommendations for their condition.

### Disparities

The 2025 Vaccines National Strategic Plan has pneumococcal disease vaccination rate targets of 90% for people 65 years and older and 60% for adults with underlying health conditions at increased risk of disease. Unfortunately, current vaccination rates are falling far short of these goals – especially among Black and Hispanic/Latino-communities. In 2021,

pneumococcal vaccination coverage among all U.S. adults aged 65 and older was 70.1%. However, the rate was around 60% among the Black population and around 52%

among the Hispanic/Latino population of the same age group. Latino and Black adults are also at greater risk of developing certain chronic health conditions, such as asthma and diabetes, compared to individuals who are white. It's important that all adults at risk take steps to help protect themselves against infection.

### What Should You Do?

If you're at increased risk for pneumo-coccal pneumonia, talk to your doctor or pharmacist about vaccination. Being an active part of your healthcare team, advocating for yourself and asking questions is important. Even if you've previously had a pneumonia vaccine, your healthcare provider may recommend additional vaccination for increased protection. You can learn more, as well as take a quiz to assess your risk, by visiting lung.org/pneumococcal.

Pneumococcal pneumonia can be serious. Talk to your healthcare provider about how to help prevent this lung disease. This month's Senior Safety Page is Proudly Sponsored by AMERICAN VEIN! Give them a call right away!

And thank themfor sponsoring this valuable addition to the Senior Beacon!!





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GLEN VOLLMECKE Author: "Intermission a Place in Time."



The infamous Tower. Imagine.

Dominating London's landscape and constructed by William

the Conqueror in 1078, this infamous structure remains one of England's most sinister. Named the Tower of London, few haven't heard gory details of its past inhabitants. A memorial on Tower Green, (where I once stood myself) plays tribute to many sad souls executed there over past centuries. Ghosts of Anne Boleyn, Lady Jane Grey, not to forget Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury,

whose shadow often theatrically returns to this site. At seventy-two she unsuspectingly was the target for Henry VIII's significant

retribution. Her son Cardinal Pole belittled the king's claim to be head of the Church of England. Safely ensconced in France his own mother was the target in London, and ordered to appear albeit defiantly at the chopping block. Told to kneel, she adamantly refused, screaming in terror that she was no traitor. The frustrated masked executioner took a wild swing, and missed, angered he chased her frail worn body around the scaffold, until she eventually

scaffold, until she eventually succumbed to being hacked to pieces. This spectacle has been seen many times; amid her phantom earsplitting screams of suffering, and desperation. Even the multiple ravens cannot consider another retreat, as should they abandon their present home, the Tower will inevitably fall... Obviously their relentless care is certainly the finest. My initial visit occurred at 17 years old, and captivated by its reputation, I careful-

ly climbed upwards on the stone, cold winding steps toward the fateful room the absolute prison which housed the two

Ghosts of Anne Boleyn, Lady Jane Grey, not to forget Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury, whose shadow often theatrically returns to this site. At seventy-two she unsuspectingly was the target target for Henry VIII's significant retribution.

princes the brothers Edward and Richard, circa 1483 prior to their deceptive and apparent, yet unproven murders.

When Edward IV died unexpectedly his twelve-year-old son was destined to succeed him as Edward V. Prior to his coronation, both brothers were acknowledged as illegitimate by Parliament. Their uncle the Duke of Gloucester dispatched the brothers to the Tower. Meanwhile he ascended the throne as Richard III. Two

small skeletons were uncovered beneath a staircase near the White Tower in 1674. Both, because of their royal status were then buried in West Minster Abbey. Many encounters of two small boys dressed in white nightgowns are seen as they clutch each other fearfully. Often those witnessing and realizing the significance of the spirits reach out in sympathy. Sadly, the brothers' reflections both retreat into their prison

wall. Perceptibly assassinated/ dispatched by close relatives due to a compulsive craving to reach Britain's throne, thus robbing the two royal brothers of their rightful destiny. Images of these pale skinned, and gentle boys reveal their vulnerability, so alike with ebony tunics, soft black velvet slipperlike shoes, and golden shoulder length hair. Each consistently wore heavy gold chains, with attachments signifying their heritage...mutually an easy target for their adversaries. Notorious for ghostly activity, Wakefield Tower parades a tragic translucent specter of Henry VII, whose weak and ineffectual reign was terminated by

their uncle the Duke of Gloucester, (soon to become Richard III) "His deadly knife rapidly stikked Henry's body full of deadly

holes."
(Pardon my primeval spelling; that is verbatim!) This transpired May 21st at midnight, 1471. Notoriously, this irrational phantom paces angrily

around Wakefield Tower's damp, murky inner sanctuaries until the last stroke of midnight, then abruptly it vaporizes into thin air, until next year, where it seizes attention once again. Rest in peace Henry, as still a vestige of anger, frustration and remorse cling to this ethereal character. However, despite legend referencing the structures' paranormal activity elsewhere



in the building, the White Tower provides ageless stories, proof of having the most hostile manifestations. Known as the earliest erected building in the vicinity, these clammy cement, subzero temperature of these previously occupied rooms play host to the 'White Lady.' Often seen through a nearby window, as she serenely waves to groups of children playing in the courtyard. Permeating her entrance to St. John's chapel with a cheap, nauseating perfume, this Lady announces her eventual arrival. Many sentries attest to the fact they gagged and even 'threw up' due to her lightheaded fragrance. Meanwhile, Henry VIII's gawdy yet impressive rendition of his coat of armor stands proudly in the gallery. Many guards sense the demonic crushing sensation, felt more conspicuously while in close proximity to these areas, only to feel relief when staggering from the room. One describes a heavy cloak being flung at him, describing the incident, an entity grabbed it from behind, causing a red inflamed gash to his neck which was identified by his comrades in the guardroom. Thus, even today another invisible assailant roams the corridors.

### Thought for the day:

Careful! Thoughts are like boomerangs.

Author Glen Vollmecke can be reached at AlpacasRus@hotmail.com





# SENIOR CLASSIFIEDS

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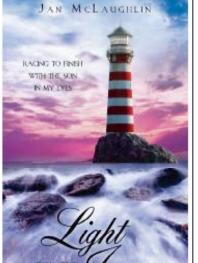


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The chapters are short and keep the reader's interest. The author is humble and not adverse to admitting her own foibles. As a result, this reviewer can relate as one less-than-perfect reader to a less-than-perfect author.

A 4-word recommendation: It's a happy read!" Dr. Raymond White, Pueblo, CO \$10.00 Plus shipping.

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JOSH WELLER, PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST-SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION - PUEBLO COUNTY, FREMONT COUNTY AND EL PASO COUNTY

### **SOCIAL SECURITY IMPROVES CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE RANKING**

### **SOCIAL SECURITY IS COMMIT-**TED TO IMPROVING customer

service by providing more access to our programs and services, and our efforts have paid off. We're proud to announce that Social Security's ranking on Forrester's 2023 Customer Experience Index increased by 3.3 points – the only agency on the list to make a significant gain.

We achieved this higher ranking by focusing on key initiatives in 2023, like:

\* Implementing online scheduling for in-office enumeration appointments. Customers can now schedule appointments online for both original and replacement Social Security cards. This service is currently available in all 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

\* Conducting a targeted mail campaign to reach people who may be eligible for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs and Medicare Savings Programs with enrollment information. Please see our publication, Understanding the Extra Help with Your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf.

\* Employing strategies to help people facing barriers in accessing our programs and services, including people with:

- -- Limited income and resources.
- -- Limited English proficiency (LEP).
- -- A risk of homelessness.
- -- Mental and behavioral disabilities.
- -- Partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services to test new ways to make it easier for SSI applicants to access nutrition assistance programs.

Forrester's' recognition of our customer service improvements reflects our commitment to making it easier for you to do business with us. We invite you to learn more at www.forrester.com/ press-newsroom/forrester-2023-us-federal-customer-experience-index/. Please share this news with those who may need it.

### HELP SOMEONE YOU LOVE APPLY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND MORE

Sharing is caring. This Valentine's Day, take time to remind your loved ones that Social Security helps people in all stages of life. We provide easy and convenient ways to learn about and apply for benefits. Using our online services, you can assist friends and family members to:

1. Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Check if the person you are helping is eligible for SSI – and start the process online - at www.ssa.gov/ssi.

Apply for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

When the unexpected happens and a loved one can no longer work due to a serious medical condition, SSDI can be a lifeline. Find out more at www.ssa.gov/benefits/ disability.

3. Create a personal my Social Security account.

If your loved one is planning for retirement or interested in estimating their future benefits, they can create a free and secure my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount and view their benefit estimates.

Check the status of a pending application for benefits.

Checking the status of an application is quick and easy with a personal my Social Security account. If you don't have an account, you can create one at www.

CINDA RUBY **OWNER** 719-784-4090 HWY 115 PENROSE, CO Hours: Sunday -Thursday: 7-3pm Fri and Sat: 7-7pm

ssa.gov/myaccount.

Appeal a decision for benefits. If someone you know was denied Social Security benefits or SSI, they can request an appeal. We provide information about how to appeal decisions for both medical and non-medical reasons at www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/appeal.html.

To discover more ways you can assist others, please visit www.ssa.gov/thirdparty/.

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13						14				15				
16						17				18				
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71	$\vdash$		$\vdash$			72		T		73	$\vdash$			Г

organization

Grammy winner

25. Drench

per song, "True \_

Diaries"

24. Prickle on a wire

28. Waiter's handout

21. \*"What Was I Made For?"

23. \*"A Boy Named \_\_\_\_\_," 1970

30. \*Grammy-nominated Lau-

35. Amusement destination

37. Rachel Renee Russell's "\_

40. South Korean boy band

39. Extend subscription

41. Type of wrap

### THEME: THE GRAMMYS

### **ACROSS**

- 1. Moonshine maker
- 6. \*Artist with most 2024 Grammy nominations
  - 9. Not his
  - 13. "Roots" author
  - 14. That guy
  - 15. Full of emotion (2 words)
- 16. Relating to #3 Down
- 17. Tarzan's mom, e.g.
- 18. Caribbean island destination
- 19. \*The Recording \_\_\_\_\_, voting

46. Honey-producing

region

43. Italian wine

facility

44. Forearm length

- 47. Saw incision
- 48. Nauseant
- 50. Fancy marbles used as shooters
- 52. U.S. Marine Corps gift recipient
- 53. EU currency
- 55. Aglet on a shoelace, e.g.
  - 57. \*\_ \_.com Arena
- 60. \*Miley Cyrus' Song of the Year nominee and popular romantic gift
- 64. Texas cook-off dish
- 65. \*"In the \_ Tonight," by Gram-
- my-winner Phil Collins 67. Send, as payment
  - 68. Safe place
  - 69. Bird word
- 70. Leave out
- 71. Bookkeeping entry

- 72. Refrigerator sound
- 73. Scatter

### **DOWN**

- 1. Not Sunni
- 2. Baby powder ingredient
- 3. Pelvic parts
- 4. Shows the way
- 5. Aristotle's school
- 6. One-horse carriage 7. Mailing "code"
- 8. Single-cell protozoan
- 9. \*Grammy-winner, Alpert
- 10. \*Purse for the red carpet

### SODUKU

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

		_			_	w.g.10		9
8					5	9		
		3		2	6			
5		6						
9				5				
6	2						4	9
			3	1				2
						8		6
			1	4		5		
		9	2					3

- 11. Bumpkin
- 12. Pampering place
- 15. Bar \_\_\_\_, ME
- 20. Rewards, in the olden days
- 22. Pendulum's path
- 24. Cantina staple
- 25. \*Ice , Best New
- Artist nominee 26. Wooden ship caulking
- 27. Space exploration mission
- 29. \*Grammy host for the fourth time
- 31. Plumbing problem
- 32. Early stages of illness
- 33. Reminiscent of the past
- 34. \*"Anti-Hero" perform-
- 36. Not purl
- 38. Pacific Islanders'

### herbal drink

- 42. Handrail post
- 45. Neckwear decoration
- 49. Use scissors
- 51. Soft palate vibrations
- 54. House pest
- 56. Resided
- 57. Social media conversa-

### tion

- 58. Bank of Paris
- 59. Big Bang's original
- matter 60. Word on a gift tag
- 61. Arabian bigwig
- 62. Fair attraction
- 63. Hot pot
- 64. Denoted by symbol X
- 66. Debtor's letters
- ► ANSWERS ON PAGES **TWO & NINE**

# OCAL REPRESENTA

### TY WINTER

Colorado Congressman, business owner, husband, father



CONGRESSIONAL *REP TY WINTER* **WRITES TO** GOVERNOR POLIS;

> HERE'S THE LETTER:

"January 12, 2024

Over the last ten days, the Eastern Plains in Colorado have endured severe weather and blizzard conditions. Colorado's farmers, livestock producers, and rural families were faced with singledigit, below-zero temperatures, and other life-threatening conditions.

Yesterday, Governor Polis released a disaster declaration activating the Colorado State Emergency Operations Plan to "take all necessary and appropriate state actions

to assist the affected jurisdictions with

their response, recovery, and mitigation efforts." The warning centers Governor Polis announced can be found in counties along I-25 north of Jefferson County. Despite our severe weather, the southern and eastern parts of our great state were ignored by

this measure.

Today I was contacted by several local officials in my counties who are struggling to assemble limited resources to aid their communities. This is yet another stark example of the rural-urban divide and the apparent disregard the Governor has for Rural Coloradans.

We call on Governor Polis to provide the same aid to Rural Coloradans as he gave to those in urban areas. Governor Polis, be a governor for the

whole State of Colorado. "

Representative Ty Winter **House District 47** Colorado State Capitol 200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 307 Denver, Colorado 80203 Ty.winter.house@coleg.org Office: 303.866.2747



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Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Energy & Environment

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE OF COLORADO **DENVER**

January 12, 2024

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Representative Ty Winter

Mustel

Representative Richard Holtorf

Senator Rod Pelton

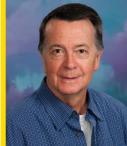
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Senator Byron Pelton



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John B. Reed III

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■ FROM **MAYOR** PAGE 9 town presents.

All of this has brought me to where I am today as a Mayoral candidate. Pueblo is at a crossroads, and we need a leader who can help us move forward in a positive direction. I have always been committed to making

a difference in this community, and as Mayor, I will work tirelessly to build a brighter future for all of us. I am passionate about creating jobs, strengthening our local economy, and improving the quality of life for all Pueblo residents. With my background in business, I am uniquely qualified to help our community grow and prosper.

The run-off election is being held January 23, 2004. It pits Nick Gradisar versus Heather Graham.

Heather can be contacted at (719) 406-5970, GrahamForPueblo@gmail.com, and by visiting HeatherGrahamForMayor.com

