

Final Season Huddle



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Valley Courier

Need Fur-ever Homes



— Page 16

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Today's Issue
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Have you heard?

'Best of' awards to be presented Tuesday

ALAMOSA— "Best of Alamosa" contest winners for 2016 will be presented their awards at the annual meeting of the Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at Society Hall, 4th and Ross.

A 6 p.m. social hour with appetizers will precede the brief annual meeting and presentation of awards.

Little Miss deadline extended

ALAMOSA— The entry deadline for the 2016 Little Miss Merry Christmas contest has been extended slightly to noon Monday, Nov. 21.

Little Miss and Miss Merry Christmas Tatum Lopez, Alamosa High School's 2106 homecoming queen, will be featured in the *Valley Courier's* annual pre-Thanksgiving edition on Wednesday, Nov. 23.



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SLV WEATHER



Enjoy Monte Vista's Veterans Day events today in the "cool sunshine"

56/18

Sun Sunny 56/20

Mon: Sunny 58/21

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Courier photos by Eric R. Flores

Friday parade honors veterans

Even the weather cooperated with a sunny morning on Friday as Alamosa honored veterans and military service personnel during its annual Veterans Day parade, which included honor guards, gun salute, marching bands and residents of all ages waving the red, white and blue. Below left, Dion Duran, Lily Flores and Maliyah Salazar proudly wave flags during the parade. See more photos on pages 3 and 7.



Winter flow program floats fish, tourism

By RUTH HEIDE
Courier Editor

ALAMOSA — Putting more water in the Rio Grande and Conejos Rivers in the wintertime benefits more than the fish, Trout Unlimited's Kevin Terry told water leaders during the Rio Grande Roundtable's meeting this week in Alamosa. Terry works for the nation-

al Trout Unlimited Western Water and Habitat Program. "We look for opportunities to find environmental flow solutions that coincide with agricultural purposes," he explained. "We are looking for partnerships with agricultural water users."

When Trout Unlimited (TU) hired Terry in 2013, one of his directives was to

increase winter flows on the Conejos River.

Having grown up close to the Conejos River, Terry was familiar with the river but not with all of the water sources that fed into it and the regulations that governed them.

"I wanted to understand the history and constraints of the watershed," he said.

He said he gained a wealth of information from Conejos Water Conservancy District Manager Nathan Coombs.

In 2014 Terry began the Conejos Winter Flow Program to provide more water for the fish in the river, which in turn would provide better fishing for anglers and more tourism for the area.

"There's a lot of people

interested in coming here to fish, bring some money, drop it off and go home," he said.

"Twenty-two inch rainbow trout need water," Terry said.

He explained he was particularly interested in increasing winter flows below Platoro Reservoir in the 15-mile stretch between

■ See FLOW page 3

Development group introduces new staff

By JEFFERSON GEIGER
Courier Staff Writer

ALAMOSA—The new faces of the SLV Development Resources Group (DRG) have arrived. Anne Jones started as the new chief financial officer in July and Kevin Wilkins' first day in the office as the new director was Monday.

Anne Jones replaces Roni Wisdom, who was the CFO for 12 years. Jones grew up in Boulder and came to Alamosa to attend Adams State University in 1981. Her father taught at the University of Colorado and was part of the reason she chose ASU.

"I didn't want to be around where he was teaching," Jones said, "so I came to Alamosa and stayed after graduation."

Jones got degrees in management, accounting and business computing systems at ASU along with a profes-

sional treasury certification. She comes to the DRG after working at First Southwest Bank for 30 years.

"I needed a change," said Jones. "This looked like a challenge to me so that's why I came over here."

Jones says that she'll keep doing what Roni set up and won't fix what isn't broken.

"I love working with numbers and I love problem solving. So if something doesn't balance, that's where my forte is."

Kevin Wilkins fills in the shoes left by Michael Wisdom, Roni's husband, who was the director for 22 years. Before entering the office he caught up on office records, met with locals and attended the recent SLV Hemp Symposium held at Adams State University.

"You got to know where you've been to know where

■ See STAFF page 3



Courier photo by Jefferson Geiger

SLV Development Resources Group Director Kevin Wilkins and Chief Financial Officer Anne Jones

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Valley News



Corurier photo by Eric R. Flores

Parade for all ages

Youngsters participate in the Veterans Day parade in Alamosa on Friday. Monte Vista will host the third Annual Veterans Parade and Tribute on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 10 a.m. The parade will start on Second Street at the SLV Superbowl and end at the Faith Hinkley Veterans Memorial Park where a Veterans Tribute will take place following the parade.

Send news to news@alamosanews.com or 2205 State Avenue, Alamosa 81101

SKI-HI 6 SHOWTIMES
West of Alamosa
589-4471

Sat. & Sun. 1:30, 5:45, 8:20
SHOOTIN'
Naomi Watts PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:20, 8:10
DOCTOR STRANGE
Benedict Cumberbatch PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:30, 8:00
TROIS
Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake PG

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:40, 8:15
BOO! A MADEIRA HALLOWEEN
Tyler Perry PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:30, 8:15
INFERNO
Tom Hanks, Felicity Jones PG-13

Sat & Sun. 1:30, 5:15, 8:10
JACK REACHER NEVER GO BACK
Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders PG-13

FLOW

Continued from Page 1

Platoro and the south fork of the Conejos where the high altitude and long winter create icy conditions forcing fish populations to congregate where they can find winter habitat. When the population is too dense, it stresses the fish and increases mortality rates, Terry explained. Finding more water in the wintertime would bolster the fish population, "because we have close to gold medal quality fisheries in the upper Conejos," Terry said. The Conejos Winter Flow

Program's target was 3 cubic feet per second (cfs) during the five non-irrigation months, which would be a 42-percent increase in water through the system. "You don't always have to hit the target," he said. "There's times you go beyond that 3 cfs and times we don't have enough." This is a totally voluntary program, he added. There are no long legal documents to sign, he said. Willing partners participate as they are able and water is available. Terry commended entities such as Colorado Parks & Wildlife who have worked with TU to contribute water to the river during the winter and the Colorado

Division of Water Resources for making sure everything is accomplished within the rules. Other great partners have been the Conejos Water Conservancy District, SLV Water Conservancy District, Rio Grande Water Conservation District, SLV Irrigation District and Rio Grande Water Users, he said. "We are increasing the flows for consumptive and nonconsumptive purposes," Terry said. He said the water is not just for environmental purposes, but a lot of it is used again for other purposes in the basin. In addition, efforts on the Rio Grande help the Conejos and vice versa, he said. A

project on the Rio Grande ties into the Conejos Winter Flow Program. "We are looking at water transfers with double duty flow benefits," he said. For example, ramping down storage water deliveries more gradually resulted in the Rio Grande still being "floatable" over the Fourth of July holiday when visitors were in Creede and other areas along the Rio Grande wanting to spend time and money. "We have set a target to keep boats floatable especially during that weekend," Terry said. Entities worked together to make that happen, which resulted in the same water

producing multiple benefits, Terry added. "We just want to make the water work harder for us," he said.

Have you heard?

Support Monte firefighters

MONTE VISTA—Support the Monte Vista Fire Department on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 4-7 p.m. with their annual chili supper at the station, 401 South Broadway St. Donations are greatly appreciated.

North Conejos board meets

LA JARA — The North Conejos School District Board of Education will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, at the district administration office in La Jara. Agendas are available at the office, 17890 US Highway 285, La Jara, or on www.northconejos.com.

Alamosa school board meets

ALAMOSA — The Alamosa school board meets on Monday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at 209 Victoria Ave.

Creede chamber meets

CREEDE— The Creede/Mineral County Chamber membership meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the chamber to review and vote on the 2017 budget and board members.

ASU hosts Think Tank

ALAMOSA — Adams State University is hosting a Think Tank to create the National Center for Historically-Underserved Students. Education leaders from around the country will be on campus. A campus forum will be held Monday, Nov. 14, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in McDaniel Hall 101.

STAFF

Continued from Page 1

you're going," said Wilkins. Before moving to Alamosa, Wilkins was the economic development administrator for the city of Yuma, Arizona for five years. There he did development agreements, strategic planning and worked on international relationships with Mexico and Canada. "There are people who believe in the sister city relationship," Wilkins said. "That's more of the soft side of international civic relationship. What I focused on in Yuma was more specific working relationships such as university exchanges, industry exchanges and tourism exchanges." Wilkins, a native Colorado born in Hugo, started his career in journalism. His grandfather was the head machinist for The Gazette in Colorado Springs. Shortly after receiving his journalism degree from Southern Nazarene University in Oklahoma, he took over his first newspaper in Oshkosh, Nebraska. With the rise of the internet and the farm crisis of the 80s, Wilkins saw the writing on the wall and decided to

work in economic development. He spent the majority of his career in Nebraska in cities such as Fremont and Chadron. Over his decade in Fremont he helped develop four distinct industrial parks and worked on an average of three industrial projects a year. "It was the most challenging and rewarding." It turns out that Wilkins has a history with his predecessor Michael. Wilkins was on the economic development board in Wray, Colorado as the publisher of the Wray Gazette when Michael was hired as the director there. "We helped charter an economic development organization which is still intact to this day," Wilkins said. For the future, Wilkins hopes to use his experience to develop international relationships. He plans on reaching out to the Netherlands consulate in Denver because of their expertise in food technology and science. He also wishes to connect San Luis Rio Colorado, Mexico with Costilla County's San Luis. "Economic development isn't an event," Wilkins said. "It's a process. It takes time. It takes commitment. I'm thrilled to be in the Valley and I look forward to experiencing as much as I can of it as quickly as I can."

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ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY COLORADO Great Stories Begin Here		CALENDAR OF EVENTS					November
SUNDAY/13	MONDAY/14	TUESDAY/15	WEDNESDAY/16	THURSDAY/17	FRIDAY/18	SATURDAY/19	
<p>Circle of Gratitude Celebration: 5 p.m. Student Union Building</p> <p>Art Exhibit: <i>The Sand in Your Shoes</i>, Mary Rothlisberger, Cloyde Snook Gallery, through November 22, gallery hours: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; and 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday</p> <p>Art Exhibit: <i>The Nature of Things</i>, Craig Lehmann, Hatfield Gallery, through November 22, gallery hours: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; and 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday</p>		<p>Town Hall with Governor John Hickenlooper: including Lt. Gov. Donna Lynce, and members of Governor's Cabinet, 1:30 p.m., Richardson Hall, parking available in all campus lots</p>	<p>Grizzly Club Luncheon: noon, Plachy Hall Old Lobby (Woody's Q Shack)</p> <p>Wrestling vs Green/White Dual Meet, 6 p.m., Plachy Gym</p> <p>Madera Wind Quintet Concert: 7 p.m., Leon Memorial Hall</p> <p>Faculty Lecture: <i>American Colossus: the NFL and American Culture</i>, Dr. Richard Loosbrock, 7 p.m., Porter Hall 130, free</p>	<p>Guest Lecture: Nutritional Myths and Practices of Successful Athletes: Implications for Active Non-Elite Performance, Sports Registered Dietician Dave Ellis, 6 p.m., Carson Auditorium, free</p> <p>Jazz Concert: 7 p.m., Richardson Hall Auditorium</p> <p>Zacheis Planetarium: free 7 p.m. Live Astronomy Program; 7:45 p.m. Live Astronomy Program</p>	<p>Tickets on Sale: Theatre Department Holiday Production <i>You Can't Take It With You</i>, Directed by Dr. John H. Taylor, 8 a.m., Theatre Box Office, first priority to people standing in line, telephone orders filled afterwards, 719-587-8499</p>	<p>STEM Saturday: Fingerprints and Fibers, Dr. Renee Beeton, grades 8-10, register: 719-587-7586</p> <p>Zacheis Planetarium: free 3 p.m. <i>Earthquake</i>; 3:45 p.m. <i>Fractal Explorations</i></p> <p>www.adams.edu</p>	