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Avs bring series home today DETAILS, 1C



Another must-win game vs. Smashville

WEATHER

70/41

Morning clouds and fog, then mostly sunny, with light winds.

DETAILS, 7C



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The Sunday Chieftain

COLORADO'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER/149TH YEAR

And Star-Journal

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SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018

FIRE SEASON

Firefighting arsenal at the ready

Mutual aid pacts provide personnel and equipment

BY PETER ROPER
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Unless the weather changes, it's going to be a hellish fire summer for Southern Colorado.

When the black smoke of a wildfire starts curling up over the prairie or in the trees of the nearby mountains, there are 11 fire-fighting agencies in Pueblo County that

have agreed to go and assist other departments and communities when needed.

All together, they can send 23 brush trucks at a fire. And if there is a fire big and bad enough, all 41 fire engines in their combined fleets.

Take last Tuesday: It was an all-hands-on-deck situation.

A wildland blaze that

FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES IN PUEBLO COUNTY

Pueblo Fire Department: 14 engines, 2 brush trucks, 2 aerial trucks, 1 rescue vehicle.

Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Bureau: 1 engine, 2 water tenders, 5 brush trucks, 1 rescue truck.

Pueblo Rural Fire: 6 engines, 1 brush truck, 2 rescue.

Pueblo West FD: 4 engines, 3 brush trucks, 2 aerial trucks.

Pueblo Chemical Depot: 2 engine, 2 brush trucks, 2 tender, 2 aerials, 2 rescue vehicles.

Beulah FD: 2 engines, 2 brush trucks, 1 tender, 1 rescue.

Boone VFD: 2 engines, 1 brush truck.

Rye FPD: 4 engines, 1 brush truck, 1 tender, 1 rescue truck.

Red Creek VFR: 3 engines, 2 brush trucks, 1 tender.

West Park FPD: 2 engines, 1 brush truck, 1 tender.

Transportation Technology Center ES: 2 engines, 3 brush trucks, 1 tender

— proper@chieftain.com

was about to be named the 17 Fire was burning east across southern El

Paso County, eating up acres of prairie and racing with the power of 60 mph

winds.

At the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office communi-

cations center, the call for help already had arrived and a "strike team" of brush trucks and firefighters went north to keep the fire out of Pueblo County, if possible.

Then, at 2 p.m., a second wildfire exploded on Barnett Road near Pueblo Memorial Airport, and another strike team was ordered to attack that fire.

"On Tuesday, we had all (11) of our participating agencies involved," explained Mark Mears,

SEE FIREFIGHTING, 2A

POLITICS

Lawmakers cover bills, budget at breakfast meeting

BY ZACH HILLSTROM
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

With the current session of the Colorado General Assembly winding down to its conclusion on May 9, area lawmakers sat down with constituents Saturday to recap the session thus far at the Great Pueblo Chamber of Commerce's last Legislative Breakfast of the session.

Pueblo Democrats Sen. Leroy Garcia and state Rep. Daneya Esgar were two of the legislators who addressed the crowd in attendance, detailing the bills they've passed and the initiatives they've undertaken since the session began on Jan. 10.

Esgar detailed some of the highlights from forming the state budget, including \$606 million allocated for education, \$36 million for school safety, \$225 million to the Public Employees' Retirement Association, \$12 million for the Child Care Assistance Program, \$495 million to address Colorado's transportation systems and \$9.3 million for pay raises



Leroy Garcia



Daneya Esgar

More on the web CHIEFTAIN.COM/NEWS/POLITICS

at the state's mental health hospitals.

Esgar said the piece of the budget she was most proud of was the

SEE LAWMAKERS, 2A



CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/CHRIS MCLEAN

Jimmy Valdez hoists a tire onto a pile during a recycling event Saturday at the Colorado State Fairgrounds.

EARTH DAY

Eco-friendly way to waste a Saturday

Health dept. hosts recyclable waste collection day

BY ZACH HILLSTROM
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Hundreds of citizens loaded up their vehicles and trailers with as many recyclable items as they could carry to the Colorado State Fairgrounds on Saturday for the Pueblo

Department of Public Health & Environment's annual Recyclable Waste Collection Day.

The southwest section of the Fairgrounds where carnival rides are located during Fair time was transformed into a massive drive-through

recycling dropoff from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., allowing Puebloans to rid their homes, garages and businesses of hard-to-get-rid-of recyclable items such as used tires, broken electronics and even old

SEE RECYCLE, 3A

BENEFITS OF RECYCLING

- According to the EPA:**
- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators
 - Conserves natural resources such as timber, water and minerals
 - Increases economic security by tapping a domestic source of materials
 - Prevents pollution by reducing the need to collect new raw materials
 - Saves energy
 - Supports American manufacturing and conserves valuable resources
 - Helps create jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States

REMEMBERING

'First lady of the greatest generation'

The hearse carrying former first lady Barbara Bush passes through members of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets as it nears her husband's presidential library at the university on Saturday.



SMILEY N. POOL/
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS VIA AP

Funeral for Barbara Bush held in Houston

BY JUAN A. LOZANO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Barbara Bush was remembered as the "first lady of the greatest generation" during a funeral Saturday attended by four former U.S. presidents and hun-

dreds of other people who filled the church with laughter as much as tears, with many recalling her quick wit and devotion to family.

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush joked that his mother called her style of mothering

him and his siblings "a benevolent dictatorship — but honestly, it wasn't always benevolent." He emphasized how she believed in the power of laughter and that joy should be shared.

SEE FUNERAL, 4A

INSIDE TODAY

Vol. 150
No. 326
148 pages
6 sections

BUSINESS 5B
CROSSWORD 4D
ENTERTAINMENT 7D

FUNERALS 8C
JOB/CLASSIFIED 1E/1F
LIFE 1D

OPINIONS 1B
LOCAL 6A
SPORTS 1C

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