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Meeting Dates for SECOPERA

The Southeastern Colorado PERA (Public Employee Retirement Association) has scheduled the next few meetings. All meetings will take place at noon at the Lamar Senior Citizens Building.

March 25th & April 29th

Lunch is available through SAGE at 11:15 prior to the meetings.

NOW HIRING

Maxim Healthcare would like to hire RN's LPN's and CNA's for Home Healthcare - Please Contact: Kristy Kimsey, Greg Lovato, or David Snyder at:

Maxim Healthcare
317 West 3rd Suite 100
La Junta, CO
Ph 719-383-0990

Classified Ads Sponsor

"I'M TOO STRESSED TO QUIT."

QUIT MAKING EXCUSES. 1.800.QUIT.NOW **QuitLine**
FREE SUPPORT AND FREE NICOTINE PATCHES TO HELP YOU QUIT TOBACCO. COLORADO Be Tobacco Free.

Help Wanted



Behavioral Health Provider

Join the Southeast Health Group team in Lamar! Full-time position with benefits. CAC II and valid driver's license required. Salary bumps at six and twelve months. Apply online at www.southeasthealthgroup.org. For more information, contact Jeannie at 383.5428 or jlarsen@semhs.org. EOE

Patient Facilitator

Patient Facilitator - Full-time position at High Plains Community Health Center located in Lamar, CO. Position assists providers with daily medical activities. Spanish speaking preferred. Apply at www.highplainschc.net. The position will be open until February 28, 2014. High Plains is an equal opportunity employer. Veterans are encouraged to apply. EOE

Help Wanted

Sales position available with training and guarantee. Call 719-688-2968

Custodian - Re-Posting

The Prowers County Maintenance Department is seeking applications for one Custodian position. Previous experience in general building maintenance, building custodial maintenance, and a general knowledge of operating and maintaining commercial cleaning equipment is preferred. This is a full time, hourly, day and night, rotating shift position with competitive salary and ben-

efits. Application and job description may be obtained from the Prowers County Administration Office: 301 South Main Street, Suite 215, Lamar, CO. Please note that if you have already picked up a job description for this vacant position in February 2014, please see the UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTION now available on our website: www.prowerscounty.net and is also available in the Prowers County Administration Office. If you applied prior to February 2014, you will need to re-apply for this position. Deadline to return applications will be 5:00 p.m. on March 7, 2014. EOE

Real Estate

Apartment for Rent - 4 Plex

Two bedroom apartment for rent - W/D coin operated - storage shed - Rent + Deposit - utilities except electricity - No Pets - Call 688-4238

House For Rent

One bedroom house for rent - rent + utilities + deposit - No Pets - Call 688-4238

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE LOCATION

313 South Fifth Street Lamar, CO; Suites Two and Three 800 sq. Feet - All newly remodeled; Utilities Included; Call Lori 336-7000

House For Rent

4 Bdrms, 2 baths, large fenced backyard - Central Heat/Air, W/D hook-ups - Leave Message at 719-688-7957

For Rent

1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments for rent, some remodeled. \$365.00 to \$475.00. No Pets. Ask for any rental concessions. 719-691-5040.

Miscellaneous

Coffee and Conversation

Join us for Coffee and Conversation Every Wednesday 6:30 pm at Brew Unto Others Coffee Shop 119 S Main Lamar. Different weekly topics that will stir your thinking. Call for more information 336-1331.

ECO First Presbyterian
Church of Lamar
A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

(5 blocks south of Community Bldg.)

**64th Annual
Pancake Supper**
Tues., March 4 from 5 to 7 p.m.
Come and join in the fun!

1110 S. 6th St. • 336-5072
www.firstpreslamar.com

WHS Scholarship BINGO

The Wiley High School Scholarship BINGO & Lions Club Pancake Supper is coming up on Monday, March 3, 2014. The supper starts at 5pm with BINGO following at 6pm. Come support the Wiley Community Scholarship and win great prizes from Ace Tires, Brase Insurance, Colorado Plains Irrigation, Legacy Bank, and more!

Zonta Rose Day

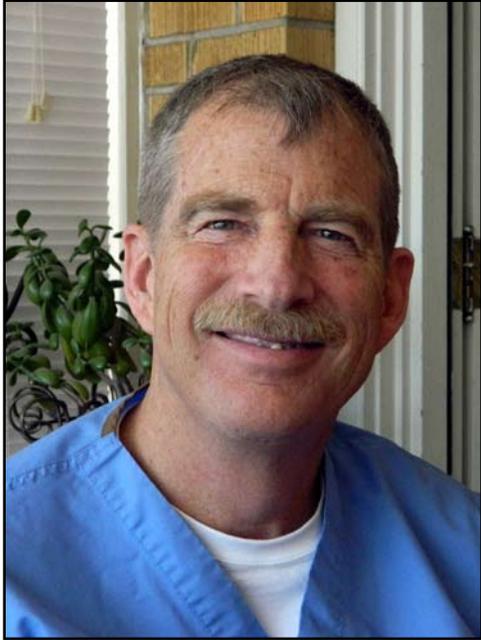
International Woman's Day & Zonta Rose Day is a chance for you to recognize individuals who have made a difference in the status of women. Celebrate their success on March 6th by sending them a beautiful yellow rose for only \$5.00 each. Deliveries are limited to Lamar, Wiley, McClave, Granada and Holly. All proceeds benefit the ZONTA Scholarship Fund. This fund awards scholarships to girls in our local communities pursuing educational opportunities.

Bruce is Retiring!

**It's Bruce Ham's Last
Day at Kirby Sales!!**

After 20 years, Bruce is retiring! Come in Friday, February 27th for coffee and donuts at 205 North Main.

Local Doctor-World Volunteer



Dr. James Smith of Prowers Medical Center and his wife, Cassie, recently returned from a week's trip to Haiti this past January, but you won't find them tanned from afternoons on the beach. They and several dozen volunteers spent their time at a medical facility, treating patients in Haiti's third largest city, Gonaives.

"We've been going there for about 13 years now, first as a program from our church in Pueblo, and more lately as an independent venture, supported by 501C3 donations," Dr. James Smith explained. He said at first, it was just a group of medical providers bringing duffel bags filled with their clothes and medicines to a church in Haiti where they'd look after patients. The doctor said there were no facilities available where he could perform operations for the first few years. The group visited the local hospital that had been wiped out by a wall of water from a recent hurricane. Saint Mary Corwin Hospital in Pueblo began a hospital adoption program.

"The hospital had a basement full of old, but serviceable equipment which was donated to the hospital in Gonaives," Smith said. He added that the hospital, the only one in a city of 300,000 is about the size of PMC, and was

storm damaged several years ago. Smith said a separate clinic was eventually constructed with some financial help from St. Mary Corwin. After several years, the clinic added a second story. St. Mary Corwin, like others in the state, revised their finances during the financial crunch several years ago and asked Smith and his group if they would work under a non-profit status if the hospital assisted with the legal part of the new set-up. He said, "Since 2010 we became Health 4 Haiti under our non profit status. We all sleep outside in tents for the week, but we are able to conduct examinations and operations in the clinic," he stated, adding, "This last trip, we saw 1,000 patients of all ages and conducted 45 surgeries of all types from the clinic, but we also visited some outlying areas for several days." Carrie Smith, who is a substitute teacher in Lamar, handles the group's logistics for the annual visit, from food and lodging to making sure everyone has passports and shots and group plane tickets for the week long stay. Smith said plans for the January visits begin in August. "We conduct a couple of briefing meetings to let everyone know what's involved with the trip and what will be expected of them," he added.

"We're open to volunteers who want to accompany us, and that includes people with no medical training," Smith said, "but we actively will recruit those with the medical background we need to fill out our medical providers." All the donations to the program, known as 'Health 4 Haiti' go to purchasing supplies and equipment. Dr. Smith said people pay their own way, about \$1,800 each for the round trip and meals for the visit. "Many non-medical personnel are college students and have often been sons or daughters of the doctors and nurses who make the trip. For many people this has been a life-changing event, once they see what we do," Smith said.

Haiti is located off the edge of Cuba in the Caribbean, and is the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Smith explained that once the United Nations began sending peace-keeping troops years ago, there has been less risk for visitors for the past six years. He's optimistic about continuing these journeys as the facilities are starting to improve for the population. After the last severe storm, the hospital had to cease operations at its location and move into a warehouse to treat patients and has been at that site for the past five years. Smith said the storms brought worldwide

attention to the Haitians plight so donations, many from Canada, have helped them to start building a new hospital.

"We conduct some surgeries, but we also deal with a lot of disease common to the tropics such as malaria, typhoid fever, Aids, TB and cholera. Prowers Medical Center also donated several thousand dollars of medicines to the annual venture this year," Smith stated. He said the donations have continued to grow to the point that Health 4 Haiti now rents a storage bunker at the Pueblo Chemical Depot. Once the materials have been compiled for shipping, they're sent to Project Cure in Denver where they're stored in shipping containers for transport to Haiti.

The doctor has been general surgeon at the local hospital for almost a year, coming to Lamar from Pueblo, although Smith grew up in La Junta. He'll soon be on the road again. "I'm a Lt. Colonel in the National Reserve and I've been called up to spend four months in Afghanistan beginning this summer," he said. That military service has had him traveling the world, spending three years in Germany and several tours of duty in Bosnia in a trauma ward. "I won't be on the front lines, but I'll be treating those soldiers who have," he explained. "I will work with surgeons who deal with arm and limb wounds, while as a general surgeon, I'll be treating central wounds for the soldiers."

Health 4 Haiti has a website at www.health4haiti.com. For those who would like to volunteer their time or make donations to the non-profit organization, call 719-251-7294. *By Russ Baldwin*

Lamar Resident Celebrates USA Citizenship

Queena Domburian of Lamar recently became an American citizen and her new status was celebrated by members of Voices of Southeast Colorado this past Tuesday, February 18.

Domburian, who has been in the country on her green card status for five years, took her citizenship oath in Denver on Thursday of last week. Domburian is self-employed as a prize-winning seamstress who received a lot of her training in Paris, France. "I had the talent to do this," she explained adding that she came to Lamar five years ago to be with her sister, Elizabeth, when she moved to the community. Their father named them after the British monarch, Queen Elizabeth.

The citizenship celebration was a highlight for the regular meeting of Voices of Southeast Colorado, held at the Crop Risk Advisor's offices, owned by Don Turner. About a dozen persons enjoyed some cake and punch and all members signed a congratulations card for Queena. According to the HBO documentary, 'Citizen USA, a 50 State Road Trip', one million persons become naturalized Americans each year. The director, Alexander Pelosi, visited naturalization ceremonies in each of the 50 states for one year, interviewing new citizens on their feelings and backgrounds that led them to come to the USA. Congratulations to Queena Domburian for being Lamar's one in a million. *By Russ Baldwin*

Lodging Panel Okays Spring & Summer Event Funding

Several spring and summer events had their funding requests approved by the Prowers County Lodging Tax Panel during its regular meeting, Tuesday, February 18. The Lamar Days Rod Run, Santa Fe Dutch Oven Cookers and 14U & 16U State and Regional Softball Tournaments were all approved for advertising and contract fees.

Ron Cook, the organizer of the annual Lamar Days Rod Run, received \$2,500 for the annual event which features a car show in Willow Creek Park, A Cruise with Cops Night, parade participation and a Sunday Poker Run with a Christian motorcycle club. The event will be held May 16 - 18.

Kent Anderson detailed a day-long event in Granada on June 7, called Cowboy Up at the Wagons. The event, held at the End of the Line Arena, will feature various aspects of cowboy competition such as working cattle, show horses, best remuda judging and will also feature campsites and Santa Fe Dutch oven cooking. About 200 people are expected to attend. Anderson said marketing and contract fees are estimated at \$3,800.

The third request to the Lodging Panel was made by Jill Bellomy representing local organizers for 14 and under and 16 and under state and regional softball tournaments. They are scheduled for Lamar on July 10-13 and July 16-20. The contract fees amount to \$9,500 combined. Gate fees will be charged to defray the cost of hiring umpires. As there will be no host families involved in the tournaments, Bellomy explained that hotels will be needed for coaches, players, parents and out of town spectators. Regional competition will come from Kansas and Missouri teams, as well as Colorado participants. The teams will stay between three and five days based on the brackets. *By Russ Baldwin*