Welcome to Cielo Vista Ranch. We are happy to share with you the experience of seeing the world from the top of Culebra Peak.

Please help us to maintain the mountain in its current undisturbed condition. The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative has made several suggestions that will ensure that the mountain remains beautiful for future generations to enjoy.

We recommend that either the Ridge Route or the Roach Route be used for your assent and the Talus Route be used for your descent.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please be safe and have an enjoyable day.

Happy Climbing,

Bobby and Dottie Hill

Richard & Kelly Welch
Culebra Peak offers a unique climbing experience. Unlike any other Fourteener in Colorado, hiking impacts are largely absent — Culebra is essentially “untrailed”. In order to preserve its pristine condition, please follow these climbing guidelines:

1. Plan ahead and Prepare. A dehydrated climber scurrying down the mountain to escape a storm is likely to cause unnecessary damage to fragile alpine tundra.

2. Disperse while hiking. In order to protect sensitive alpine plant communities, avoid hiking single file or along existing trampled routes.

3. Ascend and descend on a different route in order to minimize impacts to the mountain.

4. While hiking, try to step only on durable surfaces, such as rocks, in order to protect sensitive alpine plant communities. Don’t walk along the edge of melting snowfields or other areas where the soils are wet. Many alpine soils are over 5,000 years old, and alpine plants grow very slowly in the harsh climate and short growing season on Fourteeners.

5. Refrain from feeding animals or picking wildflowers. Leave what you find.

6. Bury all human waste below treeline, not in the tundra. Human waste above treeline requires hundreds of years to decompose. Pack out all the waste you carry in. Refer to the “Guide for Leaving No Trace on Colorado’s Highest Peak” for additional information.
New Mexicans vs. U.S. Forest Service

Land Struggle Grows at Ojo Caliente

A meeting for the rightful heirs to over 38,000 acres of land of the Ojo Caliente Land Grant in Northwestern New Mexico will be held Sept. 16 at 10 a.m. in the Mesa Vista High School in Ojo Caliente.

The heirs are seeking to regain title to 38,490 acres of land granted to 53 families by Spain in 1793 which are now part of the Carson National Forest under the Bureau of Land Management.

In the area, the meeting that the fencing and closing off of the land to the community in 1942 by the U.S. government has forced many to move and others to go outside the area for jobs in order to survive.

According to Filiberto Garcia, one of the meetings organizers, in 1790 Luis Duran and Gregorio Martin appeared before the Alcalde, Mayor General Garcia de la Alacran, seeking a grant of the land to the town of Ojo de la Concha, the land was granted to the residents with a stipulation that it was for common usage of water, firewood, and pasture.

Later, on Sept. 11, 1793, the grant was approved by the crown, Carlos IV, and sealed by the crown.

"Despus que este Territorio fue adquirido por los Estados Unidos bajo el Tratado de Guadalupe Hidalgo, los Estados Unidos también la aprobaron en Enero 2, 1874, despus de haber sido agrimenzada y aprobada por el Agrimensor General, Henry M. Atkinson." Garcia said.

"Garcia has received over 100 signatures on a petition seeking the return of the land to the people. Following the meeting on September 16 meeting, copies of this petition will be sent to President Carter, various federal officials throughout the country, state department officials and the forest service. A meeting with federal and local agencies and the Ojo Caliente community will be planned at that time as well. Garcia said. Plans are underway to erect a sign saying "Entiendo Ojo Caliente Land Grant!" at the various entries to the land. It is located some 25 miles northwest of Española, N.M.

"No teman, este no es una revolucion. La mitad de los de estos son heroes jovenes de Corea y Vietnam. Solo que remos la verdad y creamos que nos la robaron bajo fraude que se nos pague por los ciento y uno anos de exploitation y que la merced sea devuelta a los presentes herederos (Don't fear, this isn't a revolution. Half of those who have signed (the petition) are veterans of the first and second world wars. Their sons are young heroes of Korea and Vietnam. We only want the truth and it is how we think and believe that they were robbed by fraud and have paid for it by 101 years of exploitation and that the merced should be returned to the present heirs.)" Garcia said.

Border Fence Forces Mejicanos To Cross Desert, Mountains

A fence under construction between the United States and Mexico at San Ysidro, Ca. and Ti-juan-a, Mex., is forcing Mexican workers to cross a desert and mountains to get to work here, and many aren't making it.

With temperatures now reaching 120 degrees, the desert has claimed many lives and "uncommon" to find a body in the desert, according to a U.S. border patrol spokesman.

The 10-foot-high fence, stretching 5.6 miles in both directions from San Ysidro, along with the doubling of border police in San Diego, is the Carter plan for discouraging Mexican workers from crossing the border by diverting them to the desert.

"We realize it could mean death for many from exposure or thirst," said one Border Patrol official. But he said the patrol isn't "trying to kill anyone - it's not the plan that they will go and die in the desert."

A bill in Congress could authorize as many as 240 patrolmen for the San Ysidro area out of a total of 495 new border police.

Another broken promise" is the term angry Sioux Indian leaders from eight tribes in the Dakotas, Montana, and Nebraska used to describe the failure of an aide to President Carter to show up for an Aug. 9 meeting to discuss the return of stolen lands in South Dakota guaranteed them in perpetuity in an 1868 treaty.

The tribal leaders called for a public apology from the president. Thus far, none has been offered.

The Sioux gathered on the banks of the North Platte River, across from the Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Wyoming where the U.S. government, 111 years ago, promised leaders of the Sioux Nation that their lands in South Dakota would be protected forever. A few years later gold was discovered in the Black Hills and the treaty was broken. This year, the Sioux Nation won court judgments of $107 million for the land in the Black Hills and another $43.9 million for other lands under the treaty. However, the Sioux's were unhappy with this decision, because they maintain they don't want money, they want their rightful lands.

After the aborted meeting, the leaders returned to their homes to talk with their people to decide the next step in their reclaiming of 7.3 million acres of federal reserve lands in the Black Hills.

Teatro Workshop

El Teatro de la Lucha invites all gente who are interested in teatro to workshop Thursday, Aug. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the offices of the Parent-Community Education Project, 622 E. River St. Many musicians willing to help are welcome to attend.
Concilio to address civil rights forum in Pueblo

Members believe government should honor treaty

By Robert Kino Green

Concilio de Valle de San Luis member Pablo Ciddio said he plans to be at the civil rights hearing opening today in Pueblo.

A resident of Guadalupe in neighboring Conejos County, he will ask the committee why the Civil Rights Act of 1965 is not being enforced in southern Colorado.

"Rural people are not ignorant," he said. "We have found the enemy and it is our own government. They know the same facts as we do about the patterns of injustice along the New Mexico border, and not a thing is being done about it."

Ciddio said that the economic problems of Hispanic communities in southern Colorado are directly linked to the United States' ongoing violations of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo which was signed following the Mexican-American War but which has not been honored by U.S. political or legal institutions—including legislators.

"That treaty is the first law of the land," he said "but look what happened with the Taylor Ranch at last summer's trial. The judge did not even allow the treaty to be considered in his ruling."

Ciddio, who is involved in various economic development efforts in Conejos County, said land grant communities suffer economically when government ignores the rights of land grant heirs and allows outside interests to profit from the exploitation of the region. He cited both the Summitville and Battle Mountain Gold mines as good examples.

"There was no long-term benefit to the local communities from these mines but only the long-term contamination of the water upon which the acequias and agricultural economy depends," he said.

"What we are seeing here," said Ciddio, "is ethnic cleansing. We've all heard about it in Kosovo and seen it on TV. We're not being murdered here or run out of our own land, maybe, but the result will be the same if our rights continue to be ignored."

Conejos and Costilla counties both began as land grants. Seventy percent of the Guadalupe grant in Conejos County is now controlled by the federal government, he said. "If we do not look after our land, maybe the federal government will do so." He also said that the Guadalupe grant in Costilla County is now run out of state offices.

In Costilla County, land grant heirs still own land primarily in the Culebra drainage, with most of the Sangre de Cristo grant now in the hands of out-of-state owners.

Other members of El Concilio del Valle de San Luis, an organization comprised of descendants of land grant settlers, will also offer testimony at the civil rights hearing.

Ciddio does not have the highest of hopes that the officials will hear the message.

"But we have an obligation to assert our rights as citizens," he said. "We can only hope our government will finally begin to listen."

Hearing to cover a variety of southern Colorado issues

Race relations, diversity and discrimination are the focus of a civil rights forum being convened today and tomorrow in Pueblo by the Colorado Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. This function will be held at the Pueblo Convention Center, 320 Central Main Street, from 8:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on May 14 and from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on May 15.

The forum is open to the public without charge and interested citizens from Pueblo and southern Colorado are encouraged to attend.

The committee has invited educators, elected city officials, law enforcement officers, business and economic development representatives and a cross-section of community organizations and leadership to share their perspectives on the status of civil rights in the southern part of the state. This visit by the federal advisory panel is one of several planned by the committee to assess statewide civil rights progress. The committee previously met in Fort Collins and is planning a forum in Grand Junction.

In addition to scheduled presentations, an opportunity will be afforded for persons to briefly address the forum between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. today and between 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. tomorrow.

Among the topics expected to be addressed are employment, political participation, law enforcement, economic development, concerns of youth and disability rights. The committee also welcomes information on housing, health, immigration and other related civil rights issues.

See CIVIL RIGHTS on page 6
NUESTRA LENGUA EN AMBOS MUNDOS

Por Abavuya Alecanastro

La Ruta de las Especias

La búsqueda de mercados ha sido imperativa para los productores de cualquier tipo de mercadería—o servicios, en nuestros días—desde tiempos inmemorables, pero un viaje que tuvo lugar en el siglo XIII fue motivado por la búsqueda de mercadería, ya que el mercado ya existía. La familia Polo ya tenían su mercado, que irradiaba desde la ciudad sede de la familia, Venecia, hacia las principales ciudades de Europa. Había una rivalidad entre esta ciudad en el mar Adriático y Génoa, en la Costa del Mediterráneo, pugnando ambas por el dominio de las vías marítimas así como los puertos, entrada necesaria para los productos transportados desde todas partes del mundo conocido.

La innovación de los Polo fue ir a buscar nuevos productores, en zonas recónditas para la época, y establecer así una hegemonía en nuevos productos. Así fué que Marco Polo, a los 17 años comienza sus viajes por Asia, en 1271. Cuando regresa en 1295, traen un nuevo producto, especias, que tendría éxito más allá de lo esperado, y cuya búsqueda por otros mercaderes—o importadores, los llamaremos hoy—origina los más atrevidos viajes por no menos osados navegantes que literalmente, descubrirían el resto del mundo... (También trajo los “tallarines”-spaghetti, si you will— pero eso es para la historia de la cocina italiana...)

La Ruta de las Especias, marítima, no terrestre, ocuparía primero la imaginación y luego los esfuerzos de aquellos que impelidos por el desarrollo del comercio necesitaban acortan si nó las distancias, por lo menos el tiempo de viaje desde el Lejano Oriente hasta Europa. Aquellas caravanas que partiendo de la India y sus puertos, demoraban muchos meses mientras atraviesaban altísimas cordilleras e interminables desiertos hasta llegar a la encrucijada del mundo, el Oriente Medio, con sus Bagdad y Damasco, y finalmente al Cercano Oriente, ya en el Mediterráneo, y Beirut como puerto de partida para cruzar hacia Europa, el mercado por los pequeños embarcaciones costeras de entonces, apenas se animaban a navegar el Mediterráneo, casi nunca dejando de ver costas de Malabar en la India, y llegan luego a Genova... Existe el compás, descubierto por los chinos hacia el siglo VII, esa mágica aguja que marcaba invariablemente el Norte... Un cartógrafo si bien primitiva daba los rumbos ensañados por la experiencia de siglos, desde los fenicios de siglos antes de Cristo... Pero las galeras no llevaban mucha carga y mucha de ella se necesitaba para alojar y alimentar a los remeros, que si bien esclavos, algo comían...

Llega Enrique el Navegante (1394-1460), príncipe de Portugal, quien desde su residencia en Sagres, funda y mantiene el primer instituto de navegación, reunido técnicos de la época para desarrollar no sólo la ciencia de la navegación sino las ciencias relacionadas: la cartografía, y la construcción de barcos. A éstos se les necesitaba más apropiados para las tareas que la neutralidad exigen... El gran objetivo de la época es la navegación y el comercio.

La busqueda de mercados ha motivado la busqueda del oro y la especie en el mundo. Pero las pequeñas embarcaciones costeras de entonces, apenas se animaban a navegar el Mediterráneo, casi nunca dejando de ver costas de Malabar en la India, y llegan luego a Genova... Existe el compás, que marcaba invariablemente el Norte... Un cartógrafo si bien primitiva daba los rumbos ensañados por la experiencia de siglos, desde los fenicios de siglos antes de Cristo... Pero las galeras no llevaban mucha carga y mucha de ella se necesitaba para alojar y alimentar a los remeros, que si bien esclavos, algo comían...

Llega Enrique el Navegante (1394-1460), príncipe de Portugal, quien desde su residencia en Sagres, funda y mantiene el primer instituto de navegación, reuniendo técnicos de la época para desarrollar no sólo la ciencia de la navegación sino las ciencias relacionadas: la cartografía, y la construcción de barcos. A éstos se les necesitaba más apropiados para las tareas que la neutralidad exigen... El gran objetivo de la época es la navegación y el comercio.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Continued from front page

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan fact-finding agency of the federal government whose members are appointed by the President and the Congress. The Commission has established advisory committees in the 50 states and the District of Columbia to assist it in monitoring civil rights trends and issues through out the nation. The Chairperson of the Colorado Advisory Committee is Mr. Joseph Aroese of Denver. Other members of the Committee are: Ms. Jeannie Davis and Dr. Gwendolyn A. Thomas of Aurora; Ms. Annabelle J. Talk of Cortez; Mr. Preston C. White of Colorado Springs; Mr. Leo K. Goto, Ms. Maxine Kurtz and Mr. Theodore W. Bryant of Denver; Dr. Patricia A. Sánchez of Fort Collins; Mr. Carlos Leal of Greeley; and Dr. Luis C. Valono of Pueblo.

FREE CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent

RARE HISTORICAL BUILDING
316 Main St., San Luis. 1200 sq. ft + 1100 sq. ft. on two lots. $65,000. (Also for rent). Call Laurie at 303-798-5889

For Sale

LOTS FOR SALE
The Sierra Grande School Scholarship Trust has four donated lots for sale at Forbes Park. For more details, call Bill Brady at 719-379-4898.

OVER-CAB CAMPER
In good condition, sitting on 4-wheel trailer. $1,400-includes trailer if you want. Call 672-3858.

LEGAL RIGHTS HELP

HATHA YOGA
Weekly classes are offered at the Blanca/Fort Garland Community Center on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:45 a.m. For more information or to register, call R.A.L. at 672-3191.

STORES

LA TIENDITA DE LA VALLEY
Open 8 AM to 10 PM daily across the road from the church in San Francisco. Phone 672-0522. Owners: James and Norma Sánchez.

RAINBOW'S END
Your Community Thrift Store in Alamosa offers clothing, housewares, sporting goods, toys at 25% to 75% off. All proceeds from Rainbow's End go to support La Puente Homeless Shelter. For more information, call 589-8778.
For several years now, the Conservancy District has held a premonition that water in the various decrees will begin slipping through the people’s fingers. Outside interests with money have been busy infiltrating the Culebra drainage purchasing land with water rights.

When water is lost in bits-and-pieces, it is hardly noticeable or rarely a cause for concern.

During the Second World War, there was the phenomenon known as the “Fifth Column.” If memory serves, the enemy would enter a community under ordinary, common circumstances but with the secret motive of disrupting the community in its war effort. It was a public relations effort not only to advocate in support of the war against the Axis powers, but it caused a redoubling of the American people’s determination to do better, produce more and do with less.

It seems the acquisition of land and water rights by strangers with money is having a similar effect. There is already an awareness of the magnitude of the problem that logging by outside interests is bringing to the water-using community.

The impact of the pollutants caused by the Battle Mountain Gold mine is now beginning to rear its ugly, venomous face, and the contamination of the surface and ground water has become very real—to the point that the Environmental Protection Agency will be a factor in the clean-up of this pollution.

The local communities have occasionally been accused by some of being poor stewards of the land, but at no time in the 150 year history of our people living on and from this land does our record reflect such large-scale and deadly impacts.

The biggest sin local people can be accused of is littering now that the county has no landfills. Blame the federal government, in large part for this because the feds are notorious for handing down mandates but not the money needed to carry out such orders.

Water, however, is a local issue, and the most basic resource at the grass-root level. It needs to be conserved and protected.

Outside interests, such as Battle Mountain Gold, come into the community and with impunity override the most basic concerns of local residents because they come with the big bucks available to corporations that are national and international in scope.

In the Okanogan Highlands of Washington State, we have heard in recent days that, to their good fortune, the people have been successful in keeping BMG from mining there. They have used the example of the BMG pollution problem in San Luis in their struggle to prevent the corporation from cyanide leach mining.

Here in the Culebra, the water users should intensify their efforts to obtain water conservation easements from all land owners who have water rights. It seems that the Acequia Association would be a good vehicle for this proposal. That is the only way to protect the water in the Culebra basin from outside interests that really don’t care about the long tradition of safeguarding water and its uses for future generations.

—Maclovio C. Martinez

Protect the water in the Culebra basin

...the water users should intensify their efforts to obtain water conservation easements...

Pure water... more precious than gold.
Reies Tijerina: San Joaquin Land Now is Free

CHAMA, COLO.—About 150 people gathered in the Old Chama Schoolhouse here October 18 to listen to Reies Lopez Tijerina, Chicano land rights advocate from New Mexico, speak of the hard work and determination involved in regaining stolen lands.

Speaking in Spanish, Tijerina offered encouragement to the local communities here in El Valle in their efforts to regain over 77,000 acres of common lands, and told the gathering of some of his personal experiences in the land struggle.

"I've worked over 24 years in the land struggle," Tijerina said. "Those who live close to the land know a bout the land, but those who live far from the land don't know the land is a marvel, a richness, power."

"All the world is searching for land now more than ever," Tijerina added.

The founder of the Alianza Federal de Mercedes Li bre was sharply critical of the courts and police, saying they have worked with the rich business interests to steal the land from the people.

"Equal rights, equal protection under the law doesn't exist," Tijerina said, citing himself and his family as the targets of five bomb attempts by those opposed to the Chicano land struggle, naming the FBI.

Reies Lopez Tijerina

CIA and the White House as principle culprits.

"King Tiger" as he is known by his supporters, said that because of the repeated threats and intimidation of himself and his family, he has refused to send his four young children to school.

"They could not guarantee adequate protection for my children from possible kidnappings or death threats," Tijerina said. (Last November, a New Mexico District Court ruled in his favor, agreeing with Tijerina that his children's ages 13, 11, 7, and 6-faced some danger while attending public schools and for that reason could not legally be forced to enroll.)

"The Anglo discriminated against our property. There was discrimination in treatment between Anglos and Chicanos in establishing proper title to the land," Tijerina said. "A judicial tribunal existed for the Anglo

but didn't exist for the Chicano."

According to Tijerina, he paid over $450 to get over 5,500 pages of information the FBI had compiled on him under the Freedom of Information Act—all because of his work to reclaim land grants in New Mexico.

He said he is working on the San Joaquin Land Grant, a grant in Northern New Mexico that extends over a million acres. "San Joaquin now is free," he said, adding, "anyone who doesn't believe it should come and see."

Following the blocking of roads into the San Joaquin Grant in July, 1979, Tijerina said the local residents under the direction of a community government have been successful in regaining control of the land there.

In response to a question regarding those who stole the land from rightful heirs, Tijerina said, "To understand the story of the land thievery, you have to understand the legal Mafia," referring to the involvement of lawyers with corrupt bankers and politicians in past dealings that have left Chicanos without land.

In closing, Tijerina spoke of a sign posted by authori ties near his home in New Mexico that reads, "Tijerina family: Security Zone."

His presentation was sponsored by the Land Rights Council.

Chama Concerns

El Plomo, San Marco, Kiko Martinez

CHAMA, COLO.—Following the presentation of Reies Lopez Tijerina, the articulate crusader of Chicano land rights, local residents spoke of other issues important to them in the area—El Plomo Mine, San Marco pipeline, and the case of Francisco "Kiko" Martinez.

"I can tell you one thing, they are going to be processing 54 million tons of ore (at El Plomo) and they're going to use 24 million pounds of cyanide to process this ore," stated Maclorio Martinez.

"How can we be sure that they're going to leach the cyanide from the ore," Martinez said, adding, "That much cyanide will kill 271 billion people. Fifty grams of cyanide will kill one person."

"It's such a new process that we don't know what its effects will be."

The El Plomo Mine, operated by Earth Sciences, Inc., of Golden, was closed by the State Health Dept. in 1975 when cyanide was found to be leaking into El Rito Seco, the river that supplies all irrigational and consumable water to Costilla County.

"You can't separate El Plomo from San Marco, it's the same thing," Rocky Madrid of San Acacio told the gathering. Madrid termed the proposed pipeline that would use water from El Valle to transport coal to Texas as "another class of robbery."

Speaking in Spanish, Madrid urged the community to unite to deal with the imminent danger posed by San Marco.

"In many people there is force, and we have to fight united and see that elected officials work in our interests and not in the interests of their own pocket books," Madrid said.

Priscilla Martinez Salazar of Alamosa told the group that she had been raised for the defense of Francisco "Kiko" Martinez, the lawyer being held in Denver (see related story).

Mrs. Martinez said funds were urgently needed for these defense efforts and extended an invitation to everyone present to attend defense committee meetings which are being held every Tuesday in Alamosa at the Colorado Migrant Council Offices at 7:30 p.m.

Betty's Costumes

107 S. Grand

Open Daily
10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

OVER 1,000 COSTUMES
Large Variety All Sizes

Ph. 545-1251

On The BIG SCREEN
at
Jim & Mike's Bar
310 W. Northern
HAPPY HOUR
7-8 p.m Everyday