

Cortez Area Commodity Prices

Feeder Cattle: ↓	\$177.850/hundred	Pinto Beans: →	\$ 40/hundredweight
Live Cattle: ↑	\$152.700/hundred	Wheat: →	\$ 13/hundredweight
Oil: ↓	\$78.27/barrel	Grass Hay, Per Ton→	\$300-400/T, DOQ
Natural Gas: ↑	\$7.18/million BTUs	Alfalfa, Per Ton →	\$220-\$350/T, DOQ

DOQ = Depending on Quality; Arrows indicate trend from last week. Hay prices from Danny Decker, Bean and Wheat prices from Midland Bean. Crop Prices are Local Quotes, to the Grower, reported monthly.

All commodities listed are produced in Montezuma County and other parts of Southwest Colorado. Prices reflect national markets. Cattle prices from DTN Markets. Petroleum prices from CNN Financial Markets web site.

33rd Annual Four Corners Board Of Realtors

Parade Of Lights

Saturday, December 3, 2022, 6 Pm On Main Street In Cortez

Theme: Family First . . . Christmas

To Enter A Float In The Parade, Please Request And Return The Entry Form via E-Mail:

TERRYMC@MOVES2SWCOLO.COM

Call 970-799-4459 For More Information

Become A Colorado Volunteer

at the Colorado Welcome Center
Learn about Colorado
Make new friends
Flexible hours
Volunteer Parties

Call 970-565-4048, Stop by or email uarda@mesaverdecountry.com

HANDY HOT DOGS

1/4 lb. ALL BEEF DOGS
Look for the orange cart!
Main & Henry / 970-560-3753

FREE! Take a . . .

#408

WWW.CORTEZCOFFEEBREAK.COM

Cortez Coffee Break

Volume 8, Issue 43

Parade of Lights
Sat, Dec 3, 6 pm!

November 30, 2022

970-739-0077

Jim@CortezCoffeeBreak.com

Published by Jim Reser, in and for Montezuma County, Cortez, Dolores, and Mancos, Colorado

Ski Resorts (as of 11-28-2022)

Wolf Creek: 27-29" base, 2" new.
Purgatory: 20-20" Base, 1" new.
Telluride: 12" Base, 2" new.
Hesperus Will probably open if it ever snows.
Snow-Water Equivalent: 74% of normal

Gas Prices (as of 11-28-2022)

Lowest: \$3.62⁹ - \$3.72⁹ in Cortez. \$3.72⁹ Dolores. Most stations \$3.27⁹ - \$3.49⁹ in Durango. Info from ColoradoGasPrices.com (Trend ↓). Some higher-priced options have eliminated ethanol additives for better mileage. Colorado State Average \$3.17⁹/gal. Price last year in Cortez was \$3.54⁹. Lowest in CO: \$2.44⁹ in Longmont; Highest in CO: \$4.39⁹ in Fraser. US Avg \$3.48⁹/gal.

Art In The Alleyways!

Dec 3, Saturday night, 6 pm, at the Cortez Cultural Center. Join the Rotary Club of Cortez for hot apple cider and cookies to celebrate the unveiling of amazing Southwest-style art in the alley between the Cultural Center and Loungin' Lizard. Wear something white, so you, too, can **GLOW IN THE DARK!**

Fiesta Theatre is OPEN!

Watch **Strange World** 3:15, 5:45 & 8:10 pm.
Black Panther: Wakanda Forever 4:30, 8:00 pm. Eat at your favorite local hometown restaurant, then go see the movie! It's a date!

Sunflower Theatre

A Tiny Miracle With a Fiber Optic Unicorn
The Sunflower Troupe
Dec 9-11 and 16-17
Gen Admission: \$20; Students \$10
Tickets at <https://www.sunflowertroupe-cortez.net/>

Pre-Owned Cars & Trucks

John Hager

Call for an appointment to BUY!

970-739-1524 OR 970-564-4636
(or 970-799-3930 for Justin Wyatt)

401 West Main St., Cortez

www.facebook.com/PreOwnedCarsTrucks

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970-565-7773

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Real Estate Brokers

Generations of Experience

Call 970-749-7992

www.thewallacebrokers.com



Dolores Community Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 3, 8 am – 4 pm

Dolores Community Center

Vendors welcome

Call Ruby Gonzales for more information
970-882-7717

The Winter Market at Four Seasons

Saturdays through mid-March
10 am – 1 pm

Fresh Produce, Baked Goods
Meats, Crafts & More



26650 Road P,
Dolores
970-565-8274

First Friday

Fri, Dec 2

Cortez is full of surprises!
Art openings, refreshments,
shopping opportunities, discounts,
live entertainment. Friday is the
night to be in Cortez for early
Christmas shopping – or late
shopping if most of yours is
already done! And it makes for a
great Date Night – Make it
YOURS!

American Legion Toy & Candy Giveaway 2022

SATURDAY, DEC. 10TH
12:00 - 2:00 PM
AT THE CORTEZ CULTURAL CENTER
25 N. MARKET STREET

Santa and his helpers will be handing out 500 toys and holiday candy to local kids! The Four Corners Community Band will join us and fill the air with festive holiday music! Support from Cortez Retail Enhancement Association will make it a fun community event for all!



Mancos Valley Chorus

Holiday Concert

THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 2022
7:00 PM

@ Mancos United Methodist Church
470 West Grand Ave in Mancos, CO

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

DO YOU LIVE IN OUR DISTRICT?
WANT TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY?
INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE FIRE SERVICE?



JOIN OUR TEAM!! 970-565-3157
CORTEZFIRE.COM

Erin Johnson, Attorney at Law

303-588-2695 or erin@fone.net

Live each day like it's your last. Some day you will get it right. Make sure you have a good estate plan when you do.



Southwest Colorado Small Business Development Center

QuickBooks Online:

On-Demand Online Through, Dec 31, 2022, 5 pm, Free through fourth quarter of 2022! you must register. Everything you need to know to get your business up and running on QuickBooks, from opening accounts to sending bills and making financial statements. This webinar will help you make sure every base is covered.

Buying and Selling a Business, Parts I and II: Free

On-Demand Online Through Dec 31, 2022, 5pm. You must register.

If you are thinking of buying or selling a business, there are lots of details you need to consider, from financing to tax impacts, transfers of bank accounts, retaining employees and customers, and valuation of assets. Take this webinar to thoroughly understand what you need to know.

<https://sbdcfortlewis.org/>, then click the yellow tab under Upcoming Workshops.

SBDCs are funded by the US Small Business Administration and your local colleges.

Saturday with Santa

at the ZU Gallery

48 W. Main Street in Cortez, CO

Featuring photos with Santa, hot cocoa by Southwest Open School, candy canes, & more

December 3, 2022
from 1-3 PM



First Friday of each month, Veterans Backpack Giveaway at the Cortez Elks Lodge, 10 am to Noon. 2100 N. Dolores Road, Cortez.

ZU Gallery Freestyle Beard & Mustache Exhibition & Contest

Fri Dec 2, 7-9 pm

Fake or Real, bring your beard and/or mustache to the ZU. Lots of categories, fun for the ages (0-99). Prizes. Drinks, Fun.

AutoMasters MOVED!

237 N. Broadway, Cortez, Colorado
970-565-3100



Coffee Break Horoscope

<p>SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 – Dec 21) Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water. Who does that? Call a plumber! Lucky numbers: 07-25-30-35-38-39</p>	<p>GEMINI (May 22 – Jun 21) Take a walk in the woods and get a look at nature –you should do it before hibernation. Lucky numbers: 07-22-25-36-39-41</p>
<p>CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 20) Little Jack Horner stuck his thumb in a pie. Jack, take it to the register first and pay! Lucky numbers: 09-11-20-30-35-37</p>	<p>CANCER (Jun 22 – Jul 23) When in doubt, throw it out! This goes for holiday leftovers, sweaters, and boyfriends! Lucky numbers: 01-05-19-28-29-32</p>
<p>AQUARIUS (Jan 21 – Feb 19) Jack jumped over the candlestick. This is a fire hazard. Keep an extinguisher handy. Lucky numbers: 12-18-20-25-28-39</p>	<p>LEO (Jul 24 – Aug 23) Shopping is a big part of your future. Get started now before it is too late! Lucky numbers: 02-06-07-08-09-22</p>
<p>PISCES (Feb 20 – Mar 20) Just stay away from people named Jack. They are not normal, possibly dangerous. Lucky numbers: 02-04-10-12-27-28</p>	<p>VIRGO (Aug 24 – Sep 23) No one is as prepared as you are. Just go along with your plans for holidays. Lucky numbers: 02-03-05-07-23-36</p>
<p>ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 20) Pails, pies, and candlesticks are fraught with danger. Use caution at all times! Lucky numbers: 05-16-20-26-27-32</p>	<p>LIBRA (Sep 24 – Oct 23) Pay attention to children this week. Mostly so you can avoid running over them! Lucky numbers: 03-09-19-23-27-39</p>
<p>TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 21) Adults should not tell nursery rhymes to children. They are too scary for kids! Lucky numbers: 05-06-07-24-32-34</p>	<p>SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 22) Fancy oranges? Swedish sausages? Clever socks? Order early, they might run out! Lucky numbers: 14-23-25-28-30-34</p>

WEST SLOPE LIQUOR
1401 East Main Street, Unit 1,
Cortez CO. 970-565-7364.
Drive-up Service is Available for
Your Convenience!



Mancos Public Library
BOOK SALE!
Fri, Dec 2, 12-5 pm
Sat, Dec 3, 10-3 pm
\$1/pound for all the books your
booklovers can read this holiday!

**Pay him so he can pay her so she
can pay you. Shop Local!**



TODAY'S HITS & YESTERDAY'S FAVORITES
REAL...LOCAL...RADIO

www.krtzradio.com

**Dolores Rotary Angel Tree
Signup.** Stop by Dolores Library to
sign up and complete your wish list.
Or be an Angel Shopper and sign up
to help Santa find great gifts for
children 17 & under, Senior Citizens,
Disabled +/- or low-income
individuals in the 81323 zip code.
Be an ANGEL!

LOCAL OBITUARIES

Janz, Dalton "Bubba" Robert, Mancos. Services Fri, Dec 2, 2022.
Head, Dorothy June, Cortez. No services were announced.
Steerman, Donald Miller, Cortez area. Services Sat, Dec 3, 2022.
Flowers, Wilma Nadine, Services were Tue, Nov 29, 2022.
Details at <http://ertelfuneralhome.com>.

November is World Vegan Month. Nov 30 is National Mason Jar Day and Stay at Home Because You Are Well Day. **December** is Write a Friend Month (Get those cards started!). Dec 1 is Eat a Red Apple Day and World AIDS Awareness Day. Dec 2 is National Fritters Day. Dec 3 is National Roof Over Your Head Day. Dec 4 is Santa's List Day and Wear Brown Shoes Day. Dec 5 is Bathtub Party Day and Repeal Day (21st Amendment ended Prohibition). Dec 6 is Bartender Appreciation Day (Europe), St. Nicholas Day, Mitten Tree Day, and Put On Your Own Shoes Day.



Mon – Fri, 9 am – 3 pm

432 N. Broadway, Cortez – 565-4310

Sudoku

		5		8	6	9	
2			1	5		3	
4							
7	6		1				
8	3				9	6	4
			6				
	8		2				9
5	3			7			
			5		2	6	

**American Legion and
Cortez Cultural Center**

Drop off your contributions to help
provide toys and joys for Santa to give
to children in the area on Dec 10 at
2 pm. \$3,000 goal. 25 N. Market,
Cortez.

**PC411 Computer, Cell Phone,
and Tablet Repair and Sales**
970-335-8007, 19 N. Maple Street, Cortez

**Four Corners
Financial, LLC**

1021 N. Mildred Road, Suite C, Cortez
2021-2022 Tax Season.
970-565-2066.

G Whil Liquors

24001 Road G.2 – Veterans' Discount
See us on Facebook and Instagram
970-565-4438 Drive Up Window Open

Vitalant Blood Drive

12-15-2022, 2:15 pm – 5:30 pm,
First United Methodist Church, 515
N. Park, Cortez.

12-16-2022, 11 am – 3 pm, City
Market Bloodmobile, 508 E. Main,
Cortez

**Urgent Blood Need for all
types.**

<https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa>

Mancos Brewing Company

Live Music: Alex Wesphal Trio
5-8 pm, \$5 Cover
Country, Delta Blues, and a psychedelic
note or two. And beer!

NOVEMBER 23 WORDS

F U R N I T U R E C A L P E R
 I R V E Z O F H K N G G D G W
 B P P O P T I C A L I S A N Q
 H C T I T S I W T H Z H G I D
 E C A L P E R R S R M X W W N
 T E E J Q Y U U I X F F U E A
 A E M M U O S Q M O K Z Q S R
 R O F A C N M T U D O S D É G
 E G L U R Z O N E O R W F A S
 B L R X W K T F M L B A L L T
 R V R E K A E P S Q C L O R R
 E N W H I N L T O P E Y E B E
 V U U N D G N I K R A P C M E
 E X U N R N C N Y O G Q B I T
 R B Q L W S O L L O R K N A B

AGAIN

**BALL
 BANKROLL
 BICYCLE
 BOARD
 BOUQUET
 CAFÉ
 CAJUN
 COURT
 CURVE
 DEFEND
 FOUNTAIN
 FURNITURE
 GALLERY
 GRAND
 MARKET**

MISTAKE

**MOTEL
 OPTICAL
 PARKING
 PERT
 REPLACE
 REPLACE
 REVERBERATE
 SEWING
 SPEAKER
 STITCH
 STREET
 SUSHI
 TWIST
 WHINE
 ZOOM**

News From High Valley

High Valley is a completely fictional town. Any resemblance to anything real is purely in your own head.



Straw Claus

“Honey, where are my pants?” Bob Jarland usually dressed himself and never was uncertain about the location of his pants. Dress pants on the lower bar, right end of the closet. Jeans in the bottom right drawer of the dresser, just below the socks and underwear drawers. “I had a whole drawer full of them Monday and now they are all gone!”

Judy Jarland had heard it all before. “I shouldn’t have to remind you that it is almost Christmas, so you do know where your pants are, Bob. If you don’t like it, you can just go to the store and get more pants!” Judy didn’t seem to have much sympathy for Bob. She had spent a lot of their marriage helping Bob find what was right under his nose, so today wasn’t much different.

“Oh, that’s right. Sorry Dear. I forgot. How could that have slipped my mind?” Bob resigned himself to wearing sweatpants and finished getting dressed for his Saturday chores and errands. “I’m going to get downtown to check the mail and pick up some more pants. Do we need straw or hats? I can pick up more if we need them.” “Yes,” shouted Judy. “Two more bales would be good, and a dozen more hats. Make them different kinds. The ones we used last year were out in the weather too long and some rotted away.”

The Jarlands went through this conversation every year at this time. The end of November and the first part of December always saw them preparing their Christmas decorations for the front yard. They had a corner lot, so they felt they had to put up more decorations than most everyone else on the block. They knew everyone on the east-west street and almost as many on the north-south street. They decorated every square foot of the yard with lights, Christmas figures, styrofoam candy canes and giant blow-up reindeer.

For all the planning and detailing done to the Jarland house and yard every year, they were known for two things in High Valley. The first thing was that they have the largest collection of manger scenes in Expectation County. Maybe for another few counties around, though they haven’t looked at anyone else’s collection. Their favorite one involves eight goats representing the humans in attendance as well as the other farm animals in the manger, along with small statues of the Three Stooges as the Wise Men. Riding goats, of course.

The other notable distinction was that the Jarlands invented Straw Claus. Which is where all Bob’s pants went every holiday season. Straw Claus was a mashup of Halloween and Christmas, where Judy dressed up a frame of two-by-fours for body and arms with Bob’s pants and some old shirts, stuffed with straw. They kept a few boxes in the garage to store the main parts, but got fresh straw every year. The hats covered up the lack of anything resembling a head on their stuffed characters. Some years, they were arranged for a manger scene, others for Christmas carolers, still others for business meetings. One year they arranged a chorus line of Straw Claus figures to resemble the cast of “The Full Monty,” with the cast facing AWAY from the road, so there wouldn’t be too many complaints and visits from the town Marshal.

Bob brought back his load of straw, hats, new pants, and a few extra shirts he discovered at the thrift store. And two bright red Santa hats with white tassels. Bob and Judy loved this time of the year, and the chance to share with their neighbors.

© Jim Reser, 2023



500 N. Dolores Road
 (Highway 145)
 Cortez, Colorado
 970-565-9192

Scott A. Pierce

GST LIQUORS

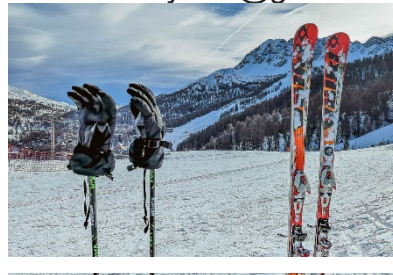
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 970-882-2229 in Dolores Find us on facebook.

**FOUR CORNERS
 HEARING**

1740 E. Main #8, Cortez
 970-564-9088
FREE HEARING TEST

Dolores Ski Swap

Saturday, Dec 10, 8 am – 2 pm
Dolores High School
 Benefits Dolores Cross Country Team
 For more info, e-mail Kim
 Parr at
 escalantedays5K@gmail.com



**LIBRARY ON THE
 GO!**

Hear Ms. Laura read stories on KSJD (90.5 & 91.5 FM) on Sundays, 3:30 – 4 pm.
 e-mail lmchenry@cortezco.gov or call 970-564-4073 to request your favorite stories!

The League of Women Voters of Montezuma County meets Sat, Dec 10, 10 am, at the Dolores Public Library to honor long-time members and to plan for 2023 projects and programs. Beverages will be served. The Jan 14, 2023, program will feature both boards of Southwest Memorial Hospital. Hosted by the Adult Services Division of Dolores Public Library.