

The Rifiers formed in 2002 in the fertile and creative music scene of Taos, N.M. from members of two popular bands already active in the area. Jim Bradley and Don Richmond of Hired Hands, and Rod Taylor of the Rounders,

The Rifiers bring to the stage a wide range of acoustic and electric instruments, combined with soaring three-part harmonies.

Please see RIFTERS on Page 3

Courtesy photo

Valley residents invited to build new trail in San Luis

SAN LUIS— The nonprofit Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) is seeking volunteers ages 14 and up for a volunteer project on Saturday, July 20 and Sunday, July 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at Rito Seco Park in San Luis.

The project is part of Costilla County's master plan to develop a system of trails, recreation resources, and protected lands in the area, and is supported by a grant from the San Luis Valley Conservation &

Connection Initiative (SLVCCI), a multi-organization partnership that works to preserve agricultural lands, open space, water resources, and create new recreation opportunities to promote the long-term health of the region.

Through the grant, VOC aims to reduce barriers to volunteerism for residents of Costilla and Conejos Counties by providing \$50 gift cards to Safeway and/or City Market for residents who participate on the

project; a gift card will be provided to volunteers for each day they participate, for a total of up to \$100. VOC will also provide all volunteers with breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday, as well as lunch and dinner on Sunday; campsites are also available for those who wish to stay at the project site overnight.

Volunteers may participate on one or both days of the project. Each day, up to 60 volunteers will work to build

Please see TRAIL on Page 6

Courtesy photo

awards in various art throughout Colorado. His ded historical places ch as the Great Sand -Mile Plaza Bridge, s, Colorado wildlife, portraits.

2006, Mansanarez lost vision due to severe generation. Because of DREAM on Page 3

test our president on this 75th anniversary? Why do some British dislike America?

The "Encyclopedia of Google" tries to explain: The best I can degalvanize is 'resentful'. "Hubris, arrogance". Commercialism, consuming, America's media influence we rub it in, just because we saved them from being Nazi slaves.

Another possible reason is lack of education. Only one American in three can pass the U.S. Citizen exam. British citizens might do a little better, but not much. We have no one to blame for the lack of knowledge. Time passes, history is being rewritten, ignored. And to them, forgotten. We have freedom of speech, but England does not. They are under the scrutiny

weekend with respect for something that all Americans, Canadians and English treasure, and it gave the politicians and media stars a chance to regain, momentarily, some dignity and humility.

And about those people on both sides of the Atlantic, protesters, politicians, media...who meant to belittle and demean or distract from the reverence of the occasion, we forgive you. I guess you just forgot.

Baxter Black, former large animal veterinarian and irregular commentator on National Public Radio, is America's best-selling cowboy poet. He is a frequent performer at national stock shows and rodeos as well as in many



**BAXTER
BLACK**

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

stage, weather permitting...

TRAIL

Continued from Page 1
a new trail in the recently established Rito Seco Park at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The trail will provide a short, easy loop from a picnic area to beaver ponds and the ruins of three historic cabins.

San Luis Valley residents interested in learning the basics of trail construction and helping to guide volunteers on the project can participate as a volunteer Crew Leader. Interested volunteers must attend a full-day training on Saturday, July 13, for which they will be compensated with a \$100 gift card. For each day they participate on the project as a Crew Leader, volunteers will receive a \$75 gift card for a total value of up to \$250.

To learn more about the project and sign up to volunteer, visit www.bitly.com/ritoseco or contact Emily Schaefer at emily@voc.org or 303-715-1010 ext. 116. For information in Spanish, visit www.voc.org/proyecto-rito-seco or contact Emma Heth at intern@voc.org or 303-715-1010 ext. 129.

The project is just one of many that VOC is hosting throughout the year to address stewardship needs in the state and the San Luis Valley. To learn more about Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC), visit www.voc.org or call 303-715-1010. To learn more about VOC's work in the San Luis Valley, please contact Sally Wier at sally@voc.org or 719-852-6234.

About Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC)

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado (VOC) is a statewide nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to motivating and enabling people to be active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. Since 1984, VOC's award-winning volunteer, youth, and leadership training programs have engaged nearly 120,000 people of all ages in caring for Colorado's outdoors – a total donated labor value of \$24 million. Such volunteer efforts have made a lasting impact on Colorado through hands-on work in fire and flood restoration, trail building and maintenance, tree planting and re-forestation and more. For more information, visit www.voc.org or call 303-715-1010.

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