

Silverton Standard & the Miner

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— *Society of Professional Journalists*
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Our goals

The *Silverton Standard & the Miner* is a weekly newspaper written for people interested in the issues and news of Silverton, Colo., and the surrounding San Juan Mountains region. The *Standard* voices a strong sense of community for Silverton and the San Juans as it brings you the issues, characters, landscapes, and the talent of the region. Stressing in-depth, balanced, and thoughtful writing, news, photography, and topical articles on key issues affecting the region, the *Standard* keeps the greater San Juan community informed, entertained, provoked, and engaged in dialogue about the community and its future.



coloradopress
ASSOCIATION

2012 Member

2011 CPA awards:

Photo and Design Sweepstakes winner

- Best News Story
- Best Deadline News Writing
- Best Sustained Coverage
- Best Headline Writing
- Best News Photograph
- Best Photo Essay
- Best Editorial Layout
- Best News Page Design
- Best Ad Layout and Design
- Best Newspaper Promotion

CSAS: 10 years in Silverton

By Chris Landry

GUEST OPINION

Ten years ago, on Oct. 20, 2002, the makings of a Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies crossed Red Mountain Pass in a U-Haul and arrived in Silverton. Office gear was unloaded at the old Miners Union Hospital, the science gear at a storage unit, and the director at the school apartments, our facilities for several years to come.

Thus began a long-held vision of San Juan veterans Don Bachman and Chris George: of Silverton once again becoming a home for American snow and avalanche research, building on the success of the San Juan Avalanche Project and INSTAAR program conducted in the 1970s.

Ten-year anniversaries are an occasion for reflection, ideally recalling the accomplishments more than the exhausting bits, and for looking forward. First

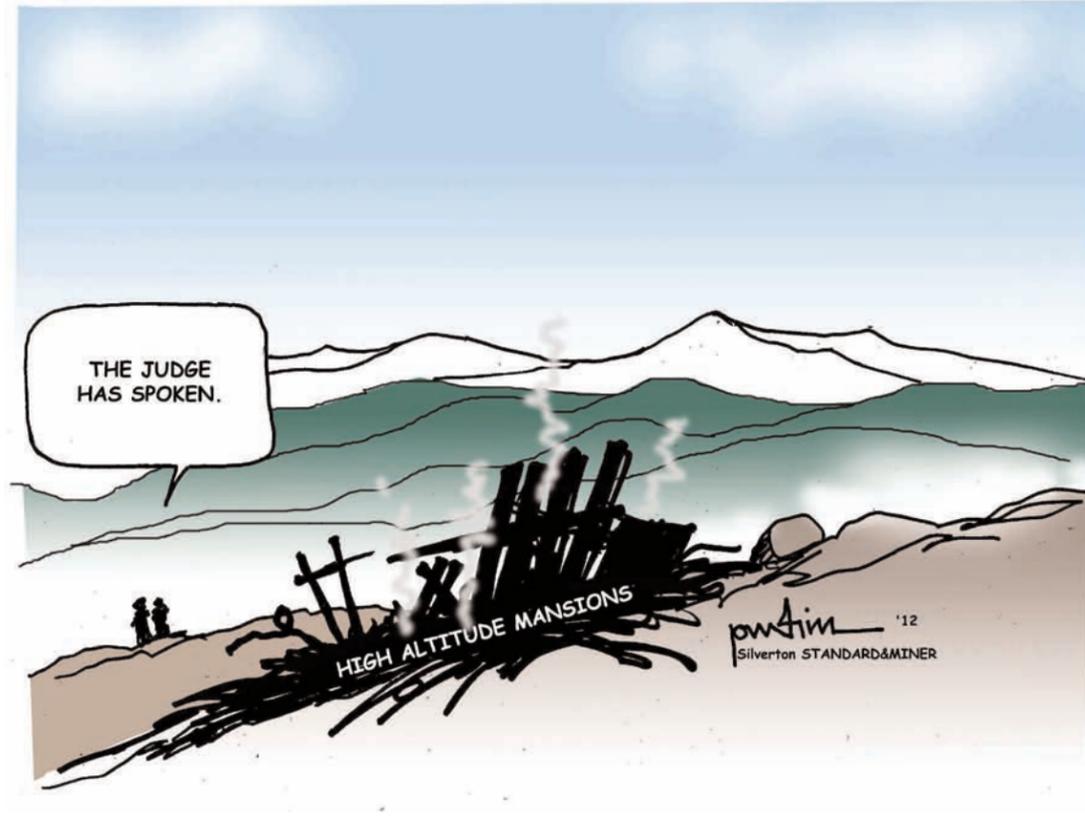
among those, CSAS had the good sense to choose Silverton and Red Mountain Pass as home! By consensus, the founders agree that we could not have chosen a more snow savvy, avalanche aware community for this operation.

We were grateful for our initial welcome. Within a year of arriving, CSAS received permission to begin construction of our Senator Beck Basin Study Area at Red Mountain Pass, now permitted for 30 years into the future by the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forest. Many Silvertonians participated in the heavy work of building the Senator Beck Basin Study Area in those first few years, none more than Michael Barton, now in Denver earning his science degree and teaching certificate.

CSAS's Andrew Temple and others continue to help operate and maintain the instrumentation and hundreds of other parts and pieces that are monitoring weather, snowpack, radiation, soils, plants, and stream flow in the Basin. Senator Beck Basin data are now posted and updated hourly on our website, at "snowstudies.org/current1", and CSAS's Kim Buck is continuously updating and improving our data products with new graphs and reports.

Our hope for Senator Beck Basin was that "if we build it, they will come," all the way to the western San Juan Mountains! Many have come, and a great deal of "top science" has been produced. I'm a little bit astonished, looking back through our 10-year photo collection, at the number of people who have already been a part of the Basin's

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Flying Dogs cleared for takeoff

By Freddie Canfield

Well, my friends, we are now beyond the middle of October. Yet days are still in the same relatively warm-temperature range that they have been in since my birthday when fall began in September, mostly mid-50s to mid-60s.

Nighttime temperatures are cooler overall for this month, when cold air masses visit our valley — mid-teens and low 20s prevail.

However, last night, which brings us to Oct. 24, Wednesday, at 7 a.m., when we completed this weather week, it was 47.6 way into the middle of the night under clear skies, 42 at 3 a.m. and only 38 at 7 a.m.

Why so warm nocturnally? Far to our north folks are bracing for a potential winter storm. So warm air is being pulled out of the Southwest desert region. Once again your correspondent awoke Tuesday morning under windy, overcast skies. Graupel rattled on my roof slightly after 7 a.m. and snow flurries greeted me along with three elderly sled dogs slightly thereafter.

Tuesday only reached 56.4 under clear skies. How quickly we experience meteorological change here in the high country — any time of the year!

Speaking of dogs, the Flying Dog sled-dog and skijouring race for Jan 12 and 13, 2013, is now officially and unanimously approved by our Town Council, who we appreciate and thank for this and all else that they do.

Between now and that weekend in January

WEATHER AND OBSERVATIONS

Date	High	Low	Precip., conditions
Oct. 17	55	21	Clear
Oct. 18	59	20	Clear
Oct. 19	65	19	Clear
Oct. 20	65	18	Virtually clear
Oct. 21	58	21	Somewhat cloudy
Oct. 22	56	24	Mostly overcast
Oct. 23	56	38	Clear

there will be lots of opportunity for involvement, so we welcome any and all of you in advance. Stay tuned for more information here at the *Standard & the Miner* and elsewhere about Silverton and out in cyberspace.

Plenty of good goings-on over at Our New School — everything from waking our brains up with joyful aerobic dance led by Kelly Habecker herself to amazingly deep awareness and expression of fossil and living invertebrate knowledge amongst Kevin deKay's middle school science class, complete with crinoid fossils from the nearby Molas Lake area and audiovisual material from far-off Hawaii on the smart screen. (Now how was that for a run-on sentence, Kelly.)

I wonder if my sister Joan and brother-in-law William know the research biologist who put together the video. After all it is a small world, especially amongst those who are involved in university-level natural science in the tropical

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FROM THE STANDARD MAIL CAR



You have a very special community

Editor;
My husband and I discovered Silverton 20 years ago by way of the train from Durango and when we returned to our home, at the time St. Louis, Mo., he asked me where I wanted to go next year for vacation.

Without hesitation I said I wanted to go camping in the mountains, so he made reservations in advance in a local campground, and we have been coming back ever since. Unfortunately we were not able to make the trip this year, but we hope to return next year.

We would like to purchase the *Silverton Standard* 2013 calendar so we can remember all the good times we've had exploring the back roads and wonderful people we have met over the years.

You have a very special community and you should be doing everything you can to preserve it and your rich history. I am firmly convinced there is no other place as beautiful and peaceful as Silverton and the surrounding mountains.

You are truly blessed. We enjoy your paper very much and look forward to reading it every week. Keep up the good work.

—Mike and Jeanne Caho, Moscow Mills, Mo.

Vote for my dad for county commissioner

Editor;
My dad, Scott Fetchenhier, is running for county commissioner in the 2012 election.

Over the years my dad and I have not always seen eye to eye on a variety of subjects ranging from; "Why can't I go to the concert?," to who to vote for, county politics, and different political situations. Our discussions never got heated. He would present his reasons and then listen as I presented my facts and reasons.

My dad has always listened to my side of the story, or my beliefs, and has always factored them into his final decision.

Even if you don't agree with some of my dad's ideas, you should know that he will listen, is open to different point of views, and you can be sure he will factor them into his decision making.

He will work hard as county commissioner and will always do what's best to serve our community.

— Katy Fetchenhier, Silverton

Write to us

The *Silverton Standard & the Miner* welcomes letters to the editor. Send letters via e-mail to editor@silvertonstandard.com, or via snail mail to, Editor, *Silverton Standard & the Miner*, P.O. Box 8, Silverton, CO 81433.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Community Center from 2-6 p.m., and appointments are highly recommended. Walk-ins are accepted, but donors with appointments are given priority.

"It only takes a few minutes of your time to call me so that I can enroll you in the eDonor system with basic personal information that you provide me," Kuhlman said. This information is confidential and can only be accessed by United Blood Services, and their registered blood drive coordinators. Call Judy at (970) 387-5635 for more information or to sign up.

Commodities to be distributed Tuesday

Commodities distribution will occur on Tuesday, Oct. 30, from 1-3 p.m. in the basement of the Miners Union Hospital building.

Eligibility for this service must be determined prior to receiving the commodities.

Any interested family needing an eligibility determination may stop by the Social Services office at the courthouse from 9 a.m. to noon on Oct. 30. Any questions, please call Deanna Jaramillo at 387-5631.

Help available to keep warm this winter

Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) has awarded San Juan County with a \$12,000 grant.

This grant is to help cover costs of coal, electric, firewood, natural gas, oil, propane, and solid fuel pellets. You must meet the eligibility criteria to be considered for this program, which includes applying for LEAP first if you are LEAP eligible.

If you are not LEAP eligible you can just apply for the EOC grant. This program runs from Oct. 30, 2012 to Dec. 9, 2013.

Anyone interested in this program can come by the Social Services office or call Deanna Jaramillo at 387-5631 to get an application.

LEAP will begin on Nov. 1. Applications will be available starting then. To pick up an application or to find out what the eligibility requirements are come by the office or call Deanna Jaramillo at 387-5631 with any

questions.

Weekhawken Dance brings 'The Grinch' to Silverton on Nov. 4

Weekhawken Dance will present, "The Grinch," a dance performance scheduled for 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4, at Silverton School.

The performance will feature Weehawken dancers and Silverton dancers. Tickets are \$10 each and are on sale at Silverton School.

New hours at archive

Beginning Nov. 5, the San Juan County Historical Society Archive hours will be Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Progress reported on region's wildfires

The Durango Interagency Fire Dispatch reports progress being made on wildfires.

- The Vallecito Fire: Two 20-person hotshot crews continue to monitor, improve dozer lines and conduct mop-up operations on the Vallecito Fire. Crews have completed dozer line between the fire and populated areas. The fire is holding steady at 222 acres with 25 percent containment. Firefighters will remain onsite to monitor the fire's behavior and call for aircraft as needed. A type 3 helicopter and single engine air tanker are available, if needed.

- Goblin Fire: Smoke from the Goblin Fire yesterday resulted from pockets of interior fuels continuing to burn high on the upper slopes of the West Needles in the Weminuche Wilderness. The acreage is still reported at 700 acres.

Due to steep terrain and unsafe conditions, firefighters are confining the fire within certain parameters. Two firefighters will be on scene for the next several days to monitor the fire's growth and behavior.

The weather forecast is for higher humidity, cooler temperatures and possible wind. Some light precipitation has been reported over the last 24 hours on the Goblin Fire, but the main portion of a front coming through is not expected to reach southwestern Colorado.

MOUNTAIN HAPPENINGS

Thursday, Oct. 25

- **San Juan County Historical Society annual meeting**, 7 p.m., Archive Building.

Saturday, Oct. 27

- **Last train to Silverton** for 2012.

Wednesday, Oct. 31

- **Halloween Party** at Montanya.

- **Halloween Party at Silverton School gym.**

Fundraiser for high school field work in Washington.

Wednesday, Nov. 2

- **Mountain Studies Institute Gathering of Friends**, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the MSI Mountain House, 740 Reese St.

Tuesday, Nov. 6

- **Election Day.** Polls open at the San Juan County Courthouse, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 12

- **Silverton Town Council**, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

- **San Juan County Board of Commissioners**, 8:30 a.m., County Courthouse.

Ongoing

- **San Juan County Historical Society Archive** — Regular hours on Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- **Silverton Movement Center: Mondays** — Pilates, 8:30 a.m.; full body workout, 5:15 p.m.; **Tuesdays** — Yoga with Elizabeth, 8:15 a.m.;

Bellydance III: 5:30-7 p.m.
Wednesdays — All Level Kettlebells, 8:30 a.m.; Core Fitness Roller (limited to 10 students), 5:15 p.m.; **Thursdays** — Yoga with Katie, 5:30 a.m.; Pilates, 8:30 a.m., Belly Dance Troupe, 7:25 p.m.; **Fridays** — Kettlebell etc. workout, 8:15 a.m.

- **Blair Street Historic District Association**, 9 a.m., on the first Wednesday of each month at the Villa DallaValle.

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** meeting in Silverton. For meeting times, questions or help, call (888) 333-9649.

- **American Legion meetings**, 7 p.m. first Thursday of the month, Legion Post.

- **Silverton Threads** meets at Kendall Mountain Center on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. The group welcomes anyone with an interest in any of the fiber arts: knitting, sewing, quilting, beading, crochet!

Silverton Youth Center activities

Silverton Youth Center is open from 5-9 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 4-10 p.m. on Saturdays. Closed Sundays.

Mondays — Mad Scientist, 4-5 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays — Hang Out Time; Thursdays — elementary movie, 6 p.m.; Fridays — middle school, high school movie, 7 p.m.

Spiritual events

- **Church of Christ**, Sundays:

Bible class, 8 a.m.; service, 9 a.m.; and Sunday evening Bible discussion, 5 p.m., (970) 946-7648.

- **St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, Father Nat Foshage, Mass at 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Wednesdays, 1005 Reese St., 325-4373.

- **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**, President Duane Eggett, Sunday services: 9 a.m. priesthood, 10 a.m.; sacrament, 11 a.m. Sunday school, 727 Greene St., 387-5338.

- **First Congregational Church of Silverton**, Sue Kurtz, moderator. Sunday service 9 a.m. All are welcome. 1070 Reese St. (970) 387-5759. e-mail: silvertonucc@aol.com Website: silvertonchurch.org Look for us on Facebook!

- **Church on the Hill**, Pastor Mark Lawson, Sunday KJJC, 8-10 a.m., Christian music, devotional and sermon; services 10:15 a.m. Bible study; 9 a.m. regular service, Thursday night prayer/fellowship 7 p.m.

- **Word of Life Fellowship**, Pastor Jim Greenfield, Sunday service starts at 9 a.m., 1706 Empire St. 387-5893.

What's happening?

Got somethin' goin' on? Contact the *Standard*. Phone 387-5477 or e-mail editor@silvertonstandard.com

LANDRY, from Page 2

short but very productive research history.

CSAS has hosted American and international students of snow of all stripes and abilities, from elementary school classes to college field courses to PhD candidates and established professional scientists. Their interests have spanned much of the "mountain snow system," from the soils below to the atmospheric processes above, but snow is always central to their research questions.

Desert dust has produced perhaps our highest profile effort, although we place equal value on all of the research we host. CSAS and Senator Beck Basin played a vital role in the initial research projects documenting the effects that desert dust storms have on mountain snowpacks, ecology, and soils.

Now, our Colorado Dust-on-Snow program is applying elements of that research on behalf of the Colorado water management community. Several times each spring our CODOS team (everyone at CSAS!) conducts field work throughout the Colorado mountains and pro-

vides State, local, and federal water management agencies with timely updates about how dust-in-snow may affect snowmelt timing and rates in major watersheds.

The new stakeholder relationships we've built through CODOS over the past five years, the things we're learning from them, and the challenges that we're helping the water community cope with are all realizing our original vision for CSAS. Meanwhile, we continue to host and support several other research teams doing the vital, hard work of explaining how mountains and snowpacks produce water, respond to changing climate, and release avalanches.

Our progress has been slow and hard-won, and always with help from others. We need and appreciate the confidence and encouragement that many in the community continue to show CSAS. When we've faltered we've recovered, thanks to strong leadership by our board of directors and a loyal core of friends and advocates.

CSAS's next 10 years will require even more of the same, building on the great talents that Silverton has already provided,

and meeting the science needs of the researchers and students we host, and of our stakeholders, now spanning the length of the Colorado River, over Stony Pass and down the Rio Grande, and across the Divide on the east slope of the Rockies. Nothing sharpens interest in mountain snowpacks in the west like the depletion of reservoirs.

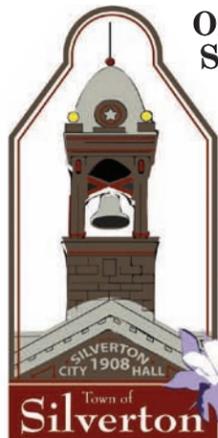
Over time, our long-term Mountain System Monitoring program at Senator Beck Basin, and the research we host and support, will help stakeholders in mountain snowmelt water supplies — that is, everyone in the West — understand how regional climate change and snowpack variability are actually playing out, and how models of regional change are performing.

Establishing an independent field science organization focused on snow, and operating a major study area, has been a tough row to hoe. Nonetheless, it's a mission worthy of our efforts and, with continued help from our friends, we are optimistic for CSAS.

Chris Landry of Silverton is executive director of the Center for Snow and Avalanche Studies.

'TRASH TOO BIG TO CARRY?'

Leave it in the alley!
Free pickup - one day only!
(PLEASE - NO CONSTRUCTION WASTE)



On Monday, October 29, Silverton's Public Works crew will pick up your over-sized trash items. Leave your appliances, water heaters, furniture, and any other items too big to carry or haul in the alley or on the street, and we'll take care of the rest. We only ask that you let us know the pickup address in advance.

Please reply via email (GArchuleta@silverton.co.us) or by phone (970.387.5523), and place your items outside not later than 9am, Monday, October 29. NO CONSTRUCTION WASTE.

FOR THE RECORD

San Juan County Sheriff's Office blotter

Oct. 15 — A hiker was reported missing and later returned on their own. Two citizens were assisted.

Oct. 16 — A warning was issued for failure to stop at a stop sign. A barking-dog warning was

issued. A citizen was assisted.

Oct. 17 — The deputy checked on a report of suspicious shots fired; all was OK.

Oct. 18 — A citizen was assisted. A warning was issued for speeding.

Oct. 19 — A theft was reported. A bicycle was reported stolen. A warning was issued for a defec-

tive vehicle. Two citizens were assisted.

Oct. 20 — David C. Diehl, of Durango, was issued a summons for DUI, failure to report an accident, careless driving and no insurance. A citizen was assisted. A parking warning was issued.

Oct. 21 — A warning was issued for defective vehicle.