Glen Van Nimwegen presents info about inclusionary ordinance
by Henry Netherland
Mail Staff Writer

Despite public concern that the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance would stop development in Salida, annual data suggested that the ordinance had no effect on Salida developments in 2019.

During a Salida Planning Commission work session Tuesday, Community Development Director Glen Van Nimwegen presented multiple bar graphs, the first of which detailed the commission’s yearly activity. The graph revealed that 2019 was the commission’s most active year between 2015 and 2019.

Total residential units permitted in 2015 were down about 20 from 2018. Van Nimwegen said he does not believe the decrease is entirely because of the ordinance because few projects reached the point where a permit could be issued.

On the other hand, accessory dwelling unit permits more than doubled in 2018 at 17 compared to eight in 2018.

The ordinance passed in November 2018.

The purpose of the work session was to discuss how the ordinance can be improved before being presented to the council.

Some of the improvements the commission discussed include how prices are set at 80 percent AMI, whether or not the requirement of having a job in Salida or Chaffee County should have priority over income qualification for affordable units, and whether or not every 60 percent AMI unit should equal two required 80 percent AMI units instead.

Commission members will individually look over the list of proposed improvements and will break them down to determine possible solutions for the next work session. They will design more concrete answers there before drafting amendments to the ordinance and sending them to council.

A time line has not been established as of yet.

In other business, the commission reviewed Bob’s Rules of Order, an informal version of Robert’s Rules of Order, a U.S. parliamentary procedure manual.

The rules of order go over how motions are made, how to address issues at hand, how to address motions that have been made but are not on the agenda, and how to facilitate discussions and public input.

The commission will vote on adopting Bob’s Rules of Order as a guide at the commission’s next regular meeting.

CDOT reports delays expected on Monarch

Colorado Department of Transportation officials said today that traffic on Monarch Pass today as winter maintenance operations and avalanche control work near the ski area is expected to stop traffic for less than an hour.

The work will take place near Monarch Mountain ski area between mile post 199.5 and 205.

Motorists are advised to watch for traffic control personnel when nearing the closure points.

The one-hour closure time is highly dependent upon the amount of snow that may reach the roadway, which will require clearing with heavy equipment.

Seldon Turnbull pleads not guilty to arson, fraud
See page 3

H 37 L 16

The Mountain Mail
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020
Vol. 140, No. 178  The Voice of Salida and the Upper Arkansas Valley
75 cents

Forecasts
Sunny, wind chill between zero and 10.

Dogs on restaurant patio bill passes committee
See page 2

Artists paints at Gathering Grounds
Devyn Grundy, 18, works on a new painting at Gathering Grounds Wednesday as part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Fine Arts Exhibit, which will be on traveling display at BCAGA events, including the annual National Conference.

Schools OK capital wish list
by D.J. DeJong
Mail Staff Writer

Salida School Board approved staff recommendations for the capital wish list for the upcoming Salida School District budget during the regular meeting Tuesday.

Among items recommended by Superintendent David Blackburn and business manager Shelia Moore were: • A $10,000 intercom system for Salida Early Childhood Center to update inter- nal communications for security reasons.

• Setting aside $500,000 for land acquisition to address future district growth.

• Installation of seatbelts on district buses at $60,000.

• Maintenance projects at Salida Middle School, Horizon Exploration Academy and Crest Academy costing about $23,880.

The board approved the recommendations to move forward as the staff puts together the district budget in May.

The board also approved academic calendars for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years.

Horizon Exploration Academy and Crest Academy gave detailed reports of the activities of each school.

The Horizon report was given by students who receive credit for public speaking as part of the school’s graduation requirements.

Horizon requires that all students complete an English portfolio with examples of writing and presentation, including public speaking, and a career exploration project.

Three members Horizon’s student leadership team, Sierra Lenhart, Dolee Trujillo and Keegan Haeck presented a video interview with several Horizon students regarding their experience at the alternative high school.

Chloe Waniger presented on the English portfolio requirement and Arianna Pappenfort and Jelissa Quintana presented on the career exploration portfolio.

Crest Academy principal Jill Davis presented a timeline of the progression of Crest from its start as a small private school in 2007 to the present.

The board discussed insurance and compensation for district employees, initial staffing requests and the district’s budget.

See COSCARELLA, back page