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# THE DURANGO HERALD

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## Colorado delegation: Work to do

### Udall, Tipton agree bin Laden's death doesn't defeat terrorism

By Karen Frantz  
Herald Staff Writer

WASHINGTON – U.S. Sen. Mark Udall hailed the killing of Osama bin Laden as military and moral success for the nation, while also asserting the need to press forward against al-Qaida and on other military objectives. “Make no mistake, the death of Osama bin Laden is an enormous morale boost for all Americans,

#### Inside

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and especially for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Udall, D-Colo., in an email on Monday.

See *Work*, 10A



Rarely is radical al-Qaida's ideology part of military uprisings anymore.

### Bin Laden no longer a model

By Maggie Michael  
Associated Press

CAIRO – Osama bin Laden and his jihadi rhetoric once resonated with millions, especially those in the Arab world who saw militant Islam as their best hope for throwing off the shackles of corrupt, oppressive governments.

But 10 years after Sept. 11, the dominant theme in the uprisings across the Middle East is a clamor for democracy – with al-Qaida's militant ideology largely relegated to the sidelines.

It was not long ago that bin Laden and his terror

See *Bin Laden*, 2A

## Not your grandma's Grange

Movement that started after Civil War strives for relevancy

By Dale Rodebaugh  
Herald Staff Writer

The national Grange movement, organized after the Civil War to advance the economic and social needs of rural America, is still going strong, Grange members in La Plata County say.

“I think our values are the same, but some of the activities are different,” said Cindy Greer, a 32-year Grange member from Marvel. “I think we focus more on community issues rather than political issues.”

La Plata County has four active Grange chapters – Animas Valley, Mt. Allison, Marvel and Florida Mesa – and three on paper only – Breen, Oxford and Eureka – Greer said.

The Animas Valley Grange is set to mark its 100th anniversary next month, said member Ruth Shock. Organized in 1911, the local Grange moved into its own – and current – hall at 7271 County Road 203 in April 1916.

The centennial will be celebrated in June.

Shock, who joined the Grange as a teenager (14-year-olds are eligible for membership) is the granddaughter and daughter of Animas Valley Grange members.

The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, or the Grange, was founded Dec. 4, 1867, in Washington, D.C. It is a fraternal organization that was formed for farm families to gather and, with strength in numbers, help boost their common economic and political well-being.

In its early days, the organization was secretive to keep it free of organized politics and radical activism.

Although the Grange structure remains,



SARAH FRIEDMAN/Herald photos

practices have changed, Greer said.

In keeping with the organization's by-laws, each chapter has 16 officers, although today, many serve in name only, she said.

Each Grange sets its dues, Greer said. Each member of the Marvel Grange pays \$29 annually, \$3 of which stays in the local unit. The remainder is split between the state and national organizations.

The Marvel Grange caters meals to raise funds to cover the cost of insurance and Grange Hall utilities, Greer said. The organization owns the hall.

One of the long-discarded practices, Greer said, is having present at Grange meetings members representing the three Graces – Ceres, Pomona and Flora – the patrons of, respectively, cereal, fruit and flowers.

Also, the gatekeeper, whose duty it was to ask people entering a Grange meeting for their password, today is a nominal figure only, Greer said.

A password, she said, ensured that non-members didn't infiltrate the organization.

The National Grange each year takes a

See *Grange*, 10A



Above: Tandy Nossaman reads to her sons Tryce, 2, and Kendrick, 4. Jake Nossaman is their father. Granges unite people for fun, work and discussion of issues and community service. “That would be a Grange to me – a family organization,” says Cindy Greer, a 32-year Grange member.

Left: Norma Conley, left, cuts an anniversary cake at the Mt. Allison Grange, and her sister Karen Baxter sets up ice cream. La Plata County has four active Grange chapters – Animas Valley, Mt. Allison, Marvel and Florida Mesa.

## Committee advances proposal to merge state parks, DOW

Some Dems question claim it will save money

By Joe Hanel  
Herald Denver Bureau

DENVER – A proposed merger of state parks and the Division of Wildlife moved forward Monday, despite running into its first significant opposition in the Legislature.

The House Agriculture Committee passed Senate Bill 208 on a 10-3 vote, setting up a final vote in the House in the next week.

Rep. J. Paul Brown, R-Ignacio,

#### LEGISLATURE



said he was initially skeptical of the merger.

“From the beginning, I've thought bigger doesn't necessarily mean better,” Brown said.

But he waited to hear testimony Monday until deciding how to vote, and he's satisfied that the state can save money

by combining the agencies.

“This is something that we need to go forward with,” Brown said.

The bill sailed through the Senate last month on a 34-1 vote, but on Monday, two Democrats pressed merger proponents about the lack of information about how much money could be saved.

“We don't have any evidence. We don't have a single number in front of us to say what the efficiencies are going to be,” said Rep. Randy Fischer, D-Fort Collins.

The state parks division is suffering from a loss of taxpayer



State Rep. J. Paul Brown

“From the beginning, I've thought bigger doesn't necessarily mean better.”

support, and Gov. John Hickenlooper had proposed closing or downgrading the service at four

parks until the head of the Department of Natural Resources, Mike King, suggested the merger.

King said he could not offer details on cost savings until his employees combine the agencies, but several administrative positions are duplicated.

“On its face, it's clear to me that the opportunities for efficiencies and savings exist,” King said.

Fischer tried to amend the bill to delay the merger for a year and study it, but the sponsor,

See *Merger*, 10A

#### Coming Wednesday

##### 30 years and counting

Annual spaghetti dinner at Sacred Heart Catholic Church centers on meatballs – and an octogenarian **Food & Nutrition**

#### More headlines

Elway's adrenaline rush is back **Page 7A**

Elusive artist Irene Pete weaves for a lucky few **Page 1B**

#### Weather



Mostly sunny and warmer today. Mainly clear tonight. Sunny and beautiful Wednesday. High 71. Bright and sunny Thursday. High 73. Low 30.

High: 66

Low: 26

See **WeatherWatch**, back page

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