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# San Miguel Basin Forum



Western Small Miners Association

Serving Nucla, Naturita, Norwood & Surrounding Areas – January 4, 2023 • Volume 73 Issue 31 • 25¢

## BUSINESS

### Ruth's Toffee celebrates 31 years

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

Ruth Phippeny was in high school when her sister brought home some toffee recipes. Back then, she wasn't familiar with the candy, but agreed to help make some.

"I decided it was pretty good," she said in an interview over the holidays.

She began making more of it. After her marriage to Dale Phippeny, she started giving away toffee as Christmas gifts to people she knew. People told her it was so good that she should sell it.

After some time of making good toffee, she made a resolution to herself: She'd either begin to sell her product, or she'd give it up altogether. Once she decided to give the business a go, she said it took about one year to find the boxes and other things she needed, including a list of addresses.

She actually got the Cedaredge High School class reunion list, since she graduated there, and marketed her toffee to old friends. Additionally, her mother took boxes of candy around, going door-to-door, in the beginning, too.

When her business, Ruth's Toffee, first started in Paradox 31 years ago, her husband had fixed up a bunkhouse for her on their family's farm. It wasn't until 2008 that they bought the Main Street shop in Nucla for candy making.

A lot has changed since then, especially the size of her business. She began with a list of 50 names in 1991. Now she has more than 25,000 people in her customer list. Every year, the business grows. Most everyone who purchases Ruth's Toffee is someone who's tasted her work, or been sent a box as a gift.

She said Ruth's Toffee is mostly a seasonal business. Yes, she makes and sells toffee year-round, but the holidays are when she does her biggest numbers.

"Right now, this time of year, I could use 14 people," she said.

Though, that would be in different shifts and at different times.

Summers, too, though, are a bit busier for her, since she travels to the farmers markets in Aspen and Vail. Those summer markets start in June, and then she said she needs a bit more help managing the business.

These days people can buy her items online too, at ruthstoffee.com. In fact, she said it's less than 10 percent of her clientele that walk in the actual business to purchase. Most of them order online now. And, they can also get chocolate turtles, as well as fudge, in addition to toffee.

Phippeny didn't know she'd end

*Cont. on Pg. 5*

## EDUCATION

### New school awarded another \$750k



The new school in Nucla receives another \$750,000 from the state's Department of Local Affairs. (Photo by Regan Tuttle)

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

The new school in Nucla remained under construction throughout the district's winter break. The building, which will house a preschool through 12th grade, plus an infant and toddler room, replaces the 1947 building that's still in use. School officials found out Dec. 23 the project received another \$750,000 in grant funding.

School superintendent Clint Wytulka said there are issues beyond repair inside the 75 year old building. Some of the plumbing is so calcified the faucets can't run. Passing the electrical and fire codes is an ongoing battle each year. And, the boilers present prob-

lems continuously. Wytulka said lead testing in schools is also getting serious across the nation.

He said the hard part is that the structure itself looks to be in decent shape. He understands that building a new school is difficult for some people. The old building that sits at the top of town is sort of a trademark for the community, especially for alumni who competed in athletics in the gym.

"I get it," Wytulka said during the holidays. "It's bittersweet."

Still, he hasn't had many conversations with people being upset about the new school, a \$35 million project for which West End Public Schools only had to come up with \$2.5 million.

"I really do believe we were awarded the highest BEST Grant

in BEST Grant history, as far as what our match is," he said.

Now, another \$750,000 is rolling in from the state's Department of Local Affairs, and that's great news for school officials who've been concerned about escalation costs, since the project was planned. Wytulka has said he is not interested in going back to the taxpayers for more money. The new grant helps finish the infant and toddler rooms.

Phase 1, under construction now, is the new building itself. Phase 2 will include the demolition of the old school and making the new parking lots.

Wytulka said he's grateful for Artaic Group, FCI and also Hord Coplan Macht (HCM).

*Cont. on Pg. 3*

## HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

### First home game this Friday

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

The Mustangs, a combined team of Nucla and Norwood players, did well before the winter break. Kelly Arnold, head coach for both the boys and girls teams, told the San Miguel Basin Forum on Monday the girls were 4-4 at the end of December, and the boys were 2-3.

"We did well," he said. "Actually, not bad."

He added both teams lost some really close games that could have gone in their favor.

Now, basketball is back underway, with action heating up this week. On Friday night, the boys and girls both play De Beque for the season's first home game. On Saturday, the boys travel to Ouray to face the Trojans.

Arnold said he's hoping for a couple of wins this weekend. He said it's not exactly easy for the kids, coming back from a break.

"We go for a month, have Thanksgiving and Christmas break," he said. "We get rolling along, and then have to get back on track really quickly."

Finding their groove on the court can be challenging after time off, but practices resumed in Nucla on Monday night. Arnold said they will be ready for the home game.

He said the games typically draw a good crowd of spectators in the Nucla gym, between the parents and the community members that come out and support high school sports.

As always, concessions will be happening, so folks can get food on site while they support the Mustangs.

"It's usually a class or a group, like National Honor Society or

*Cont. on Pg. 4*

## NUCLA

### Meet the mayor, Kirk Yerke

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*



Nucla mayor, Kirk Yerke. (Photo by Jeff Stephens)

Elected in April of this year to serve as Nucla's mayor, many people in town probably know Kirk Yerke. Originally from Louisiana, he came to the local area in 2017, first to Paradox. He then came to Nucla in April of 2019.

Yerke is a mechanic and works part-time for Hi-Country Motor Sports, of Norwood. Previously he's worked in the telecommunications industry, too. He's always worked with his hands, along with some tools, in some fashion.

He's a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served from 1989-1997, including in Desert Storm. Now, he serves Nucla-Naturita EMS. He

is an EMT-I but will take the next EMT course in Norwood too. He said he's not a medic, but a driver.

He was awarded "Driver of the Year" by Nucla-Naturita EMS recently.

He said between volunteering for EMS and also attending the Nucla First Baptist Church, he figures that's how he got elected as mayor. He ran against Mark Jones last spring, whom he said he actually really likes.

His mayorship lasts for four years. Before being elected to office, Yerke had never served on a board before, but he said it's going well. More and more, he's getting comfortable running Nucla's town meetings. So far

*Cont. on Pg. 5*



# West End Voices

**D**ear members of the Nucla and Naturita community, This is my first edition as owner and editor of The San Miguel Basin Forum. Some of you already know me. Others do not.

I'd like to introduce myself. I've been the editor of The Norwood Post, in Norwood, for almost a decade. In that time, I've made many acquaintances and friendships in the West End. I owned a house in Nucla for a few years too.

I'm originally from Oklahoma. I've also been teaching English on and off for 21 years.

As the new owner of this newspaper, I am excited to continue Roger Culver's legacy. I plan to keep writing about what's happening in these parts and to produce news stories about the new school construction, high school sports, nonprofit work, the town board meetings, new businesses, and more.

Story ideas are always welcome, and I encourage you to reach out to me. Letters to the editor, public thank-you notes and obituaries are also welcome, too.

Thank you for continuing to support your local newspaper over the years. My goal is to keep producing community news and to let the public know, locally and elsewhere, what's happening in the West End.

— Regan Tuttle, Editor



Regan Tuttle, left, takes on the San Miguel Basin Forum from longtime owner and editor Roger Culver. Here, they sign documents in Naturita. (Photo by Sara Bachman)

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## History: Rimrocker Historical Society The Colorado Cooperative Camp at Naturita, 1895

By JANE THOMPSON for the Rimrocker Historical Society



This photo shows the sleigh in Redvale used in winter for work and play. (Image courtesy of the Rimrocker Historical Society)

**I**n March of 1895, the Colorado Cooperative Company had settled into their first camp at Naturita. Before they could set up camp at Cottonwood Creek and begin any work on the building of the ditch, they would need to get crops planted and get their few families settled in before winter.

There are a few interesting articles I thought I would share from The Altrurian, the Colorado Cooperative Company newspaper. Their spirit of a cooperative community was strong in all of their decisions and conversations. They had leased property from Rockwood Blake, who was an old-time settler of Naturita. They would remain on this property until they could begin the process of planting gardens and building homes at Cottonwood, which would later become Pinon.

Part of their agreement to live on

the Blake property was that they would build a ditch from Naturita Creek to the land in order to water crops. This agreement would work well for everyone. Here, we find that the Nucla pioneers could not have made it without the help of their Naturita neighbors.

B. L. Smith writes in the March 1895 issue of The Altrurian, "Our colony has been organized one year, starting with a company of 12 persons, we have increased our membership to 41. There has been paid, in cash, \$360.10; in stock, consisting of horses, cows, wagons, tools, etc., \$670.70. We have as fine a location as there is in the state, and have secured the lease of 70 acres of land for three years, the lease of 30 acres for one year; upon which there is 20 acres of alfalfa hay, a large dwelling house, the Naturita P.O. and the terminus of

three stage lines, each one making three trips per week.

"Up to March 1st, there has been expended 203 days labor in hauling lumber, building cabins, stables, and temporary ditch work. With 80 acres of land in crops this spring, and 20 acres of hay land from which we can cut three crops during the season and all within two miles of the colony land, who says we will not make a success.

"The weather has settled down to something fine, and the snow is entirely gone on ground exposed to the sun, and the mud is deep, sticky and predominates both indoors and out.

"Work is being pushed on the rock work on the Blake ditch; but as it lays on the south side of the river a large portion of the ground is yet frozen. The ditch will be finished

Cont. on Pg. 4

### WEST END VOICES

## Hoof & Paw

By TONYA STEPHENS and SUSAN KELLEY

**H**oof & Paw is a community driven, volunteer animal rescue and support organization serving the West End of Montrose County. Founded in 2009, the nonprofit serves as a refuge for homeless animals and offers low-cost spay and neuter clinics, hosts vaccination clinics, and does some trap-neuter-release (TNR) for feral cats.

In 2022, Hoof & Paw adopted out approximately 150 animals, some who stayed with us for up to eight months while they waited for their perfect home. The nonprofit also spayed or neutered about 240 animals, and more than 200 owners took advantage of the vaccination clinics held. Not only that, Hoof & Paw has been a part of many incidents to reunite people and their lost pets.

Hoof & Paw operates a thrift store on Main Street in Naturita to partially fund its community services, as well as to receive support from the West End community and other area supporters.

Currently, there are a few animals needing a home.

#### Dogs: Snoop and Yuka

Snoop is a free spirit. At 1.5 years old, this dog has lots of energy, is a quick learner, is wonderfully goofy and an awful lot of fun to be around. He gets along remarkably well with other dogs and cats, and he comes when called. He has his basic manners. He is also disarmingly sweet and handsome, a very winning combination. He would make an awesome hiking or running buddy, or he would also be an excellent partner for agility or nose-work.

Yuka is a very joyful creature. She is bright-eyed, engaged, very smart, wiggly and a lot fun to hang out with. Part Catahoula and part Heeler (as best we can tell), she is young, only 8 months old as of December, but she is house-trained and comes when she is called. She loves working on her manners. She is very playful with other dogs and seems uninterested in cats. She is a delightful critter

and will make someone an amazing companion. She is very athletic and quick, and she also has the most marvelous ears.

#### Kittens: Guy and Simon

A little flirty and a little shy, Guy is a darling kitten. He came to Hoof & Paw with a couple of siblings. They were only about 6 weeks old but feral, so it took a lot of love for Guy and his crew to come around to the notion of life with humans. Guy is now accustomed to people, but it does take a little bit of time to warm up. It is worth it though, his purr is precious. Guy is 4 months old.

Simon is the little nugget that can make a dog person consider switching sides! Full of personality, he will be on your lap or hanging by your shoulder when you sit down. He and his brother, Guy, are very playful with one another. Simon is 4 months old.

Anyone interested in adopting should contact Hoof & Paw directly. All are encouraged to "like" the nonprofit on Facebook.



# School construction

Cont. from Pg. 1

“They are the team and have been amazing,” he said.

In fact, instead of importing gravel that was required, the contractors crushed rock on site and saved \$80,000.

Wytulka said West End Public Schools is anticipating completion of the project in the fall of 2023, specifically November. Still, he said the students won’t move in until January of 2024, the second semester of next year.

In the new school, safety and security are the priorities. Wytulka said access and protect-

ing kids is of utmost importance, and a state-of-the-art security plan will be executed.

Nucla’s new school is modeled after Elbert’s in eastern Colorado, built in 2012. Borrowing the Elbert plans also saved money on design fees.

Wytulka said there’s a beautiful cafeteria for the kids, options for a stage to open to the elementary portion and another school area too. Theater and music have opportunity to thrive in the new building.

There’s also a gym and a wrestling room. The new gym will host the future graduation ceremonies.

Wytulka said all of the trophies and the 100 years of class photos will be getting displayed in the new school.

Fiber cable runs right to the building for high-speed internet, something important for 21st century learning, and new pipes replace the old infrastructure.

Wytulka said he feels “thankful and privileged” for the funding that is making the West End’s new school possible. He admitted there is some stress with being a part of such a huge project.

“But I believe that in a year from now we will have what we set out to build,” he said.

## LETTERS

# Thank you for all the support



Kevin Starks immediate family. (Courtesy photo)

Dear Editor,

Kevin Starks, a Nucla alum (1985), moved from the area to attend school in Grand Junction and then moved back in 1988 with his wife Christina. They raised their girls Tiffany (Starks) Sealey and Kelsey (Starks) Heath in Nucla.

Kevin served for 25 years on the local Nucla-Naturita Volunteer Fire Department. He also helped coach both his girls in softball and basketball, both middle school and high school. He and his wife lived in the area for over 25 years before moving to New Mexico. They have three granddaughters: Madelynn Tomlinson, Audrey Heath and Alayah Heath. His parents Dick and Diane Starks, and Phyllis Knickerbocker, still remain in the area, along with his uncle and cousins.

Kevin went in for a routine physical in June 2022, and was diagnosed with invasive bladder cancer.

His urologist recommended him to the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, AZ, and he started chemotherapy. On Dec. 12, Kevin went in for surgery to remove his bladder, prostate and surrounding lymph nodes and to make him a neo-bladder.

On Dec. 16 the pathology report said he’d progressed to Stage 4 bladder cancer, but he is in remission

for that. Now, he has prostate cancer and cancer in the lymph node.

On Dec. 19, they found a blood clot, and he had more complications.

Kevin was to remain in the hospital through the end of December. The good news is the neo-bladder is working like it is supposed to!

Next is meeting with the oncology team in Phoenix and getting the next treatments started.

The family wants to send a very special thank-you to the Nucla-Naturita Fire Department and Ambulance, EMS for all of their support. Brotherhood runs deep!

They also want to send a thank-you to Lewis-Arriola Fire Department for their 9/11 climb donation.

They send another very special thank-you to Tammy Gillaspay and Doylene Garvey, of Nucla, for the Facebook online auction that was held when this was first diagnosed — and the spaghetti dinner that was also held. They also want to thank each and everyone that donated items for that, and for everyone who bid on those items.

All monies raised during those auctions in September helped pay for the co-pays and huge deductibles that they acquired through this. Their insurance only covers 80

percent, even after the deductible was met. And now, going into a new year, they will have to meet all those deductibles again.

Due to the two different cancer diagnoses and the complications he is now having, the family is asking for prayers. They could also use donations to help with the bills of everyday life.

Kevin and Christina are not working right now with being in Phoenix and are not able to pay. The family has set up a givesendgo page, givesendgo.com/G3PDN-, if anyone wishes to donate to that. Daughters Tiffany and Kelsey put updates regularly on that page as well.

Kevin and Christina will be in Phoenix for another six to eight weeks, if not longer, depending on how he heals and the oncologist appointments and scans.

If anyone would prefer to send donations to their house, they may send them to Kevin or Christina Starks, 559 Road 4990, Bloomfield, NM 87413. Kelsey lives in Bloomfield and checks their mail daily and can deposit the funds for them.

*The immediate family of  
Kevin Starks  
NEW MEXICO*

# San Miguel Basin Forum

Owner and Editor: Regan Tuttle

Advertising Manager: Tanner Nelson

Design Team: Rick Bickhart & Tori Sheets

## Mustang Wrestling 2022-23

TIME	PLACE	DATE	DAY
TBD	@ Pagosa (Dual)	1/6	Fri.
9:00	@ Pagosa	1/7	Sat.
9:00	@ Norwood	1/14	Fri.
4:30	Quad @ Dove Creek	1/17	Fri.
9:00	@ Pagosa/Hotchkiss	1/21	Fri.
9:00	@ Ignacio	1/28	Fri.
4:30	@ Dolores (SJBLs)	2/2	Fri.
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# Local history

Cont. from Pg. 2

to Naturita creek in ample time for the first irrigation, from which stream the water will be taken for the first part of the season.

“Travel is still on sleighs from Placerville to Shenandoah, eight miles above here; from there down the mud is something to disturb the best of natures.


“The roads from Placerville to Norwood will be impassable for teams, with any kind of loads, during the last half of March and first half of April. The road from Montrose over the plateau will be impassable until June 1st and not then unless some work is done upon it.

“A crowd came down from Norwood, and danced the night away to good music at the residence of Mr. Blake. Cards and tables were furnished for those who did not care to dance. When ‘Jimmy the fid,’ other-

wise known as Prof. Willy, with his violin, S. H. Mathews with his cello and B. L. Smith with his guitar get together they make music that any party of dancers may congratulate themselves on securing.”

It was a small group that started out there in Naturita with the dream of building a new town of the Tabeguache Park. They had planned for this time of preparing themselves before they started the work on the ditch. Some people were unhappy that Smith didn’t start on the ditch immediately, but he knew it was important to get those crops ready and established before they tried moving colonists up closer to the ditch digging. It would be 1897 before they were established near the work area.

Next week, more on the Colorado Cooperative Company’s early days at Naturita.




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## RECIPE

# Beef parmesan



Beef parmesan. (Photo by Mia Enstrom)

By **MIA ENSTROM** with **ROCKIN' BAR E GENETICS**

**B**eef parmesan is a rustic approach to an Italian classic that tastes so good it will have you channeling your inner

Sophia from The Golden Girls. Picture it: Sicily, 1922. All joking aside, this recipe is simple, quick and scrumptious. Using ground beef instead of chicken brings a hearty approach to this timeless recipe to blend with all the classic

flavors from the cheese and marinara. Serve over pasta to soak up all the morsels of goodness on your plate. This meal is a favorite in my household, and kids love it! What are you waiting for? Gather around your table and devour this recipe!

### Beef parmesan

Makes 4 servings; Cook time 40 minutes

#### Ingredients

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 tsp. dried parsley
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/3 c. Italian breadcrumbs
- 1/3 c. grated parmesan
- 1 large egg + 1 tsp. milk beaten together
- 1/3 c. olive oil
- 1 1/2 c. marinara sauce
- 1 c. finely shredded Italian cheese blend

#### Instructions

Heat oven to 375. In a bowl combine ground beef, dried parsley, garlic salt and garlic powder and form 4 individual patties. Add the eggs and milk to a bowl together and whisk until blended.

In another bowl, combine the breadcrumbs and parmesan. Dip each patty into the egg wash first, following in the breadcrumb mixture, pressing down and coating evenly on both sides. In a large skillet heat olive oil to medium heat. Once skillet is ready, add your breaded patties and cook until golden brown, about 2 minutes per side. Add marinara to the bottom of a baking dish and nestle each burger patty into the sauce. Top each patty evenly with the shredded cheese and bake for 20 minutes. Serve patties and sauce over your preferred style of cooked pasta. Garnish with parsley, parmesan or my favorite for a kick, red pepper flakes.

Freezer needing some beef? The Enstrom Ranch in Nucla is now offering grass-fed pasture-to-plate beef. Ground beef is available now; and whole, half or quarter beef is available to order. Give us a call to purchase at 970-417-5145 or 970-209-4701.

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# Basketball

Cont. from Pg. 1

the FFA,” he said. “We’ll have drinks, quesadillas, chili dogs and Frito pie.”

Arnold has been coaching for about 20 years. For the boys, he’s assisted by Mike Rummel, also a veteran coach, and of Norwood. Nine guys are out for the team this year, with no seniors on board. Arnold has said they’re a young team, but that the boys have some skills and some understanding of the game.

For the girls, Debbie Wytullka — of Nucla, and also who is an experienced coach — is assisting. With 15 girls on board this year, the seniors are Morgan Weimer, Sabra Grierson, Jazel Demus, Lisa Sutherland, Nichelle Rogers, Candis Staats, Sapphire Connelly and Kiely Rutter.

For those that would like to view the basketball schedule, that is available online at the West End Public Schools website. It’s also online at maxpreps.com.



# Nucla's mayor

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

he's not had any negative interactions, though a time or two someone has come to his home to complain about a town issue.

"I've not really had anything where I can look back and say that I dislike doing what I am doing," he said.

Serving with him on the Nucla Town Board are Tim Pierce, Paula Brown, Pam Curtiss, David Johnson, Ailene Smith and Penny Philbrick.

One thing Yerke said he's excited about for the town is the Main Street upgrades. He said it will be a \$3-\$4 million project to replace the service lines and to hopefully

replace sidewalks up and down the main road.

He said the town has enough money to begin the project. That will start this spring as weather permits. Montrose County has allocated funding for the work, and Yerke said more grants will become available in the near future.

"There is some more money out there, but we won't get the funds until 2025," he said.

Yerke may not have much free time. He goes on as many as eight to 10 EMS calls monthly. Sometimes those require driving to Grand Junction or Montrose.

Additionally, he's married to Galit Korngold, the owner and

operator of Wild Gals, Nucla's organic grocery.

"There's never a dull moment," he said.

Still, when he finds some time, he likes to race dirt bikes, or go snowboarding or wakeboarding. He's also jumped out of airplanes in the past. He buys and sells Jeeps on the side, too.

He enjoys living in Nucla. He said it's a small town, but one that is close to many adventures. With just a bit of driving, he can end up in the desert, or on the ski slopes, or even whitewater rafting.

Nucla's town board meetings happen the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

# Ruth's Toffee

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

up where she is today. She was a piano major in college at CU-Boulder. She thought she'd end up teaching piano for her life's work.

The Phippeny family has three grown children: Tracy, in the U.S. Air National Guard, stationed in Hawaii; Jerilyn, in Los Angeles; and also Geoffrey, in the U.S. Navy, also stationed in Hawaii. She has three step-grandchildren.

While the family farmed for many years in Paradox, they sold their farm property 10 years ago. Now, the Phippenys focus on Ruth's Toffee, along with a few rental properties in town.

Phippeny said for anyone next year who'd like to make some money in a seasonal job, they should approach her in late sum-



Ruth Phippeny. (Courtesy photo)

mer or the fall of 2023. She said she'll definitely have part-time

work available next year for those looking to make some extra money.



## Making merry

Heather Priestly made many hot drinks at Walk-In Coffee over the holidays. (Photo by Regan Tuttle)

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**WEST END MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BLOTTER**

**12/21/2022**

1523 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 32100 block of GG47 Road near Norwood.

1817 Hours - Darrel Elder, 22, was contacted at the intersection of Crabtree Road and Highway 97 in Naturita and cited for speeding.

1846 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Juniper Street in Nucla for a trespassing report.

2212 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of East Main Street in Naturita for a trespassing report.

2 VIN inspections

2 directed patrols in County  
5 civil processes attempted/served

**12/22/2022**

0552 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Heron Street in Nucla for an abandoned vehicle.

1524 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 26800 block of FF26 Road near Naturita for a theft report. Nicholas Calvillo, 33, was cited for theft and second degree trespassing.

1 followup report

**12/23/2022**

1038 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1149 Hours - Deputy conducted a welfare check in the 300 block of Elm Street in Nucla.

1758 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a disturbance. Thomas Higgs Jr., 45, was arrested for crimes against an at risk adult, third degree assault and harassment.

1758 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35300 block of II Road near Redvale for a 911.

1 directed patrol in County  
2 directed patrols in Naturita

**12/24/2022**

1455 Hours - Deputy relayed a message in the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita.

1606 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31700 block of Highway 97 near Naturita for a medical assist.

1646 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance.

1746 Hours - Deputy conducted a welfare check in the 26200 block of Z26 Road near Nucla.

1 directed patrol in Nucla  
2 civil processes attempted/served

**12/25/2022**

1222 Hours - Deputy conducted a citizen assist at the intersection of Highway 141 and Highway 145 near Naturita.

1329 Hours - Deputy conducted a motorist assist at the intersection of Highway 90 and Highway 141 near Naturita.

1535 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a 911.

**12/26/2022**

0847 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for found property.

1420 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1608 Hours - Gary Logan, 56, was contacted on Highway 145 mm 112 near Redvale and issued a warning for speeding.

1636 Hours - Gerald Vanness, 70, was contacted on Highway 145 mm 106 near Norwood and issued a warning for speeding.

1932 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a 911.

2 directed patrols in Nucla  
1 directed patrol in Naturita  
1 civil process attempted/served

**12/27/2022**

0729 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 107 near Redvale for a traffic hazard.

1728 Hours - Nicholas Wiegand, 38, was contacted in the 100 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla and cited for driving while license is under restraint, no insurance, no license plates, no taillights, and no motorcycle endorsement. Nicholas was also arrested on an outstanding warrant.

2309 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of DD30 Road and DD31 Road near Nucla for a traffic hazard.

1 directed patrol in Nucla  
1 directed patrol in County

**12/28/2022**

0805 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1459 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a trespassing report. Thomas Higgs Jr, 45, was arrested for third degree trespass and violating a protection order.

1705 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1706 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 30700 block of DD30 Road near Nucla for an information report.

1722 Hours - Deputy conducted an agency assist on Highway 145 mm 12 near Placerville.

1 directed patrol in Naturita

**NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

\* Articles, Obituaries, & Legals \*  
\* Color Ads \*  
\* Ads 1/4 Page or Larger \*  
**FRIDAY BY END OF DAY**

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\* Classifieds \*  
\* Small Ads/Legals \*  
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## PASTURE LAND FOR LEASE

The Town of Nucla is requesting bids to lease the Nucla Wastewater Treatment Facility pasture. The pasture is approximately 33 acres and is located 1.5 miles west of Nucla on 5th Road (sewer ponds). Lessee is responsible for any necessary fence repairs. Materials will be furnished or reimbursed by the town and will remain the property of the town at the expiration of the lease. Lease term will begin on February 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024 with the option to renew each year for 5 years. Sealed bids will be received until January 19, 2023 you may mail your bids to Town of Nucla PO Box 219, Nucla, CO 81424 or drop off at Town Hall 320 Main Street, Nucla

31-2T.C

## MUSTANG WATER AUTHORITY BOARD SEATS

BOARD SEAT- Mustang Water Authority is seeking letters-of-interest for consideration to fill the at-large positions (member and alter-

nate) on the Mustang Water Authority Board of Directors. The towns of Nucla and Naturita created the Mustang Water Authority to consolidate their water treatment facilities when they entered into a contract in 2003 that formed the authority and its board. The board consists of two members and an alternate selected by each town board and an at-large member and alternate to be selected by the four sitting town appointed board members. An applicant for an at-large position must be a user of the Town of Naturita or Nucla's water distribution system. Please mail letters-of-interest to MWA PO Box 177, Nucla 81424 or email to mustangwaterauthority@gmail.com by January 13, 2023.

31-2T.C

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# SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS SUDOKU

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## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: GEOGRAPHY 101

### ACROSS

- Piece of data
- Baryshnikov's step
- Back wound
- Soft palate hanger
- \*Any high mountain
- Tsar's edict
- Means
- Bishop of Rome's jurisdiction
- Female water-elf
- \*Highest mountain
- \*Sea that is also the largest lake
- A in MoMA
- \*Small island
- Ignited
- Lamborghini model
- Extravagant
- 15th of March, May, July or October
- \_\_\_\_-a-Sketch

- Technology expert
- Novice
- Damage one's reputation
- Lil' Bow Wow's first name
- Bette Midler's movie "\_\_\_\_ Pocus"
- "I'm \_\_\_\_ you!"
- Unit of pressure
- Denver breakfast choice
- Big rig
- \_\_\_\_ de Janeiro
- Excessively abundant
- Ensign, for short
- \*Great \_\_\_\_ Reef
- \*National Geographic \_\_\_\_
- Gibson garnish
- Arabic garment
- D-Day beach
- \*Longest continental mountain range
- Nada
- Energy to motion converter
- Golf pegs
- Red Cross bed
- Follow as a consequence



### DOWN

- Surfer's "man"
- Tel \_\_\_\_, Israel
- Ditty
- Extremist
- Masters without t
- Ghost of Christmas \_\_\_\_
- Miller High Life, e.g.
- Four-eyes' gear
- Bypass
- Uber alternative
- \*The largest continent
- Past participle of "be"
- Remove from political office
- Eyelid infections
- Opposite of nothing
- Burning aroma producer
- \*\_\_\_\_sphere, the solid earth
- "She is pulling my leg," e.g.
- 9 a.m. prayer
- \*\_\_\_\_sphere, air surrounding earth
- Sleeveless garment
- Blood of the gods, Greek mythology
- Harry Belafonte's daughter
- \*\_\_\_\_sphere, all water on earth
- Aretha Franklin's genre
- Type of crime
- Young Montague
- Brown and yellow finches
- Cravat or bola
- Financial gain
- 100 centimes
- "Barefoot in the Park" playwright
- Summer ride
- "Green Gables" protagonist
- Amusement park attraction
- Sturgeon \_\_\_\_ and salmon
- Table mineral
- Chow or grub
- Biblical pronoun
- Ready and eager
- \_\_\_\_sphere, all life on earth

**CROSSWORD**

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<b>79¢</b> Food Club 8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Tomato Paste</b>	<b>1.29</b> Food Club 20-24 oz. Select Varieties <b>Ketchup</b>	<b>2/5</b> Food Club 24 oz. Select Varieties <b>Pickles</b>	<b>3/5</b> Food Club 8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Olives</b>
<b>2/3</b> Food Club 14.5-15.25 oz. Select Varieties <b>Fruit</b>	<b>1.19</b> Food Club 10.5-11 oz. Select Varieties <b>Mandarin Oranges</b>	<b>3.29</b> Spam 12 oz. Select Varieties <b>Lunch Meat</b>	<b>3/5</b> Food Club 5 oz. in Water Chunks 80% <b>Chicken Breast</b>
<b>1.79</b> Food Club 8 oz. in Water <b>Tuna or Pink Salmon</b>	<b>79¢</b> Food Club 4 oz. Select Varieties <b>Green Chiles or Jalapenos</b>	<b>4.49</b> Food Club 40-48 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cooking Oil</b>	<b>2/3</b> Food Club 18 oz. Dairy or Dairy <b>Peanut Butter</b>
<b>6.49</b> Best Value 30 oz. Select Varieties <b>Mayonnaise</b>	<b>3/5</b> Food Club 6 oz. Select Varieties <b>Apple Juice or Cider</b>	<b>1.79</b> Food Club 20 oz. Select Varieties <b>Pineapple</b>	<b>99¢</b> Food Club 4 oz. Select Varieties <b>Mushrooms</b>
			<b>3.29</b> General Mills 5.5-12 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cereal</b>

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**Pork Roast**

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<b>2/6</b> Lean Cuisine 8.11 oz. Select Varieties <b>Entrees</b>	<b>4/5</b> Food Club 10-12 oz. Select Varieties <b>Frozen Vegetables</b>
<b>2/4</b> Just Crack on Egg 2.25-3 oz. Select Varieties <b>Scramble Kits</b>	<b>6.99</b> ea. Food Club 32 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cheese</b>
<b>5.99</b> Food Club 80 oz. Select Varieties <b>Potatoes</b>	<b>5.49</b> ea. Kraft 24 ct. American <b>Cheese Singles</b>
<b>5.49</b> Jimmy Dean 4.8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Breakfast Sandwiches</b>	<b>6.99</b> Crisp Cuisine 27 oz. Select Varieties <b>Entrees</b>
<b>4.49</b> Wilson 4.5 oz. Select Varieties <b>Pizza Rolls</b>	<b>4.49</b> Yoplait 8.18 oz. Select Varieties <b>Go-Gurt or Yogurt</b>

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<b>69¢</b> Food Club 14.5-15.25 oz. Select Varieties <b>Green Beans or Corn</b>	<b>77¢</b> Food Club 14.5-15 oz. Select Varieties <b>Tomatoes or Tomato Sauce</b>	<b>2/6</b> Doritos or Ruffles 5.5-10.25 oz. Select Varieties <b>Chips</b>	<b>4/5</b> 4 Pack Select Varieties <b>Snack Packs</b>
<b>99¢</b> Food Club 10-11.25 oz. Select Varieties <b>Soup</b>	<b>10/5</b> Food Club 6 oz. Select Varieties <b>Yogurt</b>	<b>2.79</b> General Mills 5-10 oz. Select Varieties <b>Fruit Snacks</b>	<b>2/4</b> Nestle 8.5-11.25 oz. Select Varieties <b>Donettes</b>
<b>3/4</b> Food Club 12-14 oz. Select Varieties <b>Pasta</b>	<b>3/4</b> Food Club 33-24 oz. Select Varieties <b>Pasta Sauce</b>	<b>7.49</b> Blue Diamond 7.4-11 oz. Select Varieties <b>Almonds</b>	<b>3.99</b> Nestle Family Size or Family Packs 7-17.3 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cookies</b>
<b>2.19</b> Food Club 5 oz. Unsalted <b>Sugar</b>	<b>2.19</b> Food Club 8 lb. All Purpose <b>Flour</b>	<b>3.49</b> Club or Beanitos 7.1-12.8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Crackers</b>	<b>3.29</b> Wabers 7 oz. 20 oz. Select Varieties <b>Snacks</b>
<b>3.99</b> Food Club 40 pk. 16.9 oz. Bottle <b>Drinking Water</b>	<b>5.49</b> Food Club 64 oz. Select Varieties <b>Orange Juice</b>	<b>3.99</b> Garden of Eatin' 2.8 oz. Jerky or 1.99 oz. or Cheeser 4.5-10 oz. Select Varieties <b>Snacks</b>	<b>3.49</b> Postcard, Simply or Shortcuts 6.8-8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Snacks</b>
<b>6.99</b> Food Club 20 oz. Select Varieties <b>Bacon</b>	<b>3.29</b> Kellogg's 9.8-13.2 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cereal</b>	<b>3.49</b> General Mills 5.5-8 oz. Select Varieties <b>Snack Bars</b>	<b>3/4</b> Food Club 16 oz. Select Varieties <b>Cottage Cheese</b>

<b>79¢</b> lb. Fresh Navel <b>Oranges</b>	<b>77¢</b> lb. Fresh Whole <b>Pineapple</b>
<b>3.99</b> ea. 3 lb. Bag <b>Mandarin Tangerines</b>	<b>2/3</b> Large <b>Avocados</b>
<b>1.29</b> lb. Large Slicing <b>Tomatoes</b>	<b>89¢</b> ea. Fresh Green <b>Bell Pepper, Cucumber or Eggplant</b>
<b>1.99</b> lb. Sweet Koru, Cosmic Crisp or Pink Lady <b>Apples</b>	<b>4/5</b> 10 oz. Matchstick Carrots or 16 oz. <b>Baby Carrots</b>

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