

NONPROFITS

WEPIFT resiliency grant applications are available

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

The West End Pay It Forward Trust (WEPIFT), a local endowment fund supporting community development in the West End of Montrose County, is excited to announce that it is still offering money for resiliency grants for the next few years. The grants are made possible as the result of a \$500,000 donation from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. a few years ago. The resiliency grant application window is now open, and all applications are due by April 28.

The maximum request amount is \$25,000. However, trust representatives said if projects have a matching component of two-to-one or more (other funding in addition to WEPIFT funding), up to \$50,000 could be considered for an award.

The resiliency grants are separate from the annual WEPIFT community grants, and they are available to any nonprofit organization, local taxing entity or organization working under the umbrella of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that strives to benefit the community and its residents.

The trust is in its seventh round of making the Tri-State resiliency grants. The board still has \$80,000 left to distribute of the original donation. The process began in 2020. Previous award winners include local schools, Apple Core Project, West End Visitor Center, Rimrocker Historical Society, West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC), Montrose West Recreation, Paradox Pipeline Company, the sheriff's posse, True North Youth Program, Tabeguache Trail Riders, the local senior center, fire and EMS departments and local parks.

"We are nearing the end of the Tri-State resiliency funds, which will make the next cycle and those to come the most competitive cycles yet," said trust president Sara Bachman last weekend. "We are excited to see this cycle's submissions."

Representatives from the West End Pay It Forward Trust say the grants are to be used to benefit the community, economy and resiliency of the West End of Montrose County. The trust prioritizes applications with the following characteristics: longevity, meaning programs and projects that will be sustainable in the future;

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ARTS

Nucla theater students visit CMU, plan for local play

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

Fourteen students from Nucla Middle/High School traveled Colorado Mesa University last week for a field trip with theater teacher Brock Benson. Benson, a CMU alumnus with a degree in theater, has resurrected the arts class in the West End. With four kids from the junior high and 10 from the high school, he's making sure his group gets some academic enrichment.

Last fall, the kids attended a performing arts festival with acting workshops at CMU.

Last week, the students saw the "Floyd Collins" musical there, a show about a man exploring caves approximately 100 years ago. With much dialogue about mining and hard times, Benson said his kids related to the performance and responded well.

CMU gifted the tickets to Nucla students to support them in their theater study. Representatives of the theater department also welcomed Benson's group to sift through costumes to borrow for their upcoming play next month.

The two theater classes, junior high and high school kids, will com-

bine to perform "Much Ado Out West." A spinoff of Shakespeare's play "Much Ado About Nothing," there are themes about sexism, male and female roles, and love. In the storyline, the guys come home from the war to resume ranching, but their duties have been taken by the ladies, who "kick butt" at ranch work.

With classes happening at school every day, students are learning their lines, building sets out of cardboard and prepping with the music and lighting. They already attended a square dancing lesson at Art at the Apothecary as part of getting into their characters.

"It's an elective class," Benson said. "They chose it, and they connect well with it. They respond to me, and we have a lot of fun."

Benson is happy that there is a space for the kids who gravitate toward the arts. He said it's good for them to have a community. He knows they'll have a sense of accomplishment when they get to perform starting April 20 in Nucla.

He hopes the community will come support them. He spent time carefully choosing a play that he felt would be inclusive but also relevant to the community. He wanted something adults would enjoy coming to see — a play that was

entertaining. He said it's one that gives the kids a sense of pride in their own culture.

"It's a good fit for our community," he said.

Students have also worked so long that Benson is expecting the show to be pretty polished. Likely the show will run two nights, and admission will be \$3 at the door.

Kira Rowan is the assistant director, and Megan Caruso is helping with the lights. Benson is grateful for Paul Koski's support in allowing the kids to use his woodshed for constructing sets and props. He's also very appreciative of his contacts at CMU in the theater department who support the arts in the West End.

"Our program wouldn't be half of what it is without them," he said.

Additionally, in Benson's greater network, other theater connections he's made over the years have recently donated money for field trip lunches and transportation for the kids. He said the support has been overwhelming.

"Many people have given to make sure the kids have these experiences," he said. "I'm lucky that when I ask for help, I get way more than I need, and I just make sure the kids keep benefitting."

COLLEGE SPORTS

Tyler Wytulka named ACCAC Player of the Week

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

Tyler Wytulka, who plays baseball for Eastern Arizona College, is in his sophomore year and has been mainly a designated hitter. Wytulka, who plays left field, first base and pitches, can do everything, but as of lately, he's been mostly hitting. A few weeks ago, on Feb. 28, he was named Player of the Week in his conference, the Arizona Community College Athletic Conference (ACCAC).

The lefty — he pitches and bats with his left hand — had played eight to 10 games before having a really good stretch that got him the recent honors. His school was playing Western Arizona College, and though he didn't play the first game, in the second game he went 4-4, had a double, three singles and got hit by pitch. He had five at-bats that game.

Later that week, his school played South Mountain Community College. In the first game, he went 1-3 with a single. In the second game, he was 1-3 but got a home run.

"I think I might have gotten walked twice that game," Wytulka told the Forum on Sunday. "I had five at-bats the second game too."

That's when the ACCAC named him Player of the Week, an award that coaches in the conference vote on after they've seen the guys play all week and come to a consensus.

While he knew about the award, he didn't know he'd won it — that is until his father, West End Public Schools District Superintendent Clint Wytulka, texted him and let him know.

"Seeing that I got it was cool," he said.

Eastern Arizona is on spring break right now and will continue regular season play through April 30. The top four teams in the conference will move on to play in a final tournament. Wytulka said it depends on the school's record and how well they've done throughout the season.

The winner will move on to a regional tournament against teams in Utah, Nevada and Idaho. From there, those that advance head to Grand Junction for a world series tournament.

Wytulka is working on a forestry degree currently, but is aiming for a bachelor's degree in biology when he transfers next year. While he's not sure where

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Tabeguache Development Company recently purchased the old creamery building. (Courtesy image)

BUSINESS

Tabeguache Trading closes; museum moves in

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Amiee Tooker and family would like to thank the community and its visitors for their support of the Tabeguache Trading Company since the business opened in 2017.

"Sadly, over the years we have

learned that the need for such a store in the West End wasn't quite there yet," Tooker said in a news release last week. "The new tenant at 470 and 472 Main St. is Rimrocker Historical Society. This Main Street location will be ideal for the museum and the antique farm equipment that will soon be

on full display in the yard."

Tooker added the façade is getting upgrades, and next the building will brighten up Nucla's Main Street with color.

Representatives of Rimrocker Historical Society said it's bittersweet.

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MONTROSE COUNTY VOICES

Regarding wolves

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife is well aware of the complexities surrounding the reintroduction of wolves in Colorado. Montrose County would like to commend CPW staff for their commitment to collaboration in the latter phases of this reintroduction process.

As a participating agency, Montrose County will continue to engage in the various phases of this reintroduction process, but we feel it is necessary to acknowledge the concerns of the Western Coloradans that will bear the costs of this reintroduction effort. Though processes are in place to ease some of those impacts, there are ecological, economic and social considerations that the reintroduction effort does not adequately address. At this stage, there are potential impacts that planning efforts are unlikely to resolve. The task is to mitigate the potential incompatibilities of this species with the systems and processes that shape our economies, cultures, communities and landscapes.

The following comments consolidate (a pretty narrow range) of citizens concerns, and some environmental implications that have not gotten adequate consideration. CPW and The Draft Restoration Management Plan are not the root cause of many of these issues, but CPW has been tasked with developing the plan that will shape outcomes. Again, Montrose County would like to acknowledge the complexity of this effort for CPW.

Compounding the complexity of this effort is the timeframe and resources. This issue is apparent when comparing the release locations against habitat requirements. Public lands are a primary identifier for landscapes best meeting habitat criteria. Identifying release locations on private properties for the named purpose of avoiding National Environmental Policy Act analysis does not speak to a process that has adequately considered environmental outcomes. Drought and changing conditions on our landscapes are creating compounding impacts on functioning ecosystems. It is critical that adequate consideration be given to the compatibility of this species with the existing and future conditions of our landscapes. Those considerations should extend to our ongoing restoration, resiliency and recovery efforts.

CPW resources are also a concern beyond this planning process. CPW staff is currently overloaded and cannot accommodate the additional workloads reintroduction demands. With the complexity of wildlife pathology and mechanisms to mitigate wolf-livestock interactions, training and additional staff will be critical. Similar reintroduction efforts elsewhere have shown depredation events far exceeding the losses that were compensated. Though the plan proposes an increase in compensation thresholds, many animals have values that exceed those limits. Loss of some animals can damage operations well in excess of market value. Market value does not encompass the val-

ues of every animal, or its importance in every operation. The plan compensates depredation, but does not adequately consider costs associated with conflict minimization, decreased weight gain and a range of other costs. While the plan suggests compensation for a range of losses, compensation is predicated on previous depredation events. Ranchers' time and a range of other incurred costs are not adequately accounted or budgeted for. These costs, and associated CPW staffing resources, need to be adequately funded (and held outside of the general fund) to address short- and long-term impacts. Current budgets, staff and accounting practices leave our producers at risk.

The plan acknowledges the significance of livestock densities (though maybe more accurately described by the relative density of livestock operations), as well as the disproportionate impacts of depredation events on some producers. It is important to consider that data informing wolf-livestock interactions may not accurately capture these conditions in Colorado. Impacts to Colorado producers may differ significantly. Comprehensive and well-funded compensation mechanisms are critical. To some degree, unique conditions on the landscape will create unpredictable outcomes; those outcomes impact our producers, wildlife, landscapes, wolves and future wolf populations. Adequate resources, flexible management frameworks and latitude in decision-making are critical to address unforeseen and changing outcomes.

Outcomes affected by timelines, planning resources and conditions in our landscapes become more significant when considering parallel planning processes. These processes are also being implemented on accelerated timelines, and the compatibility of desired outcomes has not been adequately addressed. With the potential for wolves to "contribute to local reductions of some ungulate herds or changes in distribution," there are significant implications on statewide resource management plan revisions to protect big game critical habitat and habitat connectivity. As wolves expand and settle into their chosen ranges, we can expect to see significant overlap with critical habitats and migration corridors for big game. Presumably, changes in big game distribution will be greater in these areas of high use and high concentration. While the incidence and severity of those interactions may be hard to predict, the impacts to these critical habitats will logically exceed the rest of the state. The same could be said of population reductions. Again, impacts to big game may be hard to predict, but it's reasonable to expect diminished outcomes in this related planning process, as well as a diminished shelf-life for designated habitats.

Though less obvious than interactions between wolves and big game, the overlap between proposed release sites and critical habitat for Gunnison Sage Grouse is

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History: Rimrocker Historical Society
Telephones come to
out-of-the-way places

By JANE THOMPSON for the Rimrocker Historical Society

The outlying areas of Nucla, Naturita and Norwood were hoping to get in on the telephone business, and by 1915 were working to get poles in the ground and lines hung for telephone service to their out-of-the-way homes, farms and ranches. This would come to be life-changing for these pioneering folks that had to travel hours to get to a telephone for help, or to just be able to have a conversation with distant friends or family.

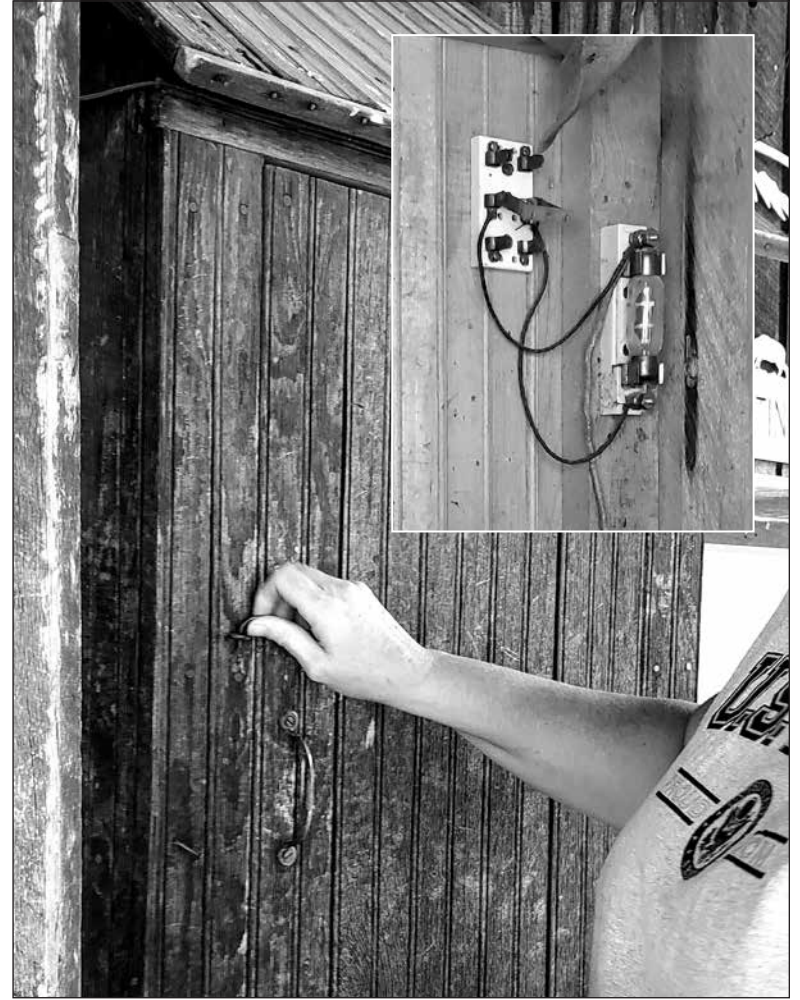
In January 1915, the Standard Chemical Company ordered 1,000 pounds of telephone wire from the Farmers Mutual Telephone Association to be used to extend private lines from their headquarters at the Coke Ovens to their mining camps. This was going to be an amazing change for not only the company, but those isolated miners on Long Park and Monogram Mesa. Telluride and Ouray already had telephone service to their mines for some time.

The Nucla Independent received a letter from the Ute Chamber of Commerce stating that they were expecting to build a telephone line from Ute to the Rose Ranch on the old Hinche place and connect up with the C. C. Co. line, if the board of directors would give them permission. They must have gotten that permission, because an August 1915 article said the line of poles from the Rose Ranch on Cottonwood to Ute were being set. Mr. Lubert, the secretary of the Ute Telephone Association, stated to a Nucla Independent reporter that "the connecting line between the Rose Ranch and Ute would soon be in place and a phone installed at the C. C. Sheats Ranch (now owned by Stan and Misty Galley)."

By September 1915, the Ute Telephone Exchange was connected with the Nucla switchboard, and telephone calls could be made to Ute by calling No. 68.

In April 1916: "Sam McNutt and A. B. Green have been working on a telephone line to connect the A. B. Green home with the new line that has been built from Naturita to Nucla."

In March 1917: "Basin stockholders of the Redvale-Cedar Telephone company met last week at the home of Mrs. Julia Fahrmeier to consider the prices, which should be paid for cutting and hauling poles and digging holes. Geo. B. Young, the representative from the Basin on the Company's directorate, presided."



This photo shows the vintage phone cabinet at Kathy Cooper's place. (Courtesy image)

In a 1922 article from The Norwood Post: "The Oak Hill Telephone Company has completed the stringing of the wires and connecting up with the Norwood exchange. Telephones were installed on Monday."

The article went on to list the names and numbers of the new customers. They were listed as follows: John Frazer, Frank Sullivan, Mrs. Thomas Sherrill, Ed Morris, Lane Cornforth, Carlos Cornforth, Tony Sagrillo, and E.E. Haines.

Lane and Carlos Cornforth were my great uncles, brothers to my great-grandmother Muriel Cornforth Evans. I especially remember Uncle Carlos. I thought he and his wife Aunt Esther were the best people, and we visited their little farm often, as they lived next door to my grandparents' ranch. We often walked to their place to see all of their animals, and we thought they lived in a mansion with their little two-story farmhouse. It was fun to read in the old newspaper that they had gotten their first phone as customers of the Oak Hill Telephone Company. How I wish I could call them up today at 16F12 and talk to Uncle Carlos about his life growing up in Ouray and his move, along with his brother

Lane and my great-grandmother Muriel, to Norwood. What a great conservation that would be!

For the past few years, the Rimrockers have accompanied Mrs. Padgett's third grade classes on a trip to Ute. We visited Kathy Cooper's little homestead, which was originally the Pelham Ranger Station, the Ben and Mina Brooks' home, the site of the old Ute Schoolhouse, as well as where it was moved to on Weimer property, and also Misty and Stan Galley's ranch, which used to be Sheats Ranch. It has been a great field trip for the children, although I think I probably enjoyed it as much as they did (maybe more!).

While at Kathy Cooper's homestead, she showed us the telephone cabinet on the outside of her cabin. Although the old phone was gone, I thought it was fascinating that the cabinet was still there. Thank you, Kathy, for allowing me to share the photo of your little piece of history. I guess if they needed to make a call in the winter, they didn't linger too long outside but just say what needed to be said and get back in the house.

Telephones had come to stay in the West End and had definitely connected everyone in a very big way. Life would never be the same.

WEPIFT

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leverage, or programs and projects with higher and/or multiple sources of match-funding; community and economic development, since Tri-State funding is specifically designated to support economic development and eco-

nomie recovery in the West End by increasing employment and the tax base; collaboration, because having multiple community partners is strongly encouraged; and also aspects of resiliency, including industry diversity and attraction, community leadership, youth and

family retention and attraction to the area, smart growth and community beautification.

Anyone who would like to obtain an application on behalf of a non-profit, government entity or taxing district should visit westendpayitforward.org/grant-programs.



At ease in Naturita

Youth gather at True North Youth Program's hangout space. (Courtesy image)

PEOPLE

Wayne W. Wilson celebrates 100th birthday

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Wayne W. Wilson, of Redvale, and a lifelong resident of the area, celebrated his 100th birthday on March 3. His four children — James (Jim) of West Chester, Ohio; Electa Birrer of Eagle, Idaho; Donald (Don) of Redvale; and Judy of Redvale — joined many of his 15 grandchildren and 41 great-grandchildren, as well as others from the area at the Redvale Community Center to celebrate this rare occasion.

Wilson is a 1942 graduate of Nucla High School and a World War II veteran, having served in the South Pacific on the island of New Guinea. Upon his return from the war, he met and married Edith Arlene Hilleary, of Nucla,



Wayne W. Wilson (Courtesy image) in August 1946. She passed away in April 2017.

Wilson worked many jobs in the area, including at a family-

owned sawmill on Columbine, at the Vanadium Corporation of America mill in Naturita, and at Union Carbide in Uravan where he retired. In addition, he owned and operated the Triangle Cross Ranch in Redvale from 1950 until he was unable to work.

Wilson is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and has served in various callings in the church and helped build the chapel in Naturita that still serves as the meetinghouse for the congregation today.

He loved to hunt and fish when he was able.

Wilson received a personal birthday letter from both Governor Polis of Colorado and President Biden of the White House.

OBITUARY

Bobbi Dee Falk

March 16, 1958 – March 6, 2023



Bobbi Dee Falk (Courtesy image)

Bobbi Dee Falk was born on March 16, 1958, to Ezra and Sharon Painter in Killeen, Texas. She grew up in Norwood and graduated Norwood High School in 1976. Shortly after graduation Bobbi married Robert (Hack) Reed and had two sons, Chad and Chance. They later divorced and Bobbi moved back to Norwood where she met the love of her life, Fred Falk. They were married for 37 years and have two children, Chris and Chelsie.

Bobbi had a love for stream fishing, arrowhead hunting, cooking and reading. But what she loved most was spending time with her family and friends. Our memories of her are filled with smiles, laughter and love. She was a daughter, sister, wife, mother,

aunt, grandmother and friend. But no matter how you knew her or what your connection was to her, you always knew when you walked into her house, you'd be greeted with her cheerful smile and charming personality.

Bobbi left us unexpectedly on March 6. She is preceded in death by her parents and grandson, Jeremiah Rock. She leaves behind her husband, Fred Falk; sister, Shelli Painter; children, Chad (Malisha), Chance, Chris (Lilia), Chelsie (Gabe); nephews, Jason (Stacie) Narramore, Justin Narramore; and five grandchildren, Jazlyn, Trey, Emery, Gunner and Garrett.

The family would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during this time. They will hold a private celebration of life in her memory this summer.

OBITUARY

Norma Louise (French) McDermott

Nov. 22, 1935 – Feb. 25, 2023

Norma Louise (French) McDermott of Colorado Springs, formerly of Norwood, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 25 at The Cheyenne Mountain Care Center in Colorado Springs. In her final days, she was surrounded by family and friends. A celebration of life will be held on May 21 with the time and place to be determined.

Norma was born at home on Nov. 22, 1935, in Norwood. The daughter of Louis "Duke" and Florence French, she spent her youth working at her father's general store and assisting her mother, a teacher, in the local one-room schoolhouse. She was an avid seamstress, piano player and a school cheerleader. She graduated Norwood High School in 1953. In 1955, Norma earned an associate degree in business from Parks Business College in Denver. On May 30, 1956, Norma married the love of her life Andrew "Andy" McDermott.

Following their marriage, Norma and Andy moved around the country for work and higher education, finally settling in Colorado Springs to raise their family. Norma and Andy welcomed their daughter Cheryl in 1957, followed by Craig in 1961, and Scott in 1969. A devoted homemaker, Norma took great pride in running her home, and feeding and nurturing her family.

Norma had a lifelong belief in the importance of education, and as her children grew, she enthusiastically spent her time and energy helping special needs students at Pikes Peak Elementary School.

In her later years, Norma became a dedicated quilter and very involved with "Quilts from The Heart," a local organization that provides quilts to children in hospitals. She loved to spend time with her grandchildren. Her grandchildren remember countless hours of playing pretend, coloring, baking her specialty Texas

Chocolate Cake, visiting the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and local Children's Museum, and attending plays and productions.

Norma is survived by her beloved husband of 66 years, Andy McDermott; her three children, Cheryl McDermott-Hall and her husband Steven of Otter Rock, OR, Craig McDermott and his wife Sally of Black Forest, CO, and Scott McDermott of Colorado Springs. Norma was blessed with four grandchildren: Jeremy Haley, Amy Gee, Jennifer Clark (Brandon) and Andee McDermott; six great-grandchildren: Julian Martinez (Ariel), Kaiden Gee, Karter Gee, Rye Clark, Georgia Clark and Aiden Haley; and two great great grandchildren: Abryana and Alana Martinez. She was preceded in death by her mother, Florence French, her father, Louis French, her older brother, Leslie French, and her grandson, Jeremy Haley.

She will be missed.

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Local business closes

Cont. from Pg. 1

“The Rimrockers really appreciate that Aimee is keeping the history of Nucla alive through her businesses,” Jane Thompson told the Forum over the weekend. “Tabeguache Trading Company will close this week, and that is the building the museum will be moving into. Although we are excited to move the museum, we are sad that the store had to close.”

Though, in the news release, Tooker said Tabeguache Development Company recently purchased the old creamery building, which sits between Spirits of the Tabeguache and Redd’s Mercantile. The Tookers are currently renovating the caved-in roof and are planning for what should be done with the space.

“None of this would be possible without our dedicated and hard-working employees,” Tooker said. “There are too many to name, but we are beyond blessed and grateful for their hard work and helping us bring the visions to life. Our journey to this point has put many talented artisans, craftsman and foodies in our path, and we are so happy to showcase their perfect creations throughout our properties.”

Now, the Tookers are set to open Amy’s Place, part of the Vestal House property, but specifically

the craftsman home next door to the inn. Tooker said her family has been overwhelmed with support for the project.

The greater Vestal House has themed rooms with private baths: the Lodge, the Visionaries, the Uravan, the Tabeguache, the Lincoln and the Ford. There is also a kitchen common area called the “Beehive,” along with two RV spots with connections to utilities.

The craftsman house next door, Amy’s Place, is named after Amy Vestal, the pioneer woman who owned the property, which was titled to her name only. It was rare for a woman to have ownership of such a property in that time. Tooker said it was “progressive” and a “nod to her independent spirit.”

Amy’s Place is nearly complete and ready to receive guests. Tooker said the building can be used for not only lodging, but events too. Additionally, there will be hours designated for the space to be open to the public, seasonally and depending on the number of reservations. The Tookers hope to sell some West End and Colorado souvenirs, and some maps and books to visitors.

“We hope that Amy’s Place and her small-town hospitality become the welcome center for Nucla,” Tooker said.

Wolves

Cont. from Pg. 2

not inconsequential. With a “complex suite of abiotic, bottom-up, and top-down forces,” it is hard to predict the potential outcomes accompanying the introduction of an apex predator. Though direct impacts are likely limited, it’s reasonable that a reshuffling of large and medium carnivores on the landscape may impact grouse. With dietary overlap, displacement, access to carrion etc., potential exists for species like coyotes, foxes, raptors and corvids to impact sage grouse to a greater degree. The plan explains the potential impacts to predator species, but aggregating trickle-down impacts of shifting predator-prey relationships, trophic cascades and potential changes to historical disturbance regimes highlights significant potential for unintended impacts. With regard to trophic cascades, perhaps the most commonly quoted benefit of wolf reintroductions is the reduction in browse pressure from ungulate species. With sage grouse habitat projects largely focused on converting forests to sage communities, arguments attributing

recovery of woody species to wolf introductions put wolves at odds with sage grouse recovery. We commend CPW for utilizing a more comprehensive analysis of trophic cascades in this report.

Polarized conservation ideologies characterize grazing as unequivocally detrimental to environmental health. Though planners should be commended for acknowledging the potential benefits of these systems, careful consideration should be given to impacts on managed grazing systems developed and revised over decades. With the careful timing and intensity of rotational grazing, disruptions in those systems can have significant impacts on the health and vigor of our rangelands and forests. Those impacts can extend beyond our public lands and beyond the chosen ranges of wolf populations; they are further compounded with issues like ongoing drought. Compounded range management issues, increased operating costs, and a presumptive shrink in profit margins, are likely to slow production. Considering the refined range management practices of our regional producers, it is important to look at the producers and management practices that will grow to meet market demand. It is likely

producers reliant on deforestation will meet part of that demand. Net impacts to ecosystems can extend well beyond the state line. It is critical that adequate support is given to producers that support functioning forests and rangelands.

With the stated objective of “establishing and maintaining a self-sustaining population,” unavoidable interactions with livestock raise significant questions about the goals of reintroduction. If the species can use livestock to supplement their natural food sources, they become insulated from predator-prey relationships. If they are not subject to natural selection, what defines the species as self-sustaining? To what degree do human influences shape the evolution of the species? By itself, a self-sustaining population is not a viable objective.

We recognize CPW’s limitations in this process and commend staff for their hard work and collaboration. This process will not resolve many of these concerns, but it is critical that every step is taken to protect our agricultural producers and our landscapes.

Sue Hansen, Roger Rash and Keith Caddy
MONTROSE COUNTY

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Wytulka named Player of the Week

Cont. from Pg. 1

he's going yet, he'd like to attend a bigger university and keep playing baseball. He's talked to a few coaches and plans to make his decision by summer.

He said playing for the Gila Monsters in Thatcher, Arizona has been a good experience.

"I really do like it here," he said, adding that the group of guys he plays with is good, and he likes the coaches.

He said while he's in Arizona, he's in a milder climate — not 120 degrees, like Phoenix — and there are some mountains around.



Tyler Wytulka (Courtesy image)

He said when he left for college, he knew what he was getting into,

but there was also a big learning curve with getting started at Eastern Arizona last year. He said after a few weeks, he settled in and has been fine ever since. He admitted being a collegiate athlete is definitely a lot harder than high school athletics and academics were. He said taking some college classes while at Nucla High School helped prepare him for what it would be like. Still, he added taking biology and chemistry in the same semester during his freshmen year was a bit challenging.

In the future, he hopes to work for U.S. Fish and Wildlife for his career.

OBITUARY

Charles 'Charlie' Lee Cockerell

June 23, 1935 – January 18, 2023

Charles 'Charlie' Lee Cockerell passed quietly from this life after a brief illness at the age of 87. He was born in Springer, NM. His youth was spent moving with his parents and grandparents from cow range to cow range in New Mexico and Colorado. At the very heart of Charlie beats a cowboy. He loved his Herefords and quarter horses, and he had an eye for both.

Right out of Santa Fe High, Charlie joined the New Mexico Department of Fish & Game. His second love was wildlife and everything that went with it. After 30 years moving around the state with the game department, Charlie retired to a small place in Abiquiu where he could have a handful of horses. But, you couldn't keep him away from the wildlife.

He started Turkey Tracks Outfitters, hunting turkeys in Florida, mule deer in Utah, whitetail deer in Texas and elk in Colorado. Charlie also had the opportunity to hunt deer in Mexico and Dall sheep in Alaska. He was still guiding hunters up into his late 70s.

Sports were a big deal to Charlie. He loved watching them on TV, but he really loved going to games of any kind. He coached baseball for Clay and his grandsons, Kyle and Karl. After moving to Aztec to be closer to both Clay and Darci, he



Charles Lee Cockerell (Courtesy image)

went to every game he could for all of the grandkids. He was a big supporter of Aztec High School sports, going to state tournaments to cheer on the teams.

Charlie also coached the 4-H shooting sports, starting with Chad at age 9 in air rifle and becoming an instructor for .22 rifle for Shanna. He never missed a competition, even traveling to Nebraska for 4-H nationals for shotgun with Chad and Brett.

Charlie was married to the love of his life for 63 years. He met little blonde tomboy, Ireta Williams, at the age of 10 in Nucla. They were married in Durango on Aug. 29, 1959.

Charlie was preceded in death by his parents, O.B. Cockerell

and Lucille (McNeil); son, Monty Alan; and grandson, Karl Emerson.

He is survived by his loving wife, Ireta (Williams); son, Jimmy "Clay"; daughter, Darci Moss (Bill); sister, Cindy (Jimmy) Jones; grandchildren, Kyle (Jennifer) Cockerell, Aleah Cockerell, Chad (Kristian) Moss, Brett (Kaitlyn) Moss, Shanna (Jason) Moss; and great-granddaughter Zella Rose Moss with another baby Moss due in October.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date, after cremation has taken place. His ashes will be scattered in the high country that he loved.



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DELTA SALES YARD MARKET REPORT MARCH 9, 2023

300-400# STEERS	2.20-2.55	300-400# HEIFERS	1.90-2.30
400-500# STEERS	1.80-2.35	400-500# HEIFERS	1.85-2.15
500-600# STEERS	1.80-2.25	500-600# HEIFERS	1.75-2.11
600-700# STEERS	1.65-1.90	600-700# HEIFERS	1.65-1.85
700-800# STEERS	1.70-1.82	700-800# HEIFERS	1.60-1.70
800-900# STEERS	1.62-1.75	800-900# HEIFERS	1.55-1.68
Top bulls	1.01-1.16	Medium bulls	.90-1.00
Young Cows	1.00-1.25	Top cows	.90-1.00
Medium cows	.80-.89	Low-yielding cows	.79 down

NEXT WEEK: Thursday March 16 25 butcher cows , 6-10 butcher bull, 8 mixed feeders, 3 bred cows. Along with our regular dock run of 300-400.

UPCOMING SALES FOR 2023

Next Special Sheep & Goat Sale **Thursday March 30**. Early consignment of 85 sheep – mostly bred ewes, small lot of yriling, and drys.

NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE – **APRIL 1ST**.

Where 2 Trail Meet – Limousin / Angus Bull Sale. **Thursday April 6th**.



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WEST END MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BLOTTER

3/2/2023

1318 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of Wilson Street in Naturita.

1426 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a report of littering.

1521 Hours - Deputy responded to the 26900 block of 2600 Road near Nucla for smoke in the area.

1939 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

2321 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance.

1 VIN inspection
10 civil processes attempted/served

3/3/2023

1410 Hours - Deputy conducted an agency assist in the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla.

1525 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of DD30 Road and County Road 90 for a theft report.

1650 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 16700 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a civil matter.

1 directed patrol in Naturita

3/4/2023

0853 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of EE22 Road and Highway 90 for an information report.

2106 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31200 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a medical assist.

1 directed patrol in Nucla

3/5/2023

1240 Hours - Deputy conducted an agency assist near Telluride.

1246 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1000 block of Main Street in Nucla for a theft report.

1311 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for found property.

3 civil processes attempted/served

3/6/2023

0922 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a fraud report.

1111 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 24200 block of Highway 90 near Naturita for a welfare check.

1135 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 106 near Norwood for an animal problem.

1455 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a 911.

2025 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for a civil standby.

3/7/2023

1 VIN inspection
1 school zone in Naturita
1 directed patrol in Nucla
1 directed patrol in Naturita
3 civil processes attempted/served

3/9/2023

0448 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 141 and Highway 145 near Naturita for suspicious activity.

1325 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 141 and Highway 145 near Naturita for an animal problem.

1743 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla for a traffic complaint.

1821 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a 911.

1931 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

2 VIN inspections

1 school zone in Naturita
3 directed patrols in Nucla
1 directed patrol in Naturita
1 civil process attempted/served

3/10/2023

0954 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 1 near Naturita for an animal problem.

1713 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36200 block of 3510 Road near Redvale for a traffic hazard.

2338 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a suspicious person.

1 directed patrol in Nucla
2 directed patrols in Naturita

3/11/2023

0812 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 82 near Naturita for a traffic hazard.

1106 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1352 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36100 block of 90 Road near Nucla for a traffic hazard.

1540 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Brinkley Avenue in Naturita for a medical assist.

1637 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a civil matter.

2 directed patrols in Nucla
1 directed patrol in Naturita

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LEGAL PUBLICATION

District Court, Montrose County, Colorado
1200 N. Grand Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401

In the Matter of the Determination of Heirs or Devises or Both and of Interests in Property of:

DOROTHY E. COLOMBO, aka DOROTHY ELAINE COLOMBO and DOROTHY COLOMBO, and ELMER H. COLOMBO, aka ELMER HENRY COLOMBO and ELMER COLOMBO,

COURT USE ONLY

Deceased

Case Number: 2023PR30031

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND OWNER BY INHERITANCE PURSUANT TO §15-12-1303, C.R.S. who may claim an interest in the property described below.

A Petition has been filed alleging that the above-named Decedents died leaving the following oil, gas, and mineral rights in and to the following described real properties: S½NW¼, NE½SW¼, N½W½SW¼NE¼ OF SECTION 28; SE½NE¼ AND SOUTH 10 ACRES OF THE NW¼NE¼ OF SECTION 29; ALL IN TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH, RANGE 19 WEST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF MONTROSE, STATE OF COLORADO.

The hearing on the Petition will be held at the following time and location or at a later date to which the hearing may be continued:
Date: May 4, 2023
Time: 1:00 pm
Duration: 30 minutes
Location: Montrose County Justice Center, 1200 N. Grand Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81401

Dated March 13, 2023.

By: /s/ Sara Bachman, #50363
Attorney for Petitioners
Bachman Law, LLC
PO Box 158
Naturita, CO 81422
970-865-2440

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum March 15, 22, & 29, 2023

LEGAL PUBLICATION

District Court, Montrose County, Colorado
1200 N. Grand Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401

In the Matter of the Determination of Heirs or Devises or Both and of Interests in Property of:

ELMER H. COLOMBO, aka ELMER HENRY COLOMBO and ELMER COLOMBO,

COURT USE ONLY

Deceased

Case Number: 2023PR30032

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND OWNER BY INHERITANCE PURSUANT TO §15-12-1303, C.R.S. who may claim an interest in the property described below.

A Petition has been filed alleging that the above-named Decedent died leaving the following real property: N½SE¼NE¼, SECTION 33, TOWNSHIP 48 NORTH, RANGE 19 WEST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF MONTROSE, STATE OF COLORADO.

Oil, gas, and mineral interests in and to:
E½ NE¼ AND N½ SE¼ SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 47 NORTH, RANGE 15 WEST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF MONTROSE, STATE OF COLORADO.

The hearing on the Petition will be held at the following time and location or at a later date to which the hearing may be continued:
Date: May 4, 2023
Time: 1:00 pm
Duration: 30 minutes
Location: Montrose County Justice Center, 1200 N. Grand Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81401

Dated March 13, 2023.

By: /s/ Sara Bachman, #50363
Attorney for Petitioners
Bachman Law, LLC
PO Box 158
Naturita, CO 81422
970-865-2440

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum March 15, 22, & 29, 2023

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: THE 2010s

ACROSS

1. Necktie alternative
6. Finish line
9. Show of appreciation
13. Biotic community
14. Hula dancer's necklace
15. House duty
16. Sofia Costanza Brigida Villani Scicolone's stage last name
17. International distress signal
18. Hogwarts professor, part werewolf
19. *"Avengers: _____," second-highest grossing movie of all time
21. *Annexed Black Sea peninsula
23. Santa _____, Orange County
24. Multicolored horse
25. *Rand Paul's title, abbr.
28. Youngster
30. *Type of spinner popular in the late 2010s
35. Between duet and quartet

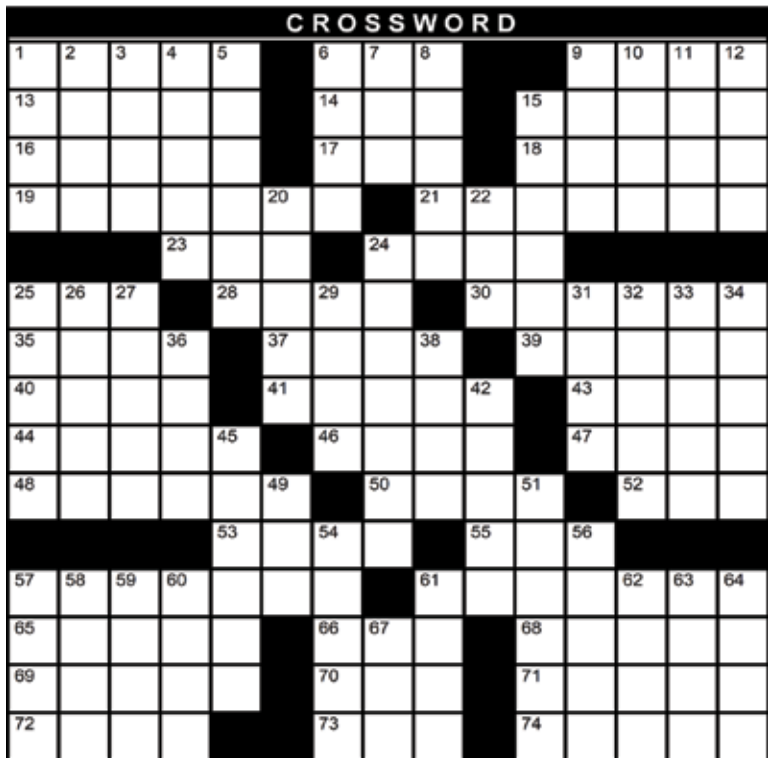
37. Newspaper piece
39. Pope's court
40. Bohemian
41. *Tonya and Harley Quinn to Margot Robbie, e.g.
43. *Like Millie Bobby Brown and friends in "Stranger Things"
44. Prows
46. Vaulting prop
47. Fencer's blade
48. *Animated story of Elsa and Anna
50. Greek salad ingredient
52. Make #26 Down
53. Look through a book
55. Good times
57. *Global surveillance whistle-blower
61. *Swedish audio streamer
65. BBQ spot
66. Words at the altar (2 words)
68. Beneficiary
69. Anti-seniors sentiment
70. Ides mo.
71. Bone hollow
72. Prepare potatoes



73. Tide's backward flow
74. City in France

DOWN

1. Having the means
2. Land of Israel
3. *____-cutting, broadcast TV phenomenon
4. Opposite of alpha
5. Not owner
6. Something _____
7. Opposite of paleo
8. "Saturday Night Fever" music
9. Pal
10. Between trot and gallop
11. Operatic solo
12. Actor Sean
15. Healthcare facility
20. *Bill de Blasio, e.g.
22. England's airforce
24. Recite rapidly (2 words)
25. Walking stick
26. Fielding mistake
27. Part of TNT
29. *BTS' genre
31. *Home to Blue Devils, 2015 NCAA winners
32. Complain
33. Downy duck
34. Policeman's shocker
36. Court of law opener
38. Mark for omission
42. Frame job
45. Not often
49. *Amal Clooney _____ Alamuddin
51. Naturally footless
54. Japanese cartoon art
56. Expressionless
57. Junk e-mail
58. Hindu serpent deity
59. Singer-songwriter Redding
60. Item on Santa's list
61. Acidic kind of apple
62. A fan of
63. *Plant in Zach Galifianakis' 2019 movie
64. Those not opposed
67. *Popular meme move



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INVITATION TO BID

San Miguel County is requesting proposals for janitorial and cleaning services for facilities in Norwood: San Miguel County Fairgrounds & Regional Park. Interested contractors can get bid packets at the San Miguel County Website www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov, or contact DeeAnna Burbridge: 970-327-4321, deeanab@sanmiguelcountyco.gov. A mandatory pre-bid conference shall be scheduled by appointment. Proposals must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, March 24, 2023 at the Fairgrounds Coordinators Office, 1165 Summit Street, or emailed to smc-fairgrounds@sanmiguelcountyco.gov.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum on March 8 & 15, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gateway Merry Mixer 4-H Club 25th Annual Cowboy Poetry Night

When: March 25, 2023

Where: Gateway Community Building Gateway, CO

Time: Food @ 5:00 PM / Entertainment @ 6:00 PM

Cost: \$7.00 Per-Person / Under 12yo Free

We will have some great Western Music and Cowboy Poetry and a Silent Auction. Come and join the fun.

Proceeds go to the Gateway Merry Mixer 4-H Club.

For more information please call: Linda Moores (970) 931-2803

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9	6	8	5	1	4	7	2	3
3	2	5	9	8	7	4	6	1

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Prices Valid: March 15-28, 2023

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\$3.79 Soda 12 pk, 12 oz. Select Varieties	2/4 Crystal Light 6-10 oz. Select Varieties Drink Mix	2.99 Capri Sun 10 oz. Select Varieties Pouch Drinks	2.29 Campbell's 18.6-19 oz. Select Varieties Chunky Soup
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\$1.29 Macaroni 5-7.25 lb. Select Varieties Macaroni & Cheese	\$3.99 Kellogg's 12-18 oz. Select Varieties Pop-Tarts	\$1.49 Betty Crocker 4-6 lb. Select Varieties Potatoes	\$2.99 Post 8-10.8 oz. Select Varieties Cereal
\$1.99 On the Border 12 oz. Enchilada Shells or 10-12 oz. Select Varieties Taco Shells	\$3.49 General Mills 5-6 oz. Select Varieties Snack Bars	\$1.99 Stagg Chili 18 oz. Select Varieties Chili	\$2.79 La Victoria 16 oz. Select Varieties Salsa
\$6.49 Best Foods 20-30 oz. Select Varieties Mayonnaise	\$5.79 Kraft 22-30 oz. Select Varieties Miracle Whip or Mayo	\$2.99 Kraft 16 oz. Select Varieties Dressing	\$2.19 Food Club 32-36 oz. Select Varieties Ketchup
2/3 Kraft or Bullseye 17.5-18 oz. Select Varieties Barbecue Sauce	\$3.99 Quaker 6-12 oz. Select Varieties Oatmeal	\$3.49 Kellogg's 9.6-10 oz. Select Varieties Cereal	\$3.49 Quaker 10.2-14.5 oz. Select Varieties Cereal
\$3.99 General Mills 12-16.8 oz. Select Varieties Cereal	\$8.99 Taster or Maxwell House 24 5-37.2 oz. Select Varieties Coffee	\$1.79 Food Club 15.5-16 oz. Select Varieties Salsa	\$1.39 Food Club 12-16 oz. Select Varieties Beans or Jalepenos

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4/11 Tony's Select Varieties Pizza	4/5 American Family 1.5-2.5 lb. Select Varieties Pasta
\$4.99 Food Club 20 oz. Select Varieties Thick Cut Bacon	\$4.49 Fat Boy 7-8 oz. Select Varieties Ice Cream Novelties
\$10.99 Oscar Mayer 80 oz. Meat or Veg Cheese Lasagna	\$3/5 Oscar Mayer 3.2-4.4 oz. Select Varieties Lunchables
\$1.99 Food Club 8-9 lb. Select Varieties Block, Shredded or Sliced Cheese	

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\$2.99 R.E.D. 12-18 oz. Select Varieties Meals	2/7 Food Club 48 oz. Select Varieties Ice Cream
\$3.79 Food Club 48 oz. Select Varieties Premium Ice Cream	2/7 Food Club 16-32 oz. Select Varieties Onion Rings or Potatoes
2/5 Jimmy Dean 4-6 oz. Select Varieties Breakfast Bowls or Bites	\$3.29 Minute Natural 52 oz. Select Varieties Orange or Grapefruit Juice
2/3 Simply 11.5 oz. Select Varieties Juice	\$3.29 Mission 6-13.9 oz. Select Varieties Roll Dough
\$4.49 Huggel 8 pk. or On the Border 16 pk. Select Varieties Yogurt	\$2.99 Lean Cuisine 7.5-11.5 oz. Select Varieties Entrees
2/3 Food Club 8 oz. Original or 1/3 Less Fat Cream Cheese	\$3.29 Food Club 12 ct. Original or Light String Cheese

\$3.49 Nabisco 3.5-13.7 oz. Select Varieties Snacks	\$3.99 Lay's 8.12-13 oz. Select Varieties Party Size Chips
2/4 Hostess 9.5-11.25 oz. Select Varieties Donettes	2/7 Frito Lay Simply or On the Border 5.25-6.5 oz. Select Varieties Snacks
\$3.99 Doritos or Popcorners 8-10.75 oz. Select Varieties Chips	2/4 Jolly Time 2-4 ct. Select Varieties Popcorn
\$4.99 Orville Redenbacher's 5-12 ct. Select Varieties Popcorn	2/4 Pringles 4.6-5.57 oz. Select Varieties Chips
\$3.79 Cheez-It 5.75-12.4 oz. Select Varieties Crackers	\$2.99 Quaker 5-8 ct. Select Varieties Granola Bars
\$3.50 Planters 16 oz. Select Varieties Peanuts	\$3.99 Mars, Lindt or Hershey's 1.7-10.8 oz. Select Varieties Candy
\$2.99 General Mills 5.5-11.5 oz. or 6 ct. Select Varieties Snacks	\$2.79 Betty Crocker or Mott's 5-10 ct. Select Varieties Fruit Snacks
\$3.49 General Mills 7-15 oz. Select Varieties Snacks	\$6.99 DiGiorno Select Varieties Pizza

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\$1.49 Red or Green Seedless Grapes	2/4 6 oz. Pkg. Sweet Raspberries or Blackberries
99¢ Fresh Green Cabbage	69¢ Red or Yellow Potatoes
89¢ Select Varieties Cantaloupe or Pineapple	\$1.69 Honey Crisp Apples
99¢ Large String Tomatoes	

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- Cubed Steak \$4.59/lb

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- Pork Steak \$1.99/lb

\$4.49 LB. Food Club Assorted Corned Beef

\$4.49/lb. Rump Roast Easy Meal	\$8.99/lb. Boneless Beef New York Steaks	\$1.99/lb. Bone-In Boston Butt Pork Roast
\$1.29/lb. All Natural Chicken Drumsticks or Thighs	\$3.59/ct. Hormel 5-6 oz. Select Varieties Pepperoni	2/5 Oscar Mayer 16 oz. Classic Uncured Hot Dogs

2/4 Dole 5-12 oz. Select Varieties Salads