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# San Miguel Basin Forum

May 17, 2023 Volume 73 Issue 50

**WEST END** 

# Locals are invited to Planet V Fest

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

any people in Naturita, Nucla and Norwood might still be wondering what happens at CampV and what the glamping resort's Planet V Fest is all about.

CampV is the 120-acre site of the old Vancorum cabins that were used by miners in the old days. Built by the Vanadium Corporation outside of Naturita in the 1940s, the old cabins were vacated in the 1970s.

Natalie Binder, who has family roots in the West End (her grand-mother is Bette Nickell), took the old property and repurposed it. With the help of funding and architects, it's now a "boutique camp" where people from all over the world come to experience art, architecture, recreation and more.

Some people go to camp, others go for artistic events or music, and people have gone to get married on site. The destination has become renowned, and CampV has been featured in the magazines Travel + Leisure, Outside, Conde Nast and others.

Binder told the San Miguel Basin Forum that the Planet V Fest first began as Burning Van, a place for the local Burning Man community to gather during the pandemic.

(For those that don't know, Burning Man is a camping festival in the desert of Nevada which celebrates fire art, music, spirituality and freedom. There are people in San Miguel and Montrose counties that attend the Burning Man event.)

Now though, the Planet V Fest has grown into its own special event.

"Our mission is to bring worldclass art, music, wellness and adventure to our rural community," said Binder.

Happening May 26-29 on Memorial Day weekend, Planet V Fest lasts three days, and Binder said it's not just for tourists. West End locals are invited and are eligible for discounts and free workshops. Anyone in Nucla, Naturita or Norwood that wants to be part of the festival should email stay@campv.com for the code. There are also still volunteer opportunities, too, for locals. Binder encourages all to visit the website at PlanetVFest.com and email with questions.

The three days at Planet V Fest include DJs providing music for dance, as well as large-scale art installations, fire art and wellness workshops. Many of those providing the music entertainment are Colorado artists, including Naturita's Brock Benson.

Benson told the Forum he encouraged interested locals to Cont. on Pg. 9

**EDUCATION** 

# Community member speaks her mind on PVS closure



This 2018 photo shows a Veterans Day luncheon at PVS. (Photo by William Perritt)

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

iz Steele, age 88 and of Paradox, used to teach at the Paradox Valley School (PVS). At times, she and her husband were the only faculty members. Her children attended the school, and she's served on the school board. She was part of the school when the BEST grant was awarded in 2014. For her, hearing that PVS was set to close in May was upsetting.

"The school is an integral part of the community," she said in an interview Sunday.

Steele said the school has been part of Paradox even before her time. According to her, the charter school has value. It's important because it's an alternative, another choice, and it's a place that teaches kids to be independent. She said since it's a multi-level school, kids have to work on their own, but also get more individualized attention.

Steele said she is not applauding or condemning this year's head of school, Heather Gunn. She's only seen her a few times.

She just doesn't understand why nobody wrote any grants. She said the previous heads of school, specifically Jon Orris, worked tirelessly writing grants to ensure PVS had funding. She said a charter school cannot function without grant funding.

Steele went to the April community meeting to ask the board and Gunn why no grants had been written this year. She said she was told all questions had to be submitted in writing. She said she was also told all questions would be

addressed. However, she said her question was not answered, and that's disappointing to her.

"How many grants have been written, and how many have been awarded?" she wants to know.

Additionally, Steele said that a group of people — four of which were on the board previously — went to the community meeting ready to take over the school. She said people attended the April session ready to form a new board with a new CEO. She said they were ready to keep it open.

"We could've taken it over that night," she said.

Steele said they were told the papers had been filed, and the charter had been dissolved effective in May, and changing leadership wasn't possible.

Cont. on Pg. 8

BOOKS

# Former Nucla man, wife author children's story

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Patrick and Cassandra Garber, of Mountain Home, Idaho, have authored a children's book. Based on true events, the book is called "The Littlest Hound: A Lovable Italian Greyhound's Tale." It's the story of their own family dog, Lola.

Patrick Garber, who's career is military, graduated Nucla High School in 2002. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 2004 and is now a senior master sergeant.

His wife is from Pennsylvania. They have two kids, ages 4 and 6.

Their children's book is available on Amazon, in both paperback version and also on Kindle. The book is illustrated and written in rhyming format.

"The Littlest Hound is a children's picture book with sweet rhymes that gives a glimpse into Cont. on Pg. 4



Lola Garber, far right, is the inspiration behind the Garber family children's book. (Courtesy image)

**AGRICULTURE** 

# 4-H is a way of life for many locals

By ANNIKA KRISTIANSEN, Colorado State University-Extension Office

In the San Miguel Basin, 4-H is not just a program offered to youth, it is a way of life for entire families, a community and a tradition passed down for generations.

Each year, young people from Telluride, Norwood and West Montrose County sign up for projects ranging from entomology and rocketry to leather craft, ceramics, filmmaking, metalworking, food preservation and more. Steers, pigs, sheep, goats and chickens are meticulously cared for, bred and fed to a science and weighed to ensure optimal health.

In 4-H, informal education is learning by doing and happens cooperatively, individually and competitively. Club leaders provide educational programs and experiences that bolster their members' acquisition of life, leadership and problem solving skills. Young people learn about the production and wise use of food and fiber, the conservation of our world's natural resources and the responsibility behind participating in their local communities.

Shelley Donnellon, one of San Miguel Basin's many 4-H leaders, has been steeped in this special programming since she was old enough to enroll at age 8. As a youngster, her father had participated in 4-H and wanted to pass its values along to the next generation.

Now, with children of her own, and in charge of Norwood's Lone Cone Club, Donnellon works to instill civic responsibility, community-mindedness and empathy in the minds of her flock.

"I want young adults to realize the importance of hard work and how much their drive can really pay off," Donnellon said. "I want to show them how to be a part of something bigger than themselves and that by working together, they can greatly improve a community."

While 4-H is more than about livestock (a fact often overlooked), Donnellon holds agricultural facets of the programming in high regard.

"I want these kids to understand how to raise a market animal that they would actually want their families to eat," she said. "Exposing these kids to what happens when we raise animals to eat and how hard it can be to lose something we've put so much time and effort into and care so much about helps them relate to real life situations."

As a school teacher, Donnellon emphasizes experiential learning and the application of knowledge in real-world situations.

Cont. on Pg.3

#### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

### Thanks in advance

Dear Editor,

It's 2023, 50 years since my class of 1973 graduated from Nucla High School. As preparations began earlier this year for our 50-year reunion, there were a lot of messages posted, as Glena and others worked getting things organized.

I was shocked to find out how many had passed away through the years. I also learned that a friend of mine had suffered more than most.

I remember Wayne Ament playing guitar in a band at the Mustang and buzzing around in his blue Volkswagen bug.

I found out recently that five years ago he had suffered a debilitating stroke. After months of hospitalization and therapy, he was able to return to Naturita and live on his own. Wayne recently had to deal with the loss of his mother and a daughter.

He has a motorized wheelchair, but is limited as to where and how far he can travel. While talking, we considered the possibility of him getting a wheelchair-accessible van, equipped, so that he can drive himself to appointments and generally be more independent.

I looked at the GoFundMe site and saw that people have success raising money for various projects and causes. Often these accounts are created to raise money after an incident or tragedy that has received considerable media coverage, and so even people who don't know those involved are moved to contribute.

Wayne lives in a small town, and his personal tragedy didn't make the news, so we are hoping to make as many people as possible aware of the goal to buy a van. The cost for a used, properly equipped van is \$25,000 to \$30,000. This is a lot of money, but it will be life changing for Wayne.

If anyone is able to help, the link to the account is https://gofund.me/dc51de51.

If the money isn't raised in a reasonable amount of time, donations will be returned to the donor. The van pictured on the website is an example of the type of vehicle Wayne needs. Thanks for your help.

Lyle Bauer UTAH

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# History: Rimrocker Historical Society The Vestal House, Part 7

By JANE THOMPSON, Rimrocker Historical Society



The Cooper House is now the Vestal House, Amy's Place. (Photo courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

The horrible fire causing Cornelius Cooper's family to lose everything was a tragedy, and knowing that someone had intentionally set it had to make it even more disturbing. Mr. Cooper was a big part of the early growth of Nucla and the Colorado Cooperative Company, and his legacy reaches far into our past. We know he was an architect, and the design of the concrete house on Main Street has left a beautiful landmark. Although the concrete blocks were all removed in the remodel and siding put in its place, the beauty of the house is still there and as the newspapers said back in 1912, "The house is to be modern and will add very much to the appearance of our town." The house was a beauty back in the day and is a beauty now.

Mr. Vestal, like Mr. Cooper, built one of the very first homes in Nucla. The lumber was delivered in August of 1905 and his family moved in in September. It was a two-story residence with rooms upstairs for rent. This would be the first hotel in Nucla. The goal of these two business men was to get their homes built and to incorporate their businesses into their homes This house is still on Main Street on the opposite side of the street from the Cooper house and just uphill. It's the oldest building left on Main Street and is owned by the Dan

Cooper family.

So, we have these two old homes in Nucla, the Cooper house that Cornelius Cooper built and the Vestal House that Lincoln Vestal built. Over the course of the years both houses changed hands several times, and today we are lucky enough to have both of these homes still standing and only a little worse for the wear.

We know that sometime after 1920, Mrs. Amy Vestal purchased the Cooper house. It was unusual for a house to be in the name of a woman in those days, so this was a unique situation. On the other side of the street, the Vestals sold their home at some point and after changing hands a few times, the old Vestal home was sold to the Voytilla family. The oldest daughter, Mary Voytilla, would marry Wib Cooper and have a son, Dan.

Dan and Sherri Cooper own the old Vestal house to this day, and although nobody has lived in it since Mary passed a few years ago, it holds many good memories for their family. Dan is a descendent of James Cooper, who was the brother of Cornelius Cooper.

It is funny how things have changed over the years and how sometimes history can only be as far back as we can remember, or as far back as the family stories go, or as far back as we can find in an old newspaper. What we do know is that the Vestal house today was really the Cooper house, and the Cooper house today, across the street, was really the Vestal house. How that all happened is part of the fast growth that went on in our little town of Nucla.

Aimee and Chris Tooker kept the name of the Vestal House mostly because none of us knew any better, but when I found those articles about the fire of Mr. C.O. Cooper's home and business, I knew that I needed to give him the credit he deserved for building the beautiful old house. Since we began to understand this story better, Aimee and Chris Tooker decided to name the house "Amy's Place" to give Amy Vestal credit for having the first hotel in Nucla and for purchasing the Cooper house on her own. Aimee has done a beautiful job fixing up the old house, and it will hopefully be a credit to the town of Nucla.

That's the story of how the Cooper house became the Vestal house — and the Vestal house became the Cooper house. I hope you enjoyed it and are not completely confused. I was fascinated by the story and learned that just when you think you know everything, you really don't know much at all! Cheers to the Coopers and the Vestals and to all of their descendants.



The Vestal Hotel now belongs to Dan and Sherri Cooper and is a private residence. (Photo courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)



Darcy Bray gives a pig demonstration in the Lone Cone 4-H Club. (Photo by Shelley Donnellon)

# 4-H is a way of life

Cont. from Pg. 1

"This approach fosters active learning and encourages ownership of their learning experiences, empowering youth to become confident, capable and engaged members of society," she said.

Donnellon praises 4-H as an opportunity for kids to "explore an area of interest in a guided way that could take them really far one day in any direction they choose. Four-H projects often lend the participant experience and interest towards career paths or higher educational pursuits.

Donnellon, born and raised in the San Miguel Basin, left only to attend college and start a family. This place, however, is where she really wants her children to grow and flourish. Her deep respect for the area's rich, ranching heritage, tradition and culture fuels her desire to preserve its long-cultivated history. Her interest in promoting farm-to-table ethics in the region guides her programming as she helps her club to explore passions in the arts, health, leadership, STEM, agriculture and more.

The 4-H program is historically malleable, constantly shifting with the times to accommodate new technology, perspectives and ways of thinking and being. As an extension of Colorado State University, this programming reinforces education, diversity, idea-sharing, equity and inclusion. It's a living, breathing program that has been around since the early 1900s and continues to be both a reflection of the communities it inhabits, as well as a north star for growth and change.

"I am so happy to be part of something that we have been participating in for generations," Donnellon said. "We are always learning and growing. Getting to share this with others is the best."

For more information on San Miguel Basin 4-H, the public should contact 4-H coordinator Annika Kristiansen at annikak@sanmiguelcountyco.gov.

#### POLITICS

# Rep. Catlin moves noxious weed advisory bill into law

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

olorado State Representative Marc Catlin moved SB23-185, Sunset Noxious Weed Advisory Committee Bill, into law. The bill was signed by Governor Jared Polis on May 1. The law implements the recommendation of the Department of Regulatory Agencies to continue the noxious weed advisory committee until Sept. 1, 2034. The law does not require a state expense. The bi-partisan bill received unanimous approval from all state legislators.

The prime sponsors in the Colorado House of Representatives were Meghan Lukens (D-HD26) of Routt County and Marc Catlin (R-HD58) of Montrose County. The prime sponsors in the Colorado Senate were Rod Pelton (R-SD35) of Eagle County and Janice Marchman (D-SD15) of Larimer County.

"The Noxious Weed Advisory Committee has made great strides to control the invasive species that reduce agricultural productivity, exacerbate wind and water erosion and pose an increased threat to wildfire," Rep. Catlin said. "It is great to see that the state of Colorado will continue this committee, which our agriculturalists and rural communities need to thrive."

Colorado State Representative Marc Catlin represents the eight counties of Dolores, Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel. Rep. Catlin vice chairs the Agriculture, Water, & Natural Resources Committee, is a member of the Capital Development Committee and is a ranking member of the Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee.

# San Miguel Basin Forum

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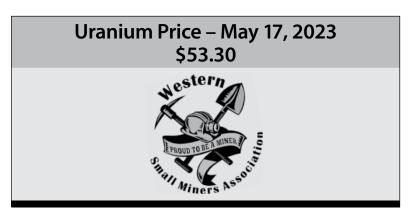
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### **Community Briefs**

NUCLA
NHS seniors graduate

May 14 was graduation in Nucla at Nucla High School. Then, 17 seniors graduated. Valedictorian honors were shared by Lisa Sutherland and Morgan Weimer. Salutatorian was Sapphire Connelly.

#### NUCLA VFW hosts Memorial Day events

VFW Post No. 9058 is hosting a Memorial Day program at Cedar Ridge Cemetery in Nucla at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 29. The ceremony honors all military personnel who served throughout U.S. history, giving the ultimate sacrifice of their lives. The program also recognizes the service of current military and veterans.

Following the ceremony at the cemetery, the VFW Post will host a barbecue for all veterans and their families at Nucla Town Park starting at noon. All veterans, as well as current service personnel, are cordially invited to enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs, salads, beans, chips, beverages and desserts.

Because of minimal seating at the park, it is suggested that people bring their own lawn chairs for comfort

# WEST END Victim of suspected drowning identified

In the late afternoon hours of Wednesday, May 10, Richard Zehm, a 72-year-old Redvale man, drowned while rafting on the Dolores River 6.6 miles south of Bedrock.

"The rivers are running extremely fast due to the large amount of snowpack in the mountains," said Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard. "Use caution when recreating on the rivers and streams."

The cause of death appears to

be drowning and the manner of death is under investigation by the Montrose County Coroner's Office of Medical Investigation and Montrose County Sheriff's Office. Additional assisting agencies included the Montrose County Sheriff's Posse and Nucla-Naturita Fire and EMS. An autopsy has been scheduled.

# MONTROSE COUNTY County issues RFP for courthouse renovations

Montrose County has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a design-build renovation of the historic Montrose County Courthouse. The county is seeking qualified bidders to design and construct the required renovations.

"This is a huge step forward for the project," said Commissioner Roger Rash. "We need to move forward. We've pivoted to the design-build process to finally get a firm cost and move directly into construction. From what we're seeing, this process should yield a substantially less expensive process than prior plans."

The timeline in the RFP contemplates an early 2024 start date for construction, following the conclusion of the design phase. The county has set a targeted construction budget of \$11,000,000. The project is already budgeted, and cash is on hand. There will be no debt financing required.

Proposals for the project are due on June 28. The county aims to award the contract to the selected bidder in July. Any award is subject to approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

"We've had some challenges and delays with this project. It's time to move past speculative cost estimates and get real work underway," said Commissioner Keith Caddy. "I'm excited to see the proposals."

To view the RFP, the public

may visit montrosecounty.net/bids. aspx?bidID=228.

# DELTA GMUG asks drivers to stay off wet roads

The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests are experiencing the transition from winter to spring. Many roads are still snow-packed and not passable. Forest Service representatives ask visitors to please assist them in protecting natural resources. During this time of year, all are asked to stay off wet and snow-packed roads and respect road and gate closures, which will decrease long-term and costly damages to the roadway.

As the snow melts, its runoff naturally chooses the path of least resistance, which is typically the ditch line on either side of Forest Service roads. When there is still snow in the ditches, the water tends to flow down the road instead. Forest Service roads are designed to handle the additional moisture during this time, although the water saturating into the roadway causes soft roadbeds. When vehicles drive on soft roadbeds, they cause rutting. The ruts allow water to flow freely down the roadway causing both seen and unseen damage to the road. Protecting the road until it's dry enough to prevent damage is a primary reason for gate closures in the spring. During these closures, the Forest Service monitors the roadway regularly to ensure the gates are closed for the minimum amount of time needed.

"Ongoing damage to roads can lead to a variety of negative outcomes including erosion, wildlife habitat damage and a loss of access due to travel becoming too hazardous or rehabilitation closures," representatives said.

For gate closure status, area specific information and road conditions, contact the local ranger district.

# Children's story authors

Cont. from Pg. 1

a relationship between a dog and her family," the synopsis on Amazon states. "Told by Lola, a lovable Italian Greyhound, the reader is introduced to milestones, loving kindness, family adventures, encouragement, military deployments, overcoming adversities, growth, and aging."

The Garbers got Lola two months after they were married, when Patrick Garber was being deployed and his wife didn't want to be alone.

"She's been a huge part of our lives ever since," he said. "The book kind of captures the essence of what we owe her. She's gotten us through a lot of challenging times ... between moves and deployment. She's always been the consistent."

Patrick Garber said the book wouldn't have happened without his wife's communication and marketing skills. While they did the work together, he said she was the brain behind it.

After learning the ropes of self-publishing, the book made its debut in November. For a day or two, it was a No. 1 best seller on Amazon in the categories of children's literature and also the military experience.

Vicki Garber, Patrick's mother, grew up in Nucla and has lived in the area since she was in seventh grade. She taught kindergarten for 28 years in Naturita, and also third grade and special education. She told the Forum when her kids published the book, she knew exactly what she'd do. She'd take it to the Naturita Elementary School and read to the children there.

Garber did so and enjoyed it. She added she's proud of the book.

Besides being available on Amazon, the Nucla-Naturita Visitor's Center has a number of signed copies for sale. The Garber family also said people may visit the website

thelittlesthound.com to get a signed copy. And, they invite people to follow Lola and their self-publishing journey on Instagram, too.

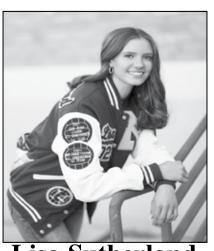
Patrick and Cassandra Garber said over the weekend they are not done authoring children's books. They have a few more ideas planned, and they're in the process of refining those and making decisions.

"It's been a very fun experience," Patrick Garber said. "I'm as surprised as my mom that my name is on a book."

Patrick and Cassandra Garber said the tribute to Lola has resonated with people.

"Dogs find a way into folks' hearts," Patrick Garber said.

"We are hearing how it's touched people in different ways," Cassandra Garber added. "Adoption, moving, bringing home new members of the family. It's hit people in different ways, and it's good to hear those stories."



Lisa Sutherland
Nucla High School
Co-Valedictorian



Morgan Weimer
Nucla High School
Co-Valedictorian



Saphire Connelly
Nucla High School
Salutatorian

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe."

-Anatole France

## THE VESTAL HOUSE

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Norwood Class of 2023 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



Rosalie Vogel
Norwood High School
Valedictorian



Yoselin Hernandez
Norwood High School
Salutatorian

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Lisa Sutherland SMPA/Nucla High School \$3,000 college scholarship





Jazel Demus
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Nucla High School



Grace Fourney
Norwood High School

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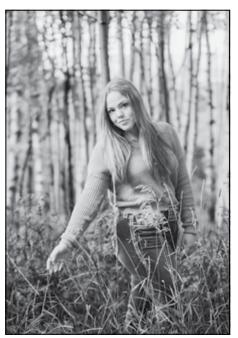


CELEBRATE Norwood and Nucla graduates of 2023!



Karla Camacho
Norwood High School

# To a great class of graduates The Class of 2023



Grace Fourney
Norwood High School



Eli Saxton
Nucla High School

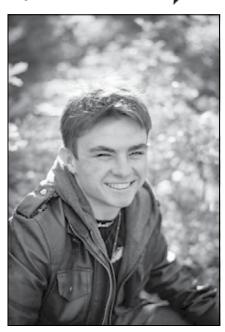
"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." —Mark Twain

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Anika Saxton
Nucla High School



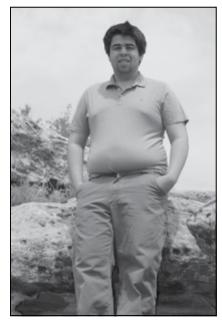
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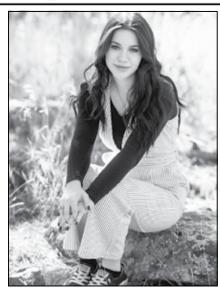
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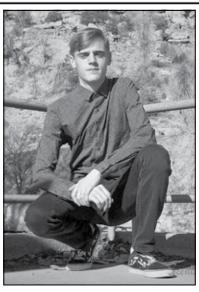
"Follow your fear."
-Tina Fey

"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced." —Vincent Van Gogh

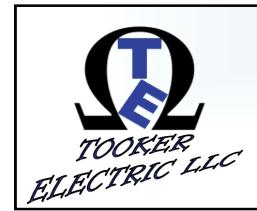
# GRADUATION



Alexa Caruso
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Morgan Weimer
Nucla High School

# A HUGE SHOUT OUT

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With the internet these days, we know a lot of people no longer use the telephone directory to look up numbers, but we know several in our community that still rely on our book. We would like to say

### THANK YOU

to everyone that makes it possible for us to still publish the NNTC Directory. We sincerely appreciate each of you!

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**Basin Clinic** Redd's Mercantile Rimrock Hotel **Blondies** 

**Bruin Waste Management** San Miguel Power Association Inc.

West End Family Link Co-Op Country Store Community Bible Fellowship West End Spa, LLC

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Norwood, CO 81423



## Volunteers needed for Ridgway RiverFest

#### SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

idgway RiverFest volunteers readily admit they donate their time because the festival celebrating the Uncompangre River is a fun place to hang with friends. Their main reason for volunteering at the annual event is to support the nonprofit Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership (UWP), but it doesn't hurt that they get to enjoy live music, river races and an afternoon full of festive activities.

"We enjoy volunteering at River-Fest as a way to meet new people in the Ridgway/Ouray area. Being fairly new to Ridgway, we've not only enjoyed meeting the locals but also giving back to support one of the most important resources in the area, the Uncompangre River," said Russell and Vangela Cosby, who volunteered in 2021 and 2022 and havsalready signed up for this

This year, volunteers get a free RiverFest hat instead of the usual shirt. Actually, they can choose which they want, but hats in two different color combinations were ordered for the first time (and shirt sizes are limited this year). Fishbone Graphics, a festival sponsor with a production facility in Ridgway, silkscreens the festival logos on the hats.

Forty to 50 volunteers are required to produce the free community festival at Rollans Park, scheduled for Saturday, June 24, noon to 5 p.m. Face painting, solar oven cookie baking, rubber ducky capturing and river race filming are some of the most creative volunteer shifts available.

By producing the festival mostly with volunteers, UWP is able to both raise more funds to support watershed preservation activities and keep the event free to festival-goers. The 15th annual festival will include The Last Spike performing a mixture of original acoustic folk, bluegrass and Celtic-type music; watershed education; river races including the homemade boat competition called Junk of the Unc; a Ute cultural presentation; and a silent auction. Plus food trucks, a beer and margarita stand and a snow cone maker sell refreshments.

Vangela said she enjoys working the margarita and beer station because everyone shows up with a smile on their face.

Most volunteers shifts are three to four hours, but a few are shorter like setup and takedown. Other volunteer assignments include watershed education, race and volunteer registration, beer and margarita sales, silent auction monitoring, and photography. Volunteers ages 14 and older years old are welcome. Each volunteer receives a festival hat and drink ticket as a thank you. People can sign up online at signup.com/go/qeGPzXM, or send questions to tanya@uncompahgrewatershed.org.

More information about UWP is at uncompangrewatershed.org/, and the festival is at ridgwayriverfest.org/. A few more sponsorships are available until May 31, and those interested can email pamela@uncompahgrewatershed.org.

## **PVS** closure

Cont. from Pg. 1

Steele

said people have assumed the Paradox community wasn't asking questions, but she said they didn't know there were such big problems. She said the community wasn't informed, and that the board didn't act responsibly to the community.

"People had no idea the school was in that severe of a position,"

Steele said the new board conducted meetings, but in a different way that boards of the past had. She said the old model wasn't followed, and there was confusion.

But, Paradox has always had a school, Steele said, and it needs one. At one point, the school was located above the Mormon church. Steele's sister-in-law, approximately age 80, went to the school in its current location for junior high. She said over the years, it has closed a couple of times, but always come back, so that there's been a school in the





### ELIZABETH FOLEY

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#### The Class of 2023

Nucla seniors celebrate their high school graduation. (Photo by Debbie Wytulka)

### Planet V Fest

Cont. from Pg. 1

attend. He said those that live in the area can get discounted tickets, and the festival can be inspiring for someone drawn to art and culture.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for somebody local to have access to big-name artists and new and unique music you'd otherwise have to travel a long way for," he said. "Also, you see art and other people from other areas that are coming here to enjoy the area that we live in."

He said it's about getting a bigger picture.

"If you really want to know what everybody is into, this is a great place to go and still have your small community, but you're getting a peek into a bigger, brighter world of art and entertainment that we've never had access to before."

Benson said as a young person growing up in rural Colorado, he was someone who wanted access to new music and new ideas. He's happy it's available now for others at CampV and during the upcoming Planet V Fest. He's excited to be one of the featured DJs.

"I think as a local person you should do yourself a favor and see what's happening ... It's good for our tourism culture," he said.

FORESTS

# Public Input sought for SBEADMR, Taylor Park

SPECIAL TO THE POST

he Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG)
National Forests announce
the availability of fiscal years
2023-25 Spruce Beetle Epidemic
and Aspen Decline Management
Response (SBEADMR) and Taylor Park Vegetation Management
(Taylor Park EA) planned treatments for public input through
June 11.

SBEADMR, a forest wide project and Taylor Park EA, a project located on the Gunnison Ranger District, allow for commercial and non-commercial vegetation treatments. Both projects respond to forest health concerns and strive to increase the forest's ability to respond to multiple and interactive stressors including climate change, drought, insect attack and disease. Upcoming treatments include locations on the Paonia, Gunnison, Ouray, Grand Valley and Norwood Ranger Districts.

A story map was created to allow for better viewing of the treatment data and the capability to comment directly on an interactive map displaying the upcoming treatments. A story map is a web application that integrates maps, legends, text, photos and videos. It also provides functionality, such as pop-ups that helps users explore the content.

Descriptions and maps of the timber sale treatments, as well as a comment form, are available online at usfs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=a669152b15154121bd020b9d78bfe0e7.

U.S. Forest Service representatives encourage use of the story map to submit their input on treatments this year; however, they will also accept them via email. The public should include their name and contact information with their comment, in case further clarification is needed.

Alternatively, comments and questions can be submitted to David Francis at david.francis@usda.gov with the subject header "SBEADMR."

Names of commenters will be part of the public record.

For more information on these projects, the public may visit cfri. colostate.edu/projects/sbeadmr/ and centerforpubliclands.org/ projects-add/taylor-park.



Congratulations to the entire Nucla High School Class of 2023!

The following students received awards and scholarships from True North:

**Ruby Steele and Simon Haining** received \$500 each recognition awards for participating in the Catering Apprenticeship Program

**Alexa Caruso** applied for and received True North's Food Service Industry Scholarship for her future studies at Colorado Mesa University.

**Rylie McCabe** applied for and received a food service industry scholarship for running her own small baking business. The \$4,000 scholarship will be for her future studies at Adams State University.

<u>The "True North" Scholarship</u> recognizes students who have held a job during high school and demonstrated an exceptional **work ethic.** 

Saphire Connolly - \$2,000 scholarship for Colorado Mesa University

Anika Saxton - \$2,000 scholarship for Arapahoe Community College

Lisa Sutherland - \$2,000 scholarship for Colorado School of Mines

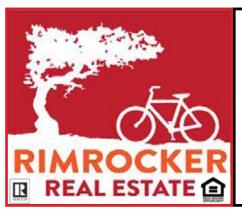
Morgan Weimer - \$2,000 for Kansas Wesleyan University

<u>True North's Skyler Kelly Memorial Scholarship</u> recognizes exceptional students who have **overcome obstacles** and challenges in order to achieve their goals.

**Jazel Demus** - \$2,000 scholarship for Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School.

Sabra Grierson - \$2,000 for her studies at Oklahoma Horseshoeing School.

Candis Staats - \$5,000 for her studies at Lamar Junior College of Criminal Justice.



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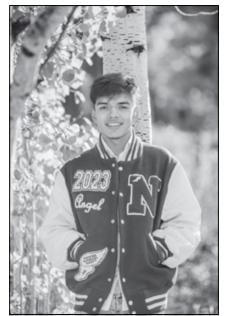
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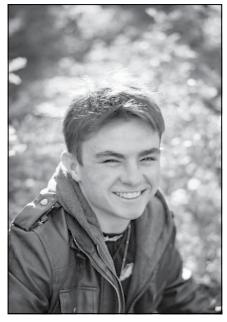


# Congratulations to the Glass of 2023





**Angel Jacobs** Norwood High School



**Brandon Turner** Norwood High School

# CRIPPIN FAMILY 970-249-2121





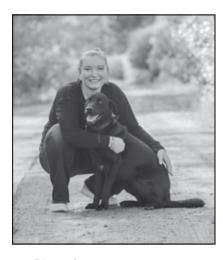
Charlene Wilkerson Nucla High School



**Marissa Rhoades** Nucla High School



**Nucla** 864-2287



**Claire Jacobs** Norwood High School



Tony Holguin Norwood High School



"Now go, and make interesting mistakes, make amazing mistakes, make glorious and fantastic mistakes. Break rules. Leave the world more interesting for you being here. Make good art."

—Neil Gaiman

Rosalie Vogel

Norwood High School

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"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe."

—Anatole France



**Saphire Connelly** Nucla High School



isa Sutherland Nucla High School

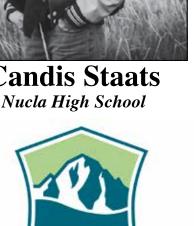




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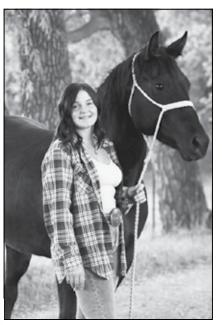


**Candis Staats** 









Sabra Grierson Nucla High School





115 CO-97 Naturita, CO

## Congratulations to the Nucla and Norwood seniors of 2023

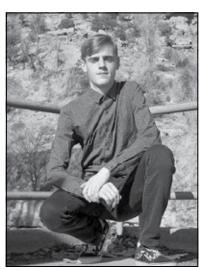


Eli Saxton Nucla High School



"The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse."

-Edward Koch



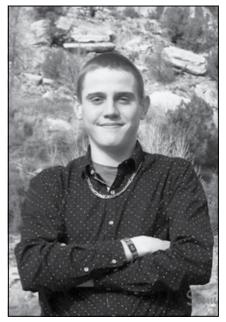
**Simon Haining** Nucla High School

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Rylie McCabe
Nucla High School



Morgan Weimer
Nucla High School

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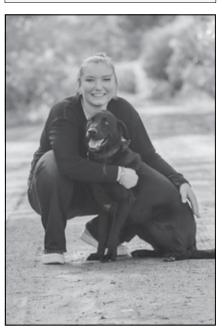
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—Babe Ruth



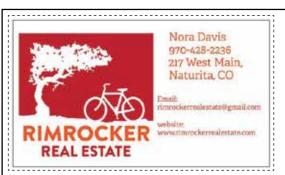
Ruby Steele
Nucla High School





Brandon Turner
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"Every person you meet knows something you don't; learn from them." —H Jackson Brown Jr.



**Jesse Goodsell** Nucla High School



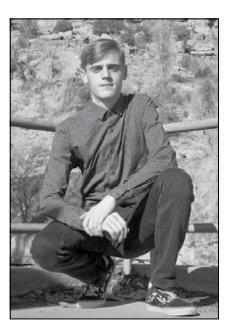
**Yoselin Hernandez** Norwood High School

# Family Market

Naturita - Monday - Saturday 7 am to 9 pm Sunday 8 am to 8 pm



Eli Saxton Nucla High School



**Simon Haining** Nucla High School

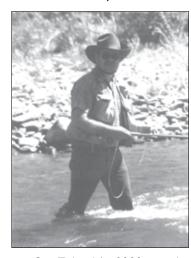
# **CONGRATULATIONS**

Nucla and Norwood classes of 2023

### **OBITUARY**

### Don "Fuzz" Bennett

Feb. 14, 2023



On Feb. 14, 2023, at the Bennett Family Ranch, Don "Fuzz" Bennett passed to our thoughts and memories.

Don Bennett was preceded in death by his parents Steve and Mildred Bennett, brother Jack Bennett, daughter Sheri Bennett, granddaughter Jerica Bennett, and great-grandson Simon Lindsey. Don is survived by his wife Patty Bennett, and sons Gary Bennett (Duana) and Steve Bennett (Cathy), and many family and friends. Don and Patty are parents of 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

The Don Bennett Memorial Barbecue and Celebration of Life happens Saturday, June 10, at noon at the Nucla Park. Those attending should bring lawn chairs.

## West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

### 4/27/2023

0716 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

0910 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of Grape Street in Nucla for a criminal mischief report.

1318 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an acci-

1348 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla.

1608 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Park Drive in Naturita for a

1653 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Park Drive in Naturita for a 911.

2202 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for suspicious activity.

#### 4/28/2023

1258 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for found

1601 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Elm Street in Naturita for a medical

1616 Hours - Jason Harrison, 56, was contacted in the 100 block of East Main Street in Naturita and issued a warning for speeding.

1805 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for an unwanted person. Jason Olszynski, 38, was arrested on an outstanding warrant and for violating a protection order.

1 directed patrol in Nucla 1 civil process attempted/served 4/29/2023

1113 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 33600 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a report of threatening.

1431 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a

1448 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 25300 block of Z26 Road near Nucla for a welfare check.

1709 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Wilson Street in Naturita for a theft

1924 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a civil

2204 Hours - Deputy conducted a security check in the 27800 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1 follow up report

#### 4/30/2023

0536 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a harassment

1328 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a report of threatening. Adrian Gibbons, 50, was arrested for disturbing the peace.

#### 1 directed patrol in Nucla 5/1/2023

0738 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 16700 block of Z26 Road for an abandoned vehicle. 0749 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 600 block of Juniper Street in Nucla.

0908 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 105 near Norwood for an accident.

1146 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla for an agency assist.

1250 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.

1958 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

#### 5/2/2023

1621 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Elm Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

1 VIN inspection

4 civil processes attempted/served 5/3/2023

0533 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a theft report. 1025 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita.

1151 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Main Street in Naturita for a fire. Kenny Johnson, 44, was charged with fourth degree arson and third

#### **Delta Sales Yard Market Report May 4, 2023**

300-400# STEERS	2.35-2.70	300-400# HEIFERS	2.40-2.70
400-500# STEERS	2.25-2.60	400-500# HEIFERS	2.20-2.38
500-600# STEERS	2.10-2.45	500-600# HEIFERS	2.05-2.15
600-700# STEERS	1.85-2.15	600-700# HEIFERS	1.85-1.93
700-800# STEERS	1.80-2.02	700-800# HEIFERS	1.65-1.75
800-900# STEERS	1.75-1.90	800-900# HEIFERS	1.55-1.68 top 1.83
Top bulls	High of 1.20	Medium bulls	1.10-1.14
Young Cows	1.00-1.35	Top cows	.9599
Modium cowe	99 04	Low violding some	99 down

NEXT WEEK: Thursday May 18th. Early consignment of 1 Jersey milk cow with a calf, 30 pairs (Blk & BBF Angus), 8 grass calves, 11 mixed grass calves, 25 butcher cows, 9 butcher bulls. Along with our usual dock run of 200-300.

**NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE** – Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Next special sheep & goat sale - Thursday May 25th

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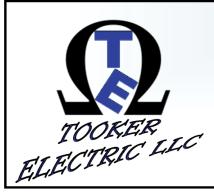


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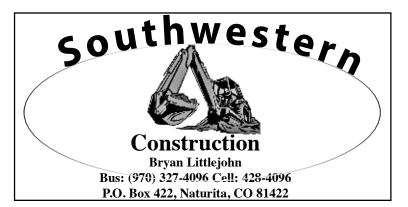
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# West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

degree trespass.

1227 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a disturbance.

1741 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29700 block of Highway 97 for a missing person report.

#### 5/3/2023

0533 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a theft report.

1025 Hours Deputy conducted court security in the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita.

1151 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Main Street in Naturita for a fire. Kenny Johnson, 44, was charged with fourth degree arson and third degree trespass.

1227 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a disturbance.

1741 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29700 block of Highway 97 for a missing person report.

#### 5/4/2023

1414 Hours - Marie Kiser, 61, was contacted in the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla and cited for speeding.

1503 Hours - Terry Franklin, 73, was contacted in the area of Highway 97 and Wilson Street in Naturita and cited failing to stop at a stop sign.

1737 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 141 mm 64 near Naturita for a traffic complaint.

1742 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29600 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an animal problem.

2118 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Highland Drive in Naturita for an information report.

1 school zone in Naturita

1 directed patrol in County

### 1 directed patrol in Naturita 5/5/2023

0859 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

0945 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 85 for a vehicle theft report.

1055 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a civil matter.

1429 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29700 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an information report.

1622 Hours - Charlotte Miles, 77, was contacted on Highway 141 mm 62 near Naturita and issued a warning for speeding.

1743 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for an animal problem.

1808 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the Bedrock area for an agency assist.

#### 5/6/2023

0402 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of West Fifth Avenue and Juniper Street in Nucla for a noise complaint.

1141 Hours - Laura Denney, 64, was contacted on Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla and issued a warning for failure to maintain a single lane. 1242 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a civil matter.

1414 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

1620 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 34400 block of 3575 Road near Redvale for an agency assist.

1740 Hours - Nicole Welsh, 35, was contacted near the intersection of Highway 145 and 4050 Road near Redvale and issued a warning for no driver's license.

1942 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of Highway 97 in Naturita for a civil standby.

2001 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

1 directed patrol in Nucla 1 directed patrol in County

### 5/7/2023

1456 Hours - Deputy was dis-

patched to the 33000 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a trespassing report. Corrie Joseph, 65, was cited for third degree trespass.

1924 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of Highway 141 and County Road 90 near Nucla for a disturbance.

1 directed patrol in County

### LEGAL

### **PUBLICATION**

Town of Naturita, Colorado Ordinance 288

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 191 ENTIRETY REPLACING WITH ORDINANCE 288 UNDER AGE POSSESSION OF TOBACCO.

Public hearing will be held May 23, 2023 at the regular board meeting.

Copies of the ordinance is available at town hall.

Published in San Miguel Basin Forum May 17 & 24, 2023

### LEGAL

### **PUBLICATION**

Town of Naturita, Colorado
Ordinance 289

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTION OF ORDINANCE 289, TITLE VI, SECTION VI-1-4: DEFINITIONS OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES. ADOPTING SECTION VI-1-4: DEFINITIONS OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND USE OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES BEING USEDASA RESIDENCE.

Public hearing will be held May 23, 2023 at the regular board meeting.

Copies of the ordinance is available at town

Published in San Miguel Basin Forum May 17 & 24, 2023

### LEGAL

#### **Publication**

Town of Naturita, Colorado Ordinance 290

CAMPING ORDINANCE AN ORDINANCE FOR CAMPING IN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF NATURITA.

Public hearing will be held May 23, 2023 at the regular board meeting.

Copies of the ordinance is available at town hall.

Published in San Miguel Basin Forum May

# Black & White, Colored Copies, and Scans

<u>Letter</u> (8.5 x 11) Legal (8.5 x 14) Tabloid (11 x 17)

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Norwood. EEO

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Norwood School District is seeking proposals for Brick/ Masonry repair on the high school, located at 1225 West Summit Ave., Norwood, CO. The project is to replace the damaged brick/masonry of the exterior walls of the high school building. The proposal shall include an estimation of labor, materials and a schedule for the project. Interested bidders shall contact the District Facilities Director, Frank Golaszewski at 970.729.2740 to schedule a walk through. Bids should either be dropped off or mailed to Attn. "Frank", Norwood Public School District, PO Box 448 Norwood, CO 81423 by 9 am June 15th.

### **NUCLA/NATURITA** FIRE PROTECTION **BOARD SEAT OPEN**

Nucla Naturita Fire Protection District Board has one seat open. If you are interested, send in a letter of intent and include your Name, address & phone number. Please send letters of intent to: Nucla Naturita Fire Protection P.O. Box 740 Nucla Colo. 81424 or drop them off at the fire hall Must be submitted by June 2,

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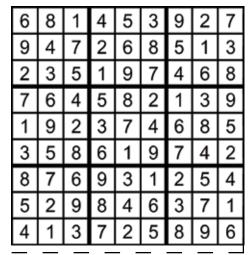
• Computer Diagnostics

James Keeton

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

# SOLUTION PREVIOUS SUDOKU



### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: THE 1990s

**ACROSS** 

1. Deep cavity

6. Weasel-related onomatopoeia

9. Supernatural life force

13. French treat

14. Snake-like fish

15. Major Italian city

16. Ring around the sun, pl.

17. Pitcher's stat

18. Donated part

19. \*Russian President

21. \*"Nevermind" band

23. \*"Walkin' on the \_\_\_\_" by

Smash Mouth

24. Google search tool

25. Took the bait

28. Between larva and adult

30. Data input device

35. U in I.C.U.

37. Dems' opponents

39. One of Florida Keys

40. Be furious

41. \*Canada/Mexico/U.S. trade agreement acronym

43. Agitate

44. Between free and freest

46. Molokai party

47. \*Telephone Tammy or Sky Dancer

48. Unquestioning ones

50. Greek muse's strings

52. Slightly insane

53. Messy substances

55. Santa \_\_\_\_ winds, CA

57. \*TV show with Central Perk

61. \*Popular Disney movie with a genie

65. Caterpillar precursor

66. Accompanies wisdom?

68. \*Pinky or The Brain

69. Architectural projection

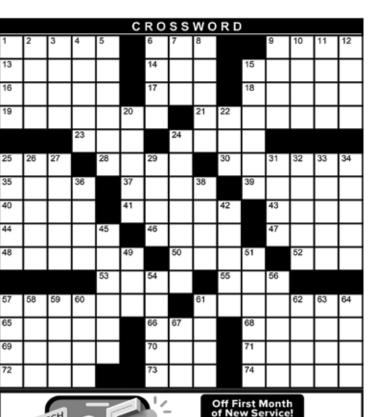
70. CrËme de cassis plus wine

71. Un-written exams

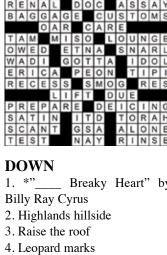
72. \_\_\_\_pool or \_\_\_\_pit

73. One or some or all

74. Find new tenant







## Breaky Heart" by

5. Bungle (2 words)

6. Part of a hammer

7. "\_\_\_\_ the land of the free..."

8. Heathrow craft

9. Type of missile, accr. 10. Aquarium organism

11. Indian bread

12. "\_\_\_\_ Kerenina" by Tolstoy

15. Breadcrumb, e.g.

20. Contain the ashes

22. Pen juice

24. Amount in one's lap, pl. 25. \*The Vampire Slayer

26. Accustom

27. \*"A \_\_\_\_ to Kill" and "Nick

29. Bell sound

Front or back one 32. Factual evidence

33. Quick and nimble

34. \*First cloned mammal's

36. Swarm like bees

38. Don't go

42. Pertaining to the ear

45. Pertaining to reign

49. Motion of assent

51. Bewitch

54. Port city in Japan 56. \*Christian Dior's "J'\_

57. Mass of particles

58. Of low density

59. Pupil controller 60. December 24 and 31

61. Bald eagle's nest

62. Two-fold

63. Same as island

64. \*TV show "Empty\_ 67. \*"\_\_\_\_ and Juice" by Snoop

Dogg

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Roast

Boneless

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Tuna





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\$**1)**79



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