

# San Miguel Basin Forum

## EDUCATION

### School community gears up for sports, new programs

By MALISHA REED,  
Nucla High School

Somehow summer has flown by, and students, staff and teachers are now getting ready to begin their third week of school. The administration agree things are off to a great start at the middle and high school.

"We are proud to welcome two new teachers, and three new paraprofessionals," administration said over the weekend. "We are excited to have Lisa Ross teaching middle and high school art, and Brandie McCabe teaching middle school ELA, eighth-grade social studies and high school home economics. We are very fortunate to welcome Kelsey Teakles, Becky Barr and Destiny Reed to our paraprofessional team. These new additions have already begun to make a positive impact in our school."

The Nucla High School Student Council, National Honor Society, and FFA programs are all getting their officer elections underway and will soon be announcing the 2023-24 officer teams. Then, each of the organizations will begin planning and orchestrating all of the activities and school projects they execute every year.

The middle and high school theatre program is off and running, and the students are working on fundraising in order to put on another great show this year. Anyone who is interested in donating to the theatre program should call the school and get in touch with Brock Benson, the instructor.

Middle school volleyball, middle school football, and high school volleyball and football are all underway. The greater community is invited to come and see the athletes in action with a few local options coming right up.

The middle school volleyball team will be in Norwood on Sept. 1 at 4:30 p.m. playing Ouray. The middle school football team will be hosting Dolores in Nucla on Aug. 31 at 5 p.m. The high school volleyball team will have their first home game on Sept. 5 at 4:30 p.m. against Dove Creek, and the high school football team will be playing Monument Valley in Norwood on Aug. 31 at 7 p.m.

Nucla High School is working on two extra-curricular programs, administration said. The first is high school cheerleading, since it has been some time since the Mustangs have had a cheerleading team.

"We are working on bringing that program back to life," administration said.

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## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

### Mustangs are on the volleyball court

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

It's volleyball season, and the Nucla Mustangs are back at it with regular season play. The girls started practice on Aug. 8, and already they've played a tournament. The weekend of Aug. 19 they traveled to the Colorado Springs area. There they competed at a school called Hanover.

In a series of five games, the girls won two and lost three. The Mustangs beat Liberty Tree Academy and Centennial. They fell to North Park, Lone Star and also Arickeree.

On the volleyball team this year

are Alexis Garza, RyLee Carpenter, Haylee Smith, Lantry Galley, Sydney Tomlinson, Destiny Spor, Skylee Nose, Shania Joseph, Ashley Meeks, Keiran Bray, Ani Anton and Viviana Zunich.

It's safe to say it's a young team with five incoming freshmen. Additionally, some of the girls have not played long or much at all.

Head coach for the high school volleyball team is Debbie Wytulka. She's been coaching for approximately 24 years. She's assisted by Berrie Reams, who's been a part of the program for five years.

Wytulka told the Forum the girls have some strengths on the court. Right now, they're working on

bonding as a team.

"We have a pretty much new group of girls," she said. "We have a few more on the team from last year that didn't have a whole lot of varsity time."

Now, the Mustangs are focusing on bonding, building relationships with each other, and making sure basic skills are reviewed.

"We are making sure we have a solid foundation to move forward as this season progresses," she said.

The girls didn't have a team camp over the summer, but open gyms were held, and many of the players did attend.

What's coming up for the Mustangs?  
Cont. on Pg. 5

## BUSINESS

### Are you ready for some football?

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The Flying Bear Pizzeria at Naturita Bicycle Company told the San Miguel Basin Forum over the weekend they will be showing football on the televisions inside their Main Street space on Highway 141. Owners Virginia Ericson and Nick Badovinac have purchased an NFL package through Hulu and will be streaming live football on Thursday, Sunday and Monday nights. The couple said they're excited for their patrons to have the football experience while dining in.

Now, the Flying Bear owners are working on their fall events. The business is a co-sponsor of the West End Gravel Rush bicycle race. The race happens Sept. 16 in the West End. While bike expert and operator of Naturita Bicycle Company Badovinac won't be riding in that, one Flying Bear employee is. On Friday night, race participants will have a private event with Flying Bear Pizzeria food.

Ericson said she's happy to be hosting the pizza party and to support the bicycle community.

Flying Bear is also sponsoring the West End Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Nucla on Sept. 23. Ericson said her business has also offered to provide food for that. She said that has not been confirmed, but either way, she's happy to be a part of the western heritage event.

The new pizza shop is also catering the West End Economic Development Corporation's (WEEDC) annual meeting. Ericson said the event is the yearly board meeting, a semi-private dinner, with a cover charge.

And, Flying Bear is also a vendor at the Heritage Festival in Nucla on Oct. 7. The Heritage Festival celebrates the local apple orchards and the history of how they came to be, but also remain, in the West End. An Apple Core Project event, the Heritage Festival has become a beloved celebration in the West End the last several years.

Ericson said Flying Bear is partnering with Chuck Mayo for the Nucla festival, and they'll be serving local beer and mead to festival goers.

Additionally, the Flying Bear owners want the community to know their website is up and running. They'll be able to take online orders by the end of this week. While some people might have heard that takeout orders are not possible, this is not true. The pizza place is doing to-go orders, and folks are welcome to pick up pizza and carry it out.

Cont. on Pg. 2



### Reminiscing about the good times

People gather at the Uravan Ballpark to remember the area's past. (Photo by Laurie Koontz)

## EDUCATION

### Norwood goes to ballot for new school

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Todd Bittner, superintendent of Norwood Public School, told the Forum last week that the school board in Norwood passed a motion to go to the voters this fall with a bond issue. Nichol Bray, Mike Morlang and Randy Harris were for the bond issue. Walt Fourney voted no, and Regan Snyder was absent.

Bittner said it's important to understand the numbers fluctuate. The numbers depend on when they actually sell the bond: the day, week, month. He said the way the money

works is that the school is asking for a \$10 million-plus bond. And, a lot is riding on whether Cañon City or Palisade can pull off their bond initiatives with voters. If one of those communities can't accept their BEST Grant awards, then Norwood can slide into the award space, since Norwood was runner up.

If Norwood can go for a BEST Grant this year, it will receive \$59 million from the state. Bittner said it's a 1:6 ratio in Norwood's favor with a total project cost of \$69 million.

What does that mean for the taxpayers? If the bond measure

is approved at the ballot, it's essentially \$84 per \$100,000 of assessed value. Bittner explained that for a \$400,000 home, that's \$352 a year right now. And, that's for a 25-year bond.

The superintendent said whether Norwood does a \$69 million building, a \$39 million building or a \$15 million building, the state is going to ask Norwood to meet its bond capacity. Bittner said the cost of the building is almost irrelevant.

He said he knows the assessed valuations have gone up "astronomically." He understands that

Cont. on Pg. 5

## TIPS FROM THE WEST END POSSE

## The survival pack

By MARK RACKAY

For me, hunting season begins the day after the last season of the year closes. I need all this time to get ready and do it over again next year. Between choosing an outfitter, applying for tags, sighting in your rifle or bow, and preparing your gear, there is barely enough time.

Everyone should spend some time getting into shape for hiking in the mountains. More importantly, we would be wise to spend a little time thinking about what may happen if things don't go as planned.

Altitude can go from 5,400 feet to over 14,000. With that comes the weather changes. We can have summer-like temperatures in the morning followed by snow and sub-freezing temperatures in a matter of hours. This is what the wise hunter will expect to see and prepare for: the unexpected.

When a fast-moving cold front comes through, a blinding snow can follow, making it impossible to find your way. What happens if you take a fall and sprain an ankle — or worse, and are no longer able to walk? Having the things necessary for such an emergency in a small pack can not only make things easier, but it potentially could save your life.

I have spent many years in search and rescue. Each year, we respond to a stranded, lost or hurt hunter. It never ceases to amaze me to find how unprepared for an emergency most folks are. Many of these searches turn into recoveries, and most could have been prevented if the hunter had some survival items along.

Start with a pack that is comfortable. A small fanny-type pack, a larger fanny pack with shoulder straps, or a full backpack are your best choices. Try them on over heavy clothing and see which is the most comfortable. Spend some time before the trip getting used to wearing a pack for extended periods. Taking a walk around the neighborhood with the pack will benefit you physically, as well as test out the pack for fit and comfort.

When placing items in your pack, try to keep to the essentials. If your pack is too heavy, you may talk yourself out of carrying it. The pack does little good if it is sitting in the cab of the truck when you need it afield. Just remember that you are the guy who must lug it around all day.

Here are a few of the things that I

carry in my personal pack:

- Compass and GPS. It is most important to take a waypoint for your starting place on the GPS. This way, you always have a latitude/longitude number to head home to.
- Signal mirror and whistle. These are great for helping searchers locate you in the event of an emergency.
- Knife and Leatherman tool.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Waterproof matches, lighter, fire starter. Fire can be used for signaling and warmth.
- Drinking water. Some packs come with a hydration bladder built in.
- Food, power bars, trail mix, jerky, high-energy snacks with protein.
- Cell phone. Keep power off to save battery. The battery power will run out quickly searching for service. Carry a portable battery pack to recharge the phone.
- Small first-aid kit. Carry only essential items, such as a tourniquet, Israeli bandage, couple band-aids, etc., keeping weight in mind. Be sure that you have any essential prescription drugs you may require.

Some other items you may consider if space allows are rain poncho, solar bivy you can crawl in to keep warm, toilet paper (a must), duct tape for first-aid and repairs and also pencil and paper.

Carry extra ammunition for your firearm. I have seen many cases where a hunter was able to signal for help firing the universal three well-spaced shots, and we were able to respond. Having enough ammunition for this can be a lifesaver.

One other item that you should carry is extra warm clothing. In the mountains, the temperature can drop 30 or more degrees in a matter of minutes. Having some dry clothes along will help in case you get wet.

All these items can be carried in a pack. I prefer to have a waterproof pack. I once learned the hard way that all packs are not waterproof. There are sprays on the market that you can apply to your pack before the trip that provide a temporary waterproofing. It does no good for you if the contents of the pack are a soggy mess when you need them.

All of this just requires a little thought and preparation. A little advance planning will make your hunt more enjoyable and just might save your life.

cliente. Badovinac is working away on high-end bikes, specifically for suspension. He is a Pivot bike dealer, mainly for mountain bikes, and buyers from Telluride to Moab are finding him.

The bike shop just got its first order of Pivot e-bikes, and Badovinac is now dealing in those too.

## History: Rimrocker Historical Society

## The Uravan Reunion Picnic 2023

By JANE THOMPSON, *Rimrocker Historical Society*

What a great Saturday in Uravan we had this past weekend. The weather was perfect! The rain had settled the dust. There were a few clouds, a slight breeze, and it was hot but not unbearable, and there were smiles and happy people all around. Thank you to everyone who came, and we always appreciate our local folks who come to support us, whether they were from Uravan or not.

Many of our older workers were there: Paul Woods, Dr. Madison, Howard Elder, Joe Latimer, Bernie Jones, to name just a few. It's always so good to see the Sharp sisters, Betty Nickell and Jean Nylund. Some of our folks who are always there didn't make it this year, and once again we had those who came for the first time. My good friend Richard Benedict, son of our wonderful postmaster, Bennie Benedict, was able to come this year, and it was so good to see him. We went through fourth grade together and were best buddies. I could just name off so many folks that it was wonderful to see, but it would take forever. We love them all and are always so glad to see everyone.

We had great helpers this year. Our wonderful Rimrocker ladies, Tina Carver, Sandy Johnson, Jennifer Nelson, Lorraine Skees, Aimee Tooker, and Brandi Thompson. Sharon Different was there with her camera getting those great photos that we all enjoy. Big thanks to Michelle Zurich who jumped in and was a great help, hauling folks to and from the bathroom and helping us take everything down. We appreciate them all so much. Of course, our guys, Duane Johannsen, Robert Johnson and Bob Million helped to get the park ready and looking nice. Sharon and I just really appreciate everyone who helps us pull this picnic together.

Thanks to Holy Smokes for another great meal. Pastor Dan and Carla couldn't be there to help, but his family and friends were there and pulled it off with out a hitch. We are all so thankful for them and their



Guests at the Uravan reunion enjoy eating a "yellow cake." (Image courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

hard work. We could not do it without them cooking our meal for us.

Katie and Madison from The Coach's Mother did a great job on our new t-shirts and hats, and sales were brisk. If you feel the need to celebrate the Manhattan Project, watch for them on our website. Everyone especially loved the glow-in-the-dark shirts. They are always so supportive and a wonderful sponsor of our picnic.

Uravan. What is so special about this place? Why do these people come back year after year to sit in a hot, dirt-covered old baseball field? I don't know, but I ponder this question quite often. It is hard to lose that connection to your hometown where you grew up. The house that you lived in is gone, the school you went to, the place where your dad worked, the places where you played are all gone. It's a very empty feeling and hard to describe to people.

For some people, it's not that big of a deal, and for others it's a really big deal. Just having something to go back to for a little while can give a little joy to most. The memories come flooding back, you can see the places again in your mind, the smells come back, the sounds can be heard again, and you feel like you're back home. It is a good feeling for those who come back to the picnic. So, we'll keep having those until everyone stops coming.

It will happen. We're all getting older. I will end with a short article from the Rocky Mountain News of May 1947."

"Uranium ore shipped to Paris

Uravan (400 pop.), Montrose County modern mining community. A previous settlement, known as the Joe Junior Camp, resulting from mining activities of the Standard Chemical Company, occupied the site in 1912. After 15 years in which large scale mining in this district was dormant, the United States Vanadium Corp. began work in February, 1936, and the town was renamed. Uravan is a combination of the first syllables of uranium and vanadium, minerals occurring with carnotite, a yellow viscous ore. Carnotite was first mined here in 1881, for small amounts of gold found with it. In 1898, after the Smithsonian Institution had found that the ore contained uranium, several tons were shipped by two Frenchmen scientists, Poulot and Voilleque, to the School of Mines in Paris, where they were delivered to Madam Curie and used by her in experiments that resulted in the extraction of radium. Between 1898 and 1928 ores taken from this region accounted for almost one-half of the world's production of radium."

The history of Uravan goes on and touched the world's stage in many different ways. May there be many more picnics ahead of us.

## West End Events

- **FAMILY LINK CENTER:** Meetings are third Wednesday of each month 1 to 3 p.m. at the airport
- **WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS:** Board meetings are third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Nucla Middle-High School, in the library
- **NUCLA-NATURITA FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Board meetings are second Monday of the month, 6 p.m., Nucla Fire Hall.
- **TOWN OF NUCLA:** Board meetings are second and fourth Wednesday, except in November and December, at 7 p.m. at Nucla Town Hall.
- **TOWN OF NATURITA:** Board meetings are second and fourth Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at the Naturita Community Center.
- **BASIN CLINIC:** Board meetings are third Tuesday of the month.
- **MONTROSE WEST REC:** Board meetings are first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. in the office of West

End Visitors Center, 230 W. Main St. in Naturita; limited hours. See montrosewest.com for programs.

- **FARMERS MARKET:** Thursdays, 4 to 7 p.m., in front of Wild Gal's, starting late June.
- **WEST END DARK SKY ALLIANCE:** No meeting schedule set. Email westenddarkskyalliance@gmail.com to join or volunteer.
- **RIMROCKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY:** Board meetings are third Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the museum building.
- **MONTROSE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE:** Meets first Monday of the month, 6 p.m., at Nucla Airport.
- **VETERANS COFFEE AND DONUTS:** second Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m., at Nucla Airport.
- **REDALE COMMUNITY BUILDING BOARD:** Meets first Sunday of every month at 4 p.m. in the Redvale Community Building.

## Flying Bear

Cont. from Pg. 1

As Flying Bear waits on the online order option to be perfected, calling an order in is welcome. Folks can always call a pizza in.

And, Ericson reminds all that the establishment is two businesses in one. While the pizza side is feeding the public, the bike side has its own



Sara Riddle stands with Sheriff Gene Lillard and Undersheriff George Jackson. (Courtesy image)

**COMMUNITY**

# Sara Riddle joins sheriff's department

By **REGAN TUTTLE, Editor**

Sara Riddle, of the West End, decided to join the Montrose County Sheriff's Department — simply because she wanted to do more good for her community.

"I also wanted to challenge myself outside of my comfort zone and really push myself to be the best I can be," she told the Forum over the weekend.

Previously, Riddle taught preschool in Norwood and Naturita for roughly five years, something she did enjoy.

"I loved teaching, and especially my students," she said. "Anyone who walked into my classroom could see my students adored me, and I made it a point to develop long-standing, trusting relationships with them. I went above and beyond as a teacher, but ultimately I realized it was not the long-term choice for me."

She wanted to change careers, and law enforcement happens to run in her blood. In Riddle's family, there are more than eight generations of military personnel and law enforcement. Her father was in the military and worked dispatch. Her brother and nephew went military. Her grandfather on her dad's side was military and worked law enforcement, and her grand-

father on her mother's side had a long-standing military background during WWII and the Korean wars.

"My family history in military and law enforcement actually goes back into the 1700s, according to a family tree developed by my aunt," she said.

Riddle will complete her training with Technical College of the Rockies in December and afterward will complete the final exam and additional qualifiers.

"The Technical College of the Rockies offers an excellent program with instructors who all have law enforcement experience," she said.

She said it's a small class this semester, which offers additional one-on-one instruction and allows students to develop an atmosphere of camaraderie.

Her family is supporting her endeavors.

"My entire family has offered nothing less than support and encouragement during this process," she said. "My children are missing their mother being around full-time, but we see each other every weekend and take our time together seriously. We are often found swimming at the local ponds, fishing, preparing for our upcoming hunting season or hiking."

Riddle will be coming back to serve locally, and she is excited. She loves the West End, and she's ready to make a bigger impact in her community.

"I plan to remain in the West End until retirement," she said. "This area is my heart and soul. I want my children to grow up in the same community I did and to enjoy the beauty of the surrounding areas."

After training, she will transition into patrol duty. Once she completes the necessary experience in that field, she would like to move into investigations.

"Law enforcement, like any career, presents its challenges and requires significant amounts of experience in the field," she said. "I may fall in love with patrol and choose to remain in that field ... you just never know."

To other young women watching her, she says to follow their hearts. In her class there is one other female participating in the police academy.

"Life is short, so always choose to chase the dream," she said. "There is nothing you cannot accomplish with the right attitude, mindset and a little bit of grit. I believe as women we have to step up a little higher than others and do the things we never imagined possible."

# San Miguel Basin Forum

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# School community

Cont. from Pg. 1

School officials are also working on introducing e-sports, or competitive video gaming. Even though e-sports may not have the same physical demands as other, more traditional sports, administration said there is still the core focus of teamwork, sportsman-

ship and leadership. According to CHSAA, e-sports are the country's fastest growing sports and they're reaching student populations that have been untapped by the more traditional extracurricular programs.

Nucla High School's goal with introducing e-sports is to create a

more inclusive program that offers a variety of options that will fit more of the students.

"We have a proposal that will go to the school board for approval in September," administration said. "The year is off to a great start, and we are very excited to see what this school year brings."

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**RECIPE**

# A Garvey hunting camp favorite: slower-cooker Salisbury steak

By KEIRAN BRAY, *Forum Contributor*

**Slower-cooker Salisbury steak**

**Ingredients**  
 6 oz. mushrooms, sliced  
 1/2 onion, sliced  
 1½ c. beef broth (low sodium)  
 1 oz. package brown gravy mix (dry)  
 2 tbs. ketchup  
 1 tsp. dijon  
 2 tbs. fresh parsley  
 2 tbs. cornstarch  
 4 tbs. water

**Beef Patties**  
 1½ lbs. lean ground beef  
 1 egg yolk  
 1/4 c. minced onion  
 1/3 c. Panko bread crumbs  
 3 tbs. milk  
 1 clove garlic  
 Salt and pepper to taste

**Instructions**  
 Place mushrooms and onions in the bottom of slow cooker. Combine beef patty ingredients and form 6 patties. Brown over medium-high heat, about 3 minutes per side. Layer beef patty over mushrooms. Combine remaining ingredients, except water and cornstarch. Pour over beef and cook on low 5 hours. Once cooked, remove patties and set aside. Turn slow cooker onto high. Combine cold water and cornstarch. Stir into the broth and let cool for a few minutes until thickened. Add beef back into the sauce to coat. Serve over mashed potatoes or rice.

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**Local cowgirls win prizes**

Alyssah Johannsen and Rynn Reams win big at a regional gymkhana series this month. (Courtesy image)

**Ballot for new school**

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

has burdened the community. But, he also said the board knows that this will be the lowest bond capacity the community will ever have. That's because assessments will only go up from now on.

Bittner said the community should also be aware that even if the school were only to replace the high school portion of the district right now, at some point Norwood would have to go back to the state and get a second bond in the next 15 years or so for the elementary portion.

He said it only makes sense for

Norwood Public School to go for the pre-K through 12th grade school, one which will last for 75 years.

He said going to the voters now makes for a win-win. That's because Norwood is the runner up for the BEST Grant award. And, even if the BEST doesn't work out for this year, Norwood will have a strong case for the future, because the numbers will be in order. Bittner said he'll be able to return to the state and show officials that the community has expressed its support for a newer, safer school.

In January of last year, he couldn't

do that. He didn't have the votes.

Bittner said the state officials were complimentary of Norwood's application, however. Now, he said it's important to be ready.

He added that the Norwood School is not just a school. It's a community hub, where people of all ages come together for recreation activities like pickle ball in the winter. It's also the place many funeral services are held, honoring beloved community members. Bittner said he wants it to stay that way.

"I want the Norwood community to continue to be proud," he said.

**Nucla Mustangs**

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

tangs is a series of six San Juan Basin League games. They traveled to Dolores Aug. 29, and next week they face Dove Creek and also Norwood. A full schedule is available on the West End Public Schools District website.

Wytulka agreed there are mixed emotions with the girls having their last volleyball season in the current gym. The new school is under construction, and the students are set to move into the new facility in January.

"I've been thinking about it," Wytulka said. "It's sad, but it's also exciting, and we are looking forward to the new space."

She added she's thinking of ways to honor past alumni who've competed in the existing gym.

This is the last year of Mus-

tang volleyball as it is, before the school officially forms a co-op with Norwood. Both school boards, West End and Norwood, voted to establish the co-op with each other beginning in the fall of 2024. Wytulka said she hopes to continue to be involved with the volleyball program when the change happens.

As for this season, she's looking forward to seeing what the Mustangs can do on the court.

"It's started out good and I see improvement every day in practice," she said. "I'm excited to see how this season is going to shake out."

Wytulka is also a teacher at Nucla High School. She teaches a computer class, a business class, senior seminar, sponsors the yearbook, and is the restorative practices coordinator.

**Uranium Price – Aug. 21, 2023**  
**\$58.25**





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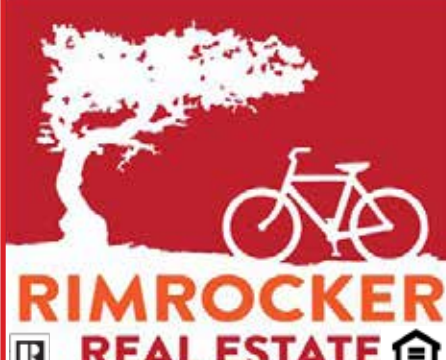
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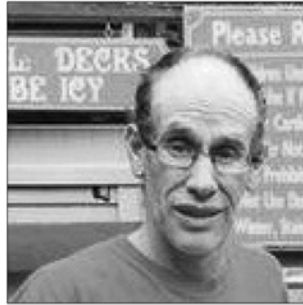
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## OBITUARY

### Ronald Bert Nicholas

Nov. 8, 1965 — Aug. 22, 2023



Ronald Bert Nicholas, 57, passed Aug. 22 at HopeWest in Grand Junction. He was born Nov. 8, 1965, in Denver to the late George and Betty Nicholas.

Ron graduated Soroco High School in Oak Creek, Colorado, in 1985 and then Mesa State College in 1989 with an automotive associate's degree. Ron was a truck driver, working in the oil fields, along with over-the-road hauling. Ron boasted often of driving in every state, except Hawaii.

Most importantly, Ron was a proud father. He loved his three boys Jarrett, Brendon and Gage. His whole life was about his boys, and he will be so proud of the great men that they will become.

Ron was a member of the Methodist Church. He was a rabid NASCAR fan (his favorite racer was Dale Jarrett, namesake for his oldest son), and he loved the Denver Broncos, Nebraska Cornhuskers football, hunting, fishing and was a loyal supporter of President Trump.

Ron was quiet, kind, and a loyal friend. He was calm and collected, except if politics were the subject of the conversation. Then one might hear some colorful language and very strong opinions.

Ron is preceded in death by his father George Nicholas, mother Betty Nicholas, and his aunt Mary Olin. Ron is survived by his three sons, Jarrett, Brendon and Gage; his sister Shari (Hank) Nelson, nephew Tanner Nelson, and niece Chloe Stoner — along with many, many friends.

A special acknowledgement goes to the angels of HopeWest, who dignified Ron's end-of-life care with love. Ronald's family is eternally grateful. A private celebration of life will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial contribution in Ron's name to HopeWest of Grand Junction (hopewestco.org/donate/)

## West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

8/3/2023

0553 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 90 near Bedrock for a suspicious vehicle.

1442 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of West Third Avenue and Payson Street in Naturita for an abandoned vehicle.

1506 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a disturbance. William Walker, 44, was arrested for domestic violence, third degree assault and harassment.

1606 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a report of smoke in the area.

2134 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a report of threatening.

2337 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of Payson Street in Naturita.

1 VIN inspection  
1 follow up report  
4 civil processes attempted/served

8/4/2023

0823 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29500 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a fraud report.

0944 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Main Street in Nucla for a 911.

1052 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 141 and CC Road near Nucla for a criminal mischief report.

1134 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance. Stephen Squires, 32, and Isabella Biggs, 24, were cited for disturbing the peace.

1612 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a report of a protection order violation.

1631 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29500 block of 2700 Road near Nucla for a welfare check.

1657 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the area of Y11 Road near Naturita.

1715 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1902 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a welfare check.

1954 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 116 near Naturita for a motorist assist.

1 VIN inspection  
8/5/2023

0233 Hours - Deputy was dispatched

to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an alarm.

1055 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1523 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Main Street in Naturita for suspicious activity.

1621 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 2000 block of County Road 42ZN near Norwood for a fraud report.

1818 Hours - Stephen Squires, 32, was arrested in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla on an outstanding warrant.

2109 Hours - Deputy conducted a field interview in the 100 block of

Sunny Circle in Naturita.

2205 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 66 near Naturita for a vehicle theft.

2 civil processes attempted/served

8/6/2023

1304 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Main Street and Fifth Avenue in Nucla for an information report.

1604 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a protection order violation. Stacey Williams, 55, was arrested for violating a protection order x2.

1909 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in

## LEGAL PUBLICATION

**TOWN OF NATURITA WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
NOTICE OF FINAL PAYMENT  
PROJECT NO. 0037.0002**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 28th day of September, 2023 final settlement with K&D Construction 648 North Terrace Drive, Grand Junction CO 81507, will be made by the Town of Naturita, 222 East Main Street, Naturita, CO 81422, for all services rendered, materials furnished and labor performed in the installation of the Water System Improvements Project.

Any person, co-partnership, association of persons, company or corporation that has furnished labor, materials, team hire, sustenance, provisions, provender, or other supplies used or consumed by such contractor or its subcontractors, in or about the performance of the work contracted to be done or that supplies rental machinery, tools, or equipment to the extent used in the prosecution of the work, and whose claim therefor has not been paid by the contractor or its subcontractors, at any time up to and including the time of final settlement for the work contracted to be done, is required to file a verified statement of the amount due and unpaid, and an account of such claim, to the Town of Naturita at the above stated address on or before the date and time hereinabove shown. Failure on the part of any claimant to file such verified statement of claim prior to such final settlement will release the Town of Naturita, its Board, officers, agents, and employees, of and from any and all liability for such claim.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum on August 30 & September 6, 2023

## LEGAL PUBLICATION

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISION**

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety proposes to approve Permit Renewal Application No. 8 (RN-8), submitted by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC for a coal mining permit at the New Horizon Mine (Permit No. C-1981-008). The proposed renewal will allow for continued mining and/or reclamation operations at the site.

The New Horizon Mine is a/an surface operation located in Montrose County, approximately 1.7 miles Northwest of Nucla, Colorado. Coal interest is private, and the surface to be affected is private land. The permit area encompasses approximately 342.25 acres.

This proposed decision is based on a finding of whether the proposed operation will comply with all requirements of the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act, Section 3433101 et seq., C.R.S., and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

A copy of the "Proposed Decision and Findings of Compliance", including any stipulations, is on file for public inspection at the Montrose County Courthouse, 300 Main Street, Nucla, CO 81424. The renewal application and decision documents, as well as all other permit documents, can be viewed at <https://dnrweblink.state.co.us/drms/search.aspx> by searching C1981008 in the "Permit No" field. A user guide is available to help first time users of the imaged document system and can be viewed at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/118OUdf\\_Mpjo3kxIHkP5hMH-w7MeBtxX7/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/118OUdf_Mpjo3kxIHkP5hMH-w7MeBtxX7/view).

Persons with an interest that may be adversely affected by the proposed decision may request a formal hearing before the Mined Land Reclamation Board on the proposed decision. Such request must be made within thirty (30) days of the date following initial publication of this notice, must be in writing, and must state with reasonable specificity the reasons for the request and the objections to the proposed decision.

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman St, Rm 215  
Denver CO 80203  
303-866-3567

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum on August 30 & September 6, 2023

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## YARD SALE

September 1st & 2nd, 8 AM - 4 PM, 29404 Hwy 97. Park in front walk to back, weather permitting.

Some furniture and antiques, Hoosier Cabinet, Dresser/Mirror, Full Wood Bed Frame, and More.

13-1T-P

## HELP WANTED

**Nucla Naturita Fire Protection District is looking for an Ambulance Captain to do maintenance on all the ambulances and also do driver training.**

Salary based on experience. Send resume in to NNFPD @ P.O. Box 740 Nucla Colo. 81424. For more information, contact Bryan Keeton or Dick Starks.

13-2T-C

## Apartment Manager/ Maintenance Wanted

Responsible person or team to do part-time management and maintenance at an apartment complex in Nucla, CO. Management duties include but not limited too- move in/move out paperwork, monthly reports, showing and marketing apartments. Maintenance duties include but not limited to minor plumbing, grounds keeping, maintaining halls and laundry rooms and painting. Send resume or short letter of experience to Landmark Management 4711 A Southern Hills Drive Sioux City, IA 51106, email to nnie-man@landmarkmanagement.com or fax it to 712-274-1230. Equal Employment Opportunity Provider.

13-TBD-C

## West End Public Schools is seeking a High School Cheerleading Coach.

The deadline to apply is September 1, 2023. Submit application and resume to Kelly Arnold, Athletic Director via email at karnold@westendschools.org or drop off at Nucla High School. Applications can be found at www.westendschools.org. We are an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

13-1T-C

## Town of Nucla is hiring an Animal Control Officer.

The position is part time, wage determined by experience. Application available on our website or at Town Hall 320 Main Street.

12-2T-C

## Mustang Water Authority is accepting resumes for the position of PLANT OPERATOR - GENERAL MAINTENANCE WORKER

This is a part-time/as needed position. Previous experience is preferred but not required, a current Water Treatment Operator license or aptitude to obtain one is desirable. Compensation will depend on experience. To submit your resume, please send your email to MustangWaterAuthority@gmail.com or PO Box 177 Nucla, CO 81424. Resumes must be received by: September 1, 2023 @ 5PM

12-2T-C

**San Miguel Power Association, Inc. (SMPA) is seeking to fill PURCHASING/STORES SPECIALIST (Nucla) MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE**

(Ridgway)

To view the complete job posting, benefits, compensation and how to apply, please visit our website www.smpa.com. SMPA is an Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer.

12-2T-C

## VETERAN MEMORIAL SERVICE INFO

Memorial Services for Veterans - Contact Tom Loczy and VFW at: (970) 428-2268

TEN

## CHANGE TO OBITUARY COST

We will no longer charge for black and white obituaries under 500 words.

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Primetimedirector@gmail.com

13-12T-C

# West End Montrose County

## Sheriff's Office Blotter

Nucla for a disturbance.  
2017 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a citizen assist.

2101 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Wilson Street in Naturita for a suspicious person.

2121 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of Highway 141 and Highway 145 near Naturita for a suspicious person.

2211 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of West First Avenue in Naturita.  
1 follow up report

8/7/2023

1052 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the Paradox area for a traffic complaint.

1253 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35900 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a civil matter.

1458 Hours - Riley Winterton, 43, was contacted on Highway 90 mm 24 near Bedrock and cited for speeding.

1558 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Main Street in Nucla for a theft report.

1939 Hours - Deputy was dispatched

to the Paradox area for a traffic complaint.

1 VIN inspection

1 follow up report

1 directed patrol in County

2 civil processes attempted/served

8/8/2023

1414 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for an information report.

1904 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1920 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 37000 block of II Road near Redvale for a harassment report.

2002 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 27100 block of DD Road near Nucla for a welfare check.

2120 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29000 block of CC Road near Nucla for a suspicious vehicle.

2121 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 37800 block of Highway 145 near Redvale to relay a message.

1 VIN inspection

8/9/2023

0107 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

0223 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for suspicious activity.

0954 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36000 block of 3700 Road near Nucla for a suspicious person.

2028 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36000 block of 3700 Road near

Redvale for a medical assist.

2 civil processes attempted/served

8/10/2023

0032 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a trespassing report.

0253 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1523 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for an information report.

1640 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a civil matter.

1824 Hours - Deputy conducted a citizen assist on Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla.

1824 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1845 Hours - Deputy attempted a traffic stop in the 100 block of East First Avenue in Naturita. A warrant is being sought for Thomas Sullivan, 29, for vehicular eluding, driving under restraint, driving an unsafe vehicle, driver's vision obstructed, operated an unregistered vehicle, no license plates and failed to use turn signal.

1942 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Z26 Road and 2600 Road near Nucla for a fire.

2037 Hours - Deputy conducted public relations in the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita.

1 VIN inspection

## DELTA SALES YARD - Latest Market Report

300-400# STEERS	NO TEST	300-400# HEIFERS	NO TEST
400-500# STEERS	2.75-3.00	400-500# HEIFERS	2.50-2.75
500-600# STEERS	2.60-2.80	500-600# HEIFERS	2.30-2.50 top 2.53
600-700# STEERS	2.55-2.75	600-700# HEIFERS	2.15-2.25
700-800# STEERS	2.50-2.65	700-800# HEIFERS	1.85-2.00
800-900# STEERS	2.10-2.25	800-900# HEIFERS	1.85-2.00
Top bulls	High of 1.33	Medium bulls	1.20-1.28
Young Cows	1.25-1.45	Top cows	1.10-1.20 top 1.22
Medium cows	1.00-1.10	Low-yielding cows	1.00 down

## NEXT WEEK: AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup> - NO SALE

Bubbaduts café is open at the Delta sales yard, serving Breakfast and Lunch. The café will be open THURSDAY through SUNDAY every week. From 8-2:00.

## FALL FEEDER SALES

**Thursdays September 7<sup>th</sup> Special Feeder Sale** - Early consignment from Mitch & Donna Hart - 80 mixed #650-725 steers & #575-680 heifers. shots = Alfa 7 @ birth, Pyramid 5 @ branding with a booster of pyramid 5. Not weaned straight off the cow, 25 Pairs (Cows will be preg check and mouthed), 2 1000 heifers, 2 400-600# feeder steers, 2 400-600# feeder heifers, 10 mixed calves 400# from David O. Johnson, 20 mixed feeders, 10 feeder steers, 11 feeder heifers.

Next Special Sheep & Goat Sale September 28<sup>th</sup> - 200-300 lambs

**NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE - Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>.** Free Facebook advertising for you horse, you provide a photo, and the information, by October 4<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, please call us at 970-874-4612. If your horse is not advertised on Facebook feel free to bring them in like normal.

## LEGAL PUBLICATION

ELK RIDGE MINING AND RECLAMATION - SL-26

to the Rules and Regulation of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board published August 1980, and pursuant to the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act 34-33-101, et seq., notice is hereby given of the filing of an application for Phase I, II, and III Bond Release of a portion of the New Horizon Mine site. The application is denoted as SL-26 and pertains to the New Horizon Mine, Permit No. C-1981-008 (approved April 6, 1983) by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC, P. O. Box 628, Nucla, Colorado 81424, filed with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS), Colorado Department of Natural Resources, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203. The New Horizon Mine is located approximately 2 miles west of Nucla, Colorado.

The Phase I, II, and III bond release area applied for is a post mine stock pond named SP2 and a small surface water conveyance channel called C-15 Ditch. This bond release areas includes approximately 0.1 and 1.7 acres respectively and are shown in detail on Map 1 within the application. The status of the areas being applied for is consistent with the requirements of the reclamation plan, which includes constructing the stock pond and ditch per the approved designs. Listed below is a general legal description of the area:

SE ¼ NW ¼ NW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 36, Township 47 North, Range 16 West of the 6th P.M.

The New Horizon Mine currently holds a surety bond in the amount of \$1,685,639, which includes the above listed area. With this application, the New Horizon Mine will be requesting relinquishment of 100% of the bond held for this parcel.

A copy of the bond release application is on file at the Montrose County Courthouse Annex, 300 Main Street, Nucla, Colorado and the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety at Department of Natural Resources, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference concerning this bond release application should be addressed to the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety, Department of Natural Resources, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203.

Comments must be filed within thirty (30) days from the last date of this publication, or within thirty (30) days of the completed inspection by the CDRMS, whichever is later.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum on August 16, 23, 30, & September 6, 2023

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## BOWLING LEAGUE MEETING

The organizational meeting for Wednesday Night Bowling is Wednesday, September 6 at 7 PM. There will be no bowling that night, but need teams.

13-1T-P

YOUTH

# Volleyball and football launch



Lady Mustangs are building camaraderie on the court.



Shania Joseph and Viviana Zunich are ready for the serve. (Courtesy images)



Maverick football, a combined Norwood-Nucla team, is working hard on the field.



The guys played Whitehorse on Aug. 25 and won 44-8.



Hemmy O'Brien, Daniel Zunich, Arther Connelly, Caylon Joseph and Holten McCluer are ready to go.



Arther Connelly fights against the Raiders.



Steele Arnold makes the pass.



Hemmy O'Brien plays some defense. (Photos by Amanda Pierce)