

San Miguel Basin Forum

BUSINESS

Zunich's West End roots run deep; salon celebrates 36 years

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Michelle Zurich, owner and operator of The Worx Salon and Day Spa in Nucla, is deeply rooted in the West End. Her grandfather was a rancher in Redvale, and her father was a coal miner who retired from the Peabody Mine. As a child, she grew up visiting her uncle, Chuck Zurich, who retired from SMPA, in Third Park at his ranch. She's loved her life in the West End, and she's had a career that's helped to sustain her.

Her mother was a hairdresser in the West End for 49 years. In fact, Carrie Zurich went to hair school when she was pregnant with Michelle Zurich.

"So you could say I was born and bred into it," said Zurich of her career in the salon business.

Michelle Zurich then went to school after graduating Nucla High School in 1990. In 1991 she graduated Xenon International School of Hair Design in Denver. She came back to the West End and worked for a bit in Telluride at the Peaks Hotel.

After having Coby Grierson, her son, (now in the U.S. Air Force), she took over her mom's business and clientele. Many of her mother's clients stayed with her over the years. One of them, Zurich's first nail client, still drives from Grand Junction to Nucla to see her for nail appointments.

The Worx is a one-woman show; that means it's just Zurich doing hair, nails, waxing, pedicures and some body piercings too. While the average career span of a nail technician is approximately 15 years, Zurich has more than three decades of experience doing the work, and she's still enjoying it.

"They say if you find something you love, you'll never work a day in your life, and I love it," she said.

And she enjoys her space at 356 Main St. in Nucla — except for the Main Street construction that has been ongoing this year. She said if the purple flag is flying, though, that means she's open. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday, though she's open in December this year on Saturdays, because people want their services before the holidays arrive.

She also has male clients, and she says the men are quite loyal customers. Many in town might remember Victor Brown, the old barber who cut hair in Nucla on

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Lady Mustangs play Meeker tourney; Galley nominated to all-tournament team



The girls took fifth overall at the Meeker tournament. (Photo by Sara Bray)

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The Lady Mustangs were at a three-day tournament over the weekend in Meeker, with both JV and varsity on the court. Head coach for the girls Zandon Bray told the San Miguel Basin Forum it was a girls-only tournament.

On Thursday, the JV team lost in overtime by four points; the var-

sity lost by one in overtime. Coach agreed the girls were competitive in their first games of the season.

"They were close games," he said Friday morning. "Very winnable. They were good games."

On Friday, JV lost to Meeker in overtime, but then the varsity beat Soroco 42-24. On Saturday, JV also beat Altamont 39-18, and the varsity won over Hayden 46-29.

For the tournament, Nucla took fifth place overall, and Lanry

Galley was selected to the all-tournament team.

Bray is assisted this year by Debbie Wytulka. Bray has coached before for middle school football and also peewee football and basketball. This is his first high school coaching job. Wytulka has a few decades of high school coaching under her belt.

There are 17 girls out for the team this year, though one is not

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ENVIRONMENT

We can thank Uriah Walker for Russian olive

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Anyone in Nucla knows what Russian olive smells like. It's a sweet, fragrant tree that perfumes the West End in late spring. It's got silvery leaves and some thorns. Some people actually like the scent. Others despise it, especially if they're allergic to it. Regardless, most people agree that the Russian olive is a tree that doesn't belong in these parts. It's invasive, it spreads, it chokes out other native plants and sucks water from the local landscape.

Dean Nasland, superintendent of the CC Ditch, agreed Russian olive is a nuisance. He started a program years ago to eradicate it. He later turned that over to the late Terry Brickey who tried to eradicate many of the Russian olives. Nasland said in order to completely get rid of Russian olive, though, everybody has to get on board.

He added birds eat the seeds, and then sit on the fence and the tree just spreads. He said the ditch board can work every spring to rip them out along the water, but in the fall, the problem persists.

He's personally gotten rid of "99 percent" of Russian olive on his farms and ranches, but that's because he's worked hard at spraying and ripping them out. He said if you simply rip the tree out, more come back in its place. He said you have to spray a mature tree first, and then rip it out. He said some people are opposed to the spraying, but that's what works.

"You have to be pretty persistent," he said. "They're a real nuisance on the ditch. ... And they're all over Montrose. They're all over everywhere."

If the Russian olive is invasive, how did it get here? Who brought it?

Jane Thompson, of the Rim-rocker Historical Society, knows exactly who's responsible. She told the Forum one of the original pioneers, Uriah Walker, brought the Russian olive — along with other heirloom fruit trees he imported. Thompson said Walker was quite the arborist. The late historian Marie Templeton shared Walker's story with her, and there are historic CC Ditch documents that report on the trees Walker brought.

Walker, in fact, lived in the house off CC Road, the one with the long lane and the stunning trees that line it all the way to the old house (where the Carvers live now).

"That was his homestead," Thompson said. "And he brought a lot of different trees in."

Walker is on Thompson's list of future research. He's big in Nucla history.

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NUCLA

New homes may be built on Main Street

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

It's true the parcel south of the old Nucla elementary school sold in July, and now a developer is aiming to put a number of homes on that site. The details of that project have not been finalized, according to officials from the Town of Nucla.

Melissa Lampshire, Nucla's town clerk, told the Forum on Monday that the person who bought the parcel requested a variance from the Nucla Town Board for zoning, since the land-use code was recently updated. The new code now specifies commercial zoning on Main Street, whereas before there was no zoning code in place.

Nucla's board has been in dis-

cussion with the applicant, who first came to trustees with a desire to build 18 homes total. The board did grant a variance for his development project and would grant an application for homes, as long as the developer left room for commercial space too.

Lampshire said the applicant is now working on the soils report and other preliminary tasks, and she's not sure how fast the project will go. Lampshire has connected the developer with town's civil engineer, Mesa Engineering, since that firm knows Nucla's infrastructure. At this point, however, there is no real application for development.

"We don't have anything," she said. "Nothing has been brought to town board, only discussion."

What is Nucla's development

process? There is no planning commission. Currently, the board oversees applications, and the trustees make decisions on development and the master plan process.

What Lampshire has been told by the developer is that the Fading West company, which makes manufactured homes in Buena Vista, Colorado, might be used for the construction plan. Probably garages will be included. That's the same company that produced Norwood's homes for the Pinion Park neighborhood, the new deed-restricted development for San Miguel County.

Lampshire said Nucla's homes won't be deed-restricted, though. They'll be free market — not low-income or "affordable" — and

Cont. on Pg. 3

TIPS FROM THE WEST END POSSE

Estimating distances

By MARK RACKAY

My old grandfather would spot a herd of mule deer on a distant mountain-side and guess their distance.

“There is a half dozen mulies on that ridge up there, 450 yards I would say, and the last one is a nice buck,” he would proclaim.

Estimating distances has never been my strong suit. The invention of the laser rangefinder, and having it in a pocket size, has saved me from not properly estimating yardage. Problem is, I don’t carry it with me everywhere I go.

The easiest way of estimating a distance is to pace it off. The normal pace for an average person is 30 inches. Since none of us are average, we need to measure our pace. Start out by finding something with a pre-measured distance, like a football field. You know the field is 100 yards or 300 feet, goal line to goal line.

When pacing something off, count your right foot pace only and multiply by two when you reach 100 paces. It makes keeping track much easier over longer distances. If you are pacing off a very long distance, put pebbles in one pocket, and transfer one to another pocket every 100 paces. This method never works for me, because I always have holes in my pockets, so the pebbles roll down my pant leg and into my shoes. Count pebbles in my shoe, I guess.

Pace distances can change because of slopes and inclines. Pace distance increases on a downhill stretch and increases when walking uphill.

Another method of estimating distance involves a little understanding of human anatomy. First, measure the distance between the centers of the pupils of your eyes. With a pair of binoculars, measure the distance between the centers of the eyepieces when adjusted for your eyes. For the average person, this is about two inches.

With this method, you will estimate distance by using only your extended thumb. Your extended arm, to the tip of your thumb, is about 20 inches, or 10 times longer than the distance between your eyes.

Let’s say you are standing on a

ridge and want to estimate the distance to a parked truck you see on a distant road. You estimate that the truck is 25 feet long, bumper to bumper.

- Hold your right arm out directly in front of you, elbow straight and thumb upright, in the “thumbs up” position.
- With one eye closed, align your upright thumb, so that it covers the distant object, in this case the truck.
- Without moving your head, extended arm, or upright thumb, switch eyes, so that your open eye is now closed, and the other eye is open. Observe closely where the object (the truck) now appears with the other eye open. Your thumb should appear to have moved to some other point away from the object.
- Estimate this displacement by equating it to the size of something you are familiar with, in this case, it is the 25-foot-long truck. You can use power poles, buildings, an animal, anything you can guess the length of.
- In this case, the distant truck is 25 feet long. It appears that five trucks could fit in the displacement, or 125 feet. Multiply that figure by 10 (the ratio of the length of your arm to the distance between your eyes), and you have the estimated distance to the distant truck, or 1,250 feet.

When you hold out your thumb and view it with one eye open, then with the other eye open, your finger shifts relative to the object’s background, moving from side-to-side. This is called parallax, and the parallax of a distant object is the angle between its directions of view from the two ends of a baseline.

Like all other outdoor skills, you are going to want to practice this estimation of distances. I was outside, in the front yard, pointing at the single lady’s car up the street, estimating the distance. She caught me, and now thinks I was pointing at her and winking. Now I am in trouble with the wife, because she would never understand the truth. Guess I should practice in the backyard from now on.

people relax and feel good about themselves.

“I’m all about making everybody feel good,” she said. “It’s a special treat to get your nails done too.”

Zunich is actually a third-generation hairdresser. Her great aunt did the work in Colorado Springs.

With clients from Moab to Telluride now, people keep finding her. With 36 years behind her, she has no plans of retiring anytime soon. She said it will be a bit before she lays her scissors down.

Michelle Zurich

Cont. from Pg. 1

Main Street until he was 98 years old. Brown actually shared some of his wisdom with Zurich and her mom. In fact, he taught them the “high and tight,” a technique used in military-type cuts. Zurich now has a few of Brown’s old clients, since the old man passed a few years ago.

And, she cuts children’s hair too. She does the whole family, and in the only salon space in Nucla proper.

She agrees what she does helps

History: Rimrocker Historical Society

The Coke Ovens, Part 1

By SHARON JOHANNSEN, *Rimrocker Historical Society*

This image shows five of the six coke ovens built to provide coke for the copper mine smelters in Paradox Valley. Only one remains intact on the private Coke Oven Ranch. (Image courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

When you turn off of Highway 141 and onto Highway 90 outside of Naturita at the eastern end of Paradox Valley, you will find the Coke Oven Ranch sitting very quietly on the left-hand side of the road. It’s private and owned by a family who has been working hard to preserve, upgrade and maintain its beauty and history. The ranch house itself has a rich history, but it is the area which has a very interesting story — and one that I have always been fascinated with.

Some of you may remember Ernie Anderson, who lived there for many years and worked to bring the property back to its happier times. The property had sat empty and had different owners off and on for many years, and the wear and tear showed. Ernie and his wife made it a home again, and his children have now proudly carried on the work to preserve the ranch. Ernie found many Native American artifacts on his property, reinforcing the knowledge that this was most likely a favorite campsite of the Utes and probably other Native Americans who roamed these hills before the Utes. History also tells us that this area was part of the route that the Dominguez Escalante Expedition took on their trek through Colorado.

But how did this property become what we now call the Coke Ovens? There is still one of

the original six coke ovens intact on the private property of the ranch, but we are fortunate to have another coke oven in our area that we are able to see up close. On Highway 141, as you are on your way to Grand Junction, near the Biscuit Rock, there is a perfect example of a coke oven. I can remember watching for that landmark as a child and knew that after a long day in Grand Junction, we would be back home in Uravan soon. Stories passed down through time tell us that this particular coke oven was used in the building of the Hanging Flume.

Coke ovens were used to heat up coal at a very high temperature to make a byproduct called coke. Coke is then used in smelters to make iron and steel. Back in the early 1900s, coke ovens were being used all over the country for these purposes. An article from the Montrose Press of July 1903 starts with the headline, “WILL NEVER LACK COAL, There is Enough in the Mines of the U.S. to Supply Us Indefinitely.” The article lists three areas, Pennsylvania, the Virginias and Alabama, as abundant coking coal fields and goes on to say, “with a fourth around a newly-developed district in Colorado and Utah, and you have all the known sources of fuel supply for iron and steel making in the United States.”

According to an article from the January 1903 issue of the Montrose Enterprise, “Wall and

McLaughlin, who have a lease on the La Sal copper mines in Paradox valley ... are working those properties more extensively than anytime heretofore. They have the copper matte smelter, located in close proximity to the mines, in operation, which is turning out a very valuable product. The La Sal Mine is doubtless producing the richest copper and silver ore of any mined in the state. The mines are some 65 miles west of Placerville ... from which point the smelter product is shipped by train ... It requires a week for a team and wagon to make the round trip to Placerville. ... The owners at present have eight six-horse teams and four four-horse teams. ... Coke ovens have been built by the lessees in Dry Creek some 30 miles from the mine where the coke for the smelter is burned. ... It can be seen that the operation of a smelter in Paradox Valley is an expensive undertaking, and that mineral to pay a profit under such conditions must carry almost phenomenal values.”

The copper mines in Paradox and La Sal were the reason for the coke ovens to be built on Dry Creek. Old photos from the Rimrocker archives show that the original house built next to the coke ovens was still there, along with five of the coke ovens in 1912.

Next week I will share more of the story of the Coke Ovens area.

Correction

The San Miguel Basin Forum erroneously reported on Nov. 15 that Sabra Grierson formerly worked for Roudy Roudebush. Roudebush called the Forum last week and said his wranglers are his employees for life. He said Grierson has not left his outfit, nor will she ever be a former employee. “There are no former wranglers,” he said.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Grateful

Dear Editor,

As we move into another cold season, Hoof & Paw is looking for a way to make the thrift store a more welcoming place to shop. We had a pretty hot summer, and the thrift store is not always a welcoming place because of the extreme temperatures experienced in our region. We are hoping that, with help from our community, we can moderate the temperature within the store by reducing the loss of heat in the winter and keeping it cooler in the summer by insulating the ceiling. We need 100, 4'x8' sheets of 2" board insulation to cover the ceiling. We're asking for donations to assist with this, and \$25 will cover costs for half a sheet, and \$50 for a whole sheet.

We will put your name, or the name of your critter, on the sheet you help purchase, and as a thank you your name will be entered in a drawing for a lap quilt that was locally made. If you feel as though this is a way you could help, stop



Kivi Bowersox works on tile insulation for the animal shelter.

by the thrift store, or call or text 970-428-7568.

And for our furry friends, volunteers have been working to make the shelter a toasty place for them. Several people spent a chilly afternoon at the shelter fashioning closed-cell foam doors for the pups to moderate the temperature in their

kennels. We cannot thank everyone enough for their support. There are so many ways folks help out, bringing their special skills and talents to the cause. We are grateful to be a part of the fabric of the West End.

*Susan Kelley, Hoof & Paw
NATURITA*

Lady Mustangs

Cont. from Pg. 1

cleared to play due to a knee injury. There are just two seniors, and the team is very young. Only five of the girls are from Nucla; the rest are coming down from Norwood this year.

"They have not had a chance to play together very often," he said.

But they're playing hard. Coach said the girls' effort is good, and he saw that over the weekend.

"What I saw was high effort," he said. "Everyone on the team is extremely athletic. It helps when coaching that the girls are athletes."

There's a lot happening for the Lady Mustangs before the winter break begins. They played Montrose Dec. 5.

This coming weekend, the girls head to Rangely for another tournament. It's varsity only, but it includes the guys team too. They'll play three games for it. The following weekend, before the break

starts, they have a tournament in Dove Creek too.

Games resume after the first of the year.

Like the guys season, the girls will play through February, and the state tournament happens in March. Practice happens nightly until then. The girls practice right after school, when the guys are wrestling. Boys basketball practice happens after the girls, a system which seems to be working out well.

What do the girls need to be successful this season? Bray said playing time, and time to "jell" together as a team. Only four to five of the ladies were on the high school team last year. Everyone else is new. Getting experience playing together will happen through the upcoming games.

As far as buses and transportation go, Bray said the Mustangs are not feeling the crunch as badly as some other districts are. He's feeling OK about this season's

travel. West End Public Schools is handling it, and three parents from Norwood have volunteered to drive the girls down from Wright's Mesa for practices.

Regarding the Nucla and Norwood girls competing together, rather than against each other, Bray said that needs to happen.

"We need to keep them on the same team," he said. "My opinion is whether a 'combine' or 'co-op,' ... them on the same team — that's what needs to happen."

Bray is looking forward to the new school and the new gyms, as are the players.

"They are extremely excited about that," he said. "We'll be in the old school until Christmas break. Our first home game is in the new gym. Everyone is excited about that. When we talk about that, the girls get a big smile on their face."

On the team this year are seniors Keiran Bray and Paige Spor; juniors Viviana Zunich, Cadence Shaw and Kendra McCluer; sophomores Darcy Bray and Kielely Shepardson; and freshmen Lantry Galley, Sydney Tomlinson, Josey Tedder, Reese Elwood, Maggie Andrews, Shay Snyder, Maria Camacho, Holli Johnson and Charlie Mull. Manager is freshman Brylea Butler.

"What I saw was high effort. Everyone on the team is extremely athletic. It helps when coaching that the girls are athletes."

*Zandon Bray
Head coach*

Main Street

Cont. from Pg. 1

likely priced between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

Lampshire's opinion is that's a good thing. She's personally glad that the deed-retracted development wasn't established in Nucla. She didn't want Nucla to be a "guinea pig" for Rural Homes' first development, and Norwood still hasn't sold all of their deed-restricted homes yet. She wants any development in Nucla to be

free-market real estate.

Now, it's up to the developer to decide what he wants to apply for. The last board discussion agreed that 18 homes on the parcel was too many, but perhaps 15 with commercial space might be acceptable.

Lampshire has no idea how many the developer will apply for, and she doesn't want to speculate. Ultimately, the board will decide, but she knows some board members don't want too many homes in

the business district.

Lampshire said town officials want to encourage business in Nucla. She said some business owners want to be on Highway 141 in Naturita with more visibility and traffic, but Nucla has lower taxes and affordable water. She said the right businesses will come to Nucla.

Lampshire added details on the new housing development will be announced when she knows more.

San Miguel Basin Forum

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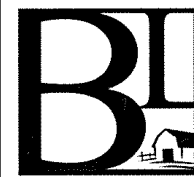
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Russian olive

Cont. from Pg. 1

Likely, Walker didn't realize the terrible legacy he'd leave the West End with and simply brought Russian olive as an ornamental tree.

Thompson said the West End communities shared everything back then, all kinds of resources, trees included. Thompson assumes the Russian olive was shared throughout Naturita, which was

later cleared, and Paradox too, though Paradox doesn't have as many of the invasive trees.

Thompson said Walker had an heir, a son who stayed in the West End after his father passed. He lived his life in Nucla, too, and was also an arborist, carrying on his father's work, probably contributing to the Russian olive spread.

Colorado Parks and Wild-

life confirms that Russian olive, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, is hard to control. In fact, they say it's "close to impossible," and they confirm the tree is able to sprout from the root crown. Control is best done with young plants. CPW adds that working on isolated patches is best, before attacking large areas. They recommend using a combination of fire, herbicides and digging.

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Now open for business

Nucla's new grocery, Good-E's Grocery, is serving patrons on Main Street. (Photo by Rusty Scott)

DARK SKIES

Local reserve gets funding, support

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Last week was a good one for the Western Slope Dark Sky Coalition's San Miguel County Dark Sky Reserve Project. It received \$5,000 from San Miguel County and 70 hours of expert consulting time from the State of Colorado. Previously, the coalition had received \$2,000 from the Telluride Foundation and \$1,000 from San Miguel Power Association and Basin Electric. A \$2,000 proposal is still under review by Mountain Village.

This influx of funding and help will accelerate the reserve application process by a team of citizens led by Bob Grossman. The team was accepted as a member of the coalition ensuring support for their work.

Major tasks have already been accomplished. A revision of the San Miguel County land-use code's exterior lighting section was accepted as compliant with reserve requirements by Dark Sky International, the organization that designates Dark Sky places, like reserves. A reserve has two components, a core that is pristine (few or no exterior lights) but accessible by the public and a periphery that

would "protect" the core from light contamination threats. The U.S. Forest Service, working with the coalition, identified the Thunder Trails Recreational Area in Norwood as the core of the reserve. Negotiating with Dark Sky International, Commissioner Kris Holstrom and Grossman were able to have the entire county be identified as the periphery of the reserve.

Measurements showing how dark it is at the trailhead of Thunder Trails and a mile or two from the core toward Norwood have been taken for almost a year and are ongoing, thanks to Kevin and KiKi Chaney. David Muller and Grossman recently spent an evening on Burn Canyon Road obtaining Muller's expert astrophotographs of light domes surrounding the core from Grand Junction, Delta-Olathe, Montrose, Nucla-Naturita, and Telluride-Mountain Village; no light domes were seen to the south. David Craige and Deb Stueber are in the final stages of obtaining a survey of existing public lights for the county with help from the Town of Norwood that provided a detailed map of lights associated with the town. Similar maps are pending for Telluride and

Mountain Village. Ophir will be sending in a report soon. The land-use code will be a template for the application's all-important lighting management plan.

Dark Sky International's Dark Places Coordinator, Amber Harrison, suggested the reserve application team follow the outline of the recently successful application for the Texas/Mexico Big Bend Dark Sky Reserve. This and a Dark Sky International review committee checklist will guide the writing of the application. A January to March window is expected for the application to be submitted to Dark Sky International. If accepted, San Miguel County may be host to the third Dark Sky Reserve in the U.S., first in Colorado and the Western Slope — and 22nd in the world. The "may" is because we have friendly competition from other groups, one in the San Luis Valley. So, to quote the great sage, Yogi Berra, "It ain't over 'til it's over."

Help from the greater basin community would be gratefully accepted. Visit the coalition website at westerncoloradodarksky.org or contact the local group via westerncoloradodarksky@gmail.com.

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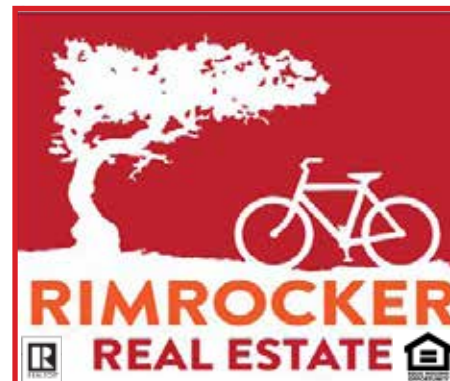


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West End Events

- **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.
- **WEST END TRAILS ALLIANCE (WETA):** Meets third Thursday of month at 6 p.m.; follow WETA on Facebook for meeting locations; contact board to get involved.



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| | | | |
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| 400-500# STEERS | 2.45-2.60 | 400-500# HEIFERS | 2.25-2.40 |
| 500-600# STEERS | 2.25-2.35 | 500-600# HEIFERS | 2.10-2.20 |
| 600-700# STEERS | 2.05-2.15 | 600-700# HEIFERS | 1.95-2.10 |
| 700-800# STEERS | 1.90-2.00 | 700-800# HEIFERS | 1.85-1.90 |
| 800-900# STEERS | 1.90-2.00 | 800-900# HEIFERS | 1.75-2.05 NO TEST |
| Top bulls | High of 1.14 | Medium bulls | 1.05-1.09 |
| Young Cows | 1.22-1.45 | Top cows | .90-1.00 |
| Medium cows | .85-.90 | Low-yielding cows | .80 down |

NEXT WEEK: Thursday December 7th. Special Bred Cow Sale & Feeder

Sale. 25 1st calf heifers A.I bred(BK Angus). 12-15 older bred cows, 17 bred cows (red angus), semi of bred heifers, 20 bred cows, 25 bred cows, 15 simx bred cows – bred Simmental, 2-3 year old, 20 bred cows, 25 bred cows, 40 bred cows, expecting 200 bred cows. EXPECTING 500-700 mixed feeder calves.

ATTENTION: WE WILL START THIS SALE AT 9:30.

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 14TH. Special Bred cow & feeder sale. 40 bred cows.

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West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

11/13/2023

0804 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1303 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Highway 97 near Naturita for an information report.

1606 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a fire assist.

1647 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 1 near Naturita for an abandoned vehicle.

1712 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

2305 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an alarm.

1 school zone in Naturita

11/14/2023

0755 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Lake Avenue in Naturita for a medical assist.

1332 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an information report.

2 follow up reports

1 directed patrol in Nucla

11/15/2023

0813 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a protection order violation. Morgan Riley, 25, was arrested for violating a protection order.

0843 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1007 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a fire assist.

1358 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28700 block of BB36 Road near Nucla for a welfare check.

1716 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of King Street in Nucla for a report of threatening.

1 follow up report

11/16/2023

0741 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Wilson Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

0957 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla for a report of threatening.

1244 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Naturita for a disturbance.

1913 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 57 near Naturita for an accident.

11/17/2023

1041 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Main Street in Nucla for a parking problem.

1416 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of East Main Street in Naturita for a civil standby.

2052 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla for an accident report. 3 civil processes attempted/served

11/18/2023

2052 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 2 near Naturita for an accident report.

11/19/2023

1108 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1254 Hours - Paul Haining, 47, was contacted on Highway 97 mm 3 near Nucla and cited for no driver's license and driving an ATV on the Highway.

1721 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 2500 block of County Road 42ZN near Norwood for suspicious activity.

2108 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for a disturbance.

1 directed patrol in County

LEGAL PUBLICATION

District Court, Montrose County, Colorado

1200 N. Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401

Case No. 2023CV30088

Plaintiffs: LLOYD C. LAKIN and SHAYNA BELL

Defendants: BRISA FELIX and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO THE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the Complaint filed in the above-captioned case within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within 35 days of the last publication, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiffs in and to real property situate in Montrose County, CO legally described as:

SW¼NW¼, SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 46 NORTH, RANGE 15 WEST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN; EXCEPTING A TRACT OF LAND GRANTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS BY DEED RECORDED JUNE 14, 1961 IN BOOK 510 AT PAGE 465; ALSO EXCEPTING A TRACT OF LAND GRANTED TO JOHN W. REAMS AND DIANNA L. REAMS IN A DEED RECORDED DECEMBER 17, 2009 AT RECEPTION NO. 809460, COUNTY OF MONTROSE, STATE OF COLORADO.

Dated November 13, 2023.

/s/ Sara Bachman

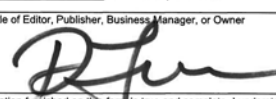
Plaintiffs' Attorney, #50363

Bachman Law, LLC

PO Box 158, 140 E. Main Street, Naturita, CO 81422

970-865-2440

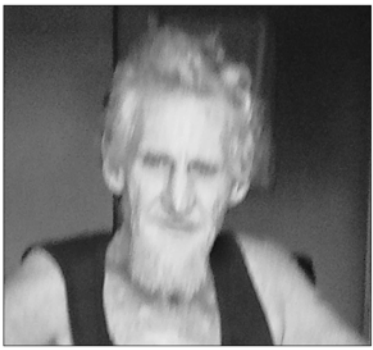
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OBITUARIES

Russell "Rusty" Lynn Porter

June 19, 1950 — Nov. 9, 2023



Rusty passed way on Nov. 9 at Hope West in Grand Junction. He was born June 19, 1950, in Lancaster, Calif., to Thomas Dodson Porter and Trella Marie Porter.

Rusty went on to be a licensed welding fabricator, and he loved his profession. He also loved Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Rusty married Jill Bronson, and they had a son, Randy Porter. They moved to the West End in the early 1970s, and it has been his home since.

On Sept. 2, 2001, Rusty met the love of his life, wife Michelle Kiser Porter, of Nucla, and they were two peas in a pod. They had one daughter, Nicole Chadd (Howard), of Naturita; grandchildren, Shaelene Michelle Boss (Brydon Haining), Hailee Lynn Porter, Peyton Raine Porter, Mae Ann Gail Puddsack (Anthony), of Columbus, OH, and Marlee, Soso; and great-grandson Julius Puddsack.

He loved people. He leaves behind cousins, friends, brothers, just part of Rusty's family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings and sisters.

A celebration of life at New Hope Pentecostal Church in Naturita is set for June 22, 2024, at 11 a.m., following a camping/fishing trip and his last ride on a Harley-Davidson to Buckeye Reservoir. Anyone with a motorcycle is invited. Memorial funds can be sent to Michelle Kiser Porter at PO Box 375, Naturita, CO 81422.

Thank you so much to the ambulance crew, Basin Clinic, family and friends, and to the Nucla Baptist Church for everything. A very special thanks goes to Kendra and Steve, Ollie Ballard, Bob Sutherland, Hope West Hospice, Rick and Penny VanDellen, Annie Gibbons, John Riley, Sr., along with Pastor Mark Jones of Church of God and Pastor Dan Williams of New Hope Pentecostal Church, and especially thank you, Father, in Heaven.

God Bless all of you.

Edwin Wayne Porter

Feb. 11, 1941 — Nov. 27, 2023



Edwin Wayne Porter, 82, left us on Nov. 27. Ed was born Feb. 11, 1941, on the Clyde Porter Ranch in Naturita. He was raised by Wane and Mildred Porter in Redvale and attended the Norwood School, graduating in 1961.

Ed worked all his life cowboying and ranching. He worked for the Fruita Co-op in Nucla for many years. After retiring from the co-op, he cared for properties on the Lone Cone. Ed also took time to serve our country in the U.S. Army.

He loved being in the mountains with family and friends. He enjoyed jeeping, his horses and just being with his family and friends.

He is survived by his sisters, Lynda (Bruce) Kerr, of Redvale, and Marcia (Dan) Pack, of Leamington, UT, and their families.

Graveside services with military rites will be Dec. 9 at noon in the Coventry Cemetery with a luncheon following at the Redvale Community Center. Please come share stories of Ed with us. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Redvale Community Center or to the Redvale Study Club.

West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

1 directed patrol in Naturita
1 civil process attempted/served
11/20/2023

1742 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a citizen assist.

1922 Hours - was dispatched to the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a disturbance. Robert Roderick, 28, was arrested for third-degree assault, domestic violence, menacing, and false imprisonment.

1 VIN inspection
11/21/2023

1722 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

1901 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 114 near Redvale for a traffic hazard.

1 directed patrol in Naturita
11/22/2023

0757 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of West Tenth Avenue in Nucla for an animal problem.

1150 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of Highland Circle in Naturita for a welfare check.

1327 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a report of threatening.

1348 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main

Street in Nucla for a utility problem.

1506 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 90 mm 26 near Naturita for an accident.

1740 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

11/23/2023
0156 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1520 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1000 block of Main Street in Nucla for an animal problem.

2203 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance.

2338 Hours - Deputy conducted a civil standby in the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla.

11/24/2023

1225 Hours - Deputy took a theft report in the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla.

1618 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance. Nicole Welsh, 35, was arrested for a protection order violation.

1656 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 38500 block of Highway 145 near Norwood for a fire assist.

2227 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 85

near Naturita for a traffic hazard.
11/25/2023

1019 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Main Street in Nucla for an abandoned vehicle.

1758 Hours - Deputy took a found property report in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla. A driver's license was placed into found property.

1856 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a disturbance.

2015 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla to relay a message.

11/26/2023

1520 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

1704 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 700 block of Willow Street in Nucla.

2056 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a civil matter.

2119 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35500 block of Highway 145 near Norwood for a welfare check.

2236 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Short Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

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Please contact Brooke Napier at rascalstoddler@gmail.com or 728-3804

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YOUTH

West End kids at work and play



Local teens from Nucla Junior High and High School perform in the school's plays. (Photos by Brandie McCabe)



Lady Mustangs compete well in their first tournament and head to Rangely this weekend. (Photos by Sara Bray)



Jackson McCabe takes a victory on the mat, and Cole Bray wrestles tough. (Courtesy images)



Nucla FFA officers are (starting in the back row, left to right) Lantry Galley, Shania Joseph, Dradell Ketchum, Drake Long, Sydney Tomlinson, Cole Bray and Keiran Bray.



Senior officers Shania Joseph (vice president), Dradell Ketchum (secretary) and Keiran Bray (president) are celebrating their sixth year in the ag program. (Photos by Malisha Reed)