

# San Miguel Basin Forum

## WOLVES

### Ranchers speak about wolf releases

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

With at least 10 wolves on the ground in the last week, which were released by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in a program that started officially Dec. 18, ranchers in the region are feeling upset. The releases come after Proposition 114 was passed in 2020, a state ballot question supported mostly by those on the Front Range in more urban areas. Ranchers wonder if those voters understand what wolves can do to those with farms and ranches.

Terri Snyder Lamers, of Norwood, spoke to the Forum last Friday. She said the wolves who've been released were predating before their new life in Colorado. She also said they're moving rapidly and placing the wolves in one place doesn't mean they'll stay there.

Snyder Ranches, Lamers' family business, runs 1,400 head of sheep and more than 400 head of cows. She said CPW claims elk is the wolf's preferred meal, but she's heard wolves are like a "car-load of teenage boys" and will eat anything.

Her family's livestock is close to home and a good distance from the release spots. She's grateful that ranchers got their 10(j) ruling, permitting them to use lethal take of a wolf who is eating livestock. But she said the issue overall is so complicated. The 10(j) rule is not simple. And, a Colorado rancher can't just get meaner guard dogs. There are recreationists and others to think about.

She said it's depressing that guest speaker John Williams, an Oregon rancher who spoke in Gunnison, recommended liquidating livestock altogether — if the stress of wolves was too high. Stan Galley, of Nucla and president of the local cattlemen's association, whose family runs 200 head of cows, said he feels like that's the government's end game, to run ranchers out of business.

— To make it so hard on people they just throw their hands up and sell and move on, or leave the state," he said. "They pushed out generational families in California, the taxes and the laws — You can't afford to be a rancher there anymore."

Galley said it's almost like ranchers feel attacked these days, simply for trying to feed people.

Cattlemaster Janie VanWinkle, of Grand Junction but formerly of Nucla, has been talking "wolves" all week. Her family runs 500-

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## COMMUNITY

### Vicki Allen honored with Susan Rice award

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The Susan Rice Community Compassion Award Committee recently formed in the West End with the intention of honoring the legacy of community leader Susan Rice. That committee, after receiving nominations and spending time deliberating, has made a decision on the first ever recipient. The winner of the 2024 Susan Rice Community

Compassion Award is Vicki Allen.

Allen came to the West End from San Diego via Alaska 12 years ago. The committee agrees she gives much to her community.

She is a member of the Ute Trail Study Club and a board member for Hoof & Paw, while also volunteering 20 hours weekly with Hoof & Paw. Additionally, she volunteers at Naturita Community Library and Lone Cone Library. She's also given her time to volunteer for Camp V and the newly resurrected Naturita

Days holiday. She also helps with Navajo Taco nights, the fundraising dinners that support Water Days, Nucla's July holiday event.

The committee also said they're impressed by Allen's passion for the earth, specifically the recycling and repurposing work she does. Moreover, the consensus is that Allen extends compassion to children and animals, as well as people in the greater community.

The Susan Rice Award was

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## ENERGY

### SMPA sends out \$1M in member dividends

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Besides gifts and packages, money could be waiting in local mailboxes this holiday season. At its December 2023 meeting, the board of directors for San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) approved the return of \$1 million in member dividends to the consumer-members. Representatives said this move completes the process by which excess revenues get shared back with consumers over time.

In a typical year, the power cooperative has money left over after paying its expenses. As a not-for-profit cooperative, SMPA allocates the excess revenue, called "margins," to each consumer in proportion to their contributions for that year. The margins are used by the cooperative to finance operations and construction. Representatives of SMPA said this helps the organization balance the need to turn to lenders for funds to maintain and enhance SMPA's existing electric system.

When the board determines the time is right, allocations for a given year or combination of years are repaid to members as "member dividends." It's not a regular process, but one the board looks at annually. The returns have been happening the last few years.

This month, many SMPA members are receiving checks in the mail. Communication Executive for SMPA Alex Shelley confirmed they were mailed Dec. 20.

The dividends represent allocations from the years 1994 and 1995. The majority of members received dividend checks between \$20 and \$250. Some large power users, however, including towns, counties and schools received checks that totaled more than \$5,000. Members will have a full six-month period in which to deposit their member dividends.

The board has said the returns are an important part of the co-op's policies.

"Giving member dividends back to you is one of the ways we distinguish ourselves from investor-owned, for-profit utilities," said board president Rube Felicelli. "It's a commitment that is absolutely foundational for an electric cooperative like SMPA."

More information on the return checks is available online at [smpa.com/member-dividends](http://smpa.com/member-dividends).

Shelley said this month's return process is the same as it's been in the past.

"We're sending out checks

Cont. on Pg. 5



### Time to move

The new school in Nucla, a preschool through 12th grade facility, will be open after the new year.

(Photo by Regan Tuttle)

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

### Calls average in 2023; car theft, DUI increase

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Commander Bruce Schmalz, overseeing law enforcement in the West End under Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard, told the Forum things were about on par for 2023 regarding total calls to the sheriff's office, though some specific types of calls and events have gone up or down.

Schmalz said the West End is "holding pretty much the same as the last three years" for total calls, but calls for service have gone up. Calls requesting a deputy have increased, and so have civil process (summons, subpoena) calls. Accident calls have also gone up, and while the majority of those involve

state patrol, West End deputies have to assist and are usually first on the scene.

Up "drastically," Schmalz said, is motor vehicle theft in the West End. The statistics are tricky though. With six motor vehicle thefts in 2023, compared to three in 2022, that's a 50 percent increase. Yet, the numbers themselves are still low.

DUIs were up locally too. This year saw seven DUI cases, while last year had three. Schmalz said he believes six of those were fully prosecuted. And, civil stand-by calls were up, and those indicate that perhaps the community is trusting the sheriff's office to help keep the peace.

Because deputies are so busy

with calls, their self-initiated activity isn't as high as it could be. Schmalz would love to be able to have a deputy designated for traffic citations every day, while a few more deputies responded to calls, but that's not possible at this time.

It's true that traffic stops and security checks are a bit lower this year, likely because deputies are responding to calls. Also down in the West End are domestic violence calls.

Assaults are about average for 2023. Schmalz said crimes against people did not increase.

Drug use is an ongoing issue, and Schmalz said as the world sees drugs become more socially

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# China, on the other hand

Dear Editor,

Unless you have spent the last few years (decades) under a rock or on a deserted desert island, you have probably heard that we must eliminate fossil fuels for power generation in both the U.S. and the world because it contributes to the increase of greenhouse gases, and, consequently, they are or will be responsible for warming the planet and eventually destroying it. It is further contented that we must act now or it will soon be too late.

Global warming/climate change is a lot more serious than even the most radical proponents realize. It has a potential of wiping out 90 percent of the population of the U.S., or more. It, also, has the potential of enslaving whoever is left.

But not the way you think.

Fossil fuels provide 62 percent of electric power production in the U.S. Nuclear energy accounts for 8 percent, hydroelectric 9 percent, petroleum 2 percent and renewables 20 percent.

Cars and trucks account for 27 percent of the total energy consumed in the U.S. for transportation of people and goods. The source of that energy is broken down further. Ninety percent is provided by petroleum (gasoline and diesel), 6 percent biofuels (ethanol blended with gasoline), 5 percent natural gas, and electricity stored in batteries (Tesla and others) provides less than 1 percent.

Taken together, electricity generation and transportation, fossil fuels provide 75 percent and renewables 15 percent of the total

energy consumption in the U.S.

It doesn't take a "rocket surgeon" to understand that if the 75 percent (that fossil fuels contribute of our total power) is removed, the electrical grid is going down and transportation is going to grind to a halt. Period.

Just think of it. The electricity is going off. The heat sources are going off. The water is going to stop flowing. And the store shelves are going to be bare. Food other than in cans or dry goods is going to spoil, and if you had anywhere to go you are going to be taking a bike, a horse, or you are going to walk, and you are going to be using the backyard to relieve yourself. And you are going to die.

Well, not all of us. You can always join a roving band of human locusts and take your food by force, but how long is that going to last?

China, on the other hand, has made a pledge to be carbon neutral by 2060. However, they are building the equivalent of two new coal-fired power plants per week. It is pretty self-evident that China does not intend to follow us on our suicidal path. As soon as our society has self-destructed, then they won't have to fight their way in, the way is open, and all the survivors will be their slaves.

Oh, and I might add, it will be those that think the government should take care of them that will be the first to go, because why use foresight when you don't have to think for yourself?

*Don Hemme  
REDVALE*

## History: Rimrocker Historical Society Nucla Independent, Dec. 26, 1918

By JANE THOMPSON, *Rimrocker Historical Society*



This image shows a vintage holiday newspaper. (Image courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

I ran across the final newspaper from the year 1918 and thought I would see what was happening back then. The Nucla Independent of Dec. 26, 1918, had lots of interesting items in it. Over the years of reading the old newspapers, I have learned that fire was one of the biggest problems that the early pioneers faced as they built their communities. "The big fire at M. D. Bowen's" house was one of the headlines on the front page. I love the way that Mr. Hopkins, the editor of the Nucla Independent, wrote his articles. The fire was an exciting way to end the year, but was probably pretty traumatic for the family.

The Bowens were an early family to the colony of Pinon. Mr. Bowen held many important positions in the board and management of the Colorado Cooperative Company. Mrs. Bowen's daughter, Margaret, would eventually marry John Galley and become a very popular teacher to many of our local citizens. Stan Galley and Debbie Wytulka are two of her grandchildren who still live here in the area. I'm not sure where the Bowens lived in Nucla at that time, but would love to find out if any of you know.

"Fire, which caught from the dining room stove, almost destroyed the two-story residence of M. D. Bowen on Saturday last week.

Mrs. Bowen and daughter Margaret, and Mrs. Bowen's uncle, Mr. Coyne, were at home when the fire started, Mr. Bowen being absent at Naturita. Mrs. Bowen and daughter were outside of the house when they noticed smoke coming from the roof. Mrs. Bowen ran into the house and telephoned the Nucla operator of the fire, and she spread the alarm around town by phone. In a few minutes, five cars loaded with men and extinguishers were on their way, followed later by other cars loaded with men. When the fire was reached, it looked like a hopeless case. However, the firefighters with the aid of the extinguishers and water from the cistern, soon had it under control, but it was an hour before the fire was completely drowned out.

During the fire, windows were knocked in, holes cut in the floor and walls with axes, and water and extinguishers did the rest. On account of the fact that the fire worked in-between the inner and outer wall of the building, it made a very difficult blaze to handle, and that it was gotten under control was

almost a miracle.

Practically every piece of furniture in the house was carried out, every room was flooded with water, and the place had the appearance of being worked on by a bunch of house wreckers.

The house had been remodeled about one year ago and new furniture installed. The interior of all the rooms will have to be painted and papered, and the furniture gone over to remove the marks and mars of rough handling. Considerable bedding and clothes were also burned.

The fire might have been worse, but it would have been hard to conceive of a more desolate looking, charred, water-soaked building.

The insurance on the house will rebuild it without loss, but the loss of clothing, bedding and furniture will probably reach \$500."

In this article Mr. Hopkins kept to the facts pretty well, but right next to this article was the headline "Fire notes-Bowen Fire," and there were the behind-the-scenes stories of the fire. I'll share that with you next week!

The Rimrockers, in the spirit of the Nucla Independent, hope you had a Merry Christmas, and we wish you all a prosperous 2024!

## Wolf releases

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

600 head of cows, depending on drought status. She's angry.

According to her, the 10(j) ruling isn't as easy as it sounds. Her understanding is that a rancher in Jackson County is already seeking damages for northern wolves that killed his stock, only it's been denied. She wonders how ranchers will prove "chronic predation" with the newly released wolves.

The paperwork for the 10(j) ruling is extensive, and since the state increased the compensation to \$15,000, she's not sure ranchers will be simply reimbursed for damages.

Galley said he agreed the compensation won't be easy for those who need it. He said working with CPW over a bear kill is tedious,

and the agency takes every possible step to keep from paying, sort of like an insurance company.

"I truly believe it's going to be hard to get money out of them," he said. "They'll make it as difficult as possible to get compensation for those losses."

VanWinkle said wolf attacks are "low probability" for her, but "high impact" for those that lose the "wolf lottery." She said not all ranchers will be affected, but she said all ranchers are in the current situation together. And, like Lamers, she doesn't like the nonlethal control forms that send wolves onto neighboring ranches. That doesn't feel good to her.

"We all need to be successful," she said. "Yes, I am worried for Colorado livestock producers across the board."



### Practicing ranch life

Students in the agriculture class at Nucla High School help vaccinate and "preg check" cows. Pictured here are Drake Long, Mylee Ralstin, Jose Zunich and Drake Richardson. (Photo by Keiran Bray)





Allie Sutherland, Leslie Ament and Brock Benson informed Vicki Allen (second from left) of her award and presented her a gift basket Dec. 23. (Courtesy image)

## Vicki Allen

Cont. from Pg. 1

developed this year after Leslie Ament, new library director in Naturita, wanted to honor Rice and her legacy in the West End community. Rice was instrumental in revising the Naturita Community Library, but also known for caring for the needs of youth — and the impoverished, as well as the homeless. She served on the Just for Kids Foundation board, and she helped found the West End Pay it Forward Trust board.

On the Susan Rice Community Compassion Award Committee currently are Ament, Jack Lee, Bryan Keeton, Brock Benson, Allie Sutherland and Paula Brown.

The committee did receive sev-

eral nominations for the Susan Rice award. Many qualified. The committee said the majority of nominees, however, had already been recognized in some way, or they held some type of award title. Per their mission statement, the committee wanted to select an individual that had not been highlighted previously, one with “boots on the ground” in the West End, someone always trying to fill a gap, and who loves being in service.

“Not a lot of people know Vicki for that,” Benson said. “What she does is often overlooked. She doesn’t call attention to herself. ... Susan was like that. She helped people in ways we won’t ever know. ... And Vicki fit the bill for that.”

The committee put together a gift basket and card and notified Allen of her award on Saturday. She’ll be officially recognized at the Feb. 17 Nucla-Naturita Area Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Allen will receive a plaque to take home, but a plaque in the Naturita Community Library will also bear her name as the first-ever Susan Rice Community Compassion Award Winner. And, through the award, Allen will be asked to select a West End nonprofit to be the recipient of a \$500 donation.

The committee said the Susan Rice award was important.

“We want to lift up that person in our community,” Benson said, “and let them know we appreciate them and care about them. We see them.”

# San Miguel Basin Forum

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We will be having a pre-demolition sale. This will be the first of a two part sale. The first round will be things that are attached to the building. All of the furniture, desks, chairs, and moveable items will be auctioned in the spring of 2024.



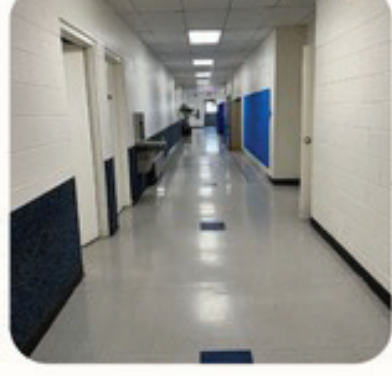
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# Member dividends

Cont. from Pg. 1

now,” he said. “Recipients will have 90 days from the date of issue to deposit their member dividends.”

That’s all part of Phase 1 for the returns. He added if a check becomes lost or remains uncashed after 90 days, another check can be issued. The return period lasts for six months only

though. Additionally, SMPA does work with defunct businesses and also deceased persons’ families, though those returns do involve more paperwork.

For Phase 2, in April or May, SMPA will gather names of those who have not deposited their checks, and those names will be placed on a list on SMPA’s website.

“Then, we’ll advertise again,

encouraging everyone to check the list, and contact us if they need us to reissue any checks,” he said. “Credits that remain unclaimed or uncashed as of June 30, 2024, will be forfeited by the member.”

The list of names usually circulates and these days on social media too. Shelley said it’s pretty effective in reaching people.

# 2023 police calls

Cont. from Pg. 1

acceptable, communities will see an increase. He’s proud that he can go on record and say that to date, there have not been any fentanyl cases locally.

“That’s something to be proud of in the West End,” he said.

Drugs are something the sheriff’s office continues to work on. Sheriff Gene Lillard with Corporal Travis

Thompson have already held two meetings to instate a Neighborhood Watch Program. There’s a QR code circulating, and Schmalz said he’s waiting for more people to join, so they can begin assigning watch areas.


Schamlz said both Naturita and Nucla are doing well with municipal court. In Naturita Bette Nickell is the new town judge. For Nucla it’s Tom Loczi. He added that the

new district attorney, Seth Ryan, has also demonstrated a “turn-around” in his office, and is prosecuting West End cases.

There are now four deputies (as of Tuesday), plus Schmalz, on duty in the West End, including a new hire completing field training. He said there’s a budget to hire another deputy too, if he can find the right candidate.

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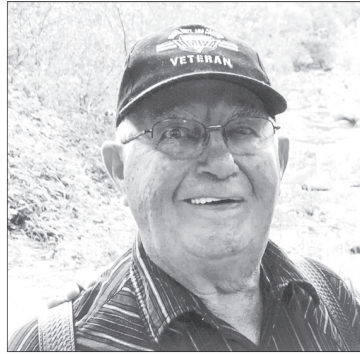
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**OBITUARY**

**Ralph James Scheetz**

Aug. 8, 1934 - Dec. 4, 2023



Ralph James Scheetz.

Ralph James "Jim" Scheetz passed away on Dec. 4 at the age of 89, in his hometown of Nucla. His battle with serious medical issues in recent years showed his courage in facing life's challenges with a smile. Despite the challenges, Jim came out a hero and stayed strong until the end.

Born to Ralph and Mary Scheetz in Delta on Aug. 8, 1934, Jim was the oldest of nine children. He lived a life rich in experiences and was a beacon of faith, reflecting his resilience, versatility and love of God and country. As a proud veteran, he bravely served the U.S., embodying the principles of honor and duty. His commitment extended beyond the military, where he devoted years to the demanding profession of coal mining, exemplifying grit and determination in the face of challenges.

A skilled airplane mechanic, Jim soared to new heights in his career, showcasing his meticulous craftsmanship. His passion for woodworking created timeless pieces that will stand as enduring symbols of his artistry and dedication to his craft. A man of extraordinary talents and unwavering dedication, Jim left an indel-

ible mark on the lives of those fortunate enough to know him.

Jim could always be found lured by the waters, telling fish tales that got bigger with every telling. He had a special knack for catching the one that got away, but never lost his love for the sport and shared it with all his children and grandchildren. His love for the great outdoors was matched only by his commitment to his family, whom he cherished beyond all else.

In the fabric of Jim's life, threads of generosity, fellowship and service were tightly woven. Always willing to lend a helping hand, he became a cornerstone in the lives of those around him. His impact reached beyond the familial bonds, touching the hearts of

neighbors and community members who benefited from selfless acts of kindness.

Jim leaves behind a legacy of love, hard work and service. He was preceded in death by his lovely and beautiful wife, Jearee, and his sweet grandchild, Candice.

He is survived by seven of his siblings and his children, Susan (Rex) Case, Veronica (Ray) West, Carolyn (Jose) Vargas and Paul Scheetz. Jim is also survived by his grandchildren, Orson Case, Opal Case, Niles Case, Alex Case, Brandon Henderson and Ashley Henderson Condon. He leaves great-grandchildren, Emily Case Houston, Aaron Case, Ethon Case, Connor Niles, Hunter Niles, Evan Case, Daisy Case and Wyatt Case.

Jim's family and community will forever be grateful for the warmth and compassion he shared.

Celebration of life and interment will be planned for the spring. To express condolences and personal relationship for Jim, send notes to Susan Case, P.O. Box 731 in Nucla, CO 81424.

May Jim Scheetz rest in peace, his memory living on in the hearts of those who were privileged to know and love him.

**West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter**

**12/13/2023**

1223 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Third Avenue in Naturita for a property damage report.

1603 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West First Avenue in Naturita for a medical assist.

1724 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 104 near Norwood for a livestock problem.

1949 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Naturita for a traffic complaint.

2127 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1 VIN inspection  
 3 directed patrols in Naturita  
 1 civil process attempted/served

**12/14/2023**

1112 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a theft report.

1120 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of Wilson Street in Naturita.

1332 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Divide Road and County Road 90 for a motorist assist.

2001 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an accident. Alonso Hernandez, 21, was cited for improper starting from a parked position.  
 1 civil process attempted/served

**12/15/2023**

1247 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35500 block of 3900 Road near Redvale for a medical assist.

1855 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla.

2206 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Grape Street in

Nucla for an animal problem.

**12/16/2023**

0833 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 57 near Naturita for an accident.

1445 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for an information report.

1500 Hours - Patricia Taber, 53, was contacted in the 200 block of Wilson Street in Naturita and cited for driving with a suspended driver's license and no insurance.

1501 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 27700 block of DD Road near Nucla.

13 civil processes attempted/served

**12/17/2023**

0954 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1633 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

**12/18/2023**

0100 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a protection order violation.

0557 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a traffic complaint.

1101 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Grape Street in Nucla for an animal problem.

1518 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a theft report.

1609 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31500 block of County Road 90 near Nucla for a report of smoke.

1728 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a protection order violation.

1 school zone in Naturita

**12/19/2023**

0013 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Highway 97 in Naturita for a criminal mischief report.

0014 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a harassment report.

0916 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a harassment report.

1049 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35500 block of 3900 Road near Redvale for a fraud report.

1450 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a property damage report.

1518 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1623 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a harassment report.

1 VIN inspection  
 2 civil processes attempted/served

**12/20/2023**

0106 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Third Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

0821 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1120 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a protection order violation.

1322 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for an information report.

1805 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1000 block of Main Street in Nucla for an animal problem.

2143 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for an information report.

1 VIN inspection  
 1 civil process attempted/served



# Classified Ads

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TEN



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HELP WANTED**

Rascals Toddler Program is seeking a full-time employee to work with our amazing team in the Lawson Hill neighborhood of Telluride. Pay starts at \$20/hr. and may increase based on experience and credentials.

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

27-4T-C

## DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT

300-400# STEERS	2.95-3.50 NO TEST	300-400# HEIFERS	2.40-2.50
400-500# STEERS	2.45-2.60	400-500# HEIFERS	2.10-2.30
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	1.95-2.00	700-800# HEIFERS	1.70-1.85
800-900# STEERS	1.84-1.90	800-900# HEIFERS	1.75-2.05 NO TEST
Top bulls	High of 1.03	Medium bulls	.95-1.00
Young Cows	1.05-1.35	Top cows	.92-.97
Medium cows	.88-.91	Low-yielding cows	.80 down

## NEXT WEEK:

NO SALE DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

NEXT SALE JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>. Early consignment of Semi load of feeders, 24 Bred cows ( 5-6 yr olds ).

NEXT SPECIAL SHEEP & GOAT SALE – JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>.

Next special Horse sale – Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## LEGAL PUBLICATION

TOWN OF NUCLA - REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Nucla, Colorado will be holding their regular municipal election as a mail ballot election. There will be 3 three Trustee seats up for election. Those who wish to run can pick up a candidate packet on January 2, 2023

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum December 20 & 27, 2023

## LEGAL PUBLICATION

TOWN OF NATURITA - NOTICE OF ELECTION

Town of Naturita Voter

The Town of Naturita Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024. This election is a Poll-Ballot Election. There are three (3) Trustee positions; 4-year terms for Trustee Positions.

Nomination petitions will be available at Naturita Town Hall for circulation beginning Tuesday January 2, 2024, and must be filed with the Town Clerk's office by Monday January 22, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Candidates must be at least (18) eighteen years of age on election day; must be a registered elector and must have resided within Naturita Town limits for a minimum of twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date of election.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum December 27, 2023, January 3, and January 10, 2024



**We wish you well – not only during this holiday season, but throughout the coming year!**

**Our goal is to keep you well through regular checkups.**

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Robert Tapley, FNP · Mary Kus, FNP · Angela Miller, PA-c · Carol Scott PA-c

April Randle, MD – Medical Director

(EEOIC patients please schedule with our MD)

For help with medical situations after hours, call 865-2665 and follow prompts.

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: ZODIAC SIGNS

### ACROSS

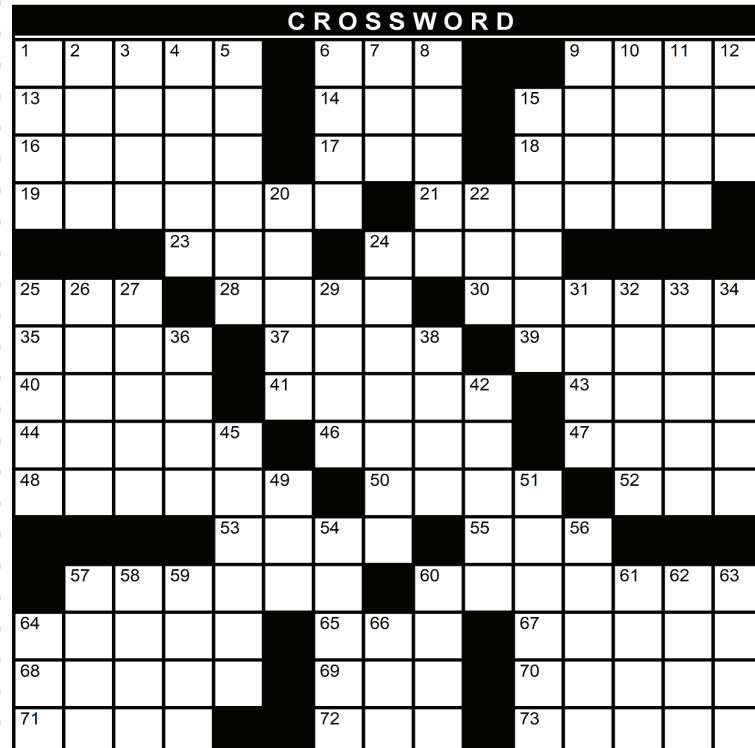
1. NASDAQ's TSLA
6. Meme dance move
9. Feudal laborer
13. Plant louse
14. Inflated feeling
15. Signaling flare
16. She turned to stone, Greek mythology
17. Barn call
18. L in AWOL
19. \*Zodiac sign for those born on Halloween
21. \*Ford "Zodiac"
23. Cash machine, acr.
24. Island
25. Short for although
28. Cul de \_\_\_\_\_, pl.
30. Owing something (2 words)
35. Argo's propellers
37. Mature
39. Passed
40. Guilty, e.g.
41. Presidential promises,

e.g.

43. Those against
44. Waker-upper
46. Skin infection
47. King of beasts
48. \*1960s California serial killer
50. Address a deity
52. Short for ensign
53. Hoodwink
55. New Zealand parrot
57. \*Fish sign
60. \*Half man/half horse sign
64. Blood vessel
65. This is well if it ends well
67. Body trunk
68. Move like ivy
69. Grazing field
70. Plant with liquorice-flavored seeds
71. Catch one's breath
72. Trim the lawn
73. Roebuck's partner

### DOWN

1. Sun kisses
2. Colossal



3. Pest command
4. \*Zodiac sign or Don DeLillo's 1988 novel
5. One who is skilled at something
6. Visual presentation
7. "Four score and seven years \_\_\_\_\_"
8. Dora the Explorer's simian friend
9. Court petitioner
10. Genesis twin
11. RPMs
12. Extra charge
15. Like a native speaker
20. Insect, post-metamorphosis
22. Prince in Disney's "Aladdin" movie
24. Heavy hydrogen, e.g.
25. \*Birthstone for some born under Scorpio or Sagittarius
26. Hello, alt. sp.
27. Mountain nymph
29. \*Cancer crustacean
31. Lentil soup
32. Golfer Els
33. Take a chance (2 words)
34. \*Gemini
36. Delhi dress
38. Sound of a fan
42. Satisfy, as in thirst
45. Eccentric one
49. Pool tool
51. Gossipy ones
54. Religious song
56. Make amends
57. Skin opening
58. Wraths
59. Proofreader's mark
60. Old-fashioned bathtub foot
61. Vocal piece for one
62. Brezhnev's domain
63. Fish eggs, pl.
64. Acronym, abbr.
66. \*#47 Across, in the sky

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YOUTH

# Wrestling at the Warrior Classic



Arthur Connelly was third in Grand Junction.



Coaches Rob McCabe and Lars Nasland always yell for their guys.



Derrick VanDellan finished strong.



Jackson McCabe went for the pin.



JW Nasland took fourth in his class.



Nolan Cressler is competing at 120 pounds.



Paxtin Caruso wrestled tough.



Nasland, like others, is aiming for the state tournament. (Photos by Brandie McCabe)