

COMMUNITY

Sheriff's Posse starts annual fund drive

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The Montrose County Sheriff's Posse (MCSP) consists of 41 highly trained volunteers in two divisions of the county, based in the West End and Montrose. In the West End there are 15 members, and in the East End there are 26. Now the posse is beginning its annual fund drive, and the focus continues to be technology.

Mark Rackay, public information specialist for the MCSP, told the Forum technology updates are ongoing and very important. The organization just added Starlink, a wifi support the posse can take anywhere. They've now also got SARTopo too, an interactive mapping program for first-responders, and they've got access to portable battery chargers to keep technology working. Rackay said it takes money though to keep the technology going.

The posse also incurs costs with maintaining or purchasing gear and other equipment, along with vehicles. Trainings and certifications for members also cost money.

What does the sheriff's posse actually do?

Rackay said search and rescue is a lot of it. Basically, since they're sworn in with a badge and uniform, they do anything Sheriff Gene Lillard asks. In the West End they help with safety and security at local events and conduct traffic control for parades, Water Days, Naturita Days, the growing mountain biking events that are taking place and more. Members are also certified in fire suppression and control, and the posse keeps two fire trucks in the West End that it owns and maintains.

Members also step in for emergency situations like flooding or evacuations. And, they help with crime scene investigations. Last year, members worked around the clock for three days helping the sheriff's office in Nucla at 6th Avenue and Heron after a crime tip.

Last year, the sheriff's posse delivered the vaccines for the Basin Clinic's flu shot program. Rackay said it's about helping, but it serves as a training for the posse. In the COVID pandemic, members worked drive-through events for testing and vaccinations. He said members were on the front lines, and will continue to be for any future pandemic.

Many in the posse are former police officers. Now they're volunteering their time. Last year, in the west and east ends combined, they served 5,000 hours in search and rescue, training and

Cont. on Pg. 2

NUCLA

Community center to reopen; water board needs member

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Town Clerk Melissa Lampshire told the Forum last Thursday that the community center in Nucla will be open by Feb. 1. The town will have a reopening event Feb. 2 from 5 to 8 p.m. with light refreshments. All are invited to attend there at 1045 Main St.

In July of 2022, a renter of the facility left a candle burning and a fire ensued. As a result, there was damage, especially to due to smoke.

The floor also burned in places, and that was one of the main repairs. Additionally, new insulation and drywall were also required.

"We did a lot of improvement," Lampshire said. "The insurance company wanted it brought up to code."

The Nucla Town Board of Trustees had discussed doing improvements previously. The plan had been to phase those improvements to modernize the space. After the fire, the kitchen has been moved a bit, and some walls have been knocked down. Lampshire said the

town can't do everything that officials would like, simply because of money, but she's happy the project did move forward.

Plumbing and electric have been updated and brought up to code. And, the work included filling holes that were present in the building. In some places, light from the outdoors shone through before.

Now that the space has been remodeled, Lampshire hopes people will stop by to see it for the open house. She said many never realized how important the

Cont. on Pg. 3

NORWOOD

Rural Homes, town attempt to sell remaining houses

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Paul Major from Rural Homes attended the Town of Norwood's monthly meeting to update trustees on Pinion Park, the deed-restricted affordable housing neighborhood recently established in Norwood. Construction started in March of 2022 and was complete by April of 2023.

So far, 18 homes have been purchased or are pending a sale. There are still eight homes remaining.

Major said the issue is related to high interest rates. And the homes are priced for owners to not exceed a maximum of 120 percent of the AMI, annual median income. For these homes, that means that a single person can make no more than \$89,000 and a family of two can make in the high \$90,000s.

Major agreed that the formula is problematic because "you can't make more that, but you have to make just enough to afford the house."

He said it makes for a narrow window of who will be approved.

Rural Homes and the Town of Norwood have held open houses to promote the eight that are left-over. They've had a sales associate go to local businesses to hand out brochures. They've advertised on social media too. He said people know the homes are available. It's not a matter of bad communication.

The remaining properties are priced between \$350,000 and \$410,000. All have three bedrooms, and the more expensive one has a garage.

Major said the homes are built to last 100 years and have outstanding finishes, with heat pumps, air conditioning and energy-efficient appliances. They also have a one-year warranty from the time of purchase.

Major said a special mortgage option exists through a bank in Durango, specifically for rural and low-income communities. He added someone can get one of the homes for what they're paying in rent right now — maybe less — for approximately \$1,600 monthly. Down-payment assistance is also available. In fact, Major said a down payment isn't even a requirement.

Norwood Mayor Candy Meehan suggested raising the AMI level to 135 percent, in order to help get the homes sold. Major said that's not possible right now, since the funding is capped from the State of Colorado. Rural Homes has had conversations with the state to relay

Cont. on Pg. 5



School is in session

Senior Jessica Wilhelm helps kindergartener Avery Lundigan cut the ribbon in the grand opening of Nucla's new pre-K through twelfth grade school on Jan. 15. (Photo by Tanner Nelson)

SPORTS

Mont Zunich wins skjoring; new school hosts first wrestling tournament

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Mont Zunich, of the West End, won first place, including a trophy buckle, and also second place in the San Juan Skijoring that happened over the weekend in Ridgway. Both of his wins were in the snowboard light, the novice division held on Jan. 12. The wins came as a surprise to Zunich who hadn't done the ski-joring before, and wasn't sure he would enter the competition.

He entered with Blaine Tedder, also of the West End, and together they took the second place title. Zunich said he feels like he and Tedder could've definitely taken first place together.

His winning ride, though, was with Krista Burns, a random rider he was required to draw for. His scores qualified him to compete in



Blaine Tedder and Mont Zunich took second place in the San Juan Skijoring novice division. Zunich also won first with the other rider he drew. (Photo by Michelle Zunich)

the open classes the next day (the professional division). On Jan. 13, he did fairly well, marking a fifth

place. Again, he was surprised, since many of the pros had four

Cont. on Pg. 4

TIPS FROM THE WEST END POSSE

Forgotten skills

By MARK RACKAY

People say that memory is the third thing to go in a person as they age. I'm not sure I believe that. There are two kinds of memory, short-term and long-term. I can remember the details of a hunting trip from 50 years ago, all the way down to what I had for breakfast that morning. On the other hand, I can't remember why I walked into the garage and what I was supposed to look for.

Anyway, if memory is the third thing to go, I have no idea what the first two are. I forgot. One thing you don't want to forget would be your outdoor skills. If you don't use them, they will slip from memory.

There are many outdoor skills that our ancestors used, on a daily basis, that we have completely forgotten about.

Our ancestors had a much simpler lifestyle with basically a half dozen things to worry about. Those things included being hot or cold, thirsty or hungry, and sick or hurt. Compare that to the worries of modern-day people. We can add in money, bills, school, grades, work, gas in the car, insurance payments, etc.

Daily life back then was not just about survival. Those folks had fun too. They would gather around the campfire and sing, dance and tell stories, all for entertainment. For entertainment today, people need video games, television, internet and everything in between. The vast majority of people today would be utterly helpless if they were plunked down in the middle of the woods and forced to fend for themselves using only the resources at hand.

How about making clothes from scratch? Archeologists have discovered shoes dating back over 5,000 years ago, made from animal hide and dried plant material woven together to form a method to keep it on their feet. Modern people don't learn to even tie their shoelaces until around age 5 or so.

Our ancestors did their own blacksmithing. They would build a forge and treat metal with heat to harden it. Even further back, our ancestors would find the ore, turn it into iron and then steel. They would then make whatever they needed to survive, from a knife to tools to use in the fields.

My grandparents grew their own vegetables. Unlike I do now with a hobby garden, they did it because it was necessary. They canned the harvest, or stored some in the

root cellar, so they would have food over the winter months. The old-timers saved and stored seeds for future plantings.

When I get an elk, deer or other game animal, we butcher it and place the cuts of meat into the freezer for future consumption. I seriously doubt my great-grandparents had a deep freeze; therefore, they had to can, smoke or dry the game meat in order to preserve it.

Nearly everyone has access to a washer and dryer, the two hardest-working appliances. Washing clothes without the help of these is a long-forgotten skill. Now days, if you don't have a washer or dryer, you head over to the laundromat with a pocket full of quarters.

Our ancestors didn't have the stores of ammunition available today. Even as a kid, I remember my grandfather making a single box of 22s last an entire summer. When he shot a varmint, he rarely missed, and he considered practice a waste of precious ammo.

Navigation skills have pretty much gone by the wayside. Everyone has a GPS these days, and very few can navigate without one. My grandfather used landmarks, the sun or moon, and never got lost. Truly, that is a forgotten skill.

For those of you who fish, take a look at your fishing equipment. Boat fishers have GPS, depth finders and instruments to show bottom structure, water temperature, bait fish and everything in between. The rods, reels and types of line and lures can be mind-boggling to comprehend.

My grandfather told me about fishing a creek when he was a kid. He said he would cut a willow, tie some braided line to it, a basic hook, and dig worms for bait. In the end, I bet he caught more fish than I ever did with my fancy equipment.

Think of the technology used in modern-day transportation. We can be anywhere in the world in about 24 hours. We drive everywhere in cars and trucks. Recently, we had a craft on Mars, sending back pictures.

I look at my own grandchildren and think what a future world in the great outdoors will be like for them. Someday, they will look back and think about how old-fashioned we were, doing outdoor skills the hard way. At least they will have videos on YouTube to show them how we did it and not have to rely on memory. Now if I can just remember where I parked my truck.

One thing you don't want to forget would be your outdoor skills. If you don't use them, they will slip from memory.

History: Rimrocker Historical Society

The dream of a road from Paradox to Grand Junction, Part 2

By JANE THOMPSON, *Rimrocker Historical Society*

This image, taken in 1912, shows the Narrows on the road to Rock Creek. (Photo courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

As I shared last week, James F. Walker wrote a very eloquent description about the views of the Unaweep Canyon and all of the reasons why there should be a direct road through Sinbad into Paradox with the promise of a railroad to come as well. It must have been so exciting to follow this conversation with the hope that the beautiful valley of Paradox and Bedrock would be one of the richest in the state. Of course, we know that the road through Sinbad never got built but stayed more like a trail, and certainly the promise of a railroad never happened. But, I think you would find that the folks of Paradox Valley are just fine with things the way they are and that there are different ways of being rich.

We all still to this day enjoy the drive to Grand Junction, as well as the drive to Montrose, and hopefully we value and appreciate the beautiful views we get to look upon, no matter which way we drive. It does strike me as funny that everybody wanted a piece of the action from the West End, and now there are more people who don't know where we are than those that do know. And that is just okay. We are doing just fine. Here is more from Walker of the Grand Junction News in the year of 1911:

"It means the opening up of a rich and beautiful country that has heretofore been inaccessible, and the establishment of a good wagon grade will be one of the best proofs

that a railroad can and should be built. And talk about scenery! You get it from every possible vantage ground from the time you enter the Unaweep, eight miles southwest of Whitewater, until you have traveled the entire distance. The Unaweep Canon itself has a variety of scenery peculiarly its own. Its massive granite walls rising sheer for hundreds of feet, seamed and intersected with ribbons of white quartz, make grotesque figures and shapes that cause one to think that the omnipotent God centuries and centuries ago shot his thunderbolts into the very heart of the mountains, rending them asunder and recording the goings of his lightning flashes forever on the granite walls.

Above the granite walls the later geological periods left their sedimentary deposits that have more readily yielded to the erosions of time. On the slightly receding slopes from the granite to the top is a beautiful verdure of grass, cedars and pines, giving the whole a crowning effect of unsurpassed beauty. Then, there is a cataract, the Thimble Rock and natural bridges, the Narrows and a hundred other points of interest, which easily make the Unaweep a worthy rival of the far-famed Black Canyon.

Every mile of the entire distance is one of surprising beauty and interest, but the climax is reached in more ways than one when you ascend the highest point between Rock Creek and Paradox and hold

your breath in admiration and astonishment at the panoramic view that there awaits you. Deep gorges are visible from which the shadows never go. Fair valleys radiant in warm sunshine with beautiful ranches nestling here and there invite your gaze, and far beyond and below a shining streak of glistening silver betrays the winding of the lazy Dolores as it paradoxically crosses at right angles the Paradox Valley.

Now, do not move but lift your eyes a little, and you will see the fertile valley of the Naturita and San Miguel. To the left is Nucla and her beautiful parks, where her thrifty settlers are making the peach trees grow, where not long since the sagebrush held its sway. A little to the right is Redvale, the growing hub of this great new section, where the smoke of her new flour mill marks the spot. The Lilylands surpassed in beauty only by the flowers from which she has taken her name lie just to the south, and then comes Norwood, the Lone Cone, the Dolores Peaks and the great San Juan Range, whose everlasting snows make a fitting place for the eye to rest in eternal satisfaction that nature's God has wisely planned the rainfall and the snowfall, the mountains and the valleys and the hills and the plains."

It sounds like home to me.

(Article taken from *The Montrose Enterprise*, Dec. 7, 1911, *Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection*, Colorado State Library.)

Annual fund drive

Cont. from Pg. 1

community service.

The posse does apply for state and federal grants, and that funding helps with just a portion of the group's operating budget. The remaining balance is supported by donations from the community.

As the posse's need for up-to-date technology continues, Rackay said members hope people will consider donating.

"Your support of the MCSP through this fund drive provides the financial resources needed to accomplish our mission," he said. "Any contribution you make will be of great benefit to our entire community. As a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit, all donations are deductible for income tax purposes."

The MCSP letters requesting support were mailed Jan. 16. There are instructions for making a dona-

tion, which include sending checks to PO Box 831 in Nucla.

Rackay said the posse will never call and ask people for donations, and anyone who receives such a call should know that's a case of fraud. The only request MCSP makes is once each year by mail in January.

"The posse appreciates and thanks all the members of our community for their continued support," Rackay said.

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Nucla Town Board of Trustees

Cont. from Pg. 1

community center was until it became unavailable.

“Come and see,” she said. “It’s been shut down for a year and a half. It’s not radically different, but clean and bright.”

She said the town will continue to do upgrades for the building as it gets financing.

In other news, the water-line and sewer line project in Nucla are also nearing completion. Pavement will happen this spring. Finishing the construction in town and the end of the Main Street closures are scheduled for March. Lampshire said the town is working on other funding opportunities to replace additional aging water and sewer infrastructure. She said the town

has not had money in a long time, so it’s a challenge when things break. She said things get fixed, but rarely fully replaced.

After consulting a civil engineer, it will take \$30 million to redo the water system. She knows the people of Nucla cannot afford that. There are senior citizens and others with fixed incomes that can’t have additional taxes at this time. So, the town will have to piece things together, but she said people can expect future improvements.

Unfortunately, another piece of sewer line broke in Nucla two weeks ago. Lampshire said it cost a lot. Like past problems, the town just had to fix what it could. The needed sewer upgrades for Nucla are estimated at \$5 million.

At the end of last week, Lamp-

shire had three people pick up trustee candidate packets for the municipal election this spring. The packets are due Jan. 22.

One person is also needed to serve on the Mustang Water Authority Board of Directors. That board oversees the treated water sent to Naturita and Nucla. It’s a five-person board, and both Naturita and Nucla each have two seats on it. There’s also an at-large member seat, now open. Someone with a bulk water account or a business can run for the seat. Lampshire said the at-large member doesn’t vote unless someone is absent. She said it might seem “unglorified,” but the position is important and the person serving will learn a lot about the water treatment process.

San Miguel Basin Forum

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Local sports

Cont. from Pg. 1
gos, and he had just two. He then competed again on Sunday and earned a seventh place.

Zunich is an experienced snowboarder. He previously taught the sport for Telluride Ski Resort and worked as a board park ranger for them. He's been snowboarding since he was 13.

His trophy belt buckle is silver with rubies. He's impressed, as is his sister Michelle Zunich, who's competed in many rodeos.

"It was fun, the most crazy experience I've had," he said, "and nerve-wracking, and then to see yourself on the big screen."

Zunich told the Forum he would consider entering the San Juan Ski-joring again in the future. Both he and Tedder also won money.

In high school sports, the basketball teams had to rearrange last week with the new gym not being open yet. (The new school in Nucla was not complete.) The Cedaredge game was moved to Norwood last week, and the Dove Creek game happened away.

For the boys basketball team, they faced Cedaredge Jan. 9. Then, the guys lost, 65-74. High scorer for the Mustangs was Steele Arnold with 22 points. Slade Gillen had 18, and Brycen Rummel had 10. The guys played Dove Creek Jan. 11 and won, 51-42. In that game Steele Arnold had 23 points, and Slade Gillen had nine.

The girls basketball team fell to



Blaine Tedder took second place with Mont Zunich and was in the money at the San Juan Ski-joring. (Photo by Michelle Zunich)

Cedaredge that same night, 32-49. Shay Snyder led with eight points, and Lantry Galley put up seven. The ladies lost again to Dove Creek when they traveled with the guys, 35-52. Lantry Galley led in points with 11, and Kendra McCluer contributed eight.

By the weekend, the Mustangs held the first wrestling tournament in the district's brand new school, which had not even been open for classes yet. Inspectors were on site and gave approval for the tournament at the end of last week.

And, the Mustangs took third overall in their own house with 153.5 points, falling to Montrose by

two and Monticello by a half point.

In first place were Jackson McCabe, Arthur Connelly and JW Nasland. Coming in second were Paxtin Caruso, Derrick VanDellan and David Quigley. Hunter Rowe was third, and Cole Bray and Jacob Davis took fifth. Nolan Cressler was eighth.

This week basketball hosted Ridgway Jan. 16, their first games in the new gym. The Mustangs will travel to Dolores on Friday, Jan. 19. For wrestling, the guys head to North Fork for a dual on Friday, and then compete in the tournament there the following day.



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Selling remaining houses

Cont. from Pg. 1

that the numbers aren't working.

He said some from San Miguel County, not just Norwood, have tried to buy the Pinion Park homes, but they "make too much" — even though their actual wages are just "reasonable."

The mayor asked Major how the other Rural Homes projects were going in communities nearby. Major said the homes in Ridgway sold, all 14 of them. The prices were actually higher there than in Norwood, but Ridgway has a more high-end hous-

ing market. Major said one home that sold for \$450,000 in Ridgway has a house priced at \$1 million down the street.

Over in Ouray, Rural Homes is developing another project in two phases with more than 60 homes.

Major said the whole thing has been a pilot program about developing affordable places to live in rural communities. He's about to begin drafting the report to recap the findings.

Meehan said she's willing to write a letter to state officials to

help with the AMI issue. Major said county officials have expressed the same desire. At this point, he's simply waiting for the state to respond.

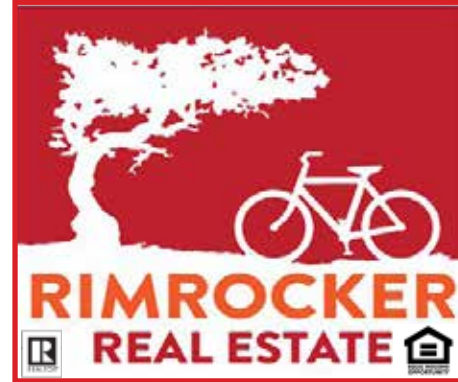
Town Clerk Amanda Pierce told Major and the board of trustees that she and former Town Administrator Patti Grafmyer told representatives from the state's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) about the AMI issue in a recap and walk-through of the neighborhood this past year.

Meanwhile, the eight three-bedroom homes in Norwood sit empty.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

FILING APPLICATION FOR PHASE I-III BOND RELEASE OF A PORTION OF THE NEW HORIZON NORTH MINE SITE (SL-04)

Pursuant 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-III Bond Release of a portion of the New Horizon North Mine site. The application is denoted as SL-04 and pertains to the New Horizon North Mine, Permit No. C-2010-089 (issued June 20, 2012) 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 Phase I bond release areas (34 acres) were backfilled, graded, topsoiled and seeded in 2023. The status of the reclamation is consistent with the requirements of the approved reclamation plan which includes backfill and regrading to the approved post mine topography, topsoil replacement, and seeding with the approved seed mixtures. The Phase I through III bond release areas (1.2 acres) are permanent structures that will remain post-mine. All areas being applied for bond release are shown in detail on Maps 1 and 2 within the application. Listed below is a general legal description of this area:

Township 47 North, Range 16 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
 Section 25 - SW¼ and NW¼ SW ¼
 Section 36 - The NW¼ W½

The New Horizon North Mine currently holds a surety bond in the amount of \$500,000, which covers the above listed areas. With this application, the New Horizon North Mine will be requesting relinquishment of 60% of the bond held for the Phase I parcels being applied for, 85% of the bond held for the Phase II parcels being applied for, and 100% of the bond held for the Phase III parcels applied for release in this application.

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 January 10, 17, 24, & 31, 2024

LEGAL PUBLICATION

INVITATION TO BID - COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN NORWOOD

San Miguel County is requesting proposals/bids from qualified fencing contractors to replace the perimeter and cross fencing at the County Fairgrounds in Norwood. Bid packets are available at the County website <https://www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/Bids.aspx> or DeeAnna Burbridge 970-327-4321, decannab@sanmiguelcountyco.gov. A mandatory pre-bid conference to be scheduled by appointment. Proposals must be received by 3:00 PM on Wed, 2/7/24 at the Fairgrounds Coordinators Office, 1165 Summit Street, Norwood or emailed to smcfairgrounds@sanmiguelcountyco.gov.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum January 10, 17, & 24, 2024

LEGAL PUBLICATION

DELAY OF MAILING PROPERTY TAX STATEMENTS

Montrose County Treasurer Rosemary Murphy announces delay of mailing property tax statements in January. The old Montrose County Courthouse will close for restorations beginning Jan. 22. Assessor and GIS offices will reopen Jan. 29 at 949 N 2nd St. (next to Friendship Hall). Treasurer and public trustee offices will reopen Feb. 5 at 1001 N 2nd St. (southwest entrance of Friendship Hall).

Legislative changes enacted by the Colorado Legislature to accommodate property tax relief will delay the certification of the county tax rolls. The new deadline for the tax roll certification is Jan. 24. The reason for the delay is to give taxing authorities sufficient time to certify their mill levies and to give county assessors more time to gather data.

Please be aware that these changes do not alter the first-half payment due date, Feb. 28. The Colorado Legislature chose not to extend the payment deadline to ensure that special districts like fire departments, school districts, health districts, hospitals and other public entities have the revenue to continue to operate.

Once the tax roll process is complete, property owners will receive their statements by mail in early February. The property tax amount will be available after Feb. 1 at montrosecounty.net/treasurer by clicking on "SEARCH PROPERTY TAX RECORDS." Contact our office at 970 249-3565 or email etreasurer@montrosecounty.net for assistance.

The treasurer's office, along with the assessor and GIS offices, will be moving to temporary locations in January. The old Montrose County Courthouse will close for restorations beginning Jan. 22. Assessor and GIS offices will reopen Jan. 29 at 949 N 2nd St. (next to Friendship Hall). Treasurer and public trustee offices will reopen Feb. 5 at 1001 N 2nd St. (southwest entrance of Friendship Hall).

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum January 10 & 17, 2024

LEGAL PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISION (SL-26)

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has issued a proposed decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 26 (SL-26) for the New Horizon Mine, Permit No. C-1981-008. Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation has requested Phase I release of 0.1 acres associated with the C-15 Ditch. ERMR also requested Phase II release of 1.8 acres; 0.1 acres for the C-15 Ditch and 1.7 acres for the SP-2 Stock Pond. ERMR requested Phase III release for 1.8 acres; 0.1 acres for the C-15 Ditch and 1.7 acres for the SP-2 Stock Pond. The surface operation is operated by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC under the provisions of the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act of 1979. The bond release application was submitted by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC on August 15, 2023. Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC is requesting Phase I, Phase II and Phase III release on 0.1 acres associated with the C-15 Ditch, and Phase II and Phase III release of 1.7 acres associated with the SP-2 Pond. The affected area is located in Montrose County, approximately 1.7 miles Northwest of Nucla, Colorado.

Copies of the proposed decision are available for review at <https://dnrwebblink.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-w7MeBtx7/view..

Any person who has an interest which is or may be adversely affected may request an adjudicatory hearing regarding this proposed decision. Requests for a hearing must be made in writing within thirty (30) days of the date following initial publication of this notice, and shall state with reasonable specificity the reasons for the request and 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 January 10 & 17, 2024

West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

1/2/2024

1 follow up report

1/3/2024

1042 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita.

1052 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for an animal problem.

1520 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a criminal mischief report.

1634 Hours - Deputy took a domestic violence report in the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla. A warrant is being sought for Paul Haining for harassment, domestic violence, and a protection order violation.

1 VIN inspection

1/4/2024

0854 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for an information report.

0946 Hours - Deputy took a lost property report in the 35500 block of 4000 Road near Norwood.

1210 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1413 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a protection order violation. Shane Gore, 37, was arrested for violating a protection order.

1545 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of East Third Avenue in Nucla.

1648 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Lake Avenue in Naturita for a medical assist.

1649 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Third Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1713 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of East Third Avenue and Main Street in Nucla for a motorist assist.

2209 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Main Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

2300 Hours - Luis Archuleta, 35, was arrested in the 100 block of Main Street in Naturita on an outstanding warrant

1 VIN inspection

1/5/2024

0844 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of Sunny Circle in Naturita.

1531 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for an animal problem.

1728 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29400 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a report of smoke in the area.

1735 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a welfare check.

1822 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

1951 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of West Main Street and West Third Avenue in Naturita for an animal problem.

2355 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a welfare check.

1 VIN inspection

2 follow up reports

1/6/2024

1053 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an alarm.

1126 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita.

1717 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 90 mm 13 near Bedrock for an animal problem.

1 follow up report

1/7/2024

0852 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 4 near Nucla for a welfare check.

1537 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a welfare check.

1624 Hours - Harley Naff, 21, was contacted in the 100 block of West Third Avenue in Naturita and cited for driving with an expired driv-

er's license, no registration, and no insurance.

1703 Hours - Ashley Ware, 36, was contacted in the 200 block of Payson Street in Naturita and cited for driving with a revoked driver's license, and no registration.

1851 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 73 near Naturita for an accident.

2157 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an animal problem.

1 directed patrol in Naturita

1 civil process attempted/served

OBITUARY

Linda Arllena Galyen

Oct. 1, 1946 – Jan. 11, 2024



Linda Arllena Galyen

Linda Arllena Galyen, 77, of Nucla, born to Patricia and Walter Rigelhuth on Oct. 1, 1946, in San Francisco, CA, passed away on Jan. 11. Linda was predeceased by her husband Dewey Galyean. Linda is survived by her two sons Bud and Chris Jones; grand-daughters Amy, Erica and Amanda Jones; and great-granddaughter Hayven. Her final moments were spent peacefully with her family. Known for her smile and friendliness, Linda will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Linda's family asks that she be remembered for the joy she brought to others in life, not the sadness of her passing.

DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT

300-400# STEERS	3.00-3.20	300-400# HEIFERS	2.80-2.90
400-500# STEERS	2.70-3.00	400-500# HEIFERS	2.70-2.80
500-600# STEERS	2.35-2.50	500-600# HEIFERS	2.15-2.25
600-700# STEERS	2.20-2.38	600-700# HEIFERS	2.05-2.15
700-800# STEERS	2.25-2.34	700-800# HEIFERS	1.80-1.99
800-900# STEERS	2.10-2.20	800-900# HEIFERS	1.75-2.05
Top bulls	High of 1.10	Medium bulls	1.00-1.08
Young Cows	1.05-1.40	Top cows	92-98
Medium cows	84-91	Low-yielding cows	80 down

NEXT WEEK: Thursday, January 18th, Special Stock Show

Feeder Sale. 100-mixed feeders, 40 feeder steers, 30 feeder heifers, 30 mixed feeders, 15 feeder steers, 16 feeder steers, 50 feeder calves, 25mixed feeders. Along with our usual dock run of 200-300

UP COMING SALES

NEXT SPECIAL SHEEP & GOAT SALE – JANUARY 25TH.
 Early consignment of 6 feeder hogs.

Next special Horse sale – Saturday February 3rd.

Varner Equipment - Friday & Saturday, January 26 & 27 Sale Will Start at 9 AM both days.

PUBLIC NOTICE

FILING APPLICATION FOR PHASE I BOND RELEASE OF A PORTION OF THE NEW HORIZON MINE SITE (SL-27)

Pursuant 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 Bond Release of a portion of the New Horizon Mine site. The application is denoted as SL-27 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 85.5 acres of Phase I bond release area applied for are reclaimed dryland pasture, irrigated pasture, and prime farmland. The bond release area is 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 backfilling and grading to the approved post-mine topography. Listed below is a general legal description of the area:

SW ¼ and SE ¼ E ½ 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 \$2,512,434, which includes the above listed area. With this application, the New Horizon Mine will be requesting relinquishment of 60% 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 January 17, 24, 31, and February 7, 2024

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

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

Solution To Previous Sudoku

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

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: THE GRAMMYS

ACROSS

1. Moonshine maker
6. *Artist with most 2024 Grammy nominations
9. Not his
13. "Roots" author
14. That guy
15. Full of emotion (2 words)
16. Relating to #3 Down
17. Tarzan's mom, e.g.
18. Caribbean island destination
19. *The Recording _____, voting organization
21. **"What Was I Made For?" movie
23. **"A Boy Named _____," 1970 Grammy winner
24. Prickle on a wire
25. Drench
28. Waiter's handout
30. *Grammy-nominated Lauper song, "True _____"
35. Amusement destination
37. Rachel Renee Russell's "_____ Diaries"

39. Extend subscription
40. South Korean boy band
41. Type of wrap
43. Italian wine region
44. Forearm length unit
46. Honey-producing facility
47. Saw incision
48. Nauseant
50. Fancy marbles used as shooters
52. U.S. Marine Corps gift recipient
53. EU currency
55. Aglet on a shoelace, e.g.
57. *_____.com Arena
60. *Miley Cyrus' Song of the Year nominee and popular romantic gift
64. Texas cook-off dish
65. **"In the _____ Tonight," by Grammy-winner Phil Collins
67. Send, as payment
68. Safe place
69. Bird word
70. Leave out
71. Bookkeeping entry
72. Refrigerator sound
73. Scatter

M	A	C	H	O	A	S	H	P	O	C	O	
A	R	R	O	W	G	S	A	E	L	V	E	R
P	A	E	A	N	O	W	L	N	E	E	D	S
B	E	R	I	N	G	O	N	T	A	R	I	O
D	N	A	T	S	A	R						
F	D	A	G	I	R	O	N	A	C	R	E	S
J	I	B	S	R	O	E	S	P	L	U	M	P
O	V	A	L	A	S	C	O	T	A	N	O	A
R	E	C	A	P	E	A	S	E	Y	E	T	I
D	R	I	V	E	L	P	O	N	D	S	E	N
					N	E	W	S	S	E	A	
E	Q	U	A	T	O	R	B	E	N	G	A	L
R	U	M	B	A	O	D	E	T	A	R	O	T
G	I	B	E	D	T	E	A	A	V	I	A	N
S	P	O	T		E	L	M	L	E	A	N	T

DOWN

1. Not Sunni
2. Baby powder ingredient
3. Pelvic parts
4. Shows the way
5. Aristotle's school
6. One-horse carriage
7. Mailing "code"
8. Single-cell protozoan
9. *Grammy-winner, _____ Alpert
10. *Purse for the red carpet
11. Bumpkin
12. Pampering place
15. Bar _____, ME
20. Rewards, in the olden days
22. Pendulum's path
24. Cantina staple
25. *Ice _____, Best New Artist nominee
26. Wooden ship caulking
27. Space exploration mission
29. *Grammy host for the fourth time
31. Plumbing problem
32. Early stages of illness
33. Reminiscent of the past
34. **"Anti-Hero" performer
36. Not purl
38. Pacific Islanders' herbal drink
42. Handrail post
45. Neckwear decoration
49. Use scissors
51. Soft palate vibrations
54. House pest
56. Resided
57. Social media conversation
58. Bank of Paris
59. Big Bang's original matter
60. Word on a gift tag
61. Arabian bigwig
62. Fair attraction
63. Hot pot
64. Denoted by symbol X
66. Debtor's letters

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
		23					24							
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
	57	58	59					60				61	62	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Office Space available in the Vista Realty building at 212 East Main Street, Naturita. Call Debbie @ 970-865-2525.

33-4T-C

HELP WANTED

Flying Bear Pizzeria in Naturita seeks full-time and/or part-time cooks.

Competitive pay, unique benefits. Fun pizza kitchen. Will train the right candidates. Hiring process begins Feb. 1. Come in for application or to drop resume.

33-5T-C

Town of Nucla is accepting applications for a full-time code enforcement/animal control officer/public works assistant.

The starting pay range is \$16-\$19/hour, 4 day work week with week-ends "on call" for animal emergencies, benefits include health, dental, vision insurance, PTO and Vacation pay as detailed in our human resource manual. The Job description listing some of the duties and responsibilities and the application can be found on our website www.townofnucla.colorado.com. Applications/Resumes can be submitted via email to manager.nucla@mail.com, dropped off at 320 Main Street or mailed to PO Box 219, Nucla, CO 81424. The application acceptance period will close on January 22, 2024 at 4pm

33-1T-C

CHANGE TO OBITUARY COST

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

TEN

VETERAN MEMORIAL SERVICE INFO

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

TEN

XEROX WORKCENTRE 7125 FOR SALE

Xerox WorkCentre 7125 for sale. Working scanner and can print up to tabloid (11x17) paper. Includes a few toner replacement cartridges. \$250, call (505) 795-4283 or (970) 864-7425 for more info.

31-TEN-NC

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-Attorney at Law-

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YOUTH

High school sports, on the court and on the mat



Keiran Bray plays good defense and also puts up six points for the Lady Mustangs.



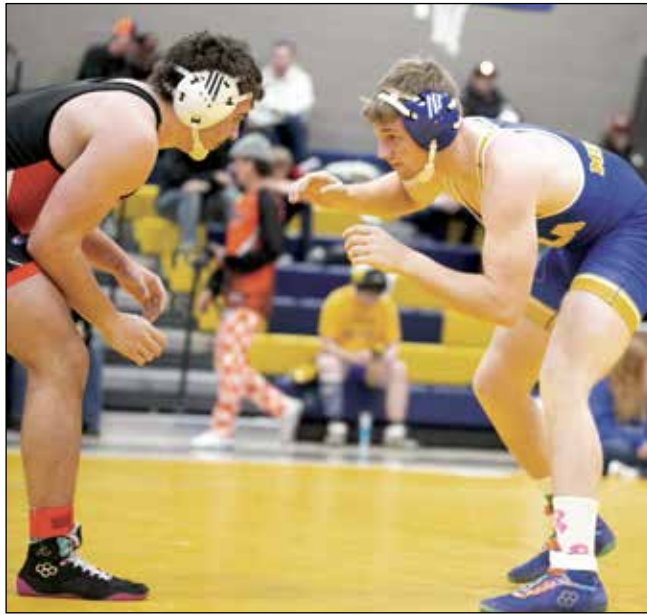
At the home tournament in Nucla, the first ever in the new school, Paxtin Caruso takes second place in his division.



Steele Arnold is lead scorer for the Mustangs against Cedaredge with 22 points.



Lantry Galley works around the Cedaredge opponent with seven points in the game.



Arthur Connelly wins a first place title again, this time on his own mat.



Brycen Rummel scores 10. (Photos by Brandie McCabe)

GET A FREE RADON TEST KIT AT THE MONTROSE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (851 MAIN STREET, NUCLA). ONE PER HOMEOWNER.

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