

San Miguel Basin Forum

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS

5 head to state wrestling tournament

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

The Mustangs are sending five students to the middle school state wrestling tournament this weekend. Coach Rob McCabe gave the San Miguel Basin Forum details Monday morning. McCabe, a Nucla High School teacher, is the head coach for the high school wrestling team, as well as the middle school wrestling team too. For the middle school grades, he's assisted by Tony Bonacquista, Lars Nasland and Freddy Smith.

The regional middle school wrestling tournament happened over the weekend, and it was successful for the kids.

"We had a solid end to the day," McCabe said. "We had battled sickness all last week, so we came out a little flat and took some losses in the opening two rounds I feel we could have won. Last week, at Delta, the kids wrestled extremely well and looked prepped for regionals."

Now, moving on and heading to Denver for the finale that takes place this weekend is Cooper Shurtz, a fourth grader, who placed second in the regional tournament. In the middle school proper heading to the state tournament are Austin Shurtz, wrestling at 70 pounds, who placed fifth at regionals; Slade Carver, wrestling at 75 pounds, and who took fourth place; Jace Bonacquista, wrestling at 95 pounds, and who placed fifth; Hunter Johnson, wrestling at 100 pounds, and who was third; and also Kynnlie McCabe, wrestling at 109 pounds, and who was first place at regionals.

McCabe is the only female wrestler on the team. She is also coach's daughter.

The Mustangs will leave Thursday afternoon, after school, and head to Denver to wrestle at the National Western Complex.

What do these kids need to do to finish strong?

"We need to continue wrestling like we have all season and keep progressing," coach said. "Each week, the kids have shown improvement and defeated opponents who they lost to earlier in the season."

Mustang fans are invited to follow along and support the young wrestlers. While the tournament itself won't have live-stream availability, the Nucla High School Facebook page will have live-stream, so that fans can tune in from home.

Coach said he's pleased with the group of young wrestlers.

"Super proud," he said Monday. "Most of the kids started wrestling in the last two years, and the progress they have made is amazing. They all have great attitudes and want to be part of the program."

Moving on to high school wrestling next year are three eighth graders. They are Jace Bonacquista, Ryker Collins and Collin Johnson.

AGRICULTURE

It's calving season in western Colorado

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

It's that time of year. The babies are hitting the ground. For Western Colorado, calving season usually begins the first to middle of February. Stan Galley, of Nucla, agreed that is when most ranches start. For his ranch, the first babies were on the ground Feb. 1.

With 200 head of beef cows, Angus and some Black Baldies (the result of breeding a Hereford to an Angus), the Galley family has been in the throes of birth.

Many know that twins run in their ranch's genetics, and this year they've seen seven sets. Believe it or not, that's not their record. They had 11 sets of twin calves a few years ago.

The cold has not been a problem in Nucla, according to Galley.

"It's been pretty nice calving weather," he said Monday. "The weather hasn't been super cold."

As for his ranch, predators haven't been too much trouble either. He's not seen many coyotes this winter, but his family lives pretty close to town anyway.

The Galleys typically rebreed around May 5. In the past, they've just used the 10 bulls they've got. Though, Regan Snyder, of Norwood, has been doing some artificial insemination (AI) with frozen semen for the Galleys with their heifers.

Snyder is a local expert on AI, and some ranches do choose the method with some of their herd, especially heifers, cows that haven't given birth previously.

Snyder told the Forum she and her husband Lothan had a great

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YOUTH

Grants make school's outdoor rec program possible

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

In 2023, Brock Benson teamed up with Bri Bonacquista to make biking possible in PE class. One year later, they've now got the foundation for a modern-day outdoor recreation class, thanks to various regional grants.

A year ago, Benson's Naturita-based bike shop Paradox Cycle had five recycled bikes that needed homes. At the time Bonacquista had a PE class at the Nucla school with five students who were not excited about the traditional PE curriculum. When Benson donated the bikes for PE as another option, the class began adventuring. The experience went so well that Bonacquista inquired about the possibility of getting another seven used bikes this past fall.

Benson didn't have seven recycled bikes on hand at the time, but the two began to discuss grant funding and possibilities. Then they asked the question, "What if PE class could be an outdoor recreation program?"

Bonacquista had already gotten a grant earlier this school year from the West End Pay it Forward Trust for the purpose of obtaining archery equipment, so that students could safely practice using bows and arrows with targets. That program turned out to be wildly successful with the kids.

Benson began going after additional funding for the kids' bikes. He wrote a grant to the Just For Kids Foundation for \$3,900 and another one to the Telluride Foundation for \$3,000. With both secured, he bought a fleet of bikes, and then bought helmets and water bottle cages.

Then the question of storage became apparent. Benson was contacted by the Beanstalk Foundation, of Denver, an organization that granted the Nucla High School theatre program last year. Representatives of the Beanstalk Foundation gave Benson another \$3,500, and he and Bonacquista then purchased a shipping container to store the outdoor recreation equipment they've amassed. In this way, they can keep track of the inventory, and it stays secure.

Bonacquista said the outdoor recreation program is important for West End kids.

"This program is introducing activities to our kids that can turn into lifelong recreation opportunities," she said. "It is so important to give these kids the knowledge to be successful at both mountain biking

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Crumblin' down

Many people have seen the demolition taking place at the old Nucla school. (Photo by Tanner Nelson)

DOLORES RIVER

Norwood trustees table monument discussion

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

The Town of Norwood held its regular monthly meeting March 13, and on the agenda then was to approve a letter of support for a national conservation area (NCA) along the Dolores River Valley. In the audience for public comment and to ensure that Norwood town trustees knew what they were supporting or opposing were Sean Pond, leader of the Halt the Dolores River Monument group, his wife Danielle Pond, along with West End community leader Aimee Tooker and also Makayla Gordon of the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC).

Gordon spoke to Norwood

trustees first. She explained that WEEDC already signed a letter of support for an NCA, the proposed conservation area along the Dolores River, in 2022. She said the people of the West End have collectively expressed opposition to a national monument, however, which is different than an NCA.

Gordon said WEEDC's stance is that a monument would hinder the diversity of the West End's economy. She's concerned about access for stakeholders. And, she's concerned about the management plan that would roll out after the designated monument status. Gordon said she has roughly 150 questions that haven't been answered by monument proponents.

"We aren't against conserva-

tion, but there's a right way to do it," Gordon told trustees at last Wednesday's meeting. "This proposal we have yet to see, and it is not best for our community."

Pond told trustees that the towns of Nucla, Naturita, Paradox, Gateway and also Montrose County have opposed the monument. He said he wanted the Town of Norwood to also express opposition.

Norwood Mayor Candy Meehan said the town signed a letter in September supporting a conservation area. She said that's where Norwood should remain until the town has more facts.

Pond tried to explain that a conservation area and a monument are two different things. He said the

Cont. on Pg. 3

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More to the Basin Clinic story

Dear Editor and people of the West End:

I need to clarify a few things that were published in your recent article "Basin Clinic laments loss of funding" in the March 6, 2024 issue of the San Miguel Basin Forum. First, a correction to the editor. It is me, Lorraine Garvey, that serves on the BCI Board, not Doylene Garvey. I hope your error has not caused my sister-in-law any undue stress or problems.

Next, the public needs to be aware that the public safety sales tax that was voted in by the public and took effect in 2008 states that this money is "to be used exclusively for capital expenditures or operational costs associated with public safety organizations as such term is defined in Section 30-11-107.9, Colorado revised statutes, including the sheriff's office, the regional dispatch center, the drug task force, rural medical clinics, the district attorney's office, the judicial district, the coroner's office, or any other public entity dedicated to providing services related to public safety, public health, or emergency management at the county or local level, with no less than 70 percent of the annual revenue of such tax being dedicated to the Montrose County Sheriff's Office."

From 2008-2023 the county has collected \$76,918,086 from this tax. Basin Clinic is currently the only rural health clinic in the county and has received \$4,659,000 over 15 years. We are eternally thankful to the people of Montrose County for this contribution to help keep medical services available to the West End.

Basin Clinic, Inc. (BCI) has similar issues with exploding costs, staffing challenges and reimbursements that most medical facilities are experiencing. Telluride Regional Medical Center has these same issues, according to their webpage and are seeking a mill levy to help alleviate a \$1.4 million loss, to name just one in our area, but this is happening nationwide. More clinics and small hospitals are closing due to significantly increasing costs and decreasing reimbursements and revenue.

It is also important for our communities to understand that UMC and BCI operate differently, due to UMC being a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and BCI being a Rural Health Clinic (RHC). Each must meet different guidelines. UMC receives federal funding; BCI does not, except Medicare payments. UMC receives more money for the same procedures, due to the FQHC designation. UMC also must do more reporting to the federal government.

For UMC to take on Basin Clinic, as suggested by Commissioner Sue Hansen, the federal government would have to approve such an expansion. BCI and UMC made an attempt for this to happen several years ago, but the government did not approve any requests in Colorado at that time. We discussed this possibility again recently, but UMC came back to us that their board had decided against going that route.

BCI does not feel that partnering with UMC in this manner is in the best interest of our patients, but Commissioner Hansen continues to

push this idea. She even stated in a public meeting that she was willing to send Montrose County money to San Miguel County to help facilitate this kind of merger.

Recently, BCI reached out to other clinics to see if we could partner with them to reduce costs and to find providers. However, River Valley Clinics in Montrose County and Axis Clinic in Dove Creek are also under the FQHC umbrella and would need permission from UMC and the federal government to align with BCI. With those restrictions, the BCI board has also reached out to private entities to see if we can somehow continue to provide health care to the West End in a sustainable model. We have not promised any county funding to anyone, because it is not in our power to do so. Montrose County Commissioners have made it very clear that they would like us to become sustainable without the help of taxpayer county funding. BCI would like that too.

Commissioner Hansen stated that she cares about the West End and has been hosting a West End Solutions Forum monthly. I have been to most of these meetings and in most of them health care here in the area has been a major topic. Thus, I do not understand the county commissioners pulling funds, when knowingly there is a huge need for health care. Driving to Norwood to see the doctor is not my idea of better health care for people from Paradox, Nucla, Redvale and Naturita. I also think that Montrose County and the local towns here will lose sales tax to Norwood and San Miguel County if people go to UMC, as people will shop in Norwood while up there.

There is more to the story of our struggle to keep Basin Clinic open and our efforts to work with the county, but enough for now.

Lorraine Garvey, member of Basin Clinic Board of Directors

WEST END

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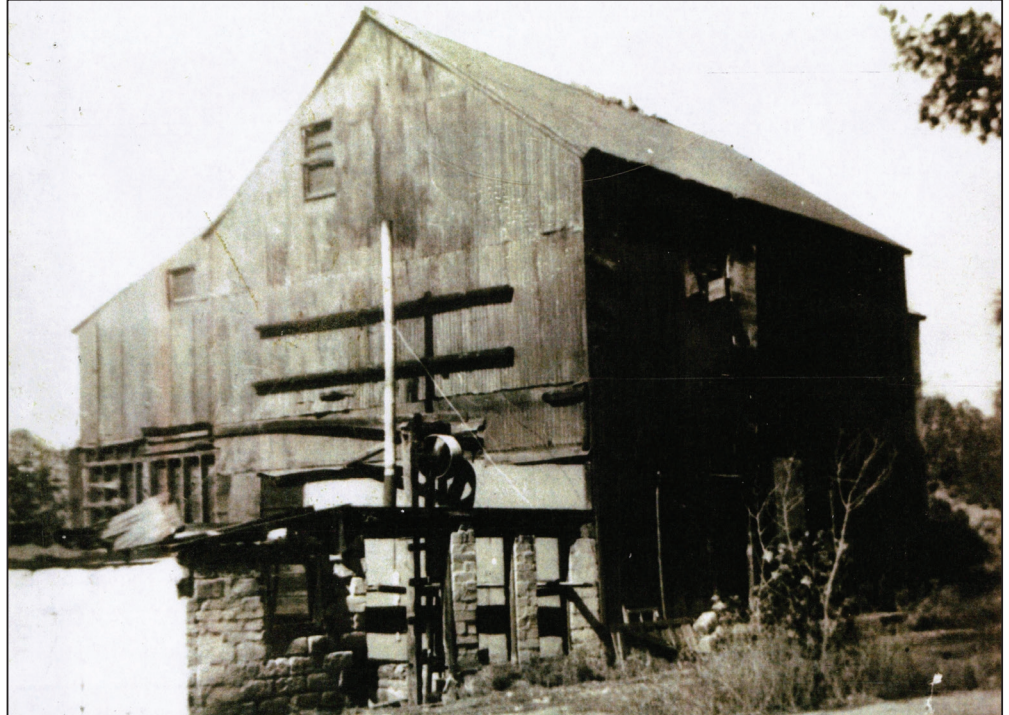
Dear Editor and ag-loving community:

We are sure you have heard of Meat-In Day. This is a day of celebrating the ranchers in our great state of Colorado by eating barbecue meat as a community. To celebrate this fun day, we'd like to invite you to a community barbecue and to compete in a corn hole tournament. We organize this tournament as a fundraiser for our local Lone Cone 4-H Club. We get people from all over our communities to come play and eat. We have hotdogs or hamburgers, chips and drinks for purchase. Don't forget we also have a silent auction with some exciting items to bid on. If you don't want to play corn hole, you can cheer on your friends! We hope to see you all there at the Norwood School Playground on April 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Preregister by March 22 and get a shirt. Cost is \$25. Registration the day of the event is \$35. The reward is the split pot. To sign up, call or text 870-729-1283.

Lone Cone 4-H members
SAN MIGUEL BASIN

History: Rimrocker Historical Society The Nucla flour mill, Part 3

By JANE THOMPSON, *Rimrocker Historical Society*



This image shows the Nucla flour mill, circa 1920. (Image courtesy of the Rimrocker Historical Society)

We have learned about the beginnings of the Nucla flour mill in the last few articles, as well as the flour mills in Redvale and Norwood. Those folks were determined individuals. The town fathers worked to bring these important businesses into their communities. The farmers were willing to make the big step of changing to provide the wheat, and some of them became very good at growing and harvesting good wheat crops. I'd like to share some fun memories that have been written about the Nucla flour mill by some of our friends from past local newspapers.

Our past historian, Marie Templeton, wrote several articles about the flour mill and John Reindl over the years. There are interesting tidbits in each article. They were all written in her history columns in the San Miguel Basin Forum.

From the March 29, 2001 issue: "Luther Walker said that you knew if you raised wheat, you always had a good sale for your crop. He said that he knew two winters when the mill ran every day. Luther was raising quite a bit of wheat at that time. He especially remembers one winter when he had a lot of wheat and couldn't sell it, or he hadn't sold it yet. So, he went up and talked to John to see if he would buy it. John asked him if he was hard up, and Luther admitted that was the case.

John told him that he would let him have the money, but not to bring the wheat in until John told him to. They were hauling so much wheat down from Norwood that he had all he could handle. It was spring before John told him to bring the wheat in. He said, 'Of course, I didn't care, I had got the money, and I could take the wheat in when he got ready for it.'"

In Marie's Oct. 6, 2005 article, she shared some of her own memories of the Nucla flour mill.

"I can remember being sent to the flour mill to get some chicken feed or maybe some other kind of grain for the horses or cows. My memories include John Reindl (pronounced Randle), the owner of the flour mill, when I was young. He must have been in his 50s at the time, and he was short, very muscular, and bow-legged. Man, was he bow-legged! However, he was really spry and got around much better than you would expect. People would take their grain there to be ground. There was a bank of shoots along one side of the building. I can remember John would grab a new gunny sack and fit it around the opening of the shoot. He would pull a lever to open it, and the grain would fill the sack. Then he would grab a ball of yarn, tie an ear in one top of the sack and whip the top together with a big curved needle and thread. Then he would

tie the other end another ear and cut the thread. Then that job was done. I loved to watch him do that. He was an artist with that needle.

"I also remember the smell of the place and it wasn't unpleasant. You could see the dust in the air where a stray sunbeam poked through a crack, and that was pretty awesome, also. Then there were the huge belts that ran the machinery. I suppose that they were run by steam, but I really don't know for sure.

"There was a mill pond ... and a boiler right next to it. When the machinery was running, it was pretty noisy with all those belts flapping around the pulleys. They seemed to run every which way. The flour mill, to me, was a constant source of delight, and I never thought it was a chore when my dad sent me there to get ranch supplies."

Another article that Marie wrote March 6, 2014, was titled, "Life in the Nucla area about 50 years ago." She had written this little bit about the flour mill: "I loved to go to the mill and watch it work. Big belts went whack, whack, whack, and the dust shone in the sunlight ... Mr. Reindl would let you watch. He was a very nice man. He never chased you away, and he even let the kids swim in the mill pond that was just west of the mill."

To be continued ...



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This image shows Nucla High School's outdoor recreation class, the PE class, on their bikes. (Courtesy image)

Outdoor rec program

Cont. from Pg. 1

and archery ... We live in a beautiful place with great outdoor opportunities. With kids spending more time on phones and video games, I love seeing kids getting outside and enjoying it."

She added students will have a skill set, a foundation, for pursuing such activities on their own in their adult lives.

Benson said he's grateful. West End Trails Alliance has also given the cause \$1,300. And, local outdoor athlete and expert Dani

Reyes-Acosta donated backpacks too.

He also thanks high school principal Malisha Reed. Benson said he has gone to Reed with various ideas for the kids, and she continues to express support.

With the grants and partnerships, Benson said neither the district or the school board have been burdened by the outdoor recreation program.

He said Paradox Cycle has already been doing a trade-school type of apprenticeship, where he's teaching students to work on

bikes. He said the outdoor recreation program through the school only makes sense. He's happy to see thousands of dollars go to supporting students directly. And, with visitors to the West End coming for activities like cycling and hunting, he wants to make sure local youth get to have those same experiences in their own town.

According to him, the response from the kids is overwhelmingly positive.

"They appreciate it," he said. "It's 150 percent making a positive impact on their life."

Monument discussion

Cont. from Pg. 1

NCA is already in motion and in the state Congress now.

Meehan said she suggested tabling the agenda item until the board had more information.

"I would like staff to get clarity on this situation, so we can actually make a decision," she said.

Pond said he wanted to hold a community meeting in Norwood. He's held community meetings in Gateway, Naturita and Paradox to explain why local communities should oppose the monument status. He has another planned in Montrose March 30.

The mayor asked the town clerk

if the agenda item, the way it was written, might contain a clerical error. The agenda item did say "Letter of Support for the Dolores River National Conservation Area," not monument.

Meehan also brought up a work session for the board, which would include community input. She added she wanted information from both proponents and the opposition with an added 72 hours to digest the information.

Trustee Niven Drybrough admitted he was "bereft of understanding," regarding the issue. Trustee Jamie Schultz said she wanted to have a work session. Trustee Sean Fallon said he had concerns

about access to trails for jeeps and bikes if a monument were to be designated.

The San Miguel Basin Forum asked the mayor in the meeting who requested the agenda item, the letter of support for a "national conservation area." The mayor confirmed it was Mason Osgood, of Sheep Mountain Alliance.

Sheep Mountain Alliance is one group that is a part of the greater Protect the Dolores River Coalition.

The Town of Norwood planned a work session for Tuesday, March 19. Then a special meeting was to follow afterward for public comment.

San Miguel Basin Forum

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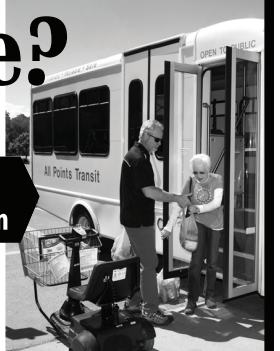



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Calving season

Cont. from Pg. 1

breeding year. They've got 125 cows and only 10 left to calve. They started Feb. 6.

Snyder said they AI all of their heifers and about half their cow herd, roughly 60. They used six different sires this year in their AI breeding program.

The Snyders raise bulls to sell, and participate in an annual sale with Regan Snyder's parents. They've done it nearly 25 years in Delta, and are doing it again April 4. She confirmed they'll have 65 bulls for sale this year. Lim-flex is what they focus on, Limousine and Angus composites.

Also in Norwood, Terri Snyder Lamers told the Forum Monday that her family ranch still has maybe 60 heifers left to go. She said the girls seemed to be "taking their sweet time." The Snyders also have Angus, but use their own bulls. Todd Snyder just bought five bulls at a sale a few weeks ago.

Sadly, Snyder Ranches did lose a few calves to weather this year. Lamers said the blizzard conditions on Wright's Mesa were to blame.

For Snyder Ranches, though, the focus is sheep, and lambing season will start about April 1. Shelley Donnellon, also of Snyder Ranches, told the Forum the 4-H lambs are on the ground, however.

Soon, right around Easter, the family will begin to see as many as 100 births a day. With 1,500-1,600 Suffolks and Columbia (and a few

Dorset too with Donnellon's Dorper) ewes set to go, they'll be busy. Lamers said she hopes the mud in the barnyard dries up soon. She said it's hard on the ewes when they get big.

The family ranch just completed their annual shearing. On site were eight men from Peru who came to

get the job done. It took a day and a half. Lamers said it's a big deal to get the shearing all done before the lambing season starts.

The wind was problematic for them.

"We were having wool blow away as fast as you could get in the bags," Lamers said.



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LEGAL PUBLICATION**FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR PHASE I, II, AND III BOND RELEASE OF A PORTION OF THE NEW HORIZON MINE SITE (SL-28)**

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, II, and III Bond Release of a portion of the New Horizon Mine site. The application is denoted as SL-28 and pertains to the New Horizon Mine, Permit No. C-1981-008 (approved April 6, 1983) by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC, P. O. Box 628, Nucla, Colorado 81424, filed with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS), Colorado Department of Natural Resources, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203. The New Horizon Mine is located approximately 2 miles west of Nucla, Colorado.

The Phase I, II, and III bond release areas are made up of five backfill monitoring wells and seven exploratory drill holes. All the backfill wells have been plugged and abandoned and the exploratory drill holes were mined through and reclaimed as part of larger reclamation areas at the New Horizon Mine. The bond release areas are shown in detail on Map 1 within the application. The status of the areas being applied for is consistent with the requirements of the plugging and abandoning the backfill wells and reclaiming the larger area for the exploratory drill holes. Listed below is a general legal description of the area:

The five backfill monitoring wells that are requested for Phase I, II, and III bond release are located within the following locations:

Township 47 North, Range 16 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
SE ¼ SE ¼ SW ¼ of Section 36
SW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 36
SW ¼ NE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 36

Township 47 North, Range 15 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
SW ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 31

Township 46 North, Range 15 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
NW ¼ NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 6,

The seven in-pit exploratory drill holes that are requested for Phase I, II, and III bond release are located within the following locations:

Township 47 North, Range 16 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
SE ¼ SW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 36
SE ¼ SW ¼ NE ¼ of Section 36
SE ¼ NE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 36

Township 46 North, Range 16 West of the 6th P.M. New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Montrose, State of Colorado
NE ¼ NE ¼ NW ¼ of Section 1
NE ¼ NE ¼ SW ¼ of Section 1

The New Horizon Mine currently holds a surety bond in the amount of \$2,522,994, which includes the above listed area. With this application, the New Horizon Mine will be requesting relinquishment of 100% of the bond held for these locations.

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 March 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2024

LEGAL PUBLICATION**NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISION****COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY (TR-108)**

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety proposes to approve Technical Revision Application No. 108 (TR-108) for the New Horizon Mine (Permit No. C-1981-008), submitted by Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC. TR-108 proposes to revise the post-mine topography on the Johnson/ERM Property, and reduces the permit boundary to removed Phase III released structures from the permit boundary.

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

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

The revision application, as well as all other permit documents, can be viewed at <https://dnrweb-link.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_Mpjo3kxIHkP5MH-w7MeBtxX7/view.

Persons with an interest that may be adversely affected by the proposed decision may request a formal hearing before the Mined Land Reclamation Board on the proposed decision. Such request must be made within ten (10) days of the date following initial publication of this notice, must be in writing, and must state with reasonable specificity the reasons for the request and the objections to the proposed decision.

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

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum March 20, 2024

*** HEARING NOTICE ***

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Montrose County Planning Commission in the Public Works Building 63160 LaSalle Road, Montrose, Colorado, on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to review proposed amendments to the Montrose County Zoning Regulations.

The proposed amendment includes changes to the following sections of the Zoning Regulations:

- Section II – Zone District Standards**
 - Changes to use tables.
 - Changes to dimensional standards in the General Residential (R) district.
- Section III – Use Standards**
 - Clarification of Table T-III.1.
 - Clarification on Telecommunication Facilities standards.
- Section IV – Applications and Review Procedures**
 - Clarification to Site Plan application and requirements.
- Section V – Detailed Development Standards**
 - Clarifying criteria was added to determine whether operation of Natural Resource Extraction facilities operation outside of hours can be approved by the County Administrator.
- Section VIII – Definitions**

THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD

The application materials may be examined during regular business hours at the Montrose County Planning and Development Office, 63160 LaSalle Road, Montrose, Colorado or on the Montrose Citizen Portal:

<https://co-montrose-co.smartgovcommunity.com/ApplicationPublic/ApplicationHome>

Search application: AA24-002

Documents will be available in the Montrose Citizen Portal a week prior to the scheduled hearing in the "Notes" section of the application.

THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO OFFER COMMENT

Written comment may be sent to the Planning Commission, c/o Planning and Development Director, 63160 LaSalle Road, Montrose, CO 81401; or c/o trichmond@montrosecounty.net

BY ORDER OF MONTROSE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum March 13 & 20, 2024

OBITUARY**Glenn Jones**

Aug. 14, 1971 - March 10, 2024



Glenn Jones.

Glenn Jones, a beloved partner, step-father, grandpa, son, brother and friend to many, passed away on March 10 in Montrose. He was surrounded by loved ones

when he entered into eternal rest. He was born on Aug. 14, 1971, in California.

Glenn worked various jobs and enjoyed being around people. Glenn had a way of lighting up a room with his huge heart, smile and love. He always had something to say, whether it was being a wise guy (he loved being goofy) or being Glenn and just talking your ear away. Glenn also loved being a gypsy. He looked forward to each and every car ride imaginable. If the car was moving, he was in it, and if the car was parked, he was ready to go. His favorite places to travel were to California. Maybe it was the reminder of home, or maybe it was to visit his family, probably a bit of both. Either way,

he was ready to go to California every time and could not wait to go again when he returned to Colorado.

Glenn was survived by his partner, Nancy Blohm (Colorado); step-son, Robert Blohm (Colorado); step-daughter, Jodi Dewey (California); his grandchildren, who called him G-PA, Jadeynn Dewey, Noah Dewey and Dylan Alburger (California); his father, Glenn Sr., (Colorado); his sisters, Linda Gonzalez, Kimberly Delgado and Jeanette Ruybal (Colorado); and brother, Cody Jones (Colorado).

His memory will also be cherished by his seven nephews, three nieces, one great-nephew and one great-niece.

West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

2/26/2024

0934 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29700 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a civil matter.

0943 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29200 block of CC Road near Nucla for an agency assist.

1844 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 30700 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a 911.

1 school zone

3 VIN inspections

2/27/2024

1218 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a civil matter.

2 directed patrols in Nucla

2/28/2024

0825 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 21500 block of 600 Road near Paradox for a civil matter.

1654 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 21500 block of 600 Road near Paradox for a civil matter.

1 school zone

4 civil processes attempted/served

02/29/24

0935 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to a 911 hang up in the 1000 Block Montana Street.

1037 Hours - Deputy responded to a 911 hang up in the 100 Block West Main Street.

1315 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to a theft and criminal mischief in the 35300 Block III Road.

1412 Hours - Deputy assisted the fire department in the 400 Block Million Avenue.

03/01/24

1552 Hours - Deputy assisted the fire department in the 200 Block East Main Street.

1604 Hours - Deputies responded to a disturbance in the 200 Block East Tenth Street.

1911 Hours - Deputy performed an animal welfare check at mile marker 113 on Highway 145.

2011 Hours - Deputy assisted the fire department in the 30700 Block Highway 141.

0844 Hours - Deputy took an informational report at the sheriff's office.

03/02/24

1914 Hours - Deputy performed a

welfare check in the 30700 Block Highway 141.

03/03/24

0025 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to an alarm in the 100 Block East Main Street.

03/04/24

0948 Hours - Deputy assisted a citizen in the 25000 Block 3590 Road.

1029 Hours - Deputy responded to a criminal mischief in the 100 Block East Main Street.

1332 Hours - Deputy conducted a civil stand by in the 400 Block Pine Street.

1538 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to a 911 hang up in the 200 Block West Fourth Avenue.

1544 Hours - Deputy took a cold report of an assault in the 200 Block West Fourth Avenue.

1554 Hours - Deputy assisted the ambulance in the 100 Block West Fourth Avenue.

1657 Hours - Deputy responded to a report of gunshots in the 100 Block Payson Street. Investigation continues.

2150 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to a barking dog complaint in the 29100 Block Highway 97.

03/05/24

0807 Hours - Paul Haining, 49, was cited for no valid driver's license, operating an ATV without a permit, no proof of insurance, and operating an unregistered ATV in the 200 Block West Fourth Avenue.

1021 Hours - Deputy responded to a civil matter in the 100 Block West First Avenue in Naturita.

1136 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to a livestock problem in the 9500 Block Highway 90.

1904 Hours - Deputy assisted the clerk and recorder by transporting ballots to an East End Deputy at the top of Dallas Divide.

2319 Hours - Deputy took an informational report in the 200 Block Highway 97 in Naturita.

03/06/24

0010 Hours - Deputy responded to an alarm in the 39700 Block Eagle Drive.

03/07/24

1040 Hours - Deputy took an informational report at the sheriff's office.

1439 Hours - Deputy assisted child protective services in the 200 Block West Fourth Avenue.

1442 Hours - Deputy took an informational report in the 1000 Block Montana Street.

1844 Hours - Deputy assisted the fire department at mile marker 115 on Highway 145.

2309 Hours - Deputy responded to a REDDI (report every drunk driver immediately) report in the 400 Block West Second Avenue in Naturita.

Jessica Wilhelm, 18, and Kiley Rutter, 19, were both cited for underage possession of alcohol.

Deputies Performed 1 VIN Inspection

3/8/2024

0751 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 110 near Redvale for an animal problem.

0833 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a suspicious vehicle.

1013 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28400 block of 2700 Road near Nucla for a disturbance.

1053 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a welfare check.

1953 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

2145 Hours - Wade Karo, 18, was contacted in the 800 block of Grape Street in Nucla and issued a warning for speeding.

1 VIN inspection

Internment Services for Jim Scheetz

Please join the family and friends of Jim Scheetz for internment services at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Grand Junction on March 29 at 1 p.m. A celebration of life and pot luck will be held at the Nucla Fire Hall on March 30 at 1 p.m. Please bring a side dish and a story about Jim and what he meant to you. Please call Susan at 970-864-2164 if you have any questions.

Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED AD POLICY & RATES: Rates for each issue: \$12.95 for 25 words and 20¢ for each additional word, **Box Frame:** \$5.00, **Tear Sheet:** \$1.00, **Bold Heading and Text:** \$5.00

BIDS WANTED FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Town of Nucla will be accepting sealed bids for the construction of a 10' x 30' storage space at the Nucla Community Center.

Please contact Melissa at the Nucla Town Hall 320 Main Street or call 970-864-7351 to schedule a site visit. Bids are due April 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Town Board will open the bids at the regularly scheduled meeting on April 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

42-2TC

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER WANTED

Town of Nucla is now hiring a part time animal control officer.

Application is available on website townofnucla.colorado.gov or at 320 Main Street, Nucla, CO. Wage range 14.42-18.00 based on experience and knowledge.

42-2TC

COOK WANTED

Enjoy cooking for others? We have an opening for a part-time lunch cook for a great group of folks at the Senior Center in Nucla. 18-20 hours per week. For more details, call Sherry (970)322-7000 or Monica (970)361-6518.

41-2TC

VETERAN MEMORIAL SERVICE INFO

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

TEN

CHANGE TO OBITUARY COST

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

TEN



RASCALS TODDLER PROGRAM 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 728-5804

42-4TC



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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.

SEND IN AN AD

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND IN AN AD, CONTACT US AT
(970) 864-7425

DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT

300-400# STEERS	3.35-3.60	300-400# HEIFERS	3.10-3.30
400-500# STEERS	3.00-3.25	400-500# HEIFERS	2.85-3.10
500-600# STEERS	2.80-3.12	500-600# HEIFERS	2.70-2.85
600-700# STEERS	2.60-2.70	600-700# HEIFERS	2.30-2.70
700-800# STEERS	2.40-2.55	700-800# HEIFERS	2.25-2.35
800-900# STEERS	2.20-2.34	800-900# HEIFERS	1.90-2.10
Top bulls	1.38-1.43 high of 1.43	Medium bulls	1.10-1.20
Young Cows	1.45-1.80	Top cows	1.12-1.26
Medium cows	1.00-1.12	Low-yielding cows	1.00 down

SPRING SALES EVERY WEEK IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY!

NEXT WEEK: Thursday MARCH 21th -25-30 mixed steers & heifers 600#. 41 blk steers 800#, 12 mixed grass calves, 5 grass calves, 11 butcher cows, 4 butcher bull. Along with our usual dock run of 200- 300 head.

UP COMING SALES

Next special sheep & goat sale **Thursday March 28th**

NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE **Saturday APRIL 6TH**

Special Alternative Animal Sale – Saturday May 4th. Zebu; Yak; Highlanders; Mini Hereford, Dexter; Lamas; Lowline's; Mini donkeys; alpaca; Water buffalo ect. If you would like to consign for this sale please call the office @ 970-874-4612

SPRING BULL SALE

Thursday April 4th . Where 2 Trails Meet – Limousin /

Angus Bull Sale. Also Special Bred Cow & Pairs Sale.

5pair of Blk Cows 3-6 years old (calves born Jan/Feb.)

Thursday April 11th. All Breds Bulls Sale.

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Southwestern Construction



Bryan Littlejohn
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P.O. Box 422, Naturita, CO 81422

NOTICE FROM THE SAN MIGUEL BASIN FORUM

We have to raise subscription rates a bit, only to be able to cover the postage. For the last year, we didn't break even on the mail. This year, subscriptions will go to \$45 for Montrose/San Miguel Counties and \$55 for those out of the territory. We're sorry for any inconvenience.

LEGAL PUBLICATION

TOWN OF NATURITA BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR TRUSTEES

4 YEAR TERM

Shall the following candidate be elected to the position of Trustee for the Town of Naturita?


Vote for only 3

John Gist	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harold Cowles	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Kelley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brock Benson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kenith Kirby	<input type="checkbox"/>

Absentee ballots are available, call Naturita Town Hall at 970-865-2286.

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR TOWN OF NATURITA, COLORADO REGULAR ELECTION

Tuesday, April 2, 2024



Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum March 20, 2024

YOUTH

Middle school sports



Youth wrestlers in middle school head to the state tournament in Denver, leaving this Thursday
(Photo by Brandie McCabe)

RECIPE

Sheep camp hobo food still a favorite

By KEIRAN BRAY, *Forum Intern*

Similar to cattle, sheep go up to the higher country in the summertime for food. However, the process of getting them there looks a little different. Growing up on the ranch each summer, the Bray boys would trail their sheep on foot, up to higher pastures

around the Lone Cone and Lizard Head Pass. The boys had what they called their sheep camp, where they would stop, eat and sleep until the next day. Trailing on foot, you can't pack a lot of stuff, including food, so they would have to pack light. That's how hobo food came about.

This dish is light to pack and can be created from anywhere. Every year, the Bray boys would trail their sheep up to higher pastures and enjoy a home-cooked meal of hobo food along the journey. These measurements are based on a family of four.

Sheep Camp Hobo Food

Ingredients

- 1 lb. polish sausage or bacon
- 16 oz. boxed pasta, cooked (we use elbow)

- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 cans diced tomatoes
- 1 can diced green chilies
- 3-4 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 2 tsp. chili powder

Directions

Cook meat in a skillet, and

drain extra grease. Add garlic and onion, and saute until tender. Add tomatoes, green chilis and pasta. Season with chili powder. Add salt and pepper to taste.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The other 'sleeping bear'

Dear Editor,

A National Conservation Area along the Dolores River in Montezuma, Dolores and San Miguel counties, stopping at the county line, has turned into a push to a Dolores River National Monument to the state line with Utah, additionally including Montrose and Mesa counties.

After reading the letters that have been attached to the Dolores River National Conservation Area legislation, issues have arisen. The letters of support specifically state the details and the limitations of their support (including opposition to a national monument and "Wild and Scenic Designation.") Over 15 years of stakeholder meetings, studies, and local collaboration by residents of Southwest Colorado concluded the National Conservation Area conversations. Representatives Boebert and Buck in the House introduced legislation in March 2023, and Senators Bennett and Hickenlooper introduced identical legislation in the Senate in December 2023.

Several years ago, Montezuma and Montrose counties removed themselves from the National Conservation Area discussions. In 2016 Montezuma County expressed adamant opposition to a National Monument in a letter to Representative Scott Tipton. Montezuma County rejoined the conversation in 2022 (with limited support for a National Conservation Area).

Montrose County, and more specifically the west end of Montrose County, has other plans for an economic strategy for the area's public lands. They left the door open for talks of an NCA further down the road. Protection of water rights and the possibility for development of the area's mineral assets spurred Montrose County to act in the best interest of the West End. This would leave the area to remain undesignated and open for traditional uses.

A small group were not completely satisfied with the boundaries and outcome for the Dolores River National Conservation Area and decided to initiate a Presidential National Monument proclamation of the entire Dolores River Canyon Country.

If the National Conservation Area legislation is not approved by Congress in early 2024, they will push for President Biden to initiate a proclamation using the Antiquities Act of 1906 for the entire Dolores River from the headwaters of the San Juan Mountains to the Utah state line. Mountain Pact has completed their Western States Specifics report dated January 2024 that compiles a list of national monuments that they will seek proclamations to expand or create before the presidential election in 2024. The letters that have been gathered to support their documentation specifically state McPhee dam to Utah state line. The resolution from the city of

Grand Junction, and the letter from the Town of Telluride are specifically used to support this initiative.

Surveys used to support their monument push for the entire Dolores River are from Keating Research Group and Winning the West 2023 poll and listed here: Keating Research polled 750 active registered voters in all of Colorado, District Three, 450 of which were in the counties of Dolores, Montezuma, San Miguel, Mesa, and Montrose. Center for Western Priorities: Winning the West: Public Attitudes on Conservation, Public Lands and National Monuments July 2023 by Benson Strategy Group conducted 1,807 online interviews with likely voters in Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada. The 2023 Western States Survey by New Bridge Strategy polled 3,413 respondents in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming (437 total in Colorado). Then, 2,631 residents of Colorado as of December 11, 2023, had signed the petition to support the monument proposal: in Dolores County, 87; Montezuma County, 85; San Miguel County, 63.

Writers Summary

The "Protect the Dolores River Coalition" is in clear violation of the eight principals of conservation that President Biden has laid out in his America the Beautiful Initiative. Furthermore, the Antiquities Act of 1906 states the President is to reserve the "the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected." The proposed map clearly deviates from those principles. I wonder what the map looks like for the entire Dolores River National Monument proposal from McPhee to the Utah state line.

Patience is a virtue. The National Conservation Area legislation has sat in Congress for less than three months and runs at the speed of the federal government (very slowly). The "Protect the Dolores River Coalition" is ready to waste 15 years of time, energy and money of the Lower Dolores Working Group, including the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Montezuma, San Miguel and Dolores counties, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Southwest Water Conservation District, Dolores Water Conservancy District, and many others — with a push for President Biden to override it. They must not be confident in President Biden's ability to get reelected and must move quickly; otherwise what is the hurry? Again, patience is a virtue, especially when so many people worked so hard to get the NCA to this point.

Stay tuned for more facts, data and truth from the Halt the Dolores River National Monument.

Aimee "Mama Bear" Tooker
WEST END

Meet Our Providers!



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Dr. Andrew Baker



Robin Richards, PA-C



Scott Hunter, FNP



Tommy Terwilliger, LCSW



Nichol Bray, Hygienist



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Se Habla Español

We are committed to providing quality, cost effective, accessible healthcare to all in the San Miguel River Basin.