

# San Miguel Basin Forum

## NATURITA

### Cowles, Gist and Kelley are new Naturita trustees

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The Town of Naturita held its municipal election on April 2 this year, and then five people ran for three available trustee seats. That included Brock Benson, Harold Cowles, John Gist, Susan Kelley and Kenith Kirby.

The election results were made official on April 8. Town Clerk Diana Starks reported to the San Miguel Basin Forum that the votes were as follows: Benson got 39, Cowles had 66, Gist had 51 votes, Kelley received 51 and Kirby finished with 44.

The Forum received an anonymous report, though, that there was some activity at the polls on election day, which was inconsistent with Colorado election law. The law does state that electioneering, or campaigning, “is prohibited from taking place either inside a polling place or within 100 feet of any building in which a polling location is located. In addition, electioneering is prohibited within 100 feet of a drop-box.”

And, each polling place is required by law to post signs marking the limit.

The law continues that “voters may not advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate or a ballot measure, either inside a polling place or within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place or drop-box.”

The Forum asked Starks about unlawful election activity that might have taken place in Naturita, if there might have been some campaigning or slandering of candidates at the polls. The Forum also asked if she’d heard that the election might be challenged.

“As far as I know, inside there was no illegal campaigning at the polls,” Starks said. “We did have a bunch of younger people talking mostly about their posts being taken down off of Facebook. I have not heard if the election will be challenged.”

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser has said he will not tolerate voter intimidation, what happens when someone “interferes, impedes, or prevents another from voting, or pressures a person to vote for or against a candidate or ballot initiative.” On his website, Weiser continues that “voter intimidation is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, up to one-year imprisonment, or both.”

It is also against the law for election officials to interfere with the voting process while they’re on duty. And, the crime of interfering with an election official is

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## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

### Baseball coach, team focus on districts

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Mustang baseball started in early March and so far, roughly 14 games have taken place. The guys had played 13 by last weekend, and played Dove Creek Saturday, April 20, winning 8-7. Head coach for the Mustangs Randy Gabriel told the Forum many of the games have been close.

He said he’s really enjoying the current group of players. They’re young, but they’re good kids, and they work hard.

“We come up short sometimes, but they never whine,” he said. “These kids come back.”

Comprised of Nucla and Norwood students, there are 21 of them out this year. Ten are freshmen. Everyone from last season returned, except for P.J. Hulst, who graduated. The guys are practicing nightly, and Gabriel is again assisted by Ben Kirk, of Norwood, and Kelly Arnold, of Nucla. Managing are students Kendra McCluer and Viviana Zurich, and coach said the girls are very good help.

High school senior Steele Arnold is pitching and leading the state in strike-outs.

“He hides the ball well,” Gabriel said. “He’s not overpowering, and he mixes in a curve.”

Jake Hulst is pitching the second game, and Brycen Rummel is the relief pitcher.

The Mustangs do have a history of success, Gabriel admitted, and the players know it well. It can feel like pressure. The Nucla team has been in the final eight, or finished even higher, the last decade. They’ve taken the state title in recent years.

Gabriel said he tells the guys to just be the team they are now and to get better every day. He added

Cont. on Pg. 3

## MONUMENT

### Hickenlooper delayed in West End until April 27

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

A proposal of a national monument along the Dolores River has upset the West End since March, and the majority of local communities have been vocal about not wanting to see such a designation, though some have been interested in exploring the discussion about it.

Sean Pond, of Nucla and the leader of the Halt the Dolores Monument group, has been speaking in various towns on the Western Slope opposing a monument and engaging with the public. Last week, Senator John Hickenlooper announced he scheduled a trip to come to Nucla and hear local concerns. Originally, Hickenlooper was set to be at the Nucla Community Center Tuesday, April 23, at 1:30 p.m.

When the Eventbrite tickets were posted online though last week, so many people RSVPd that the venue had to be moved to the old elementary school in Naturita. The community center in Nucla can only accommodate 180 people.

On Sunday, Hickenlooper announced his visit had been postponed to Friday, April 26, at 3:30 p.m. A press release from Hickenlooper’s office over the weekend said that “last-minute votes scheduled in the U.S. Senate” were the reason for the delay.

Hickenlooper was also supposed to speak in Grand Junction Monday at the Colorado Mesa University ballroom. That session was moved to Colorado Mesa University’s William S. Robinson Theatre — located at 1299 N. 12th St. — and is now held on Saturday, April 27, at 10:30 a.m. Doors open at 10 a.m.

Hickenlooper’s press release asked that anyone not able to work with the rescheduled times cancel their tickets. And, for any ticket holder who had no issue with the date and time being moved, they could still use the same ticket and no further step was necessary.

Monday morning, Pond told the Forum he was still waiting to hear about the venue. He wasn’t clear if it was still to be held in Naturita at the elementary school. He’d suggested to Hickenlooper’s office they speak with West End Public Schools District superintendent, Clint Wytulka. He said it made sense to consider the Nucla school, since it’s a new building and can accommodate crowds. Pond confirmed late Monday, though, that the old school in Naturita was the venue.

Pond has no idea how many registered online, though he’s encouraged attendance for the last week.

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### Making art

Pictured left to right are the participants and chaperones who attended the SchroomZillah sculpture build and its unveiling in Nucla on April 20: David Quigley, Braxton Quigley, Susan Rice, Joe Caruso, Alexa Caruso, Megan Caruso, Xaden Caruso, Paxtin Caruso, Jonah Richardson and KaeKae Weimar. (Photo by Erin Ries)

## ELECTIONS

### Bette Nickell, Tom Loczy run for SMPA board (Part 1)

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Bette Nickell and Tom Loczy are running against each other for a seat on San Miguel Power Association’s (SMPA’s) board of directors. The two are vying for a seat in District 1, the largest district in the SMPA territory, which includes parts of both Montrose and San Miguel counties. Previously, Doylene Garvey served District 1 for 12 years.

Regarding her background, Nickell began her career at Union Carbide. She later entered the field of education and has been a

part of school boards and has been a teacher, principal and superintendent. She’s also worked as a judge. She holds a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and early childhood education. She has a master’s degree in elementary administration, and her superintendent’s license too.

When asked what experience she has regarding electric cooperatives, Nickell said she read “The Quest” by Danial Yergin, a book about energy and security.

“I decided to become more knowledgeable about energy production in the Town of Montrose where I lived at the time,” she said.

And, she began going to the Delta Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) board meetings.

“I never missed a meeting for almost three years,” she said. “I had dinner with the board every meeting and spoke to their advisory group. Everything I did was on a volunteer basis. I saw a board that was united in a goal to become more energy-efficient with renewables and especially hydro-power. They began to work to buy themselves out of Tri-State.”

Nickell said she became acquainted with many DMEA employees and saw how they

Cont. on Pg. 3

## NORWOOD CHAMBER

# Celebrating good internet, a nail salon and pizza

By CHERYL JERABEK

The Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright's Mesa is celebrating Clearnetworx, which came on the scene in Norwood after the company recognized the critical need for high-speed connectivity options. Strictly operating as an IT company at the time, Clearnetworx stepped in after some of the pivotal local businesses stood on the brink of relocation due to inadequate internet capabilities.

"We decided, as an IT company, we could probably figure it out," said Casey Irving, director of business development, "so we bought a circuit and brought fiber internet to them. From there, other businesses started asking for it, so we started hooking those up. Eventually, we realized residential customers wanted it too, and we hooked up some of the first fiber customers in Western Colorado."

Today, Clearnetworx serves more than 140 fiber customers in Norwood, with an additional 440 throughout the West End.

And, the Norwood chamber is applauding Country Bougie Nail Shop, as it brings a touch of personal pampering to local communities. Located at 217 W. Main Street in Naturita, Country Bougie is just down the road from Norwood, offering manicures, pedicures, clean-ups, and gel and acrylic nails. Once a month, owner Mandie Atkins makes her manicure services available at the community center in Norwood, too.

Her nail business began in California, where she lived before her heart brought her to Naturita.

"Every year since I was 5 years old, my family and I would come

to Naturita to visit relatives and to hunt," Atkins told the chamber. "I love the beautiful land, but most of all, I love the people. I always wanted to live here, and now I do."

Atkins gives back to the community by helping out with 4-H, offering senior discounts and filling whatever needs she can.

On Labor Day, 2022, the husband-and-wife team, Jaime Katherine Schultz and Jeffrey Perce, opened the door of Dark Sky Pie Pizza at 1615 Grand Ave. in Norwood.

Dark Sky Pie takes pride in delivering on-time, friendly service and delicious food made with love and local ingredients. Offerings include scratch-made pizzas, sandwiches, wings, salads and more. With accommodations for gluten-intolerant and allergy-sensitive patrons, the pizzeria ensures an inclusive dining experience.

The name of the establishment is as original as its menu.

"We chose the name Dark Sky Pie because we are in love with the night sky here in Norwood and so inspired that we wanted to celebrate one of the many things that makes this place so special," Schultz said.

Even with a time-consuming business and a five-year-old son, Schultz is involved in the West End Dark Sky Alliance and was previously a member of the Norwood Town Board of Trustees.

"Our family feels very connected to the community," she said. "We love being a part of the fabric of Norwood."

The Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright's Mesa has monthly membership meetings the second Tuesday of each month at Norwood Ace Hardware from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

## Trustees

Cont. from Pg. 1

a considered misdemeanor, which can be punished with a fine of up to \$750 or up to 120 days imprisonment — or both.

The attorney general and local district attorneys have the authority to prosecute voter intimidation crimes.

Starks told the Forum the real issue with Naturita's election day has to do with something else, people participating in the demo-

cratic process. According to her, a big percentage of the local population is not voting. She does not know why.

According to her, the Town of Naturita has more than 400 people registered, but only 93 of them voted.

"I understand some of our residents do not get out much, but we are able to send out absentee ballots to those who choose not to come in and vote," she said.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Day of service

Dear Editor,

VFW Uranium Post 9058 will be partaking in a day of service on the 4th of May. This will be taking place at the Paradox Cemetery in Bedrock from 8 a.m. through the afternoon, coming together as veterans in the community to beautify and expand this historic place by approximately five acres. This cemetery has dated markers from

1901, and some graves even older. It was one of the earliest cemeteries in the region. A lot of our local veterans have been laid to rest here. Water will be provided, but bring your own chow. Stop by and see if you can lend a hand. It would be nice to see some friendly faces out there with us.

John Reed, QM VFW Post 9058  
NUCLA

## History: Rimrocker Historical Society A story of some Tabeguache pioneers, the Sly family

By JANE THOMPSON, *Rimrocker Historical Society*

Here is a story written about Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sly, written by their daughter Kathleen Sly Wares, and it includes some of the fascinating history of the founding of the Colorado Cooperative Company for which Mr. Sly was a pioneer. This story was found in the Forum of June 10, 1955. As we celebrate 130 years of the Colorado Cooperative Company this year, I will be sharing more stories of those hearty visionaries:

"Mother (Gertie Tschop) is originally of Pennsylvania stock. Her family came to Cortez when she was just a baby. She grew up in an area bristling with Utes and Navajos and alive with pioneer problems. Against this rich and interesting background, she grew to womanhood.

When she graduated from McGuffey's Reader, she attended Teacher's Institute in Mancos, Colorado. Upon finishing this course, she began her teaching career, which was shortly terminated when Fred Sly, a young cowboy from Nucla, Colorado came riding into her life. Nucla was a hundred miles away over the mountains. In 1904, that meant two days steady riding, so he was really a stranger.

Daddy had a boyhood, which is as full of pioneer stories as anyone could ask for in any Western story. He was born at Juanita, Nebraska. When he was 14, he moved with his parents from Nebraska in a long wagon trip to Cripple Creek, Colorado, where the rip-roaring Gold Rush was in full swing. He vividly recalls the historical Cripple Creek Fire, which burned 32 blocks in the business district. He remembers digging through the rubble with the other youngsters in town and salvaging copper to sell to the junk dealers. We children were fascinated with Daddy's spine-tingling stories of incidents during the heyday of Cripple Creek, like the ones about the morning 'law patrol' that picked up the frozen bodies of miners who had imbibed too much and had staggered or been tossed from



This image shows Mr. and Mrs. George Sly and their children: Fred, standing; Clint, sitting; and Clyde, the baby, c. 1896.

(Image courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

saloons to fall into the street and freeze to death; or who had imprudently carried their gold dust with them and had been hijacked and left to die.

In the spring, Daddy's father heard of a 'Promised Land,' which was being opened up across the mountains in southwestern Colorado. A company had been formed, which was to build a long irrigation canal from the San Miguel River to a series of three inland parks of rich soil and unsurpassable mountain scenery, to say nothing of gold in the hills. When the canal was completed, they would live and file homestead preemptions on the land in the parks and live a utopian life thereafter.

They organized in 1894 as the Colorado Cooperative Company. It was to be truly cooperative. Their efforts and resources were to be pooled for the common good. If a man heard of a well-paying job in Montrose, the nearest town of any size, he was expected to add the pay to the cooperative funds. Of course, there were the inevitable 'gold-brickers,' who did little work but demanded a full share of meager supplies at the commissary.

The promoters were evidently

persuasive in arousing interest. Among the majority who were earnestly seeking homes were a few rich playboys from the East, who eagerly joined up expecting to pick up gold nuggets and go home rich. These men were the despair of the company, and the butt of many practical jokes. Some soon left, but a few stayed and became valuable members.

A rare clipping from an early paper gives the primary reasons for the company:

*'Objects*

*To own and operate manufacturing, to acquire land, to build homes for its members, to insure protection against want, to provide educational and recreative facilities, and to promote and maintain harmonious social relations on the basis of cooperation.'*

The stories Daddy can tell of the privations, hard work, fun and heartaches are many—the winter they were without meat, and at times salt or grease of any kind, or flour, is still vivid. They relished a diet three times a day of beans, boiled without salt or meat. The gravy of the period is still talked about by old-timers: flour, salt, pepper and water."

To be continued ...

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## A different perspective

Dear Editor,

I may be considered a newcomer. I moved to Nucla about three and a half years ago. My politics are different than most, so I read your articles, learned your history, listened to what was important to your community, and I explored the backroads learning more about this beautiful place.

I think I may have a different perspective on the battle "Halt the Dolores." I love this place because it is so beautiful. But there are lots of beautiful places in our state, country and our world. I think in your arguments you are not using your strongest defense.

The Front Range sees you like a

book, where all the chapters containing the disappointments, struggles, heartache have been taken out. The beauty of this place is your strength and your history. You are the main component of what makes this place your home so beautiful. You are what is special about this place. You work 24/7 (not 9-5). It is your persistence and hope for a better year next year, as the weather tells that day's and year's story.

Others would have given up. You haven't. Your parents and grandparents haven't. Your history is full of struggle, hardships, but you have done more than survive. You have kept the beauty of this place. It is you, and your history that makes it so special. Share it.

Educate others about who you are and why there is no need or benefit of a national or state monument.

Maybe you should consider using the story of who you are as your best defense, not in an aggressive manner. Share your history. You have a wonderful museum that tells the story. Tell how you already share your resources, so others can recreate. Showcase what you already have shared, but also protected. Showcase your strength and without your commitment to this land and some of its character, beauty would no longer exist.

Carol Hunter  
NUCLA

# Mustang baseball

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

that the record — right now the Mustangs are 5-8-1 (they tied for one game) — doesn't truly matter at this point; it's what happens at the district tournament on May 3.

"You win districts, you are the No. 5 seed," he said.

He's hoping it all lines up by then. And, it usually does, despite the guys not playing travel baseball. Come springtime each year, he said he's got to turn the kids back into high school baseball players. It takes a few months.

At the same time, some of the guys are running track too. In a world where some coaches would

balk, Gabriel supports it and is happy the kids are representing their small school well.

He, Kirk and Arnold have given the team more than their regular season too. Two weeks ago, they traveled to Colorado Mesa University to watch college baseball. He said it was an opportunity to experience the game together, and he's big on establishing team values.

They also traveled to Holly, Colorado, a few miles from the Kansas border to play Holly, Stratton and Sublette, Kansas. The kids had a 10-hour bus ride just to get there. Coach said they were treated "like gold," served

three meals and invited to participate in games with other guys like basketball and corn hole. He said it was a great experience for the kids, and included more than varsity baseball.

This week, the Mustangs face Rangely and Ignacio, both strong 2A teams. Most every team on the Western Slope is a 2A team, except for Nucla and Dove Creek.

As May 3 approaches, he's hoping the kids want it bad enough to step up and win districts.

"We've got the right intangibles," coach said. "We just need to pitch, and hit a lot better. We will be alright."

# SMPA board

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

interacted with the general manager and other staff members. She said it was a lesson in good leadership and what an effective board can do when united toward a common goal.

"Yes, they did eventually buy out of Tri-State and are now an independent power company," she said.

When asked why she wants to serve on the SMPA board, Nickell said she's got concerns about an aging grid system, the loss of small power plants and the severity of storms that cause blackouts. She's read three books on electric power in the U.S.

"We have amazing inventors and problem-solvers in this world, and I would like to be a small part of what I hope will be an exciting future in energy production," she said. "While some of the things I've seen are not applicable to us

right now, they might give us an awareness of new ideas. It's important that we pay attention to all the different systems around the world to look for possible new and better ways for our own electricity."

Nickell said it was recently announced in a Dallas newspaper that there is a new transmission line that can carry more electricity faster and cheaper.

"We are using more and more electricity each year, and providing electricity at the cheapest and most efficient rate to users is critical," she said.

She added school science programs are needed, ones that encourage future generations to find renewable energy ideas.

Additionally, there's more about Nickell she'd like to share. She was raised in Uravan and graduated Nucla High School. Though her parents couldn't afford college for her, she worked as a secretary,

using skills from Elaine Johnson's business classes.

She was able to attend college when living in Arizona, when legislators allowed residents to attend for \$200 a semester. She believes strong leaders can change lives. She's grateful for all of the opportunities she's been given, many by people who never knew her. Now, she wants to give back and serve community.

She raised six children, two of her own and four who lost their mothers. They are all a part of her heart. She loves living in the West End.

"Living in a small town is like one very large extended family, and I'm proud to call this home," she said. "I will dedicate myself to doing the very best for everyone, if I am elected to serve as your representative on the SMPA board."

*Editor's note: This is a two-part story, and next week will feature Tom Loczy's candidacy.*

# San Miguel Basin Forum

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### In Washington, D.C.

Dilyn Alexander, middle, is in a conference for the national 4-H delegation. (Courtesy image)

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## Hickenlooper visit delayed

*Cont. from Pg. 1*

He's been in meetings with the Western Slope Farm Bureau, the Colorado Farm Bureau and the Cattlewomen's Association. Representatives from the organizations are planning to attend either the Grand Junction or Naturita sessions — or both.

John Reams will moderate the West End meeting on Friday.

Speakers will have two minutes only for public comment. It's a listening session, so that Hickenlooper can hear the concerns of local constituents.

Pond said he's spoken enough. He said it's time for the locals to make their voices heard. He asks that people not be redundant. It's not enough to "stand up and state that you don't want a monument."

He said folks need to say why and how it impacts them specifically. The reasons and stories are needed.

Law enforcement and news outlets will be on site.

Pond attended the gun show in Cortez over the weekend, obtaining additional signatures for the Halt the Dolores Monument petition. So far, 8,500 have signed in opposition.

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- |                              |                              |
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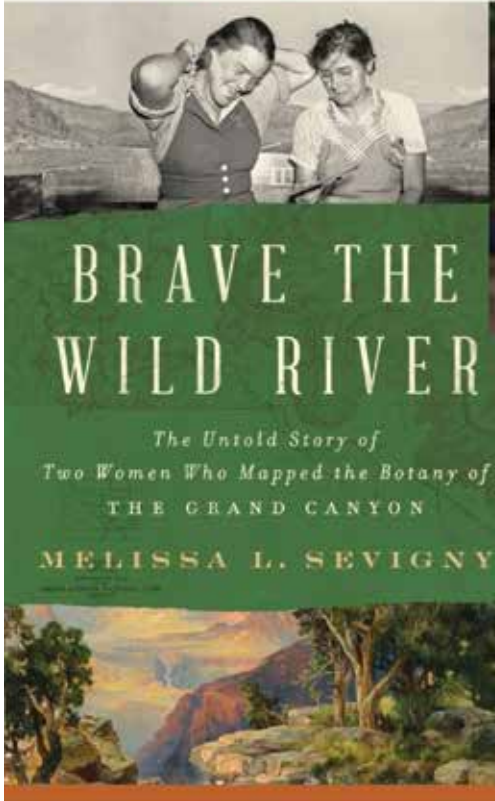
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**WEST END  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Breakfast Menu**

*Free For All Kids*

Milk Served With All Meals

WG: Whole Grain / EC: Early Childhood

**Monday, April 29**

Whipped Cream Cheese, Fruit  
Toast, Milk, Juice (K-6)

**Tuesday, April 30**

French Toast (WG), Mixed  
Fruit, Milk, Juice (K-6),  
Crackers (WG) (EC)

**Wednesday, May 1**

Smoothie, Graham Crackers,  
Milk, Juice (K-6)

**Thursday, May 2**

English Muffin (WG), Cheese,  
Pears, Yogurt, Milk, Juice  
(K-6)

**WEST END  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Lunch Menu**

*Free For All Kids*

Milk Served With All Meals

WG: Whole Grain / EC: Early Childhood

**Monday, April 29**

Grilled Chicken Bacon  
Sandwich, Fries, Salad Bar,  
Milk, Peaches (EC/PK)

**Tuesday, April 30**

Soft Taco, Meat & Beans,  
Chips (WG), Salad Bar, Milk,  
Pears (EC/PK)

**Wednesday, May 1**

Sandwich, Chips, Carrots,  
Fruit, Water, Milk, Mixed Fruit  
(EC/PK)

**Thursday, May 2**

Cheeseburger Pasta, Green  
Beans, Roll, Salad Bar, Milk,  
Oranges (EC/PK)

# West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

4/4/2024

1101 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.

1533 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of Maple Street in Naturita for a suspicious vehicle.

1613 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Lincoln Street in Nucla for a lost property report.

1708 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a protection order violation.

1910 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a juvenile problem.

1 directed patrol in Nucla

4/5/2024

0931 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of Highway 97 and Elm Street in Naturita for a traffic hazard.

1035 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a lost property report.

2125 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Fifth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1 directed patrol in Nucla

4/6/2024

1019 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an information report.

1130 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Crabtree Road in Naturita for a weapon offense report.

1256 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Grape Street in Nucla for a medical assist.

1755 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 26700 block of Z Road near Nucla for a fire.

1 directed patrol in Nucla

4/7/2024

1641 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29000 block of 2700 Road near Nucla for an animal problem.

1752 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Grape Street in Nucla for a juvenile problem.

1916 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a welfare check.

4/8/2024

0829 Hours - Deputy took a civil matter report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.

0845 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 300 block of East Third Avenue in Nucla.

0908 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 800 block of Elm Street in Naturita.

1949 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 60 near Naturita for a traffic complaint.

1 VIN inspection

2 follow up reports

4/9/2024

1412 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a juvenile problem.

1541 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a harassment report.

2 VIN inspections

4/10/2024

0410 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Juniper Street in Nucla for a 911.

1726 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29000 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an animal problem.

1741 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Nucla for a harassment report.

1 VIN inspection

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF NATURITA. CO  
OPPOSITION TO DESIGNATION OF THE DOLORES CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-03**

**WHEREAS**, request for designation by the President of the United States of a National Monument under the Antiquities Act of 1906 should be reserved for specific, limited situations in which a very specific antiquity is threatened, and should not be used a substitute for legislation that is broadly supported by the local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, a group of activist and special interest organizations are attempting to have a large swath of land in Montrose and Mesa Counties designated as the Dolores Canyon National Monument, and have recruited support from national organizations, Front Range, and unaffected West Slope communities, but have not until recently conducted any discussions with local residents, elected officials or businesses directly impacted by such designation; and

**WHEREAS**, Naturita has had a session to hear concerns of local and finds that the overwhelming sentiment is against designation of the area as a national monument; and

**WHEREAS**, the concerns expressed by local residents include potential for limiting or halting current and future production of vanadium, uranium, and other valuable minerals essential to the development of clean nuclear energy, as well as the potential limitations of future management of the lands that could eliminate use of roads and outdoor recreation, such as the Rimrocker Trail, mountain biking and dirt biking trails, grazing, hunting, loss of water rights, timber production and severely discriminate against the elderly, disabled and handicapped citizens who would no longer have access; and

**WHEREAS**, national monuments are managed by federal agencies beyond the control of the local residents and elected officials, and the terms and conditions for their management can be changed without essential consideration of costs, detriments, overcrowding of the local communities or the effects to the economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the area being proposed for designation is already protected from unfettered development by designation as a potential wilderness area, and by other management plans adopted by the responsible federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, and not wishing to be included in the millions of acres of public lands nationwide that have been closed off by the Department of Interior or the U.S. Forest Service, this designation of a national monument is unnecessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Naturita and other surrounding communities have already experienced devastation to our economies through decisions of the federal and state governments to limit or eliminate the use of coal power, as well as oil and gas development, and are now only beginning to strategize for recovery with our own viable economic ideas, and desire not to be shut down again by special interest groups that purposefully included the entire Uravan Mineral Belt in the proposed monument designation and website that clearly say they want to put a halt to mining, when we sit on the nation's most abundant critical mineral supply that will help support our economy, national security, produce clean energy and lower the dependency of foreign countries as mandated by several House Bills, executive orders and the Mining Act of 1872;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF NATURITA, STATE OF COLORADO THAT:**

The Town of Naturita will strongly oppose any effort to designate the Dolores River Canyon National Monument as proposed and will monitor and update progress of this initiative and strive to actively oppose including joining litigation to halt such designation as appropriate.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN OF NATURITA BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS 26th DAY OF MARCH 2024.**

TOWN OF NATURITA, COLORADO  
ATTEST:  
Eugene Greenwood - Mayor  
Diana Starks, Town Clerk  
Jeff Sonnenberg - Mayor Pro-Tem  
Sharon Different - Trustee  
Dan Williams - Trustee  
John Gist - Trustee  
Harold Cowles - Trustee

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum April 24, 2024

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*Call the Forum at 970-864-7425.*

**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

THEME: FICTIONAL MOTHERS

**ACROSS**

- 1. Bars
- 6. Escape or flee
- 9. Green gemstone or Heather Graham in "The Hangover"
- 13. Turning point
- 14. 34th U.S. Pres
- 15. Actress Sophia \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Each and all
- 17. Lake, in France
- 18. Roof overhangs
- 19. \*Lovable mother of seven in "Harry Potter" Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_
- 21. \*Mother in "The Terminator," Sarah \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. Not safe, in baseball
- 24. "Hold on!"
- 25. Uno \_\_\_\_\_, in Mexico
- 28. Iranian monarch
- 30. Be a go-between
- 35. Kind of cuckoos
- 37. Passing mention
- 39. Dwelled

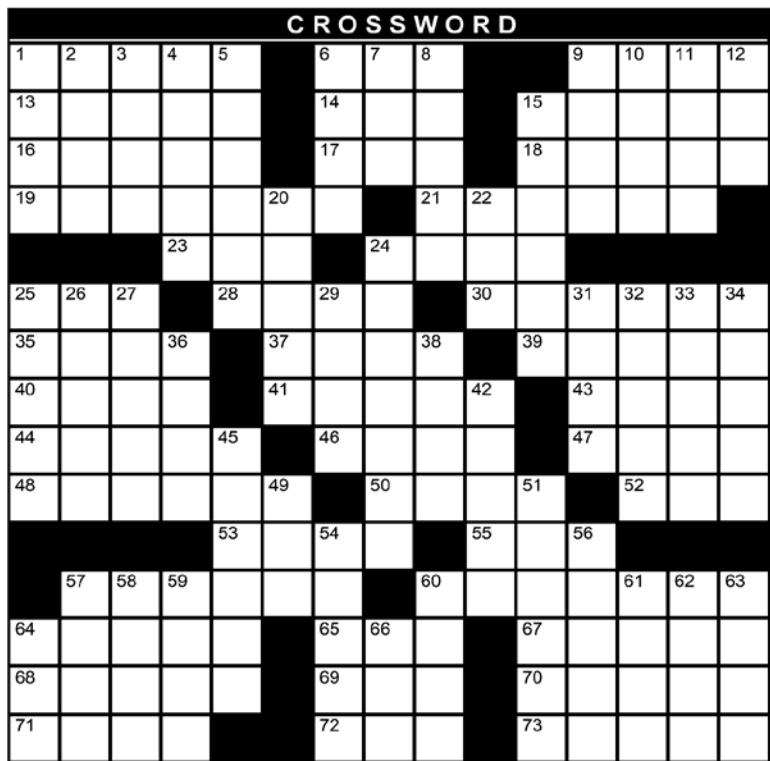
- 40. TV show "\_\_\_\_ 911!"
- 41. \*\*"Beloved" mother
- 43. Like a tennis skirt
- 44. Scottish kinship groups
- 46. Spare in car
- 47. Email folder
- 48. Vertical dimension
- 50. Turf alternative
- 52. Morse Code dash
- 53. Hippocratic \_\_\_\_\_
- 55. Three, to Caesar
- 57. \*Margaret White's telekinetic daughter
- 60. \*Elizabeth Zott of "\_\_\_\_ in Chemistry"
- 64. Vernacular
- 65. R&R hot spot
- 67. Capital of Vietnam
- 68. Yours is as good as mine?
- 69. Tennis retry
- 70. Cause anxiety (2 words)
- 71. Bookie's quote
- 72. Well-kept secret, for some
- 73. Teatime treat

**DOWN**

- 1. Do like volcano



- 2. Honey home
- 3. Iris holder
- 4. Human trunk
- 5. iPad "pen"
- 6. \*Matriarch, \_\_\_\_\_ Munster of "The Munsters"
- 7. \*Nadezhda of "The Americans," \_\_\_\_\_ Elizabeth Jennings, acr.
- 8. Muhammad's birthplace
- 9. Melissa Rivers' mom
- 10. Australian slang for afternoon
- 11. Widely hunted ruminant
- 12. Follow ems
- 15. A particular legume
- 20. Not paths
- 22. Second O in EVOO
- 24. Kinda white
- 25. \*Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_, a.k.a. Marmee
- 26. Anoint
- 27. Red Sea peninsula
- 29. Drive a getaway car, e.g.
- 31. Goals
- 32. Like a Harvard building?
- 33. Plant-based laxative
- 34. \*\_\_\_\_\_ Bunker, mom to Gloria in "All in the Family"
- 36. Dance partner
- 38. Drive-\_\_\_\_\_, for short
- 42. Like a haunted house
- 45. Daisy dukes, e.g.
- 49. \_\_\_\_\_ chi
- 51. Casts a line
- 54. Popular electric car
- 56. Newton's first name
- 57. Foul substance
- 58. Matured
- 59. Bob of "The Joy of Painting" fame
- 60. Better than never?
- 61. On top of
- 62. "High" time
- 63. Cosine's counterpart
- 64. In the past
- 66. \*\*"Married... with Children" mom



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**THANK YOU**  
CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you to the family and friends who attended the services honoring Buddy Church. It meant so much for us to see you there. We have appreciated all your support during this difficult time in our lives. There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt gratitude for the love, sympathy, and support you have extended to the family. Thank you to our family, friends, and the community for your thoughts and prayers.

47-1T-PCC

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED**

Norwood School District is willing to pay for CDL training and certification. Must pass a Class B CDL with S&P endorsement, CDL Drug Test & Physical. The full job description is located on our website, please follow the link/URL <https://www.norwoodk12.org/domain/181> and click on "Click here for job listings and to apply online".

47-2T-C

**NUCLA-NATURITA TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
HELP WANTED - FIELD TECHNICIAN



Nucla-Naturita Telephone Company is looking for a Field Technician to join our team. The applicant will conduct such work

as installations, repairs, and maintenance throughout our service territory. Normal work schedule is Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., but applicant must be willing to work after hours, overtime and to be on call. Other duties and responsibilities, such as locates, may be assigned. Applicant must be willing to do pre-employment drug screening.

**Job Requirements:**

- High School or Equivalent Certificate
- Valid Driver's License and Good driving record

Applications are available for pickup at 421 Main Street, Nucla and can be returned to the Business Office or you may send a resume to [nntc@nntcwireless.com](mailto:nntc@nntcwireless.com).

44-TFN-C

**NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS HIRING**

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- Kindergarten Teacher
- Spanish/English Language Learner Teacher
- 5th Grade Teacher
- 6th Grade Teacher
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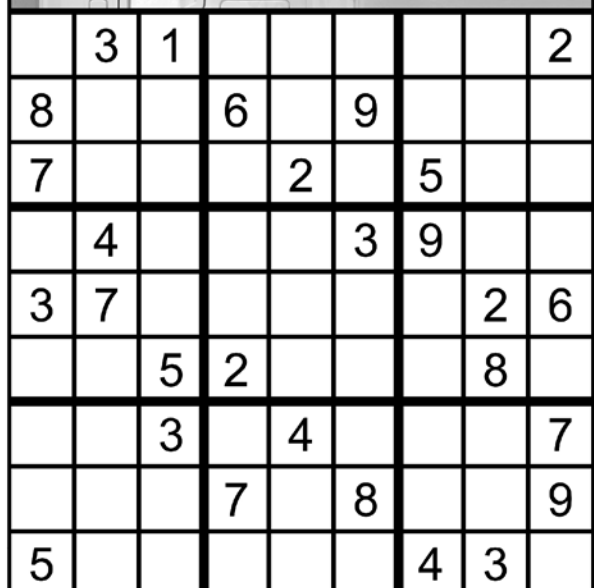
46-4T-C

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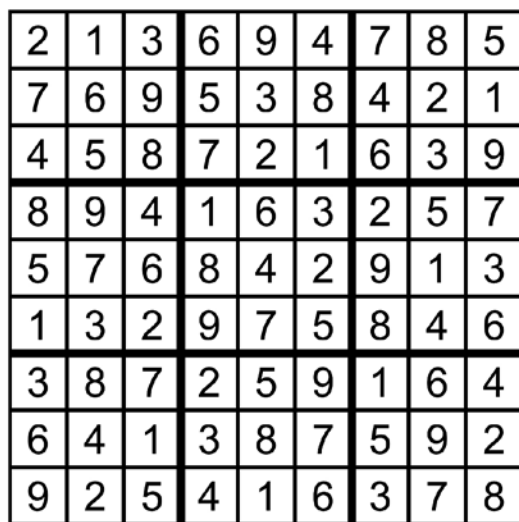
With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-in Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLD 1082165 NSCD 008299 0083445



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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



**DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT**

300-400# STEERS	3.50-4.05	300-400# HEIFERS	3.35-3.95
400-500# STEERS	3.20-3.65	400-500# HEIFERS	2.90-3.35
500-600# STEERS	2.85-3.20	500-600# HEIFERS	2.75-2.90
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	1.35-1.50high of 1.55	Medium bulls	1.20-1.30
Young Cows	1.45-1.80	Top cows	1.18-1.40top of 1.40
Medium cows	1.10-1.18	Low-yielding cows	1.00below

SPRING SALES EVERY WEEK IN MARCH, APRIL AND MAY!

**NEXT WEEK:** Special Goats & Sheep Sale. Along with our regular cattle sale. 15 pairs, 6 bred cows, 5 grass calves, 9 butcher cows, 6 butcher bulls. Along with our usual dock run of 100-200.

**UP COMING SALES**

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

Complete dispersal of 75 Highlander cows . 10yrling bulls, 10yrling heifers, 10- 2 yr old open heifer, 9- 2 yr old steers, 30 running age cows, 2 pairs , 3 bulls. 6 Watusis ( 2 cows, 2 hrs, 2 str. ) , 1 mini herford bull, 1 mini herford pair.

NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE Saturday, JUNE 1ST

YOUTH

# Mustang baseball



As of press time, the Nucla team had a record of 5-8-1.



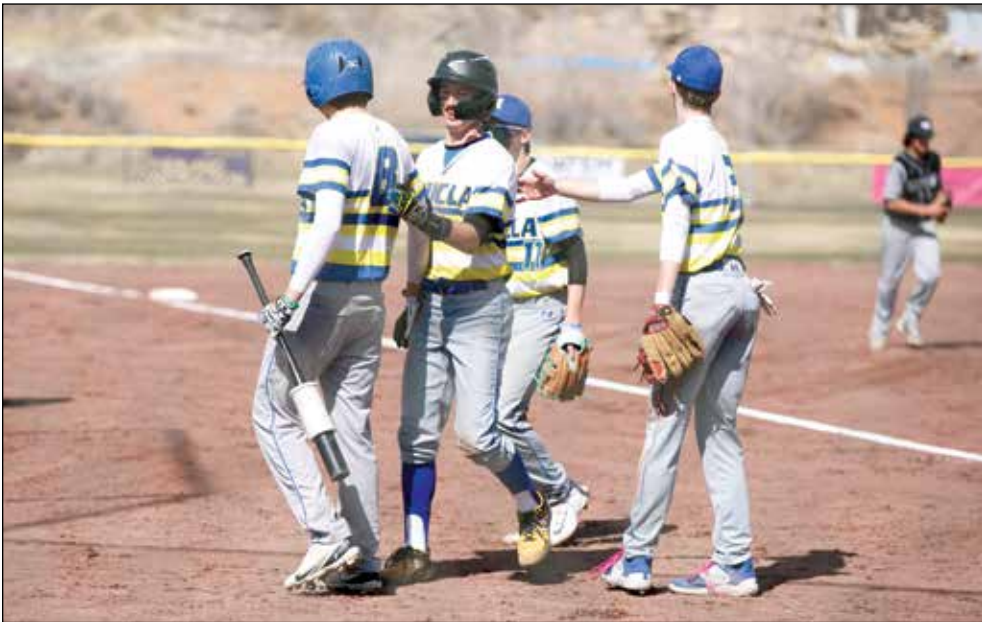
Steele Arnold is striking people out.



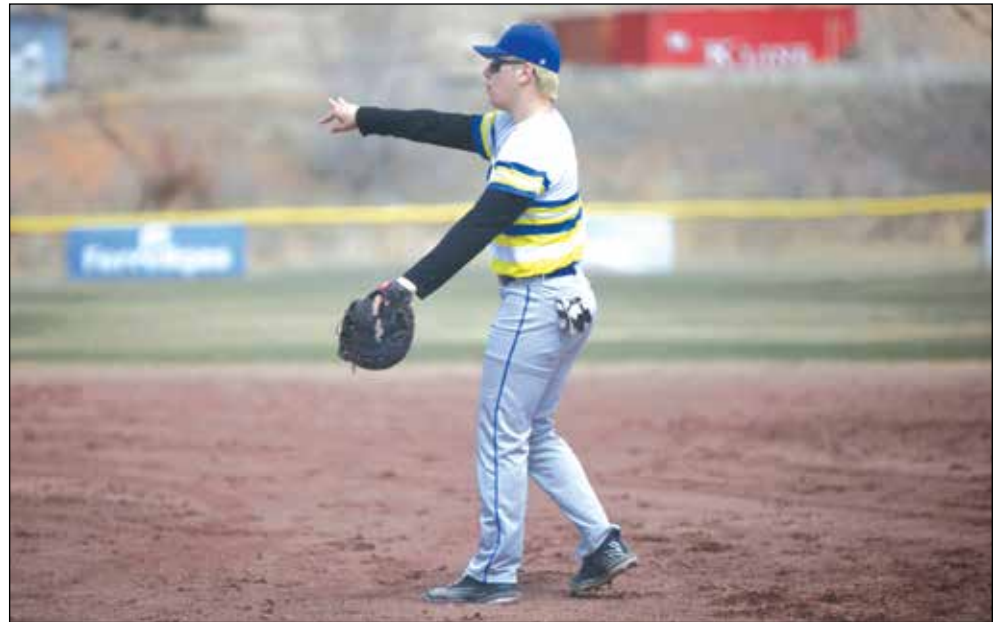
Head coach Randy Gabriel said 21 are out for the team.



Jake Hulst, hitting here, is also relief pitcher for the Mustangs.



Owen Dinsmore steps up to the plate.



Paxtin Caruso is first baseman. (Photos by Brandie McCabe)

# Track and field continues



Cadence Shaw competes in the long jump for Mustang track.



Austin Garvey is a hurdler and set a personal record recently. (Photos by Keiran Bray)