

# San Miguel Basin Forum

## CRIME

### USMS captures wanted woman in Nucla

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

On June 18, some in Nucla might have noticed a disturbance in the community, since a number of law enforcement appeared to be conducting serious business.

On June 19, Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard sent a press release to the San Miguel Basin Forum about the cause of the commotion. Last Tuesday, a woman, Tracy Totty, who was wanted for vehicular homicide in Memphis, Tennessee, was captured by the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) in Nucla.

On Sept. 29, 2022, two pedestrians, who happened to be doing construction-type work, were struck and killed in a vehicle crash near N. White Station and Sequoia Avenue in Memphis. Later, on Aug. 4, 2023, Totty, age 67, was indicted for the two deaths and charged with vehicular homicide-intoxication, aggravated vehicular homicide and vehicular homicide-reckless.

But, she apparently went missing afterward.

"The case was adopted for a fugitive matter by the USMS Two Rivers Violent Fugitive Task Force (TRVFTF) in Memphis," the sheriff's office press release said. "The TRVFTF developed information that Totty was in Nucla, Colorado, and provided investigative leads to the USMS Colorado Violent Offender Fugitive Task Force (COVOFTF). Investigators with the COVOFTF located Totty at a residence in Nucla and took her into custody."

Last week, the press release said Totty was awaiting extradition back to Tennessee.

The COVOFTF was assisted by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Montrose County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

Lillard confirmed with the San Miguel Basin Forum that the woman had been living in the West End since she fled Tennessee. He also said the initial warrant was issued on Aug. 4, 2023.

"United States Marshals tracked her to the 500 block of Lincoln Street," Lillard said. "Montrose County Sergeant Dan Taylor assisted the U.S. Marshals, trying to get her out of the residence by negotiating with a male that was in the residence. U.S. Marshals tried to get her to surrender by talking to her over their public address system in their vehicles with no luck."

Lillard added they next deployed

Cont. on Pg. 3



Debbie Wytulka prepares items for the online auction that opens July 31. (Courtesy image)

## NUCLA

### Online auction for school items opens July 31

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

The old elementary school in Nucla will soon be emptied. West End Public Schools District Superintendent Clint Wytulka told the Forum that while nothing is happening with that vacant building just yet, it's time to auction the contents inside. That includes thousands of items that were previously part of Naturita Elementary School and the old middle school and high

school in Nucla.

There are file cabinets, shelves, wicker furniture, desks, tables, chairs, storage lockers and more.

Jimmy Flowers, a professional auctioneer who has done much work in the West End, has been on site and has taken at least 2,000 photos that he will be uploading over the next week. The auction is strictly online though, and Wytulka said that's for good reason.

It's too problematic to have everything available at once for a live auction, and the buyer pool

locally is not big enough to support it.

When Flowers puts the auction online in the next week, it will be seen nationally. Flowers said ideally some other small schools or churches who need this type of furniture and equipment will take advantage of the auction. Items will be listed into bundles — for example, 10 desks grouped together and the same goes for 20 chairs — because it doesn't make

Cont. on Pg. 4

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

### Free counseling available through Recovery Access Fund

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Representatives from Tri-County Health Network announced the the launch of the Delta and West End Recovery Access Fund (RAF). This fund offers financial assistance to those who live or work in Delta or the West End of Montrose County and who are in need of mental health counseling related to substance use. RAF will pay counselors directly at a rate of \$110 per session for services. Clients will be responsible for any remaining balance over the \$110 amount.

This means anyone who lives or works in Delta or the West End is eligible to receive six sessions, regardless of income. Recipients may also apply for an additional six sessions, dependent on income.

For those who may qualify for a scholarship through RAF, they can apply online at [tchnetwork.org/raf-health-fund-application/](http://tchnetwork.org/raf-health-fund-application/).

Additionally, a mental health care provider who wishes to provide services through RAF can apply too. (If they're already approved for the San Miguel Behavioral Health Fund, they are automatically approved to be a provider for RAF.) Approval for providers to work with the funds can be done fairly quickly and enables counselors to keep seeing existing clients or attain new ones.

Melanie Montoya Wasserman, co-executive director for Tri-County Health Network, told the Forum that the funds are part of a grant from the Southwest Colorado Opioid Regional Council. Wasserman said the initial applica-

tion for those needing counseling is not investigative. Minimal questioning is required for approval, and some questions have an option of "choosing not to respond."

Later, in counseling, all information is confidentially protected by law.

"One of the goals is to reduce barriers to access," Wasserman said. "There are applications, information needs to be submitted, but hopefully it feels accessible for people and easy to do."

She added that the initial sign-up is just the first hurdle for someone to get past, and she hopes it is as smooth as possible. She said qualification to see a counselor can happen as quickly as one to two days. The funds can pay for someone to see their existing provider, or help

Cont. on Pg. 5

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Biking, pizza, family movie continue June 26 in Naturita

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Family Fun Nights in the West End, sponsored by Paradox Cycle, are back for this summer, and already the outdoor movies in the Naturita Town Park have showcased "Barbie" and "Lion King." The movies are being shown every other Wednesday night and are free to the public.

While the family nights last year were on Thursday evenings, that's also when the Tabeguache Trail Riders' gymkhanas happen in Nucla. To avoid competing with the gymkhana series and to also spread community activities out, owner and operator of Paradox Cycle Brock Benson moved Family Fun Nights to Wednesdays.

And, Benson told the San Miguel Basin Forum that the fun begins before the movie, starting at 4 p.m.

"I'm offering free (bike) service from 4 to 6 p.m. and a discount on parts for local families that want to get their bikes together, so they can ride around the park," he said. "A free dinner is provided by community members that want to contribute."

Benson said Jennifer Locke and Hank Miller have been providing most of the dinners and/or popcorn the last two summers. Though, the first movie night of this summer the Nucla-Naturita EMS sold burgers and hot dogs to raise money for new uniforms.

This week, Saucy Mama's, of Nucla, will donate pizza for the children, and Paradox Cycle will buy a few more pizzas also. Benson said all are welcome to order their own pizzas this week through Saucy Mama's, and they can get free delivery to the park before the movie begins.

"We encourage families to go play, eat dinner in the beautiful park, and then at sundown, 9 p.m., Paradox Cycle sponsors a free movie on the outdoor projection screen," Benson said.

Last week was an "off week," so the movie runs this week. On June 26 the outdoor flick is "Soul," a Disney Pixar animated film about music, art and children.

The Family Fun Nights continue every other week through September, though the bike service happens every week on Wednesdays. Families and individuals can come to Paradox Cycle to receive service and are encouraged to ride a bit.

In other bike shop news, Paradox Cycle has a new apprentice. Now, Zack Carter is working as

Cont. on Pg. 2

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Drought and wildfire workshop

Dear Editor,

There is a Drought and Wildfire Resiliency Workshop at Lone Cone Library on June 26 at 5:30 p.m. All are invited to learn from community leaders and local experts about the resources and programs available to promote wildfire and drought resilience in our communities. There will be chances to ask questions, gather resources, and share experiences and knowledge. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Mollie Theis, Education and Outreach Coordinator for EcoAction Partners  
TELLURIDE

## For concerned citizens of Wright's Mesa

Dear Editor,

The Protect Wright's Mesa Community Coalition asks that you review the current draft regulations and to again submit written comments to the San Miguel County Board of County Commissioners and to San Miguel County Planning Commission. Comments submitted by noon on July 3 will be included in the meeting packet. Comments submitted after will be forwarded to the planning commission. On July 11 the "newly" revised solar energy regulations will be presented to the SMC Board of County Commissioners.

"The planning commission will be making a recommendation to the commissioners who will consider adoption of the regulations at

a future hearing date that has not yet been set," said Kaye Simonson in email dated June 20, 2024.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this important meeting. These draft regulations are available at [bit.ly/SolarDraftregs](https://bit.ly/SolarDraftregs). Please review and get your comments in. The coalition has T-shirts available for \$20. Please reach out to me at 970-708-9906 if you are interested.

Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

Terri Lamers  
NORWOOD

## Historical drawings booklet at Water Days

Dear Editor,

The Hometown Historical Drawings booklet, originally published in 1984 by the West End Art Guild, is a collection of pen and ink drawings of familiar landmarks and items that reflect the area's farming and ranching heritage. The contributing artists were all members of the guild. The Rimrocker Historical Society decided to reprint this "community keepsake," and it is available for sale at their museum, with proceeds going to the historical society. Typically, the price of the booklets is \$15 each, but as part of this year's Water Days celebration, it will be offered at a discounted price (at the Rimrocker Historical Society's Museum) of \$10 on Friday and Saturday, July 28-29.

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# History: Rimrocker Historical Society Celebrating water

By JANE THOMPSON, Rimrocker Historical Society



Colonists gather in front of the Colorado Cooperative Company building, July 4, 1915. (Image courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

This week is the 120th anniversary of the Colorado Cooperative Company bringing water to the Tabeguache Park and the beginning of the community of Nucla. In 1894 they came up with this idea, that through hard work, determination and cooperation, they would build a community in Colorado where they could have a chance at a new life. After 10 years of work and sacrifice, water finally came through the Colorado Cooperative Company Ditch and reached the Tabeguache Park on June 4, 1904. Tabeguache Park would become known as the Town of Nucla. It was a feat that we can barely imagine now. It took perseverance, hard work and a lot of luck, but they did it, and it was definitely a cooperative effort by all: men, women and children.

We have repeated the story told by Ellen Zatterstrom Peterson in her book "The Spell of the Tabeguache" many times, but it is always worth repeating. The celebration of their success was a big event indeed, and that celebration happened here 120 years ago ...

"On June 4, 1904, water flowed through the ditch to the initial point. The board voted to celebrate the occasion in two ways: first, by firing a salute on the Fourth of July — one blast for each state in the Union; second, by holding a picnic on the townsite during the week of the annual meeting (which was also the week of the Fourth of July) ...

It was an odd caravan that left Pinon for the park that July morning: the company's wagons loaded with people, one spring wagon

also loaded, some men on horseback, a few even on foot, and a high-toned livery rig drawn by a team of black horses. The livery rig had been driven in from Montrose by Norman Winter, who had been away and returned for a visit. All followed the ditch line road, which was fairly good as far as Loveland Camp. When it turned up Schappi Draw to climb to the top of the park, it became somewhat less than a good trail that crossed and recrossed the rocky creek bed.

By noon the crowd had gathered at the townsite, the high point on the north edge of the park. Here, in the shade of the cedars, long tables were spread with food. The band played; there were speeches and singing.

There was a spirit of real rejoicing at the picnic. These people had reason to be exultant. They had built the ditch — 15 miles of it along the mountain side. They had trestled over canyons and tunneled through rocks. They had accomplished a feat that prudent men had told them was impossible without financial backing. They had done it co-operatively. They had proved to themselves and to the world that nothing is impossible to men and women who are willing to work together for a common cause ... These people were rejoicing, even though they realized as they gazed across that wide expanse of sagebrush that their work had only just begun. Each, no doubt, was now seeing his own dream castle and was eager to be up and at the building of it.

Two days after the picnic, disas-

ter struck once more. On the night of July 6, the sawmill and much of the lumber were destroyed by fire. This was a heavy loss. It would have been much more disastrous had it come before the trestles and flumes were completed. The mill was rebuilt but never to the size of the old one."

Many towns celebrate the Fourth of July, the day of independence of our great country. Nucla also celebrates the fact that a group of determined people brought water to a desert and made a beautiful farming community which we are lucky to live in. We combine our festivities with a little bit of water celebration, a little bit of patriotic celebration and a whole lot of fun!

This year, the Rimrocker Historical Society would like to invite everyone to our 11th annual Water Days Ice Cream Social Friday, June 28, at 5:30 p.m. in front of the new museum on Main Street. We will also have local heirloom apple trees for you to take home for a \$20 donation.

The Water Days Committee has planned to shut down Main Street between 4th and 5th avenues for a community dance. Bring a chair, sit a spell, listen to the band and visit with friends and neighbors. It promises to be a fun evening to kick off the celebration on Saturday. The museum will be open on Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Come in, cool off and enjoy our amazing collection in our new location throughout the celebration — and maybe even take home an apple tree.

## Biking, pizza, family movie

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a bike mechanic, and Benson said the young man shows lots of promise.

"We are over the moon to have such a great kid be a part of the Paradox Cycle team," he said.

And, as an added bonus, Family Fun Nights compliment the West End Farm and Craft Market, which

happens 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays weekly.

"I felt like it made more sense to join forces with my friend Galit (Korngold) and really make Naturita the only place to be on Wednesdays," Benson said.

Korngold, owner and operator of Wild Gal's Market in Naturita, also runs the farm and craft markets on the patio of her food shop. She's

serving a specialty to-go meal every Wednesday of the summer.

Last week's farm market meal was Greek food, and this week will feature Moroccan. Korngold is serving baked chicken with olives, a few Moroccan salads and fragrant rice. Cost is \$18 per meal. She told the Forum she's splitting the proceeds of Moroccan night with the Basin Clinic.

**GEOLOGY**

# U.S. Geological Survey flights slated to begin in June

**SPECIAL TO THE FORUM**

Low-level helicopter flights are slated to begin over a broad region of southwestern Colorado to image geology using airborne geophysical technology. Flying will commence in mid to late June and will take up to two months to complete — weather and wildfire restrictions permitting. Flights will cover areas within Chaffee, Gunnison and Saguache counties.

The flights will be based out of assorted regional airports, primarily in Salida and Gunnison. The flights could shift with little warning to other parts of the survey area as necessitated by adverse flying conditions.

The purpose is to provide images that expand the fundamental knowledge of geology, underpinning a broad series of historic mining districts known as the Colorado Mineral Belt. The belt hosts multiple types of mineral commodities, including critical minerals that are vital to the nation's security and economy.

The new geophysical data, along with geologic mapping by the Colorado Geological Survey and USGS, will be combined to develop high-resolution, three-dimensional representations of bedrock composition and structure to

depths more than 3,280 feet below the surface.

The 3D models and maps are important for improving experts' understanding of critical mineral resource potential, water resources, groundwater pathways near legacy mining areas, parameters for infrastructure and land use planning, and potential risks of naturally occurring radon. They also address scientific questions about Colorado's 2-billion-year-old geologic history and why multiple mineralizing events concentrated in one region over millions of years.

The helicopter will fly along pre-planned flight paths, relatively low to the ground, at about 300 feet above the surface. The ground clearance will be increased to 1,000 feet over populated areas and will comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. Flights will follow north-south lines spaced about 650 feet apart and east-west lines about 3,280 feet apart. The USGS is contracting with NV5 Geospatial, Edcon-PRJ and Precision GeoSurveys to collect the data.

The survey will use a helicopter equipped with an elongated "stinger" mounted to the underside of the cabin, extending forward of the helicopter. Instruments in the stinger and inside the cabin will measure variations in the Earth's

magnetic field and natural low-level radiation created by different rock types.

The scientific instruments on the helicopter are completely passive, with no emissions that pose a risk to humans, animals, or plant life. No photography or video data will be collected. The data collected will be made freely available to the public once complete. The aircraft will be flown by experienced pilots who are specially trained and approved for low-level flying. The company works with the FAA to ensure flights are safe and in accordance with U.S. law. The surveys will be conducted during daylight hours only.

The survey fits into a broader effort by the USGS, the CGS and many other state geological surveys and other partners, including private companies, academics and state and federal agencies to modernize understanding of the nation's fundamental geologic framework and knowledge of mineral resources.

This effort is known as the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative, or Earth MRI, and it includes airborne geophysical surveys like this one, geochemical reconnaissance surveys, topographic mapping using LiDAR technology, hyperspectral surveys and geologic mapping projects.

## San Miguel Basin Forum

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## USMS captures woman

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a distraction device, "aka flash bang, and the suspect Tracy Ann Totty, age 67, surrendered without further incident."

Lillard said Totty was cooperative after being taken into custody. He confirmed she was transported to the Montrose County Jail and held on a "no bond order" from

Tennessee.

"We have had very good working relationships with the U.S. Marshal's Office, as well as the U.S. Postal Service and CBI," Lillard said. "Agent Bunn from the U.S. Marshal's Office thanked the Montrose County Sheriff's Office for the assistance. We were more than glad to oblige by taking a vehicular homicide suspect into

custody."

West End Commander Bruce Schmalz did not work the case, but did read through the report.

"Everything went as good as it possibly could have," Schmalz said.

He added he didn't think anyone in the local area knew the truth of who Totty was or that she was in hiding.



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Congressman Bill Richardson (May 1994)

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# Online auction

Cont. from Pg. 1

sense to list hundreds of the same item separately.

There will be a specific website and a QR code that people can access. All in the West End are invited to preview the items, and similar to e-Bay, they can create a watchlist.

The auction begins July 31 and will end on Aug. 7, lasting a week long.

Aug. 10 will be loading day, and many volunteers will be on site to oversee people coming with trailers to pick up the items they will have purchased.

Wytulka agreed it would be amazing if the school could make money on the auction. Still, Flowers must be paid for his work. And, Wytulka said the bigger goal is

liquidating the items and emptying the old school.

With a seven-day bidding period, Wytulka and Flowers are hoping the auction items are seen. Some of the desks might be old; they agreed there are things that go back to the 1950s. Wytulka said people might have a sentimental feeling about some of the things offered. But, there are newer ones too, like flat-screen TVs with stands.

“Hopefully, we do our fiduciary duty and get this stuff sold for a reasonable amount of money and get it out of here,” Flowers said.

“We want (the items) to go to good homes and hope somebody can use them,” Wytulka added.

Wytulka said those in the West End who are interested in looking or participating should log onto the auction website as soon as it

becomes available. He said people must register when they access the site.

The school superintendent said it would good for local folks to become familiar with how it works. He wants people to have plenty of time and not feel limited in their ability to navigate the technology.

There was a previous auction in December of 2023 at the old Nucla Middle School-High School. Wytulka said that was different and focused more on fixtures and attachments. He said people did show up and purchase various things, including urinals, drinking fountains and more.

The San Miguel Basin Forum will publish the auction website and QR code in print and online when those are up and running.

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**Farm and craft fun**

Patrons enjoy the West End Farm and Craft Market outside of Wild Gal's Market on June 19. (Photo by Punky Linville)



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# Free counseling

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them get matched with a new one. Tele-health is also an option.

There doesn't appear to be an age requirement on the application, and Wasserman said there's a place to let representatives know that someone is applying for a dependent.

"This is available to anybody in Delta or the West End," Wasserman said, adding that teens can receive sessions.

"There is no income barrier," she added.

She reiterated that if a session did cost more than \$110, a client would have to make up the rest. But, someone with a low income or no income could go for another six sessions. Getting another six can happen by proving income 400 percent below the federal poverty line.

Wasserman doesn't want filling out an application to be a barrier. She said anyone struggling to fill the form out or deal with the website can contact Tri-County Health Network representatives, and they will assist.

"Someone will walk them through the application and process," she said.

What's more is that Tri-County Health Network screens people for other social determinants, including access to food, housing and health insurance and looks to see if abuse might be happening in the home. Wasserman said the organization wants to help the whole person, not just one problem. She said it's about health and support.

Recovery Access Funds are available on a first come, first served basis. There's \$40,000 in the fund now, and that could help 50 to 55 people get six counseling sessions related to substance abuse.

The funds are for 2024. Next year, another round of funding will be available too.

Those with questions should email raf@tchnetwork.



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# MORE EMERGENCY CALL BOXES COMING SOON

Nucla-Naturita Telephone Company (NNTC) has been working on an Emergency 911 Phone Box Project. This project will provide emergency phones along Highway 141, starting at Uravan, continuing through NNTC's service area, to Mile Marker 136. These phones have off hook routing directly to 911 Dispatch, including location information.

NNTC currently has in service 2 Emergency phones, one at the Uravan Ball Park and one at Mesa Creek near the intersection of Rimrock Trail and Highway 141, with more to be installed soon.

Gateway-Unaweep Fire Department is currently working with CDOT to provide signage along the Highway in Mesa County for each Emergency 911 Phone Box.

NNTC is providing this complimentary service within our service area to help Montrose and Mesa County First Responders to get to accident and fire scenes quicker.



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# West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

**6/4/2024**  
 0120 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for suspicious activity.  
 0754 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of East Main Street in Naturita for an animal problem.  
 0846 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for an animal problem.  
 1026 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 12100 block of Highway 90 near Bedrock for a fire.  
 1414 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a welfare check.  
 1715 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Pine Street in Naturita for criminal mischief.  
 1909 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Nucla for a 911.  
 2 VIN inspections  
 1 directed patrol in Naturita

**6/5/2024**  
 0959 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.  
 1817 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Brinkley Avenue in Naturita for a disturbance. Howard Chadd, 59, was cited for third degree assault.  
 2010 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35000 block of 3590 Road near Redvale for an information report.  
 2039 Hours - Austin Sullivan, 28, was arrested in the 35300 block of II Road near Redvale on an outstanding warrant.  
 2058 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a noise complaint.  
 2219 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a fraud report.

**6/6/2024**  
 0818 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29700 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a civil standby.

0834 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a theft report.  
 0916 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of Montana Street in Nucla for an animal problem.  
 1435 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29400 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an accident.  
 1926 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 90 mm 29 near Naturita for a welfare check.  
 1 VIN inspection  
 1 directed patrol in Nucla  
 1 directed patrol in Naturita  
 1 civil process attempted/served

**6/7/2024**  
 0928 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a protection order violation.  
 1925 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 33300 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a fire.

**6/8/2024**  
 0408 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35000 block of 3590 Road near Redvale for suspicious activity.  
 1218 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.  
 1 directed patrol in Nucla  
 2 directed patrols in County

**6/9/2024**  
 0720 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of Ivy Street in Nucla for an animal problem.  
 0749 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a noise complaint.  
 1207 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Main Street in Nucla for a disturbance.  
 1249 Hours - Deputy conducted a security check in the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla.  
 2116 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for an information report.  
 1 directed patrol in County  
 1 directed patrol in Naturita

**6/10/2024**  
 1022 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29200 block of 2800 Road near Nucla for a medical assist.  
 1051 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28000 block of 2810 Road near Nucla for a medical assist.  
 1350 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35300 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for a traffic complaint.  
 1743 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Main Street in Naturita for a welfare check.  
 1844 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28200 block of 2810 Road near Nucla for recovered property.  
 1949 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the intersection of West Fifth Avenue and 2810 Road near Nucla for a traffic complaint.  
 1 VIN inspection  
 2 civil processes attempted/served

**6/11/2024**  
 1324 Hours - Cory Dozier, 39, was arrested in the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla on an outstanding warrant.  
 1644 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 97 and Payson Street in Naturita for an information report.  
 2035 Hours - Christian Linville, 21, was contacted at the intersection of Highway 97 and Adams Street in Naturita and issued a warning for speeding and expired registration.  
 2 warrant attempts  
 1 directed patrol in Nucla

**6/12/2024**  
 1045 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to County Road 90 mm 32 near Nucla for a medical assist.  
 1226 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 30100 block of HH31 Road near Naturita for a fire.  
 1731 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a trespassing report.  
 2049 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Highway 97 and DD Road near Nucla for an information report.  
 2 civil processes attempted/served

**SAN MIGUEL BASIN FORUM**

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Submit your best photo of  
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 at [regantuttle@gmail.com](mailto:regantuttle@gmail.com).

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4-1TC

### WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#### HEAD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH

West End Public Schools RE-2 is currently seeking a head high school girls basketball coach for the 24-25 school year. This position is paid by stipend and is dependent upon experience. Applications can be found on our district website at [www.westendschools.org](http://www.westendschools.org) and must be submitted with a resume to our district office located at 225 W. 4th Ave., Nucla, CO 81424 or can be sent to Clint Wytulka via email at [cwytulka@westendschools.org](mailto:cwytulka@westendschools.org). We are an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

3-2TC

### VETERAN MEMORIAL SERVICE INFO

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

### CHANGE TO OBITUARY COST

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

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISION - BOND RELEASE APPLICATION No. 27 (SL-27)

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has issued a proposed decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 27 (SL-27) for the New Horizon Mine, Permit No. C-1981-008. The Division proposes to approve Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC's request for Phase I Bond Release of 85.5 acres. The acreage requested for bond release has been backfilled, graded and reestablished drainages as required for Phase I Bond Release. All 85.5 acres requested for release are located in the southern part of Section 36. 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 January 15, 2024. Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC is requesting Phase I Bond Release for 85.5 acres that were backfilled and graded, including topsoil replacement and seeding, in 2023. The acreage requested for bond release is located in the southern part of Section 36, just north of BB Road. 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://dnrweblink.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/1180Udf\\_Mpjo3kx1HKP5hMH-w7MeBtxX7/view..](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1180Udf_Mpjo3kx1HKP5hMH-w7MeBtxX7/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 June 19 & 26, 2024

## DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT

300-400# STEERS	3.80-4.20	300-400# HEIFERS	3.50-4.00
400-500# STEERS	3.50-3.80	400-500# HEIFERS	2.90-3.35
500-600# STEERS	2.95-3.35	500-600# HEIFERS	2.75-2.90
600-700# STEERS	2.65-2.80	600-700# HEIFERS	2.30-2.60
700-800# STEERS	2.40-2.55	700-800# HEIFERS	2.25-2.35
800-900# STEERS	2.30-2.45	800-900# HEIFERS	1.90-2.10
Top bulls	1.50-1.72	Medium bulls	1.40-1.44
Young Cows	1.45-1.82	Top cows	1.28-1.55
Medium cows	1.10-1.22	Low-yielding cows	1.00below

Please remember to take baby animals home as soon as possible, especially in this summer heat.

**NEXT WEEK:** No sale June 27 OR JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>.

NEXT REGULAR CATTLE SALE JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>.

### SUMMER SALE SCHEDULE

Thursday July 11 – Regular Sale  
No sale July 18

Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup> Special Goat and Sheep Sale Along with Regular Cattle Sale

NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE – AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup>.

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: THINGS WITH WHEELS

### ACROSS

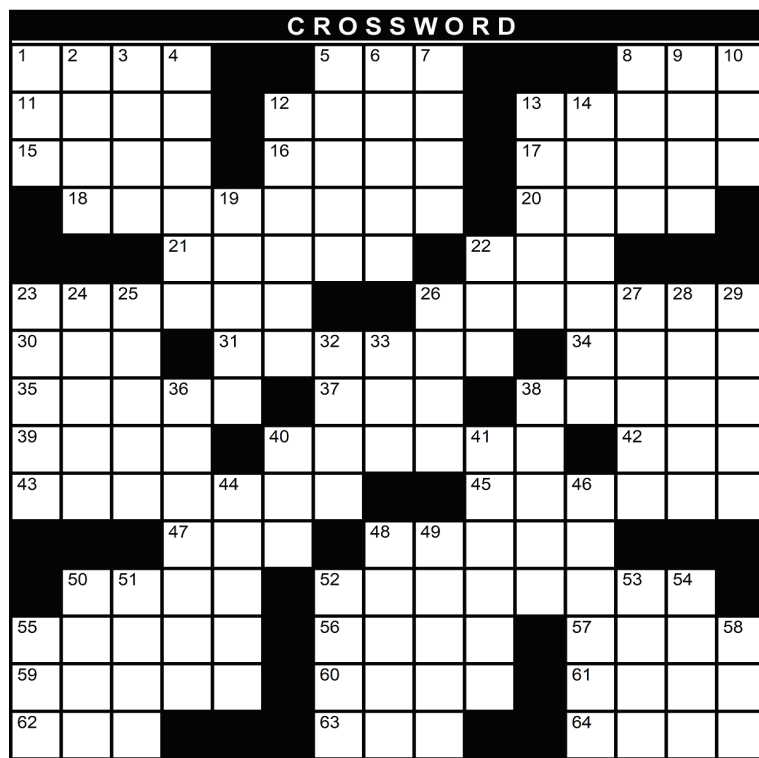
- Unfledged hawk
- The \_\_\_ Gala, haute couture fundraiser
- Ballet step
- Sasquatch's cousin
- Prefix in levorotary
- DVD player button
- What Tylenol and xylene have in common
- Seaport in Yemen
- With ample space
- \*Rumpelstiltskin's \_\_\_ wheel
- Viking writing symbol
- Musical finales
- In favor of
- Source of tapioca
- Smith, e.g.
- "Stand and Deliver" singer
- Live-in helper (2 words)
- Et alii, abbr.

- Nephew's sister
- Tire depression
- Turkey's southern neighbor
- Same as ayah
- Engage in a pursuit (2 words)
- Bed-and-breakfast, e.g.
- Tibetan Buddhism
- Pinched
- Sing like Public Enemy
- Mother-of-pearl
- Cripple
- \*Wheel in Vegas
- Chocolate substitute
- Egg on
- Capri or Catalina
- Olden days violin maker
- Croaks
- "Run Away to Mars" singer
- Jump key
- Corncob
- Gaelic



### DOWN

- \*London \_\_\_\_, tourist attraction
- Hankering
- At the summit of
- Glass ingredient
- TV and radio
- Not odds
- Chinatown gang
- Low-ranking worker
- Pinnacle
- Pig's digs
- \*Royal procession carriage
- E in baseball box score
- \*"Wheel in the Sky" band
- Star bursts
- "\_\_\_ Elise"
- Suez or Panama
- Carl Jung's inner self
- \*Type of locomotive
- Surfer's stop
- Like anchor aweigh
- Easternmost state
- Serengeti grazer
- \*Perambulator, for short
- Black and white sea bird
- \*Ancient Greek ride
- Top of a steeple
- Kitchen meas.
- Reunion attendees
- Poets' feet
- Smaller size than small
- \*a.k.a. water wheel
- Hole-borer
- Baby's first word?
- Speedy steed
- Boorish
- Russian autocrat
- 90-degree pipes, e.g.
- "Peace Train" singer-songwriter
- Increase



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

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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

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

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

# Arnold travels for all-state basketball games; his team wins it all

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Steele Arnold, who recently traveled in June to play in the all-state baseball games with Hemmy O'Brien, traveled again for the Colorado all-state basketball games. Arnold was at Colorado State University-Pueblo June 11-12 with the best high school basketball players in the state, all seniors who recently graduated.

Arnold said there were players from all classifications, 1A through 6A, and many as tall as 6'5", but not many from tiny towns like Nucla. In fact, he was one of the few to come from the Western Slope, though he knows there was a guy from Meeker there too. Arnold said nearly everyone was from the Front Range.

CHSAA determined the invitees. He did recognize a few faces, guys from Eades and Wray, and others he'd played against in different sports.

The guys got checked in on their first day and were split into four different teams. Arnold was on the "red" team. They received uniforms, which they were given to keep, and had pictures with the media.

He said it was quite an experience to be able to play in a D-2 collegiate gym. They were announced before games and pictured on the Jumbotron.

Arnold's team played in the semifinals game and won 90-70. They also played for the championship and while they were down some 20 points, ended up coming back in the fourth quarter and winning the whole thing 88-86.

He didn't know the coaches, which were from the Denver area and very experienced, and it was a bit different than the coaching he was used to. Still, he said he and the other guys knew the game of basketball well and were able to



Steele Arnold goes for two in the Colorado high school all-state games for basketball June 11-12.

adapt.

Needless to say, he made friends with the other seven guys on Team Red, and the 5A state player of the year, a Top 20 point guard for the U.S., was on his team and also ended up being his dorm roommate.

Arnold said the food wasn't bad, and he did get some downtime too. The entire experience was a bittersweet culmination of his high school career and a glimpse into his future as a college basketball player for Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas.

He got another taste of that last year too though, when he traveled overseas to Austria to play in the United World Games for basketball, something like the mini-Olympics.

Arnold told the Forum he's grateful for the experience to play in the all-state games, and he knows it's been an opportunity. At the same time, Arnold has worked for it.

And, he's still training. He started his first set of lifts required by Ottawa last week, and he's been continuously shooting five to six times weekly. He has to stay with it, so that he can be ready for the next level, which he knows will be "bigger, faster and stronger."



Arnold was one of the few players selected from the Western Slope.



His team, the Red Team, advanced to the championship and won the all-state basketball tournament. (Courtesy images)

"It will be a big switch from Nucla to Ottawa," he said.

Arnold hopes other kids coming up through the basketball program in the West End will also get to par-

ticipate in the all-state games when they're old enough.

"It was a really great experience," he said. "It was unreal. I'm thankful I was able to do it and

meet all those guys."

He added that he was grateful for Mike Rummel and his storage business for sponsoring him individually for the recent trip.

YOUTH

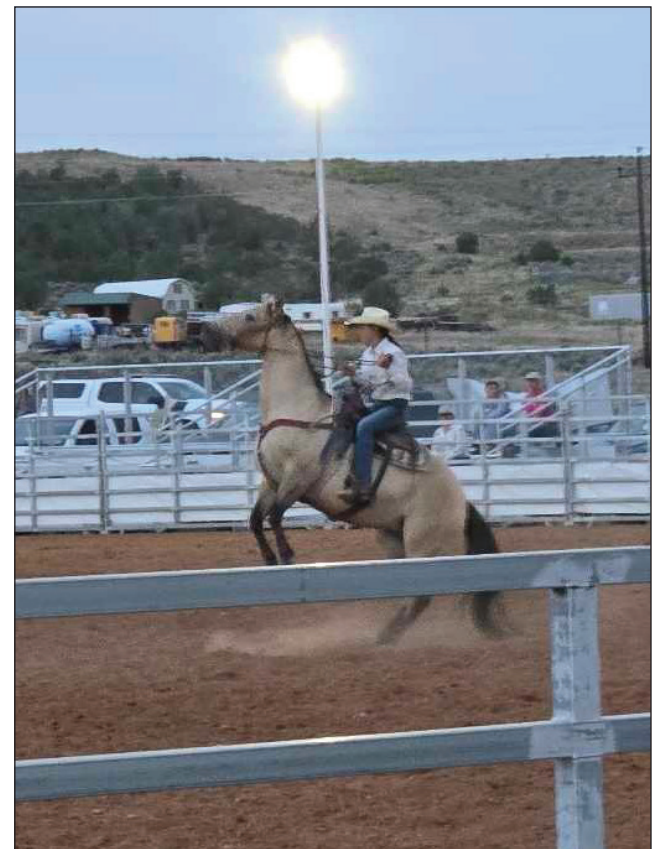
# Gymkhana continues



Damara O'Connell schools her horse in the poles.



Kelsey Carter gets ready to run her pony.



It got western for Mya Garvey. (Courtesy images)