

San Miguel Basin Forum

NORWOOD

Town discusses interim manager, mediation, new attorney, more

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

At the Town of Norwood's monthly meeting, Aug. 14, owners of Over the Mountain DBA Lone Cone Saloon, applied for and were approved for a liquor license. The couple who own the business live in Norwood already and now work there too.

They told the town board they're excited to get to work and continue the legacy of what's been the Lone Cone Bar and Restaurant.

They added nothing is set to change, and so far the staff working there are remaining in place.

"You're so welcome in this community," trustee Niven Drybrough told the business owners.

On the Norwood agenda was also discussion of an interim town manager, something trustee Mike Grady said is important to consider, since nobody is working in that role at this time. Former Town Manager Deana Sheriff left earlier this summer after much conflict took place within Town Hall, between the mayor, boards and staff.

Patti Grafmyer, who worked as a town employee and served as town administrator for more than 30 years, was mentioned as an interim possibility.

Town Clerk Amanda Pierce said the workload is heavy, and with not having a town manager, she's worried that staff might "drop the ball." She also said she's not sure, though, that Grafmyer would return to her old post temporarily, and there might be conditions if she agreed.

The idea of whether to discuss or even approach Grafmyer, and also whether that discussion should be held in an executive session, was mentioned. Mayor Candy Meehan, who is also now under a recall by a group of citizens, said conversation about Grafmyer as a possibility should be held in executive session, since it's a personnel matter.

Also mentioned in the meeting was hiring a third party, potentially the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, to look into the ongoing conflicts that have occurred this summer. Also mentioned was sweeping the office for surveillance technology, as well as checking computers and programs for hacking. And, a future mediation between all three of Norwood's boards — town, water and sanitation — was discussed.

Cont. on Pg. 2

WEST END

Sustainability Plan engagement kicks off Sept. 5

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

The communities of the West End — Nucla, Naturita and Norwood — began a journey to create a shared roadmap for managing growth and creating prosperity: the West End Sustainability Plan. With support from the West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC) and Community Builders, a Colorado nonprofit, the communities will engage citizens to develop a plan that will identify strategies that help preserve what makes the West End special while looking ahead to new opportunities.

"We are incredibly excited to

get this process started within the community," said Makayla Gordon, WEEDC's leader. "When I stepped into the executive director role at WEEDC, it was evident the three towns needed a shared path forward. With the outside pressures our community has faced, West End leaders are taking this opportunity to capture what the community really wants to see long into the future — what's important to them ... How do we ensure that the West End stays a place that we all want to live, work and play? The West End Sustainability Plan will capture all of this through robust community engagement. In this case, we want you to tell us how you really feel."

The plan process has just begun and is expected to be completed by late 2025. Community engagement is key and will be fully guided by the residents and leaders of the West End. Citizens are invited and encouraged to attend the community kick-off event, Thursday, Sept. 5, from 6-8 p.m. at the Naturita Community Center. Folks from all across the West End are invited to talk about the plan's goals and process and the core values of the West End community. Community input is requested, and snacks and a kid-friendly activity will be provided.

Additionally, there are more opportunities the first week of

Cont. on Pg. 4

NONPROFITS

MWR celebrates 45 years, seeks to build

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

Montrose West Recreation (MWR) is celebrating 45 years of operations — they just had a celebration Aug. 17 — plus additional changes this summer. Tiffany Secrest has replaced longtime director Paula Brown, as of May 2024.

Secrest told the Forum while she doesn't have prior board experience, she's experienced in all other aspects of the nonprofit organization. That means coaching, accounting, program directing and more.

"I also became interested in this job, because I'd like to see more options become available for the kids and adults in this community," she told the Forum over the weekend. "This organization has come a long way already, and I'd love to see more extracurriculars spike the interest of our growing community."

Secrest is currently the only member on staff, and she said Montrose West Recreation is always looking at ways to grow and expand.

Other board members include Bri Bonacquista, Melissa Johnson, Darcy Weimer, Miranda Richardson, Brock Benson, Jordan Spor and Berrie Reams. The board aims to have meetings on the first Monday of every month.

The organization is completely funded by grants and donations.

"We do not receive funding from the state or county," Secrest said. "We use the registration fees too, or whatever is left after shirt and equipment purchases from the programs."

Montrose West Rec just finished its summer adventure camp, a program that takes children to do different activities. Kids do things like visit the Ouray Hot Springs, take rafting a trip in Moab, play at Imondi Wake Zone, a water park in Grand Junction, and visit science museums. Additionally, Montrose West Rec sponsors peewee football, cheerleading, pickle ball and volleyball in West End communities.

More programs could be in store.

"We have had a lot of interest and requests for a karate class, dance or gymnastics," Secrest said. "I, unfortunately, haven't found a coach who is willing to come to the West End to teach these."

Yet, for anyone that is willing and has a desire, Montrose West Recreation is open to considering that. The nonprofit is also open to

Cont. on Pg. 5



Recent rains in the West End have helped the situation at the Bucktail Fire and led Sheriff Gene Lillard to remove fire restrictions. (Photo by Sage Carver)

FIRE

Bucktail Fire nearly complete

By REGAN TUTTLE, *Editor*

Operations were still ongoing over the weekend for the Bucktail Fire. Public information officer for Nucla-Naturita Fire Department Jeff Stephens told the San Miguel Basin Forum the fire camp was shut down last Thursday or Friday, Aug. 15 or 16 — but, according to the communications specialist from the USFS, two crews were to remain on the scene "conducting mop-up operations, while monitoring the remaining hotspots located within the containment lines of the fire."

Initially, the local fire department in the West End responded to the Bucktail Fire, with Norwood Fire Department responding at the same time in mutual support. Tel-

luride Fire Department also came in as the fire grew. Stephens said BLM fire assets were on the scene at the very beginning too, and then the BLM assumed command.

"Agencies from all over the country responded to this fire," Stephens said. "Everyone did a great job, with no loss of life."

Stephens confirmed resources from Nucla-Naturita Fire were released from the Bucktail Fire mid-week, last week.

"I have no word on what the USFS/BLM crews are doing on the fire over the weekend," he said.

And, that meant the food service, for which so many local volunteers gave of their time and resources, stopped.

"The food services for the fire served breakfast and lunch at fire

camp on Thursday, Aug. 15, for the last service for the Bucktail Fire," Stephens said.

Many locals participated in that effort of feeding fire crews.

"The local citizens and businesses began responding on Day One to ensure that firefighters were fed and hydrated," Stephens said. "It is a true testament to the spirit of our community how so many people came together to organize, cook, transport the food and feed the firefighters three meals a day for nearly 200 people."

Stephens said as the fire grew, Saucy Mama's, a pizza business of Nucla, was eventually contracted to provide meals.

"With only two of them, they had to temporarily hire help to

Cont. on Pg. 4

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DMV services in Nucla

Dear Editor,

The Colorado DMV2GO team is bringing driver's license and ID services to Nucla again on Sept. 10 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Montrose County Associates Court, 300 Main St., Nucla. I'm reaching out to ask if you would be willing to announce this in the San Miguel Basin Forum, please? I think it would help make residents aware of our visit and give them time to prepare.

*Desiree Trostel, Colorado
Department of Revenue,
Driver's License
DENVER*

Girls on the Run

Dear Editor,

I am the art teacher at the new school in Nucla. I am starting the Girls on the Run program at Nucla Elementary. I am excited to get the word out. The Girls on the Run season will start on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 3:30 p.m. We practice every Wednesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. The program is open to girls in third through fifth grade. Our last practice is Oct. 24, and we end the season with a 5K on Nov. 2.

*Lisa Ross, West End Public
Schools District
NUCLA*

Thirty-five years ago

Dear Wright's Mesa Community,

I have proudly served our community for 35 years as a medic with the Norwood Fire Protection District. I realized recently that this is exactly half of my life! In that time, I have responded to hundreds of your emergencies of all types and have done so with an ever-changing crew of dedicated volunteers and now a few professionals like Chief John Bockrath.

A few years ago, we came to you for your support in hiring our first paramedics. As we explained then, it had gotten much harder to get volunteers for the very important job of emergency services, both fire and EMS. Your trust in supporting us then has been richly rewarded with lives and property saved. We accomplished all we promised, and then some. But, the world and our community continue to change, and our ability to respond to you has continued to change as well. Let me explain.

Thirty-five years ago, a new volunteer could walk in the door with a desire to serve and a few extra hours a week. Now, that same volunteer will dedicate many hours to education before they touch a hose or a patient. State and national standards and your expectations have increased, as our ability to rely on volunteers has

decreased. This isn't just here, this is everywhere, and we can only address it locally, with your help.

Thirty-five years ago, we ran about 80 EMS calls a year. Last year we ran nearly 400.

Thirty-five years ago, it took about 100 hours and a few hundred dollars to get a new basic EMT into service. Currently, that same level of training costs \$3,500 and 300-plus hours of training. Fire training is similar. And, volunteers don't usually stay for 35 years. The average is just a few years.

Thirty-five years ago, your emergency was responded to by good folks who did their very best, mostly basic EMTs and firefighters, who were trained here and by other volunteers. Now, your expectations, ours, and the nation's include someone arriving at your emergency with the same skills and equipment as you would see in a big city. That is what you deserve. Your safety, life and property depend on it.

I am asking you to please support the Norwood Fire Protection District's mil levy request. With this increase we will have the opportunity to hire additional paid staff and modernize our equipment to safely respond to your accidents, fires and medical emergencies. We are relying on you becoming an informed voter and to vote "YES" in November.

*Sheila Grother,
EMT-Intermediate
NORWOOD*

WE Gravel Rush returns, seeks volunteers

Dear Editor,

The West End Gravel Rush is back for the third year, happening Sept. 14 in Nucla. Between 150-175 off-road cyclists will arrive in the Naturita and Nucla area the second weekend of September to complete a challenging course through the gravel roads of West End canyon country.

Volunteers make this event happen, and it wouldn't be possible without the support of the local community. Helping out at an aid station, assisting with on-course directions, or greeting riders at the finish line, it's a very fun and satisfying experience and time well-spent in the beautiful country of the West End.

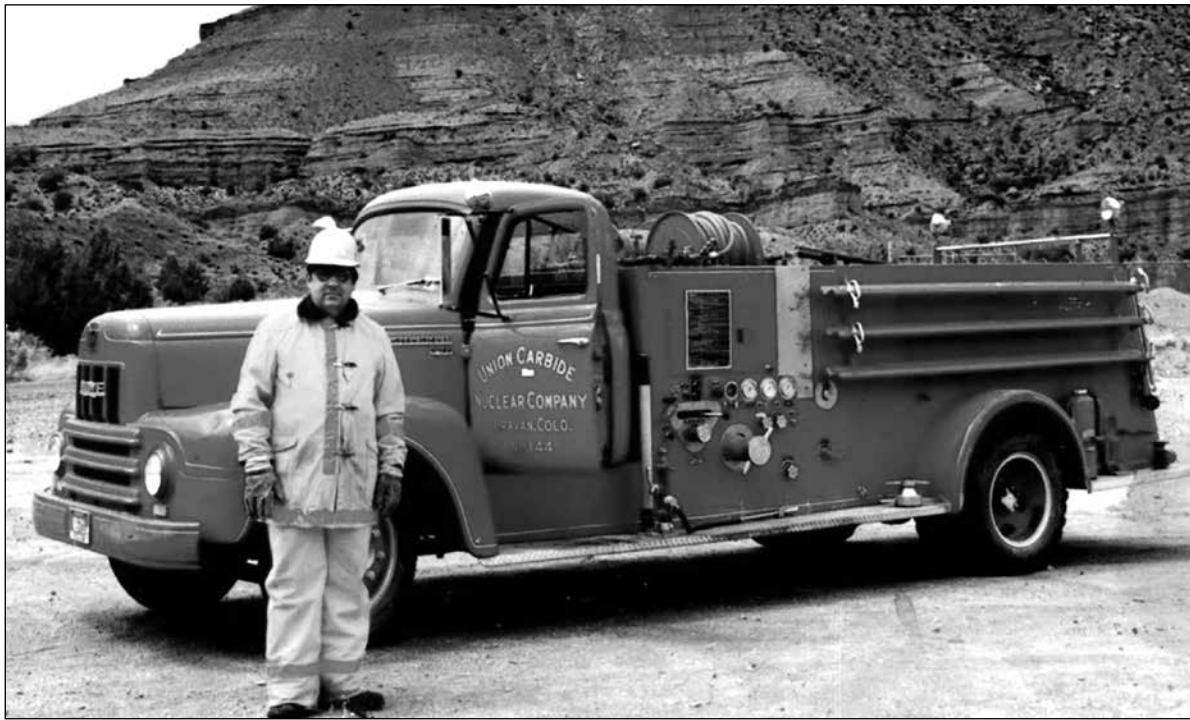
If you are interested in volunteering at the West End Gravel Rush this year, please reach out to Tim Tait at westendgravelrush@gmail.com. Most volunteer needs are on Saturday, Sept. 14, in the Nucla and Uravan areas.

You can also fill out the volunteer form at thewestendgravelrush.com/volunteer.

*Tim Tait
NUCLA*

History: Rimrocker Historical Society
LeMelle's memory of
the Uravan firetruck

By JANE THOMPSON and ANN WARREN LEMELLE



Arthur LeMelle stands in front of the old Union Carbide firetruck, after it was donated to the Gateway Fire Department. (Courtesy image)

There is a very empty feeling when the town you grew up in and spent your childhood days, young married years, and raised your children in suddenly is completely removed from the face of the Earth. No trace. Gone. You lose a big part of a connection to your past. Sure, there are a lot of memories to hold onto, and nobody can take those away, but when those tangible things that made up your community and life are gone, there is really no way to describe the feeling. The Uravan people know this feeling very well. Every once in a while, the Rimrockers will receive a story handwritten on a piece of paper, telling of a memory of growing up in Uravan, and we value and cherish every one of these memories. A few months ago, we received a photo and a story about the old Uravan firetruck from Ann Warren LaMelle. I've saved it to share just in time for the Uravan Reunion Picnic.

Ann lived in Uravan with her parents, Loren and Louise Warren. Ann was an only child, and I remember her family being very close. When the town closed, the Warrens moved to Gateway, and Ann married Arthur LeMelle. Mr. LeMelle was very active in the Gateway Fire Department, and the photo has him standing in front of the old Union Carbide firetruck in Gateway. A very special thank you goes to Ann for sharing this story with us.

"The Uravan firetruck, a memory of Ann Warren LeMelle

The year was 1956. The Town of Uravan was getting a new firetruck. It was purchased by Union Carbide for better safety of the community. It was a 1956 Howe Fire Cruiser, made by International. It was one of the best firetrucks of its time.

The employees were all trained in volunteer firefighting and first-aid. Employees took turns at fire drills, and could respond to a fire within three minutes.

My father, Loren Warren, was one of these men. He had prior experience in fighting fires when he served in the Civilian Conservation Corp.

Back then, there was no 911. Fires were reported to the Union Carbide main office switchboard. The fire truck would come to your door and honk. Men would have their bunker gear on in a minute and would get on the truck. They would report to the fire, secure the scene and make sure people were out of the fire and safe; pets were also saved. Some of the fires were caused by kitchen fires, wood stoves, accidents and various other reasons. When the fires were put out, the truck would go to a filling pond near F Block and refill with water pumped into the tank. That way, the truck was always full for the next fire.

The firemen also did other rescues like safety around the mill, and if it were serious, an ambulance

would be called. A company doctor was always available, and the town clinic would take care of emergencies. If something more serious was needed, they were taken by ambulance to Grand Junction or Montrose. The doctor at that time would also make house calls.

When I was 4 years old, my father gave me a ride on that firetruck, and when it passed through the blocks, he would honk the horn for the kids in town.

When I was in Brownies and Girl Scouts, the fire chief came and taught fire safety to groups and to school children.

The truck served the town well, from 1956 to 1984. After 1984, it was donated to the Town of Gateway and was used there until 1995. Later, it was sold to a fire department in Grand Junction and can now be seen in parades."

This weekend ...

The Uravan Reunion Picnic will be held this weekend, Saturday, Aug. 24, at the Uravan Ballpark. Friends begin arriving at 11 a.m. and most leave by 2 p.m. You will not find a more joyful group of people anywhere! Holy Smokes will be feeding the guests again this year for \$15 for a plate of good barbecue pork, chicken and all of the "fixins." Grab a chair and come on out! All are welcome to join us for a wonderful day of sharing memories. Call the museum at 970-864-7438 or the museum's cell at 970-428-1974 with any questions.

Norwood

Cont. from Pg. 1

Trustees agreed to approve motions on all three of the aforementioned items.

The idea of hiring a new town attorney, one who is more local, came up — someone like former attorney Herb McHarg. Both Pierce and Deputy Town Clerk Becky Hannigan said they also want access to the town attorney,

and that was approved, though trustees thought they'd approved that in the last meeting.

Kattie Neesham, who's been providing cleaning services to the town, requested back pay for 15 hours of work that she was denied when Town Hall shut down in July due to conflicts, employee strikes and resignations. That item was approved.

Town Clerk Amanda Pierce told trustees in her update that the town had been awarded a grant that she'd written for more than \$240,000, in

order to update the Pocket Park. And, she also said that a Congressional Direct Spending Award, written previously by Sheriff, for the amount of \$2.9 million, had also been awarded, though she said many approvals and preliminary tasks were needed before those funds could be released.

Pierce requested access to Sheriff's old emails and jump drive for work purposes, and that was granted. Pierce also said she needed to catch up on business licenses, which were due in July.

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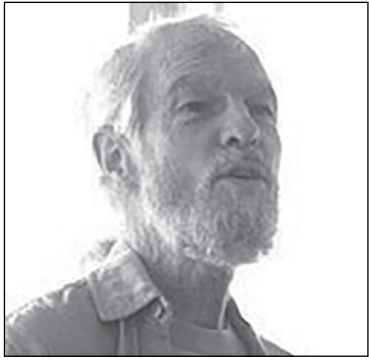


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ARTS

Kirk Lumpkin to read in Norwood Aug. 21

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM



Kirk Lumpkin performs Aug. 21. (Courtesy image)

Thanks to the serendipity of a trip to Colorado, California performance poet Kirk Lumpkin will be the featured guest at the Lone Cone Library on Wednesday, Aug. 21, at 6 p.m.

"I've performed with Kirk out in Sausalito and in the East Bay," said Talking Gourds Director Art Goodtimes. "He's a deeply committed environmentalist, musician/lyricist and a rousing good poet."

Since moving to Mendocino County in 2016, Lumpkin has become a California state-certified naturalist, a singer in the community Emandal Chorale, and a board member of the Willits Environmental Center.

Before that, he worked at the Ecology Center in Berkeley for more than 20 years and was, according to the "Bay Area Poets Seasonal Review," an "important part of the Bay Area (and beyond) poetry scene for years, hosting readings in San Francisco and Berkeley, helping to facilitate the

He has most recently been published in the anthology "Fire and Rain: Eco-poetry of California" (Scarlet Tanager Books, 2018) and in "Poem In Your Pocket" (Berkeley Public Library).

This free series happens on the third Wednesday of each month. The Talking Gourds featured guest will give a 20 to 30-minute presentation, followed by a short question and answer period after. Then, there's a passing of the gourd, where community members are encouraged to share stories or poems. For those who like prompts, this month's is "fire and rain."

A collaboration of the Lone Cone Library and the Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds poetry program, Stories & Poems is free and open to all ages, thanks to the generosity of the library, private donors and Talking Gourds' Fischer & Cantor poetry contests.

For more information, text 970-729-0220, or email Goodtimes at art@tellurideinstitute.org. To visit the website, go to tellurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds.

Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival (with "Poetry Flash" and with the former U.S. Poet Laureate, Robert Hass) and hosting open mikes at Burning Man ..."

He's published two books of poetry: "Co-hearing" (Zyga Multimedia, 1983) and "In Deep" (Zyga Multimedia, 2004). He's been a member of several Bay Area bands, including DETOUR, Shadow Government, Wild Buds and the Word-Music Continuum. His audio CD "Moondog Sessions" can be found on Amazon; his videos, on YouTube.

FORESTS

USFS will hire 250 Firefighters

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

The Rocky Mountain Region of the USDA Forest Service is hiring more than 250 permanent seasonal wildland firefighters across national forests and grasslands in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Firefighter positions include engine operators, hotshot crew members, hand crew members, helitack crew members, air tanker technicians, air tanker base managers, fuels technicians, fire prevention specialists, assistant fire management officers, dispatchers and other essential

fire management positions.

Job information, including duty locations and application details, is available online on the Regional Fall Fire Hiring webpage. Job seekers can apply for the 250 wildland firefighter jobs through USA-Jobs.gov for 33 days from Aug. 23 through Sept. 24.

Any U.S. citizen or national who is at least 18 years of age can submit applications. Hiring managers will use a direct hire authority to hire applicants, which means veterans' preference and traditional rating and ranking of applicants do not apply.

Application and resume preparation tips and guidelines, includ-

ing step-by-step instructions and on-demand webinars, are available on the How to Apply webpage.

The U.S. Forest Service is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture that manages 193 million acres of land, roughly the size of Texas. Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming are home to 17 national forests and seven national grasslands, collectively known as the Rocky Mountain Region. The mission of the U.S. Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

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San Miguel Basin Forum

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Sustainability Plan

Cont. from Pg. 1
 September, including West End Farm & Craft Market, the Norwood Farmer's Market and the Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering. There will also be small group "Community Conversations" and drop-boxes to capture additional feedback. Visit bit.ly/WE-Convos for more information and to register for a local Community Conversation on Sept. 5, 6 or 7.

Why a regional plan?
 The communities of the West End are accustomed to facing adversity, and representatives said the ability to navigate the changes and challenges ahead relies on the ability to work together. The power of three communities voicing a common goal, and the efficiency gained by the towns working together, will help create a plan that represents the community, responds to outside pressures, empowers local leaders and guides how we navigate future challenges.

Who's guiding the Sustainability Plan?
 The West End Sustainability project working group is made up of representatives from WEEDC, each of the three towns, and Montrose County. The team came together through a Building Better

Places training and partnered to apply for assistance through Community Builders' community assistance program. This group will take on the day-to-day project management, but the plan will be fully guided by volunteers. In order to best engage citizens, the West End Sustainability Plan team is seeking members to participate in the Project Ambassador Team, a group of community volunteers who will help steward the process and assist with outreach and engagement.

How is the plan being funded?
 Currently, half of the project funding is from local sources (WEEDC, fundraising and contributions from each of the West End communities and counties); half is from the project partner, Community Builders (through Colorado-based foundations).

Community Builders assistance projects are rooted in a unique partnership that leverages philanthropic resources raised by them, with local funding contributed by project partners, usually around a 1:1 match. In this way, Community Builders isn't acting as a "consultant" that is "hired" by partner communities. Instead, all parties agree to work together based on shared goals, responsibility and resources.

What is the BRECC Action Challenge?

In addition to the West End Sustainability Plan, the West End communities are also part of the Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities Action Challenge. Supported by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, this program helps coal communities strengthen and diversify their economies. WEEDC applied for this program and was one of seven other communities across the country to receive a year of technical assistance from economic development experts. This assistance is also provided by Community Builders.

While BRECC and the West End Sustainability Plan have separate funding and areas of focus, they share project teams and partners to ensure that the two efforts are in alignment and will feed into a shared vision for the West End's future.

Want to get more involved?

For more details on how to get involved in the West End Sustainability Plan, contact Gordon at 970-417-1976 or Mackinzi Taylor mackinzi@communitybuilders.org. All may learn more about the West End Sustainability Plan at bit.ly/WestEndPlanFB.

Fire

Cont. from Pg. 1
 fulfill the need," he said. "These people who gave so much of their time, money, food (and more) were working 12 to 14 hours a day, without a complaint. They are the true heroes of the Bucktail Fire."

The fire, which began Aug. 1, is reportedly human-caused. Montrose County Sheriff Gene Lillard told the Forum more than a week ago that there was an investigation happening.

West End Commander Bruce Schmalz confirmed that, and while

he did not contribute further information, Schmalz agreed "it was human-caused, and it is currently under investigation by the Montrose County Sheriff's Office. ... More information will be coming."

The USFS had been doing daily updates on the Bucktail Fire, until Aug. 13, when it became 83 percent contained and crews began being pulled from duty.

On Aug. 15, Lillard removed fire restrictions in place for unincorporated parts of the county, after monsoons had begun to decrease the danger.

"Firefighters continue to make strong containment progress on the Bucktail Fire burning in the

West End of Montrose County," a county press release said Aug. 15. "Montrose County is grateful to the fire personnel, volunteers and support staff that have been working on the Bucktail Fire since Aug. 1."

"Residents and visitors are encouraged to use caution when burning," the press release added. "Please make sure to have water and shovels readily available when burning and always call dispatch at 970-249-9110 before and after burning."

The public is also encouraged to visit westslopefireinfo.com for information on restrictions in surrounding areas and to view the latest fire-related information.

EMERGENCY CALL BOXES INSTALLED IN MESA COUNTY

NNTC has a total of 6 Emergency phones installed along Highway 141 with plans on still adding more!

Gateway-Unawep 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.

Look for these RED Boxes next time you drive Highway 141 towards Grand Junction.



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MWR celebrates 45 years

Cont. from Pg. 1

monetary donations and thinking partners to help plan logistics.

Secrest said the organization is grateful for the support in place.

“We have been very fortunate that many local businesses and the general population volunteer countless hours, and they’ve donated equipment, buses and more,” she said.

She agreed they could always use more assistance.

“We have been very blessed this year with an abundance of children, so we are always looking for help to coach and run the programs,” she said. “There have been times we thought the programs wouldn’t be able to continue, because we didn’t have adequate help for the amount of sign-ups. As children grow and move up, so do the volunteers, so we are always grateful for the ones willing to stay and help out, even when their own

child is no longer participating in that program.”

Secrest said the board members, including herself, volunteer countless hours, and even to some programs they are not as knowledgeable in. They want to make sure the kids still have certain programs as options.

Anyone who needs more information or who’d like to volunteer should contact Secrest or the board at montrosewestrec@gmail.com.

Meet Our Providers!



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Dr. Andrew Baker



Robin Richards, PA-C



Scott Hunter, FNP



Tommy Terwilliger, LCSW





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West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

7/18/2024
0801 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Street in Nucla for a welfare check.
0909 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Elm Street in Nucla for a welfare check.
0945 Hours - Deputy conducted a ride along in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.
1216 Hours - Sebastian Aguilar, 28, was contacted on Highway 97 mm 1 near Naturita and issued a warning for speeding.
1252 Hours - Brent Garber, 63, was contacted in the 500 block of Main Street in Nucla and cited for non-licensed driver and ATV use.
1612 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 110 near Redvale for an agency assist.
1831 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for an information report.

3 VIN inspections
1 directed patrol in County
1 civil process attempted/served

7/19/2024
0728 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 700 block of Grape Street in Nucla for a noise complaint.
1215 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for an information report.
1524 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a fraud report.
1709 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 58 near Naturita for an animal problem.
1821 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a smoke report.
1935 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29100 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a noise complaint.
2056 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Grape Street and West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for an animal problem.

7/20/2024
1046 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29100 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a noise complaint.
1159 Hours - Carrie Goode, 43, was arrested in the 400 block of Heron Street in Nucla on an outstanding warrant.
2040 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a traffic complaint.
2122 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of West Seventh Avenue and Grape Street in Nucla for an animal problem.

1 directed patrol in Naturita
1 civil process attempted/served

7/21/2024
1008 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29100 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for a noise complaint.
1753 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Heron Street in Nucla for a criminal mischief report.
1 VIN inspection

7/22/2024
0435 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of 25 Mesa for a missing person.
1430 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for an information report.
1521 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28700 block of BB36 Road near Nucla for a medical assist.
1903 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of Divide Road and 25 Mesa Road for a citizen assist.
1841 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a medical assist.
2114 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36000 block of 3700 Road near Redvale for an animal problem.
2143 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 61 near Naturita

for a traffic hazard.
1 civil process attempted/served

7/23/2024

1446 Hours - Nicholas Desantis, 31, was contacted on Highway 141 mm 60 near Naturita and cited for speeding.
1507 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 12400 block of Q13 Road near Naturita for a motorist assist.
1947 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 145 mm 103 near Norwood for a traffic complaint.
2017 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a 911.

7/24/2024
0838 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.
1110 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1100 block of County Road 42ZN near Norwood for an animal problem.

7/25/2024
0106 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 31400 block of EE26 Road near Naturita for a trespassing report.

1020 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 35100 block of 3575 Road near Redvale for a suspicious vehicle.
Dillon Earley, 32, was arrested for stalking, protection order violation x2, harassment, and domestic violence.
1148 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a noise complaint.
1316 Hours - Deputy conducted a motorist assist on Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla.
1446 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a criminal mischief report.
1906 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 5600 block of U5 Road near Paradox for a welfare check.
2 VIN inspections

BIRTH

Wren Mikael Joseph July 26, 2024



Wren Mikael Joseph.

Broc Joseph and Kobie Beanland would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Wren Mikael Joseph, born on July 26 at 5:36 p.m. She was 7 pounds and 1 ounce, and was 19 inches long.

She is absolutely adored by her grandparents, Drew and Mandee Shirley, Stuart and Candelera Joseph, Billy Beanland, and Randy and Tabitha Thompson. Additionally, the baby has been received by a multitude of great-grandparents: Michael and Patti Grafmyer, Wayne and Andrew Schraeder, Joe and Pam Shirley, Garry and Colleen Joseph, Del and Roberta Franklin, Dale and Rita Rickstrew, Jimmy and Tammy Beanland, and Rod and Bonnie Thompson. She has countless aunts, uncles, great-aunts, great-uncles and too many cousins to count.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS - NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to §38-26-107, C.R.S., that on September 5, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., final settlement with the following companies ("Contractors"),

- Highline Roofing
- Summit Sealants
- Eagle Glass
- 579 Construction
- Colorado Floorworks
- Grady's
- Woodside

will be made by the West End Public Schools ("District"), for its New PK-12 School Project at 225 W 4th Avenue, Nucla, CO 81424, subject to satisfactory final inspection and acceptance of the Project by the District. Any person, co-partnership, association of persons, company or corporation that has furnished labor, materials, sustenance, or other supplies used or consumed by such Contractors or its subcontractor in or about the performance of the work on the Project or that has supplied laborers, rental machinery, tools or equipment to the extent used in the prosecution of the work whose claim therefor has not been paid by the Contractors or subcontractor, at any time up to and including the time of final settlement for the Project, may file a verified statement of the amount due and unpaid on such claim at the District Administration Offices located at 225 W 4th Avenue, Nucla, CO 81424. Failure to file such verified statement of claim prior to final settlement will release the District and its employees and agents from any and all liability for such claim and for making final payment to said Contractors.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum August 21 & 28, 2024

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12-2T-C

HELP WANTED

The Town of Nucla is now hiring a public works employee. Position is full time with a rotating weekend on call schedule. Pay negotiable depending on experience and abilities. Starting Pay Range is \$18-20/per hour. Benefits include Health, Dental and Vision Insurance, employer contributions to Roth IRA, PTO and Vacation. Please submit an application available at 320 Main Street, or please call 970-864-7351 to have 1 emailed to you.

11-2T-C

AA MEETING

Every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. at the Naturita Community Library.

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.

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS Lunch Menu

Free For All Kids

Milk Served With All Meals

WG: Whole Grain / EC: Early Childhood

Monday, August 26

Hamburger on Bun, Pork and Beans, Chips (WG), Salad Bar, and Milk

Tuesday, August 27

Fajita Chicken Wrap, Sweet Red Peppers, Salad Bar, and Milk

Wednesday, August 28

Sausage Pizza, Bread Stick (WG), Marinara Sauce, Salad Bar, Milk

Thursday, August 29

Mac & Cheese w/Ham, Roll (WG), Peas, Salad Bar, Milk

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS Breakfast Menu

Free For All Kids

Milk Served With All Meals

WG: Whole Grain / EC: Early Childhood

Monday, August 26

Soft Pretzel (WG), Oranges, Milk, and Juice (K-6)

Tuesday, August 27

Blueberry Muffin (WG), Mixed Fruit, Milk, and Juice (K-6)

Wednesday, August 28

Pancake on a Stick (K-6), Animal Crackers (WG) EC), Peaches, Milk, and Juice (K-6)

Thursday, August 27

Waffle, Strawberry Bowl, Maple-Yogurt Dip, Milk, and Juice (K-6)

NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

NOW HIRING FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

- Elementary Teacher
- Spanish/English Language Learner Teacher
- Paraprofessionals (1/2 or Full-time)
- Activity Driver

The full job postings are 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."

• School Bus Drivers

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."

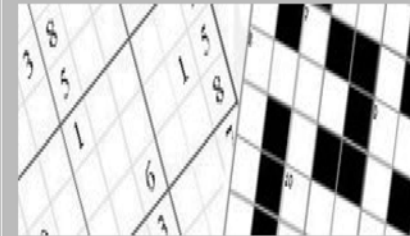
• Small Bus Drivers (Non-CDL Bus Driver Position)

The full job postings are 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."

47-8T-C

We will be accepting applications on an ongoing basis until positions are filled.

Fun Corner



STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: MUSIC 101

ACROSS

- Meat chunks
- Calendar square

- * ___ signature, or notation that describes #34 Down
- Hiya or howdy
- Down Under runner
- West Point student

CROSSWORD														
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13							14					15		
16								17				18		
19						20			21	22				
			23						24					
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40					41				42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61				62	63	64
65						66	67			68				
69							70				71			
72								73				74		

- At full speed
- Big Apple
- Flounder's domain
- *Complementary notes sung simultaneously
- *Not sonata
- Debate position
- Painter Chagall
- Munchhausen's story
- Casino chip
- *R in R&B
- Spanish earthen pot
- Lobed organs
- Nest for an eagle
- Bona fide
- *Adagio or moderato, e.g.
- What a willow did?
- *Type of piano technician
- Flock member description
- Fill beyond full
- Masters of ceremonies, colloquially speaking
- Jon Krakauer's book "___ the Wild"
- High craggy hill
- Church congregation
- Hole punching tool
- *A ____, or without accompaniment
- *Fast
- Not asleep
- 2000 lbs.
- Acquisition through marriage
- Rubber tree product

- Director's cry
- *Five lines
- Potassium hydroxide solution, pl.
- 168 in 1 week
- Housed

DOWN

- Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's title
- Dharma teacher
- Resembling wings
- Good Year balloon, e.g.
- Mexico City state
- Say it isn't so
- Winehouse or Schumer
- New Mexico's state flower
- Diplomat's asset
- It comes to mind
- Not in Impossible Burger
- European erupter
- Shell-like anatomical structure
- *Nine instruments, e.g.
- Bobby of hockey
- Halle Bailey's 2023 role
- *Loud or strong
- Part of small intestine
- Sometimes follows sauvignon
- 1.3 ounces, in Asia
- Coniferous trees
- October 31 option
- On top of trends (2 words)
- *Strong-weak-strong-weak, e.g.
- Sheltered, nautically speaking
- "Wheel of Fortune"

- move
- Based on number 8
- Automatic reaction
- *Fa follower
- Solemn and wise?
- Gate holder
- *Slow
- Pay a visit
- Not home
- Goose liver dish
- Augments, usually with effort
- Social insects
- Air of allure, slangily
- Five-star review
- Was in the hole
- Possessive pronoun

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

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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 Last Week's Sudoku

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

Solution to Last Week's Crossword

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

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School is in session in Nucla



Matthew and Orianna Bowen start sixth grade on Aug. 19.



Avaline Tooker is happy to be in first.



Aniyah Gillapsy begins kindergarten.



Caylon Joseph reunites with high school friends. (Courtesy images)



Creating a sense of belonging

WEB — Where Everyone Belongs — orientation started at Norwood School. A support program for sixth-graders transitioning into middle school, kids learned how to work together, played fun games and learned tips from the eighth-grade WEB leaders. This image shows leaders welcoming new students. Pictured back row, left to right, are Apple Davis, Hayden Heldman and Sofia Casillas. In the middle are Ali Zitting, Savannah Holguin, Lexi Bray and Nathen Chiles. Illi Henderson is in front. (Photo by Catherine Kolbet and Cadence Shaw)

CHAMBER NEWS

Chamber applauds Norwood community businesses

By CHERYL JERABEK

The Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright’s Mesa celebrates a series of businesses month: Intentional Steps, Jackson Outfitters and the JAM Ranch. All are invited to view the chamber’s website at norwoodcolorado.com or on the Facebook page, Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright’s Mesa.

With questions, or to be featured in ongoing columns or blogs, business representatives may email norwoodchamber23@gmail.com. The chamber has monthly membership meetings the second Tuesday of each month at varying local locations from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Intentional Steps is now a community cornerstone for fostering resilience and promoting emotional well-being. Founded and led by Shelley Fourney, the counseling center acts as a vital resource, offering support and guidance through personalized therapy sessions and community-building activities, designed to empower individuals and strengthen community ties.

“My goal with every person I have the honor of working with is to create a safe atmosphere, where we can address any con-

cern — big or small,” Fourney said in an interview. “I’m not the expert on their life; my expertise lies in asking questions in a way that helps each person figure out what their next steps look like. I also know how quickly hope can be rekindled, and I want folks to feel like they can manage their own life again. We all need hope, and I help them find that.”

On another note, Jackson Outfitters has existed a long time in the community. From horseback rides to guided hunting experiences, Jackson Outfitters does it all. Located at 1725 McKenzie Springs Rd. in the scenic outskirts of Norwood near Telluride, this family-owned business says it “offers a gateway to the rugged beauty of the San Juan Mountains.”

It’s a family-run business and a significant part of the local community, contributing both to the local entertainment and the economy, as well as the cultural heritage of the area.

And, owned and operated by Roy Jackson and his wife, Milissa, Jackson Outfitters is the continuation of the family’s four-generation legacy of guiding and outfitting on the Western Slope. Since shortly after WWII, the Jackson family has been deeply rooted in the region, offering hunting expeditions

with a strong commitment to community and conservation.

Many know about the JAM Ranch. Located at 750 Rd. 43ZS in Norwood, JAM Ranch accommodates tourists, as well as family and friends visiting residents in town. The two-story, three-bedroom, two-bath house sits on 15 acres of land with a deck on one side, and a porch on the other. It’s owned and operated by locals Jim and Gretchen Wells and is available for nightly or weekly rental.

In addition to providing a charming getaway, JAM Ranch also financially contributes to the community. The owners say every rental indirectly supports local businesses, as guests often dine out, shop and participate in local activities, funneling money directly into Norwood’s economy.

This cycle of spending helps sustain and grow the local market, making JAM Ranch not just a retreat, but a vital part of the town. The Wells family also generously donates to multiple causes and events, such the recent Music on the Mesa series.

“We’ve been here a long time and love Norwood,” Gretchen Wells said, “and our grandkids love it, which is very important to us.”