

San Miguel Basin Forum

PUBLIC LANDS

WETA to update public on trails project

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

The West End is home to a large network of trails. People can spend a lifetime exploring the extensive networks of double-track, cattle trails, seismic survey roads and old uranium mining and exploration roads across the public lands surrounding this beautiful corner of Colorado.

For the last decade, the West End Trails Alliance (WETA) has been at work inventorying an extensive range of trails in an effort to provide information to the local community and general public about recreational opportunities in the area, and to encourage people to get out and explore.

The West End Trails Alliance has also been building new single-track trails in the area, including sections of the Paradox Trail, the Nucla Range Loops and Camp V trails. WETA volunteers and board members have been building their skill sets as trail builders to prepare the public for the organization's biggest project yet.

What project is this?

Well, this is certainly not a new project. For the last five years, WETA has been working on a new single-track trail system proposal, which the board refers to as the "Sawtooth and Naturita Flats Trails Project." Community members may recall a series of public meetings held in 2019, during which community members, leaders and stakeholders came together to review the initial project and provide input. Those meetings helped shape the trail proposal as it is today.

For several years WETA has been "patiently waiting in line" for this trail project to be the focus of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). BLM offices only work on one trail project at a time, and WETA's time is coming soon.

"We would like to invite the West End community to re-engage with us on this project, as we are close to entering the next phase, called NEPA (National Environmental Phase Act)," WETA representatives said in a news release.

WETA will be hosting a community open house at the Naturita Community Library on Tuesday, Sept. 10, from 5 to 8 p.m.

"This is a great opportunity to learn more about the project, its long history, where we are today, what will be happening next and how you can get involved," representatives said. "We are always welcoming respectful debate and dialogue, and input from a wide range of user groups and perspectives."

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WATER

West End holds second SWPP meeting

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

On Aug. 26, at 6 p.m., Gabriel Matta, of the Colorado Rural Water Association, led the second source water protection plan (SWPP) meeting in Naturita at the community center. Matta said the first meeting, held Aug. 9, was an introduction for West End communities to learn what source water protection is and to determine the watershed map.

This week's meeting was for using a matrix to assess potential sources of contamination that could negatively impact source water.

"Transportation corridors" were the first possible source of contamination discussed. That refers to highways and roads where accidents could spill materials that run off and affect the watershed. CDOT is not showing the local highway as a nuclear route or a hazardous material route. Still, community members at the SWPP

meeting said accidents could happen, and it would depend on how big the truck was that crashed — and what was in it.

Those at the meeting decided to rank transportation corridors as a "possible" threat with a "significant" impact. That makes them a "moderate" risk, and it was decided the West End community has some indirect control over those types of incidents, regarding protecting water.

Secondly, "urban activities" or

Cont. on Pg. 4

NONPROFITS

Hoof & Paw keeps sterilizing; needs help and good pet parents

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Hoof & Paw, the nonprofit in the West End that seeks to help the homeless animals, held a clinic Aug. 15 for pet spay and neuter and Aug. 22 for pet vaccinations. Tonya Stephens, executive director of the nonprofit, told the Forum less people showed up this round for services.

Stephens said she thinks 10 cats and eight dogs were sterilized, which is below normal. She said sometimes people plan to come in, though, and then cannot seem to catch a cat to have it spayed. That's happened before.

The next spay and neuter clinics in the West End are Sept. 19 and Oct. 17. For vaccinations, the next is Oct. 10. Those will be the last offerings of this year. However, Stephens did say some vouchers are available at the Hoof & Paw thrift store, and those will enable a person to receive pet sterilization services in Moab at a discounted rate.

She remains concerned about the local pet population.

"People are not getting their animals fixed when they ought to," she said in an interview Sunday. "We're ending up with litters of pups that are unwanted."

She said there's a misconception that animals should be free to have one litter, or to have the opportunity to mate at least once, before sterilization surgery. She said this belief is a total myth and terrible for the animals.

She also doesn't support the idea that neutering a male dog takes away its spirit. According to Stephens, the animals, since they're not human, should not be treated as humans.

"They are dogs and don't have the same feelings as humans do," she said.

Right now, Hoof & Paw's shelter has eight dogs and 17 cats. Another 15 dogs and 10 cats are in foster care with families.

Stephens said volunteers are needed at the thrift store and in the shelter. There are 21 shifts a week at the shelter, and many of them require at least two people working. Stephens is there seven days a week working a shift, if not two. Having extra help could enable her to get necessary paperwork done in the office.

Hoof & Paw also needs good adoptive parents. It's not enough for someone to take a dog; respon-

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On the job

Some of the Carver's string of horses go to work up on the Uncompahgre Plateau. (Photo by Sage Carver)

POLITICS

Larry Don Suckla runs for House Seat No. 58

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Many in the West End know Larry Don Suckla, who's running for House Seat No. 58 in Colorado. His family's ranch is down the road in the Disappointment Valley and Gypsum Valley area. That's where Suckla grew up. As a child, he went into Naturita to watch movies at the drive-in theater and eat popcorn. He also spent time at the Basin Store, back when it had pool tables.

His family still has the ranch, and that's where he runs his cows in the winter. In the summer, he takes them up to Groundhog Mountain.

Suckla previously served as Montezuma County Commis-

sioner for eight years, 2012-20. Though he's a cowboy, he felt it important then to also learn about mountain biking and to expand trails. He said making the terrain more appealing with established trails on public lands for recreation helped recruit good doctors to the area, thereby improving the local health care industry.

He told the Forum he also worked on paving more roads in Montezuma County and cutting user fees for the fairgrounds and in other circumstances, saving the county a lot of money. He and fellow commissioners also worked during COVID to keep businesses from receiving fines for employees choosing not to be vaccinated.

He said when Colorado counties were offered a raise by state legislators, he didn't take it.

In general, he feels the people are taxed too much. He doesn't understand why "the people have to tighten their belts, but not the government."

Suckla told the Forum he likes to find better ways of doing things. He said it's commonplace for candidates to claim that "they're not politicians," but he said anyone with a desire to serve in politics is by nature a "a politician." At the same time, Suckla considers himself different.

"I am a West Ender," he said. "I am one of you."

Cont. on Pg. 4

BUSINESS

Telluride Venture Network introduces new loan fund

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

Entrepreneurs are a rare breed of enthusiastic risk-takers, willing to commit long hours, pivot frequently and be a jack-of-all-trades to recognize their dreams. However, many founders armed with a solid business plan and plenty of ambition don't get the chance to begin their journey, due to limited access to capital and resources. These barriers are especially present in rural areas.

Since 2013, the Telluride Venture Network (TVN), an initiative of the Telluride Foundation, has strived to create a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in southwest Colorado to support new, innovative and growing businesses through its quarterly acceleration boot camps, business mentorship program and access to capital.

Unfortunately, sources of capital dried up last year, after the Telluride Venture Fund elected to forgo raising a fourth fund, and the San Juan Regional Loan Fund closed. Learning of this situation, a long-time donor of the Telluride Foundation and a TVN mentor decided to take action by providing the seed money to start a revolving loan fund.

Through his help, TVN has established the Telluride Venture Network Loan Fund (TVNLF) to help regional entrepreneurs access flexible and affordable character-based debt funding. The TVNLF provides working capital loans for business growth and expansion. The program is designed to help businesses create a financial base, effectively creating a bridge to future commercial lending.

"By introducing a loan fund, TVN is better equipped to help entrepreneurs start and grow businesses," Annemarie Jodlowski, TVN's program director, said. "Many of our boot camp graduates need funds to hire an additional worker, renovate restaurant space, or purchase equipment. We already provide acceleration and mentorship, so now having a loan fund gives us the third leg of the stool and the opportunity to really help our ecosystem thrive."

The new program allows for loan requests of up to \$25,000. Loan duration will be one to five years with an interest rate between 3 and 6 percent; no collateral is required. Loan funds can be used for equipment, capital improvements, payroll, rent, inventory/supplies, marketing, website creation, liability insurance and professional services. When loans are repaid, the fund is replenished and available to be redeployed to new businesses.

"We are extremely grateful to this donor, who recognized the need to support underserved, rural businesses in our region," said Jason Corzine, president and CEO of the Telluride Foundation, "and trusted the Telluride Foundation, through TVN, to administer this program, which will greatly benefit emerging entrepreneurs, who often struggle with obtaining the necessary resources to launch a viable busi-

ness in our region."

Businesses located in San Miguel, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, Dolores, Montrose and Mesa counties may apply for funding. Applicants must also graduate from a TVN boot camp or participate in TVN's mentorship program.

Those seeking funds to start or grow a business should visit tellurideventurenetwork.com/loan-fund/ to complete the loan interest form. Business owners seeking loans who have not yet participated in TVN's mentorship program are encouraged to apply to the program for business coaching.

For Latino business owners

On Sept. 4, TVN will host its fourth-annual "Cómo Construir Un Negocio/How to Build a Business" Bootcamp for Latino business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs. This free program teaches business fundamentals over nine weeks and matches businesses with expert mentors for guidance and support.

The program culminates in a "Business Showcase," where founders present in front of an audience of their peers and community members. A limited number of spots remain available for this popular boot camp. Those interested should complete the registration form at tellurideventurenetwork.com/how-to-build-a-business.

TVN is actively recruiting more bilingual mentors for this program; anyone who is a bilingual business owner or skilled in a business field is asked to consider becoming a mentor. It's a great way to help businesses grow and give back to the community. Learn more at tellurideventurenetwork.com/mentors/.

New this year, TVN will debut a Clean Energy Founder Forum Sept. 24-27. Then, founders from across Colorado will connect in Telluride to share experiences and perspectives, learn about financing pilots and prototypes, practice pitching and network with industry executives, capital providers, academicians and nonprofit leaders.

The forum occurs in parallel with Open Minds 2024, an annual event in Telluride that brings together thought leaders from diverse fields, industries and geographies around climate topics.

Forum founders will showcase their businesses and network with a select group of Open Minds attendees. In addition, founders will have the opportunity to provide a real-world lens and feedback to Open Minds' Next Gen student leaders working on decarbonization projects in carbon capture, utilization and storage; direct air capture; methane abatement; coal switching; renewable power; and transmission. The event is rounded out with founder stories, mock investor meetings and group hikes.

The application window for the forum is open, and the company participation fee is \$250. To learn more or to apply, visit tellurideventurenetwork.com/clean-energy-founder-forum. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through Sept. 6.

History: Rimrocker Historical Society Celebrating Uravan, the town that was ...

By JANE THOMPSON, Rimrocker Historical Society



Guests line up for food at the annual Uravan Reunion Picnic. (Photo by Jane Thompson)

The 2024 Uravan Reunion Picnic is behind us and was once again a successful and pleasant time for everyone. Folks from all over the country came this year with New York City being the farthest, stretching on to Washington, Oregon, Montana, Missouri, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona and California. Of course, we had many friends from Colorado as well, and the Nucla High School Class of 1969 were certainly a happy group of youngsters.

Once again, Holy Smokes made us all a wonderful meal, and nobody seemed to go home hungry — thanks to Pastor Dan and Carla and their family, along with many of their church friends who come out and do this every year. We know it is a lot of work, and even with the price of food going up, Pastor Dan never raises his prices. We appreciate him so much.

We appreciate our ever-faithful Rimrocker ladies who came through again this year. Tina Carver baked our "yellow cake" again and helped with sales. Jennifer Nelson oversaw the name-tags and registrations. Sharon Johannsen is always good at taking your money and keeping you all on your toes, and her helper Lorraine Skees keeps her in line.

Our daughters, Brandi Thompson and Aimee Tooker are very good at supporting and encouraging their mothers, and we could not do it without them. Our good

friend Sharon Different was there, making sure she got a picture of everyone for posterity purposes. We will be getting those posted soon. Thanks to everyone who grabbed the pop-up tents when the wind came through. We saved a few of them, but some were beyond saving. The wind always adds some excitement to the party.

Speaking of excitement, the rain the night before and the days leading up to the picnic were a little unnerving. Picnics are never much fun in the mud, and we didn't know what we would get up to on Saturday morning. By 11 a.m., the ground was mostly dry, it was sunny with a few clouds, and we were ready for everyone to start showing up. And show up they did!

Two hundred old friends, and some new, came to spend time getting reacquainted. Classmates, cousins, neighbors, work friends and even our ever-famous Dr. Madison were there! Our "mayor," Bernie Jones, was there again this year, and I believe he shook everyone's hand and shared some memories with everyone.

Many of you left us with nice donations, and we do so appreciate you all. Several of you sponsored tables, barbecues and fire pits, and we will be getting your plaques ordered and things set up in the park. We could not put on this picnic and keep the Uravan Ballpark going, as well as the museum, without your memberships and donations! Thank you!

There's always lots to do to get the Ballpark looking nice and green and ready for the picnic! Thanks goes to Sharon's husband, Duane, who does so much to keep things looking nice. Robert Johnson is always good to ride around on the lawn mower. Our camp hosts for this past month, Jerry and Charlotte, pitched in and worked so hard. Bob Million always shows up the week before to help out. My grandson, Seth Schultz, was here for a week and helped out a lot. He got the new water pump in and put power to two more campsites.

Uravan was a wonderful place to live and grow up in the 50s, 60s and 70s, but most don't know that it started out as a small gold mining camp by the name of Cameville. It had a U.S. Post Office and was a busy little place.

How did it get that name, and who were the people who came through the years to make it the place it finally came to be?

Next week, I will begin to tell you the story of the men who came to grow a new town in southwest Colorado, where very few people had ever been before ... a place that would test the strength and will of tough men to make a new place that many of us would eventually call home. Cameville, the Club Ranch, the Ford Camp, the Joe Jr. Camp, Uravan — all the same place with different people making their way in an unknown world.

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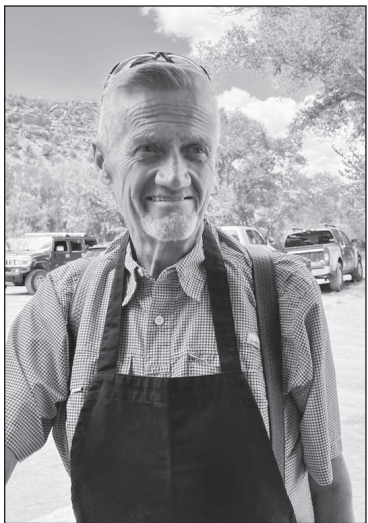
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COMMUNITY

The Uravan Reunion Picnic, continued



Guests enjoyed the barbecue meal.



Pastor Dan Williams, of Holy Smokes, caters the event.



Members of the Nucla High School Class of 1977 share a moment.



Tina Carver made more "yellow cake" for this year's picnic. (Photos by Jane Thompson)

San Miguel Basin Forum

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SWPP meeting

Cont. from Pg. 1

“urbanization” was also discussed as a possible source of contamination. That’s because upstream development can affect what happens in West End communities’ water due to the development of roads and sidewalks, petroleum products, salts, and also viruses or parasites.

Adrian Bergere, executive director of San Miguel Watershed Coalition, said Telluride does have sedimentation issues with its streets, but traps have been installed for catchment, and also runoff goes into wetlands for pre-treatment.

“There are some safeguards,” Bergere told those in the meeting.

It was decided that the probability of contamination was “likely,” but the impact was “insignificant,” making the threat “low” risk. It was agreed West End communities have some indirect control over the issue, as far as protecting water goes.

Regarding “wastewater treatment plants” and “septic systems” in the watershed, Matta said hilly areas can complicate septic systems and increase contamination. He also said that the effectiveness of any septic system depends on soils, design and maintenance of them.

It was decided that the probability of that type of contamination was “certain,” but the impact “minor.” That makes it a “moderate” risk, and it was agreed that there is some indirect control from the West End.

Regarding “agricultural practices,” which was discussed next, those in attendance discussed farming, chemicals like nitrogen and phosphorus, plus manure, since they can be contaminating to source water. In this case, the group decided that the probability was “unlikely” and the impact “insignificant.” That rates the risk as “low,” but there is not really any control over this issue, it was decided.

After discussing those four possible sources of contamination, the meeting had lasted more than one hour. Matta said the next SWPP meeting will discuss another four possible sources of contamination: public lands management, mining, wildlife and recreation activities.

Matta asked for members in attendance to think of experts in the community who could attend and speak about those potential threats. Aimee Tooker was mentioned, as were members of the USFS in the Norwood Ranger District, where also wildland firefighters office.

Matta also asked if any other possible source of contamination should be added to the list. PFAS, the “forever” chemicals used in firefighting, were mentioned.

The next SWPP meeting has been scheduled for Sept. 26.

The West End communities of Nucla and Naturita are each eligible for a \$5,000 matching grant from the state to be used for water, simply for developing the SWPPs.

Trails project

Cont. from Pg. 1

tives, including the motorized community,”

Representative said that will help ensure the end product reflects the desires and interests of the local community, and considers all pertinent factors.

While the meeting on Sept.

10 is not the official start to the BLM’s NEPA process, BLM representatives will be present at this WETA-led meeting. Additional meetings will be conducted for the Sawtooth and Naturita Flats Trails Project, hosted by the BLM, when the project officially moves to the NEPA phase.

“We hope that you will come to

this open house and engage with us on this project,” representatives said.

WETA board members can be reached via email at westendtrailalliance@gmail.com. All are invited to follow the Facebook page and/or join the Facebook group West End Trails.

Larry Don Suckla

Cont. from Pg. 1

He’s more comfortable at the sale barn, in a coffee shop, at the farm, or on horse than he is in board rooms. Still, 11 times Suckla

has traveled to Washington, D.C.

“I was vice-chair of public lands in all counties of the U.S., and chair of public lands for the State of Colorado,” he said.

The Forum asked Suckla if he’d

consider sending updates, letting voters know what was happening in government at the state level, if he won the November election.

“I would be more than happy to do that,” Suckla said. “That’s so important.”

Government transparency is something he said he believes in, and he feels most people don’t have a clue what’s happening in legislative offices. He said he’s willing to do even weekly updates with the San Miguel Basin Forum, if elected.

Suckla admitted he’s never been a state representative, but he’d never been a commissioner before he served in that capacity either. And, he ended up being recognized as Colorado’s Commissioner of the Year in 2017 by CCI, Colorado Counties, Inc.

“My angle is sometimes it’s best if you find your own way,” he said. “You might find a better way.”

He said he did that at the county level many times, questioning government offices about standard practices. When asked why certain things were done in specific ways, Suckla said he often got told, “That’s the way we’ve always done it” — an answer that doesn’t sit comfortably with him.

Suckla told the Forum that there can be better ways of doing things, and he’s ready to work on that at the state level.

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Hoof & Paw keeps sterilizing

Cont. from Pg. 1

sible people to give dogs loving homes are needed.

This year, some dogs have been returned to Hoof & Paw. Stephens said one recent surrender was heart-breaking; she discovered two dogs were basically crated and never let out to interact with humans or get exercise. She said keeping dogs confined to crates like that is abusive. She can't believe she has to explain this to people who want to own a dog, and Hoof & Paw has worked to make sure animals are

going to good homes.

Additionally, shelter volunteers are rehabbing dogs that have been labeled as "aggressive." Stephens said those dogs have been mistreated. Stephens and other volunteers like Kivi Bowersox are sitting with animals, reaching out, telling them it's OK and working to get them to accept treats.

She said they are making some headway, winning the trust and affection of neglected animals. Just this last weekend, an abused dog from Norwood actually expressed

interest in receiving attention from volunteer Karen Murphy — a celebration, according to Stephens.

And, there are some other success stories. Two different dogs have been adopted this year by out-of-state folks who send positive updates of the animals' in their new lives.

Stephens is grateful for the volunteers. Sometimes she takes animal into the thrift store and shows people working or shopping. She tells them, "Look, this is why we're doing this."

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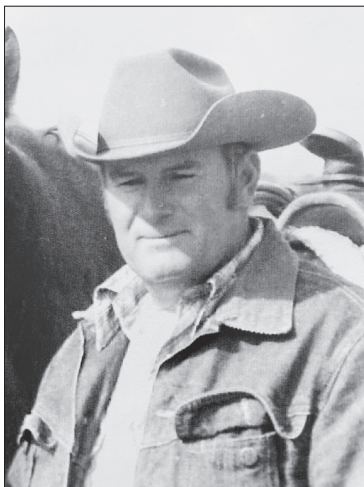
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OBITUARIES

David 'Dave' Parker
June 7, 1933 — Aug. 19, 2024



David 'Dave' Parker.

David "Dave" Parker was born June 7, 1933, in Ansley, Nebraska to Lemuel and Alma Parker. Dave was the third of seven children.

He was raised on a small family farm near Broken Bow, Nebraska. As a young adult, he traveled around Nebraska, Oklahoma and Kansas, working several jobs, including at a bakery where he met Marcella Urban. This was the beginning of an inseparable union, and they were married on April 14, 1953. They had a son, a daughter, a grandson, a granddaughter, six great-grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter.

Dave started working for Colorado Department of Transportation on the Denver-Boulder Turnpike in 1961. In 1964, he transferred to Nucla and eventually Paradox, where he finished his career of more than 31 years. This was where Dave and Marcella chose to spend the rest of their lives, surrounded by many dear friends and family.

Dave passed away at the age of 91 on Aug. 19, 2024. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Marcella, and four siblings.

A graveside service will be held at Cedar Ridge Cemetery in Nucla on Friday, Aug. 30 at 10 a.m.

Barbara 'Diane' Sanders
March 1, 1951 — Aug. 23, 2024



Barbara 'Diane' Sanders.

Barbara "Diane" Sanders, age 73, of Lewisville, MN, and formerly of Dove Creek, CO, passed away peacefully on Aug. 23, surrounded by family and is now walking with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Barbara Dianne "Diane" Sutherland was born on March 1, 1951, to James Pearl Sutherland and Oneita (Williams) Sutherland in Nucla. Diane lived and attended school in the Nucla-Naturita area and later met and married William "Bill" Keith and moved to the Farmington, NM area. During this time, Diane and Bill owned several businesses including Keith Heating and Air Conditioning, Keith Builders, and after moving to Grand Junction, they owned J&J Protective Coatings. Diane not only worked side by side with her husband in each business, she also managed the books and office and was just a few hours short of obtaining her CPA license.

Diane and Bill divorced after four children and 27 years of marriage.

In 1989, Diane attended truck driving school in Denver and graduated first in her class. Her love of driving semis and having her independence led to a career she eventually retired from. She later married Dave Griffith (deceased) of Dry Creek Basin and in 2007, she married George Sanders, and they lived together in Dove Creek for nearly 18 years.

Diane loved gardening, reading and spending time with her family. She put so much hard work and love into her garden each year, knowing others would benefit from the effort. She had a great sense of humor, and had a gift for finding artifacts on her many treks out of and around Colorado.

She earned the nickname "Double Clutch" from her siblings and was proud to have it. Her ability to make others smile with her kindness, laugh at her humor, and respect her for her integrity was amazing. Her skill and professionalism at every job, including her truck driving, was unequal. Diane was an exceptional cook and enjoyed trying out and sharing new recipes, all the way up until her last day on Earth.

In March of 2024, Diane was diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer, and in May moved to Lewisville, MN to spend her remaining time with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed a visit in Minnesota by her loving sisters prior to her death and was overjoyed to see them all before her passing. She felt blessed and was thankful to have family and friends checking in on her regularly with a call, text or message passed on. She is and will forever be loved and missed dearly, and as she walks with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, is now home.

She is survived by her daughter, Kel Blaine (Jim) Pults, of Lewisville, MN; son, Will Keith, of Lewisville, MN; and son, Shannon Jess Keith, of Arizona; grandchildren, Katrina Sue Diane (Matt) Pults "Mohwinkel," of Lewisville, MN; Steffan Monroe Larsen, of Windom, MN; and Jericho Gordon Thomas Pults, of Farmington, MN; and great-grandchildren, Camrin Blaine and Katie Lilliana Diane, of Lewisville, MN; and Ezra Jonathan Thomas, of Apple Valley, MN. She also leaves sisters, Doris Kessler, of Naturita; Cheryl (Mike) Eades, of Redvale; Donna (Ken) Robbins, of Mancos; Kathy (Steve) Hessler, of Reno, NV; and brothers, Jim (Vanessa) Sutherland, of Egnar; Randy Sutherland, of Naturita; Ricky (Stephanie) Sutherland, of Nucla; Lee Sutherland, of Naturita; Bill Sutherland, of Kingsman, AZ area; and Bob Sutherland, of Nucla; along with many loved nieces and nephews.

Diane was preceded in death by her son, Justin James Keith; parents, James Pearl and Oneita Sutherland; her sister, Shirley Jean (Gary) Woods; and her brothers, Larry Dwayne Sutherland and Curtis Glen Sutherland; and brother-in-law, Vern Kessler.

Graveside services and a celebration of life will be held in Egnar on Oct. 12. Details will be posted on the funeral home's website in September. All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to leave a message or add a great memory for Diane's family and friends, you can do so at her obituary page at www.sinnfuneralhome.com.

West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

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 dis-

patched 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

7/26/2024

0930 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Main Street in Nucla for a suspicious person.

1216 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of West Second Avenue in Naturita for a criminal mischief report.

1442 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28300 block of 25 Mesa Road near Nucla for a fraud report.

7/27/2024

1136 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a welfare check.

1630 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Wilson Street in Naturita for a littering report.

1711 Hours - Shawn Beckwith, 21, was contacted in the 1000 block of Main Street in Nucla and cited for speeding.

2001 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area East Third Avenue and Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

2100 Hours - Deputy was dis-

patched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for an animal problem.

2134 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1000 block of Montana Street in Nucla for fireworks.

1 warrant attempt

1 civil process attempted/served

7/28/2024

0330 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a disturbance.

1331 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 82 near Naturita for an information report.

1510 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita for an information report.

1915 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Park Drive in Naturita for a disturbance.

1951 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a medical assist.

1 directed patrol in Naturita

7/29/2024

1421 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 25100 block of 25 Mesa Road near Nucla for an agency assist.

1731 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 25100 block of 25 Mesa Road near Nucla for an agency assist.

1753 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 37100 block of II Road near Redvale for an animal problem.

1 follow up report

7/30/2024

1217 Hours - James Heusel, 57, was arrested in the 100 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla on an outstanding warrant.

1450 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of East Third Avenue in Nucla for a fraud report.

1713 Hours - Michael O'Connell, 34, was arrested in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita on an outstanding warrant.

1906 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29100 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an animal problem.

1925 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of DD31 Road and DD30 Road near Nucla for a traffic complaint.

2105 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 36100 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for an animal problem.

2334 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 30700 block of Highway 141 near Naturita for a 911.

1 warrant attempt
 1 directed patrol in Nucla

7/31/2024

0640 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 1200 block of Ragsdale Road near Norwood for a harassment report.

1447 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of Elm Street in Nucla for a welfare check.
 1637 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for an information report.

1834 Hours - Alexander Leach, 39, was contacted in the 200 block of Main Street in Naturita and cited for speeding.
 2 directed patrols in County

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Ronald McGuffee is now turning wrenches for angels and passed on July 1 this year. We would like to invite anyone who knew him to participate in a celebration of life for him at the Naturita Town Park on Saturday, August. 31, from 1 to 4 p.m. There will be some food provided, but any side dish would be appreciated. We know that he touched so many people in his limited time.

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

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	2.30-2.45
800-900# STEERS	2.30-2.45	800-900# HEIFERS	1.90-2.10
Top bulls	1.55-1.70	Medium bulls	1.35-1.50
Young Cows	1.40-1.65	Top cows	1.35-1.45
Medium cows	1.15-1.30	Low-yielding cows	1.00 Below

NEXT WEEK: AUGUST 29TH – Special Sheep & Goat Sale.

Along with our usual cattle sale. Early consignment of 15 feeder pig, 9 butcher cows, 5 butcher bulls. Along with our dock run of 200-300.

UPCOMING SALES

Thursday September 19th – Feeder Sale

Thursday September 26th – Dispersal of 50 Bred cows & calves

Saturday October 5th - NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE

Saturday October 12th – Special Alternative Animal Sale.

Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED AD RATE:

Per-Week: \$12.95 for 25 words and 20¢ for each additional word.

BOWLING LEAGUE MEETING

Organizational meeting for Wednesday night bowling. Wednesday, September 7 at 7 p.m. at the bowling alley in Nucla. No bowling that night. Questions call (970) 864-7646.

13-1T-PCA

FOR RENT

602 Cascade Circle, Naturita, CO. 3-bed, 2-bath fully fenced yard. \$1000 per-month plus utilities. Call (970) 864-7699 and leave a message.

12-2T-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.

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.

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOW HIRING FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Substitutes Wanted

West End Public Schools is looking for Substitutes for all areas:

- Daycare
- Pre-K-12th Grade Classroom,
- Bus Drivers
- Office
- Lunchroom
- Custodial

Applications can be obtained and dropped off at 225 W. 4th Ave., Nucla, CO 81424, or viewed on the District website at www.west-endschools.org.

We are an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

13-2T-C

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The last of summer

Above: Families gather in the Naturita Town Park to watch Disney's Inside Out 2. (Photo by Brock Benson)

Upper right: Ziggy and Bear Jaramillo enter pre-K this year.

Right: Dawson Winner won the back-to-school award basket.

Far right: It will be an adjustment for the Riddle dogs having the boys back in school. This photo shows Erik Riddle. (Courtesy image)



YOUTH

Meet the new intern, Cadence Shaw

YOUTH VOICES IN THE SAN MIGUEL WATERSHED

By CADENCE SHAW

My name is Cadence Shaw, I am a senior at Norwood High School and I am 18 years old. This academic school year I am interning at the San Miguel Basin Forum, and I will be publishing weekly photos, as well as a monthly column, spotlighting youth activities for our region.

But first, I want to tell you a little more about myself.

I have been in the Norwood area ever since I was a baby, and I grew up in the area. I am a four-sport athlete and participate in sports in three different communities. This includes Norwood, Telluride and Nucla-Naturita. During the fall, I play volleyball in Norwood, and run cross country in Telluride.

In the winter, I play basketball in Nucla. Lastly, during the spring I run track and field with Nucla. I love being involved in all three communities.

Some other hobbies that I participate in are skiing during the winter, and during the summer I love to hike, swim and be outdoors.

After high school, I plan to go to college to study and explore my interests in journalism and communications. After college, I want to be a photojournalist and work for companies like National Geographic, the New York Times, and the Washington Post. I want to explore the world and learn new things about it.

Since we live in such small rural towns on the Western Slope, I have always been around nature and even sometimes feel disconnected from the world outside of Norwood or Nucla. But, living out here

has only deepened my passion for wanting to explore the world and learn about what is happening in it today.

Being a photojournalist is one way that I can help make the world a better place. I want to learn about the world outside of my small town and bring information about the world through photojournalism to the people.

Throughout this internship, I will be writing about youth voices and the youth community. I believe that the youth community do not have as much representation as they should for all the hard work they do. Growing up here and living on the Western Slope is a unique experience that I think not a lot of people get to be exposed to.

Being a teenager in a small town has advantages and disadvantages. Most of the teenagers have been growing up with each other ever

since preschool. Classmates have been with each other for years and years on end. We learn everything about everyone, and it gives a sense of community and life. We become comfortable, and with this sense of community, we are not afraid to be ourselves and feel supported.

But, being a teenager in a rural town can be challenging, because there might not be many opportunities for the students and the youth, or to get their voices out. I believe that the kids and teenagers around here have unique perspectives, ideas and interesting stories that not a lot of other people have.

As the students head back to school, there are many activities happening. The high school football team, Norwood and Nucla combined, have their first game at Olathe (schedule has a scrimmage) on Aug. 24 at 10:30 a.m. The football boys' first home game is on

Aug. 30 at 7 p.m. versus Hayden. As for the middle school boys football, Norwood and Nucla are combined; first game is Aug. 29 at Dove Creek at 5 p.m.

High school volleyball started in Crested Butte with a tournament on Aug. 24. The Norwood girls' first home game is Sept. 5 versus Mancos. Nucla started the season with a tournament Aug. 24 at Custer County. They have their first home game Sept. 5 versus Dolores.

As for middle school volleyball, they're combined and have their first game Aug. 27 at Telluride at 4 p.m. Their first home game is Aug. 29 versus Dove Creek.

Come support these student athletes as they give it their all during these games. And, please be on the watch for more of my columns promoting local youth events and culture.