

San Miguel Basin Forum

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Gleason and Meehan vie for commissioner seat, Part 1

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

With the November election approaching, Galena Gleason, running against Candy Meehan for county commissioner, told the Forum representing District 3 and Wright's Mesa is her number one priority.

"As I have demonstrated as a member of the San Miguel County Planning Commission, I am a very astute listener and inform my decisions by taking in all information provided by staff, applicants, and the public," she said. "I really trust my instincts and operate by being open to learning and listening. Strong leadership is based on one's ability to take all information and views into consideration and make decisions that will serve the greater good."

Gleason said she has prioritized taking time to sit down and listen to her community. She's an ambassador for the recently established West End Sustainability Plan — "which I feel is creating an inclusive, approachable format for West End residents to voice their opinions on important issues and create a unified and collaborative vision for our future," she said.

She wants to listen to all voices and bridge any divide that exists between the West and East ends.

Transparency is something she said is "critical" and she'd like to communicate regularly with constituents if elected. She said she'll be available in person, by phone and online to meet with the public. Public engagement, hearing all voices and asking hard questions are what she believes in.

Her stance on solar energy for Wright's Mesa is that she's not for large-scale development. She's worried about wildlife, ag land, fire danger, water and more.

"I volunteered to sit on the Solar Regulations Subcommittee and ensured that Wright's Mesa Rural Agricultural zone (WMRA) was omitted from consideration for future large-scale solar energy system development," she said.

She added San Miguel County adopted its new solar regulations Sept. 18 and described those as "powerful" and "some of the most strict and detailed written to date in Colorado."

"With these safeguards in place, I feel that potential medium- and small-scale projects proposed on Wright's Mesa will be properly sited, and impacts will be mitigated," she said. "I believe these

Cont. on Pg. 3

WEST END

Local resources exist for elderly

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

There are resources available for the elderly in West Montrose County, and this last week the Forum spoke with Brian Bowler, director for the Area Agency on Aging's (AAA) services in the West End. Bowler confirmed the AAA falls under the umbrella of Region 10, an organization which helps "leverage resources" in the counties of Ouray, San Miguel, Delta, Montrose, Hinsdale and Gunnison for senior citizens, small businesses and more.

Bowler described the AAA as "quasi-government," and said it

takes funds and finds local providers, establishes MOUs or contracts of services, and works to support smaller, rural areas.

He's only been in his current role for the last six weeks, but Bowler has nearly three decades of service working in human services and more. Last week he attended the West End Solutions Group meeting in Naturita. He wants to disseminate more information to the public. He also wants the elderly to have support in navigating technology and online platforms, which he said seem to be growing in complexity these days.

Regarding the West End, there are services and programs available to support the elderly. That

includes the senior meals luncheons, a program which Region 10 helps fund. Senior meals are ongoing in Nucla on Wednesdays and Fridays at the Nucla Senior Center. In Norwood, however, Bowler said a coordinator is needed for the program, which is on pause at Norwood Town Hall.

Tri-County Health Network, along with the Telluride Foundation, continue to be great partners, Bowler said, adding that Randi Latham and Melissa Johnson help communicate options and referrals for resources related to behavioral health, food security, health insurance support and more.

All-Points Transit helps in the

Cont. on Pg. 2

DARK SKIES

Migrating birds, new street lights, reserve in the works

By REGAN TUTTLE, Editor

Deb Stueber, of Nucla, tried stepping down from leading the West End Dark Sky Alliance (WEDSA), but she's still in charge, though hoping at some point a new leader will emerge. She told the Forum there have been some new memberships, and students from True North Youth Program are also coming forward to join WEDSA.

It's not that she's done with WEDSA or Dark Sky advocacy at all; in fact, she's still vice president of the Western Slope Dark Sky Coalition, a more regional, overarching group that supports local chapters, like WEDSA.

Stueber told the Forum her groups aren't focused on "just stargazing." She said it's about preventing light contamination.

"We aren't crazy environmentalists," she said. "It's bigger than pollution. It affects everything, all living things, and their health and well-being."

It being fall, she's concerned about bird migration. She wants all to consider the effects of light contamination on behalf of the birds, and other wildlife too.

"Birds mostly migrate at night using the stars for navigation," she said. "Folks need to dim or turn off their artificial lights at night, so birds don't get confused during fall migration and die before making it to their winter destinations. This is one of the many reasons we are happy Paonia and the Black Canyon Conservation Area have also become certified Dark Sky International places."

She added that more dark skies will help to preserve the nighttime ecosystem, and besides the birds supports "insects and pollination, human and wildlife health, safety, crime and energy."

In other Dark Sky news, the Western Slope Dark Sky Coalition is going to set up shop at the Heritage Festival on Oct. 5 in the Nucla Town Park. Stueber said the coalition has been instrumental in helping the Norwood and West End groups maintain their Dark Sky International designations and fulfill their lighting management requirements. Stueber said it's important for the coalition to now raise funds for the greater Dark Sky Reserve, which would connect other places and span the region. It's been in the works for the last two years. She said it takes a lot of resources to meet the various requirements.

Cont. on Pg. 4



Upgrades continue

The Nucla school gets its new signage, as crews set it in place Sept. 20. (Photo by Rusty Scott)

COMMUNITY

Pioneer Day royalty, events announced

By Ellen Metrick,
The Norwood Post

Each year, on the last Saturday in September, the annual Pioneer Day Parade in Norwood begins with the crowning of royalty, and this year is no different. Joy Barrett, née Strobel, of Redvale will be honored as the 88th annual Pioneer Day queen at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 28, in front of the Norwood Post Office.

"I was honored to be chosen as this year's Pioneer Day Queen," Barrett told the Norwood Post. "I think it's a nice tribute to the community and it goes into

the actual pioneering spirit of the area."

Joy Barrett's grandfather, Anton Paulek, left Lithuania in 1889, when he was 16, along with his three brothers. Anton eventually made his way to Hesperus, Colorado, where he worked in the coal mines.

Paulek's wife and Joy's grandmother, Ethel Hawkins, was the first woman in Colorado to carry the mail on horseback. She did that from 1901-04.

Though Joy was born in Idaho during the Great Depression, her family soon moved back to Hesperus where she attended grade

school. She and Bill Barrett met when both were in school at Fort Lewis College. They soon married and moved to Redvale, where they continued the Barrett family's then-third-generation tenure on the mesa.

"So much of the younger generation have no idea how we were raised or how we lived or anything," Joy said.

In her life history, which she wrote for the occasion and shared with The Norwood Post, Joy tells those stories and hopes to help readers understand what life was like.

Cont. on Pg. 5

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need to clear the house

Dear Editor,

With Ron McGuffee passing, the family is going to be at 208 Payson St. in Naturita to clear out the house, so that it can be sold. We would like to help people in need of things, so we are going to hold an open house event on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You will be able to go through the items that are still there and take what you want. No money is being collected. We just need to get it cleared out. We will have a dumpster there and would appreciate any help we can get in filling it with items that no one wants. If you are family in the area, you can come at 8 a.m., as you will have first dibs on things you would like.

The family of Ron McGuffee
NATURITA

Celebrating 75 years

Dear community,

The San Miguel Basin Forum is celebrating 75 years of serving as the local newspaper. We are going to have a booth at the Heritage Festival on Oct. 5 to celebrate. We will give away free papers of that week's edition. We will take subscription orders, and we will also have a drawing and give a few things away. In addition, we will have a photo contest that day. All are encouraged to submit their best action shot of the 2024 Heritage Festival to regantuttle@gmail.com. We appreciate your support so much. Thank you for your photos, your ads and for reading your local newspaper.

Regan Tuttle, Editor
NUCLA

Pioneer Day 2024

Dear Editor,

On Sept. 28, Norwood will come together for its 88th-annual Pioneer Day celebration, a tradition that embodies the town's rich heritage and community spirit. This year's theme is "Pioneer Spirit: Survival of the Fittest" and will be celebrated throughout the day, beginning with the coronation of royalty at 10:30 a.m. in front of the U.S. Post Office, followed by the parade down Grand Avenue at 11 a.m.

Participants of all ages will showcase their floats, decorated with the theme, competing in categories such as youth, private, school, business/organization, and auto.

After the parade, the community will gather for the chuck wagon dinner, served by the Norwood FFA in the Norwood School's All-Purpose Room, benefiting local students. The day will conclude with street games on the Norwood School's football field, where children and adults alike can partake in friendly competition to win cash prizes.

This event has grown in importance over the years, becoming more than just a day of festivities. It represents a deep sense of belonging and history. Pioneer Day offers a moment for the Norwood community to reflect on its past and look forward to its future.

What does Pioneer Day mean to the community?

We asked community members, from lifelong residents to newcomers, to share their favorite memories and what they think keeps this event thriving after 88 years. Their answers reveal the heart and soul of Norwood.

Regarding their favorite parts of Pioneer Day, kids reported the games, like the gunny sack races, but also seeing the floats in the parade.

When asked about creating floats of their choices if they could, kids reported they'd want to make a wagon, with horses, since that's what the pioneers used.

About the importance to kids? School children said Pioneer Day helps them learn about the past and to also have fun together as a town.

Others, adults, were asked about their fondest memories of Pioneer Day growing up. Folks reported remembering their parents taking them down to Grand Avenue to watch the parade. Some of those folks are now bringing their own grandkids to watch it. They say the floats have gotten bigger and better, but the heart of the event hasn't changed. And, people say they're happy the chuck wagon dinner remains, bringing us all together, like it always has.

Having lasted 88 years, the community seems to be the driver. They say that we come together to celebrate what we've built and where we come from.

Newcomers also appreciate the tradition, and they've said they don't realize what a big deal Pioneer Day is until they see it for themselves. The celebration can help them feel more connected to the community, meeting others and feeling like they belong here too.

Pioneer Day is a day when everyone, no matter how busy life gets, can come together and celebrate. It's about community and being involved.

As far as the theme goes, this year, it's a reminder of how tough it was for the people who settled here and how we still carry that strength today in how we support one another.

Whether it's through the parade, the chuck wagon dinner, or the laughter of children playing street games, Pioneer Day continues to be an important part of Norwood's history and identity. It is a celebration not just of history, but of the hard work and unity that create this community.

Shelley Donnellon
NORWOOD

History: Rimrocker Historical Society Cameville, a gold mine camp, Part 4

By JANE THOMPSON, Rimrocker Historical Society

By the end of the summer of 1884, the San Miguel Cattle Company was fully into purchasing as many cows as they could. Their new manager for the ranch, S. E. Land, was purchasing and shipping cows in from Utah and Missouri in order to grow their herd.

This story from the Aug. 3, 1884 Rocky Mountain News and taken from The Montrose Messenger states, "S. E. Land, manager of the San Miguel Cattle Company's range and herds, with headquarters at Cameville, arrived here with 300 cows from Utah, which were unloaded and driven out to grass.

The next month Mr. Land unloaded in Gunnison 213 head of cattle from Missouri (23 head of which were thoroughbred Hereford bulls). The next two days the cattle were branded, driven out of town, men and horses provided, and the outfit started on the trail for the Miguel. By the 11th, Land was ready to take the train for Salt Lake, going by way of Denver and the Union Pacific. He rounded up and cut out cows from the range in Utah, branded 300 head, drove them to P.V. Junction, shipped them, and on the evening of the 21st unloaded them at the stockyards in Montrose, and that, too, without the loss of a single animal from either herd. The two herds will be brought together in a day or two and driven over the Plateau onto their summer range. The herd will comprise 490 cows and heifers and 23 bulls."

By the end of September of 1885, Dr. F.M. Dearborne, the general manager of the San Miguel Cattle Company, had reported the arrival of another 525 head of cattle and 50 head of Hereford bulls. The company held their annual meeting in Denver and elected R.W. Johnson, Virgil M. Came, E.J. Arthur and F.M. Dearborne as the directors for the coming year. The cattle business was booming in Cameville.



This photo shows pioneers branding cattle at the San Miguel Cattle Company corrals. (Photo courtesy of Rimrocker Historical Society)

In 1885, various newspapers carried the news, "Experts pronounce the lower San Miguel the most desirable placer mining country on the continent. Plenty of dirt that goes from 50 cents to \$1 per yard, plenty of water and good dumping facilities. It only needs development, with proper machinery, to astonish the world."

The cattle business was flourishing at the same time that gold mining was about to "astonish the world." The June round-up of the lower San Miguel country included a number of the Uncompahgre Valley stockmen and took in the ranges extending from Sheep Creek and Horsefly Mountain on the San Miguel River to Atkinson and Mesa Creeks on the Dolores River.

Dearborne purchased 565 head of native cattle and 800 head of Texas cattle for the San Miguel Cattle Company. This must have been an exciting time for this area of Colorado.

In the March 25, 1887 edition of the Rocky Mountain News it stated, "Johnson, of New York, the secretary and treasurer of the San Miguel Cattle Company, is stop-

ping in the city on his way to his ranch near Cameville, San Miguel country.

Ed Wetzel, who recently resigned the assistant secretaryship of the Colorado Cattle Growers' association, has been offered the position of manager of the San Miguel Cattle Company and will probably accept it."

The following day, the March 26 paper states, "Ed Wetzell has accepted the position of the manager of the San Miguel Cattle Company, and will leave for Cameville tomorrow to assume the duties of his new position."

By 1887 Came seemed to have made his departure from the San Miguel Cattle Company, with the incorporation and as a director of the Powell Cattle Company. This left Dearborne and Johnson still on the board of directors of the San Miguel Cattle Company in addition to J. L. Seward, Frederick S. Hodges and Henry H. Rogers, with their capital stock growing to \$150,000.

To be continued ...

Articles sourced from Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection, Colorado State Library.

Local resources

Cont. from Pg. 1

West End with senior meals and some other rides. Bowler said AAA would like to expand routes for doctor visits.

"We hope to develop that more," he said.

There are "Life Alert" supports available right now also through AAA, with no waiting list on those. And, caregiver respite is still a resource available in the West End. Other community partners include Frontier Senior Services, which provides some administrative services, as well as Must Love Seniors, which offers home care.

And, though it's not a Region 10 program, he said on Nov. 1, the

LEAP energy program, managed through counties, will open again to support people, including the elderly, with heating costs for the cold season.

He said housing is in discussion right now. The recent West End Solutions Group talked about housing for senior citizens and that it's a real need.

Bowler admitted some funding for past programs has been cut. That includes certain food programs, health classes and vision support. In the past, AAA used to have \$125 vouchers for eye glasses — not anymore.

Recently, Bowler had a conversation with Norwood's Deputy

Town Clerk Becky Hannigan. The AAA is working on trying to find a volunteer coordinator in the West End. It could be a part-time, paid position, around approximately 10 hours, and it could include some insurance coverage too. Bowler said he wants the person to be a local from the Norwood, Nucla or Naturita area, someone who's knowledgeable of the communities, so the volunteer can do some grassroots work.

Anyone who'd like to speak with Bowler about resources or volunteering should email bbowler@region10.net. He invites all to visit the Region 10 website at region10.net.

MONTROSE COUNTY

Frank Rodriguez Selected as county manager

SPECIAL TO THE FORUM

The Montrose Board of County Commissioners selected Frank Rodriguez as the incoming county manager. His start date is Oct. 7, allowing time for a transition. A formal contract will be considered at an upcoming board meeting, aligning with the previously approved county manager search process.

“It was a really tough process and tough choice for this board,” said Commissioner Roger Rash. “We included the community, elected officials, commissioner candidates, department heads and the public in this process. We had fantastic candidates, and I’m looking forward to Frank starting at the county.”

“We are excited to welcome Frank to the Montrose County team,” said Commissioner Keith Caddy. “I want to recognize and thank Interim County Manager Emily Sanchez. I’m proud of everything you have accomplished as interim, and the county is grateful for your hard work. Your efforts will make this a smooth

transition.”

“I am confident we have the right person in place for the county at this time,” said Commissioner Sue Hansen. “His leadership and experience will undoubtedly benefit our team and community. I look forward to working with him to address the challenges and opportunities ahead.”

“I am humbled by this opportunity, and I can’t underscore it enough,” said Rodriguez in last Monday’s board meeting. “I would like to thank the board and incoming commissioners . . . I promise to give you everything I have. I commend the staff and am excited for our partnership and working for each them. Also, I am thrilled and ready to dive in head first. We are all going to do great things together.”

Commissioners said Rodriguez is an accomplished leader with a demonstrated track record of managing complex operations and fostering strong community relations. He is currently the chief of police for the Town of Olathe, where he leads a department of sworn officers and administrative staff. Since

2022, he has implemented several key initiatives, including reducing drug trafficking, improving community engagement through programs like “Coffee with a Cop,” and launching a new field training officer program.

Previously, Rodriguez served as deputy commissioner for the North Carolina Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Division and as chief deputy for the Moore County Sheriff’s Office, managing state-wide fraud investigations and coordinating efforts with various law enforcement agencies. He has experience in managing teams, overseeing budgets and leading strategic initiatives.

Rodriguez holds a master of arts degree in international relations from the University of Oklahoma and a bachelor of science in pre-med/biology from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He has been recognized for his exemplary service with multiple awards, including five Bronze Star Medals, two with valor.

To learn more about Montrose County, the public may visit montrosecounty.net.

Commissioner seat

Cont. from Pg. 1

regulations will encourage community-scale projects that help us work towards climate action goals without losing our community character, stretching our resources thin, and negatively impacting wildlife, water, and the lands that we value.”

Regarding the proposed national monument along the Dolores River, Gleason said she “personally values the wild and biodiverse nature” of the area. She said she’s not sure how to determine the best course of action going forward, but she knows the consensus is that everyone cares deeply about the river corridor.

“An aspect of the process I have not agreed with is at the beginning

of the monument proposal timeline, a large sector of the local community and stakeholders were not included in the conversation and did not have an initial seat at the table,” she said. “The concerns from local communities related to lack of existing infrastructure, emergency response capabilities, and private land access in relation to the proposed monument footprint (and) are some important points that need to be heard.”

She said there was collaboration with the NCA (national conservation area), but Mesa and Montrose counties pulling out of that left an opening for what’s on the table now.

“It is my hope that Senator

(Michael) Bennett and Senator (John) Hickenlooper find a means to protect the Dolores River corridor that all stakeholders can agree on,” she said. “The appropriate course of action is to find consensus and build a collaborative plan that considers all stakeholders and includes the local community’s concerns and perspectives.”

To listen to constituents’ concerns she said she would schedule weekly office hours in Norwood and in Telluride for sit-down talks. She also wants to host bi-monthly “Coffee with Your Commissioner” listening sessions in Norwood and Placerville. She said she’d share information on her social media pages too.

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Dark skies

Cont. from Pg. 1

The coalition is also now helping the Town of Ophir and San Miguel County write their Dark Sky International applications. She said the coalition has provided various types of support: monetary, technical, insurance, public relations, grant writing, training and business guidance.

In addition to the coalition, WEDSA members will also be on site at the Heritage Festival with a high-powered telescope. Some information and merchandise will be available, as will photographs by Dave Muller, a local

astrophotographer.

Additionally, Stueber told the Forum that Norwood, Nucla and Naturita are all set to get their new Dark Sky-compliant street lights ordered. San Miguel Power Association will retrofit those lights, in order to fulfill the commitment to Dark Sky International. She said the hope is that Norwood's would be installed soon, and Nucla's by the end of the year. Naturita's could potentially be done by the end of the year, but the town is lacking installation money.

"We are trying to raise it," she said. "The coalition donated \$1,000 to each community, and \$2,500 to

Norwood."

Stueber said San Miguel County contributed to the street light fund, but officials there said their donation needed to be used in their county. At this time, Montrose County does not financially support the Dark Sky movement.

On the coalition board at this time with Stueber are Bob Grossman (president), Jaime Schultz (secretary and treasurer), Dave Muller, Gina Johnston (grant writer), Kris Holstrom — who's stepping down due to a move across the country, though Stueber said she's been granted a lifetime seat — John Humphries and Art Goodtimes.

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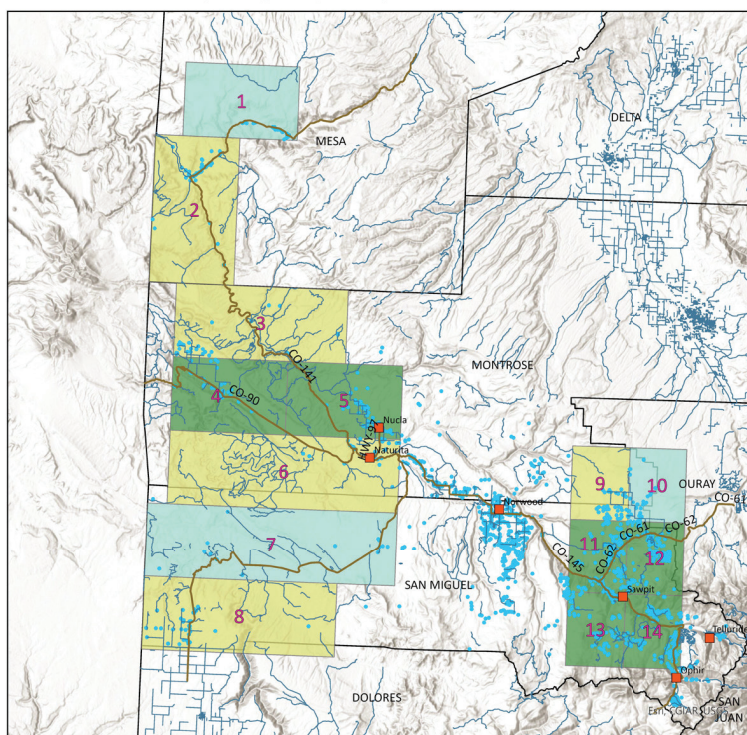
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Se Habla Español

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Volunteers needed for well-water samples near Uravan Belt

Residential water well sampling grid showing available number of samples per grid space



LEGEND

Number of samples per grid
 1 well samples/grid
 2 well samples/grid
 3 well samples/grid
 4 well samples/grid

Towns
 Permitted Residential Wells
 County border
 Highways
 Local Roads

The Colorado Geological Survey (CGS), a department of the Colorado School of Mines, has been funded through a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) to conduct a five-year study of baseline radionuclides and metals in groundwater obtained from privately-owned residential water wells throughout Colorado. CDPHE's reason for this study is education-focused for homeowners on wells. Note: CDPHE has no regulatory authority over private wells. The grant is covering the costs, so it's free to homeowners.

For this effort, 47 water samples are currently available for select areas of the Uravan Belt, which spans portions of Mesa, Montrose and San Miguel Counties. The area has been divided into a grid, each containing two to four samples. If the number of volunteers in a grid space exceeds the quota, the CGS will prioritize selection of participants by spatial distribution combined with geologic considerations.

For this effort, we are seeking volunteers to whom we will ship, via FedEx Ground, a boxed sampling kit with a pre-paid FedEx Ground return shipping label.

We will need filled water samples returned within about one to two weeks. Once we receive a water sample, we will assign a sample number to anonymize it. Thus, the owner's contact information will stay solely with CGS. We anticipate about a two-month turn-around time before we can email lab results to the individual well owners.

Volunteers, please send an email to LSEBOL@mines.edu with your name, shipping address, (physical address of property if different) and phone number. (FedEx requires phone numbers for shipping). A reply email will be sent with more detailed sampling information, asking for confirmation. If possible, please also identify which grid space the well is located within. (Available grids are shown in color on our grid map).

Pioneer Day

Cont. from Pg. 1

When Joy was small, she helped on the family dairy farm in Hesperus, milking cows once she was old enough.

“We’d take the milk and cream, stored in five-gallon cans and cooled in cold-water vats, to Durango and trade them for groceries,” she said. “It was enough to keep our family going.”

Luckily, a creek ran through Joy’s family’s land. That was the family’s and the cow’s water source, and they hand-irrigated the land to grow alfalfa to feed the cows.

“There were no four-wheelers, side roll sprinklers or center pivots. All the irrigation was done with shovels,” Joy said.

All of their large farm machinery, including the hay rake, was drawn by horses, and once she started school, Joy rode her horse or walked three miles each way to school every day.

There were no refrigerators, no indoor flush toilets and no electricity. Water for baths had to be hauled and heated on the wood stove. After the whole family bathed in the tub, the water was used to mop the floor, Joy remembered.

Joy remembers celebrating both the third and Fourth of July every year.

“My mom’s birthday was on the third of July. We celebrated with a picnic, with relatives, in the La Plata Mountains,” she said. “My dad knew of an old mine where there was always ice inside the entrance. We had a hand-turned ice cream maker and would use the ice to make ice cream for our picnic.”

Joy was in livestock and sewing 4-H clubs. She also remembers that everyone enjoyed competitive square dancing.

During her senior year in high school, in 1952, Joy contracted



Joy Barrett, left, is the 88th annual Pioneer Day queen. The parade is on Saturday, Sept. 28, at 11 a.m. Joy and her husband Bill raised a fourth generation of Wright’s Mesa Barretts. (Courtesy photo)

poliomyelitis, or polio, and had to drop out of school.

“The doctors thought rest was best,” she said. “I was lucky as it was not as bad as it could have been. I rode my horse every day and then returned to school and graduated in 1954.”

In 1955, Jonas Salk’s polio vaccine became available for everyone, and Joy said it was an important moment in her and her peers’ lives.

“One has to realize, at my age, I have lived through many changes,” Joy said. “I’ve seen Pearl Harbor, JFK’s assassination, the Korean, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the Space Age, 911, 20 presidents and COVID-19, to name a few.”

Joy and Bill had four children: Wilton, Audrey, Mark and Kent. The family lost Mark in 2011 and Bill passed in 2017. Joy loves spending time with her five grandchildren and five

great-grandchildren.

This year’s parade theme is Survival of the Fittest. Lineup begins at 10:30 a.m. The parade begins at 11 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for youth, private, school, business/organization, and automobile categories.

A chuckwagon dinner follows the parade at noon at Norwood School’s All-Purpose Room. Proceeds benefit Norwood Future Farmers of America (FFA).

Street games begin at 1:30 p.m. on Norwood School’s football field.

The day ends with the Pioneer Day Family Dance, sponsored by the Norwood Study Club. The dance is at the San Miguel County Fairgrounds Outdoor Pavillion (aka, the Pig Palace), from 7 to 10 p.m.

For more information on the parade or other events, please call Norwood Town Hall at 970-327-4288.



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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-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.

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



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OBITUARY

Irene Phyllis Skelton Snyder

Aug. 22, 1933 — Sept. 1, 2024

Irene Phyllis Snyder, age 91 and of Norwood, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Sept. 1. Irene Phyllis Skelton Snyder, known by most as Phyllis and affectionately nicknamed "Squirt" by her husband Raymond, was born on Aug. 22, 1933, in Norwood to Lothan and Louise Skelton. During Phyllis' childhood, the family moved to Uravan and Nucla, after her father secured work at the uranium mill. Then, in 1942, Phyllis' father was offered a job in California working on a horse ranch.

Phyllis enjoyed her time in California, where she joined a 4-H club and even showed a Hereford steer at the famous Cow Palace. The family moved back to Norwood in 1947, where Phyllis graduated from Norwood High School. On June 15, 1952, Raymond Snyder took Phyllis Skelton's hand in marriage. The couple celebrated 72 years of marriage.

Family meant everything to Phyllis, and she was the person who brought everyone together. She played an integral role in helping to establish the family's ranching legacy and helped out in whatever capacity was needed. She was known for her ability to feed large crews a good, home-cooked meal — nobody ever left her care with an empty stomach. Phyllis was kind, intelligent, hardworking, fair, humble and classy — traits that will forever leave an impression on her family and all who knew her.

Phyllis was preceded in death by an older sister, Billie Skelton; a younger brother, Dwayne Skelton; and her parents, Lothan and Louise Skelton.

She is survived by her husband, Raymond Snyder; her sister, Janet (Glen) Gardner; sister-in-law, Ruth Skelton; children, Mont (Sue) Snyder, Scott (Robin) Snyder and Lonnie Spor. She is also survived by seven grandchildren: Lothan (Regan) Snyder, Elisha (Brandon) Morris, Laura (Andy) Sherman, Zach Snyder, Jeremy Spor, Jamie (Jordan) Spor, Danielle (Ryan) Schopp; and 14 great-grandchildren whom she loved dearly.

Services will be held at on Sept. 21 at 11 a.m. in a location to be determined. A celebration of life will follow at the Norwood Christian Church.

West End Montrose County Sheriff's Office Blotter

8/22/2024
0934 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Adams Street in Naturita for an unwanted person. Austin Sullivan, 28, was arrested in the 600 block of Payson Street in Naturita for harassment, domestic violence, violating a protection order, and criminal mischief.

1112 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 90 mm 24 near Bedrock for an animal problem.
1145 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Third Avenue in Naturita for a parking problem.
1406 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 33000 block of Highway 145 near Redvale for an animal problem.

1809 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla.
2 follow up reports

8/23/2024
1109 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Grape Street in Nucla for an abandoned vehicle.

1621 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.
1728 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 100 block of Porter Street in Naturita for a trespassing report.

1934 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of West Seventh Avenue and Grape Street in Nucla for a traffic complaint.
2115 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Y11 Road near Bedrock for a traffic hazard.
8/24/2024
1034 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for a harassment report. Christal Nunn, 42, was cited for harassment.
1405 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 900 block of Grape Street in Nucla for an information report.

1502 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a civil matter.

1543 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28200 block of 2810 Road near Nucla for a trespassing report.
1846 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla for a traffic hazard.
1904 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Pine Street in Naturita for a disturbance.

8/25/2024
0953 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 97 mm 2 near Nucla for a traffic complaint.
1316 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 90 near Naturita for a traffic complaint.
1938 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Park Drive in Naturita for a disturbance.
2319 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of DD Road and Highway 97 near Nucla for an information report.

8/26/2024
0748 Hours - Deputy was dis-

patched to the 300 block of West Sixth Avenue in Nucla for a report of threatening.

0850 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.
1404 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29300 block of CC Road near Nucla for found property.
1623 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of West Seventh Avenue in Nucla for a civil matter.

1706 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 500 block of Grape Street in Nucla for a traffic complaint.
1805 Hours - Paul Haining, 48, was arrested in the 28200 block of 2810 Road near Nucla on 6 outstanding warrants.
2 school zones
2 VIN inspections
2 follow up reports
1 civil process attempted/served

8/27/2024
0642 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 29100 block of Highway 97 near Nucla for an animal problem.
1733 Hours - Deputy was dis-

San Miguel Basin Forum celebrates 75 years

Come see us at the Heritage Festival



in Nucla Town Park on Oct. 5

- free copies of the week's edition
- drawing for giveaways
- become a subscriber
- enter photo contest



Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED AD RATE:

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

HELP WANTED

Part-time janitor for the Town of Nucla 5-10 flexible hours per-week. Application available at Town Hall 320 Main Street.

17-2T-C

HELP WITH A PROJECT

Need someone to help tear down or move 14x70 mobile home in Bedrock. Contact Robin at (970) 859-7222.

17-1T-C

AA MEETING

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

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.

DELTA SALES YARD - MARKET REPORT

300-400# STEERS	3.10-3.30	300-400# HEIFERS	3.00-3.25
400-500# STEERS	2.90-3.35	400-500# HEIFERS	2.80-3.15
500-600# STEERS	2.60-2.83	500-600# HEIFERS	2.50-2.75
600-700# STEERS	2.58-2.70	600-700# HEIFERS	2.25-2.50
700-800# STEERS	2.40-2.55	700-800# HEIFERS	2.20-2.35
800-900# STEERS	2.30-2.45	800-900# HEIFERS	1.95-2.17
Top bulls	1.45-1.50	Medium bulls	1.30-1.44
Young Cows	1.40-1.55	Top cows	1.20-1.30
Medium cows	1.05-1.18	Low-yielding cows	1.00 Below

NEXT WEEK: Thursday September 26th –

Special Sheep & Goat Sale. Selling Sheep, Goats, Pigs, ONLY! 200 wether lambs from Hotchkiss, 30 Boar goats, 100 lambs, 40 Savanah goats – Olathe. **All Cattle sell on Saturday September 28th.**

UP COMING SALES +

Saturday September 28th – Special Bred Cow & Feeder

Sale. Dispersal of 50 Bred cows & calves, 13 Bred cows & Calves - Meeker, 40 mixed feeders, 50 mixed feeders-Hotchkiss, 25 mixed feeders – Norwood. **Starting at 10:00a.m.**

Saturday October 5th - NEXT SPECIAL HORSE SALE – Dispersal of 7 horses from Hotchkiss

Saturday October 12th – Special Alternative Animal Sale. 30 pair miniature Herefords, 10 Dexters, 2 Llamas, 3 Alpaca, mini mule, and some Highlanders.

West End Montrose County

Sheriff's Office Blotter

Continued from Page 6

patched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for a theft report.

2005 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 39700 block of Eagle Drive in Norwood for a weapons offense.

1 VIN inspection

1 follow up report

8/28/2024

0819 Hours - Deputy conducted court security in the 300 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1048 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 28700 block of BB36 Road near Nucla for a medical assist.

1223 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 28700 block of BB36 Road near Nucla.

1312 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 600 block of Payson Street in Naturita for a medical assist.

1616 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla for an information report.

2039 Hours - Deputy conducted a field interview in the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1 school zone

2 directed patrols in Nucla

8/29/2024

1158 Hours - Deputy conducted a field interview on Highway 145

mm 106 near Norwood.

1542 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 400 block of Lake Avenue in Naturita for a report of threatening.

1740 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 800 block of Main Street in Nucla.

1951 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to Highway 141 mm 82 near Naturita for an information report.

1 VIN inspection

8/30/2024

1606 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 30100 block of 3000 Road near Nucla for a civil matter.

1612 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of 25 Mesa near Nucla for a report of smoke.

1644 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of Adams Street in Naturita for a welfare check.

1815 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 200 block of West Fourth Avenue in Nucla for a juvenile problem.

1 VIN inspection

2 follow up reports

1 directed patrol in Nucla

1 civil process attempted/served

8/31/2024

1406 Hours - Deputy was dis-

patched to the area of 25 Mesa near Nucla for a report of smoke.

1841 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of V24 Road and Z26 Road near Nucla for a suspicious vehicle.

2 directed patrols in County

9/1/2024

1227 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 300 block of East Tenth Avenue in Nucla for a medical assist.

1923 Hours - Deputy took an information report in the 100 block of West Main Street in Naturita.

2146 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of East Fifth Avenue and Main Street in Nucla for a suspicious person.

1 directed patrol in Nucla

1 directed patrol in County

9/2/2024

0801 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 5700 block of U5 Road near Paradox for a report of threatening.

2156 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the area of 25 Mesa Road and Sawmill Hill for an accident.

2201 Hours - Deputy was dispatched to the 2000 block of County Road 42ZN near Norwood for an animal problem.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR OF THE SAN MIGUEL WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

Please take notice that applications for one appointment to the Board of Directors of the San Miguel Water Conservancy District (the "District") from San Miguel County, to fulfill the remaining term through December 8, 2026, of a Director who has resigned, will be received at the address below until November 15, 2024. To be considered, you must have resided within the District for one year, must be the owner of real property within the District and must be knowledgeable in water matters. A letter or resume, which references Case No. 95-CV-2009, setting forth your qualifications to serve should be sent to:

District Court, San Miguel County
Attn: Clerk of the Combined Courts
P.O. Box 919
Telluride CO 81435

With a copy to Adam T. Reeves, Maynes, Bradford, Shipp & Sheffel, LLP, 835 E. Second Ave., Durango, CO 81301. This notice is provided by the District's President.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum September 25, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

SPECIAL MEETING – MONTROSE COUNTY MASTER PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the Montrose County Planning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing in the Public Works Building 63160 LaSalle Road, Montrose, Colorado, on Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. for the consideration of the Montrose County new Master Plan. Action will be taken on any items discussed.

Published in the San Miguel Basin Forum September 25, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Dolores County Road & Bridge Department – PO Box 426 – 8477 Road 7.7 – Dove Creek, CO 81324, 970-677-2328; has filed an application for a Construction Materials Limited Impact (112) Reclamation Permit with the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board under provisions of the Colorado Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials. The proposed mine is known as the Disappointment Valley Pit, and is located at or near Sections 19 & 20, Township 43N, Range 17W, NM Prime Meridian.

The proposed date of the commencement is April 1, 2025 and the proposed date of completion is December 31, 2035.

The proposed future use of the land is Native Grass Rangeland.

Additional information and tentative decision date may be obtained from the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567, or at the Dolores County Clerk and Recorder's Office; 409 N. Main Street, Dove Creek, CO or the above-named applicant. A complete copy of the application is available at the above-named County Clerk and Recorder's office and at the Division's Office.

Comments concerning the application and exhibits must be in writing and must be received by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety by 4:00 p.m. on November 5, 2024.

Please note that under provisions of C.R.S. 34-32.5-101 *et seq.* Comments related to noise, truck traffic, hours of operation, visual impacts, effects on property values and other social or economic concerns are issues not subject to this Office's jurisdiction. These subjects, and similar ones, are typically addressed by your local governments, rather than the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety or the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

Published in San Miguel Basin Forum on September 25, October 2, 9 & 16, 2024.

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Breakfast Menu

Free For All Kids

Milk Served With All Meals

Monday, Sept. 30

Cereal, Oranges, Milk, and Juice

Tuesday, Nov. 1

Crackers, Breakfast Pizza, Mixed Fruit, Milk, and Juice

Wednesday, Nov. 2

Oatmeal Round, Peaches, Milk, and Juice

Thursday, Nov. 3

Granola, Pears, Yogurt, Milk, and Juice

WEST END PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Lunch Menu

Free For All Kids

Milk Served With All Meals

Monday, Sept. 30

Hotdog on Bun, Sweet Potato Fries, Pasta Salad, Salad Bar, and Milk

Tuesday, Nov. 1

Santa Fe Soup, Corn Chips, Salad Bar, and Milk

Wednesday, Nov. 2

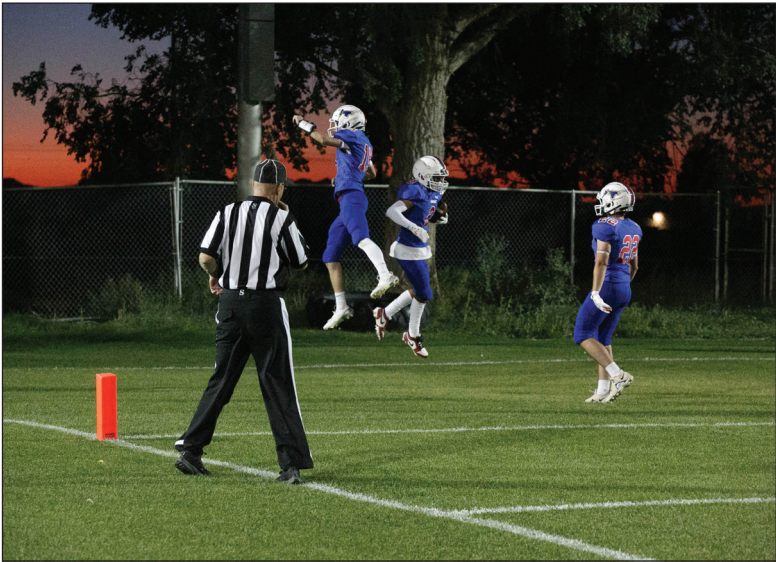
Chicken Alfredo Pasta, Roll, Salad Bar, and Milk

Thursday, Nov. 3

Beef Stew, Bread Stick, Salad Bar, and Milk

YOUTH SPORTS

Football prevails; volleyball suffers



The combined Mavericks stomped Monticello, 32-14. Here, they celebrate a long touchdown run by Daniel Zunich in the second quarter.



The guys run the ball behind strong blocking in the third quarter.



Nucla falls to Mancos in three sets. Here Lantry Galley (15) goes for the spike.



No. 16 Sydney Tomlinson sets it up. (Photos by Brandie McCabe)

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- ✓ Wear long sleeves and pants
- ✓ Stay indoors at dusk and dawn
- ✓ Empty and clean water containers
- ✓ Repair holes in screens

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- ✓ Fever
- ✓ Headache
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- ✓ Fatigue

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