

Old Oak is a solid addition to Niwot



Courtesy photo

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Since Michael Tomich and Patty Machen opened the door of Old Oak Coffeehouse a little over a year ago, it has lived up the symbolism of its namesake – it's become a thriving and solid part of the community. So, when a smash and grab burglar made the cafe one of the victims of a string of small businesses robbed in the last two weeks, Tomich said the tree was a bit shaken.

"To see someone in my shop, with a mask and gloves destroying and stealing," Tomich said of the video footage he reviewed, "was such a violation."

Psychologically it's been hard to fathom, and financially it's not easy either. The crime re-

sulted in \$1,000 out-of-pocket damages.

Transforming the retail space into what they dreamed their coffee business would be was a labor of love. The woodwork of the countertops and display case, the details of painted trim, wainscoting, and crown molding, and the frames for their signs were each created by the hands of the owners.

Tomich and Machen are carrying through on their original commitment to nourish the community in body and soul through their food and drink and with the creativity of local artists and musicians. Their first year was a warm-up period and now they feel they're hitting their stride with the business.

Tomich said what was elemental was that the coffee had to

Old Oak Coffeehouse is a hub for the community, including local musicians playing to patrons each Saturday night.

Continued on Page 4

Gunbarrel HPD wins photonics award



Courtesy photo

CPIA Chairman Ken Anderson (center) presents the Photonics Company of the Year award to Orri Johsson (L) and Kevin Miller (R).

By MARY WOLBACH LOPERT
Editorial@lhvc.com

On Oct. 18, HPD (High Performance Devices) was recog-

nized as and presented with the Photonics Company of the Year award at the Colorado Photonics Industry Association's

Continued on Page 16

A snowy Battle's O'er tribute in Niwot



Courtesy photo

Chris Doyle (left) and Paul Schafer, members of the Niwot Community Semi-Marching Free Grange Band, perform on bagpipes in a commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I at the Niwot Cemetery on Nov 11.

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2018 BETTER NEWSPAPERS AWARD WINNER

Community Calendar

FOOD DRIVE

Niwot Dental (6800 79th Street) is collecting non-perishable food items for the Longmont non-profit organization, OUR Center. Most needed are canned fruits and vegetables, soups, healthy snacks, cereals, grains, rice, beans, infant formula, pasta, peanut butter, and canned meat. The food drive goes through Dec. 15. The office is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For additional information, call 303-652-3444.

ENCHANTED EVENING

Niwot kicks off the holiday season on Nov. 23 with the Enchanted Evening celebration in Cottonwood Square and Old Town from 6 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit niwot.com/events/enchanted-evening.

STARGAZING

Front Range Community College will have a free public stargazing from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at the observatory, located in the courtyard of the Classroom Building of the Boulder County Campus (2121 Miller Drive, Longmont). For more information, visit <https://blog.frontrange.edu/category/news/>.

SCHOOL OPENHOUSE

Boulder Country Day (4820 Nautilus Court North, Boulder) will be holding an open house for students in preschool through 8th grade on Dec. 1. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.bouldercountryday.org.

HOLIDAY PARADE

Niwot's Holiday Parade will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 11 a.m. Santa is once again this year's Grand Marshal, and will visit with children at

the Grange following the parade until 1 p.m.

VOLUNTEER NATURALISTS

Boulder County Parks & Open Space is now accepting applications for Volunteer Naturalists. Training classes will begin Thursday, Jan. 10. Please go to www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org/volunteer for more information and application forms.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Alzheimer's Association Dementia Caregiver Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Niwot United Methodist Church (7405 Lookout Road). This free service is for family members and friends who care for and care about people with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia.

Real Estate

THE FOLLOWING DATA IS SUPPLIED BY COLORADO WEEKLY HOMEBUYERS LIST, INC., 303-744-2020. THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF REAL ESTATE BUYERS ARE AVAILABLE ON GUMMED LABELS THAT INCLUDE PHONE NUMBERS. LISTED ARE THE BUYER, THE PROPERTY ADDRESS, THE SELLER, AND THE PURCHASE PRICE.

GUNBARREL

PATRICIA O'ROURKE -- 4837 White Rock Circle Apt C, Margaret A Meister, \$288,000.

ALEXANDER BING -- 5934 Gunbarrel Ave. Apt C, Jack Russo, \$380,000.

ANNA LYTTLE -- 4523 Canterbury Drive, Chad & Holly Owens, \$585,000.

CHAD & HOLLY OWENS -- 8205 Kincross Drive, Reed & Jill McIntyre, \$665,000.

DANIEL ZAHNER -- 5160 Idylwild Trail, Ronald F Farina, \$699,000.

NANCY EASTMAN -- 7103 Cedarwood Circle, Mary L Hayes Trust, \$714,000.

NIWOT

ANNE REACH -- 7155 Dry Creek Court, Anthony Percival, \$724,900.

Letters to the Editor

All Niwot property owners deserve the same rights. Through a moratorium, Land Use staff is trying to restrict the use of a public right-of-way to benefit a select few Niwot property owners over others. But the County Attorney and the County's Comprehensive Plan state that ALL adjacent property owners have equal rights to use the alley. Alley use regulations already exist and are successfully enforced just 50 feet up 2nd Avenue.

Ignoring the existing guidelines of the Comprehensive Plan to restrict access to the public right-of-way alley has dangerous implications:

- Without alley access, 2nd Ave business patrons who park in the rear are forced to drive across sidewalks! Pedestrians, bikers, baby-strollers, etc., are in constant competition with vehicles. Near-misses occur on a regular basis.
- Land Use prefers that the alley deteriorate (to discourage its use), so it has not been maintained by surrounding property owners. It's become a pothole-filled mess which doesn't drain correctly. Three-foot-tall weeds encroach up to 8'

into the 20' alley, making it unduly narrow and a fire hazard. Western Disposal has asked that the alley be repaired to prevent damage to their trucks. When business owners attempted to fill potholes at their own expense, they were physically stopped by residential neighbors who were misled by Land Use staff into believing the alley belongs only to them.

The moratorium should be ended so that the public -- business owners and residents

Continued on Page 3

LETTERS

Continued from Page 2

alike -- can work together to create a quaint, well-lit alley like those in Longmont and Ft. Collins which is what Cornelia Sawle, owner of Niwot Inn has suggested. This public right-of-way alley could be beautiful and safe if Land Use would end the moratorium and apply the same regulations to both blocks of 2nd Avenue. Let's keep equal alley access for all.

Thank you,
Xan Rubey,
Von's Colorado Concepts

My name is Cornelia Sawle. As owner of the Niwot Inn, I am bordered by two controversial issues in Niwot. One is the development of the property next door to the south and the other is the alley directly behind my property. I am writing this letter because, as a business and commercial property owner, I understand the challenges of the people trying to develop, improve, and invigorate downtown Niwot. I am not seeking anything from the county. My business is unique in that I don't rely heavily on locals since my customers come from out of town, so I feel my opinions are unbiased, merely observations from working in town. I do highly promote the local businesses to my guests.

It is difficult to profitably run a small business in Niwot. It is a small town with limited customers. Commercial real estate prices and rents have gone up significantly, as have

the property taxes of which the commercial properties pay a hefty amount. This makes it more difficult for business owners to make ends meet. One solution is to increase the downtown residences. If people live right in town, they are more likely to frequent the local stores. Therefore, I support the addition of more residences being proposed to the county.

I hear people saying "we don't want to become a Boulder!" Well, that's not going to happen. Even if ten more residences are added, downtown Niwot is only about four blocks long and there are no buildings over two stories. It is not going to expand into a Boulder. What we shouldn't have are vacant buildings and buildings that aren't being maintained.

Since I am next door to 364 2nd Ave, I often observe the backyard. It has a plain lawn that gets drier and drier during the summer months. In my opinion, it's wasted space that no one uses or enjoys even though it's a large area right in town. People walking or driving by can't even see it. It would be an improvement to have a couple of small landscaped residences developed on that empty area. It would bring in more people to use the downtown area. Again, people who live in town are going to use the local stores often and will most likely walk to them, therefore, won't add much to the street traffic.

This brings up the other issue, the alley. The east side of 2nd Avenue has more pedestrian traffic than any other sidewalk in Niwot. People are constantly walking by; adults, people walking dogs, families, people pushing strollers, chil-

dren, teenagers, and lots of kids on bikes. On days when there are events such as Rock and Rails or First Friday Art Walk, the volume increases even more. I don't understand why the traffic is routed across the pedestrian sidewalk to get to the parking lots behind the buildings when an alley already exists that the cars can use.

I could easily open my parking lot to have cars enter and exit from the alley as could the building next door and on down the alley. If I was given permission to do so, I would eliminate my driveway and add a lawn, creating more green space on 2nd Ave. I'm not going to fight to have this allowed, but I just want to point out it would be much safer and would look nicer.

The alley behind c Ave is the worst section of town. It is full of ruts, pot holes, untrimmed trees, and weeds that become quite tall and thick because they are not cut down during the summer. I worry about the fire hazard that this creates.

Instead of having the alley so unkempt, I believe we should embrace the alley and make it quaint, as Longmont and Fort Collins have done. They have bricked them, which is good for drainage and keeps car speed slow, and have added soft lighting and flowers. If the county isn't willing to move the

commercial car access from 2nd Avenue, then move much of the pedestrian traffic to the alley. I have seen proposed development drawings of the property next door which has landscaped walkways from the curve of Niwot Road and 2nd Avenue through to the alley. I would be willing to enhance my section of the alley and I've heard other commercial real estate owners on the alley say the same. Why not make the alley just as charming as the rest of Niwot?

If Niwot is going to continue to thrive and prosper, we need to take the unused, rundown areas and improve them by making those areas more attractive and available to all the people who live in or come to Niwot.

Cornelia Swale,
Niwot Inn
342 2nd Ave, Niwot

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident and homeowner in downtown Niwot. My home is on an alley on the opposite side (SW) of 2nd Avenue. I live and work in my home. I can walk to every business. This is one of the main reasons that I moved here. I was and still am very hopeful that more restaurants and retail businesses will invest in Niwot. I watched this

town for more than ten years before choosing to buy and remodel my home here.

I fully support well-planned development and mixed use. I purchased my property with full knowledge that I live INSIDE a town, however small, not out in the country where I would expect deliveries and pedestrians to be an annoyance. The small alley that I live on supports 7 businesses and 4 residences!

I support the plan of sidewalks and bike paths with all or most deliveries in the alleys. My many friends that live on 3rd Avenue seem to want more shops and restaurants but not on the alley near their homes.

It's 2018! I am one of many who want a vibrant downtown with mixed use like other small towns. Progressive and engaging for a community.

A diplomatic solution could have been drawn up much more proactively involving business owners and residents. The authoritarian BOCO process, land use staff and county commissioners should be ashamed. This is all at business owners' and residents' expense. Thank you Boulder County for slowing our hard-earned progress and pitting neighbors against neighbors!

Lisa Rivard,
Niwot



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OLD OAK

Continued from Page 1

be stellar and the machine that made the coffee had to be beautiful. Silver Canyon Coffee and their employee Andy Buckingham (who is a Niwot resident) are shining stars according to Tomich.

"We were so afraid of the whole coffee and espresso thing, but Andy demystified it and gently coaxed us into having the knowledge we needed," Tomich said. They definitely have it down now and, along with Silver Canyon Coffee, they donated coffee for 250 people at this year's Niwot Trot.

The kitchen is small, but they've discovered it's mighty. They used to buy their baked goods. Now they make their own homemade goods with a convection oven and a hot plate. Fresh out-of-the-oven scones, banana breads, breakfast sandwiches, and baked oatmeal are on the daily menu. For the lunch crowd there are homemade Paninis.

The coffee bar morphs into an adult beverage bar now that the establishment can sell wine and beer. Happy hour is every Monday through Saturday from 3 - 5 p.m. Tomich said they are the first establishment to get permission to serve alcohol on Boulder County property, which is the sidewalk bump-out that serves as the patio in front of their business.

A substantial base of loyal customers has made Old Oak a regular habit, Tomich said, and that's his favorite part of the business, especially watching generations of people connecting. In addition to those who come in for a cup 'o joe every day, there's a weekly knitting group and a couple of book clubs who meet there.

Every Saturday heaping plates of spaghetti and meatballs, Michael's grandmother's recipe, are served. The newest special is a combo of waffles and mimosas every second Sunday of the month.

A crew of six employees at Old Oak is headed up by manager Hannah Carlson, who is credited with "shifting the business model." Carlson runs the daily operations of the store, handling everything from the creative let-

tering of the menu chalkboard to being responsible for the artist exhibits and musical booking side of the business.

Each month, the walls of Old Oak become home to a different artist - painters, photographers, and potters' installations are scheduled all the way into April.

Both Tomich and Machen are talented musicians who have formed the House Blend Band soon to make an appearance on their own stage - ahem - corner of the room. Their roots run deep in the local music scene, drawing a variety of performers to the venue who graciously entertain in the intimate space for well, a song and a dance, meaning very little money.

The next act on their calendar is Niwotian Bruce Rabeler, whose first CD release coincides with his performance 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 24. Titled, "Come Dance with me," the CD is a 40-years-in-the-making compilation of original songs Rabeler has been working on since he was 17 years old.

He originally set out to just make a demo CD of a few songs, but he realized he enjoyed the process of making a CD so much that he's already started on a second one.

The self-taught musician is always drawn to the beat first he said, and to that end he's developed his own finger-picking technique he described as bouncy rather than strumming. It's him and his guitar and it's rhythm-based with a little bit of blues, so Rabeler has labeled his style as Troubadour R&B.

In addition to his day job

as a sales representative with Little Valley Nursery, being the co-owner of Little Bird store with his wife Liz Gould, and being the treasurer of the Niwot LID, Rabeler is a visual artist specializing in macro-botanical photography. The cover of his CD is a still life photo taken while on a recent trip to Mallorca.

The album was recorded at the Rollinsville studio of

Ray Smith and Cari Minor who together are the local band Strangebyrds, which has performed at Rock & Rails. Smith provides some type of instrumentation on every track and both Smith and Minor also sang on a couple of tracks, "adding a depth of sound" Rabeler said.

Old Oak Coffeehouse is located at 136 2nd Avenue, Niwot. To learn more about the artists and

musical acts being featured at Old Oak Coffeehouse, and to sign up for their email list, visit www.TheOldOakCoffeehouse.com

Bruce Rabeler's CD and photography are available for purchase at Little Bird, 112 2nd Avenue, Niwot, in addition to www.BruceRabeler.com and www.cdbaby.com.

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Happy Thanksgiving

We thank you for your continued business throughout the years. Hope your Thanksgiving is filled with peace, love and great joy.





Barb Ponesse, Pat Murphy, Charlotte Woodward, Tara Littell, Ann Mills, Todd Good, Pat McCarthy

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			<p>SOLD! Old Town Niwot</p> <p>\$420,000</p> <p>440 Murray Pat Murphy 303-589-7025</p>  <p>Jason & Kirsten welcome Jennifer, Jonathon Grossman and family to Niwot.</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>\$1,200,000</p> <p>8525 Monte Vista Pat Murphy 303-589-7025</p>  <p>Original home built in the 70's needs remodeling or a new home to be built. NO HOA. Possible division into 2 lots. Large storage garage.</p>

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COMMUNITY NEWS?

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You can find sparkling items to adorn fingers at Niwot Jewelry. Follow your nose to mouthwatering meals at the Niwot Tavern or try the new Morning Table. No time to cook? There will be happy stomachs with some pot pies or locally produced honey at the Niwot Market. Everyone knows for happy warm toes, Little Bird is the place to go.

Want more? Look inside the Courier's Left Hand Valley Holiday Gift Guide. There's no need to look elsewhere, because it's all right here.

The big benefits of small business

By Kathryn Rowley
Editorial@lhvc.com

The holiday season is upon us, and now is the time to start purchasing gifts for loved ones far and near. This year, instead of rushing out to a crowded, unfriendly mall or just thoughtlessly clicking a link to Amazon, consider going “small.” Locally-owned shops and retailers often have the perfect solution to the most vexing holiday shopping conundrums.

For that one-of-a-kind person on your list, stop by one of the Left Hand Valley’s many boutiques or galleries for a one-of-a-kind gift. Many stock a wide selection of products made by local artists and artisans that you won’t find anywhere else in the world. These shops are also very intune with the Left Hand Valley, so shoppers can find niche-market items tailored to their local interests and tastes. A bracelet from Niwot Jewelry,



Photo by Chuck Klueber

Even Santa knows how much easier holiday shopping can be at small, locally-owned retailers.

or a piece of pottery from Osmosis, or a hand-crafted scarf from Little Bird, will definitely not be found among the masses.

Due to their size, local-

ly-owned establishments can also provide much more personalized service than the overworked and under-trained employees at big-box or on-

line retailers. At Niwot Wheel Works, they’ll even make you a latte while answering your questions about bikes or your favorite local rides. Try asking for that at Dick’s Sporting Goods.

Small businesses are often able to handle problems efficiently, since they tend to have more flexibility than stores with policies decided at a remote corporate headquarters. They also tend to have long-serving employees who are knowledgeable and passionate about their products and services.

Small businesses don’t just provide a great experience for shoppers. These shops also help boost the local economy. Left Hand Valley businesses create jobs for area residents, which in turn helps keep more dollars in the community. Patronizing one of the dozens of small business in the Niwot Local Improvement District (LID), helps directly

fund events and amenities such as the Sculpture Park, Rock & Rails, and Jazz on 2nd Ave. Local retailers also help support small, local wholesalers and entrepreneurs, such as McReilly Farms, 2nd Avenue Hair Studio and Whiskers & Tails. The effects aren’t just local, either. Nationwide, the jobs created by small businesses account for 60 to 80 percent of all jobs.

Small businesses also help support the communities they serve by participating in civic and charitable events, including school and church fundraisers. Many small businesses also sponsor and participate in community gatherings, such as Enchanted Evening in Niwot.

This year, take stress out of your holiday shopping by visiting one of the unique, friendly locally-owned businesses in your neighborhood. They community you help may just be your own.

The morning Table

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Photo by Karen Copperberg

Lights line the trees, gazebo and caboose (not pictured) at Whistle Stop Park.



Courtesy Photo

A whimsical display graced the windows of little Bird during Enchanted Evening in 2016.

Niwot's Enchanted Evening

Friday, Nov 23, 2018

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

6:15 PM - TREE LIGHTING

Santa at the Grange

6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Sponsored by:
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Local Improvement District



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Saturday, Dec 1, 2018

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

11:00 AM - PARADE

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Winter windows dress up 2nd Ave for the holidays



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Professional artist Thomas Studholme painted a festive scene of Clydesdale horses pulling Santa's sleigh on Porchfront Homes' 2nd Avenue windows as part of the holiday window decorating competition in Niwot. Studholme's work is seen throughout town, including murals at the Niwot Market. His holiday paintings are also on display at two other locations this year - Winot Coffee and Niwot Tavern.

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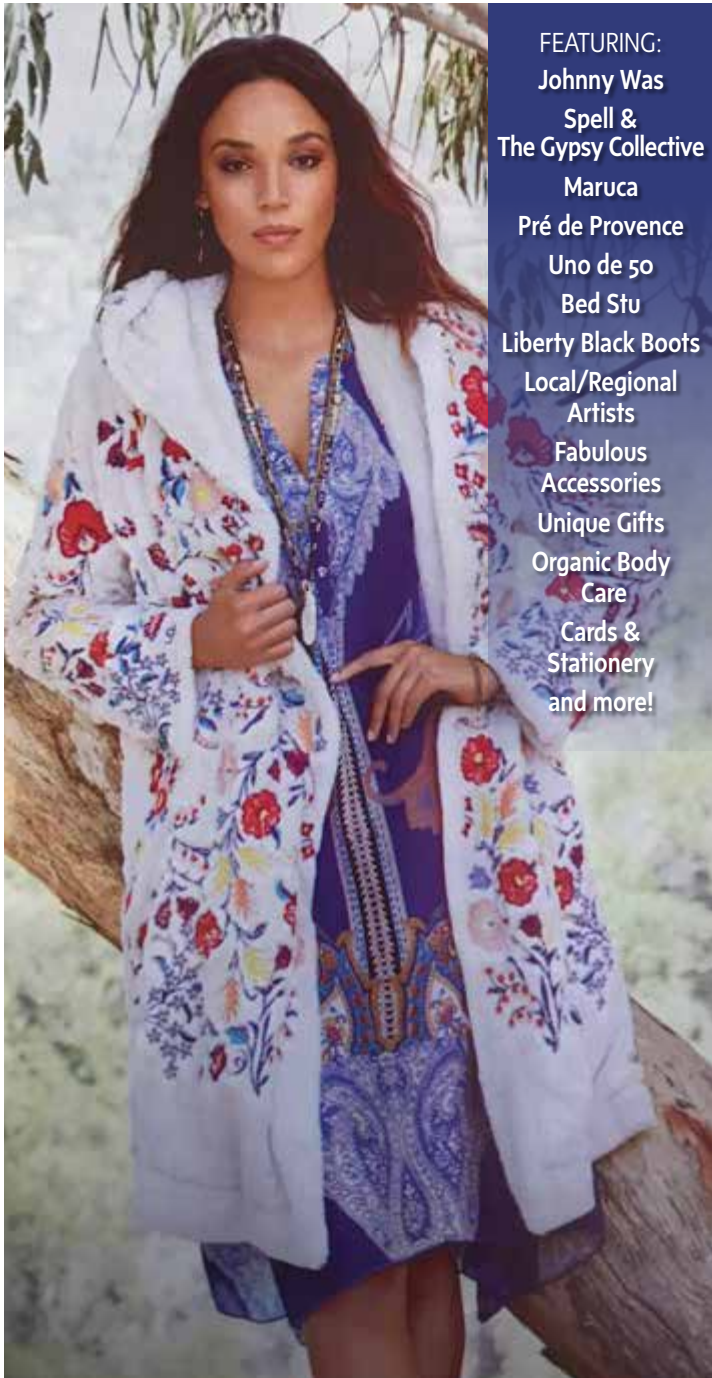
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**LEFT HAND VALLEY
 COURIER**

The Nutcracker gets a gentle twist



Courtesy photo

The Longmont Symphony in conjunction with the Boulder Ballet presents three performances of The Nutcracker Ballet on Dec. 1 and 2. For the first year, a Gentle Nutcracker (a sensory-friendly version of the production), will take place at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1.

By VICKY DORVEE
 Editorial@lhvc.com

A collaboration of the Boulder Ballet with the Longmont Symphony Orchestra (LSO) usually signals the heartwarming end-of-the-year classic, The Nutcracker Ballet. Along with what we've come to expect, there will now be the addition of an extra-special show at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1 when performers will host the Gentle Nutcracker, a sensory-friendly production that will be welcoming to all audience members.

Tchaikovsky's musical score is synonymous with the story of "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice," which takes place in

the early 1800s on Christmas Eve. The dream of Clara, the young heroine, is a tale that generations of theatergoers have made a family tradition every holiday season.

But it isn't always easy for everyone to be in the audience. People who are challenged by sitting still, bright lights, or loud noises, or who aren't able to be perfectly quiet are often discouraged to go to performances in general. LSO is offering this unique performance for the first time this year in order to give everyone the ability to feel the healing and affirmative power of music and dance.

"The idea was a long time

coming because Longmont Symphony is so much about community in a very inclusive way," Giorgia Ghizzoni, incoming LSO executive director said. "The Boulder Ballet had experience already with a similar production and they suggested we partner on this idea."

What makes this a sensory-friendly show is that the performance will be shorter, just around an hour long. Volunteers have been trained to welcome all types of differently-abled patrons so they can enjoy the performance in a way that's meaningful to them. Lights will be dimmed to a lesser degree than usual, and

the more boisterous scenes of the play will be cut out, making it a very positive themed

story. There's also a quiet room outside of the theater where anyone may go to take a breath if they become overwhelmed.

"The rules of the game and the code of conduct are incredibly different from your average production," Ghizzoni said. "Sound from the audience is going to be welcome and encouraged in that we truly believe emoting and reacting out loud or with movement in a genuine way to the music is something that is really primal in us. It's incredibly heartwarming and rewarding to see how music can touch everybody."

According to Ghizzoni, LSO has already heard wonderful feedback from people who are excited about the upcoming show, especially from parents who have said their children were never able to attend a performance before. Ghizzoni said this is just the beginning and there will be more productions like this by LSO.

Prior to the production, at 12:15 p.m., there will be a musical instrument demonstration in the lobby,

Performances take place at the Vance Brand Civic Auditorium at Skyline High School. Tickets to the Gentle Nutcracker are \$10. The Longmont Symphony and Boulder Ballet will also present two full performances of The Nutcracker Ballet at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. Tickets are \$12-35 via phone (303-772-5796) or at www.longmontsymphony.org.

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Stern appointed to National Science Board

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot resident Dr. Alan Stern has been appointed by President Donald Trump to become a member of the National Science Board (NSB). One of five new members to join the board, Stern will serve a six-year term through May 2024.

Other appointees are scientists Maureen L. Condit of Utah, Suresh V. Garimella of Indiana, Steven Leath of Alabama, and Stephen Willard of Maryland.

Stern is the associate vice president and special assistant to the president of Southwest Research Institute headquartered in Boulder. The distinguished planetary scientist leads New Horizons, a NASA mission to Pluto, now on its way to the Kuiper Belt.

The policymaking arm of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the NSB also counsels the president and the U.S. Congress on matters involving science and

engineering. The 24-member board is responsible for steering NSF's strategic direction, including approving its annual budget and facility projects. According to the NSF website, members of the board are selected because of their "eminence in research, education, and records of distinguished service."

Stern, who earned a doctorate degree in astrophysics and planetary science at the University of Colorado (1989), has been the principal investigator of 14 missions. This year he was awarded the National Award of Nuclear Science and History and the Lowell Thomas Award, which honors individuals who engineer groundbreaking expeditions and expeditionary science.

Southwest Institute's website reads, "In 2016 and 2007, TIME Magazine named him one of the 100 most influential people of the year. The American Astronomical Society awarded him its Carl Sagan Memorial Award

in 2016, and he received the 2016 NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal, the space agency's highest civilian honor. The New Horizons mission, which he leads for NASA, was named among the top science news stories of 2015 by Discover Magazine and Science News, among other distinctions, and has itself been honored with numerous awards."

Released this year, "Chasing New Horizons", Stern and co-author David Grinspoon's book documents the incredible journey of the New Horizons project from inception to launch and beyond.

New Horizon's mission is scheduled to reach another milestone on Jan. 1, 2019, when it will earn the distinction of attaining the furthest flyby in history. It is headed to the Kuiper Belt where it will encounter the Ultima Thule object in what is termed the "third zone" of our solar system.

Niwot LID approves NBA marketing plan for 2019

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Sports@lhvc.com

With most of its business for 2018 concluded, the Niwot LID advisory committee turned its gaze to 2019 at its regular monthly meeting on Nov. 13.

Up first was newly-elected LID treasurer Bruce Rabeler with details about his recent meeting with liaison Mark Ruzzin and officials from the Boulder County finance department. Starting next year, the county will be implementing new rules concerning procurement, which may mean changes to current LID funding processes.

Among the most significant changes is to the competitive bid threshold, which fell to \$5,000 from \$25,000. In other words, Boulder County will require

written quotes from three separate vendors for any purchase of \$5,000 or more. Purchases over \$25,000 will have to go through the county's formal Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

There will also be stricter documentation requirements for funding requests, but they shouldn't prove too burdensome, according to former LID treasurer Harris Faberman.

"Now I think there's a bit more scrutiny," he said. "But I don't see any pushback as long as the treasurer doesn't allow overfunding of any approved pay request."

This led to a "thorough" discussion about allocations and LID funding priorities for the coming year, and the committee

Continued on Page 14



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Gardening blues be gone

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

When Colorado coldness creeps in, the missing simple pleasures of digging in the dirt, admiring green textures in the yard, and watching buds turning to blooms can lead to an unfulfilled longing. Bringing home houseplants and cut flowers doesn't always offer the same satisfaction that gardening can. Here are some easy indoor ideas to satiate those green thumb blues.



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Terrariums, Narcissus bulbs, wheatgrass, and other indoor planting projects help stave off the winter doldrums for gardeners.

Wheatgrass – This is like transporting a wee bit of your lawn inside, but you won't have to mow it. You can just enjoy the fresh bright greenness. Choosing a glass container makes it especially fun, but you can use any creative vessel you'd like. Fill it only half way with lightweight potting soil, spread a solid, but thin layer of wheatgrass seeds (available on Amazon) on top and cover them with a quarter-inch of dirt. Water the seeds gently the first time so they don't get disturbed.

Place the container in a warm spot and stand back. Be prepared for rapid-fire sprouting. Within two days wheatgrass seeds let loose and send out roots into the soil. In a week, it can be several inches high. The beautiful thing about a glass container is you can watch it all happen, even the sparkling water droplets that sit atop of each blade of grass and eventually ascend to the top of the container. It needs very little water, just consistent moisture. The added benefit is that you can cut back clumps and toss them into a smoothie for a healthy boost of vitamins and minerals.

Terrariums – Miniaturize your garden for the winter by making a tiny greenhouse that requires next to no maintenance. Direct or indirect light works well for these little worlds unto themselves. Start with a fish bowl, plastic bottle or any clear container that allows you enough room to get the plants inside and to use tools (a spoon or tongs work well). Choose a theme of slow growing, dwarf

versions of plants - either succulents, air plants, or tropical plants such as ferns.

Prepare the container with planting materials appropriate to your plant selection's needs. Using layers of decorative rock, charcoal, and dirt will add visual interest, but always begin with rocks at the bottom so excess water has a place to settle. Be sure there is a tad more depth of material to accommodate the roots of each plant as they come out of their original containers.

The moisture recycling environment of a terrarium means very little water is necessary – perhaps once a week. Sprinkle in some sea glass, seashells or special rocks for extra charm. Fairy gardens are a variation of this concept, using moss and bonsais, with the addition of little figurines.

Narcissus bulbs – You don't even need dirt for this project. Just select a bowl at least an inch or two deep, add a layer of skipping-size rocks, then nestle in narcissus bulbs leaving the top third of the bulbs above the rocks, and add enough water to just touch the bottom of the bulbs. No special lighting is needed.

In less than a week the bulbs will throw up green shoots. Within two weeks, they'll be tall and wispy and starting to

form a cocoon of buds that will eventually burst out with white flowers and an intoxicating scent. Some people dislike the intensity of the aroma and there are varieties that are more restrained. As the plants grow taller and get top heavy, insert a few chopsticks into the rocks and tie twine around them and the plants to keep them upright.

Indoor herbs – Chives, basil, mint, and other herbs are easily grown indoors from seed. Your sunniest windowsills or under a grow light are the best spots for heat-seeking herbs. Because they have different water requirements, they'll thrive best in individual pots. Be sure the container provides good drainage, and once the seeds sprout, let the container dry out a bit between waterings. Constantly soggy soil will quickly kill plants. Keep the plants back from the window if you can feel cold air coming through.

Regularly pinch off leaves (and add them to your culinary creations) to be sure the plants stay full and don't get leggy. The convenience, scent, and taste of fresh herbs at your fingertips in the kitchen will become a habit you may want to continue year round.

Where in the world...?



By NELLIE NIBNOSE
Editorial@lhvc.com

With Thanksgiving coming up, would someone, please, give this poor dog a bone? While you're at it, the bird and the

scarecrow could use some nourishment too. But where in the world are these poor creatures?

Send your answers to Editorial@lhvc, attention Nellie Nibnose and we'll print your answers in our next issue.

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LID

Continued from Page 12

agreed to hold a more formal examination of the 2019 budget at the January meeting.

And not a moment too soon. Up next was Niwot Economic Development Director Catherine McHale, who asked for \$20,700 from next year's allocation to fund the first half of the Niwot Business Association's 2019 marketing plan.

"We can start spending on February 1st instead of April 1st," NBA President Tony Santelli said, explaining the advance request. "This gives us two more months of runway. It's a smart way to run a business. Why would you give up a third of the year?"

There were "no major surprises" in McHale's 2019 proposal, though she projects an 8.6 percent increase in total costs for the year, to \$41,399 from \$38,740 in 2018, primarily due to higher advertising and additional design costs.

McHale plans new copy and photos for the ongoing Big/Small ad campaign, which will again appear in local and regional publications, and in social media campaigns. She also hopes to launch new ancillary materials, such as a maps, flyers, t-shirts and videos. The NBA's latest such effort (Niwot, Colorado — Small town. Big Heart video) has received more than 17,000 views as of mid-November.

McHale's request was approved unanimously, though two members abstained.

The meeting closed with a personnel announcement. Member Jay Champion has tendered his resignation from the board due to a job change, effective at the end of the month. That will leave the board with two vacancies as of Feb. 28, 2019, when Carrie Wise's second full term expires. Those slots will be filled by the county commissioners sometime in early 2019.

The final LID Advisory Committee meeting of 2018 will be held on Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Niwot Fire Station.



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SCHOOL NEWS

Bravo! NHS's Cinderella a perfect fit



Photo by Vicky Dorvee

Niwot High School's production of *Cinderella* entertained over 1,100 audience members. The Rodgers and Hammerstein favorite included all of the beloved songs from the original Broadway play. This updated version also acknowledged the social injustices imposed by the kingdom upon the peasants. "The musical was a great success," NHS technical director Jason Watkins said. "We also had a great turnout for the special events like the tea party and silent auctions. We want the musical to be something that the little children look up to and say, 'I wanna do that someday!'"



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HPD

Continued from Page 1

annual meeting. The Gunbarrel company received the award

for achieving distinction in the industry and its contribution to the photonics economy in Colorado.

According to the OP-TEC website, "Photonics is the technology

of generating and harnessing light and other forms of radiant energy whose quantum unit is the photon." This technology includes optics, lasers, fiber optics and electro-optical devices,

which are used in such fields as alternative energy, health care, manufacturing, telecommunications, homeland security, solid-state lighting and aerospace.

HPD was featured in the Oct.

18, 2017 issue of the Courier for its seismic vibration isolation device that was an integral part of the experiment that won the 2017 Nobel Prize in physics.



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PRINCIPAL BARELA SHAVES ONE FOR THE TEAM



Courtesy Photo

On Oct. 31, Sunset middle school principal Anthony Barela made good on his promise to get a sweet new 'do if the school raised (almost) \$20,000 at this year's Fall Crawl Fundraiser. Pam Robertson, owner of Reveal Salon, did the honors in front of a packed assembly to celebrate the fundraiser's success.

"It's awesome," Barela said afterwards. "The kids worked so hard to get this. If getting a pie in the face or getting a Mohawk gets them excited, then, by gosh, let's celebrate that."

 An advertisement for State Farm featuring a portrait of Joe Chrisman, an insurance agent. The text includes:

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SPORTS

Niwot volleyball takes it to the next level



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

On Nov. 14, Niwot volleyball seniors Emma Falk, Zoe Gonzales, Audrey Richard, and Madison Schoeder all signed early letters of intent to play collegiately.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Sports@lhvc.com

Just days after their exhilarating run in this year's Class 4A state tournament, four key members of Niwot's historic 2018 volleyball squad signed early letters of intent to continue their careers in the collegiate ranks.

"It's such a small population that gets to play at the next level," Niwot athletic director Chase McBride said while introducing signers Emma Falk, Zoe Gonzales, Audrey Richard, and Madison Schoeder. "We are all proud of you and it's been such a fun month that you've given us, especially this past weekend."

Falk and Gonzales are headed

to Division I schools in the south, while Richard and Schoeder will be staying a little closer to home. But all four will be leaving big shoes for Niwot head volleyball coach Daisha Agho to fill next year.

Emma Falk - College of Charleston

If there's been a better performance by a Niwot volleyball player than by Emma Falk in this year's state semifinals against Longmont, then that must have been a sight to see. Steeled by the loss of teammate Audrey Richard to injury the night before, the senior middle blocker played the best game of her career, ending the night with a personal best 27 kills.

Not that longtime fans of Niwot volleyball were surprised. The 6-foot-4 Falk has been one of the Cougars' main offensive weapons over the past three seasons, and her senior year was her most effective yet. Voted 2018 Northern League Player of the Year, she had a team-leading 355 kills on the yearseason, and the league's second-highest hitting percentage (.401). She also had the team's second-best totals in aces (45), blocks (91), digs (242), and service receiptceptions (66).

Falk is headed to the College of Charleston in South Carolina next year, a school that wasn't initially on her radar.

"It was kind of towards the end of the process that they

popped up for me," she said forabout the Division I Colonial Athletic Association team, where she plans to pursue a degree in education. "All the pieces kind of fit together at the end. And I liked it the most. They actually have a beach volleyball team that I'll play on too."

Like Gonzales, Falk is excited to get into a new setting, and Charleston's "cool southern charm" is certainly an antidote to the Colorado plains.

Falk initially pursued an opportunity with Sacramento State, the program her older sister Sarah committed to in 2016. However, the younger Falk ultimately had other ideas.

"I didn't actually work with her that much," Emma said about her sister's role in her recruiting process. "I would love to play with my sister, but finding my own path was a big part of it too."

Zoe Gonzales - Wake Forest

Middle blocker Zoe Gonzales isn't daunted by the distance between her current home in Niwot and her future home in Winston-Salem, N.C.

"I think it will be fun to get a new change and see something different," the Colorado native said. "It would be nice to stay close to home, but I think it will be good for me to get out of my comfort zone for a little bit."

Gonzales seemed to step out of her comfort zone frequently during her senior season. The fourth-year varsity player took a much more active role on defense this year, with 89 digs, more than double the combined total for her first three years. She also joined the serving rotation for the first time, and ended the year with 21 aces.

To be sure, Gonzales was also a force for Niwot back in her comfort zone. The senior had career -bests in kills (289), hitting percentage (.319), and total blocks (95), and helped lead the

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Continued on Page 20

Niwot girls take third at NXN Southwest



Photo by Laura McDonald

Niwot sophomore Taylor James finished in 11th place at the 2018 Nike Cross Southwest Region race on Nov. 17.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Sports@lhvc.com

With barely time to catch their breath after winning the 2018 Class 4A state championship meet late last month, members of the Niwot girls cross country team traveled to Casa Grande, AZ, for the Nike Cross Nationals Southwest Regional on Nov. 17.

Thousands of high school runners from teams in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico

and Utah competed in the meet, one of eight regional qualifying events for the 15th annual Nike Cross National Championships coming up on Dec. 1 in Portland, Ore.

Paced by sophomore Taylor James, the Niwot girls (competing under the team name Real Training) finished third overall with 140 team points. Unfortunately, they missed second place and an automatic bid to the national meet by just five points to the runners from Colorado's

Battle Mountain HS, this year's Class 4A runner up. However, the Cougars are still in contention for an at-large bid to the prestigious race,

James finished 11th overall, with a season-best time of 17 minutes, 37.6 seconds, just ahead of her junior teammate Samrawit Dishon (17:42.1), who finished 14th. Senior Maggie Smith (18:14.74) was 47th overall, followed by junior Joelle

Continued on Page 24



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SIGNINGS

Continued from Page 18

Cougars to their best season in nearly 30 years.

Before committing to Wake Forest, Gonzales also pursued an opportunity at Villanova, but she was ultimately won over by Winston-Salem's tree-laden ambiance.

"If you've seen pictures of North Carolina then you know it looks a lot like Colorado," she said. "The campus is especially beautiful. I have no words to describe it; - it's amazing."

Audrey Richard - Colorado School of Mines

Outside hitter Audrey Richard also signed with a school that wasn't initially on her radar, but she has little doubt that she'll be happy pursuing her dreams of designing adaptive sports prosthetics at the state's premier engineering school.

"I originally thought I wanted to major in biology," she said. "But the biomedical minor is really, really good at Mines. I've always known how good and engineering school it is but I didn't know how good a school it is in general."

The academically-minded Richard will be joining the Orediggers as a librero, a role she also fills on her club team. However, she just wrapped up a very successful senior season

as an outside hitter for the Cougars, and played a key role in the team's state finals run. She ended the year with 236 kills, and led the team in aces (54) and digs (279).

Unlike her south-bound teammates, Richard is happy to be staying close to the comforts of home, and her sister in particular. She'll also be seeing another familiar face on a regular basis.

"When I was first considering Mines, Madison [Schoeder] was a big part of my decision," she said., "Bbecause it's nice to have one of your best friends there with you. We're going to have a lot of fun in the next 4four years."

Madison Schoeder - Colorado School of Mines

Senior setter Madison Schoeder has had her sights set on the Colorado School of Mines volleyball program since her sophomore year. She's just not sure what else she's going to do once she gets there.

"I have no idea," she responded about her future major. "But I really like how it's close to home, and I love Golden as a city. When I met the team I really loved everybody and the coaches."

As "quarterback of the volleyball team," Schoeder was another key piece of the puzzle for the Cougars in their run to the state title match. She had



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior Madison Schoeder sets the ball for senior middle hitter Emma Falk during the Class 4A regional tournament on Nov. 2.

the Northern League's second highest assist total, with 791, nearly 9nine per set. She also had 213 total digs and 79 kills.

Though the mathophile isn't quite sure where her studies will take her at the venerable engineering school, Schoeder is excited to participate in the institution's many vaunted customs, including painting a rock for the M on Lookout Mountain.

"They always talk about the tradition of going rafting down the river that goes through Golden , Aand that sounds really exciting," she said. "Having the small town community feel is going to be different than how it feels living up here in a bigger city, so I'm looking forward to that."



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior Madison Schoeder waits for the ball during a match against Holy Family at this year's Class 4A state tournament.

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STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

DaeMonte Terry

By Jocelyn Rowley
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Niwot football team didn't win many games in 2018, but it was, by many measures, their most successful season in years. Thanks to dynamic individual performances and strong team chemistry, the Cougars were competitive in most of their games, and showed clear and consistent improvement on both sides of the ball.

To be sure, a number of factors contributed to the memorable season, but for head coach Jeremy Lanter, the play and positive leadership of senior DaeMonte Terry are two of the most important.

"I tell the kids all the time, a successful or a losing program doesn't have to be about the wins and losses that you see in a year," he said. "It's about the attitudes and perceptions of the people involved. Our kids now believe they can win, and a lot of that reverts back to [DaeMonte] and the attitude he set for us."

Terry was named the 2018 Niwot Football Player of the Year at the team awards banquet on Nov. 16, and it's not hard to see why. As a linebacker and kick returner, he was a force for the Cougars on both defense and special teams.

In nine games this season, he had 479 return yards, the fourth highest in Class 4A. His longest of the year came against Littleton in week five when he returned a punt 73 yards to put the Cougars

in scoring position at the start of the second half. Niwot went on to win 17-10, and Terry ended the night with a season-best 138 return yards.

On defense, Terry had 31 tackles on the season, as well as two interceptions and a fumble recovery.

"When you mix that with the fire and the energy that he does everything with and the positive attitude that he tried to keep while doing it, he was just a staple for us," the coach said. "He was a cornerstone. Everything that we were trying to accomplish we built around DaeMonte."

On the sidelines, Terry was often the Cougars' chief motivator and a helped the team keep a positive outlook, even when things weren't going so well on the field.

"He and I talked a lot about how to handle that kind of diversity," Lanter said. "Kids really looked up to him because of his ability to do those things. A year ago we didn't have anybody on the field who would have reacted like that in those situations."

Terry's standout senior season for Niwot almost didn't happen. As a junior, he didn't see much time due to an injury, and then a financial set back for his family led him to give up the sport altogether by the end of the 2017 season.

"We were planning to move to North Carolina to live with some family," he said. "So I stopped doing sports and trying in school because I was really sad that we

were leaving."

Coach Lanter was able to help the family to stay, and Terry decided to make the most of his second chance.

"Over the summer, I felt blessed to be able to still be there for the team," Terry said. "So I decided to put in the work.... I felt the least I could do was give my best effort."

Terry added 25 pounds of "pure muscle" thanks to that hard work, and the on field results are evident. However, the example Terry's hard work sets off the field will have the most lasting impact on the program, according to Lanter.

"It started off as three or four kids in the weight room," he said. "Then because of Demonte and his hard work and the success he was having, and the attitude he carries around to the people, we got those numbers up by the end of the summer to around 30 to 35 kids every day."

Terry's hard work and success have carried over to the classroom, where he is earning a 3.0 GPA for the semester, "which I've never done." His favorite classes are english and algebra II. He plans to go out for track this spring, and will be doing some offseason training with Coach Maurice Henriques and his Real Training running club.

After graduation, Terry plans to spend a year at Front Range Community College to get his grades up even further and then transfer to CU-Boulder to pursue a degree in business

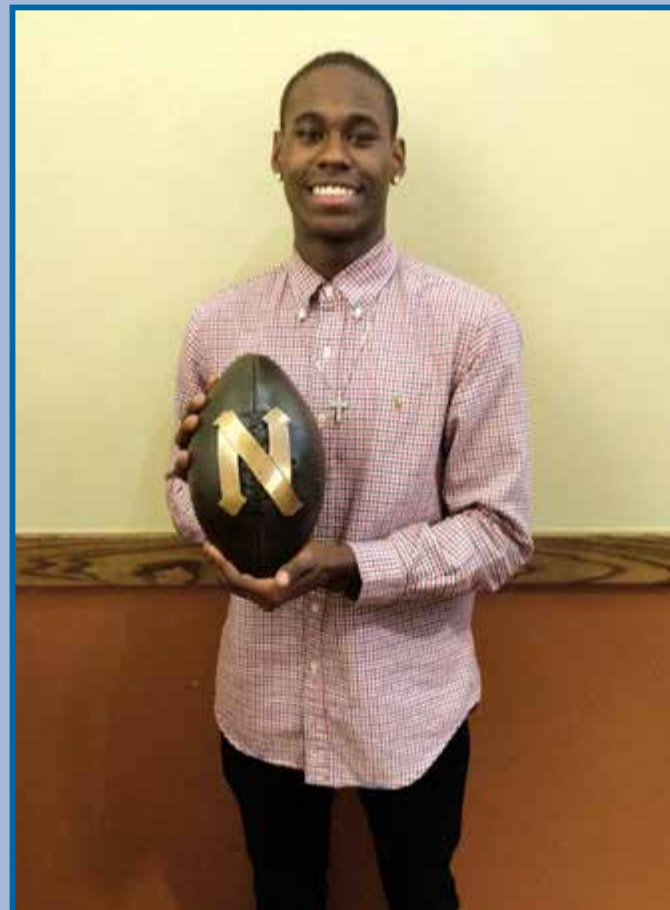


Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior linebacker/kick returner DaeMonte Terry received the Niwot football team's highest honor at the season-end awards banquet on Nov. 16.

management.

"I didn't even think about going to college until Coach Lanter talked me into it," he said.

Until then, Terry is looking forward to spending some time with his friends during the short offseason and reminiscing about his special season with the Niwot

football program.

"My favorite part was building the team," he said. "Last year when I was here, it really didn't feel like a team. This year we did a lot of bonding activities and hanging out on and off the field, and I like that the most."



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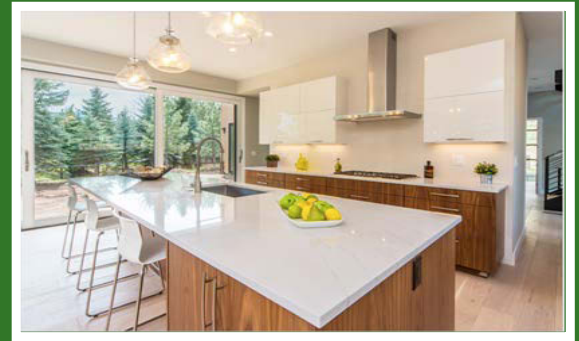
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L to R: Tom Moore, Jewel Ng, Laura Moore, Hannah Valadez, Vicki Maurer, Jeff Foltz, Bruce "Biff" Warren, Laura Guentchev

CROSS COUNTRY

Continued from Page 19

McDonald (18:30.57) in 70th place. Class 4A state individual champion Layla Roebke, who was named the CHSAA Runner of the Year on Nov. 12, was 86th overall.

In the boys race, junior Cruz

Culpepper did not compete, but senior Ares Reading, the runner-up at this year's state meet, finished seventh overall for Niwot, with a time of 15:01.06. Though impressive, that wasn't quite enough to boost the team's prospects, and Niwot finished in 21st, well out of contention for a bid to NXN next month.

11/17 — Nike Cross Nationals Southwest Regional, Casa Grande, Ariz.

Niwot Girls Individuals — 11. Taylor James, 17:37.56; 14. Samrawit Dishon, 14:42.01; 47. Maggie Smith, 8:15.74; 70. Joelle McDonald, 18:30.57, 214. Mallory Finley, 20:44.54.

Niwot Boys Individuals — 7. Ares Reading, 15:01.06; 51. Benjamin Bi, 15:40.74; 190. Jack Kenkel, 16:37.78; 195. Caleb Bishop, 16:44.09; 214. Luke Robinson, 16:58.06.



Photo by Laura McDonald

The Niwot girls cross country team took third overall in the Championship race at the Nike Cross Southwest Region race on Nov. 17. From left: Joelle McDonald, Maggie Smith, Samrawit Dishon, Layla Roebke, Taylor James, Mallory Finley, Eva Klingbeil.

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