



Community groups to visit Sand Creek massacre site



Photo Courtesy of National Park Service - Teri Jobe

Site of the Sand Creek Massacre.

By AMY SCANES-WOLFE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Morse Coffin. William Dickens. Porter M. Hinman, William Gould. Marcus Emery.

Abel Cushman. Neva. Niwot. Do you recognize any of these names? The names of people connected to the Sand Creek Massacre of November 1864 adorn our streets, historic

properties, ditches, and history books.

Porter T. Hinman platted the town of Niwot with Ambrose Murray in 1875. He was a friend of Chief Niwot and

reportedly never forgave his sons--Porter M. Hinman and Platte Hinman--for participating in the notorious massacre that resulted in Chief Left Hand's death in 1864.

So it is appropriate that several Niwot organizations have banded together to organize a trip to this historic site. The Niwot United Methodist Church was founded in 1870, just six years after the massacre. The church, as part of its 150th anniversary events, has organized a bus trip to the Sand Creek Massacre Historic Site on April 25. And Cottonwood Square Shopping Center, along with virtually every Niwot non-profit organization, has jumped on board to

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Niwot Community Association weighs in on incorporation

By KIM GLASSCOCK
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot Community Association board members unanimously voted Feb. 4 to publicize the results of additional research they have done on the possibility of incorporating Niwot into a municipality.

"We are a conduit of information and we want to make sure that our members, and the Niwot public, are well-informed on any incorporation issues," NCA Chair David Limbach said. "We do not advocate for or against any issues or candidates. We work to make sure our members are educated about the issues."

Limbach told board members that many Niwot residents have asked if the NCA is part of the incorporation effort. "We are not a part of the group promoting incorporation, and we have not endorsed their plan," he said.

Instead, the NCA formed its own sub-committee in 2019 to gather information about incorporation issues and impacts on Niwot. The NCA reached out by email Sunday to NCA members to explain the incorporation issue and the process it will follow to disseminate the facts and information the sub-committee gathered. That information also will be posted on the NCA website at niwot.org.

Niwot's incorporation question stems from the work of a small group of Niwot individuals who formed an informal committee in 2019 to explore whether it was feasible to incorporate Niwot. That group, the Niwot Exploratory Incorporation Study Committee, has information on its website at NiwotStudy.com.

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Niwot Wheel Works to move into former Powder Keg space



Photo courtesy of Niwot Wheel Works

Interior remodeling of Powder Keg's former space is underway.

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

For more than two years, the former Powder Keg Brewery space has sat empty on the corner of Murray Street and 2nd Avenue, to the considerable dismay of many locals.

But that is about to change, as Niwot Wheel Works has set its sights on a change of scenery, and the large windows, open floor plan, and great views of the spacious corner building make it the perfect spot.

Niwot Wheel Works owner Eric Bergeson was initially attracted to the space because

of Niwot's spirit. He explained, "Not the Arapaho Chief, but the energy and goodwill we see in all the folks who have visited our small shop during the past three years. We thoroughly enjoy all the visitors we get, and we like to have them hang around for a while."

Stepping into the current shop feels like walking in the door of an old friend's home. Shop manager Fernando Tapia is usually tinkering on a customer's bike in the back workshop space while Bergeson occupies his usual spot behind the counter - both welcome all who enter with warm, jovial greetings. Hang around for a few minutes and Bergeson will offer a cappuccino or espresso and invite you to have a seat. It was in this spirit of community and friendship that Bergeson realized, "We needed more space to handle our growing

bike business. The former Powder Keg space just started to make sense for us."

Anyone who swings by Niwot Wheel Works during a First Friday event soon realizes it's the place to be. Residents from all walks of life gather in the warm glow of the bike shop's interior. Tapia is sure to challenge any newcomer to a rousing game of ping-pong and is a good sport when he loses - which is often. Many residents have made friends at the shop's First Friday gatherings and have walked away with a new-found sense of belonging.

As far as plans for the new space, Bergeson has a layout in mind. "We'll use the front to display bike shop merchandise and as a gathering place where we will serve beverages including beer, wine, and mixed

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Community Calendar

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..

WINE ABOUT WINTER

The Niwot Cultural Arts Association is holding the sixth annual Let's Wine About Winter tasting and shopping event on Saturday, Feb. 22. Tickets are \$30 in advance and can be purchased online at Eventbrite.com. (Search Let's Wine About Winter in

Niwot). Proceeds will benefit Whistle Stop Park and Niwot Children's Park.

PARENT EDUCATION EVENT

Boulder Country Day School (4820 Nautilus Court N, Boulder) is hosting "The Worry Monster and the Twelve Dilemmas," a presentation by Jenny Hecht, LCSW, exploring the causes of anxiety in gifted individuals on February 25 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information and to register, visit bvgt.org.

HISTORY LECTURE

The Niwot Historical Society's 2020 Now & Then lecture series opens with "In Crust We Trust, the history of pies in Boulder County," on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

at the Left Hand Grange in Niwot (195 2nd Ave.) Admission is free for NHS members and just \$5 for non-members. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit niwothistoricalsociety.com.

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Early bird registration for the 51st season of Niwot Youth Sports baseball is open through Feb. 29. The program is open to players from ages 4-14 of all abilities. Practices start in early April and games run from early May through June. Girls Softball registration opened Feb. 1. NYS is also looking for umpires, volunteer coaches, team parents and team sponsors. For more information, visit niwoityouthsports.org.

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We look forward to seeing your pets in our spotlight. Please email your photos and captions Editorial@lhvc.com



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Wine away those winter blues



Photo by Mary Wolbach Lopert

Ward off that winter chill at the 6th annual Let's Wine About Winter celebration and tasting event on Feb. 22.

BY JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Colorado's weather seems to be off the wagon after a dry January gave way to alternating days of record warmth and bone-chilling cold in February's opening week. Between hazardous travel, binge shoveling, and two-hour school delays, hitting the bottle for some fermented relief has never been more tempting. If you'd like to channel that urge towards a good cause, join friends and

neighbors at the sixth annual Let's Wine About Winter, a store-to-store tasting event through Niwot.

"This is just a really special Niwot event that you can't do anywhere else," said Anne Postle, vice-president of the Niwot Cultural Arts Association, the event sponsor. "It gets people exploring Niwot and Niwot's businesses, and learning more about what we have to offer here. We're really excited about it."

This year's festivities kick-off

at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22. Three dozen Niwot merchants on 2nd Avenue and in Cottonwood Square will be open for business and offering a selection of wine, beer, non-alcoholic drinks, and food, which is quickly becoming as tempting as the beverages, according to Postle.

"It's improved every year," she said. "People are doing mini-pasta dishes and wonderful desserts. We even feel at Osmosis that we've got to get our act together and raise the bar for us too."

Postle urged participants to be ready for any kind of weather, as the third weekend in February has brought a wide range of conditions to Boulder County since the festival got its

start in 2015. Indeed, much of it has been the kind that inspired the name, which only adds to Wine About Winter's charm, Postle said.

Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 on the day of the event. Ticket holders receive a membership in the Let's Wine About Winter club, as well as a commemorative mug and a \$10 coupon redeemable in Niwot through mid-March. Presales have been brisk, and Postle said the event has been growing every year.

"There are a lot of people who've done it every single year, and they're the ones who are inviting more and more people. So, it's fun to see people come every year and compare it with past years."

Proceeds will be put toward maintenance expenses for Niwot Children's Park and the new concession building at Whistle Stop Park.

"This is one of the funds we really rely on to do the maintenance for Children's Park," Postle said. "Maintenance costs are about \$11,000 per year, just for mowing, cleaning, new wood chips, things like that."

For more information, contact Osmosis Gallery at 303-652-2668, or email Michelle Henzel at mhenzel@osmosisarchitecture.com. To purchase tickets in advance, visit niwot.com/events/lets-wine-about-winter. Pre-purchased tickets can be picked up at Niwot Real Estate (7915 Niwot Rd), starting at noon on Feb. 22.

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▶ Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The "Niwot Incorporation Committee" has presented the results of an investigation into the feasibility of incorporating the town of Niwot on their website at niwotstudy.com. In reviewing the information presented on that website, it is clear that the only issues that might form a basis for consideration in an incorporation attempt are those identified in the "Options for Niwot" item on the web page. Those issues are: 1) "Solve the roads problem" and 2) "Improve business vitality."

Of the two "Issues that need to be addressed," the roads problem is the only tangible issue. Further reading on the website reveals that the committee has no clear plan to solve the "roads problem" without encumbering the "town of Niwot" with both property tax increases, a new sales tax, and bond

debt that would last through 2042. Also note that payment of bond interest and principal does not appear to be planned for in the "Draft Budget."

Alternative efforts toward a solution to the roads problem already underway by the "Subdivision Paving Coalition" (<https://sites.google.com/view/spc-web/spc-home>) or any other alternatives to incorporation are unmentioned and unaddressed by the study. In the "Community Input" survey the committee is careful to distinguish "Subdivision roads maintained and repaired by Town of Niwot" (no mention of a tax increase) from "Subdivision road reconstruction funded by county tax increase," making a clear distinction between maintenance & repair vs. reconstruction, which is the root of the existing problem in the first place.

The second issue, "Improving Business Vitality" not only

cannot be quantified or eventually measured in any objective sense, it depends on the "Town of Niwot" allowing development of "underutilized vacant space and underdeveloped properties..." under rezoning and building regulation by the "Town of Niwot." Further, there is no mention of the fact that Niwot Rural Community District (NRCD), the Niwot Historic District, and the Niwot LID would no longer be effective in controlling the type of development that could occur in Niwot.

One must also ask how business vitality could increase while shouldering the additional burden of increased property taxes (commercial property already pays a disproportionate share) and the addition of a new 3.5% sales tax. Currently, businesses choose to come to Niwot specifically because there is no city sales tax and property taxes are lower than in any incorporated city in the county. It can be argued that incorporation would reduce the vitality of

the local business community rather than resulting in any improvement.

A reasoned overall evaluation of the information offered on the study's website shows that there is no discernable reason to incorporate Niwot and burden the residents with additional property and sales taxes as well as a 20-year bond. It is also very easy to deduce that the only advantage incorporation would provide to anyone would be to some developers (half of the investigation committee members), with the expense and overhead paid for by the local residents in perpetuity while suffering the collateral damage to the community caused by minimally controlled development.

I urge everyone residing in the targeted area to visit the study website, read the information presented there very carefully, fill out the survey (at least the comment section) and let the incorporation study committee know that incorporating Niwot does not fit with common sense.

Dave Mateer, Niwot Resident since 1988.

Dear Editor,

"Niwot isn't broken, don't fix it" couldn't be further from the truth. I like the eyeball test - what do I see? I see fewer businesses than there were 5 years ago. I see retailers complaining that they are struggling. My eyeballs tell me that those who are speaking out about "don't change Niwot" seem to be avoiding the fact that Niwot has been changing for quite some time...in a less viable way. Continuing on this path will only lead to more retail businesses closing.

The Boulder County Commissioners have stated, on record, that they don't know what they are doing when it comes to Niwot. One of the commissioners stated that we "should do what Louisville did and incorporate." I was at that meeting, saw it with my eyeballs and heard it with my ears. Personally, I'd much rather be in a position where the people of Niwot collectively decide what's best for Niwot and not 3 county commissioners who

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Presented by **Niwot Historical Society**

In Crust We Trust

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Wednesday, February 26th

7:00pm, Doors open at 6:30pm

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General Admission \$5, No Charge for NHS Members

John Lehndorff

John has been pie-focused since his first encounter with a cherry pie as a child. He was the spokesperson for National Pie Day, the Executive Director of the American Pie Council, Editor of the Pie Times newsletter, Chief Judge at the National Pie Championship and dozens of other pie contests. He has taught numerous pie-making classes.

John's favorite kind of pie is wild blueberry double crusted and a la mode.



For more information go to:
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don't live here and have stated that they don't know what they are doing.

LHVC has put a lot out now regarding the cons of self rule. I think it's time for LHVC to sit down with the Niwot self rule study team and hear the other side of the story. Report on the pro side of the story and serve the entire Niwot community. Self rule means just that. All Niwot residents in charge of Niwot. We are 1.5% of Boulder County. We can never vote out a commissioner. Under self rule, we're 4,500 residents that would have a vote and a say that actually matters. That scenario seems far less risky to me than BoCo commissioners whose stated objective is to provide high-density affordable housing. They are converting 10 acres of

tax-payer funded, deeded open space in Twin Lakes to build 280 apartments. Deeded open space! Visit www.tlag.org for more info on that. Read between the lines here! Where's open space? Gunbarrel and Niwot. If you don't think Niwot is next, your eyes are wide shut. The only way to protect Niwot is to move to self rule and be ahead of this highly potential situation. I just moved to Niwot in 2017. I love this small town. I grew up in a house built in the late 1800's in a similar small town in New Jersey. I don't want Niwot to change. I want those who are turning this into a divisive issue, to open up their minds to a different perspective that will serve the best interests of Niwot and ALL Niwotians for the next 145 years.

Thank you,
Damian D'Apolito, Boulder County Resident since 1990.

NCA

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Members as of December 2019 included Cotton Burden, Tim and Mary Coonce, Bob and Tina DiScipio, Steve Lehan, Anne Postle, Tony Santelli and Cornelia Sawle.

The group hired an intern in summer 2019 to do some preliminary research into the budgets and governance structures of

similar population Colorado municipalities. The group also looked at Colorado statutes regarding incorporation, and has drawn up a draft budget. They are currently meeting with business owners, homeowners associations, community groups and property owners to discuss their ideas and gather feedback. According to their website, the group will gather input through March 31.

The NCA also will conduct

its own community surveys about incorporation. Survey results will be reported two ways: by results from confirmed NCA members, and then results from the general public. Survey results will be posted on the NCA website and sent to NCA members.

"Incorporation is a pretty complicated issue, and the education of our community about it is vital," NCA board member John Barto said.

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SAND CREEK

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sponsor the journey, including the Niwot Historical So-

ciety, the Niwot Community Association, the Niwot Business Association, Left Hand Grange No. 9, the Niwot Cultural Arts Association and

the Rotary Club of Niwot.

Chief Niwot was christened Left Hand at birth, and, unlike most Arapaho adolescents, he never changed his

name. Because the Arapaho were a trading nation, he grew up in a multilingual environment. His older sister MaHom married a white

trader named John Poisal, who tutored him and his younger brother Neva in English. By the time Niwot became chief in the mid-1850s, he was fluent in Arapaho, English, Cheyenne, and Lakota.

His skill as a translator would be indispensable for navigating the rapidly changing landscape of what was then the Kansas and Nebraska Territory. Left Hand first encountered settlers near his winter camp in 1858, at present day Settlers Park at the mouth of Boulder Canyon. His reaction--one of magnanimity and accommodation--would set the precedent for his future commitment to peace.

With their resources for survival jeopardized, it is little surprise that Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Sioux warriors took to raiding and killing settlers. What was difficult for settlers to realize is that chiefs had little control over this behavior. With increasingly dispersed bands, white provocation, and alcohol, it was hard for chiefs to influence young warriors against violence--whether or not they wanted to.

Into this climate of fear came two men with their own agendas--Governor John Evans and Major John Chivington. The latter, despite his inexperience, was promoted to colonel after successfully routing Confederates at the Battle of Glorieta Pass. Chivington was also an itinerant pastor for the Methodist Church in Colorado.

The Arapaho and Cheyenne were manipulated into a series of treaties and agreements that deprived them of their most vital resources. As Niwot's people died of starvation, disease, and exposure, his attempts to bring about peace became more insistent. He took an unprecedented journey east to learn how to farm; he marched onto the stage of the Apollo theater in Denver pleading for peace.

As conflict escalated, agents and translators fed Evans' false rumors of a



Sand Creek Massacre National Historical Site Visit Saturday, April 25th

Sponsored by Niwot United Methodist Church, Left Hand Grange No. 9, Cottonwood Square Shopping Center, Niwot Historical Society, Niwot Business Association, Niwot Community Association, Niwot Cultural Arts Association and Rotary Club of Niwot.

Part of the 150th Anniversary events of the Niwot United Methodist Church

From the National Park Service brochure: "The Sand Creek Massacre: profound, symbolic, spiritual, controversial, a site unlike any other in America. As 675 cavalrymen came around a prairie bend, the camps of Chiefs Black Kettle, White Antelope, and Left Hand (Chief Niwot) lay in the valley before them. Chaotic, horrific, tumultuous, and bloody, the events of November 29, 1864, changed the course of history."

Steve Hinman, a descendant of Porter T. Hinman, who platted the town of Niwot with Ambrose Murray in 1875, posted on the Sand Creek Massacre Site website: "I am a 6th generation Coloradan. I learned the truth about the Sand Creek Massacre from my father when I was a little boy. My father did not shy away from the truth. Two of my ancestors rode with Chivington on the horrible day, Porter M. Hinman and his brother, Platte Hinman. They were under the command of Captain Nichols as part of the Boulder volunteers. The irony of their participation was that their father, Porter T. Hinman, was a friend of Left Hand. My father could not forgive Porter M. and Platte for being part of the slaughter. Porter T. Hinman felt the same. He left the family ranch/farm on Left Hand Creek. He rode to the Little Snake River to be with his youngest son, Frank A. Hinman. There Porter T. Hinman died. Peace"

Join this trip to remember the role Chief Niwot played in Colorado History and in the history of the Niwot community from which the name of the Niwot United Methodist Church and many other local organizations derives. **The trip will include travel by bus (equipped with restroom) from Niwot Market in the Cottonwood Square Shopping Center, 7980 Niwot Road, to the National Massacre Historical Site just outside of Eads, Colorado. The Bus will depart at 8:00 am and arrive back to Niwot around 6:00 pm.** There will be an interpretation session led by site rangers and a tour of the site. Each participant should bring a sack lunch to eat during the trip.

Cost is \$30 per person. Complete registration below and make checks out to Niwot UMC. Mail to NUMC, c/o Biff Warren, P.O. Box 610, Niwot, CO 80544, or deliver to offices of Warren, Carlson & Moore, LLP in Cottonwood Square, 6964 N. 79th Street, Suite 3, Niwot, CO. The bus holds 55 persons – 1st come, 1st served. For more information contact Biff Warren at lefthandsports@hotmail.com, or 303-652-2433.

Name(s): _____ . Email _____ Phone _____

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SAND CREEK

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planned uprising. And as the Civil War raged to the East, Evans' repeated pleas for troops were largely ignored. So Evans exaggerated the conflict.

Finally, it was the Hungate Massacre that got the populace and government on his side. In the aftermath of this event, the order was put out that all tribes not actively seeking governmental protection would be considered hostile and should be killed.

Troops went west. And Left Hand, with two Cheyenne bands, sought protection at Sand Creek.

The problem for Chivington and Evans was that the purported uprising didn't

play out--there were no "savages" to fight. Chivington, recently losing an election to Congress, was hungry for glory and recognition. Evans, now that he had troops, couldn't bear the humiliation of admitting he didn't need them.

And so Chivington, with Evan's permission, led the Third Colorado Cavalry to Sand Creek. "Kill and scalp all, big and little... nits make lice," he said.

Among them were a contingent of 100 day recruits from Boulder--Company D. And Company D was the one that opened fire on Left Hand's band. Two sons of Porter T. Hinman, Porter M. and Platte, rode with Company D under Captain David Nichols.

"Tyrell, Cashman and my-

self substantially agreed in our opposition to this killing of women and children," reflected Morse Coffin of Sandstone Ranch (Longmont). But he was a minority. It is estimated that 148 unarmed Arapaho and Cheyenne people were killed; two-thirds of them were women and children. All but four members of Chief Niwot's band died as a result of their wounds, including Chief Niwot, his wife, and his children.

Niwot is often remembered for his supposed curse:

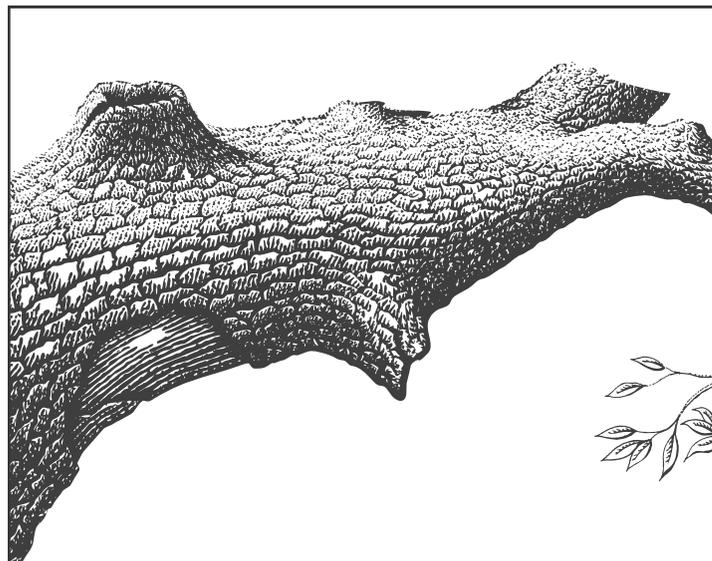
"People seeing the beauty of this valley will want to stay... and their staying will be the undoing of its beauty."

We can't undo the past, but we do have the opportunity to shape the future of the place Niwot once called home.

One way to start is by joining the Saturday, April 25th trip to the site of the Sand Creek Massacre in southeast Colorado. The trip is open to anyone and costs \$30 per person. A bus will depart from the Niwot Mar-

ket in Cottonwood Square at 8 a.m. and return around 6 p.m. Site rangers will lead an interpretive session and tour of the site.

Reserve your space by completing the registration form on page 6 of the Courier and mailing it with a check for \$30 payable to the Niwot UM Church, c/o Biff Warren, P.O. Box 610, Niwot, CO 80544, or by delivering it to the offices of Warren, Carlson & Moore, LLP in Cottonwood Square.



You know me, I think there ought to be a big old tree right there. And let's give him a friend. Everybody needs a friend.

Bob Ross



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<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">1031 PORTLAND PLACE, #2, BOULDER \$525,000 Deborah Read Fowler 720.378.1217</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">1123 CRANBROOK CT. BOLDER \$1,250,000 Deborah Read Fowler 720.378.1217</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">8955 LITTLE RAVEN TR. NIWOT \$1,599,000 Deborah Read Fowler 720.378.1217</p>
NEW PRICE	RAINBOW RIDGE ESTATES	UNDER CONTRACT
<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">1003 N 3RD ST, JOHNSTOWN \$414,900 Karlynn Spreder 303.517.0026</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">1412 ONYX CIR, LONGMONT \$979,000 Bonnie Beam 720-765-0224</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">6745 NIWOT HILLS DR, NIWOT \$2,500,000 Deborah Read Fowler 720.378.1217</p>

Bronski family publishes definitive gluten-free pizza cookbook

By EMILY LONG
Editorial@lhvc.com

When South Longmont resident Peter Bronski was diagnosed with celiac disease in 2007, the Italian-American author, who came from a New York family with a strong food background, didn't skip a beat.

Peter Bronski and his wife Kelli Bronski, a graduate of Cornell University's prestigious School of Hotel Administration, with more than ten years of experience in the hospitality and restaurant business, started a gluten-free cooking blog, and shortly thereafter, published their first cookbook, Artisanal Gluten-Free Cooking.

The book introduced the all-purpose Artisanal Gluten-Free Flour Mix, a blend of brown rice flour and other gluten-free starches and flours, plus xanthan gum for "thickness and stickiness."

Through two additional publications, Artisanal Gluten-Free Cupcakes and Gluten-Free Family Favorites, the growing Bronski family held fast to a singular flour mix.

In the brand new No Gluten, No Problem Pizza, however, they threw out their sacred flour mix, because "no single all-purpose gluten-free flour blend could make the wide variety of pizza styles equally well" according to Peter Bronski.

The new pizza cookbook, and all their gluten-free offerings, are designed to serve what the Bronskis call "the medically gluten-free community: people who have celiac or a gluten-free allergy, or who have any other reason they have to be on a gluten-free diet."

Peter admitted that the reputation for gluten-free food being bland, not delicious, or having the texture of cardboard, is rooted in some reality.

"There's a lot of mediocre and subpar pizza out there," Peter said, "and so we wanted to change that reality for everyone who has been missing really great gluten-free pizza."

In part because of the bad reputation of gluten-free food, the Bronskis' goal in all of their cookbooks "has always been to make food



Courtesy photo

Longmont residents Kelli Bronski and Peter Bronski, co-authors of *No Gluten, No Problem Pizza*.

that is great. Period. Full stop. No qualifications. Not food that's good, not food that's good for gluten-free. Food that's great."

The new pizza cookbook is therefore "really for anybody that either for themselves or their friends, family and loved ones, needs to serve gluten-free pizza, and wants to get something better than they've been getting," said Peter.

The Bronski family research and testing phase for No Gluten, No Problem Pizza was extensive, and, it sounds, downright delightful.

To begin, they already had over a decade of experience

cooking gluten-free food together as a family that grew to five (two daughters and a son).

Next, they began testing gluten-free pizza recipes every Sunday at their South Longmont home.

Then, they "packed up the family and went to Italy." During their trip, they visited more than 20 pizzerias in the country. They took a similar "research" trip to New York.

The final step was looking at a handful of the top pizza competitions around the world to see "What is the benchmark for what is the best that's out there?"

Over the course of this work, they estimate that their family tested at least 1,000 gluten-free pizza recipes.

According to Peter, "a portion of this book was a community effort" with a

long list of residents in the Left Hand Valley Courier readership area among test kitchen participants, from their childrens' friends at Niwot Elementary School to members of their gymnastics team and others.

Because the Bronskis live at altitude, "Each time we would consider a recipe perfect, it was optimized for Longmont." So, in the cookbook, "When we offer you the high altitude version of the dough, it's because that's what we actually make at home."

Peter said "To this day our family continues to make pizza every Sunday night." In true Colorado style, it "doesn't matter if we're camping in the Rocky Mountains or over in the canyons of Utah, we still make pizza in the backcountry."



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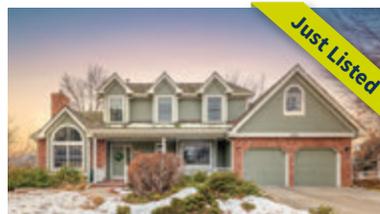


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J Noel, January 2020

JANUARY 2020 STATS FOR NIWOT

Price Range	Properties Sold	Average Days on Market	Active Properties	Under Contract
0 - \$500K	0	0	1	0
\$500K - \$1M	2	61	1	1
\$1M - \$2M	0	0	4	5
\$2M+	1	86	3	1
	3	-	9	7

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WHEEL WORKS

Continued from Page 1

drinks - provided we get the requisite liquor license." The space has long turned interested parties away because of its lack

of a kitchen. Bergeson said they don't plan to build a kitchen but hope to have food available. "The bike service area is going in the former brewing area and the warehouse space in the rear will provide much needed storage." In an effort to make the bike

shop even more visitor friendly, Bergeson and Tapia are exploring outdoor seating options.

The hope for this new space is that Niwot Wheel Works can expand its growing operation and add to its great selection of bicycles and accessories. Of

future business plans, Bergeson explained, "We plan to go bigger into electric bikes. We will also be able to service more bikes, more quickly. We want to be a place where riders like to gather to socialize and fuel up, pre and post-ride. We want to be a quality source of live entertainment in Niwot when we transform from the shop into more of a public house in the evenings." This hybrid bike shop/public house fulfills a need our town greatly needs. Certain restaurants and breweries have either had trouble making it in Niwot or have left to expand their operations in a place with

greater foot and vehicle traffic. Niwot Wheel Works is already a fixture of the community and Powder Keg's former space will hopefully lend itself to bolstering the store's lively, neighborhood vibes. In summary, our hope for the new space is that we have a heck of a lot of fun serving customers in it."

Niwot Wheel Works will not close during the transition across the street nor will it impact their ability to service bikes and sell merchandise. The move will take place throughout the month of March and be finalized on April 1st. A celebratory party will be announced soon. Stay tuned!



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Photo courtesy of Niwot Wheel Works

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LID board meets incoming NBA President

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Niwot LID advisory committee held its monthly meeting on Feb. 4
Treasurer's Report

Bruce Rabeler led off with a report on current LID finances. The district collected \$16,854 in sales tax revenue in November 2019, bringing the total for that year to \$183,108, an 8.4 percent increase over the same period in 2018. The rise was most notable in the retail sector, which jumped 44%, to \$8,070.

On the expense side, the LID has approved \$65,024.61 so far in 2020, leaving just under \$84,288.39 of its \$149,313 budget. Rabeler estimated that additional 2020 funding requests could total up to \$72,350, leaving the district with a \$12,000 surplus for the year. He also reported that the LID ended with a surplus of \$1,008.39 for 2019, despite worries they might have to dip into the district's reserve fund.

As for the reserve balance, Rabeler said the county hasn't provided an up-to-date figure in more than a year. At the end of 2018, it was estimated at just under \$178,000, but there have been additions and withdrawals since, that haven't been communicated to the board. Rabeler asked county liaison Mark Ruzzin to help him track down the current number from the finance office.

"This should be achievable

information," he said.

Funding Requests

Chuck Klueber of the Niwot Business Association's Streetscapes committee was up next with two requests, the first for \$1,500 to replace 18 summer event banners in Cottonwood Square and along 2nd Ave. The request also covers hardware and design work for a new "Dancing Under the Stars" banner. The request was approved unanimously.

He then requested \$4,210 to fund weekly mowing and other landscaping services in Niwot's sculpture park, as well as cleaning, repair and maintenance of the artwork. The public art space at the corner of 79th St. and Niwot Rd. opened in November 2018, and four new pieces will be installed in the coming weeks. All work will be performed by Scott Deemer and his company Outdoor Craftsmen. This request was also approved unanimously.

New Business

Member Mary Coonce appeared on behalf of the NBA to present the group's 2020 budget and give the LID board a preview of the group's upcoming funding requests. Coonce also introduced incoming NBA president Eric Bergeson to the committee. Bergeson is the owner of Niwot Wheel Works, and replaces Tony Santelli, who served as the NBA head for 12 years. Bergeson is also slated to replace Anne Postle as NBA representative

to the LID, following her resignation last month.

"I'm not sure what happened, but apparently I'm going to be president of the NBA," he said. "I'm looking forward to it, and I'm very excited to be a part of that, as well as a part of this, and hopefully being engaged in what's going on in Niwot."

His appointment to the LID board should be finalized ahead of their March meeting.

Old Business

The NBA's Linda Klueber presented an after-action report on Enchanted Evening and the Holiday Parade, which were held Nov. 29 and Dec. 7, respectively. Back in August 2019, the LID approved a request for \$6,500 to fund the holiday celebrations.

Klueber said that she was "pleased" overall, and was able to keep expenses under budget. She estimated that the two events brought 1,500-2,000 visitors to Niwot's business districts, even though disagreeable weather ended Enchanted Evening a little earlier than usual. Klueber said she also had a lot of support from volunteers and other local organizations.

"The Niwot Key Club was just stupendous," she said. "There were probably 10 students that showed up and did everything. They were really quite helpful...Without the high school kids, I don't know how we would do it."

In 2020, the NBA is consid-

ering moving the parade to the Saturday following Enchanted Evening, as holding the two events a week apart presents a number of logistical challenges.

Member Bruce Warren then presented an after action report for the 2019 Rock & Rails summer concert series, which ran for twelve weeks between June and August. In total, the series netted \$53,927, mostly from beer and wine sales. These proceeds were split evenly between the NBA and NCAA, and will go toward maintenance in Children's Park and construction of a new concession stand in Whistle Stop Park.

Concertgoers also donated generously to the tip jars at each show, resulting in \$19,888 for more than a dozen local non-profit organizations.

Warren also provided brief updates on the public parking lot west of old town and fundraising efforts for the Whistle Stop Park concession stand. The latter is still in county review, and Warren expects to break ground in the fall, at the earliest.

With no further business and no public comment, the meeting then adjourned.

The Niwot LID Committee will meet next at 7 p.m. on March 3 at the Mountain View Fire Station (8500 Niwot Road, Niwot).



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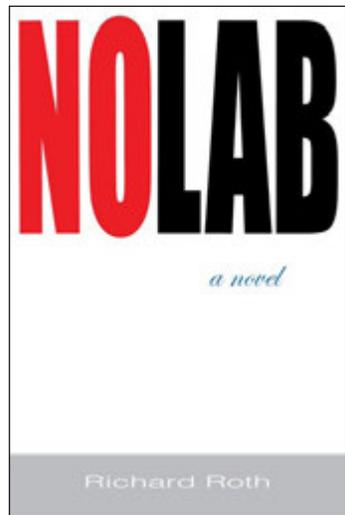
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February book recommendation



By HANNAH STEWART
Editorial@lhvc.com

The Courier has recently partnered with Niwot, Colorado's own Inkberry Books for periodic book reviews.. Approximately once per month, we'll be reviewing a book recommended by the shop's owners.

Their selection for February is the novel NoLab by Richard Roth. It was pitched as a "thriller/artworld spoof" and not only do I agree with that, I also think it was an overall really good read. Roth has a lot going for him in this book--he can get attention from artists, people who like crime books, those who want more representation of underappreciated

Courtesy Photo

Richard Roth's NoLab is a modern novel about humanity, all through the lens of art and a dash of the thriller genre.

voices... and all within a relatively short story.

This book primarily focuses on Ray Lawson, an artist/teacher who gets thrown into a situation way over his head: some former students of his are missing, and one student's father asks him for help to find the group. Lawson recruits fellow artist/teacher Victor Florian, a former Vietnam vet, to join him on the quest, and what an adventure it becomes! Along the way, the duo make new friendships, form a new partnership, learn more about each other, and ultimately find the student-group: NoLab. However, they also find that NoLab is planning a dramatic and arguably foolish stunt that they are calling art. It's honestly a little difficult to describe here, so you'll definitely have to check out Roth's book for the full picture.

Additionally, it is set during autumn, leading into winter 2016, so it was really interesting to see all the cultural references made throughout the book. However, be aware that some of the characters appear to lean more liberal, especially when referencing the 2016 presidential election, so if politics are a sensitive

subject, please remember that this is fiction.

This story is also great because, while it's about adventure and mystery, it's also about humanity. For example, Florian has a son with autism, who eventually becomes central to the whole story, and the theme of loss is there as well. In just over 200 pages, Roth tackles normal novel issues such as plot, but also addresses more serious, real-world problems such as ethics, friendship, death, and othering, i.e. treating someone or something as fundamentally different from another class of individuals.

Overall, I really enjoyed the book. I thought it was well written and for being so short, had a lot of detail and depth to the characters. I do wish that there was slightly more complexity to the ending--I thought that it was tied up quite nicely, albeit somewhat quickly--just because there was so much going on throughout the book, the last chapter wasn't as fulfilling as I'd hoped it would be.

I definitely recommend this book to anyone who likes art and mystery. I say "art" first because even though art itself

is sort of pushed aside so as to focus on the thriller-aspect of the book, it's such an important and underlying theme, it can't be ignored. In fact, one of my favorite parts of the book does come at the end, where a scholar shares her theories on art through the ages and the different artistic movements over time. I also really enjoyed the commentary on what counts or doesn't count as "art." There were a few discussions around "conceptual art," which focuses on the idea of the work rather than its quality or genre, which were both interesting and illuminating because it gave a new perspective on the matter.

I would also recommend the book simply because of the characterization. All the characters were somewhat simple, but undoubtedly developed--they were given enough backstory so as to provide context, but not so much that it was distracting. There were a few characters who were introduced and then practically nonexistent, which was slightly annoying, but easy to overlook. This is a book for anyone, and definitely worth checking out.

Happy Reading!

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Niwot swim claims second straight conference championship

Codevilla and Yie dominate at final meet before Class 4A championships

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

The drive to the Mountain View Aquatic Center in Loveland may have been a little frightful, but that didn't keep the Niwot girls swim and dive team from turning in a delightful performance at the Northern Conference championships on Feb. 7-8. With wins in six of the 12 events and a slew of personal-best swims, the Cougars easily captured a second straight team crown, and picked up another state qualifier to boot. Now head coach Sarah Stamp and her repeat league champions are looking ahead to next week's Class 4A state meet with another repeat in mind.

"It's so exciting," Stamp said.



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Freshman Steph Mow dives in for her leg for the 200-yard freestyle relay at the Northern Conference championships on Feb. 8. The Cougars took first overall in the event, with a time of 1:41.49.

"We kind of moved some stuff around, that girls didn't normally swim, just to help fill the void, so we could get four back in each event, in as many events as we could. We were quite successful in doing that, and it's just nice to have a team that's willing to maybe not swim their best event, but maybe their third best event, to help the team get the overall win."

That has been Emiley Yie's specialty this season, and her flexibility once again proved especially helpful to Stamp and the Cougars. The junior took first overall in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2 minutes,

11.53 seconds, nearly 10 seconds faster than second-place finisher Kaitlyn Yee (2:21.73). She then swam her first 100 freestyle race for Niwot this season, taking first (54.11) with more than a second to spare, and setting a new personal best for high school in the process.

"The 100 free was definitely good," Yie said afterwards. "It was pretty up there for me."

Yie will be making her third trip to the Class 4A championships for Niwot, with qualifying times in all nine individual swim events. Like Stamp, she is excited about the team's chances for another top showing on the sport's biggest stage.

"I think we're really solid," she said. "We had some really good swims today. We have a lot of energy going into state."

Yie also swam for Niwot's win-

ning 200 and 400 freestyle relays, as did sophomore All-American Mary Codevilla, Niwot's other dominant swimmer on the day. Codevilla easily beat the field in the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke, winning by 10 and 7 seconds, respectively. In fact, her 1:50.32 in the freestyle race was not just a season-best time for the 10th grader, it was also just four-tenths of a second off the Northern conference record (1:49.92), and faster than the winning time at the 2019 state meet (1:52.15). According to Stamp, that puts this year's 200-freestyle title "definitely within reach" for the second-year standout.

Veterans Yie and Codevilla were joined by a strong supporting cast, notably junior Sophia Gaspar, who took third overall

Continued on Page 14

NHS SPORTS

SCHEDULE

FEB. 12 THROUGH FEB. 21

<p>Thursday, Feb. 13 5:30 p.m. - Girls bb @ Silver Creek 7 p.m. - Boys bb @ Silver Creek</p> <p>Friday, Feb. 14 4 p.m. - Wrestling Regionals @ Windsor H.S.</p> <p>Saturday, Feb. 15 9 a.m. - Wrestling, Regionals @ Windsor H.S. 5:30 p.m. - Girls bb vs. Longmont 7 p.m. - Boys bb vs. Longmont</p>	<p>Tuesday, Feb. 18 5 p.m. - Girls swim State prelims @ VMAC 5:30 p.m. - Girls bb @ Centaurus 7 p.m. - Boys bb @ Centaurus</p> <p>Wednesday, Feb. 19 5 p.m. - Girls swim State finals @ VMAC</p> <p>Thursday, Feb. 20 6 p.m. - Wrestling state championships @ Pepsi Center</p> <p>Friday, Feb. 21 12:45 p.m. - Wrestling state championships @ Pepsi Center</p>
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STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Austin Rathburn

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

In seventh grade, Austin Rathburn realized that his ultimate height was destined to be several derivations from the norm, so he set his sights on the sport that tends to favor those so gifted. Now several years and several growth spurts later, the even-keeled senior is the Niwot basketball team's starting center and, at a towering 6-feet 5-inches, one of the hardest players to defend in the Northern League.

"In our conference, he's tied for double-doubles, and in the last game, he was [close to] his sixth," Niwot head coach Clay Wittrock said of the senior, who is in his third season with the varsity. "That's just indicative of what Austin has meant for us. He's just a big part of us on both ends of the floor. He anchors us on the defensive boards, and he's always a guy to handle on the offensive side."

Three of those double-digit scoring and rebounding nights have come over the last six games, which saw Niwot go 4-2. Rathburn averaged nearly 12 points and nine boards during that stretch, including a 16-point, 12-rebound effort in the Cougars' 49-41 win over Mountain View on Jan. 28. The senior is now second on the team in scoring, with 164 points, as well as first on team and second in the Northern league in rebounds, with 134, and field-goal percentage (61%).

"I think it's just more of me looking to go to the hoop



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior Austin Rathburn has averaged 13.3 points and more than nine rebounds for Niwot over the last three games.

and score, rather than playing timid and non-aggressive," Rathburn said of his recent success. "It makes a big difference. Me scoring leads to points from every other teammate on the floor."

That in turn has led Niwot to 11 wins in 18 games, and a 6-3 mark in the Northern League, its best record since 2015. With five games remaining, the Cougars are currently 34th in CHSAA's RPI standings, and stand a good chance of earning their first playoff berth since the 2016-17 season. Rathburn is optimistic about the Cougars' prospects down the stretch, and hopes to cross "hosting a home playoff game" off his high school to-do list.

"I really like the mindset we've gone with this season, and that we've put our heads towards defense," Rathburn said, crediting first-year head

coach Wittrock's new system. "We do better when we play defense our best, and our record shows that when we keep teams below a certain number of points, we win."

Rathburn's height hasn't always meant basketball success, a lesson he learned when he was cut from his first club team in middle school. He spent the next season working on his skills with a recreational team, before trying out again for the club squad, and finally earning a spot in the lineup. In the years since, Rathburn has been focused on perfecting his fundamentals, and now is seeing that translate into a significant advantage for his team.

"My biggest challenge, at least skills wise, has been dribbling the ball because I didn't practice ball handling drills as much as I should have when I was younger," he said of the evolution of his game. "I feel like I've gotten a lot better at shooting the basketball than I have been, but I believe I should shoot more."

Though Wittrock has only been Rathburn's coach for one season, he has been impressed with the senior's "lead by example" demeanor both on the court and especially in the locker room for Niwot.

"He's such a positive guy in our team room," Wittrock said. "He rolls with it, but it's with a strong desire to win, and I think that's what guys respond to. It's really been a great senior year for him, and to see him blossom has been really cool."



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Sophia Gaspar, Lexy Bullen, Emiley Yie, and Mary Codevilla make their way to the start of the 400-yard freestyle finals at the Northern Conference championships on Feb. 8.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Continued from Page 13

in the 100- and 200-yard freestyle races; and junior Lucca Fulkerson, who was third in the 100-yard butterfly (1:04.23) and sixth in the 100-yard backstroke. The team also got a boost from its trio of divers (Halie Ostrom, Lillian Moritz, and Katie Carroll), who all ended the day on the podium. Though they fell short of qualifying for state this season, Stamp said the strong showing at conference by the junior and two freshman is a good omen for the future.

"I couldn't have asked more from them than what they did today," she said. "Halie improved on what she did last year, and then the two newcomers hit 11 dives basically less than a month ago."

Niwot's new swimmers were also impressive at Mountain View, especially freshmen Steph Mow and Lexy Bullen, who each collected top-three individual finishes on the day, and also swam on the relays. The team also got a boost when freshman Julia Strobe earned a state bid in the meet's penultimate event, the 100-yard breaststroke. The ninth-graders have been a pleasant surprise for Stamp this season, and she expects them to shore up the state-bound team as it tries for another top finish at next week's championships.

"They've been a great addition to the team, and certainly help fill our void from last year's seniors," she said.

The Cougars have 10 days to rest and recover before the Class 4A state meet at the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center in Thornton on Feb. 18-19. Stamp

is putting the finishing touches on the lineup and, like Yie, senses some momentum behind her youthful squad. Though she stopped short of predicting another state runner-up title, she is confident her swimmers can compete with the top swimmers in the state.

"It's certainly not quite the depth of last year, but nonetheless, it's a strong team, with strong relays. We just have to piece things together, figure out where we're going to put everyone, and just do our best next week."

2/8—Northern Conference Championships, Mtn View Aquatic Center, Loveland

Team scores — Niwot 479, Centaurus 389, Thompson Valley 357, Longmont 348, Mountain View 232

200 medley relay — 1. Longmont, 1:54.92; 2. Niwot (Mow, Lavigne, Bridenbaugh, Bullen), 1:58.73; 3. Centaurus, 1:59.0

200 freestyle — 1. Mary Codevilla, 1:50.32; 2. Emma McKalko, Thompson Valley, 2:00.94; 3. Sophia Gaspar, 2:03.66

200 IM — 1. Emiley Yie, 2:11.53; 1. Kaitlyn Yie, Longmont, 2:21.73; 3. Isabella Brakhage, Centaurus 2:24.14

50 freestyle — 1. Libby Himes, Mountain View, 25.38; 2. Stephanie Mow, 25.58; 3. Arden McCauley, Thompson Valley, 25.64; 4. Lexy Bullen, 25.83

Diving — Anna-Marie Karr, Centaurus, 351.45; 2. Sydney Fuller, Longmont, 340.20; 3. Laurene Powell, Mountain View, 327.75; 4. Silje Haehre, Mountain View, 327.20; 5. Madienn Baca, Thompson Valley, 321.40; 6. Halie Ostrom, 305.30; 7. Lilia Moritz, 278.70; 8. Kathryn Carroll, 275.90

100 butterfly — 1. Emma Svedsen, Longmont, 58.94; 2. Arden McCauley, Thompson Valley, 1:03.76; 3. Lucca Fulkerson, 1:04.23

100 freestyle — 1. Emiley Yie, 54.11; 2. Libby Himes, Mountain View, 55.99; 3. Stephanie Mow, 56.02

500 freestyle — 1. Emma Svedsen, Longmont, 5:16.25; 2. Emma McKalko, Thompson Valley, 5:22.51; 3. Kathleen Welch, Centaurus, 5:55.97; 4. Olivia Bridenbaugh, 6:00.02

200 freestyle relay — 1. Niwot (Codevilla, Mow, Gaspar, Yie), 1:41.49; 2. Thompson Valley, 1:45.05; 3. Centaurus 1:45.27

100 backstroke — 1. Mary Codevilla, 57.76; 2. Madison Lin, Centaurus, 1:04.66; 3. Paige Phelps, Thompson Valley, 1:05.79

100 breaststroke — 1. Lara Franco, Centaurus, 1:09.33; 2. Lexy Bullen, 1:10.75; Kaitlyn Yie, Longmont, 1:12.48

400 freestyle relay — 1. Niwot (Gaspar, Bullen, Yie, Codevilla), 3:44.77; 2. Longmont, 3:52.28; 2. Thompson Valley, 3:52.28

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Niwot honors seniors at final home meet



Photo by Ava Pechersewski

Six Niwot seniors appeared in their final home meet against Broomfield and Mountain View on Feb. 6. From left: Daniel Torres, Luis Sosa, Bryan Martinez, Keith Hemmenway, Max Pechersewski, Jovani Lopez .

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

On Feb. 6, six seniors took the mat for Niwot one last time, as the Cougars hosted Broomfield and Mountain View in the season's final home event before the Class 4A Region 3 qualifying tournament.

It was a good night for the seniors who were able to find a contested match against either of their two opponents. Senior Max Pechersewski went 2-0 on the night in the 113-pound class, his win coming by fall over Alex Church of Broomfield (3:14) in his only contested match of the night. Senior Keith



Photo by Ava Pechersewski

Six Niwot seniors appeared in their Senior Max Pechersewski (113) won by fall over Alex Church of Broomfield (3:14) on Feb. 6.

Hemmenway (160) also had a win in a contested match, in a tie-breaker over Isaac Muller of Mountain View. Bryan Martinez was the only other senior with a contested match, which he also won when he pinned CJ Bever of Mountain View. (3:54). NHS seniors Daniel Torres, Luis



Photo by Ava Pechersewski

Senior Keith Hemmenway said goodbye to his home gym with a win over Isaac Muller of Mountain View on Feb. 6.

Sosa and Jovani Lopez did not have contested matches. Niwot heads to Windsor for the regional meet on Feb. 14-15. Wrestlers who finish in

the top four of their brackets will earn a bid to the Class 4A state championships on Feb. 20-22.

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New Left Hand Grange website launched

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

A Boulder County Economic Vitality grant awarded in 2019 has made it possible for Niwot's Left Hand Grange No. 9 on 2nd Avenue to modernize its online presence. The redesigned website (www.LeftHandGrange.org) has a completely new look and enhanced functionality, replacing the original website built 11 years ago.

Archival and recent photos are now accompanied by a timeline story of the rural community center. Other highlights of the revamped website are an event calendar allowing visitors to easily see what concerts and gatherings are coming up, take note of what days and times are available, as well as reserve the space online. New and renewing members may also pay online by credit card, and making a donation is now automated through the new website.

The Grange sponsors Boy Scout Troop 161 and the Niwot Community Semi-March-



Photo by Andy Mann

Niwot's Left Hand Valley Grange on 2nd Avenue recently launched a revitalized website with new capabilities, vintage and updated images, and a historical timeline of the building which has served as a community center for the surrounding area for over 70 years.

ing Free Grange Band, and also hosts concerts, classes and community meetings. A policy change now makes it possible to rent the Grange and serve alcohol on a limited basis.

For over 70-plus years, the

two-story building has been a community gathering hub for farmers, politicians, children, corporations, crafters and artists, game players, teachers, instructors, families, and musicians. The new website will help get

the word out to those less familiar with what the historic venue offers.

Dayna Roane, former NBA treasurer, and Niwot Economic Development Director Catherine McHale submitted an applica-

tion for the grant that funded the website project at the end of 2018 on behalf of the NBA. The monies received were part of Boulder County's overall annual distribution of grants to an economic development organization within each county municipality.

Following the announcement that the grant had been won, it was decided by the NBA and Grange boards that the best use of \$2,325 award would be to help improve public communications and visibility of the historic organization. Part of a national network of 3,600 granges and first chartered in 1873, Left Hand Grange No. 9 is now the oldest active grange in Colorado.

Grange president, Kelli Beran said, "I am hoping better access to the calendar, events, and membership information will give the Left Hand Grange the energy it needs to launch itself to a new audience and hopefully they will become involved and continue to help this organization thrive."

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