



Helping our four-legged heroes



Courtesy Photo

Deputy Boden with her K9 partner Halo.

BY KATIE ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

If you've ever wanted to see a police dog in action, but don't want to go to the trouble of committing a crime, come out to Collision Brewing (1436 Skyway Dr.) in Longmont on Sept. 6 for a dinner to benefit the Friends of Boulder County Sheriff K9 Association (BCSK9).

"It's our biggest event of the year," said Deputy Kelly Boden, a veteran K9 handler for the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and one of the Niwot organization's founders. "This time, we wanted to up-the-ante a little bit, and have a sit down dinner, including entertainment."

That entertainment includes live music and the comedy stylings of Vinne Montez, a commander at the BCSO, who moonlights as a stand-up comedian. The Colorado Avalanche mascot Bernie the St. Bernard will also be in attendance. Of course, the evening wouldn't be complete without a demonstration from one or two of the guests of honor.

"Scout, our bloodhound will be there for sure," Boden

said. "We're trying to get our german shepard, King, out their as well."

These dogs may be having fun at the fundraiser, but their day-to-day life can be a lot more serious. Boden recounted a typical day with her K9 partner Halo, a Belgium malinois. "She puts on her little work collar, loads up in the back of my Tahoe and we go to work. We work our normal district calls, traffic enforcement and if there's any calls for K9s, we would go to that."

These specific K9 calls range from fleeing criminals to drug searches. Police dogs jump in and out of cars multiple times per day and participate in a lot of physically wearing work but Boden knows that "they love it."

While these four-legged deputies get their fair share of perks, unfortunately, a 401k and generous health insurance are not among them. BCSK9 was founded in April 2017 as a 501(c)3 organization in order to help owners and handlers with expenses not otherwise covered by the BCSO.

"Dogs require medication

Continued on Page 5

Gene Hayworth of Inkberry Books to receive Dairy Center Honor



Photo by Katie Rowley

Gene Hayworth (right) marches in Niwot's 4th of July Parade with partner and co-owner Keith Waters. Hayworth is being honored at the Dairy Center for the Arts on Sept. 6.

BY JEREMY JAEGER
Editorial@lhvc.com

On Friday, Sept. 6, the Dairy Center for the Arts will host its

annual ceremony for the Dairy Center Honors Award, given to individuals in recognition of their contribution to the arts in Boulder County. One

of this year's four honorees is Gene Hayworth, the founder and owner of Inkberry Books in Niwot.

A quick perusal of Gene's resume is enough to certify his merit. The Director of Social Sciences for the University Libraries at CU-Boulder and, also the Liaison to the Cinematic Arts Program. Founder, Chief Editor and Publisher of Owl Canyon Press, which has published nearly 30 books since its inception in 2011. Translator, from German to English, of three books issued by House Publishing, distributed by the University of Chicago Press. Author of a biography of Coleman Dowell, a composer of music for television and Broadway and a writer of experimental novels; in addition

Continued on Page 5

Subdivision Roads: Could a countywide PID be the solution?



Courtesy Photo

One possible solution to the subdivision paving issue could be funding it by a countywide PID. Supporters hope to have the issue on the ballot as early as 2020.

By Mary Wolbach Lopert
Editorial@lhvc.com

This article is the fourth in a series, which explores various subdivision-paving issues and points of views in unincorporated Boulder County.

Peter King-Smith, head of the HOA Roads Committee for the Pine Brook Hills subdivision, has been working with the Boulder County Commissioners and the Boulder County Transportation Department for over 10 years trying to figure out how to fund rebuilding and rehabilitating county subdivision roads.

Continued on Page 6

▶ Wedding Announcement Clark/Venechuk



Heather Clark and Nathan Venechuk were married June 1, 2019 in Pine, Colorado with a longtime friend, Ben Wright, officiating. The ceremony took place in a mountain meadow at Mountain View Ranch followed by a reception in nearby Willows Pavillion.

Heather is the daughter of Damon and Lori Clark of Niwot and Nathan is the son of Mike and Sally Venechuk of Wilmette,

Illinois.

Attendants were Bea Morreale, Amy Takacs, Frieda Venechuk, Jordan Wilkie, Torin Clark and Garrett Clark. The flower girl was Brittney Clark, and her son, Theodore William, was the ring bearer.

The couple spent their honeymoon sailing throughout the British Virgin Islands, and will make their home in Arvada.

▶ Community Calendar

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

Niwot's September First Friday Art Walk takes place on 2nd Avenue and in Cottonwood Square Shopping Center on Friday, Sept. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. with live music on the streets.

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.

GREEK FESTIVAL

Sts. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church (5640 Jay Road, Boulder) is hosting the 16th annual Taste of Orthodoxy, a free festival to celebrate the food, dance, and music of Orthodox culture. Join them Sept. 6-8 for Greek food, pastries, soft drinks, beer, Greek wine, dancing, live music, and church tours. There will also be merchandise available to purchase.

REMEMBER IN SEPTEMBER FESTIVAL

The 3rd annual Remember in September Music & Art Festival benefiting The J.A.R.E.D. Foundation will be held on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 12 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Boulder County Fairgrounds

(9595 Nelson St., Longmont). For more information, visit www.EducateDrummers.org, call 720-375-2870 or email surinder@EducateDrummers.org.

"THE MIND OF THE ELEMENTARY CHILD"

Free presentation by internationally known educator Jodi Perry. Jodi is now teaching at Mountain Shadows Montessori School and is looking forward to sharing her insights with the community. Thursday, Sept. 12, from 6-7:30 p.m. at Mountain Shadows, 4154 63rd St., Boulder. This event is free and open to the public.

▶ Death Notice

Retired Niwot High School teacher and coach, Doug Duffy, died Saturday, August

31, 2019, at age 57, after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Services are pending.



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COMMUNITY PET SPOTLIGHT



Meet Shay, a recent resident of the Boulder Valley Humane Society, who was rescued by Niwot resident Christine Ruth. Writes Ruth, "Her favorite activity is shredding novels—with a slight preference for historical romance."

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



New Watercolors by
Michael Bondi

Friday, September 6, 5-9
Saturday, September 7, 11-8

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When scent is absent — living with congenital anosmia



Courtesy Photo

Dia Kline (second from left) visits with her co-subjects at the launch party for the "The Untitled Woman," held last month in Denver.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Dia Kline has known since age four that she experiences the world differently than most people do, but it wasn't until her mid-30s that the Niwot writer and comedian had a formal diagnosis for her lifelong inability to smell—a condition so rare that even a veteran otolaryngologist

didn't believe what he was seeing.

"He looked at me like I was a unicorn or the chupacabra—like some magical, mythical being that is sitting in his office," she recalled. "He told me 'I've done this for 35 years, and I've never seen a congenital anosmic. You don't exist.'"

That may be true of chupacabra and its cryptid friends, but congenital an-

osmia definitely exists and, while not a debilitating condition, it can be a misunderstood one. Recently, Kline shared an account of what life is like for people born without a sense of smell in "The Untitled Woman," a newly published book that takes readers "through the journeys of 24 women and their true stories."

"My essay is not written from the point of view of 'less-than' or 'poor me,'" Kline said of her contribution to the project, which was spearheaded by Wendy Winterbourne, a Denver-based producer and talent manager. "It's written from the point of view of 'here's a funny thing, and this is how I embrace it.' It's uplifting and humorous, and I think oftentimes our stories of differences and overcoming can be a little more melancholy."

Kline's life with congenital anosmia is far from melancholy, but it does have its trials. Her condition is not just rare—estimates put its

incidence in the general population at 1 in 10,000—it is also untreatable and largely invisible to others. There are no outward signs or symptoms to manage, no pain, and she doesn't use a "smelling-nose dog." Kline simply doesn't notice the many scents and odors lurking all around us, often to the surprise and frustration of onlookers.

"That started a lifelong and incredibly unhelpful mantra of 'just breathe in through your nose and smell,'" Kline said, recalling the time long ago when she told her disbelieving parents she couldn't smell the pasta sauce simmering on the stove. "We don't go up to blind people, and put an orange in front of their face, and say, 'just open your eyes and look.'"

To be sure, there are real dangers associated with anosmia, most notably, the inability to detect "warning odors" such as smoke, gas, or spoiled food. Then, too, are the prac-

tical challenges of managing everyday household and personal odors, which can lead to awkward or embarrassing social encounters.

However, trying to convince others that she can't smell what they're smelling, no matter how pungent or pervasive, has long been the greatest source of exasperation for Kline. Even family members and longtime friends often trivialize or forget she has the condition.

"I've had people try to 'stink me out'—overscent something or hide something to see if I would react," she said. "Fumes can still make me sick, and that's a very dangerous game."

She also faces a lot of what she termed "mansplaining" about what she can and can't taste. Though the two senses are complementary, taste buds aren't impacted by congenital

Continued on Page 8



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“Winot Bronze” by Anne Shutan

By CATHERINE MCHALE
Special to the Courier

This piece continues a monthly series about the artworks and artists chosen for Community Corner at Sculpture Park at the corner of 79th St and Niwot Road.

This month’s work is “Winot Bronze” by artist Anne Shutan. “Winot Bronze” is an originally wooden structure, now cast in bronze and standing about four feet high. The piece is on the

southeast side of the park, where it makes itself subtly known amongst the backdrop of trees.

Based in Boulder County, Shutan lives and works at her lakeside home/studio outside with her husband, Scott. Shutan has been professionally sculpting for the majority of her life. She originally carved one-of-a-kind wooden furniture, which she still does. In her twenties, Shutan went to Los Angeles to market herself and her works. Several introductions later she found her-

self carving for a master sculptor, who became her mentor.

The mentor was Dutch sculptor Jan DeSwart. He saw potential in Shutan, and she quickly became an apprentice. She helped him carve the works in his imagination that his body was unable to physically produce. Shutan describes DeSwart’s work as “having a giggle in every piece,” an idea that has stuck with her and made its way into her works.

At the heart of Shutan’s work is the gentle reminder, both for herself and her audience, to smile. To cope with the world today it is essential to open ourselves up to joy and jubilation. She is fascinated with the living quality of wood and the relationship that is created when an audience experiences natural art.

Shutan has been working with wood for over 40 years and has a wealth of knowledge about the material. The once-living foundation influences the shapes, textures, and breath she crafts into her pieces. “That’s what sets wood apart from other artistic media,” explained the sculptor in an article in the Boulder Daily Camera. “It is organic, not manufactured. It is grown, not synthesized. Each piece of wood, each trunk, each branch is absolutely unique.”

Shutan is most well known

for her doors, which she hand sculpts using tools from the 1950s. She crafts a connection between the feeling of the home and elements of nature to create spaces that are truly spectacular. In 2013 she completed a set of mahogany doors for the library at the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center in downtown Denver. Shutan has an impressive gallery and her works can be seen across Colorado and in private collections across the country.

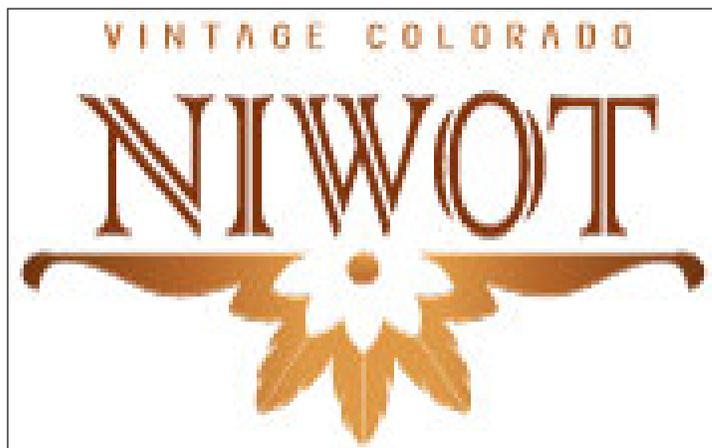
Anne Shutan’s sculpture, “Winot Bronze,” can be seen at the Niwot Community Corner at Sculpture Park. The piece is available for purchase.

For more information about the visit www.niwot.com/sculpture and www.doormaven.com



Courtesy Photo

“Winot Bronze” by Anne Shutan



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K9

Continued from Page 1

while working and while in retirement for things such as arthritis, which can be very costly." Boden also mentions that "there's no retirement fund for our dogs."

The BCSO was hesitant at

first to support the BCSK9, and Deputy Boden suspects that's because they didn't want it to look as if they are "going out and begging for money." This sentiment changed when an emergency arose with one of the dogs and used up the BCSOs K9 budget.

According to Boden, it is also getting more and more expensive to procure and train crime-fighting animals, so her organization also provides supplemental

funding for the BCSOs existing K9 staff.

"The price has gone astronomical... Right now the price is around \$8,000 to \$10,000, and since 9-11 that price has increased, and increased, and increased," Boden said, adding that the price also increases for pre-trained dogs. Otherwise, K9 partners are trained at a 14-week camp with its handler, another expense that can be hard to absorb.

Currently, the four-legged staff at the BCSO is down to its lowest level in years. According to Boden, the department currently employs about half of the canines they normally do, thanks in part to some of these financial challenges.

For more information about the upcoming dinner and silent auction at Collision Brewing (1436 Skyway Dr.), or for additional ways to support Friends of Boulder County

K9 Association, visit bcsk9.org. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$20 for kids 8-15. Dinner is free of kids 7 or younger, with the purchase of an adult ticket. Sponsorships are also available. On Nov. 1, BCSK9 is participating in Charity Challenge Night with the Colorado Avalanche. A portion of each ticket sold to that night's Avalanche/Dallas Stars game will be donated to the organization.

HAYWORTH

Continued from Page 1

to the biography, publication of Dowell's songs, previously uncollected.

It's a long list, that calls up the phrase "above and beyond" and describes the work of someone motivated by the love of what he does.

Growing up in North Carolina Hayworth was always a reader. An early point of resonance was Carson McCullers' novel *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. Neither of his parents graduated from high school, and Gene was the first person in his family to go to college, earning a BA in English Literature from UNC Greensboro.

After ten subsequent years "in the corporate world" as he puts it, the question of "What am I doing?" presented itself. This led to two graduate programs, and Masters degrees in both English Literature and Library Sciences. A job with the library at CU brought him and his partner, Keith, to Boulder in 2002, where they have lived ever since.

Opening Inkberry Books in Niwot's Cottonwood Square in February, 2018 was the realization of a longtime dream. Everyone knows the story of local bookstores in the Age of Amazon; the work Hayworth puts into Inkberry is defined by the term "passion project."

Asked to comment on being honored by the Dairy Center, he said, "It's pretty amazing to be recognized and awarded for doing something you love. I get to spend nearly all my time with people who love literature and the arts. Can't get any better than that, right? The focus with this bookstore is building community, and this award is coming from the community. That's what makes this award valuable and important to me."

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PID

Continued from Page 1

The key words for King-Smith are “working with” these departments. He said that both the commissioners and the transportation department have been very supportive. The issue is that “none of us have been able to come up with a resolution of how to fund the problem.”

King-Smith said that while Pine Brook has looked at several

ways to finance repaving their subdivision, but the cost was prohibitive. He feels the only way to get the job done for all subdivisions is a countywide Public Improvement District (PID) initiative.

“A county wide PID would certainly be a good answer and the advantage of a PID is that it isn’t just a one-time solution. It’s an on-going tax. It is deductible, because it is a property tax. It is a good solution, but it is one that

hasn’t passed the voters.”

King-Smith was one of the leads in the 2016 ballot initiative 1A. The initiative’s purpose was to “develop a long-term solution for the maintenance and continuing rehabilitation of subdivision roads as well as numerous unfunded roads infrastructure projects in all 10 Boulder County cities.” The initiative has the full support of the commissioners and George Gerstle, who, at the time, was the Boulder County

Transportation director.

In 1995 the Board of County Commissioners changed the definition of road maintenance for unincorporated county subdivisions to exclude road rehabilitation and reconstruction, but never provided a means to pay for the work. During the intervening 24 years, no taxes have been collected to fix the issue. 1A was an attempt to fund a 15-year road reconstruction project.

While the initiative didn’t pass, King-Smith was pleased that 1A did receive 46% of the vote. “We were pretty naive and new at doing that sort of thing,” he said.

As for current efforts, King-Smith is a member of an ad hoc group made up of members from the larger subdivisions in Boulder County who have a common interest in getting things done. The group meets regularly with both the commissioners and transportation director Jeff Maxwell.

Smith-King thinks the commissioners and the transportation department are working on a “fairly broad infrastructure funding and measure and we are hoping and have discussed with them that fixing subdivision roads would be incorporated into that same measure.

“We would like to do something in concert with what appears to be... a fairly significant infrastructure measure... What we’re trying to do is avoid being a completely separate issue... We said we’d like to be a part of anything that’s countywide that hopefully involved other transportation funding in there, so that this is included in that.”

When asked about any broad countywide measure, Maxwell said, “We are always talking about strategies to address funding issues, but I don’t have specific information for you at this time.”

If this type of measure fails, Smith-King said that they would try to do something similar to 1A again. “It’s not our preferred way to do it, but we would probably go back and have another attempt at it.”

When such a measure might be on the ballot, Smith-King is hoping that it might be as soon as 2020, especially if there is funding for subdivisions in a broader transportation measure. But the commissioners have indicated that there might be a lot of funding items on the 2020 ballot, so that a broader transportation measure could be put off until 2021.

He added, “We were saying that the first major attempt, if we weren’t involved (in the broader countywide measure) would be 2021.”

In the meantime, costs continue to escalate. “It was a \$70 million problem five years ago,” Smith-King said.

In 2016, outside consultants were brought in to do an in depth analysis of every road in every subdivision in the county. “The work that was done, was really well done,” Smith-King said. “It was a working document that I’m sure Jeff Maxwell is still using... although it’s aged a bit...”

It’s not like people have been sitting around not doing anything. We are in a good position to do the work, if we can get the funds to do it.”

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Tomato taste finding a way back into love apples

By CAROL O'MEARA, COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, BOULDER COUNTY
Special to the Courier

Have you experienced the unbearable sadness of a lack-luster tomato? Standing in front of the tables piled high with perfect, red, round fruit, we convince ourselves that we know how to pick one that will be a tasty prize on our salad. Sadly, finding a commercially grown tomato with moan-worthy flavor is like finding a needle in a haystack.

"Tomato is a particularly complicated flavor; there are many genes producing many different flavors. But it's also a product of the environment, soil, and tomato quality. And it's highly subjective to each individual," says Dr. Harry Klee, Horticulture Professor with the University of Florida and renowned researcher known for his work in breeding flavor back into commercially grown tomatoes.

Modern tomatoes aren't as flavorful – it's been proven, says Klee, due to breeders selecting for size, yield, pest resistance, and other grower considerations. Each selection for these things often came at a small cost to the flavor of the tomato. Every small loss added up over decades to result in a fruit that doesn't live up to expectations.

"Imagine a symphony. If one violin leaves it's no big deal, but when more and more leave, slowly the music changes. That's what happened to modern tomatoes over the past 50 years,"

Klee said. "We lost a sugar here, a volatile there. Selecting for larger tomatoes means less sugar, less flavor. There's more sugar in smaller fruit."

Klee has an interdisciplinary team working on identifying the flavors consumers like, then working backwards to breed those genes back into the tomato. There's a psychology of flavor, taste, and smell, but also biology as well.

According to the Center for Smell and Taste at the University of Florida (cst.ufl.edu/taste-vs-flavor-whats-the-difference.html) taste happens mostly on the tongue but also other areas with taste buds, such as the soft palate. While taste is a major component of flavor, aroma also plays a role. Aroma from volatile chemicals in tomatoes is one area Klee is focusing on.

"What happens in the mouth when you chew the tomato, it releases volatile chemicals that go up into your olfactory senses. Taste in the mouth is sweet, sour, salty, while flavor is from the volatile chemicals in the fruit. Volatiles are essential to good flavor. Test it yourself – take a tomato and hold your nose so you can't smell it when you eat it," said Klee.

Crossing heirloom tomatoes with the modern elite varieties, Klee has developed several with great flavor. Making them available to the home gardener, he's released them through Proven Winners as Garden Gem and Garden Treasure. Try them next year to see if you agree that they're vigorous, disease resistant, and are flavorful.

In the meantime, if you've got

a hankering for great tomatoes, head out to the Taste of Tomato in Boulder. Sponsored by Harlequin's Gardens and Growing Gardens of Boulder County, the Taste of Tomato is an opportunity to sample the love apple in its many forms - stripes, color, shape, and size.

Scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 7, 10 am to 1 p.m. at Growing Gardens' barn, 1630 Hawthorne Ave. in Boulder, the Taste of Tomato is where gardeners can bring their tomatoes for others to try and sample the products

others are growing. Each year, tomato enthusiasts gather to taste 65 to 100 varieties and vote on the tastiest of the lot.

Entry is free if you bring three or more medium to large tomatoes or 10 cherry tomatoes of one kind, with the variety name on a card, to donate to the tasting. All entries must be home-grown. If you have no tomatoes to bring, there will be a \$5 entrance fee.

For more information on the Taste of Tomato, visit harlequingardens.com.



Photo by Ann Whitehill

Flavorful tomatoes are making a comeback, after years of growers selecting for size, yield, pest resistance, and other considerations.

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ABLE to Sail benefit concert this week

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

ABLE to Sail is a Longmont-based youth empowerment camp that seeks to help kids of all ages gain self-esteem, overcome feelings of isolation and inadequacy, and give them the confidence to navigate life, no matter which way the wind blows.

Executive director Diane McKinney explained that at its very core, ABLE to Sail wants to teach lessons in sailing that apply to real life situations. "The basic premise being, to turn a boat left, you steer to the right, which requires a complete change in thinking." It's this core element of navigation that McKinney believes helps teach a mental reorienting of personal narrations. She

said, "If you can change your way of thinking about steering, you can change your way of thinking about anything - about who you are, about what has happened to you, about what people say about you."

It's these belief systems that McKinney believes drive negative behavior of self-harm, drug use, and violence. ABLE to Sail seeks to help kids tear down the negative narrative they've written about themselves and encourages them to create a new one. McKinney explained that when she started this organization, she didn't know anything about nonprofits. "Most people go about getting funding first, but I started the program and have been operating at broke every since."

McKinney has sailed this ship

quite a ways on "broke." ABLE to Sail has garnered awards and recognition throughout the state, but especially in Boulder County. Now, after positively affecting the lives of so many in our community, McKinney saw the chance to do even more good. On Sept. 8, the start of National Suicide Prevention Week, ABLE to Sail is set to host its 1st annual Rock the Boat concert at Union Reservoir in Longmont. The

concert takes place from 3 to 7 p.m., rain or shine and features renowned artists Hazel Miller, Sheryl Renee, and Grand Daniel Reed.

While this is a fun evening out to raise money and awareness for and about this effective nonprofit, McKinney hopes people take away an even more meaningful message. "I just want people to understand that they can change their belief... Everybody needs

to have a hand in changing the narrative. The belief that 'I'm not good enough, nobody likes me' leads to isolation and a painful belief needs pain relief." ABLE seeks to provide an alternate form of pain relief, by teaching kids self-empowerment, courage, and confidence. Learn more about this organization next weekend at Rock the Boat.



Photo courtesy of ABLE to Sail

Student sailors participate in lessons that teach all aspects of sailing, and, most importantly, how to apply these lessons to every day life.

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DIA KLINE

Continued from Page 1

anosmia, and Kline has no complaints about how she experiences food.

"Recall the box of 96 Crayola crayons, with the sharpener on the back," she said. "You were living large if you got that with your back-to-school supplies. That is a normal person's sense of taste. Mine is like the 12-pack generic RoseArt. I have it, I use it, but I don't get any olfactory help. A person with normal smell and I will eat the same stew, and I will comment on the larger notes of it, while they're going to say 'I love the rosemary in this'."

Luckily, Kline has escaped many of the emotional and mental challenges experienced by

other anosmics, particularly those with the acquired form of the condition. Accounting for 97 percent of all cases, this form is most often caused by sinonasal diseases or head trauma, and is potentially treatable with drugs or surgery. These anosmics often report symptoms of anhedonia (loss of pleasure), disordered eating, and social isolation due to their loss of smell.

"I am an anomaly," Kline said. "I am one of the small percent of anosmics who are not depressed, who don't get angry, and who aren't offended. A lot of anosmics and a lot of congenital anosmics put an awful lot of energy and emphasis on sadness."

While Kline doesn't judge her fellow anosmics for this reaction, she has made a concerted effort

to avoid the same path.

"Yes, it's a disability, and it is life-threatening, and it is life-interruptive. It can take the joy away from life, but only if you let it. ... It is a deficit, but it could be so much worse."

"The Untitled Woman" was published in August and is available online at Barnes & Noble (<https://bit.ly/2knXJ61>). To learn more about Kline and her life with anosmia, visit her website ezjolife.com and follow her on Facebook (facebook.com/ezjolife), Instagram (@ezjolife), Twitter (@ezjolife), and YouTube. Last month, Kline was interviewed for an episode of The Smell Podcast, available at iTunes, Stitcher, Spotify, and many other more. On Oct. 26, she will be appearing at The RBJ Variety Show at La Vita Bella Cafe (471 Main St, Longmont)



SCHOOL NEWS

Mwebaza Foundation completes Project Uganda: Cougars/CDC Creating Classrooms



Photo courtesy of Mwebaza Foundation

Ugandans and Americans stand together in front of a fully assembled container classroom, decorated by Niwot High students.

By ABIGAIL SCOTT
Editorial@lhvc.com

Last year, Mwebaza Foundation set the goal of outfitting Niwot Elementary's sister school, Mwebaza Infant Primary School in Kyengera, Uganda, with two shipping container classrooms to help with overcrowding.

When students reach age 10, they usually drop out of school, because there isn't a

physical place to go anymore. The Mwebaza Infant Primary School tries to hold on to these students for as long as possible, even construction cardboard partitions to increase individual classrooms, but this was not viable or efficient.

The Mwebaza Foundation saw the opportunity to build more classrooms by using shipping containers. When foundation founder Dale Peterson, and executive director

Devaki Douillard first pitched this idea to the Mwebaza staff and community, they were met with inquiring looks. A few residents inquired about ventilation, safety, and light inside the shipping containers. There was some concern about how the students would learn in such dark, uncomfortable environments. After Peterson and Douillard explained the renovations of the containers and showed renderings of the finished products, the community understood and rallied around the idea.

Foundation members knew this task would be all encompassing and would require a collaboration of epic proportions. In the past, the foundation had great success bringing in nonprofits to supplement its own capabilities. For this project, it needed a nonprofit that specialized in container building construction, overseas shipping, and installation. Peterson said just getting the shipping containers through customs involved many moving parts, documentation, and

planning.

Homes of Living Hope, headquartered just down the street in Louisville, had plenty of experience in this department and stepped in to fill that need. This partnership allowed the foundation to continue, full steam ahead, in procurement of funding, planning, sourcing materials, and construction.

Not only did the container project provide classrooms for Mwebaza students, but it also brought the St. Vrain Valley School District together to collaborate on this project. Peterson said, "Sunset Middle School students created the design for the container building with the assistance of a local architect and engineer. Students at Niwot Elementary raised the funds to send one of the containers to Uganda. Niwot High students constructed the classrooms in the containers with the help of local builders in the parking lot at NHS. Students at the Career Development Center in Longmont created an entire upper story for the building out of solid steel that was packed inside the containers before they were sent to Uganda."

All in all, around 1,300 volunteers came together from start to finish to work on these container classrooms - including donors, students, construction companies that donated products, individuals that donated supplies or tools, and those involved with the completion ceremony. The final act was setting up these containers in the village. Eleven volunteers from Colorado traveled to Uganda this past summer to finish the installation of the shipping containers at Mwebaza Infant Primary School.

Peterson said, "We had three different teams over there doing different things. We had one team that was building, one team that was installing computer labs, and one team

that was helping with scholarship interviews. Those three teams overlapped to where people were over there for a month. The actual construction of building took two weeks."

The containers traveled to their final resting place via multiple modes of transportation and stops. The container classrooms were first sent by train to California, placed on a cargo ship and passed through the Panama Canal. Next they arrived in Italy and traveled through Africa via the Suez Canal to finally arrive in Kenya. There, the containers were loaded onto a truck and taken to Jinja, Uganda, at which they were processed by customs and finally sent to The Mwebaza School.

When volunteers with the Mwebaza Foundation arrived, they took to unloading the containers and assembling each school room. In addition to school supplies and tools, the containers held solar panels, playground equipment, soccer balls, chairs (donated by the St. Vrain Valley School District), tables made by local construction company Watson Mills & Design, among other contributions. Niwot High clubs made specific gifts that spoke to the nature of each club. Tri-M contributed recorders, The Knitting Club gave how-to knitting kits and guides, and Best Buddies contributed adaptive equipment to Embrace Kulture School in Entebbe, Uganda.

Peterson wanted student contributions to speak to the contributors' talents and interests, "We were happy to assign them a role like painting, dry walling, but if they had something else in mind that they wanted to do, we accepted that as well. Because we wanted it to be an authentic and meaningful experience for them.

Invites you to a special presentation by Joni Perry
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FREE EVENT Open to the Public

To learn more about our school visit — www.mountainshadows.org

MWEBAZA

Continued from Page 9

wanted to do, we accepted that as well. Because we wanted it to be an authentic

and meaningful experience for them. It was truly wonderful to see the creativity of the kids come through."

Once the shipping containers were up and running, Kids on Computers, a

nonprofit partner of Mwebaza Foundation, installed a computer lab inside one of the new buildings. Peterson explains that many of these children have never seen or touched a computer in

their lives, "It was sublime to watch the students put their hands on mice and keyboards, many for the first time!"

Certain items, including two solar panels and a solar battery, were taken sometime during the customs inspection. However, Mwebaza donors came together to generate additional funds to recoup the lost items. Peterson describes the project coming together, because of the cross-continent collaboration, "What we encountered there was an entire community that was so grateful, so excited, and so willing to help in any way to make this successful. That's what was so exciting to me... It was great to see the Americans and Ugandans work together,

side by side, to accomplish this goal.

Currently, both shipping container classrooms are up and running, serving the children of Mwebaza Infant Primary School. Eight solar panels are supplying energy to the containers and the remaining few are expected to be installed as soon as possible.

Project Uganda: Cougars/CDC Creating Classrooms not only cater to a growing class of students, but it provided an invaluable lesson for both communities. To foster the health, well-being, and education of our world's children, it takes a village coming together across oceans and cultures.



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Niwot High School under construction



Photo by MacKenzie Demmel

The corridors at Niwot High are in the process of getting a makeover, including a much needed refresh of the 47 year old carpet.

By MACKENZIE DEMMEL
Editorial@lhvc.com

Niwot High School was first opened in 1972. Since then it has provided a great learning environment for students taking traditional, AP, and IB

classes. It also has never had new carpet, until now. The old carpets have been replaced with clean carpets that are laced with a vibrant green.

"I'm excited for an open floor plan to ease student congestion during passing periods," said

Mrs. Moore, a teacher at Niwot for 17 years. "Plus, it'll be nice to have spaces for students to hang out socially and work together."

Before the construction, students would meet with their friends in the commons, library, and senior pit, an open space two steps down from the rest of the level, surrounded by lockers. While the area wasn't very large, it was a popular place to hang out. Now, the lockers have been removed and the floor has been leveled out, so there's an empty space where the senior pit once was.

As a replacement, cascading, modern stairs are being constructed. This installment will function more like terraces than stairs, because there will be different structures for students to sit on. There will also be out-

lets so students can charge their technology. The administration hopes that students will utilize this area as a place to meet during lunch, off blocks, and passing periods. However, the project won't be complete until the end of the school year, and with the with the library also under construction, the hall-

ways and cafeteria are bound to remain crowded for now.

MacKenzie Demmel is a Niwot High student who is thrilled about the changes taking place. She hopes to have a construction-free school by the time she graduates, but until then, it's exciting to see the improvements being made.

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SPORTS

Niwot runs over George Washington in impressive season opener



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior running back Liam Flanagan (26) returned the opening kick off for 27 yards, the first of his 252 all-purpose yards in Niwot's win over George Washington on Aug. 30

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

What a difference a year makes.

In 2018, the Niwot offense

couldn't get much going against the George Washington Patriots and limped home after a 36-0 shutout that saw less than 150 yards combined rushing and passing. In 2019,

against the same team with largely the same players, the Cougars racked up more than 300 yards and scored four rushing touchdowns in their best offensive performance of the past three years. So what changed in the last twelve months? According to just about everyone in attendance, including the player responsible for most of those offensive yards, "It was all the linemen."

"It's just 10 times different this year," senior running back Liam Flanagan said after rushing for a career best 210 yards and three touchdowns in Niwot's 30-18 win over the Patriots on Aug. 30. "We all

play together, and it's more of like a family bond. I just felt so much of a difference, and it's all thanks to the linemen."

That was also the assessment of senior Jovani Lopez, who moved to fullback from center this season, and scored his first career touchdown in the third quarter. He ended the game with 36 yards on four carries.

"It felt amazing, but I couldn't have done it without my friend Erick Fernandez, one of the linemen. Actually, all of the linemen. I couldn't have done it without them."

For third-year head coach Jeremy Lanter, the play of his

offensive line was just one of the highlights of what he called "our best football since I've been here."

"Our kids were excited, even in the momentum dips, they never really lost control of themselves, so I'm pretty proud about that. We still need to focus on some of the penalties that we're having, but we have a young group of kids—we started two sophomores, one on offense, and one on defense—and they performed beautifully."

It wasn't a perfect game, but Lanter couldn't find much

Continued on Page 14

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FLAGSTAFF
ACADEMY

Niwot tops Brighton in season opener



Photo by Jocelyn Rowley

Senior Manny Soto uses his head in Niwot's 2-1 win over Brighton in the 2019 season opener on Aug. 27.

By JOCELYN ROWLEY
Editorial@lhvc.com

Senior Jared Osteen didn't wait very long to make his mark on the 2019 season. With just 90 seconds gone in Niwot's season debut against Brighton,

the forward found some open space in front of the Bulldogs' net for the Cougars' first score of the year. He would go on to add an assist in the second half, and ended the game with

Continued on Page 16

NIWOT HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE

EVENT NOTICE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

**Parade is from
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**ROAD CLOSINGS
4:00 - 5:00 p.m**

- Niwot Road from Cottonwood Square to 2nd Avenue
- 2nd Avenue from Niwot Road to Murray Street.
- Detour Routes at each intersection will be clearly marked

**Niwot High School Student Council
nhs.svvsd.org**

STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Preston Lee



Courtesy Photo

Preston Lee started an initiative called Kleats For Kids, last year when he was a student at Niwot Elementary School. He collected 75 pairs of cleats to send to children in Uganda, and plans to continue his efforts this year at NES and Sunset Middle School where he is now a student.

By VICKY DORVEE
Editorial@lhvc.com

Knowing children in Uganda were playing soccer barefoot, and in some instances with only one cleat, was not acceptable to Preston Lee, so he launched a project to remedy the situation. Called Kleats for Kids, Lee's initiative was inspired by Niwot Elementary School teacher Dale Peterson and the Mwebaza Foundation, an organization that has its roots at NES.

"My dad travels a lot for work," Lee said, "and on one of his travels he got some pictures of kids without cleats or with just one cleat, and that really moved me to get some cleats and donate them to those kids who don't have them."

Lee, a soccer player since the age of three, knew he could make a difference for children thousands of

miles away because he had been involved with Mwebaza Foundation which, with help from NES students and parents, has helped students in Africa with building schools and supplying learning materials, food, and hygiene needs. This past summer, Peterson hand delivered 75 pairs of cleats collected by Lee.

Lee began the project last August when he was a fifth-grader at NES. The first step was to create an Instagram account, kleats_for_kids. Next, he got a "good box" to put near the office at NES. He created flyers requesting donated cleats and put them up around the school and then began making announcements to the entire school to get them excited about the cleat drive.

It started out a bit slow, Lee said. A month went by, but the box remained empty. Lee kept making announcements and

one day the first pair of donated cleats appeared in the box.

"That was a very happy day," he said. More and more cleats started showing up, until the box "exploded."

Peterson's connection through Mwebaza made it possible to get the cleats to children in Uganda this summer.

"It was absolutely amazing," Lee said of the photos he got showing the kids in Uganda wearing the cleats he'd collected. "I was so excited about it...it almost made me cry that all my hard work finally got to them."

"Preston is a shining example of what the Mwebaza Foundation is all about," Peterson said. "It is our hope to inspire kids to make a positive change in their world, whether here in Colorado or somewhere else in the world. Preston saw a need, and took the initiative. We have no doubt that Preston will continue to do such noble and generous acts in the future, and will inspire others to do so as well."

Lee, now a sixth-grader at Sunset Middle School, said he's hoping to collect even more cleats this year and "maybe even double the amount."

"One of these years I want to go with the cleats over to Mwebaza or any of the other countries I donate to and play soccer with them," Lee said.

Cleat collection boxes are located at both Niwot Elementary School (8778 Morton Rd, Niwot) and Sunset Middle School (1300 S. Sunset St., Longmont) and anyone may bring donations of gently used cleats. To learn more about Mwebaza Foundation, visit www.Mwebaza.org.



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FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 12

to criticize in Niwot's performance on either side of the ball. Flanagan took the opening kick-off for 27 yards to set up a long Niwot drive that didn't result in points, but did set the stage for a dominant rushing performance. Flanagan would get the ball repeatedly in the Cougars' first two possessions, and finally put his team on the board with a five-yard scramble in the opening seconds of the second quarter. A successful two-point conversion gave Niwot an 8-0 lead.

A lightning delay sent both teams inside with five minutes remaining in the half, but not before a George Washington rushing touchdown made the score 8-6. Back on the field, senior Matt Bitterman intercepted a Patriots pass,

but the Cougars couldn't convert it into points, and the half ended with Niwot up by two.

George Washington rattled off a big run early in the third, then punched it in from the 1-yd line to go ahead 12-8, but Niwot's ground game proved too much for the Patriots after that. Lopez scored the go ahead touchdown late in the quarter, and then Flanagan finished them off in the fourth, helped by a timely interception and 48-yard return by sophomore Easten Leatherwood. The Cougars went on to win 30-18, and were mobbed on the field by an ecstatic home crowd.

Afterwards, Lanter said he would have preferred a more balanced attack on offense, but, by the end of the first quarter, it was clear the Patriots didn't have much of an answer for the Cougars' running attack.

"Our goal is always to be

50/50. However, when we can get anything between three to eight yards per running play, then we have to run the ball. I think we saw early on that we could do that. Liam started off pretty hot, and Dylan Sims stepped in there and did well."

The Cougars ended the night with 303 yards on 44 carries, their highest total since 2016. To be sure, Flanagan bore most of the load, but he was well supported by Lopez, and juniors Sims (6-for-26) and Isaac Fisk (3-for-28). But Lanter was also quick to point out that they owed most of their success to the other supporting cast members.

"There's not a lot of returning experience on our offensive line. Zach Coblentz is back. ... We have a sophomore, Matt Duncan, starting at center; we have Charlie Herring, who played a little

bit for us last year due to injury and played really well tonight; and then James Cummins, who was kind of on fire tonight and did a great job for us."

That meant a fairly quiet night for junior quarterback Ayden Bartko, at least in the air. He converted on three of Niwot's four two-point attempts, and ended the night with 28 yards on five passes, the longest an eight-yard bootleg to Flanagan, who led Niwot in receiving (15 yards). Fisk and Julian Bell also caught passes.

While the offense was making headlines, Niwot's defense also had one of its best performances of the Jeremy Lanter era. Though the Patriots did have a handful of big plays on the ground and in the air, the Cougars were clearly more efficient at the line and showed more speed on the outside.

"We were tackling well tonight," he said. "Our kids were doing a good job of breaking down, and I was just excited that we didn't see a whole lot of heads at the point of attack, where your risk of injury goes up. Our kids were very disciplined about breaking feet down, wrapping up legs, and making sure they kept their heads out of the game. That was awesome."

Lanter credited his new defensive coordinator and younger brother Link Lanter, who previously helmed the defense at Roosevelt.

"His energy and his enthusiasm brings a lot to what we do, and there's a reason he was nominated for Assistant Coach of the Year last year. It would be silly for me to think that that wasn't a huge influence."

Though penalties remain a concern for the coach, the Cougars committed fewer drive-killing infractions than in the past. They also avoided the turnover bug that has been a problem for Lanter's Cougars over the past two seasons. Niwot's kicking game is also still a work in progress, but Lanter said he felt, "really good about our two-point conversion game."

Of course, one win does not a season make, and Lanter was hesitant to project too far ahead into the season. For now, he is looking ahead to the upcoming game against Greeley Central and eager to see how the lessons from the win payoff against a tougher opponent.

"I hope it builds the confidence of our kids, having a win right off the bat. I don't think it changes what our goals are or what our mission and purpose are. I think confidence is growing, and I'd rather ride confidence."

Niwot 30, George Washington 18
 Cougars (1-0) 0 8 6 16-30
 Patriots (0-1) 0 6 6 6-18
 Niwot Individuals
 Rushing—Flanagan 30-210-3, Lopez 4-36-1, Fisk 3-28, Sims 6-26
 Passing—Bartko 5-8-28, Fisk 0-1-0
 Receiving—Flanagan 2-15, Bell 1-8, Fisk 1-8

NHS SPORTS
 SCHEDULE
 SEPTEMBER 4 - 13

Wednesday, Sept. 4
 3:30 p.m. — Boys tennis @ Centaurus
 6 p.m. — Gymnastics vs. Elizabeth

Thursday, Sept. 5
 Noon — Boys golf @ Highland Hills
 3:30 p.m. — Softball vs. George Washington
 4 p.m. — Boys soccer vs. Skyview

Friday, Sept. 6
 7 p.m. Football @ Greeley Central

Saturday, Sept. 7
 8:30 a.m. - Cross Country @ Liberty Bell Invite

Monday, Sept. 9
 3:30 p.m. - Boys tennis vs Dawson

Tuesday, Sept. 10
 11:30 a.m. - Boys golf @ Ute Creek
 4 p.m. - Softball vs Greeley Central
 4 p.m. - Boys soccer vs. Skyline
 6 p.m. - Volleyball vs. Centaurus

Wednesday, Sept. 11
 3:30 p.m. - Boys tennis vs Mullen

Thursday, Sept. 12
 8:30 a.m. - Boys golf @ Estes Park
 3:30 p.m. - Boys tennis vs Silver Creek
 3:30 p.m. - Softball @ Mtn View
 4 p.m. - Boys soccer @ Legacy
 6 p.m. - Volleyball vs. Centaurus

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Homecoming parade returns to Niwot

By Bruce Warren
Editorial@lhvc.com

After a one-year hiatus, the Niwot High School Homecoming parade returns to downtown Niwot on Thursday, Sept. 12. The parade, featuring floats, marching bands and high school royalty, will begin at 4 p.m. at the intersection of

Murray Street and 2nd Avenue and proceed down 2nd Avenue to Cottonwood Square. Those streets will be closed for one hour.

The Homecoming football game will be played Friday night, Sept. 13, at Everly-Montgomery Field in Longmont, but the parade is scheduled for the day before to allow the football

team to participate.

NHS Student Council advisor Michelle Rickley and Student Council President Natalie Storz are heading up the arrangements for the event. The king and queen will be crowned at halftime of the football game Friday against Fort Lupton.

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SOCCER

Continued from Page 13

a total of eight shots, five of those on goal. Afterwards, fourth-year head coach Stephen Dimit said he expects Osteen to embrace his leading role on offense.

“He had a good summer and I think the game slowed down for him,” Dimit said following the team’s 2-1 win in the opener. “He’s been going great things in practices and now in the game.”

Led by Osteen, Niwot’s offense didn’t seem to suffer much in the way of opening night jitters. The Cougars dominated possession in both halves, and ended with 24 total shots, including the game winner by senior Ethan Hansen in the second half on what Dimit called, “our simplest play.”

Though not many of their other shots turned into goals, Dimit was largely pleased with the team’s attack.

“Our shot finishing can definitely improve, but we moved the ball really well. Overall, I think I pass count is going to be astronomical. It was good, and, like I told the guys, we get to learn a bunch of stuff after a win.”

He was also heartened by the play of the defense, which allowed just a handful of shots on goal. Unfortunately, one of those was a Brighton penalty kick in the 70th minute that forestalled a Niwot shutout. Nonetheless, Dimit felt that his team’s backfield turned in a solid performance.

“Those five have played together for a full year now, and we’re fortunate to basically have five starters in four starting positions,” he said. “They’re really comfortable together, and Carter [Kruse] had an outstanding day.”

Unfortunately, the Cougars weren’t able to capitalize on their momentum coming out of Brighton, and fell to defending state champions Air Academy 4-1 on Aug. 30. The Cougars will be back in action against Skyview on Sept. 5.

8/27--Niwot 2, Brighton 1
Bulldogs (0-1) 0 1—1
Cougars (1-0) 1 1—2
Goals — Osteen, Hansen
Assists — Osteen, Stobbe
Goalies (Min-Goals Allowed-Saves) — P. Rodriguez (70-0), J. Amaya (10-1)