



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 115 — NO. 20, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

## Proposed Jackson Mountain gravel pit raises concerns

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 2, the San Juan National Forest's Pagosa Ranger District held an open house on the proposed Jackson Mountain project.

Plans for the area, northeast of town, include the creation of mountain bike trails, expanding the multiuse trail system, additional parking and trailhead areas, fuels reduction and vegetation management, and a noncommercial gravel mining operation.

The open house event was a chance for the public to interact with officials and view maps and plans on the project.

The event was part of the "public scoping" period, ending Feb. 23, in which the San Juan National Forest's Pagosa Ranger District is accepting public input, which will ultimately help shape the district's final decision on the scope of activities on Jackson Mountain.

A fact sheet distributed at the event notes the Forest

Service's decision on the gravel pit will likely be kept separate from its decisions on the recreational and forest management portions of the project.

Mountain bike and outdoor enthusiasts showed up to support the new mountain bike trail system, which includes green to black trail difficulty ratings similar to ski areas; currently, the bike trails in the area are unmanaged. On the other hand, many showed up to express concern about the gravel pit portion of the plans.

According to the fact sheet, published by the county and Forest Service, both entities say that a gravel pit, in this central location, will serve a critical need since there are currently no local sources of gravel in the immediate Pagosa Springs area. As a noncommercial gravel mine, the materials would be for the exclusive use of the county and Forest Service.

The county maintains about 300 miles of gravel roads and also uses gravel for paved road shoulders and pave-

■ See Gravel A8

## On to State!



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Five Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swimmers will take part in the state championships Friday and Saturday in Thornton. From left to right are Ivanna Erne, Karis Blackman, Lynelle Bartz, Evelyn Rose and Emma Gantt. For more information, see related story.



Photo courtesy Rebecca Aucoin

Above: Coach Wes Lewis, center, poses with the Pirate basketball team after his 300th win as a high school varsity coach. Below: Lewis coaching over the years.

# 300 wins

## Wes Lewis logs 300th varsity coaching win

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

When the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) boys' basketball team defeated the Ignacio Bobcats on Feb. 3 in Ignacio, coach Wes Lewis hit a new milestone in his coaching career: 300 wins.

The 300th win came in Lewis' 16th year of coaching PSHS varsity basketball teams.

PSHS Principal Sean O'Donnell called the feat "phenomenal."

"For him to accomplish that in 15 years, he had to average 20 wins a season to do that. That's phenomenal," O'Donnell said.

As of Wednesday, Lewis' career coaching record for Colorado high school basketball is 300-74, meaning Lewis' teams have won 80 percent of their games.

"It's an amazing feat," assistant coach Yul Wilson said. "He's done it for a long, long time and done a lot of good things. He's deserving of it, for sure. He's coached a lot of good teams here and we're all happy for him and

**By the numbers**  
Record: 300-74  
Win percentage: 80%  
State championships: 1  
Great 8 appearances: 9  
Postseason appearances: 14

proud of him."

That also includes nine Final Four appearances with the Lady Pirate basketball team and a state championship.

"There's a common denominator there," O'Donnell said.

O'Donnell also pointed out that Lewis was able to accomplish the feat with homegrown talent, pointing out that, in some of the state's metro areas, student athletes can choose their school based on successful programs.

"To do that here with homegrown talent and to average 20 ... wins a year is pretty phenomenal," he said. "It's been really fun. You know, I've known Wes for a long, long time; it's been fun to watch him grow as a coach."

O'Donnell also relayed that he remembered when Lewis first

■ See 300 A8



SUN photos/Randi Pierce and Mike Pierce

## County creates health advisory committees, appoints members

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

This week, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved the creation of a Volunteer Transitional Advisory Committee for the county public health department as well as an Internal Transitional Health Department Oversight Committee and appointed members to both committees.

Both committees were created at a Feb. 6 BoCC special meeting.

Prior to approving the creation of the oversight committee, the BoCC heard from County Manager Derek

Woodman, who explained that the oversight committee was formed to oversee the separate volunteer citizen committee, which will develop the structure, regulations and programs for the new health department.

He also stated that the oversight committee would include the county manager, the county attorney, the human resources director, finance director and county paralegal.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented before the vote that this is an "appropriate step."

The BoCC then moved on to dis-

■ See Health A8

## Community Award winners announced

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce



Swindlehurst



Scott

Every year, the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce accepts nominations from the public to honor people and organizations in our town that bring so much to the success and vibrancy of our community. Successful businesses and nonprofit agencies add economic value and services that our community depends on.

The Volunteer of the Year and Citizen of the Year nominees and award winners contribute countless hours of time and often finan-

cial support to the betterment of the lives and services offered to county residents. Following are the nominees in each category and the winners. Just to be nominated is an honor and all are winners in the eyes of those who are on the receiving end of their contributions.

The Non-profit of the Year nominees were Aspen House and Aspen Services and Vets for Vets, with the nonprofit winner chosen being Vets for Vets. Aspen House has been in service seven years and was created to help people with developmental

■ See Winners A8

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# Opinion

## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Best Public Service Project  
Best Photo Essay

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2/3	45	5	-	-	-
2/4	44	8	-	-	-
2/5	48	12	-	-	-
2/6	36	14	-	-	-

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### OUR VIEW

## What do you love?

The month of February doesn't just bring out the groundhog to predict when winter will end; it also brings out feelings of love.

There are plenty of things we love that have crossed our paths and desks at the newspaper office this week.

We love how Pagosa Springs High School's swim team members have qualified for state. These young women have worked hard for this opportunity to represent our community at the next level of competition.

We love that coach Wes Lewis has netted 300 wins in his coaching career with Archuleta School District. There are numerous athletes that have benefitted from Lewis' skill and expertise.

We love attending our local basketball games and encourage you to join us and enjoy the games on Saturday. The girls play at 4 p.m. and the boys play at 5:30 against Montezuma-Cortez.

We love seeing the support given to Build Pagosa from our local public entities. This group has big goals and its commitment to our local youth is commendable.

We love seeing the county acknowledge the road and bridge crew at this week's meeting. Seeing them receive recognition for keeping our roads open during winter storms and throughout the year was perfect. Too often, we do not see the faces of those who do the thankless work in our community.

We love having another book sale coming up at the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library on Saturday. The Friends of the Library will host a Cabin Fever Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., which gives you enough time to make the sale

before you head out to the basketball game, which will be held just down the street.

We love that the students participating in Our Savior Lutheran School's Drama Club will be presenting an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" in the school's gymnasium on Friday, Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m. The performance is free to the public, with donations to support the program welcome.

We love that Rise Above Violence is focusing on uplifting healthy relationships during February's Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

We love our local Stargazers for focusing on our skies and hosting sky viewing opportunities for all of us.

We love the Senior Center providing meals and activities for our locals, including a new group that will be holding a series of "senior conversations" beginning this month. Bill Salmansohn will lead a mindfulness exercise and discussion of various topics pertaining to aging in Archuleta County.

We love Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies keeping us apprised of all things bird-related, including the popular Bird of the Week in the newspaper.

We love the community award winners featured on the front page of this week's paper. There are so many citizens deserving of recognition for their giving and unselfish ways.

We love it when community members get involved. Our friends and neighbors are what makes this town operate. Our boards and councils commit countless unpaid hours toward the betterment and success of the town

and county.

We also love hearing town council members discussing conflict of interest and how to make sure there is not a real or perceived conflict at meetings. We applaud those who disclosed involvement in organizations and those who recused themselves when they felt it was the appropriate thing to do. This council does it right by actually leaving the meeting when they recuse themselves from an issue.

We also appreciate the county commissioners voicing the need to be more transparent and discuss matters in public. This goes a long way toward building trust with constituents.

We love that the girl at the pet store offered to carry out a huge bag of dog food when we were not feeling the greatest and put it in the car while adoring Huckleberry the hound dog and offering him a treat.

We love that the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs called to check on Huckleberry over the weekend.

We love that we are still in many ways a small town.

We love seeing the quality of individuals who have stepped forward to serve with standing up a health department for Archuleta County. Seeing this process moving forward with dependable, capable and dedicated community volunteers makes us breathe a sigh of relief after months of uncertainty. We also love that the interviewing process developed by the county is open and transparent.

These are just a few of the things we love about living here. What do you love?

Terri Lynn Oldham House

### LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

## 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
February 9, 1923

After having been shut down for several months, the Shields' sawmill, resumed sawing yesterday morning. Logging has been in progress during the interim and several thousand logs have been banked, thus assuring daily operation of the mill for some time to come. Luke Rock, former sawyer of the Pagosa Lumber company at South Pagosa, arrived in this city last Friday evening with his family from Dulce to accept the position of sawyer at the mill.

While coasting down Reservoir hill on a toboggan with three others Monday evening, W.E. Nickell suffered a fracture of both bones of the left leg, about four inches above the ankle. None of the other occupants of the toboggan were injured in the spill at the foot of the hill, and in just what manner Mr. Nickell sustained the broken limb is unknown. He was removed to his home at the Springs hotel, where he is progressing nicely.

A quilting bee was held Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Teeson by the ladies of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, there being twenty members and friends in attendance.

## 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
February 13, 1948

The weatherman hauled off and dropped more than two feet of snow on Pagosa Springs during the last few days.

Starting Monday night, the snow fell almost without interruption until Thursday morning, with 27 inches of new snow covering town, when the skies cleared and the mercury dropped.

Blanco Basin residents reported more than three feet of new snow in that area, and on Wolf Creek Pass the total snowfall passed the 108-inch mark.

Snowplows kept the main roads cleared throughout the storm. The county plow in the Piedra area was reported to have overturned late Wednesday.

Three representatives of the Town Board left Wednesday for San Diego, Calif., where they will inspect a fire truck being offered for sale.

Harvey J. Catchpole and E.B. Evans, both board members, and Jim Moorehead, Pagosa garage operator, made the trip. Funds for the possible purchase were underwritten personally by board members, pending requisition of money by the town for that purpose, according to Mayor R.C. Connelley.

## 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
February 8, 1973

Coach Ron Shaw and nine Pagosa Pirate wrestlers departed for Greeley on Wednesday of this week for the state wrestling tournament. The tournament runs Thursday through Saturday. The nine wrestlers won their way to the state tournament by winning at the district tournament in Norwood last weekend. Gilbert Perea, of the Pirate squad, was named the most valuable wrestler in the district tournament.

A snowstorm moved into the area early Tuesday and dumped several inches of wet, heavy snow on the countryside. The fall seemed to vary greatly from locality to locality but generally speaking about eight inches fell in and near the town. Late Wednesday the storm had not entirely moved out of the area, but it was questionable whether or not there would be more snow Wednesday night.

## 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
February 12, 1998

Improving the reading and writing skills of students in kindergarten through third grade headed the nine goals the directors of School District 50 Joint adopted for 1998-99 during their regular board meeting Tuesday night.

Superintendent Terry Alley said the board is committed to providing the "necessary resources" to enhance the district's reading and writing program, and that the district will conduct an evaluation of the elementary school's Spalding program — "a phonics-based reading program adopted about five years ago."

Archuleta County Commissioners are advertising for a civil engineer, a position funded in the county budget for the first time this year.

"We have had the idea in the back of our minds for several years," said Bill Tallon, chairman of the board of county commissioners. "Because of growth in the county and the kinds of decisions we have to make every day, we feel the time has come when we have to act."

### LOOKING BACK



Taken from  
The Pagosa Springs SUN files  
from Nov. 7, 1985

COOPERATIVE PROGRESS — Aspen Springs Property Owners Assoc. President Bob Schroeder, center, gladly accepts a pen from Al Rozman, second from right, to sign inter-governmental contracts forming a County Road Improvement District, as engineer Dean Gordon looks on. County Commissioner Vic Poma, back to camera left, and County Planning Administrator Fred Ebeling, far right, check to see all the documents are complete.

### YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

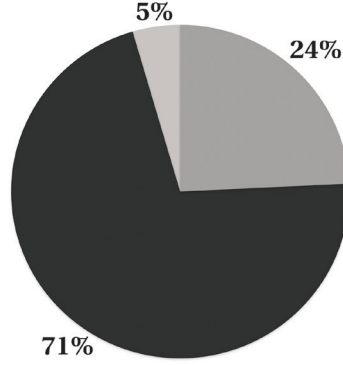
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## WHADDYA THINK?

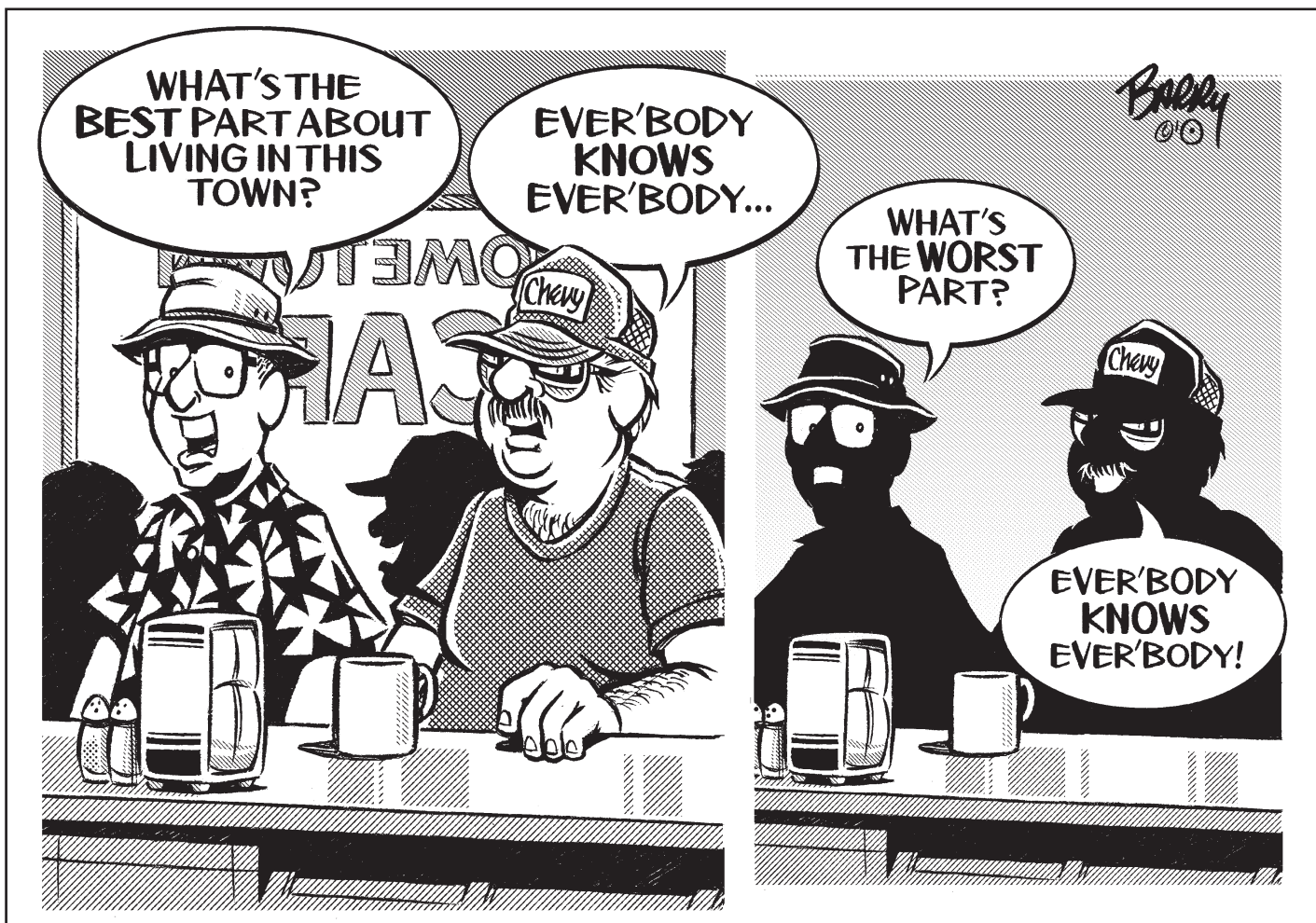
Should the sheriff's office post booking photos and arrest information to its Facebook page?

Poll results (132 votes)

Yes. — 24 percent  
No. — 71 percent  
I do not know. — 5 percent



Vote this week online:  
Should the tourism board save up to build an event center and recreation center?  
www.pagosasun.com



WHAT'S THE BEST PART ABOUT LIVING IN THIS TOWN?

EVER'BODY KNOWS EVER'BODY...

WHAT'S THE WORST PART?

EVER'BODY KNOWS EVER'BODY!

Barry



# Letters

Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but may have been edited for content or style.

Letters to the Editor are opinions and information in them has not been verified for accuracy.

The opinions of letter writers do not necessarily represent those of the paper.

## Gravel pit near residential area

Dear Editor:  
Once again the Archuleta County and the National Forest Service (NFS) are proposing to create a Gravel Mine/Pit near a residential area. This time it's on Jackson Mountain near the San Juan River Village. The mine will be just 1900 feet from the nearest home. That's about the distance from Natural Grocers to the Root House Coffee Shop. Given the thousands of acres of land the NSF controls surely they could find a better option.

What's even more confusing it the plan to have this mining operation co-exist with a proposed mountain bike trail system. The NFS is planning to develop a trail system on Jackson Mountain to allow those who enjoy the sport of mountain biking a place to ride. The problem with this plan is access to these trails will share the same road used by the dump trucks coming and going to and from the gravel mine.

There are many problems with this proposal. Noise from the rock crusher and mining operations. Dump truck traffic turning onto Jackson Mountain road from Highway 160 and vice versa. However; the most significant issue for both residents and bikers is the dust from the truck traffic and the mining operation itself. It's not just a matter of a little dust in the air that will collect on surfaces in our homes, or having dust kicked up in front of you by dump truck. It's what's in the dust we will be breathing. There are minerals like silica dust that are produced during rock crushing operations that can be hazardous to humans and other animals.

Help us stop this proposed gravel mine. For more information and to help us fight this proposal, go to <https://www.stopthejacksonmntnpit.com>

David Harper

## Firearm Safety vs. Alec Baldwin

Dear Editor:  
Alec Baldwin continues to deny his responsibility for the death of Halyn Hutchins on the Rust movie set in New Mexico. His denials are shown to be false in a YouTube episode at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0v8qrPKFMYs> based on an NBC News referred to in the YouTube episode.

A good place to find firearm safety rules is The Firearms Industry Trade Association -- [www.nssf.org/safety/rules-firearm-safety/](http://www.nssf.org/safety/rules-firearm-safety/)

A list of organizations that publish firearm safety rules can be found at [www.wikihow.com/Handle-a-Firearm-Safely](http://www.wikihow.com/Handle-a-Firearm-Safely). Because there is a list of organizations and questions answered, I recommend you start with wikiHow.

If Alec Baldwin had read just one of the list of rules and just the first two or three rules on the lists and followed those rules, Halyn Hutchins would be alive today. Hopefully no one will actually believe what he has said.

William L. Hubbard

## 'Dangerous plan'

Dear Editor:  
The Jackson Mountain Gravel Pit is a poorly thought-out and dangerous plan.

Having been in the trucking industry for over twenty years, I can say with certainty that gravel trucks and mountain bikes don't mix. Dump trucks and semis have a clear disadvantage compared to normal cars when it comes to visibility. A truck driver's elevation can make it difficult for him to see hikers and bikers that are below his eye level.

The Jackson Mountain Road-160 intersection is an already dangerous one. Adding a continuous stream of dump truck traffic will undoubtedly increase accidents. This is a safety concern not only for the hikers, mountain bikers, and residents of nearby neighbor-

hoods, but for anyone who travels the 160 corridor.

Please sign the petition against this project at <https://www.stopthejacksonmntnpit.com>.

Sean Letts

## Gravel pit misinformation effort

Dear Editor:  
I attended the USFS February 2, 2023 "Jackson Mountain Landscape Project Open House" on February 2nd. Was it a: Misinformation effort without accountability?

Archuleta County Taxpayers will pay for nearly everything associated with the Gravel mine. County officials will tell you "We currently pay 5X material costs" in hauling from Arboles. A cost-benefit analysis study has not been conducted or shared with the public to show these current hauling costs are less or more than Archuleta County may be paying for: Hauling from Jackson Mountain, Mine development, Mine maintenance, Mine operation, Contractor costs, diesel generators for power, forest road improvements, CDOT required safety improvements at US160 & FR37 intersection (acceleration & deceleration lanes, e.g.) air quality, water quality, noise and environmental studies, etc.,

The USFS Open House format was trade show style (one table for gravel mine, trail system, wildlife, etc.), ostensibly to avoid a Q&A session where citizens could hear all questions, and answers from USFS and other officials. This format allowed only small groups at each table to engage USFS with their questions. Is this to limit digestion of information and make challenging any public record? The format does not support accountability and full transparency. Why did the USFS not hold a community Q&A forum that would allow for true input and questions from the public and allow for public record?

During conversation with me and others at the event, one county commissioner stated: "We've considered three sites in two years" "We have an urgent need for gravel" "The Mountain Bike trail system should be put on hold" "We need to secure a new source of gravel,

the current hauling costs are too expensive" "I'm not married to the Jackson Mountain Site". Perhaps county taxpayers think a greater number of sites need consideration and alternates "on the bench" should this mine not go forward, especially those that do not industrialize a pristine mountain recreation area.

Wastline Inc., the Archuleta County mine project consultant since 2021 originally estimated in July 2022 (written report to County and reviewed by USFS) that 1500 round trip dump truck movements on Jackson Mountain roads (a dump truck every 24 minutes, every single weekday on FR37) will occur.

At the USFS open house Wastline was telling citizens that only five trucks per day would be required..... until their own July 2022 report was shown to them and they apologized for their misleading folks. They then, surprisingly, added that "More recent estimates may increase the need to 2000 round trips".

BTW - (How many Government projects get "smaller" once they start? .... None, methinks).

Any questions concerning environment impact, traffic safety impact, forest visitor safety, etc., etc. were met with "we have no reason for concern" - All without any formal studies on these matters published for public consumption. How will the USFS and Archuleta County substantiate these positions without any formal study to reflect upon?

Register your opinion (the only official place) here: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=61809>

Learn more here: <https://www.stopthejacksonmntnpit.com/>

Dave OKeefe

## ACDP meeting

Dear Editor:  
The Archuleta County Democratic Party (ACDP) will conduct its biennial Reorganization Meeting on Monday, February 13. The meeting will be held virtually using Zoom, starting at 7:00 pm. Colorado Revised Statute 1-3-103(1) (c) requires each County Central Committee of both parties to meet

■ See Letters A4



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### Letters

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All letters must:  
be submitted electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted, must not be in all capitals include the author's actual name, phone number and address  
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-Ane J., Google



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# Goals & Accomplishments Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

## Jim Smith, Board Chairman and President



### What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2022?

In early 2022, PAWSD entered into a contract with Renee Lewis, former PAWSD manager, to write grants for PAWSD. Renee was very successful and secured over \$400,000 grant funds for PAWSD and its customers.

PAWSD's board approved its annual audit. Ronny Farmer, R Farmer LLC, performed the audit and stated it was a good year. Mr. Farmer felt PAWSD was in a better financial position at the end of 2021, then at the end of 2020.

PAWSD's board approved its 2023 budget and a loan agreement for

\$38,444,000 for the rebuilding cost of the Snowball Water Treatment Plant.

### What are your three top goals for 2023?

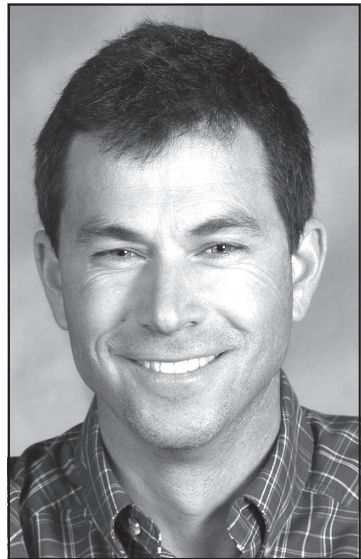
#### What is your action plan to meet your goals?

Appoint Renee Lewis as the designated election official for PAWSD's May, 2023 election, and renew her contract to continue writing and applying for grants for benefit of PAWSD.

My future with PAWSD will end in May as I am term limited. I have had the privilege of working with excellent board members and outstanding employees who serve PAWSD customers.

PAWSD has many challenges facing it due to unfunded mandates by State and Federal regulations. I believe the future PAWSD board and its employees are up to the challenge in order to continue providing outstanding service to its customers.

## Justin Ramsey, District Manager



### What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2022?

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District's (PAWSD) three biggest accomplishments for 2022 were:

1. PAWSD has continued to upgrade infrastructure to reduce water loss, sewer inflow and infiltration and reduce energy costs. Part of the infrastructure upgrades are enhanced communication at multiple remote facilities which decreases downtime and allows PAWSD to remotely monitor these facilities.

2. Our community continues to see growth and development throughout the district boundaries. PAWSD continues to provide delivery of safe drinking water and collection,

treatment and dispersal of generated wastewater. Water use and wastewater generation has been steadily increasing since 2015. PAWSD is keeping pace with these additional needs.

3. PAWSD continues to move forward with the design of a new Snowball Water Treatment Plant. Construction plans have been completed and a construction management at risk contractor has been hired. PAWSD has received a 38,000,000 State Revolving Fund Loan and will likely receive \$5,000,000 in principal forgiveness.

### What are your three top goals for 2023?

1. PAWSD is a quasi-governmental organization which receives funding through mill levies attached to properties within the District boundaries and through the sale of water delivery and wastewater

collection and treatment. In 2016 PAWSD on behalf of PAWSD clients re-established TABOR which limits mill levy increases to property owners. An unintended consequence of this was it also limits PAWSD's ability to acquire state grant funding. Due to some state and federally mandated regulations PAWSD will need to spend several million dollars on capital improvements. To take advantage of some of the current grant opportunities PAWSD will be asking voters to rescind a portion of the TABOR requirements. We will hold in place the property tax limitations but ask to rescind the limitations on grant limitations. By removing the grant limitations it will enable PAWSD to apply and receive grants thus allowing us to meet our regulatory requirements with minimal rate increases.

2. PAWSD will upgrade lift station 7 located on the west bank of Pagosa Reservoir. The existing lift station was built in the early 70's and upgrades will assure continued safe use of the lift station, reduction in energy costs, minimizing impact to Lake Pagosa and neighboring properties.

3. PAWSD will develop a 20-year Capital Improvement Plan which will aid in the completion of a Rate Study. The Rate Study will assure PAWSD is adequately funded to meet regulatory mandates that will be extremely expensive to implement..

### What is your action plan to meet your goals?

1. PAWSD will ask the voters in 2023 to rescind a portion of TABOR to allow PAWSD to apply and receive unlimited grants to aid in the costs of the capital improvements being required by state and federal regulations.

2. PAWSD has hired a consultant to design the new lift station as well as develop a plan to line the sewer lines that run along the shore of Pagosa Reservoir. Lining the sewer line as opposed to pipeline replacement will shorten the construction time and reduce impacts to property owners along the lake.

3. PAWSD will hire a consultant to analyze operational costs, or 20-year capital investment plan and anticipated growth to develop a long term funding plan which will include water and sewer rate, capital investment fees, raw water acquisition fees and equity buy-in fees.

## Letters

### Continued from A3

in the odd numbered years to organize by selecting a chairperson, one or more vice-chairpersons, a treasurer, a secretary, and any other officers provided for by the county bylaws. In addition, participants will select a vacancy committee authorized to fill vacancies in the County Central Committee and elected offices held by Democrats, as well as delegates to higher level reorganization meetings. The meeting is open to all registered Democrats, but only members of the County Central Committee are eligible to vote. If you wish to participate, please visit archuleta-dems.org, where a link to registration is available. A Zoom link will be provided to registrants.

Nominations to any position will be accepted virtually from the floor. However, the person nominated must have a nominator and a seconder, one of whom must be a Central Committee member. Any Democrat registered in Archuleta County may run for any office. To facilitate meeting planning, persons interested in running for an office are asked to contact County Chair, Carl Young, at dems.archuleta@gmail.com. Note that we are particularly in need of candidates for County Party Secretary.

Participation by all county Democrats is encouraged in this vitally important meeting. This is your chance to influence the course of our party.

John Porco  
first vice chair, Archuleta County  
Democratic Party

### STR task force

Dear Editor:  
I've seen several letters lambasting the County Manager's creation of the Archuleta County STR (short-term rental) Task Force (TF). I am a member of that task force

and would like to put forth relevant information about what we have been doing since our first meeting in September. This letter is from me, not the TF.

The TF has been meeting at least every two weeks since September plus additional subgroup meetings because the workload became more complex and voluminous

than we were able to address in our biweekly two-hour meetings. To date, approximately 595 volunteer hours have been dedicated by this group of twelve members. The group, volunteers generated by the County Manager's solicitation via an ad in the local paper, represents cross sections of the community: affordable housing, retired resi-

dent, nonresident, STR neighbors, STR owner, school district, realtor, retail, HOA board, restaurant industry, tourism board, and STR property management. The twelve volunteers also bring expertise in many areas: accounting, IT, mathematics/AI, small business, policy development, technical writing, ■ See Letters A5

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# County planning commission approves new version of event center regulations

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Planning Commission unanimously approved a second version of changes to the Archuleta County Land Use Regulations (LUR) concerning event centers at its Jan. 25 meeting.

An earlier version of the event center regulations had been considered at the Nov. 15, 2022, Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting where the board had requested changes and voted to delay the approval of the regulations.

The regulations, included within the planning commission's meeting agenda, create a new use category for event centers, which are allowed as a use by right or a conditional use permit on properties zoned Agricultural/Forestry, Agricultural/Ranching and Agricultural/Estates and as a use by right in properties zoned Commercial.

The regulations state that any site that holds more than two special events per year will require an event center permit.

They also indicate that event center permits on a parcel larger

than 100 acres can be approved with a use by right review, whereas event center permits on a property smaller than 100 acres require a conditional use permit.

The regulations indicate that all event centers must be "of a scale and design compatible with the surrounding rural environment" and that structures, outdoor assembly areas and parking lots used for event centers must be set back a certain distance from existing residences on nearby property.

In the revised regulations initially presented to the commission and included in the agenda, this distance was 300 feet.

However, according to Development Director Pam Flowers in an interview with The SUN, at the meeting the commission agreed to expand these setbacks to 400 feet due to concerns about the impact of event centers on neighboring homes.

The regulations also state that event centers must comply with the county noise ordinance and that a noise study must be submitted with the application to demonstrate anticipated compliance.

The regulations indicate that a Level II Traffic Study must be submit-

ted with the application as well to determine the impact of the center on nearby roads and note that the applicant may be required to upgrade impacted roads to meet road and bridge design standards or to mitigate road impacts.

In the interview, Flowers explained that both these requirements indicated that the study must be done by a licensed Colorado engineer and that the planning commission decided to add the requirement that the engineer be qualified as well to perform these studies.

The regulations also indicate that the narrative submitted with the event center permit application must address the ability of the existing or proposed structures to comply with building and fire code requirements for public use, the ability to provide sanitation for the proposed use and supply water to the event center.

According to the regulations, the narrative must also include a management plan addressing the maximum capacity for event patrons and how this will be monitored or controlled, the anticipated frequency of events, the number of indoor and outdoor events expected, provisions

to apply dust abatement to public and private roads and driveways to mitigate impacts on neighboring properties, and plans to obtain a liquor license or permit if alcoholic beverages will be provided at events.

Flowers stated in the interview that the requirement for a management plan had been discussed at the planning commission meeting and its value in providing information to the Planning Department on potential conditions concerning hours of operation or other issues was highlighted.

In other news, according to Flowers, the planning commission appointed Richard Vihel to serve as chair, continuing his role from 2022, and appointed Mont McAlister to serve as vice chair.

Flowers stated that the commission also briefly discussed its vacancy following the resignation of Luke McCauley from the planning commission in 2022.

Flowers emphasized that the planning commission is taking applications for the position and that applications can be obtained from and submitted to County Administrative Assistant Jamie Jones.

josh@pagosahun.com

## Letters

Continued from A4

and the like. Because of our diversity and STR emotional nature, it has been a rewarding and productive challenge.

We have received and analyzed data from the County and other relevant third parties. Our initial focus has been to document the various STR related processes and provide recommendations to changes to the current rules and regulations hoping to reduce County costs and address major concerns regarding STR's impact on our communities while preserving the tax revenue stream that they provide.

Our work output, barring any unforeseen circumstances, will be submitted to the County Manager and published to the public within four to five weeks before the current STR moratorium ends. Thereafter, we plan to continue to work together in any way that we can to help provide input on this dynamically sensitive issue that impacts every cross section of the community.

I sincerely hope this clears up some of the misinformation and concerns that have been presented to your publication.

Anne Salemo

### 'Love always won'

Dear Editor:

The month of love, Valentine's Day. We celebrate many things over the year — religious holidays, birth of our nation, Thanksgiving, and "Love". Of course, love is intertwined in every celebration, but February is noted for its focus on nothing but love. It is a fun celebration for children, exchanging valentines at school, etc., while the elderly are focused on loving memories and that is "me".

It was in February, five years ago that my dear husband and I shared his final days with strong love. I have nothing but dear memories of our 72 years of marriage and it was during his final few months that the depth of his love for me shown brighter with every day. Yes, he needed me with him at all times which I never felt was a burden — he trusted me more than anyone else and his love for me out-shined our troubled days with joy in our hearts — very hard to put into words, one simply must experience it.

My parents died young, in their early fifties. I was very close to them and my Dad adored my husband, they were dear friends. It was Christmas time before my dear Bob left. I had said my daily prayers, was standing beside the kitchen sink, was feeling depressed. I became aware that someone was standing beside me. I turned and saw the outline of an image a little taller than me. In my mind, I believed it was my father and he came to say, "look at me, I am OK". I was never depressed again. I am sure he was there to welcome my sweetheart home. That was a spiritual experience I have never forgotten and I was never depressed again — my dear Bob left looking into my face with an expression of joy and peace as he squeezed my hand very hard. What a blessing. Sure, we had our "differences" now and then, over our young years, but love always won. Yes, I am sharing my faith with my readers who I dearly love and

appreciate. Happy Valentine's to all.  
Patty Tillerson

### Food assistance needed

Dear Editor:

The individuals and families participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will have a reduction in their food assistance benefits after February. How will they manage to feed their families? As we know, wages here are very modest, housing costs are high, and food prices continue to rise. All of us who are fortunate enough not to need assistance can help.

As described in the article in The Pagosa Sun on January 19, "Emergency additional SNAP benefits ending after February," the emergency allotment of temporary additional benefits that were available during the COVID-19 pandemic is ending. The emergency allotment brought all households up to the maximum allowable benefit for their household size. With the allotment ending, there will be an average reduction of \$90 per person per month. That's a loss of \$360 per month for a family of four.

What can we do to help? Donate food or money to the local food pantries or to Healthy Archuleta dba the FSIFE Food Coalition for Archuleta County (<https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/>, 401-206-4579, PO Box 3995, PS, CO) which works with all the food pantries. Indicate that you would like the donation to support the food pantries. They also have a donate button on the website.

The food pantries are listed on Healthy Archuleta website ([https://](https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/)

[www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/food-pantry-network.html](http://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/food-pantry-network.html).) The food pantries are Community United Methodist Church (970-264-5508, 434 Lewis St, PS, CO 81147) Amazing Grace Community Church in Aspen Springs (970-444-2111, 77 Navajo Circle, PS, CO 8147) TARA Community Center in Arboles (970-883-0017,) Pope John Paul II Catholic Church (970-731-5744,) St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (970-731-5801,) Restoration Fellowship Church (970-731-2937,) and Socorro Senior Housing (970-264-0460.) Some of them have a donate button on their website.

As a retired Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, I personally like to give canned/bottled: tuna, chicken, beef stew, pasta, pasta meat sauce, noodles and cream soups for casseroles, carrots, peas, corn, peas and carrots, pork and beans, canned or dried pinto or black beans, fruits in fruit juice, low sugar cereals, high protein cereals, and chicken or beef soups.

Donate to Archuleta Seniors, Inc. (Pagosa Senior Center, <http://www.psseniors.org/>, 970-264-2167, PO Box 3444, PS, CO 81147), which prepares a nutritious hot lunch 5 days a week for seniors 60+, and runs the Meals on Wheels Program. They also have a donate button on their website.

Loaves and Fishes is another community lunch service on Thursdays, currently as take-out at the Community United Methodist Church, that depends on the participation of various churches and community organizations. You can donate at their website <https://www.loavesandfishespagosa.org/> or mail to PO Box 5485, PS, CO 81147.

We live in a little bit of Heaven here, but for some it is a challenge. If you are fortunate enough to be able to live here comfortably, consider sharing some of your "fortune." Thank you to all who already give.  
Joan Yuhass Ward, Ph.D.

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# Black Hills Energy announces decrease in natural gas rates

## State announces new initiative to help lower costs

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 1, Black Hills Energy announced that, effective that day, the cost of its natural gas is going down.

Days later, Gov. Jared Polis announced that he directed state agencies to provide relief from high energy costs to Coloradans.

According to an email from Black Hills Energy Community Affairs Program Manager Jason Auslander, the lower cost of natural gas was approved by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) late last month.

"We understand the current economic pressures facing the communities we serve and want to focus on providing our customers with the lowest bills possible," a press release from the company states. "So, when the price of natural gas drops — as it has recently — we move as quickly as possible to pass those savings on to you."

The company explains that, depending on where you live in Colorado, bills are set to go down between \$0.04 and \$0.14 per therm, or between about 3 percent and 12 percent per month beginning on Feb. 1.

A table included with the press release shows that North/Southwest Region, which includes Archuleta County, had a currently average monthly bill of \$109.92, with a proposed average monthly bill of \$107.03. That \$2.89 decrease, which is based off an average usage of 66 therms, is a 2.63 percent decrease.

"The price of natural gas itself is known as a 'pass through cost,' meaning we make no money on it and our customers pay market rates and no more," the press release states.

The company notes it also continues to offer multiple options for those who need more help with their bills.

Then, on Monday, Feb. 6, Polis, along with Executive Director Will Toor of the Colorado Energy Office and Executive Director Patty Salazar of the Department of Regulatory Agencies, announced a new initiative directing state agencies and utilities to take action to provide relief from high energy costs for Colorado homes and businesses.

According to a press release from the state, the governor has directed the PUC, which regulates state utilities, and the Colorado Energy Office to implement several immediate actions to alleviate the natural gas energy burden on Coloradans.

"We must leave no stone unturned to save Coloradans money on utility bills," Polis said. "Coloradans need near-term and long-term relief on their energy bills and today I am laying out ways state entities and utilities can take action to help

save people money on their energy costs, to identify and implement opportunities to protect Colorado consumers, lower costs, and avoid price swings like the one we're experiencing now."

According to the press release, the governor also urged utilities to identify regulatory changes that could reduce customer costs due to natural gas price spikes; coordinate with state agencies and other organizations to increase access to bill pay assistance and other home energy efficiency programs; use federal tax credits to accelerate clean energy deployment; and explore financial arrangements and physical infrastructure to increase hedging, contracting or storage options for natural gas.

In his letter, Polis directed the PUC to take action including:

- Improving access to and capacity of bill pay assistance programs.
- Working with utilities to secure federal funding for programs targeting Colorado homes and businesses.
- Incentivizing utilities to reduce customer costs.
- Identifying potential utility actions related to gas contracting, financial hedging and gas storage; and educating consumers on energy conservation.
- Analyzing ways to limit bill spikes.
- Identifying ways to support consumers in the most dire circumstances, including outreach about payment options for those behind on their bills.
- Implementing new approaches to increase public engagement with utility issues at the PUC.

Polis directed the Colorado Energy Office to take action including:

- Expediting the creation of federally funded home energy rebate and other programs.
- Identifying new regulatory approaches and rate structures to align customer and utility conservation incentives.
- Implementing the state's building performance standards, which apply to many large multifamily residences to reduce utility bills.
- Consider establishing new statewide building energy codes and providing technical assistance to local governments adopting the codes, in collaboration with the Department of Local Affairs, to reduce utility bills.
- Implementing microgrid programs with state and federal funding.

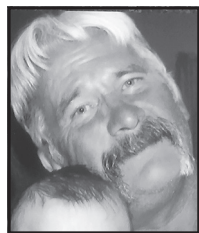
Polis is also, according to the press release, directing agencies to take additional longer-term actions to promote electrification and transition Colorado's electric grid to renewable energy, "which offers more stable, predictable, and affordable energy prices than fossil fuels."

randi@pagosasun.com

# Obituaries

## Mark William Milburn

Mark William Milburn was called home to heaven on Jan. 13 after a brief, yet hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer. Mark was well-known throughout the community of Pagosa Springs, having lived here since 1992, raising a family here and working in several construction industries, often geared at bettering our community and supporting the healthy growth of it.



Mark was born on Jan. 19, 1956, to Elizabeth (Betty) and Robert (Bob) Milburn in Torrance, Calif. Mark was the second eldest of five children. He graduated high school from Carson High School in Carson, Calif., and then throughout the first half of his life, he found himself enjoying life by living and working in several towns up and down the coast of Southern California including Torrance, Carson, Harbor City, Redondo Beach, Crestline and Signal Hill. As a child, Mark took special joy in camping and fishing trips with his siblings, often led by his grandfather. That love of camping and fishing trips carried throughout his life and even became more ingrained after moving and settling down in Pagosa Springs, Colo. While living here, it was always those off-times that could be spent one on one with his family and friends that mattered most and that he made the most of.

Mark was preceded in passing by his first born son, Shawn Milburn; his brother, James (Jimmy) Milburn; his mother, Elizabeth (Betty) Milburn; and his father, Robert (Bob) Milburn. He is survived by his children: Aaron Milburn (Danielle), Rebecca Milburn (Brian), Krista Milburn and Thomas Milburn; his siblings: David Milburn (Becky), Danny Milburn, baby sister Aleta Milburn; and by numerous friends who may have well have been family throughout the community.

A remembrance of his life will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26, at 4:30 p.m. at the Tennyson Event Center in Pagosa Springs. Anyone who knew and loved our father is welcome to attend. Please come and share some food and a memory.

## George (Georgie) Nell Hatch Ross

George (Georgie) Nell Hatch Ross died on Feb. 1. Georgie was born Oct. 10, 1937, in Regina, N.M. She was the daughter of George F. and Mary L. Foster Hatch. She was one of seven children and spent most of her early years in Regina and later Blue Water, N.M., where her love of the Navajo people grew strong. Her family moved to Green River, Utah, during high school, where she met and married Jon

Kent Ross on June 11, 1955, and sealed for time and all eternity in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple on Oct. 10, 1963. In 1968 they moved to Tiffany, Colo., where a life of cattle ranching brought wonderful memories. In 1976 they moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., where she helped her husband start Jo-Ge's Boothill, which evolved into Ross Boot and Saddle. She was a kind person, and welcomed and fed any who came to her door. Her greatest joys were being a wife, mother and grandmother, and her love of music, dancing and singing made for a happy home. She would use any excuse to have family gatherings and was known for her sugar cookies and pancake suppers. As a dedicated member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, her testimony was one of action in service to others and especially to her family. Her love of the Savior Jesus Christ and His gospel was vibrant and strong and she often shared her thoughts with others.



Georgie is preceded in death by her two sons, Dirk and Colt Ross; parents George and Mary Hatch; sisters Bonnie Wright and Reva Duran; and sons-in-law Quinn Haddock, Ray Wells, Todd Miller and Gene Carlson.

She is survived by her husband, Jon K. Ross; daughters Tandy Haddock and Kheta Wells; sons Brady (Chris) Ross, Kirby (Tammi) Ross, Troy (Loretta) Ross, Cody (Dawn) Ross and Redo (Barb) Ross; daughters-in-law Crystal Ross and Jamie Carlson; siblings Elgin Strohecker, Hilda King, Carl Hatch and Alan Hatch; 44 grandchildren; and 112 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Bayfield, Colo., 1690 Bayfield Parkway, on Feb. 11, 2023. Viewing will be at 9:30 a.m., funeral services at 11 a.m. Interment to follow at the Pine River Cemetery.



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## Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

### Thursday, Feb. 9

**Main Street monthly board meeting.** 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center meeting room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89821999924?pwd=ZzZlKSIjYjY1BkNmRzRUpxZUkxUkx5Zz09>

**Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular board meeting.** 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

### Tuesday, Feb. 14

**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.** 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agentcenter>.

**Pagosa Fire Protection District**

**Board of Directors meeting.** 5:30 p.m. Administration Office: 165 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board meeting.** 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. or via Zoom. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaprasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

**Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting.** 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

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# Mail delivery issues on County Road 500 resolved

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The county has resolved the road condition issues that caused residents on County Road 500 (CR 500) to experience a gap in mail delivery, according to Archuleta County Manager Derek Woodman.

Woodman explained that approximately two weeks ago, he was contacted by the rural route carrier for the area, who stated that conditions on CR 500, primarily between Colo. 151 and the Caracas Bridge, were "horrible."

Woodman indicated that he had agreed and had stated that the work that county does to maintain the road is short-lived due to the oil rig trucks that frequently drive it, which

he reported the carrier agreed with. Woodman explained that, last week, the county learned that the carrier was distributing a letter and contacting residents to inform them "unless the county comes in and fixes the road, that he's not gonna deliver mail."

The letter indicates that CR 500 is "not being maintained and is therefore unsafe and dangerous for mail delivery" and that, unless road maintenance is improved, all delivery to residential mailboxes will cease and cluster boxes will be set up.

The letter indicates that it is effective Feb. 4 and is signed by Postmaster Nestor Rivera.

Woodman stated that the county sent three pieces of equipment,

including two road graders and a roller, to work on the problematic section on Friday, Feb. 3.

He explained that this work involved additional complications as the blades on the graders had to be changed to the blades used for summer grading from those used for snow removal, and the roadway being frozen in places made grading more difficult.

Woodman stated that he spoke with Rivera on Friday, who had thanked the county and indicated there would be no disruption in service.

Following this, the county posted on its Facebook page that staff were working on the road and there would be no disruptions, according to Woodman.

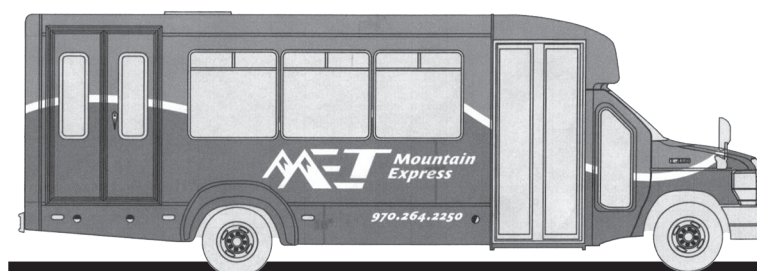
He added that the county continued work on Monday, Feb. 6, with five pieces of equipment, but had gotten reports that residents had not received mail on Saturday.

He noted that the county "didn't understand" why this had occurred, although it was not the county's issue since "there's nothing wrong with the road" following the repairs.

In an interview with The SUN, Rivera explained that only a mile and a half of the road had been graded by Saturday, which was not far enough to reach any of the boxes on the route.

Thus, he explained, deliveries had not resumed that day, although Rivera stated that deliveries resumed on Feb. 7.

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# SJBPH requests judge appoint receiver in health district dissolution process

San Juan Basin Public Health and Archuleta and La Plata counties

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH), in coordination with Archuleta and La Plata counties, has filed an action requesting a judge appoint a third-party receiver to assist with the dissolution of SJBPH and the transition to single-county health agencies that will be operational on Jan. 1, 2024.

The receiver will serve to oversee the transition and assist with dis-

position of assets, liabilities and other financial components of the dissolution.

The receiver will work with SJBPH's board of health and leadership to ensure that the agency continues to meet Colorado's public health standards through 2023. At the same time, the receiver will work to preserve and distribute the agency's assets following the SJBPH dissolution. This includes employee transition, physical facilities in both Archuleta and La Plata counties, third-party con-

tracts, records retention, client transition, addressing any financial and reporting issues, and any other topics that arise during the transition period. SJBPH's fund balance will pay the receiver's fees.

By overseeing these critical transitional elements, the receiver will serve to ensure that the dissolution of SJBPH occurs in an orderly and efficient manner without disruption in public health services to the residents who rely on SJBPH in Archuleta and La Plata counties. SJBPH staff and programs

will continue to serve the health district's residents throughout the transition period.

SJBPH's board of health and the boards of county commissioners from both Archuleta and La Plata counties are working cooperatively to ensure a smooth transition to independent health agencies for each county. Appointing a receiver will safeguard important assets, streamline the wind-up and transition and protect the public health interests of the Coloradans who live within SJBPH's jurisdiction.

# County hears presentation on environmental health

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At its Jan. 24 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners heard a programmatic update on environmental public health from San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) Environmental Health Director Brian Devine.

Devine began by discussing SJBPH's regulatory environmental health programs, starting by defining environmental public health as involving the protection and improvement of air quality, water, land and food safety.

According to Devine, this task includes identifying, investigating and responding to community environmental health concerns; reducing environmental health risks; preventing communicable diseases; and sustaining the environment in a coordinated manner with government agencies, industry stakeholders and the public.

He noted that, although his presentation was dividing environmental public health into regulatory and nonregulatory approaches, the regulatory elements typically contain a strong educational component while the nonregulatory approaches have some regulatory backing, although these regulations may not be actively enforced by SJBPH.

Devine then explained that the presentation was structured around the sources of authority for the regulations the department enforces to facilitate the transition to county health departments.

He first discussed the regulation of on-site wastewater treatment systems, which stems from the state On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems Act that empowers the Water Quality Control Commissioner to adopt statewide regulations for on-site wastewater treatment systems, including design standards and permit requirements.

These regulations also require each local board of health to adopt its own on-site wastewater treatment regulation, which can be more stringent than the state regulations, he noted.

Devine moved on to discuss land-use referral authority, where counties are required to obtain comment from local public health agencies on certain types of land use decisions, such as subdivisions, and most county land-use codes require public health comment on other types of permits as well.

He noted that some public health boards made the scope of these comments "pretty broad," although the SJBPH Board of Health (BoH) chose to keep its comments relatively narrow.

Devine then spoke on consumer protection programs, which he noted are largely state programs with certain components being delivered by local public health.

He stated that the state Food Protection Act sets out basic requirements and fees for retail food establishments, while the state Retail Food Regulations provide detail for the operators.

He indicated that there is a contract between SJBPH and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) giving SJBPH the ability to provide retail food licenses and to provide inspections.

Devine explained that the regulations concerning child care and schools are similar to retail food with a state law and state regulations and a state to local contract for inspections, although SJBPH does not provide licensing.

He also discussed waste tire regulations. SJBPH performs inspections and provides assistance to waste tire generators such as tire shops.

Devine also referenced miscellaneous inspections where SJBPH performs preliminary investigations for issues that are within the state's scope of regulations but which the state does not have staff available to immediately address.

He noted that the CDPHE is creating regional field positions and expressed the hope that these investigations will pass to these positions.

Devine also discussed that the SJBPH 2018 Public Health Improvement Plan indicated that the region had emerging issues with swimming pools and mineral baths and gray water.

He explained that SJBPH is performing outreach with swimming pool and mineral bath operators to determine what regulations would be appropriate.

He also commented that BoCCs and city councils have the ability to regulate gray water, which La Plata

County is considering, and that SJBPH is working to ensure that the adoption of swimming pool and mineral bath regulations is timed to prevent both the SJBPH BoH and the county BoHs from having to adopt the regulations.

Devine explained that the local BoH is required to adopt on-site wastewater treatment system regulations and can adopt swimming pool and mineral bath regulations along with regulations on subjects like body art licensure and inspection or illegal drug laboratories.

He added that the BoH also has the ability to issue on-site wastewater treatment system variances and penalties.

Devine added that there is statutory language on BoHs being able to regulate "nuisances," although he noted that he is unsure when this law was adopted or how the board would do this.

He added that the SJBPH had never used this authority and the court cases from the early 20th century referred to the law.

Devine explained that the local public health agency is the default governing body for illegal drug laboratories and may enact ordinances or resolutions to assist in enforcing state laws on the subject, although the BoCC may designate an alternate governing body and SJBPH has not enacted any local requirements.

Devine also discussed the volume of work and staffing involved in environmental health regulation, including 6.9 full-time equivalents across both counties for the

water quality section, covering on-site wastewater, land-use referrals, swimming pools and mineral baths, waste tire inspections, spill investigations and graywater; and 4.65 full-time equivalents in the consumer protection section, covering retail food, child care and school inspections.

He highlighted that 36 percent of on-site wastewater permits, 25 percent of retail food inspections, 11 percent of child care inspections and 45 percent of school inspections were performed in Archuleta County in 2022.

Devine explained that the fees for on-site wastewater treatment systems cannot be higher than the direct and indirect costs of the program and that, because SJBPH has a program to waive fees for low-income applicants, general funds must be committed in an average year, with the expected general fund use in 2023 to be \$65,104.

He also explained that consumer protection funding comes from the CDPHE as well as from two small grants related to SJBPH meeting voluntary national consumer protection standards and that the license fees are set by statute, which means that the revenues from consumer protection cover slightly more than half of the cost of delivering the service for an anticipated 2023 expense of \$217,221.

He stated that the waste tire program involves a CDPHE contract that pays 100 percent of the costs and the miscellaneous investigations are funded through investment of the SJBPH general

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# Gravel

■ **Continued from front**  
ment road sub-bases; the Pagosa Ranger District maintains about 400 miles of gravel and dirt roads in the area, according to the fact sheet.

Jamie Blair, geologist for the Pagosa Ranger District, told The SUN that the Forest Service surveyed the entire region for suitable places to extract gravel and that the Jackson Mountain location on Forest Road 738 is a desirable location because of the hardness of the rock, which would make the most durable material for road building and repair.

The joint fact sheet also mentions that “wildlife officials have indicated the proposed pit location is more desirable than others ... due to lessened impacts on wildlife migration corridors.”

But neighbors of Jackson Mountain, those living in the San Juan River Village, as well as other concerned citizens and outdoor recreationists, came to the event to question the county's and Forest Services' determination on that particular location.

A group called Stop the Pit made

its presence known at the event, distributing an alternative fact sheet in opposition to the gravel mine.

The group claims that the “proposed site is less than 2000 ft from the nearest homes in San Juan River Village and designed for placement in the middle of a newly planned mountain bike trail system!”

The opposition fact sheet also claims that, by the Forest Services' own estimates, the number of large gravel trucks coming in and out of the operation to be about “20 per day (one every 24 minutes, every single day, Monday-Friday).”

These trucks, it states, will be sharing the “small forest road” with various types of recreationists.

The group's website states: “mountain bike recreation and dump trucks don't mix!”

Those sharing this sentiment also showed up to the open house, expressing concerns and frustrations about the gravel pit portion of the project to both Forest Service and county representatives.

Because the gravel pit will be on

Forest Service land, the Pagosa Ranger District will have final say on the matter and, thus, many of the concerns and comments have been directed toward the federal agency.

For its part, the Forest Service maintains that the gravel pit will undergo a well-documented environmental analysis, which will be released to the public and also opened for public comment upon completion.

The state of Colorado will also require dust mitigation as well as air and water monitors per the requirements for a state permit to operate, according to the joint fact sheet.

In addition, the public scoping period “formally begins the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process,” meaning that public input will help “refine the proposed action and identify environmental issues that need further analysis,” according to the joint fact sheet.

In an interview, Josh Peck, head of the Pagosa Ranger District, was asked about some of the negative public perceptions about the project.

He still maintained that the district would gladly jump on the chance for quality gravel, saying, “Like I said, we always need it, we're always looking for those opportunities,” even though “this probably wouldn't rise to our highest priority at this point in time.”

At its Feb. 7 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners discussed where the idea for the gravel pit originated and who is ultimately responsible for the project.

Commissioner Warren Brown, who attended the open house, said, “This is a Forest Service decision. It's their project.”

Brown also suggested that, out of the number of people he talked to at the open house, only one person showed support for the gravel pit at that location.

He said that he expressed to his constituents, “I am not married to the gravel pit at this location, but I am married to a gravel pit for Archuleta County, because we need it ... if we're talking about affordable housing ... we're either all in or we're not, and we need to do whatever we can to keep the prices low to make affordable housing work.”

He said he was approached at the event by Dave O'Keefe, who was representing Stop the Pit, about if Brown had considered alternative sites for the mine.

He then told his fellow commissioners that he wanted them to be aware of possible alternative sites for the gravel mine.

He said he was approached at the event by Dave O'Keefe, who was representing Stop the Pit, about if Brown had considered alternative sites for the mine.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez agreed that “other alternatives” exist. “And if the Forest Service chooses to move to an alternative location, I'm not gonna push back,” Maez said.

But he also expressed agreement with Brown's sentiment that “we really need gravel.”

Otherwise, he said, “we are gonna have to get used to the high costs of bringing gravel in from other counties.”

However, Commissioner Veronica Medina presented something different.

“Some of the documents that I've received show that it was the county who initiated the conversation with the Forest Service in moving forward with the gravel pit,” she said.

Medina acknowledged “that we're not married to this location, but if we are the ones that initiated it ... then don't we, as the county, have to retract or, you know, let the Forest Service know that we are interested in maybe other locations ... I don't know?”

She continued, “It's not fair to say that this is solely a decision of the national forest if we are the ones also participating in initiating it. I agree that we need gravel, absolutely, 100 percent. But, in all fairness and transparency, we need to get the information correct and out there.”

Brown noted that regardless of who initiated the idea, the county cannot overrule the Forest Service whether “they say yes or no” on the gravel pit.

Brown explained that he wants to wait for the NEPA study to come out before he's willing to make any commitment to support or oppose the gravel mine, adding he wants to know how it will affect the wildlife and how the increased traffic will impact recreation in the area.

“It's incumbent upon us that, if there are other locations, we start looking in advance ... so we're not as far behind in the event that this is a hard no,” he said.

Maez added, “Looking at it realistically, even if we choose an alternative site ... we're gonna be another two or three years behind the curve on the need for gravel.”

If the decision is made to find another location for the pit, then the county will need to “anticipate a huge increase in gravel for road and bridge” for next year's budget, he said.

The Jackson Mountain project is open for public comment until Feb. 23.

During this period, the public “can participate in the planning process by sharing suggestions for how to make the project better, specific concerns, or information you may have about the project area,” according to a Forest Service press release.

An Interactive StoryMap showing the location of the proposed trail system and the proposed gravel pit is available at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6501abb8bc454f9685f6d65803db78c5>.

Maps and other information are also available on the project website, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61809>.

The press release adds, “electronic comments are preferred and can be submitted via an on-line comment form on the project website. Look under the 'Get Connected' heading on the right-hand side of the page and click on 'Comment/Object on Project.'”

For more information about the proposal, contact the following:

- Recreation: Paul Blackman, (970) 264-1505 or paul.blackman@usda.gov.
- Veg/fuels management: Adam Tlachac, (970) 264-1513 or adam.tlachac@usda.gov.
- Gravel pit: Blair, (970) 560-6630 or james.blair2@usda.gov.

[derek@pagosasun.com](mailto:derek@pagosasun.com)

## 300

■ **Continued from front**  
took over coaching the girls' program he had been a boys' coach and there were questions over how he would shift to coaching girls.

“And he did it. He did it masterfully, I would say,” O'Donnell said. “I just think we are super fortunate to have such a talented basketball coach in this community. Our kids have been lucky.”

Lewis then successfully switched back over to coaching the boys' team, O'Donnell pointed out.

Lewis coached the Lady Pirate basketball team beginning with the 2007-2008 season, spending 13 years at the helm of that team. He is now in his third season with the Pirate boys' team.

Prior to that, Lewis coached the junior varsity boys' squad and junior high boys' team. He estimated he is in his 27th year of coaching.

Lewis explained he's not sure what keeps him going, or how long he'll keep going.

“I enjoy it a lot,” he said, adding, “The end is probably near. You know, I think I'm young enough that if I decide to get out in a few years that if I miss it I think can get back in somewhere. Maybe that's as assistant, maybe that's at the junior high level, maybe it's back at the varsity level, who knows.”

Lewis explained he thought about resigning in 2014, after the Lady Pirates were the state runner-up.

“Sean O'Donnell talked me into staying and thank God he did 'cause we won it the next year,” Lewis said.

By that point, he explained, his daughter was about to be in high school and he opted to stay and coach her through.

He ultimately resigned from being the girl's head coach the same

year coach Randy Sorensen resigned from leading the boys' team, and Lewis noted he felt like he'd switch over and give it a try.

He is now coaching his son. Lewis said he's really enjoyed coaching the boys.

“I miss the heck out of the girls and loved all 13 years,” he said, adding there were great kids throughout and the team had a lot of success.

He added that coaching the boys' team is a new and different type of challenge.

“The boys are great to coach and they're bought in and they're great to be around,” he said. “It does make it enjoyable to do it still.”

Lewis explained Larry Lister was the first to alert him to the fact that he was nearing 300 wins, with Lister having heard it on a Salida radio broadcast earlier this season.

“I knew I was probably close before the season,” Lewis said, but noted he hadn't gone through the numbers to see how close. “After Larry pointed it out, why, then I knew I was gettin' close.”

Lewis also focused on those who helped him reach the milestone.

“I would probably give a lot of credit to the players I've had. That's obviously been predominantly on the girls' side. I was there 13 years. Man, I had a lot of really, really good players and they deserve, you know, 85 percent of the credit. I just had some fantastic girl athletes, girl post players, [the] girls bought into everything. I'd also like to give my assistants some credit.”

Lewis also gave credit to the team of assistants he's worked with, noting for most of the years with the girls it was Charles Rand and with the boys is Wilson.

“They deserve some credit for being right there,” he said.

He also credited coaches who

having town representation, Maez stated that he would not be opposed to having a town staff member on the committee.

The board then discussed how many members the advisory committee should have, with Brown noting that he had initially supported having five but, with the addition of the town representative, he felt seven would be “appropriate.”

“I like smaller,” Maez said. “Smaller's better.”

Medina stated that she was thinking of five members including the town representative.

The BoCC then discussed which candidates to interview, with Maez stating he would support moving ahead with interviewing the top nine applicants in the county's rating of the applicants, which Brown and Medina agreed with.

Medina then made a motion to create the advisory committee with five members and to direct staff to schedule interviews with the top nine applicants.

Brown asked Medina if she had intended to motion for a seven-member committee given the commissioners' discussion of expanding the committee due to the inclusion of a town representative.

Medina stated that she had intended the committee to have five members.

“I would like to see it a little more broad,” Brown commented.

came before him. “I came off the Jim Shaffer coaching tree,” he said, “and probably a little bit needs to go back to him and give him some credit for the coaching tree I branched off of.”

‘He's right there with some of the best’

PSHS Athletic Director Chantelle Jordan and Wilson commented on some of the things that set Lewis apart as a coach.

“One thing I really appreciate about Wes as a coach is he has a great ability or whatever you call it to know when to push and when to just stop and love on kids,” Jordan said.

She also noted he has a strong ability to coach a team to a win.

“So many of those wins he has coached to the win,” Jordan said. “He would never take the credit for it, he would give the credit to the kids, which is another reason why he's such a great coach, but he coaches to the win. Like, I have no idea how he can call a timeout when we're about to lose a game and he gets kids to do something that allows them to win. He coaches like crazy in practice, too. ... He creates a positive, disciplined environment that, of course, to me, that's the base of it, so he's got that, but then he also can coach to the win during a game. He ... figured it out on both sides of the coin.”

“He's successful because he truly loves the game and truly wants the kids to succeed,” Wilson said. “He puts a lot of time and effort into it ... and he gives up a lot of his life to be a coach, which is what it takes to be a good one. And, he's right there with some of the best of them for sure. We're all happy for him for sure.”

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Maez asked Medina if she would amend her motion and she did so, expanding the committee to have seven members including the town representative.

Medina also commented that, if the county is only interviewing nine applicants, “getting six might be tough.”

Brown commented that the county could interview additional applicants if it could not find enough acceptable candidates in the first nine.

County Attorney Todd Weaver highlighted that the BoCC could also reduce the size of the committee if there were not enough acceptable applicants.

Following interviewing the applicants, the BoCC voted unanimously at a special meeting on Feb. 8 to appoint Dr. Ronda Webb, Kathy Campbell, Ashley Wilson, Sally Kennedy, John Ranson, Susanne Bryant and Phillips to the advisory committee.

Prior to the vote, Brown thanked all the applicants for their effort, which Medina and Maez agreed with.

Maez also explained that each commissioner had rated the applicants individually and then staff had tallied the ratings to make the selection.

“Godspeed,” Maez commented to close the meeting.

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# Health

■ **Continued from front**  
cuss the composition and formation of the advisory committee.

Woodman highlighted prior to the discussion that the county had received 16 applicants for the committee and that the agenda item was to approve the creation of the committee and to decide how many members the committee would have and which applicants the BoCC wanted to interview.

Commissioner Veronica Medina opened the discussion by stating that she had spoken with Pagosa Springs Mayor Shari Pierce and Town Manager Andrea Phillips and they had expressed interest in the town participating in the advisory committee.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that the financial burden of creating the health department rests on the county and that he would be unopposed to a town representative applying to the board of health. “But, at this point in time I think the transition or the changes we have set should stay in place.”

Brown commented that he would not be opposed to having a town staff member on the committee, but would prefer to not have a town elected official on the committee to ensure the committee remains “apolitical.”

Following a brief discussion between Brown and Maez where Brown expressed his support for



# Jackson Mountain Project open house

SUN photos/Derek Kutzer  
Community members, mountain bike and outdoor enthusiasts interact with Forest Service and county officials at the open house for the proposed Jackson Mountain Landscape Project on Feb. 2.



# Pagosa Springs Middle School announces second-quarter honor roll

By Anjelica Gallegos  
Pagosa Springs Middle School

The following fifth-grade students made the second-quarter honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Elias Becker Sweden, Trevor Blanco, Kenzy Bowdrige, Carlie Bridges, Zander Campbell, Callie Carothers, Kyleah Coss, Keyonnah Daniels-Wesley, Shiloh Degelman, Gavino Dozal-Nevarez, Daisy Ensminger, Lillian Ensminger, Adelaide Graham, Maddison Hunke, Bixby Hyman, Kadence Inez, Avitt Lee-Shaw, Davyn Leiker, Skylar Leiker, Roen Loveday, Eduardo Marinelarena, Ty Mitchell, Lucy Modern, Katalena Ordonez, Pia Papanai, William Ray, Karlie Rose, Tuff Terrazas, Micah Tyler, Colten Ulibarri and Francis Witting.

The following fifth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Adam Candelaria, Chloe Crabb, Olivia Diffey, Asher Smith, Livia Souza, Jacob Tracy and Jaycee Wallace.

The following sixth-grade stu-

dents made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: John Archuleta, Rylan Ash, Marcela Barnas, Bentley Briscoe, Kylie Coleman, Veda Deitemeyer, Samson Dennis, Alexander Forster, Ward Halterman, Cole Hancey, Aliana Hoffschneider, Soraya Jackson, Delaney Kirkham, Bruce Kubelka, Logan Lamoreaux, Paisley Lister, Whiley Lucero, Daniel Manjarrez, Raquelle Martinez, Kelsey Matyniak, Olivia Moody, Jimena Moreno-Echavarria, Bella Postolese, Lily Rogacki, Sofia Souza, Zayan Souza, Mason Sowerby and Wayde Sutherland.

The following sixth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Avery Book, Fox Dietsch, Corinna Galabota, Quinn Howard, Raleigh Iverson, Brandt Kerns, Ember Liverett, Brynn Looper, Ahrianna Martinez, Kairan Munro, Lily Peck, Valeria Pereyra, Laken Pitcher, Evelyn Rohwer and Reilly Yates.

The following seventh-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Lorelei Abramson, Zaiden Adams, Leilani

Archuleta, Lillian Buchner, Quintin Cheykaychi, Riley Culligan, Vivy DavRem, Asha Erickson, Ana Sofiana Espinoza, Darria Fiorenza, Allyson Firestone, Layla Forrest, John Grimes, Henry Hauger, Ethan Lopez, Katie Lucero, Xavier Martinez, Angelo Medina, Nayely Montes, Peyton Pfeiffer, Isabelle Ratcliff, Ryan Rich, Layla Rivas, Weston Sweet, Anderson Talley, Nicolas Tator, Liana Vega, Molly Washburn and Blakely Woodard.

The following seventh-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Mikaila Anderson, Cartier Antonez, Noah Bellina, Avea Bruce, Ramona Casper, Tyler Diamond, Bella Jackson, Reese Jenkins, Kasen Limebrook, Gage Lister, Mila Miller, Jessica Parker, Sydney Plake, Luke Reynolds, Colby Ross, Gage Sams, Oliver Samu, Gianna Shaefer, Liam Sherman, Leela Simpson, Audrina Smith, Carrington Smith, Avonlea Thomas, Ellie Vining and River Wilson.

The following eighth-grade students made honor roll with 3.5 to

3.99 cumulative GPA: Marlie Adams, Cheyenne Bechhold, Aeden Booth, Damian Cardenas, David Castillo, Reina Chavez, Townes deGraaf, Carlo Dietsch, Nevaeh Evans, Trevor Faber, Van Halterman, Deegen Hoffschneider, Emma Jackson, Connor Kirkham, Lucille Kleckner, Asher Kurz, Braylon Landry, Sophie Martinez, Samuel Munro, Stetson Osborn, Italia Pereyra, Jaxon Postolese, Brian Rafferty, Richard Russom, Trinity Short, Robert Snodgrass, Ayden Sollars, Su YuHuang and Stefani Veleta-Echavarria.

The following eighth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Trinity Angle, James Beaudry, Nile Bollig, Jackson Chaney, Sebastian Coba, Victoria Currier, Leo Dennis, Makaela Denton, Isabella Forster, Parker Frame, Isaac Hanto, Dawson Iverson, Ryder King, Kelly Anne Kubelka, Aki'chita LeftHandBull, Kaiya Lyons, Kyle Matyniak, Jonathan Rodriguez, Justin Sewell, Gwendolyn Tyler, Reagan Vanatta and Peyton Yates.

# Health

Continued from A7

In response to a question from County Manager Derek Woodman, Devine explained that consumer protections programs likely must be administered through the county health department while on-site wastewater treatment regulations could be administered by another county department.

Devine moved on to discuss the nonregulatory aspects of environmental health, beginning with discussing monitoring programs such as SJBPH's outdoor air quality monitoring program, which provides nonregulatory air quality monitoring and is funded by a grant with a three-year funding period that will be finalized later this year.

He then mentioned SJBPH's water testing lab, which covers bacteriology and basic chemistry testing for five counties in southwest Colorado, including compliance testing for public water and wastewater systems and private drinking water testing.

Devine noted that this lab is certified annually by the CDPHE, with the certification expiring in November 2023.

He added there has only ever been one water lab in the region.

He then discussed SJBPH's education programs, including its radon program — which provides testing kits, education and mitigation strategies for radon to resi-

dents of the region — and its two water education programs including outreach for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) testing in private wells, and outreach and sampling for lead testing in schools and child care facilities.

He noted that the lead testing program includes the Archuleta School District, where four schools will be tested before the end of May.

In terms of system programs, Devine explained that SJBPH is working on improving air quality and related hazards by collecting data and building connections and capacity and on developing emergency preparedness, including clean-air and heat shelters, and climate adaptation planning.

He noted that one development priority for SJBPH is body art, where the state regulations are largely unenforced and the district is performing outreach and data collection to determine what programs might be appropriate.

Devine discussed that the radon, lead and PFAS programs take 0.35 full-time equivalents and have a winter emphasis; the outdoor air quality, indoor environments and emergency planning work takes 1.05 full-time equivalents; and the laboratory services work requires 2.05 full-time equivalents and occurs year-round, although it is busiest in the summer and at the beginning of each month.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez questioned if there is a way to re-

move PFAS if it is detected.

Devine stated that there is and there is money available for removing PFAS.

Maez asked if SJBPH acquires PFAS data from the local water districts.

Devine explained that SJBPH does indirectly as the state tracks this data, although such testing is not yet required and he is unsure if any of the local water districts are performing voluntary testing.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked why more schools have not enrolled for lead testing.

Devine explained that certain schools are not eligible for this specific lead testing program, especially private schools, thus limiting the number of schools tested.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked what would happen with the one water bacteriology laboratory in the region run by SJBPH when SJBPH dissolves.

Devine explained this would not be a decision he would be able to make, but that the lab is an essential service as local water districts would not be able to comply with state regulations if such testing is not available in the region.

He added that bacteriology testing cannot be shipped to more distant locations as the tests must be done quickly to have valid results.

The presentations concluded with the commissioners thanking Devine for his information.  
josh@pagosasun.com

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# Business

## Town takes steps toward workforce housing goal

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

At the Jan. 19 Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting, two items related to workforce housing moved forward — the final purchase of the Enclave property near Walmart and the council's blessing to submit an application for a \$2.7 million grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to fund construction of 12 townhomes on the property.

The town's overall goal is to build a total of 70 new units (58 rental units, as well as 12 townhomes geared toward ownership).

As of Jan. 3, three contingencies still remained up in the air concerning the Enclave project's future: the final purchase of the property; the continuing relationship with the town's development partner, Texas-based Servitas LLC; and the status of another grant (for \$9.5 million) to help construct the rental units.

At the Jan. 19 meeting, one of these lingering questions was put to rest when the town opted to continue with the purchase of the 3.16-acre Enclave at Aspen Village property.

The town initially signed off on the purchase in August 2022 and subsequently entered into a formal contract with the seller, but the contract was then extended twice, with the most recent contract amendment calling for a February closing date.

So far, the town has spent \$25,000 in earnest money, while the total purchase cost should not exceed \$550,000, according to Ordinance 986, which the council passed to formally begin the process of acquiring the property.

On Jan. 19, Community Development Director James Dickhoff explained to the council several conditions of the contract that must be met before the final purchase could be formalized. This was to "make sure" that the council is "comfortable moving forward at this time."

Dickhoff explained how six out of the seven conditions had already been met, but that there was one remaining "contingency that is uncertain at this point."

This has to do with the contract's stipulation making the town's development plans subject to approval by the Aspen Village Design Review Committee, a neighborhood committee that is not yet fully functional, Dickhoff noted.

"There's a double layer," he said. "It's not just the town's design review board that would review the final design review application, it's also the Aspen Village Design Review Committee... and I have a fairly good feeling that our project is gonna meet their design review criteria, because it pretty much mirrors our design review criteria in our code."

Council member Brooks Lindner noted he wondered what would happen if the town waived the condition about the neighborhood committee and moved forward to finalize the purchase, but then, later, the plans failed to get approval by that committee, asking what that would mean.

Dickhoff replied, "Well, we would need to make some amendments just like an applicant going through our design review process. You might get a denial, but there would at least be reasons for that denial and we could address those over time."

However, Dickhoff suggested he is confident that the town's plans would meet the requirements of the Aspen Village Design Review Committee, once it's up and running.

The council then moved to waive the contract contingency regarding the needed approval of the Aspen Village Design Review Committee.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

At the same meeting, the council also considered a resolution to support the submission of a grant application for funding through the 1271 Affordable Housing Develop-

ment Incentives Grant Program administered through DOLA.

The grant application asks for \$2.7 million in funding and would be in addition to the \$9.5 million the town already applied for through the Colorado Department of Housing (DOH). The \$2.7 million in DOLA funding would go toward the construction of the 12 townhome ownership units, also part of the Enclave project.

Up to \$3 million is available through the grant, but "we want to be sensitive to not over ask and to make sure that our ask is justified with the budget shortcoming, the budget gap that we're seeing on that project," Dickhoff explained.

There is a required minimum 20 percent match with this grant, which means the town would need to come up with some of its own money, and this match would amount to between 39 percent and 42 percent of the project cost for the townhomes, according to the agenda brief on the topic.

Council member Jeff Posey asked, "So, if the council decides that the Servitas project is not financially viable and chooses not to do it and we're awarded this grant, what happens?"

"If we are pulling out of the project, then we'd need to deny the award," Dickhoff answered. "We can't just accept the grant money for a project that is no longer occurring."

Posey replied that since the town has not yet decided "thumbs up or down" on if it will finalize its partnership with housing developer Servitas, "This feels like the cart before the horse... This just seems like it should happen after we decide that."

Mayor Shari Pierce commented, "Jeff, I would say the grant application is due by the end of this month. We don't even know if we'll know on the other grant if it's successful. So, if we don't go forward, and we get the other one, but we didn't apply for this one, then we'll be missing out on this money. But, we always have the option to not take the

money should we do something different. But if we don't apply for it, then we won't have the option."

Dickhoff added, "This is a rolling grant cycle, but it's expected that this money will be gone in the first round, because there's so many communities in the same position we are."

"Is the grant application specific to Servitas or is it more generally for the construction of workforce housing townhomes?" council member Matt DeGuise asked.

Dickhoff answered that it would be specific to "the project we've proposed."

He made it clear that in the grant application the town signified that it has a "P3 Partnership Project" with Servitas and they have prepared a lot of the documents and financials for the application.

"I'm sure we could probably change if we had another partner," he said, "but the challenge with that is we won't be able to execute it fast enough to spend the money."

"I support going after this grant despite what our future decisions with Servitas might be, and our decision could be impacted by whether or not we actually receive this money, so it would be smart to go ahead and go for it," council member Madeline Bergon said.

With this, a motion was made to approve the resolution of support going forward on submitting the DOLA grant application. The motion was carried by a majority of the council, with Posey being the lone "Nay" vote.

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## Sales tax revenues up 3.7 percent for the year

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

Sales tax revenues for Archuleta County in December 2022 rose compared to December 2021, according to a report released by the Archuleta County Finance Department.

This increase matches the general trend for 2022.

The report notes that the town and the county jointly received \$1,606,114.07 in sales tax revenue for the month of December, with \$809,364.83 going to the town and \$796,749.24 going to the county.

December 2022 sales tax revenues are 3 percent, or \$5,596.24, higher than December 2021.

According to the report, the categories that are up in comparison to December 2021 include:

- Construction at 74 percent, or \$18,077.
- Retail Trade at 2 percent, or \$20,299.
- Finance and Insurance at 11 percent, or \$182.
- Miscellaneous at 8 percent, or \$16,309.

Categories that were down for December in the month-to-month comparison include:

- Manufacturing at 7 percent, or \$3,875.
- Information at 4 percent, or \$1,257.
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 29 percent, or \$13,718.

• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 66 percent, or \$8,853.

• Accommodation and Food Services at 5 percent, or \$15,550.

• Other Services (except public administration) at 20 percent, or \$6,019.

The report notes that sales tax revenues for 2022 are 3.7 percent, or \$641,733, higher than 2021.

According to the report, the categories that are up in the yearly comparison include:

- Retail Trade at 2.3 percent, or \$223,459.
- Miscellaneous at 11.7 percent, or \$266,888.
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing at 3.8 percent, or \$15,895.
- Construction at 34 percent, or \$111,160.
- Information at 25.8 percent, or \$69,382.
- Manufacturing at 14.6 percent, or \$91,375.
- Other Services (except public administration) at 3.6 percent, or \$9,452.

The categories down in the year-to-date comparison include:

- Accommodation and Food Services at 1.6 percent, or \$52,951.
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services at 48.1 percent, or \$89,788.
- Finance and Insurance at 18.4 percent, or \$3,409.

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## Commissioners continue discussion of new payroll software

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed and debated the county's efforts to acquire new payroll software at its Jan. 17 and Jan. 24 work sessions.

Commissioner Veronica Medina raised the issue of the county's payroll software acquisition at the Jan. 17 work session, explaining that, while she was attending a Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI) new commissioner training, she spoke to six counties and CCI representatives and polled them about their payroll software usage.

She noted that CCI representatives had not heard of "Ripple," referring to the payroll software provider Rippling that the BoCC had selected in a split decision at its Jan. 3 meeting (before Medina was on the board), and "they cautioned us, if you will, to make sure that any company that we choose for whatever reason should have some prior working with government because if they don't they have a huge learning curve... and be unconstitutional for us so we've gotta be careful with that."

She added that she was cautioned that the county should avoid changing providers in the middle of the fiscal year to avoid problems and to determine who owns the data if the company is cloud-based to prevent losing access to data.

Medina then discussed the results of her survey of the counties, explaining that Ebert County uses OpenGov for finance and Computer Concepts for human resources; Yuma County uses Blackbaud for finance; Washington County uses Computer Concepts for both finance and human resources; Weld County uses Banner for finance and Workday for human resources; Fremont County uses Tyler Technologies and Incode 10; and Lincoln County uses Incode 10 for finance and Paycor for human resources.

County Manager Derek Wood-

man clarified, "It's only the payroll segment of it; it's not the finance."

Medina commented that, when Human Resources Director Tina Woodman and Finance Director Chad Eaton presented on the software, it was presented as containing a human resources portion — including functionality for entering new hires, providing paperless pay stubs and ability for employees to look at paycheck information online — and a finance portion whose functionality she was uncertain about since "Chad didn't go into great detail."

Derek Woodman explained that there is a human resources component handling employee paychecks and deductions, while finance prepares payroll.

Medina stated that typically human resources checks employee time and hours and then finance processes that information, noting that human resources' function is usually not processing payroll.

She added that she is unclear as to what the intention of moving to Rippling was from a human resources perspective besides providing paperless pay stubs and allowing employees to view information online, and she had not heard from the finance perspective what the purpose is.

Medina also stated that she had experience with such payroll software and had worked with Paycor and Peoplesoft in the past.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that, when he spoke to Rippling representatives, they indicated that the company has approximately 240 government and nonprofit clients in Colorado.

He noted that the county's current Incode 9 software requires "ridiculous" amounts of time to be spent on re-entering data and that, in his understanding, the Incode 10 software does not contain fixes to the issues the county has experienced with Incode 9.

Medina commented that there would typically be some redundancy and re-entry of data unless the county has one software that

could function for both human resources and finance.

She added that there are few pieces of software that could fulfill this function, though Computer Concepts software can work for both departments.

Medina commented that, if the county wants to reduce redundancy, it should discuss what functions are needed and look at software that can work for both finance and human resources.

"Because it doesn't make sense, if that's what we're trying to eliminate, just to get rid of Incode because it's a nightmare but get..." Medina stated.

Brown and Derek Woodman clarified that the county could not eliminate Incode due to there being many additional functions, such as budgeting and financial state-

■ See Software A11



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## Tourism board says child care projects don't qualify for tourism-related infrastructure funding

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

At its Feb. 2 retreat, the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board defined its strategic direction. It also more clearly defined what could be considered tourism-related infrastructure.

This latter point needed some clarification after Wings Early Childhood Center applied for a \$200,000 chunk of the tourism board's total of \$437,500 allocated for tourism-related infrastructure projects in its 2023 budget.

According to Wings, the planned expansion will cost \$800,000 for an addition of 2,600 square feet, which Wings claims would create 26 new child care slots.

A newsletter from the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC) states that Wings has a wait list of more than 62 children, currently serving 52 children ages 1 through 5.

The newsletter also states, "Wings will be the only school in

Archuleta County to serve infants," with the additional slots providing space for children as young as 6 weeks old.

But, while the Wings expansion clearly qualifies as an infrastructure project, there was some doubt among the members of the tourism board about whether or not the Wings expansion qualifies as "tourism-related infrastructure."

Wings representatives and Pagosa Springs Town Council members have argued that, in an economy based on tourism, child care is linked to the overall tourist economy, and some have made a broader link between tourism, child care and workforce housing.

For example, if a parent cannot find child care, then they likely would be unavailable to join the workforce and this could spiral into making it tough to afford housing, which would ultimately hinder the tourist economy, because local businesses would struggle to find the staffing to maintain their operations through the busiest

periods. While this linkage of issues was not necessarily rejected by the tourism board, it nevertheless decided to limit its role to fund projects specifically related to tourism.

Jennifer Green, executive director of Visit Pagosa Springs, told the Archuleta County commissioners at a Feb. 7 work session, that the tourism board has now "defined what tourism-related infrastructure is."

She explained that in the past the board has not had to think too much about this question because requests for funding have been specifically for tourism-related infrastructure projects.

However, recently the board has seen "a shift" in the types of funding requests it receives and thus it needed to clarify what counts as tourism-related infrastructure, she noted.

According to an email from Green, the board has now identified the following types of infrastructure projects as tourism-

related: "Parks or Venues (additions, enhancements, upgrades); Trails; Activity-specific (pickleball, climbing, ice skating, Nordic, etc); Signage; Holiday Lighting; River Access; and Public Art."

Green told the county commissioners that the tourism board has developed a list of things "they feel are not within the purview of tourism-related infrastructure."

She explained that child care is on the tourism board's list of items that do not qualify for tourism-related infrastructure funding. The list also includes: broadband, workforce development, housing, sanitation, library expansion, higher education and other items.

Green noted that, as an advisory board to both the town and the county, the tourism board's criteria for infrastructure funding could "be overruled by elected officials and they understand that. They just wanted to make sure they were clear in how they were considering requests that came to them."

Going forward, the tourism board discussed focusing on moving in the direction of putting its infrastructure line item toward its twin goal of a permanent event venue and recreation center.

County Commissioner Ronnie

Maez said at the county work session, "There was a discussion about the combination of the event venue along with the rec center for the kids, too, for Archuleta County and Pagosa Springs. That was an idea that was thrown out there. I'm throwing it out there again, cause I don't want to let that seed die, so I think that's important to keep it on our back burner and see what we can do in the future."

Green replied, "Yes. A permanent event venue has been a topic of discussion at the tourism board for a while."

She also mentioned that the event venue matches "the Destination Master Plan adopted by the Town and County in 2019."

She said that while funding would be a challenge, "there could be enough grants and opportunities like that, if we do pull our resources between the town and the county and other entities ... if we get the folks on board, then it just needs to become a priority and we have to move towards it and make it happen."

The tourism board will be making its decisions on the tourism-related infrastructure funding requests at its Feb. 21 meeting.

derek@pagosahun.com

## San Juan Back Country Horsemen to hold potluck

By Annie Pack  
San Juan Back Country Horsemen

Please join us Monday, Feb. 20, for our monthly San Juan Back Country Horsemen general meeting.

There will be a potluck at 6 p.m., followed by our speaker presentation at 7 p.m. Our speaker this month will be Greg Wells, a local favorite and farrier.

We meet at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Call Annie at (210) 215-9566 with any questions.

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## Software

Continued from A10  
ments, that Incode also performs for the county.

Medina asked what the goal of switching to Rippling is.

Derek Woodman explained that it is to outsource payroll and have a system with a one-point entry for employee payroll.

He added that there were other developments also occurring with the Rippling software, stating, "[County Attorney Todd Weaver] and I had lengthy discussion with Rippling the other day that we may not be ... able to accept Rippling. ... We might be at an impasse."

"I don't know anything about Rippling, but ... my goal in asking the questions that I asked was simply because I didn't feel like when the questions were asked from the commissioners ... from staff to give them what are other counties using. So, I had 25 brand new commissioners in front of me, so I asked the question and that's when I got this information," Medina said.

She added that she had missed the desire to outsource payroll in the staff presentations, noting that "there's still more discussion to be had there."

Commissioner Ronnie Maez stated, "In all truth though, too, I think ... Rippling's contract ... isn't constitutional to use in government. I mean, I had discussion with Todd. So, then, if they were representative of a government ... they weren't any other counties in the state unless they're home rule, which I think there's only two ... or municipalities that are home rule."

"But, you know, Veronica, you have gotten us more information than what I asked of staff, just from CCI. And ... I'm not happy right now hearing what you just had to say. And I just gotta have more time to think because I just ... this enlightenment has got me ticked off right now."

Brown stated that he is "not married" to Rippling and that he had spoken with Weaver and said, "I hope that Rippling did not overstate what their current businesses are in Colorado."

He added that Rippling would not release information about its clients, stating, "But what I am interested in is our Finance ... Department not being here 'til 8, o'clock on Tuesdays because of software issues and they're putting in these 12- or 13- or 14-hour days because we have a software nightmare."

Maez questioned if the county needs to upgrade "what we're doing" or if the county needs to "educate our staff so they know what they're doing."

He added, "There's all those questions out there right now and the thing is ... I got a phone call from the treasurer this morning ... Rippling's already asking for payment and I told them not to pay anything. This is the second time, Warren."

Brown asked if this was the second time Rippling had asked for payment, which Maez confirmed.

Brown then stated that he had used the software the county is currently using and "I do not feel it is an education process. It is a poor software because you do all this work and it disappears and then you have to go in and you have to redo it all and it may or may not disappear again."

He added that the county Incode software will not be supported in the future, and Maez and Brown discussed the possibility of the county upgrading to a new version of Incode, with Brown indicating that he is "not a fan" of doing this partially because the fixes to prob-

lems in Incode 9 have not been implemented.

"That's what we were told," Maez said.

"We only know what they tell us," Brown responded.

"Right, exactly," Maez commented. "We're only as good as the information we're given. If we're not given all the information that we request, then we're no good."

"But that's not always possible," Brown interjected.

"We're sittin' here spinnin' our wheels," Maez added.

Medina commented that any system will have issues, including that sometimes information entered will disappear, and that she had frequently done payroll at 8 p.m. due to the system being down or other issues.

"Those are gonna be occasional things that may happen," she said.

She added that such issues should not occur frequently and noted that the staff in finance and human resources are fairly new with the potential for a "learning curve."

She added that there is "a lot more to think about" concerning the software and it would potentially be worth speaking to Incode further to learn more about the new version of the software.

In response to a question from Medina, Brown commented that it has been "a couple years" since he last spoken to Incode.

Medina added that it is "very common" to outsource payroll and that it is "not a big deal" with effective security.

Maez concluded the discussion by noting that "sometimes putting in the wrong data ... kicks it back, too."

At the BoCC's Jan. 24 work session, the issue of outsourcing payroll was discussed further.

Derek Woodman raised the issue during his administrative report, noting that it was "contentious topic" and stating that Rippling agreed to a contract, including the stipulations Weaver had proposed.

He added that he had spoken with Eaton and asked him what direction he wants to go, to which Eaton had responded that he wants to move forward with Rippling and that he has concerns about the other providers the county had received bids from.

Derek Woodman then stated that he needed direction from the BoCC on "which way we're gonna go," noting that "some of the opinions of the board ... collectively has either not changed or maybe changed."

He added that the county had asked again about Maez's questions concerning other counties' experiences with the software but Rippling would not reveal its clients.

Maez stated that he had spoken with Weaver, who had reported that the initial contract the county received from Rippling was unconstitutional.

He added that, because this is likely the contract they initially send out to all clients, it is "obvious" that Rippling has no other Colorado county clients with the possible exception of the two home rule counties in the state.

Maez stated that Rippling's lack of openness about its clients is a "red flag" and also raised concerns about the possibility that the county's financial information submitted to Rippling will not be accessible to the citizens.

Weaver noted that all the issues he flagged in Rippling's terms of service had been amended following his communication with the company and that the board had voted to move forward with

Rippling.

He added that, if the board wants to change its direction on the payroll software, it would have to do so by another vote.

Maez stated that the motion had directed staff to move forward with a software company, not specifically with Rippling, which Derek Woodman agreed with.

Maez continued to state that staff needs to get the information about the software provider and negotiate the contract and then bring the contract to the BoCC for a final decision.

Weaver noted that the county had reached an agreement with Rippling that is acceptable under Colorado law, but that the contract had not been executed.

Medina also asked if Rippling is cloud-based and who would own the financial information.

Weaver and Derek Woodman stated that it is cloud-based and the county would own the information.

Medina and Derek Woodman further discussed the functionality of the software, with Derek Woodman stating that Rippling is intended to track time and attendance and to remove the processing of payroll from Incode, although the payroll information will still be reviewed by human resources and finance before being submitted.

Medina commented that she reviewed Rippling's software and capabilities, which she commented looks "nice and usable."

She added that, assuming everything had been negotiated with Weaver, she did not see a reason to not move forward with Rippling, although she agreed with Maez's concerns about the public availability of information.

Weaver clarified that the only information that Rippling will not disclose is its list of clients, but that the financial information entered by the county will be public information.

Brown commented that the county's current software is "near dead" and is "just going to get worse" due to being unsupported.

He reiterated that he is not "married to Rippling," but that he feels from his discussions with county staff and Rippling that Rippling is a superior product.

He added that his prior experience with using payroll software indicated it is valuable in saving time and that, since Rippling is a one-year contract, the BoCC could re-evaluate it later.

"As long as we get away from what we have into something that is better," Brown said. "That's been my contention all along."

Maez reiterated that the payroll software needs to be brought before the board again for a final decision.

Derek Woodman noted that the payroll software is below the threshold of expenditure that would normally require an item to be brought before the board.

Maez replied, "I don't care about that. ... What I care about is it's already been discussed publicly numerous times and we need to finish out as transparent as we can."

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# Sports

## SWIM

### Five Lady Pirates set to compete at state meet

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

A handful of Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swimmers will represent the school at this week's state competition in Thornton.

The 3A competition will be Feb. 10 and 11 at the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center.

The Lady Pirates qualified for state in six events and will compete in five at the season's final meet.

The relay team of Lynelle Bartz, Karis Blackman, Emma Gantt and Ivanna Erne will compete in the 200-meter medley relay.

The relay team of Bartz, Gantt, Evelyn Rose and Erne will compete in the 200-meter freestyle relay.

Bartz will also compete in the 100-meter backstroke.

Erne qualified in the 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter butterfly and 100-meter freestyle, and will compete in the 50 free and 100 butterfly at state.

Coach Heather Miller explained that athletes are allowed to compete in only two individual events at state.

"Our goals for state is for everyone to do their best and hopefully get a relay or individual qualified to swim again Saturday in finals," Miller wrote in a statement to The SUN. "[T]his will be a stretch with their current seeding but still a possibility. This week we will be very specific with speed work and focused on the little details of the specific races for each swimmer."

The Lady Pirates competed at the Southwest Girls Conference Meet in Grand Junction on Feb. 3 and 4, where the 200 freestyle relay team qualified for state.

"Overall the meet was spectacular!" Miller wrote. "We had more swimmers qualify to swim again on Saturday than we ever have before and scored about 5 times more points than we have in the past. Over 80% of our swims were best times and most by a significant amount."

In the 200 medley relay, the team of Bartz, Blackman, Gantt and Erne placed 11th in the primaries with a time of 2 minutes, 9.16 seconds.

The same team finished 12th in the finals with a time of 2:09.59, earning 10 points for the Pirates and qualifying for state.

Another team of Cadence Pair, Leah Blackman, Baylee Rollins and Gemma Slingerland finished



Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Lynelle Bartz swims in the finals for the 200-meter individual medley at last week's Southwest Girls Conference Meet in Grand Junction. Bartz placed 15th in the event.

22nd in the primaries with a time of 2:50.52.

Four Lady Pirates competed in the preliminaries for the 200-meter freestyle: Asia Gorman finished 25th with a time of 2:47.27, Marlowe Hedgecock finished 29th with a time of 2:53.83, Slingerland finished 32nd with a time of 3:08.23, and Leah Blackman finished 33rd in 3:10.99.

A quartet of Lady Pirates also took part in the 200-meter individual medley. In the preliminaries, Bartz took 15th with a time of 2:41.75, Gantt took 23rd in 2:56.70, Karis Blackman finished 27th in 3:12.35, and Rollins finished 28th in 3:19.18.

Bartz advanced to the finals, where she finished 15th again, this time with a time of 2:41.25, which earned two points for the team.

For the 50 free, Erne finished 14th in the preliminaries in 27.09 seconds, Rose finished 28th in 29.79 seconds, Kali Jury finished 32nd in 31.60 seconds and Pair finished 37th in 34.21 seconds.

Erne advanced to the finals in the event, where she finished 16th with a time of 27.49 seconds and earned one point for the team.

In the 100 butterfly preliminaries, Erne finished fifth in 1:08.83,

Gantt finished 16th in 1:16.61, Rose finished 22nd in 1:22.39 and Rollins finished 29th in 1:49.16.

Erne and Gantt advanced to the finals, with Erne finishing fifth with a time of 1:14.64, earning 14 points for the team. Gantt finished 13th in the finals in 1:14.64, earning four points for the team.

In the 100-meter freestyle preliminaries, Dharma Adams finished 33rd in 1:14.02, Jury finished 35th in 1:15.50, Pair finished 36th in 1:17.88 and Bailee Shallenberger finished 41st in 1:25.20.

Slingerland took 24th in the 500-meter freestyle preliminaries with a time of 8:37.53.

In the 200 free relay, the team of Bartz, Gantt, Rose and Erne took ninth in the preliminaries with a time of 1:55.50.

That team took 11th in the finals with a time of 1:56.84, earning 12 points for the team.

A team of Adams, Hedgecock, Asia Gorman and Jury finished 17th in the preliminaries with a time of 2:09.70.

In the 100 backstroke, Bartz finished 12th in the primaries in 1:09.90. She moved on to the finals, where she finished 13th and earned

four points for the team with a time of 1:10.96.

Adams took 30th in the preliminaries with a time of 1:28.53, Gorman took 32nd in 1:31.26 and Shallenberger finished 36th in 1:39.07.

Three Lady Pirates competed in the 100-meter breaststroke preliminaries: Karis Blackman took 20th in 1:25.71, Leah Blackman took 32nd in 1:34.18 and Hedgecock finished 33rd in 1:35.27.

Two Lady Pirates teams competed in the 400-meter freestyle relay.

The team of Karis Blackman, Jury, Adams and Rose finished 15th in the preliminaries with a time of 4:59.91.

That team moved on to compete in the finals, where it took 13th with a time of 4:49.56, earning eight points for the Lady Pirates.

The team of Gorman, Slingerland, Rollins and Pair finished 17th in the preliminaries with a time of 5:22.09, just missing the cutoff to advance to the finals.

Overall, the Pirates finished 11th out of 11 teams at the event (which included 3A, 4A and 5A teams) with 55 team points.

randi@pagosasun.com

### Southwest Region Sportsperson's Caucus to be held Feb. 13

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Sportspersons from across Colorado are invited to Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) Southwest Region caucus meeting with Regional Manager Cory Chick and staff to hear updates regarding angling, hunting and other topics within the region.

The meeting will be conducted both in person and virtually from 6 to 7:45 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13. Those who want to attend are welcome to the Eolus Room at the Durango Community Recreation Center, located at 2700 Main Ave. in Durango.

The meeting will also be streamed live on Zoom. Those interested in the virtual format should register online.

"It is another big year ahead for CPW and we enjoy these opportunities to hear from the public and meet with our communities," Chick said. "This will provide us the opportunity to hear from our two caucus representatives and provide updates on several programs."

The caucus will feature Mia Anstine and Roger Cesario, who represent the CPW Southwest Region as delegates to the statewide Sportsperson's Roundtable.

Among the many topics covered, CPW Aquatic Biologist Dan Brauch will provide an update on the newly designated Gold Medal sections of the Gunnison and Taylor Rivers.

CPW staff will also discuss the five-year big game hunting season

structure and license allocation, the draft of the gray wolf reintroduction plan and an update on the Keep Colorado Wild pass.

The full caucus agenda can be found on the CPW website.

To register for the virtual option,

visit [https://cpw-state-co.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_0Q3KHQzUR3SKOXDSdfhvHg](https://cpw-state-co.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0Q3KHQzUR3SKOXDSdfhvHg).

Call (970) 375-6708 for additional information or go to: <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Roundtable.aspx>.

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## WRESTLING

# Pirates defeated by Mean Moose in Intermountain League Championship dual

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team was felled by the Alamosa Mean Moose with a 36-33 loss in the Intermountain League Championship Dual at home on Feb. 2.

Coach Dan Janowsky highlighted that the Pirates were “underdogs” in the dual, noting, “That could have been pretty one-sided, but we made a good account of it.”

He added, “You know, you don’t feel great when you lose, but at the same time I felt like it was a good night for our program and for our kids. For the confidence I think that they developed and for the way they fought. ... Being underdogs, they fought for every little thing.”

Pagosa received six points from a forfeit in the 215-pound weight class and won six of the remaining 13 matches.

The dual opened with Luke Tressler in the 132-pound weight class being defeated in a 9-3 decision, scoring three points for Alamosa.

Janowsky commented that Tressler’s opponent is “highly regarded,” adding, “He wrestled us very well. Hats off to him. He came out and, you know, Luke has been out of the lineup with knee problems and so ... we started a little bit slow and he jumped on us and it was tough to get back in the match. I think Luke did a very good job of, halfway through the match, he kind of sort of started to settle down and gain control. It was probably too late to win the match, but he did give himself some momentum for the next time around.”

This was followed by Wyatt Hoover, in the 138-pound weight class, being pinned in one minute, 13 seconds, scoring an additional six points for the Mean Moose.

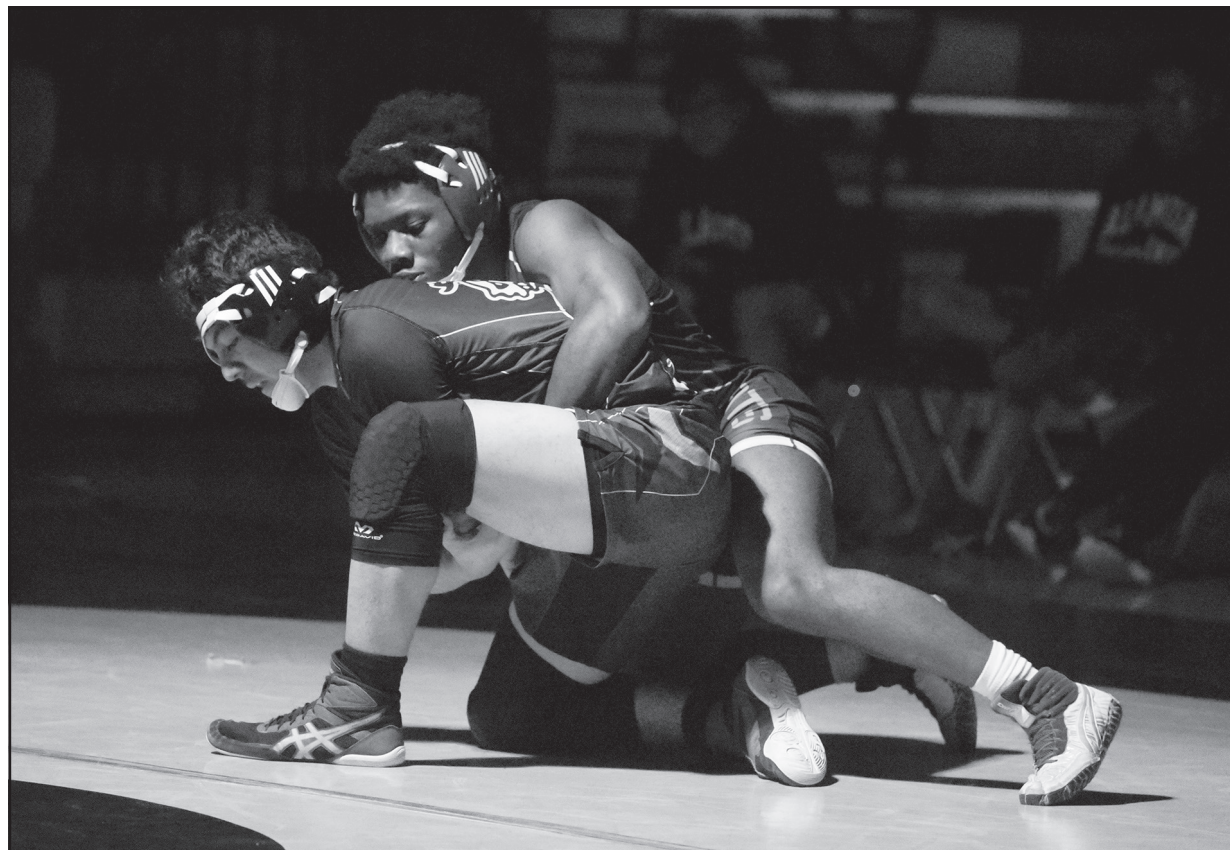
Jacob Miller, in the 144-pound weight class, was then defeated by a 10-6 decision, gaining Alamosa three more points.

In the 150-pound weight class, Chandler Mazur was defeated in a 12-0 major decision, scoring four points for Alamosa.

The dual turned back toward Pagosa with the 157-pound weight class, when Derek Carter pinned his opponent in 3:20, scoring six points for Pagosa.

Janowsky noted that this was a major inflection point in the match.

He commented on the match and dynamics of the dual as a whole, saying, “It is really puzzling sometimes how momentum, even though they wrestle one at a time, it’s easier to understand momentum when we’re all going at once like a team sport. But yeah, one guy’s performance affects the next guy’s performance, and that I think was very evident and I was very proud of that because they do understand, even if you lose, the fight that you put into it can either help the next guy ... or, you know, make it difficult for him. You can lose and still give them a lot of energy. And I felt like that’s what we did, and Alamosa did the same, so it went back and forth. Derek did a good job of stemming the tide and then we got on a roll and I knew that, if you knew their lineup, you knew they were going to win some matches ... those light weights are where they’re very strong, so we had to get those matches ... in the



Pirate wrestler Derek Carter, in the 157-pound weight class, struggles with his opponent during the Intermountain League Championship dual on Feb. 2 in Pagosa. Carter achieved a pin in the match, scoring six points for Pagosa in a dual the Pirates lost 36-33.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

middle and upper weights to have a chance.”

Harley Armijo, in the 165-pound weight class, defeated his opponent in a 6-3 decision, scoring three points for the Pirates.

The coach highlighted Armijo’s performance, stating, “Harley does not have a lot of competitive experience in wrestling, but he shows up every day and gets better and in a tough situation like that ... he did an awesome job and very nearly got some bonus points for us.”

In the 175-pound weight class, Heath Fulbright gained a pin in 33 seconds, scoring six points for the

**“Nobody’s safe in terms of sometimes you have a year where you’ve got some guys who are just like, you know, they can have a really off day and they’d probably still make it.”**

**Coach Dan Janowsky**

Pirates.

Conner Kelley, in the 190-pound weight class, also achieved a pin in 1:22, scoring six points.

In the 285-pound weight class, Antonio Quesada was pinned in 3:03, scoring six points for Alamosa.

In the 106-pound weight class, Anthony Manzanera was defeated in an 8-2 decision, scoring three points for Alamosa.

Gabe Ramirez, in the 113-pound weight class, was defeated in a 17-2 technical fall in 5:37, scoring five points for Alamosa.

Janowsky noted that Ramirez’s performance was “inspiring,” commenting, “He wrestled as hard as he could. He ended up losing by a tech fall, but there were no pin points ... there was no lack of fight on his part,

and that’s the kind of stuff that does set an example for the next guy and just for the team in general.”

Michael Thomas, in the 120-pound weight class, was pinned in 20 seconds, scoring six points for the Mean Moose.

The dual concluded with Colton Lucero in the 126-pound weight class pinning his opponent in 3:42, scoring a final six points for the Pirates.

The coach commented that Lucero’s match was a “big one.”

He added, “Colton as a freshman is giving away some in terms of maturity ... just that kind physical maturity, but he’s got his skills and ... he was going up against a state placer that’s a senior in a high pressure situation. ... That was a back-and-forth match, you know, we had the lead, they had the lead, we got it back and we got him in a position we like on top and were able to crank him over and score a pin in a big match. It was a good way to close out the dual ... made a big difference in the team score and just made a big difference in the mood when the match was over.”

Janowsky reflected on the regular season, noting that the team has “come a long ways” and that the wrestlers on the team have shown improvement.

He also mentioned that the Pirates have a 9-1 regular season record for victories in matches that enter the sudden victory period.

“I think that shows a lot of poise, it shows a lot of grit ... we’ve got some good stamina and ... it gives us hope that ... if you can just keep wrestling and maybe keep the match close as it starts to go down the stretch, you know, you’ve got a great chance to win,” Janowsky said.

As of Feb. 3, Lucero was ranked third in the 3A 126-pound weight class by On the Mat, which is the ranking system used by the Colorado High School Activities Association, staying even with last week’s rankings.

The Pirates’ next competition will be the regional wrestling tournament on Feb. 10 and 11 in Glenwood Springs at Glenwood Springs

High School, with wrestling beginning at 4 p.m. on Feb. 10 and 9 a.m. on Feb. 11.

The coach explained that the team is working on refining its mental clarity and ability to focus on its best techniques to prepare for the final matches of the season.

Janowsky noted that it is an “extremely tough” region, adding that the Pirates will have to be at their “best.”

“Nobody’s safe in terms of sometimes you have a year where you’ve got some guys who are just like, you know, they can have a really off day and they’d probably still make it,” he noted. “But when I say nobody’s safe, I’m not just talking about Pagosa kids, I’m talking about the whole bracket. Nobody’s safe, or very few people are, anyway. It’s gonna make for a very exciting day.”

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In the 190-pound weight class, Pagosa grappler Conner Kelley works to pin his opponent during the Intermountain League Championship dual in Pagosa on Feb. 2. Kelley completed the pin in one minute, 22 seconds to score six points for the Pirates in the dual.

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## BASKETBALL

# Lady Pirates defeat Ignacio and Mancos, fall to Alamosa

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates went 2-1 over the last week, giving themselves a 6-14 record as they head into their final weeks of regular-season action.

They also sit as the No. 22 team in the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings for Colorado 4A girls' basketball, which helps determine postseason seeding.

The week also saw the return of Elizabeth Currier, who was previously out due to injury.

The Lady Pirates traveled to Ignacio on Friday, Feb. 3, to face the 3A Bobcats, and returned home with a three-point win.

The Pirates built a three-point lead in the first quarter, 9-6, and held a four-point lead at halftime, 16-12.

The Bobcats outscored the Pirates 8-7 in the third, and the teams played an even fourth quarter, 9-9, to leave the Lady Pirates with the 32-29 win.

"We played hard against Ignacio and came out with the win," coach Sarah Osborn wrote in a statement to The SUN. "The girls kept their composure the entire game, even with it being a close game the entire time. They were in control of the game and they executed well all the way to the end buzzer. We practiced all week how to end games with a win even when they are close, and how to make smart decisions in the last few minutes of the game."

Annie O'Donnell led the Lady Pirates in scoring in the game with 12 points, which included a 3-pointer. She also had six rebounds, an assist and three blocks.

Kylie Ketchum picked up 10 points in the game, which also included a 3-pointer. Her stats also include two rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Chantelle Caldwell and Karsyn Shahan each contributed five points. Caldwell also had eight rebounds, an assist and a steal. Shahan also notched three rebounds, two assists and seven steals.

Daveyann Snarr had a rebound, two assists and a steal.

Vida Maes picked up a steal, Cassie Brunson had an assist.

The Lady Pirates made four of 13 free-throw attempts and turned the ball over 15 times.

The following day, the team traveled to Alamosa for a rematch against the 4A Mean Moose, but were again handed a loss.

The Mean Moose outscored the Lady Pirates in three of four quarters: 15-4 in the first, 11-7 in the second and 15-10 in the fourth. The Lady Pirates outscored their hosts 12-11 in the third.

Alamosa ultimately logged a 52-33 victory.

"We were in early foul trouble against Alamosa and we didn't play as a team," Osborn wrote. "We dug ourselves into a big hole the first quarter and were never able to make up that point difference. We played a better second half against Alamosa, but we still weren't able to overcome the 18 to 4 start."

Caldwell led Pagosa in scoring with 19 points. She also had two rebounds and an assist.

Elizabeth Currier had five points, which included a 3-pointer, as well as two rebounds, an assist and a steal.

O'Donnell logged four points, an assist and a steal.

Karsyn Shahan put up a 3-pointer and had two steals.

Snarr had two points, two rebounds and an assist.

Ketchum contributed two rebounds and an assist, and Brunson pulled down a rebound.

The team made 13 of 23 free-throw attempts and turned the ball over 13 times.

Then, on Tuesday, the Lady Pirates took a break from league play to face the 2A Mancos Bluejays.

By the end of the first, the Lady Pirates built a 13-9 lead. They extended that lead over the course of the second quarter, when they limited Mancos to two points while scoring 13, giving them a 26-11 lead at halftime.

The Lady Pirates went on to



Lady Pirate Annie O'Donnell fights for a shot against the Mancos Bluejays Tuesday. The Lady Pirates won 52-32, with O'Donnell scoring 12 points.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

outscore the Bluejays in the second half, 14-10 in the third and 12-11 in the fourth, to log a 52-32 win.

The Bluejays are now 10-6 on the season and the No. 24 in the 2A RPI standings.

"Mancos is a good team, and our girls just came out ready to play and play hard. Each girl contributed on offense and defense," Osborn wrote. "They stayed out of foul trouble, and they rebounded well. They moved the ball down the court quickly for some big transition points and executed their offense extremely well. They worked together as a team and you could feel that energy in the gym the entire game. They never let off the gas and stayed focused the whole time. It was a great game played by each and everyone of my girls, a true team effort."

O'Donnell had 12 points in the affair, which included a 3-pointer. She also had three rebounds, an assist and a block.

Currier had 10 points, three rebounds and two assists.

Snarr had nine points, which included two 3-pointers, as well as a rebound, two assists and three steals.

Shahan had seven points, which included a 3-pointer. She also tallied four rebounds, an assist, three steals and a block.

Ketchum and Caldwell each put up six points. Ketchum also had two rebounds, two assists, two steals and a block. Caldwell had a rebound and two steals.

Charity Domingo picked up two points in the game, and Amber Snarr had a rebound.

The Lady Pirates made four of six free throws and turned the ball over 21 times.

The Lady Pirates are entering the final week of regular-season action in third place in the 3A/4A Intermountain League, behind Centauri and Alamosa.

The Centauri Falcons are 8-0 in

league play and 15-2 overall. They sit as the No. 3 team in the 3A RPI standings.

The Mean Moose sit in second in the IML with a 6-1 league mark. They have a 14-4 overall record and are the No. 6 team in the 4A RPI standings.

The Lady Pirates are third in the league with a 4-4 IML record.

The Bobcats sit in fourth with a 2-4 league record and 8-8 overall record. The Bobcats are the No. 12 team in the 3A RPI standings.

The Montezuma-Cortez Panthers follow with a 2-5 league record and 4-9 overall record. They are the No. 37 team in the 3A RPI standings.

The Bayfield Wolverines are in last place in the league with an 0-8 league mark and 3-11 overall record. They are the No. 45 team in the 3A RPI standings.

Over the next week, Pagosa will play a pair of league games and a nonleague affair against the 2A Monte Vista Pirates.

At 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10, the Lady Pirates will take on the Wolverines in Bayfield.

The Pirates defeated the Wolverines 63-14 on Jan. 21.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, at 4 p.m., the Lady Pirates will welcome the Panthers to town.

The Pirates logged a 51-44 win in Cortez on Jan. 27.

On Tuesday, Feb. 14, Pagosa's Lady Pirates will travel to Monte Vista for a Pirates-versus-Pirates affair that is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Monte Vista is 8-4 on the season and is the No. 21 team in the 2A RPI standings.

randi@pagosasun.com

### Informative.

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## BASKETBALL

# Pirates tame Bobcats, marooned by Mean Moose

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team went 1-1 in league action over the last week, moving the team to 5-3 in league play and 14-4 overall.

That places the Pirates third in the 3A/4A Intermountain League (IML), behind the 4A Alamosa Mean Moose (8-0 in league play, 17-1 overall) and 3A Centauri Falcons (6-2 in league play, 14-3 overall).

On Friday, Feb. 3, the team traveled to Ignacio for a league game against the 3A Bobcats and returned home with a 54-37 win, which was also coach Wes Lewis' 300th win in high school varsity coaching.

"I thought Ignacio, ... both their bigs had really good games for them," Lewis said. "They blocked a lot of shots, changed a lot of shots. You know, give some credit to the Ignacio bigs. But, ... we obviously got enough done and kind of had a little cushion going in there at halftime and kept it going in the second half."

Lewis highlighted Chase Harper's defensive work in the game.

"I thought Chase Harper did a really good job defensively on a kid that they got back from an injury. ... Chase did a nice job on him. He's a good player," Lewis said.

The coach also noted the difficulties in playing in Ignacio.

"Ignacio's always a hostile environment: it's a small gym, it's a short court, the fans are right on top of you, it's always loud," he said, adding the coaches told the kids it's a tough place to play and a tough place to win. "We were glad to get the win. It was a nice bounce back ... in the middle of two Alamosa games. It was good to get a win."

Blake Laner had a double-double, tallying 17 points and 13 rebounds. He also had two assists.

Gunner Dozier picked up 11 points, which included a trio of 3-pointers. He also had a rebound and three assists.

Colt Lewis had seven points, which included a 3-pointer, and had a rebound, three assists and a steal.

Kayson Shahan had six points (including a 3-pointer), four rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Aaron Aucoin picked up five points, two rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Seth Aucoin contributed four points and two assists.

Harper and Seth Zeigler each had two points. Harper also had five rebounds, three assists and a steal.

Nate Kinsley tallied a rebound and an assist.

The team made seven of 14 shots from the charity stripe and turned the ball over eight times.

Lewis added the Bobcats are better than their record indicates, especially since they play in a tough IML and have had a tough schedule.

"We were glad to get the win," Wes Lewis reiterated.

The Bobcats are currently 0-7 in league play, 4-12 on the season and are the No. 29 team in the 3A RPI standings.

The next day, the Pirates traveled to Alamosa to again take on the Mean Moose.

Unfortunately for the Pirates, the Mean Moose dealt them another loss, this time 48-34.

Wes Lewis noted the Pirates had another slow start in the game and were down 7-0 early.

He added he called a time out to "kind of rally the troops a little bit," then the teams started trading baskets.

The Pirates went into halftime down by six, he noted.

"We came out in the third quarter and kind of got going a little bit," he said. "We had it cut to 20-22 for about three or four trips and we just could not get over the hump. And then, similar to what happened kind of at the beginning of the fourth quarter at home, ... it was about the last two and a half minutes of the third, we just had about three or four costly mistakes, costly turnovers, and that led to some easy points."

He called that the difference in the game.

Wes Lewis said the Pirates did a good job defending against 3-pointers, which the Mean Moose hurt the Pirates with at the game in Pagosa.

"So, we took that away from 'em, but they got to the rim on dribble



Photo courtesy Rebecca Aucoin

Pagosa's Blake Laner puts up a shot against the Ignacio Bobcats on Feb. 3. Laner picked up another double-double on the night, logging 17 points and 13 rebounds.

drive, which is gonna happen when you extend yourself to take the three away, and our help defense wasn't good and our individual defense of the dribble drive wasn't great, so, you know, they made up for it by getting to the rack," he said.

He also pointed out how good Alamosa is.

The Mean Moose are now the No. 1 team in the 4A Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings.

"They're good. We need to start there. They're well-coached, they've got some really good athletes. They're playing really well, and we just, we didn't do anything to help ourselves out. We were 36 percent from the free-throw line, which is extremely unacceptable for a 4A varsity boys' basketball team."

The team made four of 11 shots from the free-throw line.

The coach also noted the team didn't shoot well from the field.

Dozier led the team with eight points, which included a pair of 3-pointers. He also had a rebound, an assist and two steals.

Seth Aucoin and Aaron Aucoin each had six points. Seth Aucoin's effort included a pair of 3-pointers and an assist. Aaron Aucoin's night included a 3-pointer and seven rebounds.

Laner had five points, 11 rebounds and an assist.

Harper picked up four points, a rebound and an assist.

Colt Lewis had three points, off a 3-pointer, as well as two rebounds and two steals.

Shahan had two points and two

rebounds.

The team turned the ball over 14 times.

The Pirates are fifth in the 4A RPI standings.

Wes Lewis said the team has been talking about playing 32 minutes of solid, clean, error-free

**"We just can't have those ... four trips in a row with turnovers. It hasn't happened a lot this year, but, unfortunately, over there that was kind of what it was. ... It's kind of a slurry of things."**

Coach Wes Lewis

basketball to be successful going into the playoffs.

"Unfortunately, we haven't been able to quite do that," he said, adding the effort is there.

He indicated the team tries to learn from the games moving forward.

"We just can't have those ... four trips in a row with turnovers. It hasn't happened a lot this year, but, unfortunately, over there that was kind of what it was. ... It's kind of a slurry of things."

He added the Pirates acknowl-

edged they're at a crossroads where they can either bounce back and work to win the next four games or not.

If they can win their remaining four games, the coach added, the team has a good chance at hosting some of the state playoffs.

This week, the Pirates will take on two league opponents, the Bayfield Wolverines and the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers.

Both teams, the coach pointed out, shoot a lot of 3-pointers and shoot them well.

On Friday, the Pirates will travel to Bayfield to take on the Wolverines at 7 p.m.

The Wolverines sit fifth in the IML with a 2-6 league record and 8-9 overall record. They are the No. 24 team in the 3A RPI standings.

The coach said the Wolverines have some players playing really well, meaning the Pirates are going to have to be "locked in" defensively and limit turnovers.

Saturday, the Pirates will welcome the Panthers to town for a 5:30 p.m. game.

The Panthers are fourth in the IML standings and 25th in the 3A RPI standings. The team is 2-5 in league play and 6-9 overall.

Wes Lewis noted the Panthers are athletic and quick.

On Tuesday, the Pirates will travel to Monte Vista to take on that town's Pirates in a 7 p.m. nonleague affair.

Monte Vista is 7-6 on the season and is the No. 33 team in the 2A RPI standings.

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# Commissioners hear updates on airport, solid waste and more

By **Josh Pike**  
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard updates from Airport Manager Chris Torres and Public Works and Solid Waste Director Kevin Pogue at its Jan. 24 work session.

Torres opened his update by explaining that the airport's income from fuel and fees was down approximately \$10,000 for 2022, with every month of the year being lower than 2021, which he attributed to pilots flying less overall.

He stated that in 2021 the airport brought in \$43,644, while in 2022 it brought in \$33,666.

Torres added that he had sent out 71 hangar leases on Jan. 23 for a total of \$94,919.

He stated that the airport has added 19 hangars since 2019, although their growth has slowed down, and that the airport is working on installing new fire hydrants to maintain compliance with regulations.

He also explained that the chute on the airport's oldest snowblower recently broke and the airport is looking at potential repair or replacement of the machine.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked what the average lease cost for a hangar is.

Torres explained that this year the price is 52 cents per square foot, which increases with the Denver consumer price index every year.

He added that all hangar leases except one are annual.

Maez commented that he was partially asking due to a need to generate more revenue from the airport due to its increased usage and costs.

Maez recommended that Torres should work with County Manager Derek Woodman to determine how to increase profits, which Torres stated he is in the process of doing.

Woodman explained that he and Torres are looking at modifying the lease agreement with the fixed base operator (FBO) to "come closer to breaking even."

He noted that the airport has never broken even and has required contributions from the county's general fund every year.

He added that the FBO lease is "very much written to benefit the operator at the FBO and not so much the county."

Woodman also elaborated that the airport has two snowblowers, including the one Torres referenced, which Woodman described as "terminally broken" and likely impos-

sible to repair as well as a third that has been broken for years and serves as a source of parts.

He also explained that the recently broken snowblower is from 1984 while the sole functioning snowblower is from 1993.

He added that meeting Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards for snow requires a snowblower for clearing runways and taxiways, and that he and Torres had located a potential replacement snowblower in Minneapolis, Minn. that dates to 2016 that they are investigating.

He noted that it would be useful to have a more recently manufactured snowblower and that in photographs of this snowblower and the most recent 2023 model, they appear to be identical.

Woodman explained that having only one snowblower extends the operational day at the airport by "hours and hours" and that, once research on the new snowblower is completed, they will bring the purchase to the BoCC for approval.

He also expressed that vacancy savings would likely cover the purchase, although there is a possibility that a portion of the money will need to come out of reserves.

Woodman noted that the county will also seek any available grants to cover the costs.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how much space is available for additional hangars.

Torres explained there is "a lot" of space available, although the county would need to determine whether it would put in pavement for the new hangars or whether it would require the leases to do this.

Maez commented that he felt that the pavement should be paid for by the persons leasing the hangars as part of the effort to make the airport cost-neutral.

Brown inquired if Torres' crew had been able to open up the lights to enable nighttime flights to the airport.

Torres explained that the lights were in the process of being cleared, but it is a slow process due to the large area around the lights that must be cleared to make them visible to incoming pilots.

Torres stated that he hoped the lights would be cleared by the end of the week.

Maez thanked Torres for his efforts at clearing the lights to ensure that nighttime emergency flights can use the airport.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked Torres what his plan is for building additional hangars.

Torres explained that the airport leases pilots the space for the hangar, but the pilot is responsible for the construction of the hangar.

Medina asked Torres if there is any other equipment he needs for the airport and how long the airport had been closed.

Torres clarified that the airport was not closed and that he had no control over the closure of the airport except for when his staff is plowing snow on the runways.

Instead, he explained that the FAA uses reports from the airport to determine when it needs to close and makes the final decision.

Torres stated that this arrangement is "nice" as it removes the responsibility of deciding on closures from county staff and insulates them from the "pushback" that can occur when the airport closes.

He also explained that the airport had been closed for night operations since Monday, Jan. 23.

Brown noted that most night flights are connected to emergencies such as with Flight For Life Colorado.

Torres noted that on the night of Jan. 14 the airport had had a Flight For Life aircraft spin off the runway, which had caused a closure of the airport and had done significant damage to the aircraft.

Woodman noted that there were some closures of the airport on the week of Jan. 16, although the airport was opened by the afternoon of Jan. 21.

## Buildings and Grounds, Solid Waste update

The BoCC then heard an update from Pogue on the Buildings and Ground and Solid Waste departments.

Pogue noted that there was relatively little activity in Buildings and Grounds, although the department hired a new staff member.

Pogue moved on to update the board about the Solid Waste Department, stating that the department is in the process of receiving a new sign for the landfill as well as 16,000 feet of litter fencing for the landfill which will be installed in the spring.

He added that the new landfill compactor was expected to be delivered at the end of January and that the department had acquired new software for processing payments at the landfill.

Pogue stated that the office and entry road for the landfill were near complete and that he was working with Mountain Home and Security on installing security cameras at the landfill.

## Sandhill cranes to be featured at Audubon February meeting

By **Jean Zirnhelt**  
Weminuche Audubon Society

Sandhill cranes at two national wildlife refuges will take the spotlight at the February meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

In January, Herb Grover and other members of the local photography club and Audubon chapter escaped Pagosa snow and made a trip to Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in southern New Mexico. Protected since 1939 as an important stopover point for migrating waterfowl, it serves as the winter home for many thousands of cranes, geese and ducks. Visiting the refuge is an overnight trip from here and a four-season destination for wildlife viewing.

Grover will show photographs of cranes and other waterfowl seen

on the recent trip to the Bosque. A man of many talents and interests, he serves as the vice president of our Weminuche Audubon board, volunteers at Chimney Rock National Monument and is a recently retired professor of biology at Wayland Baptist University.

Included in his presentation will be a closer area which is also known for sandhill crane viewing, the national wildlife refuge located outside Monte Vista, Colo. Established in 1952 as the first national wildlife refuge in Colorado, this important wetlands habitat is a stark contrast to the surrounding arid environment. More than 200 species of birds and other wildlife spend time at this refuge. In late February, sandhill cranes start arriving to feed and prepare for their long migrations to breeding areas further north.

Next month marks the 40th anniversary of the Monte Vista Crane Festival, celebrated this year from March 10-12. Grover will provide a description of the festival where tours, workshops and talks are all part of the fun. Visit its website, mvcranefest.org, to reserve a spot in the activities.

Join us at the Community Methodist Church on Lewis Street for this meeting on Feb. 15. Arrive at 6 p.m. for social time before the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. In appreciation for our meeting space, we welcome donations of nonperishable items for the church food bank. A Zoom link for those unable to join in person will be posted on our website, weminucheaudubon.org, before the meeting. Audubon events are open to the public and we welcome guests at our meetings.

According to Pogue, he also hired a new employee for Solid Waste to work at both the landfill and transfer station.

The new hydrospray trailer is in production, according to Pogue, and both pumps at the landfill are now automated.

He added that a liner repair project at the landfill has been approved by the state and that he is moving forward with finding a contractor for the project.

Pogue indicated that his goals for the year include new buildings at the transfer station and landfill to shelter equipment and recycling.

"It's going to be a good year," Pogue said. "We're plugging away. I think we're doing really well. We've got ... a lot of things going."

Brown complemented Pogue on the lack of trash on the roadways near the landfill.

Pogue stated that he feels this year will give him a chance to complete the projects that rolled over from last year at the landfill.

"For years the landfill has been lacking, and we're catching up," Pogue said.

Medina commented that the landfill looks "totally different" compared to its prior condition.

She also asked how the scale is "working out," and Maez added, "How's the feedback on the scale?"

Pogue stated that it is a "mixed bag," with some commercial haulers paying less than expected.

He added that he had not run all the numbers yet, but he feels the new arrangement is "pretty close to where we need to be."

Maez then raised the issue of potentially acquiring a glass pulverizer.

Pogue stated that the market for recycling glass is becoming more active but he has not had a chance to "venture down that road yet."

Woodman highlighted the need to have a building to store the glass out of the weather and the group discussed the space savings created by having glass crushed instead of whole.

Pogue also mentioned that he is working on potentially securing grant funding with the code enforcement office to run cleanup initiatives.

Woodman highlighted that the county acquired a new software package for the landfill which is capable of calculating prices based on tonnage which would also be used in the Arboles transfer station.

He also discussed that the county is in talks with the owner of the property adjoining the current landfill about potentially purchasing land to expand the landfill, and commented the owner is "extremely open" to it and that it would allow the landfill to expand "more than its current footprint."

"It would be able to get us way beyond our lifetimes," Woodman concluded.

[josh@pagosassun.com](mailto:josh@pagosassun.com)

# Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Dr.  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO

Defendants: Capital Ventures Inc., Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2022CV030072  
Attorney or Party Without Party: Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule

Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO  
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: CAPITAL VENTURES, INC.

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: January 12, 2023  
Published in The Pagosa Sun.  
First Publication: January 19, 2023.  
Last Publication: February 16, 2023.  
Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO  
Archuleta County District Court  
109 Harman Park Dr.  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
970-264-5892  
Case No.: 2022CV030079  
Division: 1  
Crm:  
Plaintiff: CROWLEY RANCH RESERVE OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., a Colorado nonprofit corporation v.  
Defendants: FLOYD SEITZINGER; DEBRA SEITZINGER  
Attorneys for Plaintiff:  
Orten Cavanagh Holmes & Hunt, LLC  
Hal R. Kyles, #23891  
1445 Market Street, Suite 350  
Denver, CO 80202  
Phone Number: (720) 221-9780  
Matter ID #3115.0003

SUMMONS [BY PUBLICATION]

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this Summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
This is an action of foreclosure pursuant to Rule 105, C.R.C.P. to the real property situate in Chromo, Colorado more particularly described as Crowley Ranch Res 4 Lot: D-12 CRR 4 Twn: 32N Rng: 1E, County of Archuleta, State of Colorado.  
Dated: January 9, 2023.  
ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC  
By: /s/ Hal R. Kyles, #23891  
Hal R. Kyles, #23891  
Published in The Pagosa Springs Sun  
First Publication: January 19, 2023  
Last Publication: February 16, 2023  
This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4(g), Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure.  
Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
DATE FILED: December 16, 2022 12:00 PM  
Case No. 2022DR29  
In re the Marriage of:  
JIMMY DEE ELLEDGE, Petitioner and  
MICHELLE MONTOYA-ELLEDGE, Respondent  
Action for Dissolution of Marriage  
TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT MICHELLE MONTOYA-ELLEDGE: A copy of the Petition and Summons may be obtained from the Clerk of this Court during regular business hours. Default judgment may be entered against Respondent, if Respondent fails to appear or file a response within thirty-five days after date of Publication.  
/s/ Debbie Tully  
Clerk of the District Court  
Archuleta County  
109 Harman Park Dr/PO Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Published January 19, 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE  
AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED  
To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom it May Concern, and more especially to:  
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CHROMO, CO 81128  
Dora Jaramillo  
C/O LEO JARAMILLO  
25250 RIVERSIDE AVE  
WARRENVILLE, IL 60555  
Josefita Valdez, now deceased  
C/O MARCIA RUBILDA GARCIA  
P O BOX 384  
PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147  
Demetrio Martinez, now deceased  
C/O BEVERLY JEAN MARTINEZ  
2544 RIO VISTA WAY  
FARMINGTON, NM 87401  
Joe Eloy Martinez, now deceased  
C/O MURRAY ARNOLD MARTINEZ  
1780 POINSETTIA AVE  
ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223  
Demetrio Martinez, now deceased  
C/O MARKIE LEROY MARTINEZ  
3861 COUNTY ROAD 361 # 3861  
CHROMO, CO 81128  
John O. Martinez  
C/O ANETTE MCINNIS  
4410 COUNTY ROAD 359  
CHROMO, CO 81128

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 7th day of November 2019, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to Mark Shannon the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

**The W1/2SW1/4 of Section 1, Township 32 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. and the N1/2NE1/4 of Section 11, Township 32 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M., all in Archuleta County, Colorado.**  
**LESS AND EXCEPT THOSE PARCELS IN THE N1/2NE1/4 OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, N.M.P.M. AND THE N1/2NW1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, N.M.P.M., ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO, BEING DESIGNATED AS PARCEL 1, PARCEL 2, AND PARCEL 3 AS SET FORTH AND SHOWN ON THE**  
**Survey recorded July 22, 1985 as Reception No. 132566.**  
**ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT THAT TRACT OF LAND IN THE N1/2NW1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 32 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, N.M.P.M., ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN Quitclaim Deeds recorded September 7, 1999 as Reception Nos. 99008961, 99008962, 99008963, 99008964, and 99008965.**

Account Number: R017099  
Schedule Number: 615101300081  
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2019-04768  
and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to Mark Shannon.  
That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2018;  
That said property was taxed or specially assessed in the name of Demetrio Martinez, now deceased and Josefita Valdez, now deceased and Dora Jaramillo and Delfin Martinez and Joe Eloy Martinez, now deceased and John O. Martinez for said year 2018;  
That said Mark Shannon on the 12th day of December 2022, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;  
That the Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to Mark Shannon on the 24th day of May 2023, unless the same has been redeemed;  
Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.  
Witness my hand this 3rd day of January 2023  
/s/ Elsa P White  
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado  
Published January 26, February 2 and 9, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, Archuleta COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 2022CV030038  
DIVISION NO. MG  
**INITIAL COMBINED NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AND RIGHT TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
Plaintiff, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association v.  
Defendants, DONALD DEEN BOOTH; ANITA BOOTH  
**SHERIFF SALE 2022-11**

This is to advise you that a Sheriff sale proceeding has been commenced through the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office pursuant to a Court Order and Decree dated October 7, 2022, and C.R.S. 38-38-101 et seq, by Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, the current holder of a lien recorded on September 5, 2019 at Rec. No. 21905036, in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The judicial foreclosure is based on a default under the Declaration of Restrictions Pagosa, recorded on June 24, 1970 at Reception No. 73297 in the records of the Clerk and Recorder of the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. The Declaration and notices, as recorded, establish a lien for the benefit of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, which lien being foreclosed may NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Description of property to be foreclosed:  
Regarding: Lot 343 and 344 Pagosa Trails. According to the office plat of record in the Office of the County Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado. Also known as: 54 Landau Dr, Pagosa Springs CO 81147

Notice of Sale  
You and each of you are hereby notified that a Sheriff's Sale of the related property is to be conducted by the Civil Division of the Sheriff's Office of Archuleta County Colorado at 10:00 a.m., on the 22nd day of March 2023, at 85 Harman Park Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; phone number 970-264-8434. At which sale, the above-described real property and improvements thereon will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of purchase, as provided by law.

Plaintiff makes warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.**

Plaintiff makes warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.**

Plaintiff makes warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY.**

Plaintiff makes warranty relating to title, possession, or quiet enjoyment in and to said real property in connection with this sale.

First Publication: January 26, 2023  
Last Publication: February 23, 2023  
Published In: Pagosa Sun  
The name and address of the attorney representing the holder of the evidence of the debt is as follows:  
ORTEN CAVANAGH HOLMES & HUNT, LLC  
1445 Market Street, Suite 350  
Denver, CO 80202  
DATED this 5th day of January, 2023.  
Rich Valdez, Sheriff  
Archuleta County, Colorado  
By: /s/ Lorena Medina  
Lorena Medina, Office Manager  
Published January 26, February 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION  
CRS 38-38-103 FORECLOSURE  
SALE NO. 2022-010

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:  
On November 29, 2022, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.  
Original Grantor(s) Deandria Lisa Saltzmann  
Original Beneficiary(ies) MJB Trust  
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt MJB Trust  
Date of Deed of Trust February 20, 2019  
County of Recording Archuleta

Recording Date of Deed of Trust February 21, 2019  
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21901047  
Original Principal Amount \$202,400.00  
Outstanding Principal Balance \$191,352.64  
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.  
**THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. Tracts 14 and 15, Alpine Lakes Ranch - Elk Ridge Unit #1, according to the map thereof, filed August 9, 1996 as Reception No. 199605791, in the office of the Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado. Also known by street and number as: 1112 S Black Bear Place, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.**

**THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.**

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.  
THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 03/30/2023, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 2/2/2023  
Last Publication 2/9/2023  
Name of Publication: Pagosa Springs Sun  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;**  
DATE: 11/29/2022  
Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado  
By: Elsa P. White, Public Trustee  
The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Eggleston Kosnik, LLC 160 E. 12th Street, Ste 7, Durango, CO 81301 (970) 403-1580  
Attorney File # Saltzmann

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.  
©Public Trustee's Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015  
Published February 2, 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
109 Harman Park Drive  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Plaintiff: The Board of County Commissioners of Archuleta County, CO

Defendants: Canadian Crafts, Inc., Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District, Archuleta County Public Trustee, and all Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest in the Subject Matter of this Action.  
Case Number 2023CV030010  
Attorney or Party Without Party: Todd A. Weaver, Reg. No. 31708  
P.O. Box 1507  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Phone Number (970) 264-8321  
Fax Number: Withheld Pursuant to Rule

Email: TWeaver@ArchuletaCounty.org  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO  
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: CANADIAN CRAFTS, INC.

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
Dated: January 26, 2023  
Published in The Pagosa Sun.  
First Publication: February 2, 2023.  
Last Publication: March 2, 2023.  
Published February 2, 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

**A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF)**  
§1-13.5-01, 1-13.5-102(3), 32-1-905(2), C.R.S.  
**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,** and, particularly, to the electors of the Piedra Park Metropolitan Improvement District of Archuleta County, Colorado.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held on the 2nd day of May, 2023, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, 2 directors will be elected to serve 4-year terms and 3 directors will be elected to serve 2-year terms. Eligible electors of the Piedra Park Metropolitan Improvement District interested in serving on the board of directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO):

Edna Marquez  
55 Milton Lane  
Arboles, CO, 81121  
970-883-5445  
piedrapark@yahoo.com

Self-Nomination Forms can be picked up at the Water Plant address above.

The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance is close of business on February 24, 2023. Affidavit of Intent To Be A Write-In-Candidate forms must be submitted to the office of the designated election official by the close of business on Monday, February 27, 2023 (the sixth fourth day before the election).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, an application for an absentee ballot shall be filed with the designated election official no later than the close of business on Tuesday preceding the election, April 25, 2023. Designated Election Official Signature  
Published January 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Region 9 Economic Development District  
of Southwest Colorado  
Phone: (970) 247-9621  
shak@region9edd.org  
Request for Bids (RFB)

La Plata County Carrier Neutral  
Location (CNL) Remodel  
Details and plans can be found at:  
<https://region9edd.org/broadband>

Pre-B



## Continued from A16

767 Durango Road  
Durango, Colorado 81301  
Published February 9, 16 and 23, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs Sun*.

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PAGOOSA AREA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**, and, particularly, to the electors of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District of Archuleta County, Colorado.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a regular election will be held on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023** between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, three (3) Directors will be elected to serve a term of four (4) years and two (2) Directors will be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. Eligible Electors of the District interested in serving on the Board of Directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form from Renee Lewis, the Designated Election Official for the District, on the District's website at [www.pawsd.org/district-business/pawsd-board-of-directors](http://www.pawsd.org/district-business/pawsd-board-of-directors) and at the District's administrative office located at 100 Lyn Ave, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Self-Nomination and Acceptance forms must be filed with the Designated Election Official, either by email at [deo@pawsd.org](mailto:deo@pawsd.org) or in person at the District's administrative office address above, no earlier than January 1, 2023 nor later than Friday, February 24, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that applications for absentee or replacement ballots may be filed with the Designated Election Official at the District's administrative office address above between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (closed 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.) from April 18, 2023 until May 2, 2023. All absentee or replacement ballots must be returned to the District's administrative office at 100 Lyn Ave, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 by May 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**PAGOOSA AREA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT**  
By: /s/ Renee Lewis  
Designated Election Official  
Published in: The Pagosa Sun  
Published on: February 9, 2023  
Published February 9, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado  
Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, P.O. Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Tel. 970.264.2400

**Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.**  
**Plaintiff**  
v.  
**Frank O Nelson, et al**  
**Defendants**

**Case No.: 2022CV30048**  
**COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
**Sheriff Sale 2023-05**

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered November 30, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof

Owner(s):  
FRANK O NELSON  
MARGARET J NELSON  
RONALD L HAYNES  
MARIE K HAYNES  
IVY J TABOR  
MICHAEL D BRUCE  
PATRICIA A ANGEL, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF DANIEL J ANGEL, DECEASED  
CRYSTAL PHILLIPS  
JIMMY D GILBERT  
NELDA F GILBERT  
BRIAN HORN  
ANGELA HORN  
CAROLYN E WRIGHT  
MARION WEINZWEIG  
CELIA KATZ

Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses, recorded on August 2, 1990, at Book 303, Page 104, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
Association Assessments Due to: Peregrine Property Owners Association, Inc.  
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"  
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"

Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act.  
**THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.**

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST**

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will, at 11 o'clock A.M., on 14th of April, 2023, Sale Number 2023-05 in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: 2/09/2023  
Last Publication: 3/09/2023  
Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun  
**NOTICE OF RIGHTS**  
**YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.**  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.**

**THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.**

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:  
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office for Archuleta County, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.  
**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed January 6, 2023. Mike Le Roux, Sheriff, Archuleta County, Colorado  
By: /s/ Lorena Medina  
Lorena Medina, Office Manager  
EXHIBIT "A"  
Village Pointe Condominiums  
Matter Amount  
ALBERT F PHILLIPS and DEBRA K PHILLIPS (C#179300520) Unit Weeks Numbers 16, Unit Number 7517, Building Number 5, Phase III  
Unpaid Assessments: \$3,798.79  
Interest: \$1,953.44  
Late Fees: \$75.00  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,127.33  
RONALD L HAYNES and MARIE K HAYNES (C#179704622) A 154,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7807-7810 in Building Number(s) 4 and 5,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$761.38  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,127.33  
RONALD L HAYNES and MARIE K HAYNES (C#179704622) A 154,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 7 and 8,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$988.26  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00

Total: \$2,354.21  
IVY J TABOR (C#179705249) A 84,000 / 35,486,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7813-7816 in Building Number(s) 7 and 8,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$655.69  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,021.64  
MICHAEL D BRUCE (C#179803994) A 105,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7825-7826 in Building Number(s) 13,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$747.93  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,133.88

PATRICIA ANGEL, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP OF DANIEL J ANGEL, DECEASED (C#439902388) A 69,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7843-7844 in Building Number(s) 22,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$730.11  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,096.06  
CRYSTAL PHILLIPS (C#179904420) A 308,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7845-7846 in Building Number(s) 23,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,676.23  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$3,042.18  
JIMMY D GILBERT and NELDA F GILBERT (C#170000673) A 84,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 32,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$714.00  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,079.95

BRIAN HORN and ANGELA HORN (C#550004006) A 308,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7863-7864 in Building Number(s) 49,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$10,128.92  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$11,494.87  
CAROLYN E WRIGHT (C#170906267) A 210,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7859-7860 in Building Number(s) 30,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$3,406.29  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$4,772.24  
MARION WEINZWEIG and CELIA KATZ (C#179801253) A 49,000 / 17,743,000 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 7823-7824 in Building Number(s) 12,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,218.14  
Cost: \$365.95  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Total: \$2,584.09

In Peregrine Townhouses. All as tenants in common with the other undivided interest owners of said buildings as depicted on the Plats recorded in Reception Numbers 173553-173555, 98002629, 99006555, 99011974, 20005495, 20010666, and subject to Declaration of Protective Covenants and Internal Ownership for Peregrine Townhouses recorded as Reception Number 173556, as has been amended, supplemented, and/or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.  
Published February 9, 16, 23, March 2 and 9, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado  
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr, P.O. Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Tel. 970.264.2400

**Eagle's Loft Property Owners Association, Inc.**  
**Plaintiff**  
v.  
**Jennifer Smith, et al**  
**Defendants**

**Case No.: 2022CV30047**  
**COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
**Sheriff Sale 2023-04**

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Individual and/or Interval Ownership for Eagle's Loft Condominiums, recorded on July 29, 1983, in Book 200, page 834, Reception No. 117700, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered November 30, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof

Owner(s):  
JENNIFER SMITH  
JIMMY HAINES  
EMLIE M HAINES  
JOEL MATTHEW MONAGHAN  
MARISA EUGENIA MONAGHAN  
ETHEL P KRAMER, TRUSTEE OF THE KRAMER FAMILY TRUST  
JAMES P KOEHLER  
J FRANCISCO MORENO  
ARTHUR B BARBER  
ORA BARBER  
VALARIE J DANIEL A/K/A VALARIE DANIEL  
RICHARD G HANNA  
SANDRA STAFFORD DROST  
KENNETH LEE DROST  
GEORGE S REHER  
DORIS E REHER  
LILNY P LEE  
JERRY ROBISON  
KAREN ROBISON  
DONAL LEE KNUTSON  
JAMES D NICOSON  
KAREN V NICOSON  
CONSTANCE M WASHINGTON  
CATHY UNDERHILL DBA CATHY'S COTTAGE, LLC  
MICHELLE D OSBORN  
STEVE OSBORN  
JOHN P DAUER JR  
PATRICIA H DAUER  
STANLEY E NEWELL  
JOYCE A NEWELL  
PHYLLIS A WILLIAMS, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP OF JOHN B WILLIAMS, DECEASED  
SUSAN E ODERY  
AL F PHILLIPS  
DEBBIE K PHILLIPS

Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Individual and/or Interval Ownership for Eagle's Loft Condominiums, recorded on July 29, 1983, in Book 200, page 834, Reception No. 117700, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Eagle's Loft Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
Association Assessments Due to: Eagle's Loft Property Owners Association, Inc.  
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"  
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"

Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act.  
**THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.**

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST**

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will, at 10 o'clock A.M., on 14th of April, 2023, Sale Number 2023-04 in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

**CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.**

**THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.**

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:  
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office for Archuleta County, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.  
**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed January 6, 2023. Mike Le Roux, Sheriff, Archuleta County, Colorado  
By: /s/ Lorena Medina  
Lorena Medina, Office Manager  
EXHIBIT "A"  
Eagle's Loft Condominiums  
Matter Amount  
JENNIFER SMITH (C#170306088) Unit Weeks Numbers 44, Unit Number 53, Building Number 53, Phase 3  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,017.58  
Interest: \$289.47  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82  
RYO HAINES and EMLIE A HAINES (C#171000227) Unit Weeks Numbers 31, Unit Number 33, Building Number 33, Phase III  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82  
JOEL MATTHEW MONAGHAN and MARISA EUGENIA MONAGHAN (C#171207707) Unit Weeks Numbers 43, Unit Number 48, Building Number 48, Phase IV  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82

JOEL MATTHEW MONAGHAN and MARISA EUGENIA MONAGHAN (C#171207707) Unit Weeks Numbers 43, Unit Number 48, Building Number 48, Phase IV  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82  
ETHEL P KRAMER, TRUSTEE OF THE KRAMER FAMILY TRUST (C#178401915) Unit Weeks Numbers 33, Unit Number 5, Building Number 5, Phase I  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82

JAMES P KOEHLER (C#178404612) Unit Weeks Numbers 39, Unit Number 5, Building Number 5, Phase I  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82  
J FRANCISCO MORENO (C#178407094) Unit Weeks Numbers 48, Unit Number 12, Building Number 12, Phase 2  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,065.43  
Interest: \$301.35  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$3,605.82

AL F PHILLIPS and DEBBIE K PHILLIPS (C#178607354) Unit Weeks Numbers 10, Unit Number 40, Building Number 40, Phase IV  
Unpaid Assessments: \$3,001.38  
Interest: \$176.84  
Late Fees: \$75.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$5,982.26  
AL F PHILLIPS and DEBBIE K PHILLIPS (C#178607354) Unit Weeks Numbers 10, Unit Number 40, Building Number 40, Phase IV  
Unpaid Assessments: \$3,001.38  
Interest: \$176.84  
Late Fees: \$75.00  
Costs: \$189.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$5,982.26

ALL as tenants in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Eagle's Loft Condominiums as depicted on the Plat Maps recorded under Reception Numbers 117699, 119118, 130203, 132403, subject to the Declaration of Individual and/or Interval Ownership for Eagle's Loft Condominiums recorded as Reception Number 117700, as has been amended, supplemented, and/or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Published February 9, 16, 23, March 2 and 9, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado  
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr, P.O. Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Tel. 970.264.2400

**Mountain Meadows Property Owners Association, Inc.**  
**Plaintiff**  
v.  
**Clarice R Eubanks, et al**  
**Defendants**

**Case No.: 2022CV30046**  
**COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
**Sheriff Sale 2023-03**

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Interval Ownership for Mountain Meadows, recorded on January 21, 1986 under Reception Number 137132, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered November 30, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof

Owner(s):  
J DEL GREEN A/K/A DEL GREEN  
LAUREL ROYBAL  
CLARICE R EUBANK  
MARGE GREEN  
Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Interval Ownership for Mountain Meadows, recorded on January 21, 1986 under Reception Number 137132, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.  
Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Mountain Meadows Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
Association Assessments Due to: Mountain Meadows Property Owners Association, Inc.  
Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A"  
Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A"

Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act.  
**THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.**

The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.  
**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST**

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will, at 12 o'clock A.M., on 31st of March, 2023, Sale Number 2023-03 in the Office of the Archuleta County Sheriff Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association thereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: 2/09/2023  
Last Publication: 3/09/2023  
Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun  
**NOTICE OF RIGHTS**  
**YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.**  
**IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED.**

**THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.**  
**IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.**

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:  
Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901  
INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office for Archuleta County, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147, 970-264-8434.  
**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed January 6, 2023. Mike Le Roux, Sheriff, Archuleta County, Colorado  
By: /s/ Lorena Medina  
Lorena Medina, Office Manager  
EXHIBIT "A"  
Mountain Meadows Townhomes  
Matter Amount  
CLARICE R EUBANK and JOHN P HENRY (C#170107734) A 77,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,795.77  
Costs: \$268.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$4,063.81  
RAY HODGES (C#170212195) A 300,000 / 63,185,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425 and 1426 in Building Number(s) 14,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$1,901.50  
Costs: \$268.04  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$5,821.04

ROBERT F HENRY (C#170107734) A 77,000 / 60,310,500 undivided fee simple absolute interest in Unit Numbers 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1121, 1124, 1125 and 1126 in Building Number(s) 11,  
Unpaid Assessments: \$397.72  
Late Fees: \$75.00  
Costs: \$368.74  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$4,303.01  
Del Green and Marge Green (C#17839607) Lot (Unit) Weeks One (1) Summer Unit Week, Unit Number(s) 7601 through 7608, Phase Two  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,461.55  
Interest: \$397.72  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$368.74  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$4,240.71  
J. Del Green and Laurel Roybal (C#178754289) Lot (Unit) Weeks One (1) Summer Unit Week, Unit Number(s) 7601 through 7608, Phase Two  
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,461.55  
Interest: \$442.14  
Late Fees: \$50.00  
Costs: \$368.74  
Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00  
Judgment Amount: \$4,322.43

Of Mountain Meadows Townhomes. All as tenants in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Mountain Meadows Townhomes as described and delineated the Plats recorded under Reception Numbers 137131 and 20209311, subject to the Declaration of Interval Ownership for Mountain Meadows recorded as Reception Number 137132, as has been amended, supplemented, and/or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado. Together with a right of ingress and egress over the existing road to Lakeside Drive.

Published February 9, 16, 23, March 2 and 9, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado  
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr, P.O. Box 148  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Tel. 970.264.2400

**Teal Landing Vacation Owners Association, Inc.**  
**Plaintiff**  
v.  
**Joel Cartagena, et al**  
**Defendants**

**Case No.: 2022CV30043**  
**COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM**  
**Sheriff Sale 2023-02**

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Condominium for Teal Landing Condominium, recorded on August 10, 2000, Reception Number 20007580, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered November 30, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof

Owner(s):  
JOEL CARTAGENA  
CHRIS ORTEGA  
RAY HODGES  
ROBERT F HENRY  
ELOUIDA WRIGHT, SURVIVING JOINT TENANT WITH RIGHTS OF SUR



# Celebration



## David Vega

San Juan County announces the selection of David Vega as the next fire chief of San Juan County Fire and Rescue (SJCFR).

"I'm extremely humbled by this opportunity to lead such a unique, diverse and dedicated group of professional first responders," said Vega.

Vega currently serves as SJCFR deputy chief of Operations under Fire Chief John Mohler. Mohler has retired effective Jan. 31.

"David brings a wealth of fire service experience and a proven track record of success. The citizens of San Juan County will benefit from his leadership and passion to serve," said San Juan County Manager Mike Stark.

Vega was one of six applicants from across the country who applied in January. A diverse panel of five professionals from across different disciplines selected Vega from three interviewed applicants.

Vega has 27 years of experience in the fire service, serving as a volunteer, paid firefighter, and

on various incident management teams on wildfires throughout the country. Vega has served with San Juan County since 2011. Before coming to San Juan County, Vega worked for the U.S. Forest Service and the Los Pinos Fire Protection District. Vega started his fire service career as a volunteer firefighter with the Pagosa Fire Protection District in 1996.

San Juan County Fire and Rescue is comprised of 11 districts serving more than 3,000 square miles, including the city of Bloomfield. The dedicated volunteers respond to all types of emergencies and provide mutual aid to surrounding agencies.

David Vega's father, Roy Vega, added that, "He actually got his start going to fire training with me when he was 6 years old.

San Juan County, N.M., is larger in area than the state of Connecticut, but in the article they subtract out tribal and incorporated areas with their own fire departments and use over 3,000 sq. mi. for his service area, still one of the largest fire jurisdictions in the nation."



Photo courtesy West Jackson

On Jan. 30, Scout Troop 807 held a Court of Honor. Scouts received recognition for their advancements in rank and merit badges. Pictured, from left to right: Jennifer Walterscheid (scoutmaster), Koltin Bassett, Bennett Walterscheid, Andrew Bowles, Bruce Kubelka, Silas Yost, Harper Hedgecock, Peyton Jackson, Sawyer Yost and David Ashbaugh. Troop 807 is planning a fundraiser dinner on Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church. Anyone interested in attending is asked to RSVP to (970) 946-8687.



SUN photo/Terri House

"Our Neighbor Milo" is the collaborative art project of Kelly Lewis and Chad Haspels. The art installment located at Yamaguchi Park was completed in December 2022. A proposal for the project was selected through a competitive process, which included the public arts committee's recommendations and approval by the Pagosa Springs Town Council.



# Advertise your business in the guide visitors use.

## Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™ Advertising Deadline: February 23, 2023

30,000 copies of the award-winning **Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™** will be printed and distributed at Walmart, The Springs Resort, Wyndham, Pagosa Springs Area Visitor Center, The Choke Cherry Tree, many other area establishments, and welcome centers throughout Colorado. The

guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers. A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at **PagosaSUN.com** and **ExplorePagosa.com**. The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on [visitpagosasprings.com](http://visitpagosasprings.com).

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# The Pagosa Springs SUN

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# preview

## ARTS & LIFE

# 'Alice in Wonderland'

Our Savior Lutheran School's Drama Club • Friday, Feb. 10 • 6:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy Our Savior Lutheran School





Photo courtesy Our Savior Lutheran School

The students of Our Savior Lutheran School's Drama Club will take to the stage to present a play adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" in the school's gymnasium on Friday, Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

## Our Savior Lutheran School to present 'Alice in Wonderland'

Our Savior Lutheran School

The students of Our Savior Lutheran School's Drama Club are proud to present a play adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" in the school's gymnasium on Friday, Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

Please come join us for an evening of nonsense and laughter as they perform a fun and madcap adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic. Alice chases a white

rabbit down a hole to a world in which she encounters strange creatures and even stranger poetry. Classic characters such as the Mad Hatter and Queen of Hearts are joined by ones not usually dramatized, including the Pigeon and the nanny in Duchess' kitchen.

This performance of "Alice in Wonderland" will run approximately 45 minutes with no intermission. The performance is free to the public. We will have a **See 'Alice' on next page**

## Live Performers

- Friday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bluegrass Cadillac, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Joel Racheff, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**  
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Glenn Unrath and Jack Ellis, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**  
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

## PREVIEW is a publication of The Pagosa Springs SUN

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-Ane J., Google



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# Dating Violence Awareness Month events planned for February

By John Finebrock and Marissa Talamante  
Rise Above Violence

Respect your partner. Respect yourself.

Uplifting healthy relationships is our focus for February's Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. This year's theme, "Respect your partner. Respect yourself." was chosen by the student leaders of Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS) Youth Rise Club, facilitated by Rise Above Violence's youth advocates.

A slew of events are scheduled for the month of February, with the goal of amplifying the needs of youth and their experience with teen dating violence. Everyone deserves a healthy relationship free from violence.

All month long, a 3-inch gnome will be hidden somewhere in PSHS. It will not be in a bathroom, classroom, or any teachers' personal space or office. This is a light-hearted way to bring awareness to the issue of teen dating violence in our community and nationwide. If found, please follow the instructions attached to the gnome to claim your prize.

Additionally, there will be two "WearOrange4Love" days at PSHS where students are encouraged to wear something orange to promote respect, consent and healthy relationships. The first WearOrange4Love Day was on Feb. 7, which is the national date that many non-profits and schools from around the country are wearing orange for love.

But is one WearOrange4Love-Day enough? No. On Feb. 22, Youth Rise will host a second WearOrange4Love Day at PSHS that is specific to our community and will have lunchtime events at the high school. Students from Youth Rise will have orange ribbons available for free on both dates.

The week of Feb. 20 through Feb. 24 is "Respect Week," which will have daily contests and prizes aimed at promoting healthy relationships and our month-long theme: "Respect your partner. Respect yourself." More information about Respect Week will be

in a subsequent article and the Rise Above Violence social media channels.

Rise Above Violence is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides 24-hour support and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault or other forms of violence, serving around 400 victims each year. Rise also works to

eliminate violence through education for youth and our community. All programs and services are free and confidential, including emergency prevention education and empowerment programs.

Visit [www.riseaboveviolence.org](http://www.riseaboveviolence.org) for more information or call (970) 264-9075 to talk to an advocate today.

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**SUPERBOWL SPECIAL**

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Full Rack of Ribs  
2 LB Sliced Brisket  
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4 Hot Links  
4 Chicken Leg Quarters  
4 16 oz sides (BBQ Beans, Potato Salad or Coleslaw)  
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## 'Alice'

continued from previous page  
donation basket and concessions available for purchase during the play. All donations will help fund Our Savior Lutheran School's arts programming.

Please come support our students and all the hard work they have put into the production of this play.



# WIC program here to help as extra food assistance benefits end

By Megan Graham  
San Juan Basin Public Health

Families enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) have been eligible for extra benefits since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. As emergency allotments for all states end as of March 2023, February is the last month clients will receive these extra benefits.

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) encourages SNAP clients who are affected by this reduction in food assistance to take advantage of its Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, par-

ticularly with the cost of groceries rising. WIC is a nutrition assistance program for:

- Pregnant women.
- Women who have recently had a baby.
- Households with a child under the age of 5.

Most SNAP-eligible families also qualify for WIC benefits, which include nutrition education, breastfeeding support and a debit card to purchase an ever-expanding list of healthy foods at an array of Colorado supermarkets. WIC families can also take advantage of other benefits such as reduced-price community-supported agriculture shares.

“These services have kept me aware of and on track with the nutritional needs of myself and my son throughout the five years since his conception,” said one of SJBPH’s WIC clients. “Our family was not prepared to add another, and the support and care meant so much during that uncertain time. Now I’m a single mom, working to keep our lives comfortable, and every bit counts — especially the organic vegetables and fruits.”

It’s easy to enroll for WIC benefits, and all appointments are being conducted remotely for your convenience. For more information, visit SJBPH’s WIC page or call (970) 335-2018.

# New Thought topic: ‘Open Your Heart to the Beauty of Life — Creating Heaven on Earth’

By Shayla McClure  
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Feb. 12 Sunday service at 11 a.m. will be with Shayla McClure, spiritual director: “Open Your Heart to the Beauty of Life — Creating Heaven on Earth.”

“Earth’s crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with God: But only he who sees takes off his shoes.” — Elizabeth Barrett Browning, poet.

## Upcoming events

SpiritHeart Band practice is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join SpiritHeart band. Please text Bruce at (970) 507-0739 for band information.

Feb. 10, 2 to 4 p.m.: Heartfelt chocolate making class with Jenelle Syverson at the New Thought Center. Sign up now: (970) 731-4951.

Feb. 11, 5 to 7:30 p.m.: Celebration of the Heart benefit dinner and music. (970) 309-6067 for reservations. Tickets \$25, \$40 couples.

Feb. 16 and every other Thursday at 1 p.m.: “Into Your Genius,” a Bob Proctor and Mary Morrissey six-week study group with Shayla White Eagle. Learn how to activate parts of your mind that are unused to higher capacities — intuition, the will, imagination, memory, perception and reason.

Class can be attended at the New Thought Center or by phone. Contact (970) 510-0309 for more information.

March 11, 5 to 8 p.m.: Academy Awards red carpet evening benefit. There will be a silent auction, appetizers, cash bar and a best-dressed contest. Vote for the favorite movie, actor, actress. Music will be by the Bruce Wayne Rock and Country Band with Ron Lowe. Tickets are on sale for \$40, or \$75 for couples.

## About us

The New Thought Center promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. We honor all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths

to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to enhance our members’ life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an inclusive community. Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through awareness of a higher power. We are the “Good Vibe Tribe” that practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Request prayer treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

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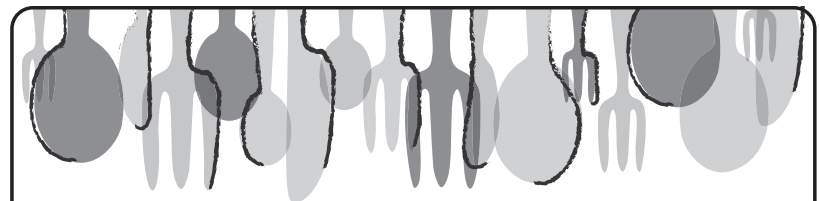
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Joel Racheff

Tuesday, February 14  
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# San Juan Stargazers announce activities for February through May

By Joan Mieritz  
San Juan Stargazers

The San Juan Stargazers have two more events in February.

On Friday, Feb. 17, starting at 6 p.m. at our Meadows West viewing house will be a deep sky event. To get directions, please call (720) 626-9304.

At all star parties you can bring your own telescope or use one of the club's. When we are at someone's house and it is really cold, we can spend more time inside the warm house and just go outside briefly to locate and view.

On Thursday, Feb. 23, we will be viewing and discussing the latest released photos from the James Webb Space Telescope at the Community United Methodist Church starting at 6 p.m. This is not just for club members, but we are inviting all of Pagosa Springs as a family activity with students and their parents. It will be amazing and fun. We will include information about the object and its significance.

The San Juan Stargazers Club monthly meeting will be March 2 in the Community United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 434

Lewis St. Please use the doorway right off the large parking lot to the east. (The front doors may be locked.) If you would like coffee/tea, snacks and some stimulating conversation, you can arrive shortly after 6 p.m. for our social hour. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. sharp is the program, the topic being the remarkable planet Uranus.

We will have two star parties in March. One is a deep sky viewing on March 17 starting at 6 p.m. at our Meadows East location. Call (720) 626-9304 for directions. Our moon viewing event will also be at Meadows East on March 28 beginning at 6 p.m.

In April, we will not have a club meeting because the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will be offering a two-day training session; the dates will be announced later. We encourage our members to attend so we all know more about our fabulous location.

In April, there will be two deep sky viewing nights, on April 14 and April 21, both at our Meadows East location. Use the same number if you need directions.

In May, our monthly meeting will be on May 4, with our program

topic being the planet Neptune.

On May 9, starting between 7 and 8 p.m., we will meet in the Chimney Rock upper parking lot. We will be testing all the telescopes and making sure everything is organized for all our summer activities including 10 star parties, Life at Chimney Rock, two nights watching the Perseid Meteor Shower and ending with a total solar eclipse on Oct. 14. It will be an exciting summer.

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family. You can join the club at any of our events.

The San Juan Stargazers Club is part of the Astronomical League, which includes more than 250 clubs from all over the U.S. Our local group also has a website, [www.sanjuanstargazers.org](http://www.sanjuanstargazers.org). Check it out.

We welcome everyone to learn more about our amazing universe. We hope to see you.

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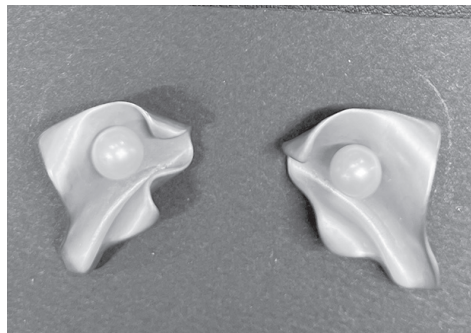
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# Five things science tells us about food allergens

By Robin Young  
PREVIEW Columnist

Most of us have an amicable, even loving, relationship with food. It nourishes us; it strengthens us; it even makes us happy. But, every now and then, there is that one food or group of foods that, through no fault of our own, becomes an enemy. It makes us break out in rashes, feel unwell or even, in some extreme instances, kills us. Food allergies, intolerances or sensitivities can change our relationship to food from one of joy to one of trepidation.

It is a global issue. Food allergies are becoming more common in countries around the world. In developed countries, the prevalence of food allergies is increasing, affecting approximately 10 percent of the population. In developing countries, where food allergies were not broadly seen before, the number of reports on food allergies has risen decidedly.

Defining “priority” allergens and mandating their appropriate labeling has been an important part of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) body dedicated to setting international food safety and quality standards.

In 1999, the Codex Alimentarius Commission outlined a list of foods or ingredients that must be declared on a food label. These “priority” allergens are ones that cause allergies in populations worldwide and provoke significant reactions even when eaten in small amounts.

The FAO and WHO are now reviewing new scientific developments in the area of food allergens to ensure that the Codex standards and guidance are up to date.

Here are five things to know about food allergens:

1. A food allergy is an abnormal immune response. A food allergy occurs when exposure to a particular food triggers an abnormal immune response. Allergic reactions can happen fast, within minutes of consumption or exposure, or they can take up to several hours to appear. Allergic reactions are unpredictable, with symptoms ranging from mild localized rashes to a severe anaphylactic response. Intolerances, like lactose, are not the same as the abnormal immune reaction caused by an allergy. Because of this, they are treated as a separate category.

Though some childhood food allergies have been known to disappear over time and there have been some successes with desensitization studies, there is no cure for food allergies. Prevention is the only solution.

2. Some food allergies are worse than others. The Codex Alimentarius’ priority allergens are foods or ingredients that cause allergies in multiple populations around the world and are more likely to provoke severe reactions, even when small amounts are consumed.

## Extension Viewpoints

These priority allergens include the “big-8”: milk, egg, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, peanuts, wheat, soybeans, in addition to sulfites (in concentrations of 10 mg/kg or more). In the United States, the “big 8” account for almost 90 percent of all food allergies.

The United States, European Union, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand all follow Codex Alimentarius’ recommendations and require mandatory labeling of these allergens in prepackaged foods.

3. The prevalence of food allergies differs by country. Food allergies are related to diets and food consumption habits. Therefore, the prevalence of certain food allergies can differ from country to country or region to region. Inevitably, the introduction of new foods can bring with it the introduction of new allergies.

For example, the kiwi fruit was first brought to Japan in the 1960s. Nowadays, according to recent surveys, the kiwi fruit is one of the top 10 allergy-causing foods in the country.

Though the Codex Alimentarius outlines an international list of foods or ingredients that should always be declared on a label, the list may not necessarily cover all the food allergens that impact specific populations. Countries should investigate in their national contexts

which prepackaged foods should be labeled and at what quantity food allergens become harmful, taking into account the country’s food habits.

4. Hygiene and laboratory tests can help limit and detect levels of allergens in foods. In most cases, it is specific proteins found in certain foods that are problematic for allergic consumers. These proteins can be naturally occurring or ones that have been altered in processing. For example, peanut roasting alters the structure of some of its proteins. In addition, these proteins may be part of the food itself or be present due to cross-contact with an allergen.

The Codex Alimentarius recommends good hygiene practices to effectively minimize the risk of allergen cross-contact. The use of laboratory test kits are another good tool, which can detect very low levels of allergenic proteins in most food products. These kits allow food manufactures to quickly confirm that food processing equipment has been properly cleaned, though these are best used by trained technicians.

5. Food labels and diligence protect allergic consumers. The Codex Alimentarius Commission has defined a Code of Practice on food allergen management for food businesses to minimize the risk of cross-contact. However, despite best efforts, food allergens may still unintentionally be present in some foods. A good example is the manufacturing of dark chocolate in a production line that also makes milk chocolate. It is extremely difficult to remove all traces of dairy products. A “May contain milk” or similar type statement should be used to alert allergic consumers that a product is not suitable for them.

The Codex Alimentarius Com-

■ See Viewpoints on next page



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# Viewpoints

■ **continued from previous page**  
mission is working on providing international guidance for these precautionary allergen statements; however, allergic consumers must diligently check food product labels and heed these types of statements to make safe food choices.

Regulating food allergen labeling is effective and provides safe commercial food products for even allergic individuals. Presently, many countries have enforced food allergen labeling regulations; however, their approach largely depends on the national context. Through the development of labeling guidelines and codes of practice on food allergen management, the Codex Alimentarius helps countries to protect consumers and ensure fair practices in trade.

## 4-H soup fundraiser

4-H members are taking orders now for Frontier Soups. These dried soup mixes are a great time saver, all are gluten-free and are delicious. With flavors like chicken and rice, tortilla soup, and corn chowder and more, it's easy to support Archuleta County 4-H. Soup mixes are \$10 each and will arrive around the beginning of March. Find a local 4-H member today

or call the office to have one sent your way.

## Upcoming events

Please visit our Facebook page and website to register for the following events.

March 2 — Livestock and Forage Growers Online Update. A Western Slope outlook.

March 11 — Landowners workshop. Extension building, 9 a.m. to noon.

March 18 — Seed Class and Swap, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification

classes are offered monthly by the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register.

## Visit online

Visit us on the Web at <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/> or like us on Facebook and get more information: <https://www.facebook.com/CSUARCHCTY> and <https://www.facebook.com/ArchuletaCounty4H>.



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### DISCLOSURES:

Specials apply to leases signed before February 15, 2023 only.  
Utilities not included in pricing. All lease terms are for 12 months.  
Must show proof of residency to qualify.



# Knowledge Bowl debuts today and Friends Cabin Fever Book Sale on Saturday

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

A new ongoing event called Knowledge Bowl debuts today, Thursday, Feb. 9, from 4 to 5 p.m. for tweens and teens.

Participants will form teams of up to six people to compete against each other by answering questions that cover a range of topics from math to spelling to pop culture.

This free event is a fun way to test your wit, trivia and teamwork skills as you compete against other students.

Knowledge Bowl will run every second and fourth Thursday for the remainder of the school year and be moderated by Josie, your library's teen librarian. It is open to students in fourth through eighth grade, or ages 11-14. Registration is not required for this free event.

Josie points out that Knowledge Bowl has a place in local history because it originated in Durango back in 1976.

## Friends book sale Saturday

This Saturday, Feb. 11, the Friends of the Library will host a Cabin Fever Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at your library.

This is a great opportunity for you to find new treasures at bargain prices to keep you company this winter.

## Events calendar

To be sure you don't miss any of the free library activities available to you and your family, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. Its streamlined format combines all the activities and events for children, teens and adults on one handy, two-sided page.

## Flu season protocols

The curbside service that we began for COVID safety continues — and it's also a healthful option in the cold and flu season. To save your energy and lessen germ exposure to other patrons, we recommend you use our curbside service — or add a name to your account authorizing that person to pick up items for you while you recuperate. Library hours:

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturdays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Save the date for library fundraiser

We hope you will note April 15 on your calendar for the second annual Library Affair fundraiser for our building campaign to expand and renovate your library.



This elegant event will feature a silent auction of different table settings designed by some of Pagosa's most creative artists. If you want to decorate a table for this prestigious event, please call Cindi Galabota, library foundation director, at (970) 264-2209.

## Online author talk today

There will be three talks this month in our free online virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought leaders giving live, professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You will have an opportunity to ask questions of the authors.

Today, Thursday, Feb. 9, at 5 p.m., we'll hear from Lena Harper, author of "Back in a Spell," part of the Witches of Thistle Grove fantasy romance series.

Thursday, Feb. 16, at 11 a.m. showcases Grace M. Cho, author of "Tastes Like War," a Korean American daughter's exploration of food and family history in order to understand her mother's schizophrenia.

On Feb. 28, at 2 p.m. we'll interact with Sadeqa Johnson, award-winning author of "The House of Eve." Johnson has written four novels and is the recipient of the National Book Club Award, the Phillis Wheatley Award and the USA Best Book Award for best fiction.

## Legal clinic tomorrow

The free legal clinic this month is happening by appointment tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 10, from 2 to 3 p.m. Come into the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer attorney who will answer your questions, show you legal documents and help you fill out the necessary forms.

To schedule an appointment, at the beginning of the month send an email titled "Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic," with your first name and phone number, to ruby@pagosalibrary.org, or phone (970)

264-2209 or stop by the library.

The volunteer attorney's time is limited, so it's first come, first served. This clinic takes place on the second Friday of every month.

## Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, Feb. 10, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters from kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to share their favorite books with Muppet, a therapy dog who loves listening to stories, at a free Paws to Read session. This is a great way for beginning readers to build confidence.

## Gaming tomorrow

Enjoy free all-ages video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 10, from 3 to 4 p.m.

## LEGO Club on Saturday

Kids aged 6 and up are invited to bring your imaginations — LEGOs are provided — on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 11 a.m. to noon for the free LEGO Club. LEGO challenges also are posted on Facebook if you can't make it to the library.

## Children's Spanish class on Monday

Join us next Monday, Feb. 13, from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. for a Spanish class for kids aged 6 to 11 to help youngsters learn and improve their Spanish.

## Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14, to discuss "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger. Copies are available at your library. This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and nonfiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend.

## Therapy dog visit

Join us next Wednesday, Feb. 15, from 11 to 11:45 a.m. for a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi." This activity is for all ages.

## Homework and tutoring help

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■ See Library on next page



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# Library

■ **continued from previous page**  
work assistance and elementary tutoring are available for students in kindergarten through fourth grades on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is a registration packet for parents and guardians to fill out to enroll your child that you can get by emailing the library or coming in. This program has been a big hit because it helps build essential skills in core subjects. You still can register your child, but you may be put on a wait list.

## Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join us for free in-person children's stories, games, and plenty of reasons to get up and move.

## ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners and 5 to 7 p.m. for both intermediate and advanced students. Please help us spread the word about these classes to others in our community who would be interested, and contact us by phone or email if you have any questions.

## PALS/GED adult education

Mark is available for his free

PALS sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. No registration is required.

## Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Judy will help you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets and also provide assistance in accessing any of the library's online resources. You do not need an appointment for these drop-in sessions.

## Writing challenge

A new all-ages writing challenge will be posted Feb. 13 on the library's Facebook page. We hope you will challenge your creativity by participating in this free activity.

## Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages, and accessing this free digital collection is very easy. You just need to download the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. You

are now ready to browse, borrow and read e-books and audiobooks using cloudLibrary. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

## Books on CD

"Hell Bent" by Leigh Bardugo is part of the urban fantasy series featuring Alex Stern. "Just the Nicest Couple" by Mary Kubica is a thriller about a missing husband.

## Mysteries and thrillers

"The Blue Window" by Suzanne Berne features a therapist attempting to unlock the most difficult cases of her life — her son and her mother. "Hard to Break" by Michael Ledwidge is a Michael Gannon thriller that begins in Alaska.

## Other novels

"A Ballad of Love and Glory" by Reyna Grande is set in 1846 after the annexation of Texas when the U.S. Army marches south for war with Mexico over the Rio Grande boundary. "Night Wherever we Go" by Tracey Rose Peyton features enslaved women on a Texas plantation staging a rebellion against their owners. "In The Upper Country" by Kai Thomas focuses on the stories of two women connected by the Un-

■ See Library on page 11



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# One of a Kind, Made One at a Time


It is with immense sadness that I must announce that Summer Phillips Goldsmith is closed forever.

26 years of designing and repairing jewelry for my clients brought me great joy and many of you became friends.

If any of you have left anything you value with me, please call or text 970-946-3061 between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m.

Pagosa is my forever home. I am not going anywhere and I look forward to seeing you around town.

*Sincerely and with joy,  
Summer Phillips Pierce*



Summer Phillips  
**Goldsmith**  
Custom Jewelry

*Yesterday is history,  
tomorrow is a mystery,  
today is a "present".*



# Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the gray-crowned rosy-finch.

Throughout their range, winter is the best time to find these amazing birds. They nest in the highest parts of the highest mountains in North America at elevations with fierce winds and blowing snow that most of us don't visit.

Rosy-finches move in response to snow levels in winter and are forced downslope only when snow becomes too deep to locate food. Traveling in flocks, they seem to float down out of the sky to forage on open ground for seeds of grasses and weeds or to land on seed feeders.

In North America, three species of rosy-finches, each with different breeding ranges, are recognized. The gray-crowned nests in the mountains of Alaska, the Cascades, the Rockies, and the Sierra Nevada and on remote islands off Alaska. In winter, they roam through open areas of the West in mixed species flocks and are spotted in our area between December and early April.

Adult males of the gray-crowned species are a rich brown color with pink on the belly and rump and in the wings, with black on the top of the head and neck, and with a gray patch that extends across the back and sides of the head. Females appear similar but not as colorful.

In summer they are found living near snowlines, where they hide their nests in cracks or holes between boulders and on cliffs. To feed their young in these barren environments, they rely on catching insects which ride wind currents to higher elevations and drift onto snow fields.

A warming climate is shrinking the habitat of these birds and of other high-elevation animals. Researcher Benjamin Freeman, who has studied the upward range shifts of birds, has described the plight of mountain birds as "riding an escalator to extinction."

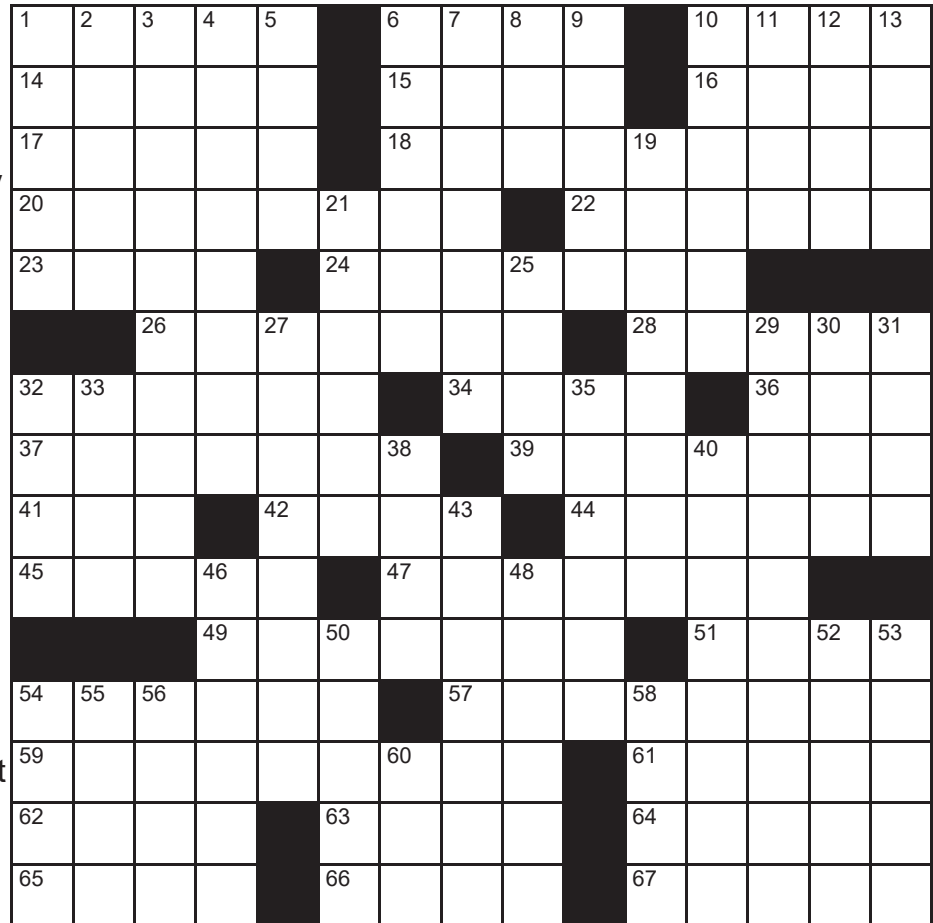
For information on events, visit [www.weminucheadubon.org](http://www.weminucheadubon.org) and [www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/](http://www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/).

## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Embellish
- 6 Workout woe
- 10 Web crawlers
- 14 Sri Lanka money
- 15 Backyard structure
- 16 Russian range
- 17 Insect stage
- 18 Here or there
- 20 Whittling hazard
- 22 Laid-back
- 23 Baby blues
- 24 Oblivious
- 26 Give a fright
- 28 Kind of pad
- 32 Fairly new
- 34 Red Muppet
- 36 Meadow sound
- 37 For the most part
- 39 Ointment base
- 41 Reading room
- 42 Word before year or frog
- 44 Baltimore team
- 45 Admittance
- 47 Scotland sights
- 49 Ms. Getty
- 51 Paper quantity
- 54 Fling
- 57 Grand view
- 59 Mozart's music
- 61 Noxious emissions
- 62 Dorothy's dog
- 63 Mobile leader?
- 64 Meat cut
- 65 Caught in the act
- 66 Consider
- 67 Puts in the mail



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- 6 Thumbs-up
- 7 Singing group
- 8 \_\_\_ and haw
- 9 Fluid build-up
- 10 Bite the \_\_\_
- 11 Like some vaccines
- 12 Fiesta fare
- 13 Boatload
- 19 Part of PIN
- 21 Ninja in a shell
- 25 In good health
- 27 Critical study
- 29 Seasoned salt
- 30 Water pipe
- 31 Kitchenware
- 32 James Stewart western, "Two \_\_\_ Together"

- 43 Examine by touching
- 46 Rhyme alternative
- 48 Ski run
- 50 Group of three
- 52 Change, as a bill

- 53 Mardi Gras sights
- 54 Plays a part
- 55 Arctic ice mass
- 56 It may have a twist
- 58 Slays, in slang
- 60 Stage signal

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

R	S	V	P	T	R	O	U	T	S	P	O	T
O	P	A	L	R	O	U	S	E	E	A	C	H
T	U	N	A	A	T	T	E	N	D	A	N	C
C	R	I	T	I	C	A	L	D	U	M	D	U
S	O	M	E	T	I	M	E	S	A	R	E	
B	A	H	P	R	E	V	E	N	T	S		
O	N	I	C	E	E	T	C	A	M	E	N	
A	N	N	U	L	A	R	S	Y	S	T	O	L
R	A	G	E	P	O	P	T	E	R	M	S	
S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E	S	O	T		
N	A	S	P	E	N	E	T	R	A	T	E	
A	C	A	C	I	A	S	T	O	M	A	C	H
A	U	T	O	C	R	A	T	I	C	L	O	U
C	R	I	B	E	P	O	C	H	E	D	G	E
P	A	N	S	D	E	N	S	E	S	E	E	M

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# Community invited to legal services presentation

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

The Archuleta County community is invited to a public meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center to listen to an overview on free legal services available for seniors in southwest Colorado and how to apply for Colorado Legal Services programs.

There will be a Q-and-A session about the programs and resources available, but no legal advice will be provided as part of this presentation.



This event is hosted by the Pagosa Senior Center/Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and Colorado Legal Services. Contact ASI at (970) 264-2167 for more information.

### Seasonal free art class

The next free art class at the Senior Center will be Tuesday, Feb.

21, at 1:15 p.m.

No reservations are required, but space is limited, so be sure to be there by 1:15 p.m. We will be making a piece of art that reflects all the symbols and colors we love about St. Patrick's Day. No art skill is required for this class, just a desire to have fun and make something creative. All materials will be provided, including the scissors, paper, glue and watercolors.

Yes, we are going to learn just a few basics about watercolors and why they are such special paints. Templates will be provided to **See Senior on next page**

# Library

continued from page 9

derground Railroad from the U.S. to Canada. "The New Life" by Tom Crewe tells of two married men in 1890s London collaborating on a book in defense of gay love.

### Donations

Many thanks to Lenore Bright for her generous monetary donation in memory of Etta Faye Day and to our anonymous donors.

When we are open, material donations are accepted for the Friends of the Library at the front

desk — not through the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market, please.

The Friends take fiction published in 2013 or newer and nonfiction that is 2018 or newer. Limited workroom space means we can only accept one or two small boxes at a time.

### Quotable quote

"A goal without a plan is just a wish." — Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944), French writer, poet, journalist and pioneering aviator.

With over 140 million copies sold, his "The Little Prince" is the second best-selling commercial book in history — just behind "The Lord of the Rings" and ahead of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone."

### Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosalibrary.org>.

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# Senior

■ **continued from previous page**  
 trace and cut out the symbols of St. Patrick's Day, or you can draw your own. All ages are invited, so find a friend and bring them along.

Our teacher will be Denise Fisk, who is a retired elementary art teacher from Iowa. She loves sharing art techniques with her classes.

So, come to the Senior Center with a friend and see your success in creating your own work of art.

## New group: senior conversations

Join us Feb. 27 at 9:30 a.m. for a first in a series of "senior conversations" with local Bill Salmansohn. He will lead the group through a mindfulness exercise and discussion of various topics pertaining to aging in Archuleta County. Explore and discover for yourself answers to your questions and concerns.

## Volunteer coordinator sought for Growing Dome program

The Senior Center is looking for volunteers to assist with our new growing dome program. These individual(s) will be responsible for helping to coordinate volunteer opportunities at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership Community Garden Dome on a twice-monthly basis. The program is new and will partner with other growing dome participants for group activities and opportunities.

For more information and to pick up an application, please visit us at 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

## COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a pack of six free COVID-19 tests for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public that needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

## Text reservations

Text us at (970) 264-2167. Don't forget that we also offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are calling to cancel a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dining-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

## Mobile food pantry service available for seniors

The Senior Center would like to remind the community about our mobile food pantry services we provide in partnership with Archuleta County MET to seniors

age 60 and older throughout most areas of Archuleta County.

In order to participate in this program, community members must visit with Barbara Noriega at the Senior Center, located in the Ross Aragon Community Center, to fill out an application to qualify for the mobile pantry service.

The application, called the dining assessment form, is also available on our website at the bottom of the Community Cafe page: <http://www.psseniors.org/community-cafeacute.html>. For more information, contact us at (970) 264-2167.

## Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair. Come to the Senior Center to learn or play every Tuesday at 1:15 p.m.

## Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, we help with parts A, B and D. We can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call our Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext 4.

## Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1 p.m. We have eliminated Monday bridge due to lack of consistent participation and will be replacing it with different programming.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

## Engaging pictures

Engaging pictures are needed from seniors and their families who live, work and play their best lives in Archuleta County. We are looking for pictures that convey people's active lifestyles, families, culture and more. We would like to use these pictures in our grant applications, on social media and our website. Please email all pictures to [rosa@psseniors.org](mailto:rosa@psseniors.org) or feel free to drop them off.

## Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Feb. 9 — Singapore coffee-barbecue pork ribs with rice, sauteed squash, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Feb. 10 — Beef pot roast with potatoes, carrots, butternut squash, garden salad, cherry crisp and milk.

■ See Senior on page 14

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# SUDOKU

								6
	9	3				5	2	8
2		4		7			9	
		5			9	6		1
	8							
		9	8			7	5	
					7			
			1	6				
		2		5	3			

Level: Intermediate

## Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

## Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

4	1	2	9	5	3	8	6	7
9	7	8	1	6	4	2	3	5
5	3	6	2	8	7	9	1	4
6	4	9	8	3	1	7	5	2
1	8	7	6	2	5	3	4	9
3	2	5	7	4	9	6	8	1
2	6	4	5	7	8	1	9	3
7	9	3	4	1	6	5	2	8
8	5	1	3	9	2	4	7	6

ANSWER:



# ALL ABOUT BABY WORD SEARCH

I E J R S E L T T O B N C H P E I B C J  
 I C L C N C G J N G I O Y A J U T U T R  
 C U O D O S T R O L L E R M O L T R N C  
 D E B C D A S C N M E L I B O M C C P H  
 H T I Y N A C A R R I A G E M J Y I U N  
 E M S S C N W T D R B S H D D R P M T N  
 A R P B E R E S Y C A R R I E R B G G S  
 D E U S U N I E R M S A U A J A D D T L  
 I J B R I R O B S Y T A H U S T I W A R  
 N H M S N G P P M N U S M N M M T I P S  
 B T S O R Y B C C P P Y O A M J G A C A  
 S A B W E P S C L L A O S H J E J A I M  
 B B P B C R B L D O P T Y R Y A R E O J  
 W I L R N A O R C S T B D M E S P N C B  
 L H T U U U W A C M A H J U E P I R N S  
 W U R J O I A T S B T W U A E T A C C L  
 R T Y C B H R T E W J Y T P O G A I I I  
 D S C G B T D L N I I Y C R R J M W D N  
 U U M M L A M E G S L N J N W T M D Y G  
 N N D W U W O M P U R I G U G P Y P S Y

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

- BABY
- BASSINET
- BATH
- BOTTLES
- BOUNCER
- BURP CLOTH
- CARRIAGE
- CARRIER
- CAR SEAT
- CRIB
- DIAPERS
- HAT
- MOBILE
- MONITOR
- ONESIE
- PAJAMAS
- RATTLE
- SLING
- SPIT
- SPOONS
- STROLLER
- SWADDLE
- SWING
- TOYS

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# Senior

■ continued from page 12

Monday, Feb. 13 — Creamy Cajun shrimp fettuccine, buttered broccoli, focaccia bread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, Feb. 14 — Pork kielbasa with sweet and sour cabbage, German potato salad, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Feb. 15 — Chicken salad wrap with macaroni salad, garden salad, vanilla yogurt, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Feb. 16 — Beef cottage pie with roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit, bread pudding and milk.

Friday, Feb. 17 — Vegetarian tempeh chili with cornbread and honey, garden salad, fruit and milk.

### Grab-N-Go meals

Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$10 helps to sustain our program. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

### Meals on Wheels

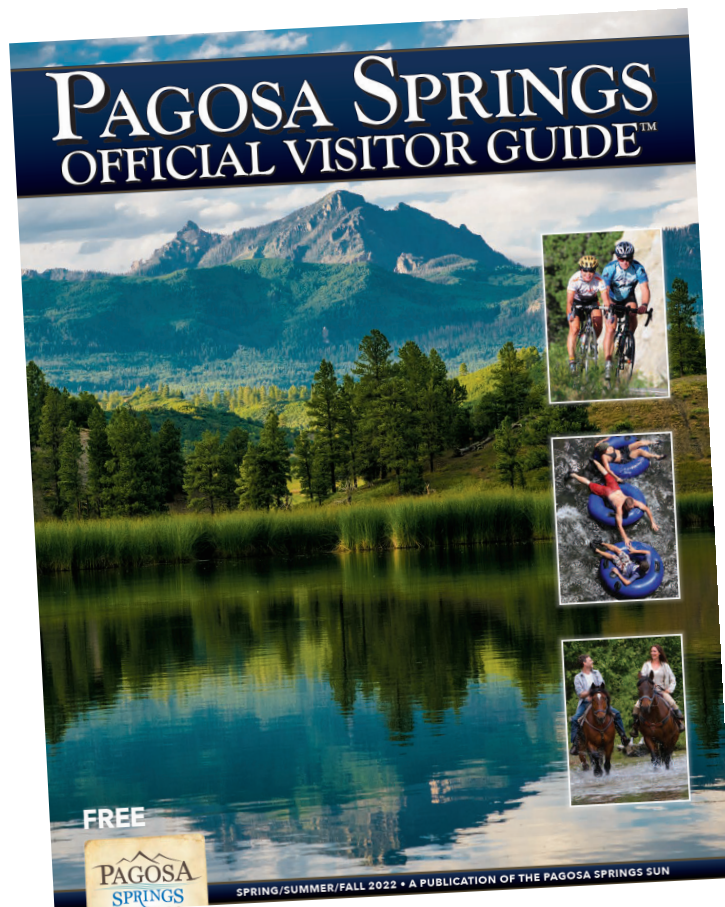
We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

### Requesting donations

ASI has an immediate monetary need to support ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County. Please consider donating.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs CO 81147 or please visit our website: <http://www.psseniors.org/>. Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

For more information about ASI, please visit <http://www.pseniors.org/>.



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guide will be mailed in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers. A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at **PagosaSUN.com** and **ExplorePagosa.com**. The Pagosa Area Tourism Board will provide a link to this guide on [visitpagosasprings.com](http://visitpagosasprings.com).

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# The West is an exploiter's paradise

By Richard Knight  
PREVIEW Columnist

High on a mesa where everyone can see it, a trophy house is going up in the northern Colorado valley where I live. Some of my neighbors hear that the house will be as big as 15,000 square feet. Others say it will take three years to complete.

## Writers on the Range

Whether that is valley gossip or truth, the house is now the center of everybody's attention.

Until this happened, my valley seemed to offer much of the best of what Colorado has to offer, including views of a snow-capped mountain range and, spread out below, irrigated hayfields with black cows on tan rangeland. But now, right in the center of the valley, will be one person acting out a lack of consideration for others.

Gigantic trophy houses seem to



Photo courtesy Michael Shoemaker

Outside Capitol Reef National Park in Torrey, Utah.

signal, "I built here to see, but also to be seen." It's a jarring reminder that we in the New West are remaking the Old West in our own image, a job that apparently requires a drastic redoing of topography. These big homes seem to follow a pattern of complicated rooflines,

lots of windows that reflect the light and "ego gates" at the beginning of driveways.

Most of us in this valley delight in what we've been able to see from our front door: uninterrupted ridgelines, cliffs and the rounded

■ See Range on next page

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**225 Oak Place**  
1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1.07 acres, deck, mountain/ valley views, cathedral ceiling, cul-de-sac, newly built  
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**117 Carefree Place**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, .27 acres, deck, vaulted ceilings, open concept, peek-a-boo lake views  
MLS 798875 • \$535,000



**Under Contract**

**148 Pike Drive**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, cabin, centrally located, mountain views, deck, 1 acre in town  
MLS 797666 • \$445,000



**367 Hollow Drive**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2.2 acres, newly remodeled, granite counter tops, no HOA, cul-de-sac, wood stove  
MLS 800141 • \$373,000



**117 Ute Drive**  
1.01 acres, Aspen Springs 4, flat, treed lot with mountain views  
MLS 797349 • \$39,500



**Under Contract**

**44 Tee Court**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, upgraded, ranch style, cul-de-sac, .29 acres  
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**Under Contract**

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# Because He loves us

What's with miracles? Because God loves us, miracles happen. We talk about a highly spiritual experience we can't explain. Most often, God goes against the law of nature or man's reasoning to change the course a person is on. Miracles aren't meant to be heady, showy or to brag about ourselves, but to get our attention on God. God shows his power and love every day in simple ways. Those are miracles. Sometimes we see them and sometimes we don't.

Because He loves us, he's promised to take care of us and deliver us from places we can't deliver ourselves. We're too deep in the mire, too deep in a dark place or too deep in our own minds. Miracles happen at times when something is wrong and somebody needs to change their mind and heart. Only a divine touch from God can make it happen.

Sometimes these miracles bring a new revelation about God. Higher than my thinking, it's His way of giving me new understanding.

## Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



At times I've been unable to see the next step. God will speak in a quiet voice. He's reached into my little world and insisted I change. If I don't hear him, he talks a little louder. If I still can't hear him, he uses a megaphone and shakes the earth under my feet. I finally hear him and that's the miracle. That's his way of telling me he's taking care of me.

The dictionary explains a miracle as an effect or extraordinary event in the physical world that surpasses all known human or natural powers and is ascribed to a supernatural cause. Such effects or events are considered works of God.

Yes, it's a divine thing to get

someone to turn around and go the other way. It takes a surrendered heart toward God. It takes a God touch to break the independence and pride of man.

God questioned Job and asked, "Can you disperse the rage of your wrath, can you look on everyone who is proud and humble him? Can you tread down the wicked in their place ...? No."

God answered his own question. "If you can, then I will also confess to you that your own right hand can save you." — Job 40:11-14 (NKJV).

Psalms 111:3 reads, "Each miracle demonstrates his eternal perfection."

I have found trying to humble a proud man only makes him angrier and prouder, louder and more confrontational. It takes a touch from God for a heart to surrender and admit he is helpless and needs God to perfect him.

Miracles come in order to change our direction, our thinking,

■ See Lane on next page

## Range

■ continued from previous page slopes that converge to make foothills, which then rise into mountains. Nature made these views and we've been fortunate to have them in our lives every day.

But more and more, houses that resemble castles are sprouting on ridgelines and hilltops, here and all over the mountains. And sometimes it's ordinary houses or trailers that get built on ridgelines, interrupting the natural flow of the land.

Where only a few years ago our eyes might find comfort in tracing a ridge's backbone — wondering how it got to be named White Pine Mountain when no white pines grow there — now we look at man-made structures that irritate the eyes.

People who have lived in my valley for decades share a different style. Appreciating what a winter wind can do to steal warmth from inside a house, they looked for sheltered areas to build. They saw it made sense to build low, tucking a home against the south side of a hill or cliff.

Most yard lights were few and hard to see, as were their homes. But the new Western lifestyle broadcasts yard lights at night for all to see, just as the homes are conspicuously visible during the day.

In this newfangled West that has "ranch the view," people apparently need to stand out to enjoy an amenity lifestyle. Will these new folk ever take time to appreciate the human and natural histories of the place they live in now, to

show respect for the land and its natural beauty? Will they learn to be considerate of neighbors and not take away from the views that define where we live?

It's shameful to think that just as we first moved into the West to exploit its valuable resources, we now exploit the last resource our region has to offer — its heart-stopping beauty.

There is some good news, because in many parts of the West we are learning how to sustainably log, graze, divert water and develop energy. I hope it's not too late for us to also realize the value of fitting into the land as residents, to keep intact our ridgelines, mesas, mountains and valley floors. Once a house caps a hilltop, however, that view is irretrievable, gone forever.

I hope we can learn how to value homes that blend with the land in shape, color and location. Maybe a new generation of home builders, architects and developers will lead the way in paying due respect to our region's natural beauty.

But I'm afraid that it's too late for our valley. The great writer Wallace Stegner told us that the task of Westerners was to build a society to match the scenery. From what I see, we're not doing the job.

Richard Knight is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, [writersontherange.org](http://writersontherange.org), an independent non-profit that hopes to inspire lively conversation about the West. He works at the intersection of land use and land health in the American West. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of *The SUN*.

## Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Mississippi on February 11, 1979. I grew up in a family of musicians. My younger brother is a performer as well. I gained fame on a hit TV series in the 1990s.

Answer: Brandy

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# Alexa and a truckload of toilet paper

By **Daris Howard**  
Special to The PREVIEW

Computer-assisting devices are getting to be the norm. When my wife asked me if I wanted to get one, I told her that if a machine could look up information when a person asked for it, it could also listen in on private conversations. She considered that and agreed with me, so we have never joined in on this new technology craze.

That doesn't mean we haven't experienced it. My sister purchased an Amazon Alexa for my mother. My mother was leery of it at first. If she was talking to herself and asked herself a question to consider, the little device would answer her. It would scare her when it spoke and she wasn't expecting it. But living alone, it wasn't long before it became her companion.

Mom realized she needed help now and then, so she decided to move into an assisted living center. We lived closest to her, so we helped her get settled. We had barely finished getting everything arranged the way she wanted when she reminded me that she needed her Alexa connected to the Internet. Once it was set up, she tested it out. She was relieved to hear its familiar voice.

I visited her often and watched her with her little computerized friend. One day she was extolling

the virtues of the machine.

"Watch this," she said. She then turned to the machine. "Alexa, what is the weather like outside?" The little device told her the temperature, humidity and the 24-hour forecast.

"Pretty smart, huh?" Mom said. "But aren't you worried about it listening in on you and collecting data?" I asked.

"Like what?" Mom asked. "I don't know," I replied. "But if it can hear you ask a question, it can hear any other conversation you have. Doesn't that concern you?"

"Heavens no," Mom replied. "What secrets do I have?"

"I'm not sure that is exactly the point," I replied.

"Well, watch this," Mom said. "Alexa, tell me a joke."

The little device told an old joke about a chicken crossing the road. It was only mildly funny, but Mom laughed and laughed.

"But I could tell you a joke if you want, Mom," I said.

Mom scowled at me. "Yeah, but I want it to be funny."

Ouch!

But I soon realized that Mom didn't even get the humor of the joke. What she thought was funny wasn't what was said, but it was that she could talk to a little box and have it make a mostly sensible reply back to her.

"You really ought to get one of these," she said.

A few days later, I was listening to the news on my way home from work. They told a story of a lady who was watching a mega-church pastor on television one Sunday. He was talking about how technology had made our lives so impersonal anymore. The commentator told how the preacher said, "We hardly even communicate face-to-face at all."

I thought that was interesting, considering the lady was watching church on television instead of attending in person.

The news commentator said the pastor continued. "We often don't even go to the store anymore to buy what we need. We just say, 'Alexa, order me a truckload of toilet paper from Amazon.' And then a day or so later, the toilet paper arrives."

The news commentator then said that a few days after the lady had watched that Sunday church meeting, a big truck pulled up to her house. The driver got out and said, "Lady, where do you want this truckload of toilet paper?" The Alexa had heard the pastor and ordered the toilet paper for her.

It probably turned out well for the lady. It wasn't long before COVID hit, and she probably made a killing on the toilet paper. But I doubt I'll be ordering that kind of machine anytime soon.

*Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*

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## Lane

■ continued from previous page  
our perceptions. Miracles come to get us back on track, to bring us to His eternal perfection.

I've had some knock-down miracles come into my life. Miracles that didn't feel so good even though they were a touch from God. Sometimes those miracles interrupt our lives in a way we can't go back to the way we were. Afterward, when we are clear-sighted, we understand we needed that touch.

I remember when my friend called. She lived in LA at the time and wanted to talk. Her 16-year-old daughter had left home and gone to the streets. My friend's family was in disarray. She and her husband were fighting and divorce seemed the only way out. Their

marriage was a total disaster. A rebellious daughter brought even more stress.

Then she called to tell me her daughter was being used by a handler and making money on the streets. A few weeks later, she called to tell me, "My daughter is pregnant. I found her on my doorsteps. She wants to come home."

My friend sobbed, "Now this. How can it get any worse?"

I told her what she didn't want to hear. "This is a miracle. This pregnancy is getting her off the streets and bringing her home. I hope you don't take this into your own hands and convince her to get an abortion. Put it in God's hands and let him do it His way. He knows

■ See Lane on next page

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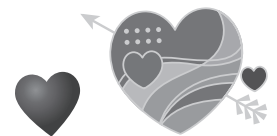


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# Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

## Thursday, Feb. 9

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Note: Until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving Frito pie, salad and dessert to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

**Bridge.** 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

**Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Knowledge Bowl.** 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Test your trivia skills in a wide range of subjects. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7

p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate and advanced students from 5-7 p.m.

**Online Author Talks: Lena Harper.** 5 p.m. We will gather virtually with Lena Harper, author of "Back in a Spell," part of the Witches of Thistle Grove fantasy romance series. Virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought-leaders giving live,

■ **See Calendar on next page**

## Lane

■ continued from previous page what he's doing."

Easy for me to say; I wouldn't be raising this child. My friend and her husband would have to. Their hearts turned to God out of desperation. That was the miracle. My words were not consoling, but that unplanned pregnancy brought the whole family back to a place where they could survive.

This God-given interruption was what this family needed. They humbled themselves and

prayed. They got their eyes off each other. They put down their weapons. They softened toward each other and took care of their daughter. That meant raising her baby, too.

Today, I've seen this 30-year-old baby grow up into a beautiful woman. Does she know she was the miracle that this family needed? Probably not. But my friend does. God touched her heart. Only God could have saved this family by interrupting something so wrong

in order to make it so right.

Final brushstroke: I've seen many miracles in my lifetime. They've come in loud clashes, quiet words and inconvenient moments, but they have been designed to get my attention to see God. Because He loves me. God is perfecting me for an eternal entrance back to Him.

Send your comment to [bettyslade@centurytel.net](mailto:bettyslade@centurytel.net).

*Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*



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# Stepping to the front

By Dr. Michael J. Marx  
PREVIEW Columnist

My name is Nugget and I'm a sled dog.

"OK, Nugget. It looks like you get to lead the team now."

The musher's words made little sense to me. Yet when the lead dog got a tummy ache, it became clear that she would run in the middle and I would run in the front.

I had only been put in the lead position once before. I did not like it. Me being the lead dog did not go well. There was no dog ahead of me to follow. I did not know how to keep the gang line straight. I kept looking backward to the middle of the team where I belonged. When it was time to go, I just sat down and refused. Nope, I'm not a lead dog. Not gonna do it.

Hmm, this time is different. Only five dogs on the team today. I am in front. No neck line. Just a tug line. Everyone is depending on me to pull the team, to keep things straight, to lead the pack. It is paramount for the lead dog to "tow the line." Hmm. What if I'm given a command like "gee" or "haw"? I'm not totally sure which way is right and which is left. Maybe I should pretend to have a tummy ache.

"Ready, let's go." That's the com-

## The Writers' Circle

mand to start. Reflexively I lunge forward. To my surprise, everyone follows. I pull. I follow the trail, the beaten path. I've been this way before. I know it. I can do this. We run at a slow, yet steady pace. After a little while, I've led the team back to the dog truck. Yay! I did it. The musher is very happy with me. I'm happy with me. Whew! I just don't want to do this every time.

Paws to consider: Are you ready to step forward when needed?

Are you afraid of:

- forgetting the way?
- failing the boss?
- falling down?

Well, you know if you fall, fall forward; at least you're making progress.

What will you do when it's up to you to lead?

About Nugget: Nugget is a white furred Alaskan husky with one bent ear. She loves to pull with her sister, Poke. They were named after a gold theme. She has run in the Alaskan

interior, the Herbert Glacier and now the San Juan Mountains of Colorado.

*This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.*

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\*Licensed to Practice Law in Colorado and Texas

## HEALTHY SELF

*"And God said, 'See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of the all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed, to you it shall be for food.'"*

(Genesis 1:29)

### Turmeric

Recent research has revealed that turmeric is a natural wonder, proving beneficial in the treatment of many different health conditions from cancer to Alzheimer's disease. Long known for its anti-inflammatory properties, turmeric has been found to work as well as anti-inflammatory drugs both without the side effects.

Research is also showing turmeric to be effective in treating pain, such as joint pain associated with arthritis and muscle injuries.

An aid to the circulatory system, turmeric improves blood flow to the brain, thereby enhancing memory, thinking, and learning. Individuals who ate turmeric-seasoned foods repeatedly showed improved scores on tests of short-term memory. Other studies indicate that turmeric may slow the progression of Alzheimer's by removing some of the amyloid plaque buildup in the brain.

Turmeric has been shown to slow or stop the growth of many forms of cancer. It has been found to prevent the formation of new blood vessels in tumors, and is believed to help prevent metastases from occurring.

When taken as a supplement, the only contraindication specified is that turmeric should not be used by people with gallstones or bile obstruction.

### What Seventh-day Adventists Believe...

#5 of 28: "God the Holy Spirit: God the eternal Spirit was active with the Father and the Son in Creation, incarnation, and redemption. He inspired the writers of Scripture. He filled Christ's life with power. He draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond he renews and transforms into the image of God. Sent by the Father and the Son to be always with His children, He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers it to bear witness to Christ, and in harmony with the Scriptures leads it into all truth."

*"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*

(Romans 15:13)

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.

## Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You also have an opportunity to ask questions. Go to <https://pagosalibrary.org/adult-services/> to learn more.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

### Friday, Feb. 10

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Free Legal Clinic.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Registration opens the first day of each month. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 or [ruby@pagosalibrary.org](mailto:ruby@pagosalibrary.org).

**PAWS to Read.** 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For students in K-5th grade. Read with Muppet, a dog who loves stories. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Gaming.** 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library.

Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Our Savior Lutheran School Drama Club Presents 'Alice in Wonderland.'** 6:30-7:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School, 56 Meadows Drive. A fun and madcap adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic. Alice chases a white rabbit down a hole to a world in which she encounters strange creatures and even stranger poetry. Classic characters such as the Mad Hatter and Queen of Hearts are joined by ones not usually dramatized, including the Pigeon and the nanny in Duchess' kitchen. Concessions will be available to purchase. This whimsical performance is free to the public and all donations received benefit OSLS arts programming. For more information, call (970) 731-4668.

### Saturday, Feb. 11

**Friends of the Library Cabin Fever Book Sale.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. This is a great opportunity for you to find new treasures at bargain prices to keep you company this winter. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**LEGO Club.** 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids ages 6 and up.

■ See Calendar on next page



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# Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**  
ency by speaking with other Spanish language speakers. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency. GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Valentine's Day Parents Night Out.** 5:30-8 p.m. Restoration Fellowship, 264 Village Drive. A time of children's worship, fun, snacks and games. Ages 3 and up. Must be potty trained. Must register to participate. Email restoration@restorationfellowship.net for details.

## Wednesday, Feb. 15

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Beginner lessons, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Loaner paddles are available.

**Legal Services Presentation.** 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Senior Center. The community is invited to listen to an overview on free legal services available for seniors in southwest Colorado and how to apply for Colorado Legal Services programs. There will also be a Q-and-A session, but no legal advice will be provided. Call (970) 264-2167 for more information.

**Family Storytime.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. All ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Therapy Dog Visit.** 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi."

**Elementary Tutoring.** 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Pipe and Drum Lessons.** 5:15-5:45, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Jim Dorian and Paul Elliot, both experienced Scottish bagpipers, are happy to teach the art of piping free of charge. Contact Jim Dorian at (970) 749-2129 for more information.

## Thursday, Feb. 16

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Note: Until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving Brunswick stew,

bread and dessert to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

**Online Author Talks: Grace M. Cho.** 5 p.m. We will gather virtually with Grace M. Cho, author of "Tastes Like War," a Korean American daughter's exploration of food and family history in order to understand her mother's schizophrenia. Virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought-leaders giving live, professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You also have an opportunity to ask questions. Go to <https://pagosalibrary.org/adult-services/> to learn more.

**Bridge.** 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

**Tech Time.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**English as a Second Language.** 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate and advanced students from 5-7 p.m.

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## Friday, Feb. 17

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Gaming.** 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**San Juan Stargazers Deep Sky Event.** 6 p.m., Meadows West viewing house. To get directions, please call (720) 626-9304. At all star parties, you can bring your own telescope or use one of the club's. When we are at someone's house and it is really cold we can spend more time inside the warm house and just go outside briefly to locate and view. See [www.sanjuanstargazers.org](http://www.sanjuanstargazers.org) for more information.

## Saturday, Feb. 18

**Makerspace.** 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Build, design and create.

**Pokemon Club.** 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Do you love Pokemon? Bring your cards and meet with others who feel the same and play some games.

## Sunday, Feb. 19

**Bingo.** 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

## Monday, Feb. 20

**Medicare Mondays.** For anyone who needs help navigating Medicare plans, fraud concerns and/or troubleshooting issues that they may be having. By appointment only. Please call our Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext. 4. Someone will return phone messages within 24 hours.

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Line Dancing.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. If you have not attended before,

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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# PSMC Welcomes



Heidi Nobles, PA-C

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# Tips on protecting individuals with dementia from wandering during the winter

By **Sandy Silverstein**  
Alzheimer's Foundation of America

Wandering is a very common and potentially dangerous behavior among individuals living with dementia. It is of particularly great concern in areas where freezing temperatures, ice and snow create additional safety hazards.

To help families protect their loved ones living with dementia this winter, the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) is providing tips to reduce the chances of wandering and prepare care partners to respond quickly if their loved one is missing.

"Every family care partner wants to keep their loved one safe, which is why it's important to take steps to reduce the risks associated with wandering. During the winter, it's especially important for families living in areas affected by cold weather, snow and ice," said Jennifer Reeder, LCSW, AFA's director of Educational and Social Services. "Being proactive by understanding and addressing the reasons someone may wander, while also having a plan in place in case of an emergency, are the best ways to protect the person's safety and quality of life."

Tips for families:

- Address the motivation for wandering. There can be many reasons why someone with dementia wants to walk outdoors. It may provide a feeling of purposefulness, excitement or pleasure. Wandering

can also be a response to excessive stimuli, triggered by the need to get away from noises and people. It could be an expression of an unmet need (i.e., hungry, thirsty, a need to use the bathroom). Identify consistent and sustainable ways to support these experiences in a safe environment. You might try creating walking paths around the home with visual cues and stimulating objects, engaging the person in simple tasks, or offering stimulating and enjoyable activities (i.e., exercise, music, crafts). Ensuring basic needs are met can reduce the chances of wandering.

- Safeguard the home. Facilitate safe movement by avoiding clutter and eliminating tripping hazards. Be mindful of how objects like car keys, jackets and purses might trigger the person to leave suddenly. Install electronic chimes or doorbells on doors so someone is alerted if the individual tries to exit. Consider utilizing a smart doorbell with an app that can notify you when someone is entering or exiting the home.

- Be aware of your loved one's patterns. Know what times of the day may be more activating than others and try to provide stimulating activities during that time. Encourage healthy sleep habits to reduce the chances of the person leaving during the middle of the night. If your loved one does wander, keep a record of their patterns (frequency, duration, time of day, etc.) to help guide you in the future.

- Develop a safety plan. Keep a list of places the person may go (i.e., previous home or place of employment, favorite spots around town), and a recent close-up photo and medical information readily accessible to give to first responders if needed. Maintain a list of people to contact if the person goes missing and ask neighbors to call you if they see the person out on their own. See if your community has a safety program for families affected by dementia, such as Project Lifesaver, which allows you to voluntarily enroll your loved one to receive locating technology which first responders can activate if the person goes missing. To the greatest extent possible, utilize input from the person when developing the plan.

AFA's helpline, staffed entirely by licensed social workers who are specifically trained in dementia care, can provide additional information about wandering prevention tips. The helpline is available seven days a week by phone [(866) 232-8484], text message [(646) 586-5283], and Web chat ([www.alzfdn.org](http://www.alzfdn.org)).



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## Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page  
please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.  
**San Juan Back Country Horsemen Meeting.** 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis

St. Potluck at 6 p.m. followed by a speaker presentation at 7 p.m. Our speaker this month will be Greg Wells, a local favorite and farrier. Any questions, call Annie at (210) 215-9566.

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**IF YOU WANT TO BE on GOD'S PAYROLL,** get your marching orders and provisions at 965 Cloud Cap Avenue.

## HELP WANTED

**DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED.** SAN JUAN DENTAL is seeking a Dental Assistant to join our lovely practice. Are you kind, caring, compassionate and friendly? Come join our team. Competitive benefits and a great place to spend your working hours, Monday-Thursday. Email resume to [dricicsmithdds@aol.com](mailto:dricicsmithdds@aol.com).

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY HELP WANTED ADS** — [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9). The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**SUBWAY IS HIRING-** Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community? Apply in person at either location or apply online at [subway.com](http://subway.com)!

**PART-TIME POSITION FOR SNOWPLOWING/** snow removal. Must have valid Colorado license and transportation. Pay based on experience and knowledge. Call (970)946-2061, Eric.

**PINE VALLEY RENTAL.** Rental shop seeking reliable, dependable, self efficient motivated front desk clerk. Must have good customer service, phone skills and basic computer knowledge! Full time Monday- Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. Email resume to [ppine000@centurytel.net](mailto:ppine000@centurytel.net) or come pick up an application at the office, 305 Bastille Dr.

**THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS** is seeking to hire a Park Maintenance I worker in our Parks & Recreation Division. The individual selected for this position performs a variety of entry level semi-skilled duties related to the construction, installation, maintenance, upkeep and repair of town buildings, recreation facilities, parks, grounds and general environment. This is a full-time position with benefits. For more information on the position and to apply, go to the Town's website at [www.pagosasprings.co.gov](http://www.pagosasprings.co.gov) and select Employment.

## PERSONALS

**FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP.** 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

## PETS

**ADOPT FROM THE** Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING.** Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

**DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM.** Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

**CKC YORKIES READY** for Valentine's Day. Boys \$1,000, girls \$1,200. (970)317-5859.

## FOR SALE

**DRY PINE. ALL SIZE** orders welcomed. Ready now. (970)946-4408.

**SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS.** We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

**DRY, SEASONED ASPEN FOR SALE.** \$275 delivered, \$150/ cord in rounds if you pick up. (970)585-4578.

**NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE** or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

**EVERYTHING MUST GO.** King size bed \$800. 8 drawer hutch with curio \$600. Dressers, desk, sofa, large dog crate, and more. (970)731-3875.

**OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES** available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970) 749-1500.

**P5 PERFORMANCE SERIES** adjustable Sleep Number bed for sale. Queen size in good condition. \$500 or make an offer. Pick up or will deliver. (970)946-7850.

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE.** \$200/ cord picked up only. 112 Turkey Lane, Pagosa. (970)238-0677.

## FOR SALE

**Wrightnaturalbakery.com. BEST EGGS AVAILABLE!** Reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, unprocessed, Paleo, unrefined, gluten free ingredients. (970)883-2600, [wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com](mailto:wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com). Products available at Choke Cherry Tree.

**REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS** with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on [pagosasun.com](http://pagosasun.com), [explorepagosa.com](http://explorepagosa.com) and [visitpagosasprings.com](http://visitpagosasprings.com). Deadline for advertising is February 23, 2023. Distribution of the guide will begin in April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email [shari@pagosasun.com](mailto:shari@pagosasun.com).

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY YARD SALE and FOR SALE AD UPDATES** — [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9). The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD?** I've got a Pine/Aspen mix. \$300 per cord or \$575 for a HUGE dump truck load! Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

## AUTOS

**GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL!** 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

**FORD 2006 XLT F250 SD.** Auto 4WD, 6.0L, 252K miles. Good condition, \$7,500 OBO. (361)816-5973.

## VACATION RENTALS

**OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES!** Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.



264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

*"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. ~*

*Michael Gamba*



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NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING  
ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS  
Long Term, Short Term  
or Mid Term



**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH** remodeled mobile home on 1 acre in Aspen Springs. Easy access to highway, 20x20 shop space. \$1,000/ month plus utilities. Available January 1. (970)946-2728.

**3/2 S, 8TH ST., 2 BLOCKS FROM HS**, \$1,900/ month plus utilities. W/D, no pets, no smoking. Available now till 5/31. References. Hardwood living area, carpet bedrooms. (903)363-7709.

**COZY 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH** house on quiet cul-de-sac in Lake Forest area. Fenced yard washer/ dryer, 1-car garage. Water paid. No smoking, no cats, dog negotiable. Available now, long term. \$2,000/ month plus deposit. (505)659-7006.

**OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS.** We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

**FOR RENT: NICELY FURNISHED** (2) bedroom, (3) bath condo in The Pines in uptown. Walk to stores and restaurants. \$2,200/ month plus security, lease and references. Available 4/1. (214)914-9905.

**CALL TEAM PAGOSA REALTY** (970)731-8599 for your long term rental needs. pagosaproperties.com.

**RESIDENTIAL RENTALS**

**AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 8.** 1,800 square foot condo on Cloud Cap Avenue, across from lake. 2 private bedrooms and one bedroom/ loft, 3 bath condo. Central heating and air system. Nonsmoking, no pets. \$1,800 monthly, plus deposit and utilities. (970)731-2522.

**COMMERCIAL RENTALS**

**FOR RENT: 1,000 SQ. FT.** commercial space. 190 Seminole Dr., Unit B. 25'x40' with 12'x12' overhead door and 3/4 bathroom. Call for details. (970)946-2187.

**100Mbps INTERNET EXECUTIVE ISUITES!** (Non-medical services.) 2nd floor. 15x15, 14x14, 12x12 offices. Includes conference room use, utilities, trash, Internet, paved parking. FREE month rent with year lease. Drop-in space with Internet (hourly, daily rates). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

**333 BASTILLE, UNIT A,** 40x60' stand alone building, with two garage bays and two offices. Available now. Call Eric Roth at: (405)568-9802.

**OFFICE FOR RENT DOWNTOWN,** upstairs in the Heritage Building with private bathroom. \$300/ month. Includes utilities, WiFi, conference room and shared kitchen. (970)946-2728.

**PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES:** Offering Lewis Street office suites available from 130 SF to 755 SF, and priced from \$400-\$700/ month. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

**OFFICE SUITE WITH WAITING ROOM.** Centrally located. Includes water, sewer, gas and fiber optic Internet. (970)946-8687.

**4 OFFICE SPACES.** Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

**COMMERCIAL RENTALS**

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR LEASE**

150-475 SQ. FT. Units at 56 Talisman Dr. Pagosa Springs

Please call **970-731-4951** for showings

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS** with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosahun.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosaproperties.com. Deadline for advertising is February 23, 2023. Distribution of the guide will begin in April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosahun.com.

**GAS STATION, MOTEL AND CONVENIENCE STORE.** Income producing property at prime location. \$1.7 million. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

Call Marcie Lewis (970) 759-8672



**BUYING OR SELLING** MarcieLewis.com

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**

**GAS STATION, MOTEL AND CONVENIENCE STORE.** Income producing property at prime location. \$1.7 million. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

**HOME FOR SALE.** River Forest Drive. 3.1 acres, 3 bedroom, 2-1/4 bath, 3,200 sq. ft., unfinished basement. MLS #166847, asking \$740K. (970)585-9181.

**PROPERTY**

**REACH TOURISTS COMING TO PAGOSA SPRINGS** with the Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide, summer edition. Promote your business to your customers in 30,000 copies of the guide. These will be distributed locally at The Springs Resort, Walmart, Wyndham, the visitor center and other area establishments, at welcome centers throughout Colorado and mailed to SUN subscribers. View the guide on pagosahun.com, explorepagosa.com and visitpagosaproperties.com. Deadline for advertising is February 23, 2023. Distribution of the guide will begin in April. Call The Pagosa Springs SUN today for rates and information at (970)264-2100 or email shari@pagosahun.com.

**Christie Calderwood**  
SRS, ABR, ePRO  
Serving Sellers & Buyers  
970-946-6856  
christie@jimsmithrealty.com

**PROPERTY**

**1.2 ACRES, MOUNTAIN VIEWS,** electricity near, No HOA, close to town. \$35,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY REAL ESTATE ADS —** tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**POSSIBLE OWNER CARRY.** Electric, septic, cistern, RV cover, two sheds, fully fenced 1.16 acre for \$95,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

**HOUSE PLANS COME WITH PROPERTY.** 35.81 acres, views, has electric, water and phone nearby. Close to NF accesses. \$300,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS.** Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

**RIVERFRONT PROPERTY.** Electricity near, flat buildable lot. 1.45 acre, \$289,900. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**SECLUDED 1.29 ACRES.** Electricity near, no HOA, close to town. \$35,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



# Medicare 101 and navigating Medicare session planned

By Christina Knoell, Kay Kaylor and Susan Wright

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging

Medicare is complicated. It is important that you know your benefits, rights, options, deadlines, possible penalties and where to find the information you need.

Did you know that assistance is available in Pagosa Springs through the nationwide State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)? Trained and certified Medicare counselors are available to guide you when dealing with Medicare enrollment, questions and problems. Just call (970) 264-0502, ext. 4 for an appointment.

One of the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA) Medicare counselors, Susan Wright, will offer a free Medicare 101 class for an hour or so at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 27 in the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library. Enjoy some snacks and treats while Wright gives you an overview of Medicare and answers your questions.

Medicare help has been offered in Archuleta County at the Pagosa Senior Center for more than 15 years. SJBAAA is the sponsoring agency for free Medicare counseling services at the Senior Center (the west end of the Ross Aragon Community Center) on Hot Springs Boulevard. On most Mondays, called Medicare Mondays, counselors are available by appointment. Counseling occurs on additional days during the annual Part C and D Open Enrollment Period, Oct. 15-Dec. 7, and sometimes by phone or appointment on other days.

Please call the phone number above to make an appointment or to ask questions. Some SJBAAA counselors are also trained as Senior Medicare Patrol counselors, and they can help with possible health care fraud, errors and abuse. You can also report abuse, like all those annoying phone calls from

private insurance companies, by calling (888) 382-1222 or visiting [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov).

Medicare eligibility begins at age 65 unless you are younger and have been on disability for almost two years. Three months before (and until three months after) your birth month, you can enroll in Medicare and start making decisions about your options. Some of the questions you need to consider follow:

- Are you eligible for Medicare Part A and Part B? Do you need both?
- Do you have a retirement plan that will work with Medicare?
- Do you want a Medicare supplement (also called Medigap)?
- Would you prefer coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan from an insurance company?
- Do you want a Part D drug plan to avoid a monthly penalty? If so, which plan would work best for you? This varies depending on which drugs you take.
- Do you qualify for help with part B or D premiums?

Generally, you can enroll in Medicare online at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or by calling the Social Security Administration in Durango, (888) 472-6115. If you are already receiving a Social Security check, you will be automatically enrolled in Part A and Part B, but you will need to enroll in Part D and Part C, or supplements, yourself.

You can compare and enroll in plans at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). If you are already on Medicare and have a Part D drug plan or a Part C supplement it's prudent to review that plan each year during the open enrollment period. Plan premiums and coverage of drugs change each year. Medicare counselors can help you during that time, or you can go to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) to review your plan.

Also, contact Medicare at (800) Medicare, (800) 633-4227, if you did not receive a Medicare card when

you turned 65. You can sign into MyMedicare.gov to see if your card was mailed and, if so, print out an official card.

The above Medicare number can help with any questions you may have. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week (except for some federal holidays).

If you are receiving Social Security disability, you will probably be eligible for Medicare starting 23 months after your disability begins. You will have a limited period to enroll in a Part D drug plan. It is important to take advantage of opportunities to enroll so that you have the coverage and not the penalties.

The state trains people to provide you with the information and tools to navigate Medicare with as little stress as possible. Wright would enjoy helping you understand your benefits, so join her at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 27 at the Ruby Sisson Library. RSVP at (970) 264-0502, ext 4. We'll have door prizes, too.

## DID YOU KNOW?

HSPS offers the following community services:

### Cremation and Memorial Services

Honor your faithful companion and cherish the memories left behind with our cremation and memorial services.

### Pet Financial Assistance

HSPS offers programs including a pet food bank, spay and neuter vouchers, and emergency medical aid.

### Dog Park

An active and healthy pet is a happy pet! HSPS offers a free local dog park open to the general public.

### Microchips and Tags

Lost and stray pets with identification have the best chance for a speedy reunion with their owner.



### Animal Shelter

(970) 731-4771  
465 Cloman Blvd  
Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4



### Thrift Store

(970) 264-6424  
279 Pagosa Street  
Mon-Sat 9-5



**FOUR CORNERS'  
PREMIER  
DISPENSARIES**

**OPEN DAILY  
DURANGO  
PAGOSA SPRINGS  
SILVERTON**

**FRIENDLIEST BUDTENDERS  
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AWARD-WINNING FLOWER**

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**27.23% TOTAL THC**

**OUNCES  
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**ALSO: 30% OFF**  
GRAMS, 1/8TH, 1/4 OZ

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OUR MENU



[TheGreenHouseColorado.com](http://TheGreenHouseColorado.com)

## Spiritual Experiences Group to discuss tools to unlock spiritual potential

By Laurah Brock Young

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs

Potential always makes me think of the future — possibilities, talent, prospects and yet-to-be-realized goals. It can also include our spiritual life. There is a strong connection between how we view our spiritual potential and how our dreams and goals manifest.

There are many tools available that can help us realize our dreams. Join the Spiritual Experiences Group

of Pagosa Springs for a whole-hearted discussion on how we can boost our spiritual potential. Our topics will include tools that can enhance your life journey and new ways to develop your talents and potential. We will explore possible ways to make your dreams a reality — all from a spiritual perspective.

The discussion is free and open to people of all faiths and beliefs. It will be held at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230-A Port Ave., on Sunday, Feb. 12, beginning at 1 p.m.