



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 115 — NO. 36, THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023 \$1

\$40 million water plant contract approved

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a May 25 special meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved contracts with PCL Construction and Veolia Water Technologies and Solutions for construction of and equipment for the Snowball Water Treatment Plant project.

According to the contract with PCL, the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for the project is \$40,565,680.

■ See Water A8

Settlement reached with former county employee

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

In early March, Archuleta County's insurance carrier settled a lawsuit with a former county employee who filed a lawsuit against the county last fall alleging that the county withheld a COVID-related bonus from her and other employees and retaliated against her.

The civil complaint was filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado by law firm Albrechta and Albrechta LLC on behalf of Lacy Brown. It was filed against the "Archuleta County, Board of County

■ See Settlement A8

Class of 2023



Photos courtesy Sally Riggs

More than 100 Archuleta School District students are set to graduate in two ceremonies on Saturday, June 3. Pagosa Springs High School (above) has 96 graduating seniors and San Juan Mountain School (below) has 27 graduating this year.



More than 100 set to graduate Saturday

By Monica Nigon
Staff Writer

More than 100 Archuleta School District students are set to graduate in two ceremonies on Saturday, June 3, ending their high school careers.

Both ceremonies are open to the public.

Pagosa Springs High School

Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) will see 96 seniors graduate this spring, according to school counselor Mark Thompson.

Lynelle Bartz earned the honor of class valedictorian and Avery Ramirez gained the distinction of being the salutatorian.

The PSHS class of 2023 chose "Last of the Good Ones" for its class motto, the cactus as the class flower and "Movin' Out (Anthony's Song)" by Billy Joel as its class song.

Keith and Tiffany Candelaria will serve as the graduation speakers.

"Class of 2023, congratulations on your achievement of graduation," wrote Principal Sean O'Donnell in a statement to The SUN. "I have been genuinely impressed with your resilience and tenacity over these past four years. It has been a blessing to get to watch each and every one of you grow into the young adults you are today. I am certain the future is in good hands. Good luck to each of you, and please remember to always be grateful, and look at the world with your eyes wide open."

■ See Graduation A8

Medical center posts positive spring

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

For the first time in its history, Pagosa Springs Medical Center recorded a positive bottom line for the months of February, March and April in the same year.

The news was delivered as part of the financial report given to the Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors, which oversees PSMC, on May 23.

"PSMC had a modest positive bottom line for April of \$191,566," a written report to the board states.

That report later notes, "Year-to-date PSMC has a positive bottom line of \$311,835. PSMC generally operates at a deficit for the first half of the year, but February, March and April all had a positive bottom line (in PSMC history, we have

never had Feb., March, and April all be positive)."

In her report to the board, PSMC CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb noted the facility has never been in the black so early and consistently.

In delivering the oral financial report to the board, PSMC Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger indicated she believed it is the first time PSMC has been positive this time of year in her time with the organization, and Webb noted the district had a positive bottom line in February 2020.

Before delving into the financials for April, Keplinger presented data on patient numbers.

Keplinger indicated that patient days at the facility continue to be down in 2023, which she noted is

■ See Medical A8



Photo courtesy Colorado Department of Education

On May 26, Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES) received the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award for its academic success during the 2021-2022 school year at the Colorado Department of Education awards ceremony in Denver. Left to right are state Board of Education member Stephen Varela, Education Commissioner Katy Anthes, PSES Principal Kelly Vining, PSES Dean of Students Nicolle Looper and state board member Kathy Plomer.

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

'Oh, the Places You'll Go!'

Members of Archuleta School District's (ASD) classes of 2023 will accept their diplomas this Saturday.

Just a few years ago, during the beginning of the pandemic, graduation was held in cars in the parking lot.

The class of 2023 has dealt with a lot these past few years, and they have persevered.

This is an exciting time for graduates and parents.

As you look to the future with hope, we hope you will take time to read "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" By Dr. Seuss.

While cleaning out a bookshelf this weekend, we found our copy, dusted it off and began reading.

"You have brains in your head.

"You have feet in your shoes.

"You can steer yourself any direction you choose." — Suess.

There are so many opportunities for those willing to take a chance and reach beyond your comfort zone.

"How much can you lose?"

"How much can you win?" — Suess.

You'll never know, if you don't begin. As these graduates begin a new chapter in their lives, we share with you some bits of inspirational graduation speeches to guide you along the story of your life.

At Wright State University, Tom Hanks shared: "Congratulations to you, chosen ones. I am calling you 'chosen ones' because you have been chosen in

many ways. First, by the temperament and discipline you've lived by, by the creative fires that are inside of you, and the instinctive lunges of your desires. The future is always uncertain, but we who celebrate what you have done, who celebrate all of your achievements, we are certain of one thing on this day: You will not let us down."

We encourage you to take the time to read our local graduates' plans following high school in ASD's special graduation insert in this week's paper. The caliber of students that come from our local schools is impressive.

"And will you succeed?"

"Yes! You will, indeed!"

"(98 and 3/4 percent guaranteed.)"

"Kid, you'll move mountains!" —

Suess.

In moving those mountains, there will no doubt be obstacles to overcome. Nothing is insurmountable.

A previous year's commencement address by Steven Spielberg at Harvard University offered these valued take-aways:

• "Life is one strong, long string of character-defining moments."

• "Your intuition is different from your conscience. They work in tandem, but here's the distinction: Your conscience shouts, 'Here's what you should do,' while your intuition whispers, 'Here's what you could do.' Listen to that voice

that tells you what you could do. Nothing will define your character more than that."

• "Don't turn away from what's painful. Examine it. Challenge it."

• "In your defining moments, do not let your morals be swayed by convenience or expediency. Sticking to your character requires a lot of courage. And to be courageous, you're going to need a lot of support."

• "And please stay connected. Please never lose eye contact. ... We are spending more time looking down at our devices than we are looking in each other's eyes. ... Everyone here, please find someone's eyes to look into. ... turn to someone you don't know or don't know very well. ... Just let your eyes meet. That's it. That emotion you're feeling is our shared humanity mixed in with a little social discomfort. But, if you remember nothing else from today, I hope you remember this moment of human connection."

Graduation and commencement speeches are full of valuable advice for our youth, and for some of us who aren't so young anymore, we find these inspirational speeches just what we need for a new perspective.

"Today is your day!"

"Your mountain is waiting."

"So ... get on your way!" — Suess.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 1, 1923

Some of our progressive citizens hauled wood from Shields' mill to the city park Sunday for the use of the campers this summer. The wood was donated by Mr. Shields and the trucks by the county and S.H. Dickerson, while the work was under the supervision of Marshal Fred Arnold.

Mrs. Owens and children left yesterday for Pagosa Junction and will open a restaurant in the Pomeroy building — an institution that has been greatly needed at that point for the past two years.

A few catches of trout have been reported since the season opened, but the streams are still too muddy and high for very much fishing to be done.

Some of our cattlemen are now moving their stock from the spring to the summer range.

Miss Geraldine Campbell, teacher of the Yellowjacket school, received word last evening that her father was very low at his home in Denver, and boarded the train at Dyke this morning for that city. It is not yet known what disposition will be made of the unfinished term of school.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 4, 1948

When Pagosa gets fire fighting equipment, it gets lots of fire fighting equipment.

This week, not long after the purchase of a town fire truck, another piece of equipment was added to the list. It was a mobile high pressure fog apparatus purchased for the county in cooperation with the forest service and the state.

Norman Ottoway, county sheriff, will be in charge of the new pick-up and its equipment.

Pagosa Springs veterans and Boy and Girl Scouts, the Cubs and Brownies paraded Memorial Day and attended ceremonies at the cemetery.

Rev. H.H. Hughes gave the address on a patriotic theme and Mrs. Hughes sang the National Anthem. Wreaths were placed on a selected grave and with the customary volley fired and the playing of Taps, the war dead of the community were honored.

Bob Matthews and my elder Sprout both have new fishing poles, but the weather has conspired against them.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
May 31, 1973

It is still snow season on Wolf Creek Pass and the long time record for snowfall is being pushed up this month. Until this winter the long time record fall for one winter was 605 inches.

Total snowfall for the winter just ending is 614-1/2 inches. There may be some more before summer is an accomplished fact, but not if the snowplow crews on the hill have anything to say about it. Latest snow was May 26 when six inches fell. Total fall for May to date is 29 inches.

The actual signing of a contract with the Public Health Service was completed this week. Dr. Gary Janssen will be arriving here in early July to staff the Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Center. The securing of a doctor for the center came about after initial work by Glenn Kennedy and Reuben Marquez. Since their early efforts in obtaining meetings, and information, the Dr. Mary Fisher Medical Center committee has made arrangements for a nurse, lab technician and other personnel at the center.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
June 4, 1998

Pagosa Springs officials recently received yet another petition requesting annexation of property into the town and the town board set a July 21 public hearing at Town Hall at 5 p.m. to consider the request.

The petition was signed by John Ranson and Dan Sanders, owners of the 38 acres located on the south side of U.S. 160, just west of the junction of the highway and Piedra Road.

According to Town Administrator Jay Harrington, the owners have proposed development of commercial, multi-family and single-family units for the "Pagosa Partners" annexation.





While plans for the overall development of the tract have not been delivered to town officials, the land owners indicated that they intend to donate seven acres of property to the First Baptist Church of Pagosa Springs. The church, now located on the south side of U.S. 160, between 3rd and 4th streets, intends to begin a phased relocation to the new site.



Taken from The Pagosa Springs SUN files of Oct. 30, 1980: CLASS VISITS— The Future Business Leaders of America class visited the SUN this week to view at first hand business equipment and the computer used in the composing operation of the SUN. They were accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Wilson, and spent some time in the plant. Joni Shaw, a member of the class, presented Glen Edmonds, editor, with a certificate designating the SUN as business of the month for October.

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IF GRADUATION CREATES AN EMPTY NEST AT HOME, HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH IT? Bailey

			
MAE HEMM "What a nice sewing room my girl's bedroom will make!"	LUCKY MANN "I'm not losing a son — I'm gaining a man cave!"	BEA WILDURD "Imagine — life without his socks and underwear to pick up!"	KENT FIGGER "Empty?! My oldest is 30 — an' still hasn't moved out!"

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.

Wetlands

Dear Editor:
The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled. As an attorney and avid lover of nature, when I first read the Sackett v EPA case, I took a deep breath. My concern was that the newly conservative makeup of the Supreme Court could minimize the ability of our Environmental Protection Agency to protect wetlands from destruction.

I came from Florida where I'd lived since 1976. I watched as the shallow, nutrient-rich, cattail infused water areas were filled-in, and structures were built thereon. Then, the rains came. Pillings were washed away, buildings collapsed, and insurance companies discontinued coverage.

My natural world is perceived based on my education in biology (BS "Life Sciences" cum laude); and activities of sailing, scuba diving, and swimming. My love of water focused my interest on the many fish and animals that use the wetlands for promulgation of their species. I could expound here, but let's save that for another day.

The point is that the areas we term "wetlands" are critical water compositions that keep our other land areas safe from storm surges in places like Florida. In other areas, such as here in Colorado and environs of the western United States, like Idaho, wetlands safeguard the rocky substance of the desert land that supports growth like trees, forests, cultivation, and buildings.

Well, does it surprise anyone that a developer would want to fill in the wetlands and create more 'land' (grounds, open space) for building and resale? More money, yep, that's the objective. As an environmental lawyer I've represented developers. Some are of high integrity and mediate with sincerity and fairness. Win:win - every party can win.

That's not what happened in the Sackett case. The Sacketts claim they're owners who wish to build a home. It appears they reside in Williston, North Dakota. In this U.S. Supreme Court case, the ability of the EPA has been shattered with respect to rules governing use of inland wetlands.

We know how concerning water issues are at this time. The Colorado River is a key component of concern. Water fuels substantial parts of Arizona, Nevada and California. Phoenix and Las Vegas wouldn't exist without Colorado River water.

But, I digress. Back to the wetlands lining Priest Lake, Idaho. Property Owner: You win...concrete over the wetlands with whatever filler you choose, and build, build, sell, sell. Your neighbors who have loved their Lakeside respite for eons are not to be bothered with. The effect on the lake is identified, and it's not good. But, that doesn't matter. Given the current ruling, the EPA has no jurisdiction to regulate 'wetlands' unless the water flow has "continuous surface connection...to...regulated commercial highways".

Maybe, States could get more engaged in the lands, and waters within their territory. How about adjacent 'land owners'? Do they have rights too? Somehow, 'we the people' need to do something. Learn, Think, and Act (LTA).

Constance d'Angelis

Swan crossing

Dear Editor:
The swan that lives on Pinon Lake often will travel to the small pond on the other side of Highway 160. Since he can't fly, he must walk diagonally across 160, the road with the most traffic in Pagosa Springs and more than its share of speeders. There should be signage, such as "Warning: Swan Crossing," to help protect him.

Alice H. Farley

Valuations: File a protest

Dear Editor:
For many property owners, the 2020-2022 Archuleta County Assessor's mass appraisal, reflected in our 2023 Notice of Valuations, is a mess. This is why so many property owners are upset and protesting their property value.

The mass appraisal deals with medians of broad categories of properties. When you protest, you will specify the specifics of your property, just as if you hired a licensed appraiser to appraise your property. The onus is on you to prove the assessor's value is incorrect, and to suggest an appropriate value as of June 30, 2022.

The "2023 Reappraisal Comparable Sales" bottom link on the left of the Assessor's homepage is a misnomer, because sold properties do not show the sale price in the linked documents. Instead each property has been assigned a "Time Adjusted Sale Price" (TASP), that, in theory, adjusts the sale price to what the Assessor thinks it would

have been, if sold on June 30, 2022.

I'm not sure how the TASP is calculated, but it has added on, in some cases, over \$100,000 value to properties. It seems my property has been valued with comparable sales as though it's turn-key-ready to become a short term rental (STR). It is not. I bought my property "as is". I estimate it would take \$200,000+ to make it eligible for a legal and viable STR. My value is partly based on what investors over-pay for STR property.

And then there's the case of the one property sold in my subdivision during the July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022 valuation period. It sold for \$345,000 on July 27, 2021 to out-of-state investors who turned it into an STR. The Time Adjusted Sale Price (TASP) is \$414,069. But the 2023 Actual Valuation is \$259,840 - \$154,227 below TASP. How many times is this scenario repeated in other subdivisions?

Meanwhile, the Actual Values for unsold properties in my subdivision increased between 22% and 214%. Again, the one sold property Actual Value decreased 37%.

Is this disparity intentional? The sold/unsold guidelines in the 2022 Archuleta Property Assessment Study state, in part, "if the median change in value is greater for unsold properties than sold properties, the analysis is stopped and the county is concluded to be in compliance with sold and unsold guidelines."

Again, the onus is on the property owner to prove the Assessor's value is wrong. We can do it, but it takes time.

The Assessor's disclaimer at the top of their property value page:

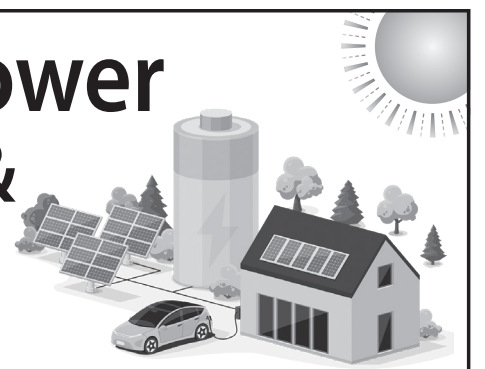
"The data on this website is provided 'as is' without warranty of accuracy, timeliness, or completeness. Archuleta County makes nor [sic] warranties of merchantability or fitness. If you feel any of the data is incorrect, please contact our office at 970-264-8310. As a note: all measurements are made from the exterior."

Heed the Assessor's advice. Use the bottom of the Notice of Valuation to file a protest by June 8 if your valuation is too high.

Cynda Green

■ See Letters A4

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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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

be 500 words or less
be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution. There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN generally does not edit letters, but reserves the right to do so.

Thank You Pagosa Springs Medical Center!

Last Tuesday, I started experiencing symptoms of a heart attack. Your front desk got me right in. When my symptoms progressed and I was wheeled into the ER, watching your team go to work was amazing. A huge team descended on me, seemingly from out of nowhere. Instantly, people were all around, some were working on one arm, others were on another, someone was pushing nitroglycerine tablets into my mouth while others were connecting tubes and monitors while still others were pushing supplies and things to the team members closest. And, all the while, people were calling out stats and other information. The room and the area around it became a hive of well-rehearsed activity. I previously thought that level of coordination and activity only took place on television. Seeing it live and in real-life was incredible. My experience last Tuesday caused me to encounter numerous departments of PSMC, from the front desk and the clinic, to the ER and the EMS ambulance service. Every member of your team that I encountered acted quickly and performed flawlessly. Thank you so much for being available, equipped and prepared. And, thank you especially to all of the employees that I encountered – you did great, you made a difference, and I am eternally grateful.

-J

Letters

Continued from A3

Public health opportunity

Dear Editor:
Open Letter – Public Health Department Commissioners,

I was sorry to hear about Transitional Advisory Committee resignations. Two weeks ago, the TAC was ready to summarize service priorities in a spreadsheet with estimates for staffing and budget. You should encourage them to finish that exercise.

In the meantime, you designated yourselves the board of health. Have you met as the board of health? I don't see BOH meetings on the website Agendas page. The TAC, as you remind them, are advisory. You, as the board of health, should be rolling up your sleeves and working through the tasks for setting up the department. The health director should provide program guidance. You can be moving forward with the infrastructure she needs to run them.

Where does that stand? The Public Health Department web page hasn't been updated since it was posted. If you think the county has made tangible progress on any of these foundational operational tasks, you should make that information available for residents to see.

What existing county staff are you directing to support the health department? Is there a dedicated finance person to set up the pro forma accounting and budget. You know from SJBPH that funding comes in bits and pieces from various sources, including medical billing. Does the county have all the systems it needs to manage those income streams or do current processes need to be supplemented with other systems or services?

What does the initial budget look like? Does it anticipate hiring and training in 2023 for an operating health department on January 1, 2024? Now, without finalizing specific programs, you can pencil in administrative staff for accounting, personnel, policy and program documentation, and contract and grant administration. Have you arranged for dedicated staff in the Human Resource department to build out the basic department org chart and work with the health director to write position descriptions?

The health department needs a medical director. I understand from attending TAC meetings that the medical director will most likely be a part-time contracted role. Several weeks ago, county staff mentioned collecting information about arrangements other county health departments have. Where do you, as the board of health, stand with the strategy for retaining a medical director?

Time is running short. You cannot expect to wait for every bit of program planning information before you start implementing.

Watching this process from the public gallery, I see a lot of information-gathering by the TAC with very cursory reporting to the commissioners at BoCC work sessions. Now might be a good time to set up regular joint working sessions of the board of health and TAC.

Joint sessions could replace the separate meetings of the TAC and bring you, as the board of health, directly into the information flows. You will be better positioned to make decisions and give clear instructions to county staff about how to assist the health director in standing up public health services.

Political posturing got you here. I'm anxious to see what you do with

the opportunity.

Candace Jones

Tax assessments: 'Absurdity'

Dear Editor:

I feel it is time to voice my opinion regarding the absurdity of the new tax assessments we received from the county. It appears that the state and county have no idea of the gravity of the economic impact it has on long-time blue-collar residents and seniors, especially with the high cost of living and inflation in a remote mountain town. It is difficult enough to pay for the high cost of food, fuel, and utilities for a family already, without this extra burden of exorbitant taxes. Residents in service jobs and seniors on fixed incomes are shouldering this burden while our infrastructure is trying to keep up with all the new construction. Roads are in disrepair; traffic is hampered and Pagosa has turned into a hub of absentee property owners while they line their pockets from VRBO'S as our community faces a housing shortage. Do the powers that be in the town and county not see what is happening to our beautiful area? Should they have considered a moratorium on building so fast? Is this just another way to gentrify our community? I can't help but wonder what will happen when residents must move from Pagosa and relocate? Are all the absentee owners going to help with the non-profits in this community that rely on our manpower and financial support? It appears that these pork barrel tax increases support the eastern slope progressive ideology of woke special interests, as it tears apart the fabric of established conservative western slope communities.

Wake up, powers that be! You have the power to get this community back on track. You were elected to represent "we the people" furthermore "taxation without our representation is tyranny". It's not too late. Just act on the resident's behalf to curb this insanity.

G. Margiotta

Supreme Court justices

Dear Editor:

In the May 18th Sun, Melissa Herren points out several Justices that have been "called out" for unethical behavior and points out the need for a Supreme Court code of ethics. A good question is "Who called them out?" The answer is liberal politicians and their media allies, which tells us a lot about this supposed "unethical behavior." First up, in Ms. Herren's article, is Justice Clarence Thomas who is "called out" because a friend of 27 years has taken him on vacations for a number years and the Justice did not report it. Thus, Justice Thomas was "called out" even though there was no requirement to report this and he was advised that he didn't have to.

Next up on the hit list is Justice Neil Gorsuch because he didn't disclose a sale of property to a man whose company had cases before the Court. Even though this is not a violation of any rules, Justice Gorsuch was still "called out." What makes this even more ludicrous is that, according to the Washington Examiner, this man says of Gorsuch "I've never spoken to him. I've never met him."

Lastly, Chief Justice John Roberts has been "called out" because his wife is a recruiter that finds lawyers to work at various law firms, some of which have cases before the Supreme Court. This "calling out" is again ludicrous because, according to the Washinton

Examiner, none of these recruited lawyers has ever argued a case before the Supreme Court.

These unethical attacks are directed only at conservative Supreme Court Justices. The attackers hope to paint the Court with the brush of distrust because these Justices render decisions that thwart the liberal agenda. Whereas Ms. Herren is correct about the need of a Supreme Court code of ethics, the above certainly doesn't qualify as unethical behavior. Let's hope the American people are smart enough to see the need for such a code of ethics without believing these justices have done anything wrong.

Charles Newton

'Greed is not good'

Dear Editor:

Inflation is one of those difficult subjects that is seemingly incomprehensible to many people, including the so-called pundits. The problem with pundits explaining inflation, or any other issue, is that they are just as subject to their own political, economic and social biases as anyone else. In an excellent article by Andrew Perez, Mathew Cunningham-Cook and David Sirota in Jacobin (The Pundits Were Wrong: Corporate Greed Stoked Inflation), the authors provide examples of how corporate media outlets have ignored available data for over a year as they have blamed inflation on higher worker wages and government assistance during the pandemic. These outlets have chosen to publish and platform pundits who scoff at the idea that corporate greed has fueled inflation. Indeed, Republican lawmakers and corporate Democrats have also insisted that inflation could not possibly have anything to do with greedy corporations boosting their profit margins.

Blaming worker wages has had disastrous results for those whose lives were improved by pandemic relief and higher wages and undoubtedly influenced the decision to cut back on the Medicaid rolls. As it turns out, several recent economic studies have resulted in media outlets and central banks walking back that stance. These would include: researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City ("Firms raised markups during 2021 in anticipation of future cost pressures, contributing substantially to inflation"); USB chief Paul Donovan (Profit margin-led inflation is not caused by a supply-demand imbalance. Profit margin-led inflation is when some companies spin a story that convinces customers that price increases are 'fair', when in fact they disguise profit margin expansion."); and the Wall Street Journal ("Inflation has proved more stubborn than central banks bargained for when prices started surging two years ago).

Now some economists think they know why: Businesses are using a rare opportunity to boost their profit margins. According to Groundwork Collaborative, an organization that has reviewed hundreds of earnings calls, "Corporate CEO's have been actively bragging to their investors" that "the current inflationary environment has created significant opportunities to extract more and more profit by raising prices on consumers."

This has all been abetted by lax antitrust enforcement which has permitted corporations to grow into oligopolies that can boost prices without fear of competition

and a popular notion that all regulations are bad. But aside from that, the distortion of the discourse on the cause of inflation has "helped stall momentum for anti-price gouging legislation, higher taxes on the wealthy, and an excessive corporate profits tax". So, instead of our legislators doing their jobs and enacting laws that could stem the tide of corporate greed, the Fed will raise interest rates which will more negatively impact the non-superrich and increase the risk that the US economy will fall into a recession. This is another excellent example of how the free market does not solve all problems and can, in fact, contribute to the worsening of some. Gordon Gekko was wrong—greed is not good.

Lee Stopher

Positive thinking

Dear Editor:

Positive versus Negative. I feel sorry for those whose thoughts are stuck in the negative. Folks who live with happiness spend their time meditating on what is good and regardless of the negatives, there continue to be positives to bring a smile to our face and with that, we count our blessings every day.

Things today are pretty good. No big wars to fight, supplies are plentiful and there are even jobs galore begging to be filled. If possible, be a "stay at home Mom" until those little ones are school-age. Give them a great start with your personal family values. There is no greater profession than that of "mom". It may require a little financial sacrifice, but all of those goodies will still be available later on. Focus on "This is the first day of the rest of my life" and move ahead. OK?

During WWII, there had been no housing construction for several years. With the end of the war, most in the military were discharged and sent home. Soon after, we married at ages 19 and 20. We were fortunate to rent a converted single car garage, furnished with necessities, for \$8 a week — didn't have to live with our parents. In fact, we invited them over for dinner and they came. Friends rented a converted chicken coop — didn't bother to take down the chicken wire, the owner boarded up around it — made it easy to hang pictures inside. We were proud, we were happy.

That is how we started our 72 years of marriage. We never allowed ourselves to think "negative", always with a "can do" attitude and everything worked out great.

So, if you are a little "in the dumps", ignore the news, ignore all the negative stuff and focus on your personal lives, what is good and build on that to "put your ship back on course". Eventually, you will get there.

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Patty Tillerson

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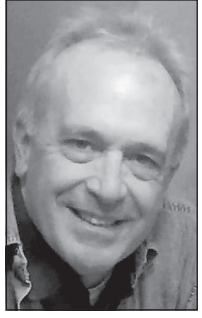
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Obituaries

Forrest Dale Bohlen

July 22, 1954-May 11, 2023

Forrest Dale Bohlen, age 68, went to be with his Lord and Savior on May 11. He was born July 22, 1954, in Danville, Iowa, to Leo and Neva Bohlen.



He graduated from Danville High School in 1972, where he was involved in sports, drama and band. He was part of a quartet with his brothers and sisters. He loved to sing and had a beautiful voice.

He later graduated with a BA in religion from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark. It was there he met his wife, Becky Kay Foard. He went on to receive his Masters of Divinity at Southwestern Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Forrest and Becky were married on Dec. 31, 1977.

They were happily married and served in ministry together for 45 years.

They were blessed with two loving daughters, Rachael Marie Wanta and Sarah Elizabeth Parker. They have four grandchildren: Addie Grace, Taylor Faith, Lola Marie Johnson and Elijah Forrest Parker.

Out of seminary, Forrest served as minister of youth/associate pastor at Woods Chapel Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas. After that, he served as pastor to Calvary Baptist Church in Gainsville, Texas. In 1989, they were called by God to serve as missionaries with the International Mission Board. They

served in Venezuela for 20 years as church planters and six years in Chile, serving missionaries in member care. Since retiring from the IMB, Forrest has served on staff at Centerpoint Church in Pagosa Springs as pastor of Hispanic ministries for the small church he and Becky planted.

Forrest was a gifted and godly man who loved his family, his calling and his Lord. He had both a great sense of humor and a serious walk of faith. Forrest will be missed but not forgotten. He was well-loved and he loved well. He will be remembered as a hardworking servant, helping and serving so many, and for his smile and contagious laugh. He lived by the words of Philippians 1:21: "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

He is survived by his wife, Becky; his daughters, Rachael (Jon) Wanta and Sarah (Dalon) Parker; and his grandchildren, Addie, Taylor, Lola Johnson and Elijah Forrest Parker. He also leaves behind his siblings Debra Scopel, Stephen (Val) Bohlen, Brad (Maureen) Bohlen and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Barbara Hanson and his brother-in-laws, Jerry Hanson and Victor Scopel.

A celebration of life will be held at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive, on Monday, June 12, at 11 a.m.

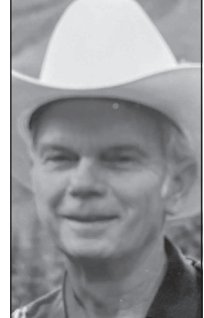
You may also visit www.hood-mortuary.com to view the obituary and send a message to the family.

Memorial gifts may be made in Forrest's name to the International Mission Board, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23230.

The family would like to give special thanks to the IMB, Centerpoint Church and Donor Alliance.

Thomas 'Gary' Kimble

Mr. Thomas "Gary" Kimble, 85 years old, passed away on Friday, May 19, 2023, in St. George, Utah.



He resided in the Southern Utah Veterans Home since November 2018. He was born in Silver City, N.M., on June 12, 1937, to Thomas William Kimble and Mary Catherine Moyer. He was married to Alta Lee Goforth McCain, celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary in February of this year.

Gary attended high school in Miami, Ariz., but moved and graduated from Silver City, N.M., in 1955. He continued his education at the University of New Mexico and graduated from Arizona State University with a mining engineering degree in 1959. He served in the United States Army from 1960-1966 and was stationed in El Paso, Texas.

Gary had the foresight to enter the oil business at the bottom and worked his way up, working in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Wyoming and California. He then ventured overseas in with Arabian American Oil Company, ARAMCO. As a project manager he worked on pipeline projects and was instrumental in the development of the community of Tanajib, a gas plant located on the eastern coast of Saudi Arabia. After 13 years with ARAMCO, he returned to the U.S. only to be hired by Fluor Daniel Inc. and sent to Jeddah, Saudi

Arabia. Located on the western coast, he directed the construction of a teaching hospital for the King Abdulaziz University.

Gary continued to work for Fluor Daniel Inc. in locations in South Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio, Costa Rica, Colorado and Indiana, finally retiring in 2003 to their home in Pagosa Springs. Building an equine business buying, breeding and selling, he and Alta had 30 horses over the years. He loved snow skiing and hunting, and serving as an elder in his church Grace in Pagosa.

Diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2008, Gary and Alta relocated to Mesquite, Nev., for medical reasons in 2015, selling their Colorado home of 40 years. After a hospital stay in 2018, he entered the Southern Utah Veterans Home. Gary maintained such a positive attitude, striving to add humor into the day. He always thanked and appreciated those who helped him. He is remembered fondly by many.

Gary had four children, three daughters and a son. He is survived by his wife, Alta Lee Kimble; daughters: Leslee Vause, of Ivins, Utah, and Anja Potter (Steve Potter) of Edgewater, Fla.; his sisters: Greta Oberg, of Silver City, N.M., and Francil Fiess (Berry Fiess), of Orlando, Fla.; 15 grandchildren; and 14 great grandchildren.

A celebration of life will take place in Colorado at a later date.

Please visit www.metcalfmortuary.com for condolences.

Service

David Henry Sprowle

David Henry Sprowle, of Pagosa Springs, passed away May 31, 2022, at the age of 89. There will be a service for him on June 5 at 10 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park on Vista Boulevard.



Commissioners hear public health communications, partnerships presentations

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard presentations on communications and the Office of Policy and Partnerships at San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) at its May 16 meeting.

SJBPH Communication Director Megan Graham gave the presentation on communications, beginning by highlighting that communications are a supporting service at the agency, helping the community connect to other public health programs.

She explained that communications is viewed as essential public health service by the Colorado Department of Public Health Environment (CDPHE).

Graham indicated that communications fits within SJBPH's mission by ensuring communication during public health emergencies,

such as the COVID-19 pandemic, communicating health and wellness information, and sharing information about the agency and the people involved in and outcomes of SJBPH programs.

She explained that communications produces print and digital marketing materials; maintains the district's social media and website; publishes public service announcements and press releases; performs television, radio and newspaper interviews; and is present at community outreach events.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked Graham what the staffing numbers for her division are.

Graham responded that the division usually has three staff members including herself, although there is currently one vacancy, and a digital media contractor who is approximately half a full-time equivalent.

The BoCC then heard a presentation from Janet Wolf in the Office

of Policy and Partnerships.

Wolf began by explaining that the Office of Policy and Partnerships is a foundational capability that helps support other programs in the district, similar to communications.

She highlighted that the manual on public health published by the CDPHE lists policy development and support and partnerships as two capabilities, although SJBPH has combined them into one office.

Wolf explained that, in terms of partnerships, the office works to develop and analyze partnerships and build trust with community members.

As examples of this work, she referenced the office's work on the community health assessment and its work on the deBeaumont IMPACT Public Health Grant focused on indoor air quality.

She added that SJBPH maintains a large database of com-

■ See Health A6

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Photo courtesy Jennifer Walterscheid

Boy Scout Troop 807 spends the day working in the rain on Saturday, May 20, building pioneering projects. The Scouts put their knot and lashing skills to work on the final project of the Pioneering Merit Badge with a 50-foot monkey bridge. Scouts pictured, left to right, are Davian Coss, Bennett Walterscheid, Harper Hedgecock, Sawyer Yost, Bruce Kubelka, Peyton Jackson and Silas Yost.

County hears human services report, OKs fee changes

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At the May 16 Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) meeting, the board heard a quarterly report from the Department of Human Services and approved changes to county fees and repairs to a piece of county equipment, among other business.

Human Services Director Isabel Vita delivered the report, opening by explaining that the first quarter of 2023 was busy and that she wanted to highlight some of the staff in her department.

Vita began by discussing eligibility, highlighting the contributions of Heidi Martinez and explaining that the department is answering a large number of questions concerning upcoming changes to Medicaid and supplemental food assistance connected to the end of the public health emergency that will leave a large number of residents without support.

She added that staff have been working with and visiting food pantries to prepare for this change.

She explained that she had written a quality assurance and quality control plan for the state, as well as a civil rights plan.

Vita stated that food assistance and Medicaid applications were the most numerous applications for the department during the quarter and that the department is processing a large number of Medicaid redeterminations connected to the end of the public health emergency.

She noted that the department did not have a fraud investigator during the quarter, although one has been hired since then.

Vita moved on to discuss child protective services, explaining that the department had 85 reports over the quarter with approximately 28 children involved in the 26 reports that were screened in.

She stated that last year at this

time, the department did not have anyone to do forensic interviews for sexual abuse cases but that she has had two staff trained in forensic interviewing with grant money she has received.

Vita stated that the department had four dependency and neglect cases, with three carried over from the previous quarter, as well as nine voluntary child welfare cases involving a range of different services.

She also highlighted the accomplishments and skills of the staff involved in this area of the department's work.

Vita stated that the department has not been able to hire a foster care coordinator, with two candidates declining due to wages.

In adult protective services, Vita stated the department had 25 referrals over the quarter with eight being screened in.

She highlighted that there are a large number of issues and proposed solutions in child support with legislation intended to address them currently, such as sharing mental health costs across both parents.

She stated that the department collected \$70,598.91 in child support in January, \$68,447.50 in February and \$109,095.51 in March.

In other news, Vita stated that she is working on a memorandum of understanding between the department and the Workforce Center, based in La Plata County, to bring an employment specialist to work at the department offices once a month to assist with job searches and employment for community residents.

She stated that the Colorado Community Response program is also hosted at the department's office, which assists and provides resources to those who receive child welfare calls but are not screened in to the system.

Vita also pointed out that she lost the accountant for the department and that she was advertising

the position widely.

County Commissioner Ronnie Maez questioned if residents were having to travel out of town to obtain workforce center services, which Vita confirmed and added that she had hired the former Colorado Workforce employee for her department.

Maez also asked if the department is statutorily required to have a finance staff member.

Vita explained that there are specific financial tasks that are required for the department that require specific training.

Maez questioned if this would impact state funding for the department, which Vita responded is possible.

Maez responded that the hiring needs to be expedited in that case. Commissioner Veronica Medina and Commissioner Warren Brown both thanked Vita for her high-quality work.

Fee schedule changes

Later, the BoCC considered and approved changes to the county fee schedule, including alterations to fees at the landfill, the airport, and for booking the Colorado State University Extension building and the fairgrounds.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that the fee changes at the landfill are intended to give additional clarity and breakdown for the costs of appliances at the landfill, while the changes to fuel prices at the airport were a "pass-through" driven by increases in the prices charged by Avjet.

Maez raised concerns that the \$45 charge for depositing a carcass at the landfill was too high, pointing out that they degrade faster than other items in the landfill.

Woodman explained that the carcass fee is in comparison to other landfill fees in the region and that the landfill did not accept carcasses last year, although it had before that.

Maez stated that he would prefer the fees in line with those for grills, dishwashers and toilets at \$5.

Woodman noted that previously fees were graduated by size.

Brown asked if not taking carcasses had been driven by a desire to reduce the bear population at the landfill, which Woodman confirmed.

He questioned if problems with bears would begin again if the landfill begins taking carcasses again.

Maez commented that bears are "nature's garbage disposal" and that they would likely be attracted to trash as well.

Medina questioned if the county has to do "something special" when it takes a carcass, which Woodman indicated it does not.

Brown proposed that the county could charge \$10 dollars for a carcass.

Maez commented that the county should raise the fees on toilets, dishwashers and grills as well.

Woodman stated that the appliances do not end up in the landfill and are recycled.

Maez commented that it would be an additional expense to move or handle those items and proposed that the costs should be the same.

"I honestly don't think it's going to make or break the county either way, honestly," Brown said. "I could go the same fee, whatever that fee is. I would not be opposed."

Medina then questioned what the changes for the Extension office are, with County Executive Assistant/Paralegal Mary Helminski explaining that names including for the 4H Hall, had been changed as well as fees.

The BoCC then moved to adopt the fee changes with carcasses, toilets, grills and dishwashers all at the cost of \$10.

In other business at the meeting, the BoCC also approved emergency repairs to a county motor grader at a cost of \$178,198.99 and tabled the rebuilding of a bulldozer for \$253,000 due to concerns about not having a firm cost estimate.

The BoCC also approved the refunding of \$473.15 in county property taxes to HO Enterprises LLC as an incentive for maintaining 311 South 7th Street as workforce housing.

josh@pagosasun.com

Health

Continued from A5
munity partners, which she anticipated would be divided out and distributed to the county health departments following the dissolution of SJBPH.

Wolf explained that the office coordinates presentations to the counties, supports outreach events, participates on the inter-

nal Health Equity Committee and processes Colorado Open Records Act requests.

She added she serves as clerk to SJBPH Board of Health and liaison officer in public health emergencies.

She then highlighted the office's internal marketing work where it markets to other departments to

assist them in informing community members about their programs.

Brown commented that he appreciated the insight into what the office does.

Commissioners Ronnie Maez and Veronica Medina commented they shared similar sentiments and thanked her for her work.

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County approves two paving contracts

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a May 23 special meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved two contracts with Sunland Asphalt for paving work on County Road (CR) 982 and North Pagosa Boulevard.

Road and Bridge Director Kevin Pogue explained that the contract for CR 982 is a change order for work on the road created in response to the discovery that the road had only 3 inches of asphalt instead of 4.

He explained that the original plan was to mill the upper 2 inches of asphalt on the road but that, to prevent compromising the county's current work, he recommended milling and paving the road to 3 inches of depth since leaving the 1 inch of asphalt in place could potentially cause lifting and damage to the road.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if Sunland had not done sampling of the surface prior to its original bid on the project.

Pogue explained that it had not due to the project being "in a rush" given the time of year last year and not having the time to do such an assessment.

"It was a little bit of a feat just to get the permitting from [the Colorado Department of Transportation] last year," Pogue stated. "And, so, you know, it's one of those deals

where, if we'd had the opportunity to go in there and core it we could have had a little bit better knowledge of what we were getting ourselves into, but just with the time constraints we just went ahead and got started on it."

Brown then asked if Pogue was expecting similar changes to projects by Sunland Asphalt on Talisman Drive and Valley View Drive, which Pogue indicated he was not.

In response to a question from Commissioner Veronica Medina, he indicated that he is not expecting further changes on other paving projects this year.

"I think we still need to finish the project just like we needed to finish last year," Brown commented. "It's still in the same amount of need."

County Attorney Todd Weaver pointed out that a paragraph in both of the contracts before the board for consideration would need to be amended since it currently stated that arbitration would occur in Maricopa County, Ariz., under the laws of the state of Arizona.

He added that the contract needed to state that arbitration would occur in Archuleta County under the laws of the state of Colorado and that the board could approve the contracts with that amendment.

Medina asked if the county thought this would be an issue.

Pogue stated that he did not think it would be and Weaver added

that the previous contract with Sunland had likely been changed to Archuleta County as well.

Brown commented that it would not be a loss to accept the contract with the change and if Sunland would not approve the change, it would not move forward.

The board then approved the contract at a cost not to exceed \$331,532.24 with the amendment suggested by Weaver.

Pogue then discussed the contract for work on North Pagosa Boulevard, explaining that the project would mill out the 3 inches of asphalt on the road from the intersection with U.S. 160 to where paving stopped last year, reshape the subgrades, improve compaction and put another 3 inches of asphalt onto the road.

Pogue added that the county was aware of the situation on this due to having core samples from the intersection, that the project is within budget and that the county was in process of working on permits for the work.

Brown asked a rhetorical question about if the intersection is a "three-way venture" between the Town of Pagosa Springs, the county and the state or if the road was purely within the county's right of way.

Pogue explained that the county would coordinate closing the intersection with the state and that the town had an interest in the road as well, although the work is being

done on the county's behalf.

He added that this project is an approximately five-year fix for the intersection, with the process that is currently occurring being solely driven by the county.

Brown commented that repairing the road is the "responsible thing to do" and raised the idea that the repairs on the road could be used to negotiate with the town to remove town requirements for changes to the Fred C. Harman III Law Enforcement Complex.

Maez commented that he would prefer not to do that because he felt that the courthouse issues are a legal issue between the town and county and that he would prefer to move forward with the paving project to prevent further delays.

Brown commented that he was not suggesting the county not proceed with the repairs, but that he felt the county "should be able to expect some reciprocity."

Medina commented that she would like the town and county to have better collaboration and communication but that she agreed with Maez that the project needed to move forward.

The BoCC then approved the contract with Sunland Asphalt for the work on North Pagosa Boulevard at a cost not to exceed \$285,941.70 with the amendment to the arbitration location suggested by Weaver.

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County unemployment drops again in April

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

According to a May 19 press release from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, Archuleta County's unemployment rate dropped from 2.8 percent in March to 2.6 percent in April.

County unemployment rose in January and February after falling for most of 2022 and fell again in March.

From March to April, Archuleta County's labor force rose from 6,956 to 6,958.

For the month of April there were 6,775 individuals employed in

Archuleta County, according to the press release. This figure is up from March's report of 6,751 individuals employed in Archuleta County.

County-level unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

According to the press release, the county with the highest unemployment rate for January was San Miguel County at 5.1 percent, followed by Huerfano County at 4.7 and Fremont County at 3.9.

Las Animas County is next at 3.8 percent, with Costilla County and Crowley County following, both at 3.6 percent.

The state's unemployment rate stayed even at 2.8 percent from March to April.

The state's labor force increased from 3,227,400 in March to 3,234,900 in April.

The press release notes, "Colorado's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged from March to April at 2.8 percent. The number of unemployed individuals fell by 1,800 over the same time period to 89,300. Colorado's unemployment rate has been below 3.0 percent for twelve consecutive months and remains at pre-pandemic levels. The national unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.4 percent from March to April."

Employers in Colorado added 7,200 nonfarm payroll jobs from March to April, bringing the total

number of jobs in Colorado to 2,890,000.

Nonfarm payroll jobs measure the number of workers excluding farmers.

The private sector gained 6,500 nonfarm payroll jobs and the government sector gained 700 jobs.

The private-industry sectors with significant job gains in April include:

- Leisure and hospitality at about 4,400.
 - Professional and business services at about 3,900.
 - Construction at about 1,800.
- Significant over-the-month declines occurred in the following private-industry sectors:
- Other services at about 2,100.
 - Financial activities at about 1,400.
 - Trade, transportation and utilities at about 1,400.

"Since April 2022, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 22,300, with the private sector growing by 13,100 and government adding 9,200 jobs," the press release notes.

Since April 2022, the largest private-sector job gains include:

- Leisure and hospitality at about 17,300.
 - Professional and business services at about 12,300.
 - Educational and health services at about 3,000.
- Since April 2022, the largest private-sector job losses include:
- Trade, transportation and utilities at about 9,800.
 - Financial activities at about 9,300.
 - Information at about 1,700.
 - Construction at about 700.
 - Other services at about 200.

According to the press release, "Over the year, the average work-week for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased from 33.3 to 33.5 hours, while average hourly earnings grew from \$34.24 to \$35.79, two dollars and forty-three cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$33.36."

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Grange to host hamburger fry

By Norma Conley
Mt. Allison Grange

Mt. Allison Grange will have a hamburger fry on Saturday, June 3, at the Allison Grange Hall on County Road 329 in Allison from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The cost for a hamburger dinner with baked beans, chips, dessert and drink is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12 and free for those under 6.

For more information, call (970) 749-7530.

Community news.

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Brand New Construction on Canyon Rim Lot

Enjoy beautiful canyon views from every porch and most windows in this beautiful energy efficient home! Thanks to the placement of this home on the canyon rim lot you will never have another neighbor build close to you, which makes for a nice private setting. Venture inside to find 10 foot ceilings, 8 foot doors throughout and the great room and kitchen have gorgeous beetle kill tongue and groove, vaulted ceilings and a wonderful open concept floor plan. Upgrades in the home include premium leathered granite counter tops through out, custom stained maple cabinetry, upgraded stainless steel appliance package to include a 36" range oven, free standing soaker tub, custom tiled showers, modern fixtures and an oversized 2 car garage that has an epoxy floor for great looks and easy clean up. The exterior of this home features low maintenance siding of stucco and rusty metal, an extra large 16x20 foot covered back porch with beetle kill tongue and groove ceiling that overlooks Martinez Canyon and the seasonal creek, and a lovely covered entry/front porch. Having both porches covered means less snow to shovel in the winter! This home sits on a cul-de-sac road that has National Forest access meaning very little vehicle traffic and easy access to many hiking/biking trails. This is truly a rare find!



MLS#803628 • \$799,000 • 3 bed • 2 ba • 1771 sq ft • 48 Caleta Place

Beautiful Energy Efficient Home

High efficiency home in desirable Twin Creek Village! This home's exterior features low maintenance stucco and rusty metal, a concrete apron from the garage to the covered front porch, metal roof for easy snow shedding, gravel driveway and a large back deck that spans the entire length of the home. Professional landscaping & a custom built split rail fence with 3 access gates give this home wonderful curb appeal & a beautiful relaxing back yard that is safe for your furry family members! Venture inside this beautiful home to find an open concept floor plan, vaulted ceilings, natural solid knotty alder doors & trim throughout and a stacked rock natural gas log fireplace in the living room complete with a mounted flat screen TV! Granite counter tops are featured throughout the home & include a large kitchen island. This wonderfully functional kitchen features a stainless-steel appliance package with an oversized French door refrigerator, natural hickory cabinetry, glass tile backsplash & a lovely dining nook. The Primary Suite features a walk-in tile shower, double sink vanity, modern fixtures, mounted flat screen TV and an extra-large walk-in closet that offers plenty of storage space. Both guest rooms offer walk-in closets, and the guest bath features a tile shower and cast-iron tub. All bedrooms & great room have ceiling fans, however a great added bonus for this home is that it has Central A/C! You will not find this in many homes in Pagosa! Enjoy watching our local wildlife off your large back deck which has access from the great room and master bedroom. This lot backs up to greenbelt meaning there is ample space and privacy between neighbors to the back. There is a custom-built matching heated studio/shed in the back yard which makes it perfect for year-round use as a studio, workshop, or pet enclosure...you name it! The possibilities are endless. The home's close proximity to National Forest access means you'll find a plethora of hiking/biking trails to get you out into the great outdoors without being far from home and being a PLPOA member gives you fishing rights to all of the association's stocked lakes. This home is being sold partially furnished and is immaculate and move in ready! If you're looking for a beautiful, energy efficient home with low utility costs on a pretty lot in one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Pagosa, then this is the home for you!



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Water

Continued from front

The meeting opened with District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explaining that the contract with PCL is for the construction work on the plant, with the contract with Veolia and another contract with Pall Corporation that was not completed by the meeting and thus not considered, being signed over to PCL as part of the

agreement.

He added that PCL's contract costs also include the costs associated with the Veolia and Pall contracts.

Director Gene Tautges asked if the contract has to comply with the Davis-Bacon Act, with Ramsey confirming it does due to the money PAWS is receiving.

Ramsey added that the plant

will have a 26-month construction period beginning as soon as possible.

He also clarified the reasons why PAWS is undertaking the project, explaining that the main reason is the regulatory requirements of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Disinfection Outreach and Verification Effort with a sec-

ondary reason being that the plant has reached the end of its expected operational life, having begun operations in 1984.

He added that community growth is also a factor, as the current plant is hitting its maximum capacity of 1.7 million gallons per day (MGD) in the summer.

Ramsey also stated the new plant will increase water source flexibility, allowing PAWS to pump water from the plant if the Hatcher water treatment plant is lost or there is a "catastrophic fire" in the Fourmile drainage.

Additionally, he explained that the new plant's 3 MGD capacity will allow PAWS to utilize the entirety of its water right in the area, although he noted that he felt the water right was secure without the change.

Vice president Glenn Walsh asked what the cost of upgrading the existing plant to be compliant with regulations and attempting to get 10 years of compliance out of it would be, noting that he would not favor restarting the process and doing this.

Ramsey responded that he was unsure, adding that previous contractors had said the plant was too much of a liability risk to do work, meaning that PAWS might not be able to secure a contractor to work on it.

Tautges asked if the plant could remain in operation during such upgrades, which Ramsey indicated is likely possible, but would be expensive.

Ramsey also noted that he would expect such an upgrade to be less expensive than the current project but to likely be over \$10 million.

Walsh then asked a series of questions about the details of the contract to Ramsey and SGM Drinking Water Team Lead Chad Hill, representing the firm which did the engineering for the project, including about the warranties in the contract, the adverse weather clauses in the contract, the use of contingency to correct defective work and owner's liability in the contract.

During the discussion, Ramsey explained that certain components of the plant which will eventually be required to satisfy upcoming regulations were excluded to cut costs, but were still included in the design and could be inserted when needed later.

Hill also explained that contingency could only be used to correct defects when the defects were caused by unexpected events where a joint decision by PAWS and PCL is made to take a risk in construction.

Ramsey also highlighted that the

GMP for the project could only be increased by PAWS changing the work planned on the plant or delaying the project.

Tautges highlighted that the GMP is a "worse-case scenario," which Ramsey agreed with, and that he expected it to come down, which Ramsey and Hill agreed with.

"That's the goal," said PCL Construction Engineer Ryan Welu.

Ramsey added that reducing the cost would be beneficial for PCL as it would provide positive word of mouth for the company.

Chairman Jim Smith highlighted that PAWS hired an outside engineer to assess the price of the project, who had indicated the project was appropriately priced.

Tautges asked what impact the Davis-Bacon wages have had on the project's cost, with Welu indicating the impact is likely low since labor could not be acquired for less.

Walsh requested that the board hold a work session this summer to discuss the ongoing PAWS rate study and how to distribute the costs of the plant and ensure that all residents pay an appropriate amount.

He suggested that "the average homeowner ... who lives in their home, not who rents it out as a hotel, is getting absolutely hammered. That's for another day, but ... we have to figure out some way that we can't just throw this all on the people who live here year-round."

Walsh added that there would be an overall cost increase, but that it has to be shared.

The board then discussed the ownership of the engineering for the project, which Ramsey explained usually lies with the engineer to prevent the customer from building another plant with the same plans.

However, he added that this is rarely viable due to the amount of customization involved in the plant's construction. Hill noted that PAWS would have all the necessary information available and that SGM could also assist in finding additional information on the plant if needed.

The board then moved to approve the contract with PCL, a motion which passed 4-0 with Director Bill Hudson, who was attending by Zoom, not entering a vote due to apparent connectivity issues.

After multiple attempts to contact Hudson, the board agreed to move forward and allow Hudson to record his preference in the meeting minutes.

The board then moved forward with discussing the Veolia contract, which Ramsey explained includes preconstruction work and materials for dissolved air flotation equip-

ment to be used in pretreatment of the water coming into the plant.

Ramsey added that the board previously approved this contract following a pilot study on the effectiveness of the equipment and that the cost had not changed.

The board then approved the Veolia contract 4-0 with Hudson again not entering a vote.

Ramsey explained to the board that the contract with Pall Corporation for membrane filtration system equipment had not been completed, but that the remaining issues were minor and there had not been an increase in price.

He added that the PCL contract would have to be updated once the Pall contract is completed.

Ramsey also remarked that Pall has been difficult, with many changes to the content and format of the contract.

He added that PAWS staff considered replacing Pall since Veolia also makes the same parts, but that, because they would have to do engineering on the parts, staff had decided the change and delay would not result in savings.

However, he and Hill stated that the difficulties with Pall were largely driven by their legal department and that they expected Pall's equipment to perform effectively, as it does at the Hatcher water treatment plant.

Hill noted that Pall has a performance guarantee for the equipment.

Ramsey also discussed a plan for potential savings he had created where he would act as the resident project representative to oversee the construction, while some of his duties would be shifted to Director of Business Services Aaron Burns and current PAWS grant writer and former district manager Renee Lewis, who would shift to a full-time position.

He noted that this plan would save the district approximately \$800,000 without the hiring of Lewis and that amount subtracting her salary with her hiring.

He added that PAWS had previously had a larger number of administrative and management staff and that completing the necessary work has become more difficult with the larger amount of projects before PAWS currently.

Ramsey noted that Lewis will continue to have her duties as grant writer as well.

Tautges thanked Ramsey for "thinking outside the box."

Walsh also asked if PAWS would have to do a budget amendment, which Burns stated it would likely not, although they would monitor the situation and contemplate options.

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Settlement

Continued from front

Commissioners," as well as commissioners Warren Brown and Ronnie Maez as individuals.

The settlement, released by the county in May following a Colorado Open Records Act request, is for \$105,000.

"The County's portion of the payment was \$2,000.00 (minus withheld taxes) and then an additional \$15,000.00, which is the County's deductible under its insurance policy," County Attorney Todd Weaver wrote in an email to The SUN. "The remainder was paid by the County's insurance carrier. It was the County's insurance carrier that had the authority to settle the case and decided to do so. The County had no authority to override its insurance carrier's decision, even if it disagreed with the decision to settle the case."

David Albrechta of Albrechta and Albrechta LLC did not respond to requests for comment following the settlement.

The lawsuit

The complaint — which explains that Lacy Brown was employed by the county from November 2011 until Oct. 24, 2021, with her final job position being casework supervisor in the Department of Human Services — lists two components.

"The first consists of Ms. Brown's individual claims against the County and Defendants for against [sic] Ms. Brown for engaging in protected activity of reporting sexual harassment to the County and for complaining about the unlawful requirements to earn a bonus," the complaint reads, with the second being "because of Defendants' policy and practice of not paying certain county employees a \$2,000.00 bonus, including Plaintiff, who took leave during the COVID pandemic that was mandated by County policy and protected by federal law."

The complaint and an Aug. 30, 2022, press release from Albrechta and Albrechta explain that, in late 2021, the Archuleta County commissioners opted to issue a \$2,000 bonus to all employees who were employed during the COVID-19 pandemic, but withheld that bonus from any employee who took any leave related to COVID.

The complaint cites minutes from a commissioners' meeting where Warren Brown and Maez voted in favor and Commissioner Alvin Schaaf voted against the bonuses.

Lacy Brown, the complaint and press release explain, took 6.5 hours

of leave when she was exhibiting COVID symptoms, pursuant to the county's policies.

The suit alleges that the county violated the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Colorado Wage Claim Act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the Emergency Family Medical Leave Act.

The complaint explains that when Lacy Brown learned she would not receive the bonus, she went to her supervisor, who directed her to speak with the county manager and commissioners.

On Sept. 15, 2021, according to the complaint, she emailed the Department of Human Resources (HR) representative asking to meet about the bonus, and also emailed others, including elected officials and the county administrator, asking them to reconsider giving her the bonus since she took leave per the county's policies.

The complaint alleges that the county administrator at the time, Scott Wall, who is not named as a party to the suit, then emailed her supervisor stating that her email was inappropriate and the supervisor should "handle it."

The complaint further explains that the supervisor called Wall "to learn how he was supposed to handle it and, during the call, Lacy Brown walked by her supervisor's office and entered to listen to the rest of the call after hearing her name."

"During this call Mr. Wall stated that he would never meet with Ms. Brown alone because she had a bad reputation around town. He also stated that if he knew she was so unprofessional that he would never have approved her raise the previous year," the complaint reads, further alleging Wall made offensive comments about a homosexual man.

That afternoon, the complaint notes, Lacy Brown received an email from HR indicating the county had already approved the bonus and changes were not expected.

The complaint states that Lacy Brown's supervisor contacted HR on Sept. 16, 2021, stating that she intended to file a complaint alleging sexual harassment by Wall, and she reported to HR that Wall "created a hostile work environment."

"On September 17, 2021, the County accepted Mr. Wall's voluntary resignation, which included a generous payout of his contract," the complaint reads.

It continues that, on Sept. 21, Lacy

Brown emailed HR her formal written complaint against Wall and was told that nothing further would be done because Wall had already resigned.

However, the complaint indicates, on Oct. 11, 2021, the Mountain States Employers Council began an internal investigation, "supposedly into the complaints about Mr. Wall."

"After she reported the harassment, the County began an investigation and quickly flipped the script on Ms. Brown and began investigating her instead," the press release summarizes, with the complaint stating it made her feel "like the County was out to get her."

It continues to explain that a complaint was filed against Lacy Brown and she submitted a voluntary resignation on Oct. 18, 2021, with her last day of work scheduled to be Oct. 29, 2021.

It notes that both Lacy Brown and the supervisor, who both submitted complaints against Wall, were terminated after submitting voluntary resignations, with Lacy Brown's employment terminated on Oct. 24, 2021, "for her alleged conduct during a group building exercise with a skeleton made out of cookies."

The termination notice, the complaint alleges, notified Lacy Brown that her employment status would be classified as terminated.

The complaint alleges Lacy Brown was fired again on Oct. 29, 2021, in response to an email she sent on her last day of work.

Wall did not return a message seeking comment on the matter in the fall of 2022.

Other cases

On May 9, Weaver updated the commissioners on other litigation the county is involved in, which includes two other employment-related lawsuits.

According to Weaver's report, former Department of Human Services director Matthew Dodson filed a discrimination action with the Colorado Civil Rights Division in April 2022 and a complaint was filed in U.S. District Court in March alleging wrongful termination and discrimination.

Weaver also reported on a case by Mark Garcia that alleges discrimination for not hiring him.

According to Weaver's report, Garcia filed a discrimination action with the Colorado Civil Rights Division in May 2022 and a complaint was filed in U.S. District Court in April.

Medical

Continued from front

going to be the new normal.

Inpatient discharges for the month of April were up from the previous month were higher than the same month in 2020 but lower than the same month in 2019, 2021 and 2022, according to Keplinger's presentation.

Keplinger explained to the board the facility discharged two orthopedic patients after just over 24 hours, which she called "great."

She further noted discharges were up compared to the previous month and hospital stays were shorter.

Later in the presentation, she indicated Emergency Department visits were down from the previous month but above some prior years, but that operating room and pain procedures were on target.

Visits in the rural health clinic, she reported, were down from March but were still a good number.

The number of radiology exams, she added, continues to "wow"

every month.

Keplinger then presented financial data for April and year-to-date data.

Gross revenue for April, she told the board, was slightly below budget at \$6,090,739, with \$6,188,899 budgeted.

Year to date through April, gross revenue totaled \$24,496,369, which is \$443,250 over budget and \$2,295,049 over the same period in 2022.

Net revenue for April totaled \$3,291,664, which is \$449,524 below budget and \$366,595 more than April 2022.

Year to date through April, net patient revenue totaled \$12,984,090, which is \$101,373 over the budgeted amount and \$1,874,470 over the same period in 2022.

Expenses for the month of April totaled \$3,353,502, which was \$82,248 below budget and \$61,206 below April 2022.

Year to date through April, PSMC had \$13,809,886 in expenses, which

is below the budgeted amount of \$13,585,754 and above the \$13,146,888 in expenses for the same period in 2022.

After discussing the positive bottom line for PSMC, Keplinger noted cash collections were up and above target for the month.

The board called it a "great report."

At the same meeting, the board and staff welcomed Kathleen Douglas and Gwen Taylor to the board. They and returning director Mark Zeigler were elected by acclamation on May 2 after the election was canceled due to there not being more candidates than board positions available.

The board also elected Kate Alfred as chair of the board, Zeigler as treasurer/secretary and Martin Rose as vice chair.

The board also heard a presentation about PSMC's outpatient clinic and approved a resolution granting an easement to St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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Graduation

Continued from front

PSHS' commencement will take place at 9 a.m. at Golden Peaks Stadium.

San Juan Mountain School

San Juan Mountain School (SJMS) Principal Stewart Bellina wrote that the class of 2023 has 27 graduates this year.

The SJMS class of 2023 chose "Ain't It Fun" by Paramore as its class song, the cherry blossom as its class flower and "Get comfortable with being uncomfortable" as their motto.

Sorcha Sweeney takes the honor of valedictorian and Jaylynn Ramsey is salutatorian. The class of

2023's Character Award is going to Francis Talamante.

Members of the graduating class will hand out purple roses to those who supported them throughout their high school careers as a symbol of gratitude and sincerity.

"This is our third graduating class at San Juan Mountain School, and we are incredibly proud of these students' efforts to make it across the finish line," wrote Bellina in an email to The SUN. "Many of these students started with us when we opened our doors in the fall of 2020 and helped create our school from the ground up. Their efforts will leave a lasting impact on our campus for years to come."

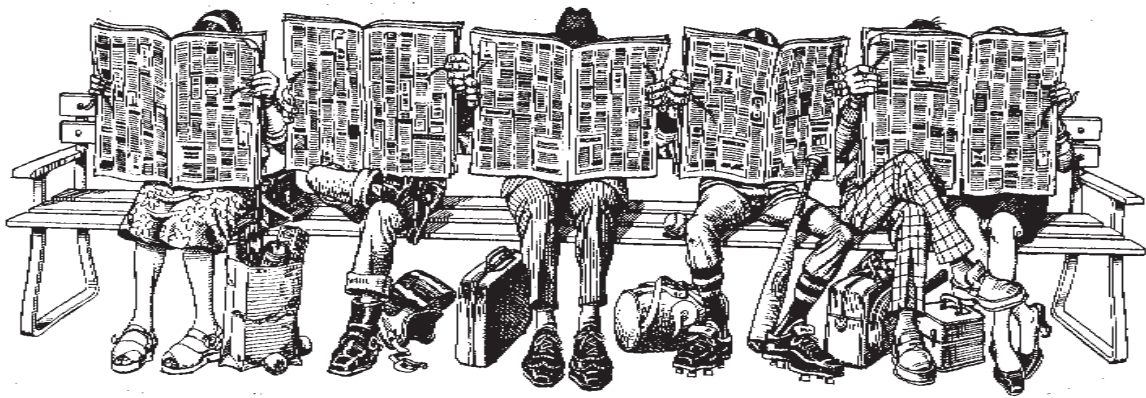
Every graduate who crosses our stage on June 3rd has contributed tremendously to the positive culture in our building and the ongoing growth of all students enrolled here."

Jami Harms, English language arts teacher at the school, wrote, "The SJMS class of 2023 will always hold a special place in our hearts. Thank you for your fabulous energy and humor, your outpouring of creativity, and the strong leadership and courage each of you exhibit on a daily basis. We couldn't be more proud of you."

SJMS's ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. in the PSHS auditorium.

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County clerk and treasurer offices to move to four-day work week

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its May 23 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners heard a proposal for increased compensation for deputy coroners, discussed changes to the commissioner districts, and discussed changes in hours of operation for the county clerk and treasurer's offices.

Deputy coroner compensation

Coroner Bradley Hunt presented the proposal for increased pay for deputy coroners, beginning by outlining that current compensation for deputies is \$100 a month plus \$100 a call or autopsy.

He stated that autopsies were previously being done in Cortez, but are now being done in Durango.

He explained that the line item for autopsies, toxicology reports and deputy coroner compensation was over budget significantly for the last two years, but the costs will likely decrease with the move to Durango.

He added that the office previously had five to seven deputies but is down to three with a potential to have another later in the year, although one of the deputies is not typically available due to his work at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO).

Hunt added that he is working on reducing the number of autopsies by contacting the doctors of the deceased to learn reasons for their deaths.

He stated that the deputies have had the same compensation for eight years and proposed increasing their monthly stipends and pay to go to scenes or autopsies to \$150 as well as implementing on-call pay of \$3 an hour for a deputy coroner when Hunt is out of the county to ensure someone is available.

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that, after research on the issues, she believed the county would have to look at the situation "a different way" since one deputy coroner is a county employee who needs to be paid overtime as well as developing subcontractor agreements for the other deputy coroners.

She explained that Hunt needs to work with County Attorney Todd Weaver to correct the agreements and employment plans, as well as examining if any previous deputy coroners who worked for the county needed to be paid overtime pay that was not paid in the past.

County Manager Derek Woodman explained that any county employee who works more than 80 hours in two weeks needs to be paid overtime no matter how that time is distributed between roles in the county.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the on-call pay is intended to pay for when an individual deputy is on-call, not at all times.

Hunt explained that was accurate and that the pay would stop if the deputy went out on a call.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez asked if the on-call pay is within Hunt's budget for the year.

Hunt explained that that line item goes over every year but that it has been over because of the number of autopsies and the office has saved some money by doing autopsies in Durango.

Medina commented that his budget would likely be over due to the county following employment law.

Maez commented that it would likely be over regardless and that he would not want a budget amendment but that Hunt should likely prepare the changes and plan them in his next budget.

Hunt asked if Maez was suggesting that he should begin compensating his employees differently.

Maez suggested that was true if it is allowable by law.

Brown commented that his concern was about service to the citizens as well as to the employees, noting that "people are very grounded in tradition" and prefer Monday through Friday hours but that he also saw the benefits of working a four-day week.

Hunt added that the overages in the budget had not been expressed to the previous coroner, who was unaware of them.

Brown commented that he was pretty sure the previous coroner knew.

Hunt stated that the previous coroner would have asked for additional money in the line item if he had been over the previous year.

Medina stated that she thought the proposal Hunt had made is reasonable once the legal dimensions are corrected.

Woodman commented that the change would likely remain even with last year due to the reduction in the number of deputy coroners offsetting the cost of the monthly stipends, although the number of deaths and the associated costs could not be controlled.

Commissioner districts

The BoCC then heard a presentation from County Clerk Kristy Archuleta on redoing the commissioner districts.

She explained that she is supposed to present the commissioners with options to rebalance the populations between the districts but that she only had two potential changes, with one being a change in district boundaries in the Lake Pagosa area and one that would move Brown to a new district.

She stated that the office needs to work with the boundaries between districts three and one and that the

Lake Pagosa area is the only one that gives the numbers to even out the districts.

Archuleta added that each district has a population of approximately 4,400 people.

Weaver added that the difference between the largest and smallest districts has to be less than 5 percent.

County GIS Analyst Sam Montoya explained that the area that would be added to District 3 and taken away from District 1 is "south of Aspenglow all the way to Nocturn and including Inspiration to be ... east of Inspiration, and then the south boundary is Cloud Cap."

Medina and Maez commented that the significance of the districts is relatively low due to the fact that the commissioners are voted in by the whole county.

Archuleta added that the area where Brown lives would also balance out the population numbers but might compel him to move.

Brown thanked Archuleta for taking this into consideration.

Weaver added that, if a commissioner is moved out of his district by redistricting, he is still able to finish his term.

Medina and Brown both commended Archuleta's work and thanked her for her effort.

Schedule change

Archuleta and County Treasurer Elsa White then presented about a potential schedule change for both offices, shifting them to work four 10-hour days, Monday to Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Archuleta stated that they would like to do a trial period from July to December to see how the change would work for staff.

She added that she was requesting that the holiday hours for the offices go down to 80 from 92 and be paid at 10 hours for full holidays and five for half holidays since the office would do away with Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Good Friday and Archuleta County Heritage Day due to them being on Fridays.

White commented that Brown asked about doing split staffing on Mondays and Fridays, but that she had tried this in 2019 and it had not worked well due to the small number of staff in the office and that this was why she was requesting to change hours along with the clerk.

She added that the situation for the treasurer's office is slightly different due to it dealing with banks and she is planning on getting a laptop so that she can access bank information on Fridays if necessary.

Brown commented that his concern was about service to the citizens as well as to the employees, noting that "people are very grounded in tradition" and prefer Monday through Friday hours but that he also saw the benefits of working a four-day week.

He added that Archuleta and White are elected officials and can do what they want and that his only concern is that the public feels they are being served appropriately.

He also commented that he was not sure about the pay difference on holidays, noting that the ACSO

deputies also work four-day weeks and are paid eight hours for holiday time.

He noted that he was not sure how finance would fit into this issue but that it was not ultimately his business.

Weaver noted that the BoCC sets hours for all county offices and that the BoCC would have to pass a resolution changing the hours and likely one changing holiday pay compensation.

Archuleta noted that the decrease in holiday hours from 92 to 80 is why the offices are requesting this as they are giving back the county 12 hours per employee.

Woodman noted that this would require a policy change.

Medina asked if the ACSO staff give back any holidays, which Woodman answered no and Brown added that they have to take them as they can and not necessarily on the holidays.

Woodman explained that ACSO staff have floating holidays they can spend at any time.

Maez stated that he had no problem with trying this since the office had also had issues with members of the public being upset due to the office opening too late or closing too early.

Medina commented that she thought it was a "great idea" to try the hour change from July to December and that Archuleta should potentially discuss with the ACSO having officers be paid 10-hour holidays.

The group then discussed the logistics of implementing the trial periods, with the office having enough holiday hours to cover being paid 10 hours for holidays through the rest of the year and Weaver indicating that resolutions would need to be passed to change the hours and personnel policies.

Maez commented that the county would need to publish public notice for the change, and Archuleta stated that she is planning on having cards so members of the public can indicate their opinions of the change during the trial period to help support a final decision.

"I'm good with it," Maez said, concluding the discussion.
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County approves funds for septic permitting, public health

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

On May 16, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved a budget amendment allocating \$225,331 in Local Assistance and Tribal Contingency Fund (LATCF) monies received from the federal government to the Development Services Division and \$137,428 in LATCF monies to the Public Health Department to support transition to a county health department.

The money allocated to Development Services is intended to support the county's water quality program, including permitting for on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), as well as other environmental health programs that will be the responsibility of the department, according to Finance Director Chad Eaton.

The funds allocated to the Public Health Department will be used to support the hiring of key positions in the department, including a director, Eaton explained.

Previously, at an April 11 BoCC work session, Development Director Pamela Flowers explained the projected staffing and funding needs for OWTS and other environmental health programs in her department.

Flowers opened her discussion by stating that she had been working with San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) Environmental Health Director Brian Devine to determine what staffing and certifications would be needed.

She explained that she hoped to have approved positions for the department early so she could begin either hiring current SJBPH staff or others and ensure that all staff have the appropriate certifications before the transition at the beginning of 2024.

She also stated that there would be a gap in 2023 since the OWTS permitting and other programs would not generate revenue in 2023 but would have costs she had not anticipated when building her budget for the year.

Flowers added that the goal of her presentation to the BoCC was to outline the demand and staffing needs for the program, and to present what she believed her funding needs to cover this gap would be.

She then discussed the proportion of SJBPH OWTS permitting work that occurs in Archuleta County, indicating that the county comprises approximately 36.9 percent of the district's total caseload, for an estimated 700 cases across land-use reviews, OWTS permits and inspections, enforcement, and other actions.

She also mentioned that the county has 15 high-level systems, which are more complex septic systems which require additional oversight.

Flowers stated that SJBPH has 6.9 full-time equivalents (FTE) covering OWTS permitting and that, calcu-

lated from staff and permit numbers, the district has 2.55 FTE covering Archuleta County.

She also explained that environmental health does work on radon education, licensing for contractors working on septic systems and water testing for lead, approximately 22.6 percent of which is done in Archuleta County with 0.316 FTE.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked if there would be any continuing education that would need to be provided for septic system contractors.

Flowers indicated that there would be some limited retraining involved in the licensing.

The group then discussed where the lab for water testing would be, with County Manager Derek Woodman confirming that La Plata County committed to continuing to operate a lab in Durango as SJBPH had.

Overall, Flowers indicated that the water quality division would involve 2.865 FTE.

She stated that she expects the budget in 2024, once the department has revenue, to amount to \$209,000 in fee revenues balanced by \$165,000 in personnel expenses and \$31,000 in operating expenses for an overall surplus of \$13,000.

Flowers indicated that these figures are based on SJBPH data.

Commissioner Warren Brown commented that Flowers would need six staff for the department due to the need for oversight and Flowers' heavy workload.

Flowers agreed with Brown on her workload and asked if she could complete her presentation as she would address this issue within it.

Woodman highlighted that septic permits through SJBPH are "the highest in the state of Colorado" and is above the state cap on fees.

He added that he believes it is important for the county to be aware of what fees are and be more in line with surrounding counties, which Flowers agreed with.

Flowers added that she had not begun looking at these issues in depth, but that she thought the county would have less indirect costs than SJBPH and could potentially lower its fees.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez raised the possibility of creating pre-existing engineered plans for septic systems, similar to typicals for buildings, which Flowers indicated might be viable, though she was not sure.

Flowers explained that she was proposing three positions for the water quality division, including a lead, a specialist and a technician.

She added that she based the numbers and structure off the Building Department since it operates on similar processes.

Flowers, Medina and Maez then discussed potential means to reduce the numbers of inspections, with Medina highlighting SJBPH's previous practice of omitting a final inspection on new septic systems and Flowers stating that, in her understanding, final inspections are

required.

Flowers also highlighted the importance of doing inspections on transfers of title as she indicated this is often where failing systems are detected.

Flowers commented that it is critical for the county to not make major changes to the OWTS permitting and inspection process until staff fully understands the process and the implications those changes might have.

She added that the lead, specialist and technician positions would require differing levels of experience, although she would be lucky to get candidates with experience and that she is hoping to acquire employees from SJBPH for this reason.

She explained that the certifications are provided by the Colorado Professionals in Onsite Wastewater (CPOW) and that the soils course is offered in-person in June or August, the inspector course is offered online in October or December, and the operations and maintenance course is offered online in November, with staff needing to complete the first two courses and potentially the third.

She added that the course schedules are part of what is driving her "anxiety" about getting the positions filled as these courses are needed for department staff to operate.

Maez commented that this is a "good idea" and that, by filling the positions early, the department would "hit the ground running."

Flowers explained that the water

quality lead would oversee daily operations of the division, evaluate performance of programs in the division, conduct land use reviews, and conduct trainings and workshops, among other duties.

She explained that the specialist would process new and modification permits and assist with trainings, workshops and complaints resolution. The technician would handle transfers of title, field public inquiries and issue contractor licenses.

Flowers moved on to discussing her workload, explaining that eight of 14 duties in her position description are ground-level planning work and that 75 percent of her time is spent on these tasks, with oversight being secondary.

She added that it would be difficult for her to take on another department and ensure good oversight while doing this work.

Therefore, Flowers requested the addition of a planning manager to take on planning tasks and allow her to focus on budget and oversight tasks.

She added that the department would need two additional vehicles, additional computers, desks and phones with the expansion in addition to funding for CPOW training and certifications and their associated costs.

Flowers then discussed the cost of the department, highlighting that the department has had more than \$300,000 surpluses the last two years and that she is not concerned about

funding in 2024 and can likely absorb some additional costs in 2023 with her surplus.

She explained that she could cover the planning manager and the office equipment, but would need assistance covering the water quality positions, training costs and a vehicle.

Maez proposed that the commissioner car, which he suggested is not being used extensively, could be shuffled to another department to allocate a pickup to Flowers.

Woodman noted that the county is acquiring four vehicles from SJBPH and that the vehicle would likely be a nonissuance and, in the worst case, the county could lease a pickup for approximately \$5,000 a year.

Flowers stated that she was asking for four FTEs to be created as soon as possible with the goal being to recruit from SJBPH or find other certified applicants.

She added that having these positions posted as soon as possible would assist in recruiting, which she noted is also a concern with the planning manager as she would like a candidate with experience.

She added that she would like to acquire a vehicle as soon as possible to be used by the second building inspector.

Flowers then explained that she was requesting \$161,731 overall to satisfy costs in 2023.

She added that, until the division is operating, it will be difficult to determine if more than three positions

are needed.

At the request of Woodman, Flowers also discussed process changes in the issuing of OWTS permits and the interactions between SJBPH and the county that had slowed the process of construction for new builds.

She also mentioned that the county would need to purchase a permit processing system, although she had not chosen one yet.

Flowers added it might be possible to use the system SJBPH is currently using.

She noted she is working on regulations for OWTS that will need to be approved by the county and the state and will provide the basis for permitting in the county.

"I'm just ready to get started and I have limited bandwidth to be able to do a whole lot without some additional staff," Flowers concluded.

Potential to transfer OWTS

At the May 23 BoCC work session, Medina raised concerns about capacity issues in the Development Services Division and raised the possibility of transferring the work back to the Public Health Department.

Brown commented that this could cause the public health director to not be able to effectively oversee all her employees given the increased number of staff.

The board agreed to monitor the situation and remain flexible for potential changes in future.

josh@pagosasun.com



Track and field day

SUN photos/Monica Nigon

In annual tradition, hundreds of Pagosa Springs Elementary School students took a break from learning to participate in track and field day on May 26, which included a number of games and competitions.



The Blotter

Items listed in The Blotter report where an alleged incident occurred and the nature of the incident. Readers should not assume employees or owners of a place of business or a parking lot reported as the scene of an event are involved as perpetrators of the incident.

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Calls for service for week: 261.

May 22 — Trespass warning, Bonanza Avenue.

May 23 — Third-degree assault-simple assault, domestic violence, child abuse, Simmons Drive.

May 24 — Animals running at large, West U.S. 160.

May 24 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Country Meadow Place, Ignacio.

May 24 — Obstructing peace office/patrol animal/fireman, expired license plates, no insurance in possession, Aspen Village Drive/Cornerstone Drive.

May 24 — Animals running at large, Pompa Drive.

May 24 — Information only, Rob Snow Road/West U.S. 160.

May 24 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

May 25 — Warrant arrest, Davis Cup Drive/Village Drive.

May 25 — Information only, West U.S. 160.

May 25 — Failure to comply, Harman Park Drive.

May 26 — Information only, USFS 922.

May 27 — Agency assist, drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, information only, U.S. 160/Pike Drive.

May 28 — Warrant arrest, Marmot Court.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service for week: 209.

May 20 — Warrant arrest, Pagosa Street.

May 20 — DUI, failed to drive in single lane, failure to use turn signal, Pagosa Street.

May 21 — Assault second degree on police/fireman causing serious injury, resisting arrest, criminal trespass third degree, Lewis Street.

May 21 — Unsafe backing, Hot Springs Boulevard.

May 22 — Felony menacing with weapon, unlawfully carrying concealed weapon, Goldmine Drive.

May 24 — Animal running at large, Aspen Village Drive.

May 24 — Burglary second degree, theft, U.S. 160.

May 25 — Criminal extortion, Hermosa Street.

May 26 — Animal running at large, Eaton Drive.

May 26 — DUI, speeding, failure to use turn signal, failed to drive in single lane, Eagle Drive/County Road 600.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards
No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

May 24 — Kamerahn N. Bass, speeding 5-9 over limit, driver's license-instruction permit violation, driver's license-not in possession, fines and costs — \$230.50.

May 24 — Travis Ray Vigue, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$140.

May 24 — Alexandra D. Martinez, driver's license-permitted unauthorized minor to drive, fines and costs — \$170.50.

May 24 — Kellen Bandy, improper mountain driving, fines and costs — \$149.50.

May 24 — Angelica V. Roybal, speeding 25-39 over limit, fines and costs — \$276.50.

May 24 — Jacob Hartley, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.

May 24 — Elijah Guthrie, driver's license-driving without, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$244.50.

May 26 — Calvin B. Holloway, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$198.50.

May 26 — Alison R. Laing, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$190.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

May 25 — Zebulun Merfeld, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 180 days jail suspended imposition, fines and costs — \$258.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson
No report.

New tiny home, workforce housing regulations recommended

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Planning Commission voted to recommend a revised set of changes to the Archuleta County Land Use Regulations (LUR) related to tiny homes, tiny houses, park model trailers and density bonuses for workforce housing at its May 24 meeting.

The regulations were first discussed at the April 26 planning commission meeting, where Development Director Pamela Flowers opened the conversation by explaining that the changes were intended to position the county "in a better place" to support workforce housing development as well as to respond to state changes in tiny home regulations.

She added that the state will now begin certifying tiny home or manufactured home producers, allowing such homes to receive state permits to connect to electricity and sanitation systems, which is currently impossible.

Flowers stated that the proposed changes would integrate tiny homes into the LUR as well as adding the concept of a tiny home village, similar to a mobile home park, which would allow tiny homes without the state certification to be occupied within the village.

In addition, she explained that the changes include a density bonus for affordable housing, increasing the number of dwellings allowed on a parcel if the additional dwellings are offered as affordable workforce housing.

Flowers started outlining the proposed changes to the commission by explaining a large number of new abbreviations and definitions being added to the regulations, including for affordable workforce housing units, which are defined as a single-family dwelling unit deed-re-

stricted so that the rent is less than 80 percent of the area median income (AMI) and occupied by at least one adult who lives in Archuleta County full-time and who works 30 hours or more per week at a job in the county.

Flowers explained that the definitions also include park model trailers, which are recreational vehicles (RVs) that feel like a house, are less than 400 square feet in the size and primarily designed for recreational or seasonal use; tiny homes, which are homes for long-term habitation less than 400 square feet in the size that are on a vehicle chassis; and tiny houses, which are homes less than 400 square feet in size constructed on a permanent foundation and intended for long-term residency.

She stated that a dwelling density bonus could be sought in any zoning district under the new regulations and would require administrative review and approval.

One additional unit would be allowed on parcels above one acre and two additional units would be allowed on parcels above 10 acres, Flowers explained.

She stated that affordable workforce housing units, tiny homes and tiny houses would be added as a use by right in most zoning districts, although they would require a conditional use permit in areas zoned commercial.

Flowers then moved on to discuss the details of tiny home, tiny house and affordable housing bonus regulations addressed in the development standards section of the LUR.

She stated that the minimum size of a tiny home village would be two acres and that such homes must be located on an improved home space.

The minimum size of a space for a tiny home in the regulations is 2,000 feet, Flowers explained, and homes must provide two parking spaces with a minimum of a 20-foot setback between homes and a 10-

foot setback from all roads.

She stated that the LUR changes would require each space to be assigned a unit number, with the numbering following the county's addressing resolution.

Following a discussion of proposed changes to the storage area, skirting, fire protection and water supply regulations for tiny home villages, Flowers outlined sewage disposal requirements, stating that tiny homes must be served by a public sanitation district, a centralized on-site wastewater treatment system or individual on-site wastewater treatment systems.

She also explained, in response to a question from the commission, that these regulations are more permissive than those for manufactured home parks, which must be served by a public utility due to the increased complexity of the systems associated with the larger dwellings in a mobile home park.

The commission then debated the merits of making the sewage disposal requirements for manufactured home parks to align with those for tiny home parks, eventually deciding to make the tiny home village and manufactured home village regulations the same.

Following a review of new regulations for electricity, refuse disposal and tiny home building standards, Flowers began to outline the proposed new regulations for affordable workforce housing units.

She stated that the units would require an indefinite deed restriction including the county requirements for such housing and that, after 20 years, the owner could apply to the development director to have the restriction lifted.

The final decision on lifting such a restriction would be made by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), Flowers added.

The group then discussed the timing of when the 20-year time frame would begin, with Flowers highlighting the importance of having the restriction in place early to prevent property owners from benefiting from affordable housing incentives without following through on building affordable housing.

After members of the commission voiced concerns about time being lost from this 20-year period while the house is being built, the commission decided to have the period begin upon the issuing of a certificate of occupancy for the housing.

Flowers explained that the number of workforce housing units on a property must equal the number of bonus dwelling units approved, highlighting that this approach allows property owners to use their other units on their properties as short-term rentals or other uses, thus creating the potential for multiple streams of income for a property.

She then outlined the requirements for workforce housing units related to and previously discussed in the definition of affordable workforce housing units before explaining that such units could be a building built in accordance with building codes, a tiny home or a manufac-

tured home.

In response to questions from the commission, Flowers explained that the regulations are intended to provide rules to address tiny homes now that state regulations allow them as well as providing a way to build tiny home villages.

She added that the regulations would also allow for the inclusion of tiny homes that are not certified by the state in tiny home villages.

The planning commission unanimously voted to recommend approval of the proposed regulations as amended, and Flowers explained they would likely go before the BoCC in June.

At the May 26 meeting, Flowers brought the regulations before the planning commission again with the amendments requested at the previous meeting, suggestions by Candace Jones and a new concept of employer-provided workforce housing incorporated.

Flowers noted that the changes would require a conditional use permit approved by the BoCC for employer-provided workforce housing outside of the residential zoning district due to the potentially large number of units that could be created.

The commission also discussed the addressing scheme for the county, with Flowers explaining that the scheme is partially driven by the winding course of many local roads and that she would look at a way to make the rules clearer.

Flowers also highlighted that, in the revised regulations, the fees associated with renting an affordable workforce housing unit could not exceed one month's rent to prevent landlords from circumventing the AMI limitations on rental costs by charging excessive fees.

She then discussed the proposed rules for employer-provided workforce housing, which largely mirror those for affordable workforce housing units except that rents for such housing are not restricted.

She also noted that employer-provided workforce housing units can be rented as affordable workforce housing units when not being used by employees, but must meet the specifications for such units when put to that use.

She proposed that multifamily housing could also be used as employer-provided workforce housing, which the commission agreed to.

Flowers added that employer-provided workforce housing cannot be placed on parcels smaller than one acre outside of the residential zoning district.

She explained that employer-provided workforce housing will follow the density guidelines for the residential zoning district, but must otherwise follow the guidelines for the zoning district it occurs within. The commission then unanimously approved the LUR changes with the alterations discussed at the meeting.

Flowers concluded by stating that the LUR changes would be considered at the June 6 BoCC meeting, which is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m.



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RECREATION NEWS

Last chance to register for adult softball, soccer registration to open June 5

By Matt Zaborowski
Town of Pagosa Springs
Parks and Recreation

Registration for coed and men's adult softball is open until June 2. Games will start the week of June 13 and end mid-July. There will be a two-week tournament after double elimination.

The cost is \$525 to register a team. There is no online registration for this program. Stop by the Ross Aragon Community Center to fill out a registration form.

Recreation pee-wee soccer (3-4 years)

Registration for our Pee-Wee Soccer Program opens June 5. The registration fee will be \$40 for the first child and \$20 for the second child. The deadline to register will be July 7.

Online registration will be available through the town website, or stop by the Community Center to fill out a form. This program will run Aug. 7-31.

Recreation soccer (5-12 years)

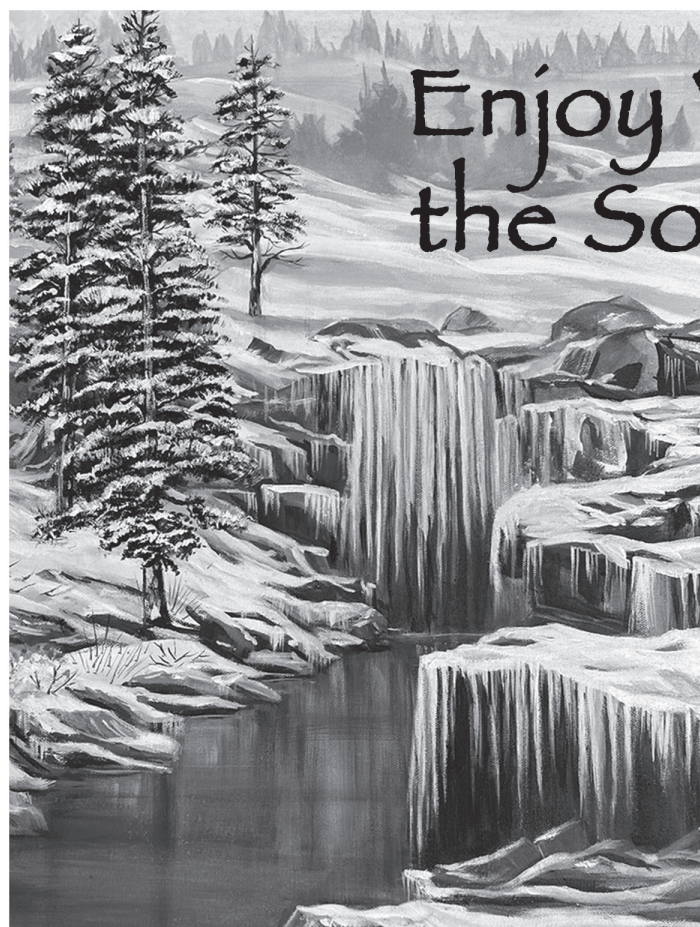
Registration for soccer ages 5-12 years will open June 5. The registration fee will be \$40 for the first child and \$20 for the second child. The deadline to register will be Aug. 4.

Online registration will be available through the town website, or stop by the Community Center to fill out a form. Play will begin in late August and end late September.

Adult coed soccer (6v6)

Registration for adult coed soccer opens June 5. The team registration fee is \$100. The deadline to register a team is July 14. There is a limit of eight teams. Online registration will be available through the town website, or stop by the Community Center to fill out a form. The season will run from July 31 through Aug. 28.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions at (970) 264-4151, ext. 233.



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Registration Deadline: Tuesday, June 13th
For information and to register:
lpea.coop/pagosa-springs-golf-tournament

Town planning commission looks at Multi-Purpose Pavilion, Seeds concept plans

By Monica Nigon
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Planning Commission met May 23 to address, among other things, the Multi-Purpose Pavilion and Seeds of Learning expansion concept plans, with both facilities located at South Pagosa Park.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff explained that an extension of the height of the roof of the Multi-Purpose Pavilion may require a variance and added he would support the higher roof because of snow shedding in the winter.

Planning commissioner Mark Weiler asked, "What kind of response do you anticipate from the neighbors to have something that is 15 feet higher than what we've allowed previously?"

"When you consider a variance for the roof height ... it would be close to the height of the hill on the east side ... the hill is the backdrop of that structure," Dickhoff responded. "There's not a lot of neighbors that the structure would block the view, if that's what you're getting at, Mark."

Dickhoff explained there was support for a higher roof peak at the open house the town held on May 16.

He added phase one would cover the existing facilities and phase two would expand the existing structure and enlarge the ice rink, requiring a new variance to accommodate a higher and wider roof construction.

Brian Collabolletta, representing the Multi-Purpose Pavilion, explained the board of directors has gone door to door and passed out flyers in addition to hosting the open house, adding, "Roof height didn't seem to be too big of a deal."

"We thought the negative people would come out [at the open house], and they didn't really show up, so I kinda feel like people have their chance," he said. "They can go to My Pagosa Now and voice their opinions, and if they're not and they're going to wait until things are built to come out and complain, then, you know, they've waited too long."

Collabolletta explained they're hoping to install the roof this fall and added the decision about whether or not to grant the vari-

ance could not wait until October or November of next year.

Dickhoff addressed access and circulation issues and included comments from the public received at the open house.

He added that the fire district supported two-way traffic or a traffic circle in the parking lot for effective emergency response.

Dickhoff explained the three shared parking scenarios being considered.

Option one is a northbound direction in the alley and a two-way parking scenario in the parking lot that would continue through 8th Street all the way to the alley.

The second proposal indicates single-direction traffic in the parking lot heading west to east with diagonal parking and a southbound lane in the alley itself, without a traffic circle, and diagonal parking to accommodate the southbound traffic in the alley.

The third option, which Dickhoff explained Seeds supported, looked at two-way traffic in the parking lot and one-way in the alley heading north, with no traffic circle.

Dickhoff explained that all of the proposals are being contemplated as shared parking scenarios with the multi-use pavilion and Seeds, with an offset in peak times for both facilities.

He added they would be talking with the Pagosa Springs Town Council about whether or not the updates to the parking lot are in the funding for this year.

Dickhoff added that the new parking option would likely cost "\$250,000 to \$300,000, minimum ... and that's just off my cuff. It could be closer to half a million when all is said and done."

Dickhoff pointed out South Pagosa Park would be the permanent home of the multi-use pavilion once the expansion and investments are made, despite an initial question of if the pavilion would be moved to the east side of town.

He noted that the pavilion, after the expansion, could be used for baseball and soccer practice with padded artificial turf that could be rolled out over the ice rink for year-round use, giving local youth athletes much more practice time rather than jumping right into spring sports after long winters.

Lisa Peters, president of the Seeds of Learning Board of Directors, took the floor to give input on Seeds' thoughts on the parking setup.

"We do feel pretty strongly about the need for the two-way traffic because if it's one way going east it funnels everybody that's gonna use that parking lot around our school," Peters said, adding, "Our kids are 2 and a half to 5 years old, so safety's a big deal for us."

Peters noted the Seeds expansion is not set to take place until 2027, so they will be able to keep an eye on how traffic flow pans out since the pavilion and parking will be updated before their potential expansion.

She added they're hoping to have a setup that will prevent parents from having to cross the road entirely during pick-up times, which may include upward of 70 cars between 3 and 5 p.m.

"You can't trust little kids to mind the rules," Peters added, "so from a safety perspective we would like to have enough parking around the building either in front or in the parking lots in those pickup hours for parents to park and not have to cross the street with their kids."

"Again, we're talking 2027, so we'll have a couple of years to monitor that parking lot to see if we're going to have a problem with pickup," she said, "and if it does present a problem, we would like the town to consider designating some parking spots for school pickup just for those hours, like 3:30 to 5:30."

Resident Greg Giehl took the floor when public comment was opened and said, "Thirty-five miles per hour is not unusual to see people going through this alley. As far as safety with the kids ... if you want safety, you gotta control access in and out of the parking lot."

The board said the proposals for variances will go first to the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and then to the town council on June 6.

Dickhoff explained this all depends on the town council's decision on allowing the expansion of both Seeds and the Multi-Purpose Pavilion and then will work with the pavilion on its variance application and final design review application, which will happen at the end of July.

Some planning commissioners were hesitant to move forward with the planning, but Dickhoff reassured them that the goal as of now is to simply approve or deny the sketch plan, and ultimately the approval of the variances is contingent upon town council approval.

"Conceptually I think it's a good idea," Adams said. "And we're being asked to make some decisions that are probably, you know, ahead of the schedule, that's all."

The concept plans were unanimously approved, with the agreement they would address the flow of traffic in the alleyway and traffic circle after more details are verified.

Variance request

At the same meeting, the planning commission considered a variance request.

Orion Cervio filed a variance request in the hopes of converting a shed on his property on 8th Street into an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) to house an "adopted nephew" who works in town and is struggling to find a place to live.

After conducting a survey to adhere to the change-of-use appli-

cation process, Cervio found that they need a 2-foot variance in the setback to make it into residential use versus storage use.

Planning Manager Cindy Schultz noted there was a complication in the approval process due to a "very literal application of the conditions for approval of a variance, which, as you know, there's some of those that are very challenging, and as we're going through the Land Use and Development Code rewrite we're very aware of those."

Schultz addressed the approval criteria, which the application met with the exception "the physical circumstances or conditions were not created by the applicant or any previous owners of the property."

Commissioner Chris Pitcher expressed concern, saying, "When we talked about what our whole job is up here, it's to follow the rules of the land use development code and basically enforce those. I certainly want to grant this variance ... I struggle with the fact that it doesn't meet the criteria, but I want to find a solution to this."

Schultz and Pitcher agreed that this criterion has been the hardest to navigate when approving variances, but Schultz noted the original plan of the property showed a 10-foot variance and "whoever approved it at that time went out and verified it, but it wasn't survey verified."

"We see this happen a lot of times where they go and eyeball it or run a string between the two properties and maybe it's not 100 percent accurate ... and they get it off by a foot or two."

Cervio, the property owner and current full-time resident of Dulce, N.M., was invited to speak.

"We understand the pressures and the forces that are really distorting housing markets and real estate markets, and we absolutely don't want to be a part of that problem," Cervio said. "We want to be a part of the solution and we have a very intentional plan about that."

Cervio added that they eventually hope to move into the main house on the property if they can find jobs as teachers in Pagosa Springs.

He added that, in the event he and his wife go overseas for teaching jobs, they will rent it to someone local to Pagosa.

He stressed that the main house would not be used for short-term rentals, but "to someone who's doing something valuable for Pagosa Springs."

Giehl, commented, "I can tell you in that lot, that side of the alley ... property lines are like 2 feet off. There's some serious issues with property lines, so the fact that somebody might have made a mistake by a foot doesn't surprise me one bit."

"I'm sympathetic to what you're saying," said planning commissioner Peter Adams. "We definitely need to take a look at our LJUC requirements regarding variances ... but given what the proposed use for this structure is, I'm also sympathetic to that ... so I have no opposition to it."

Pitcher said, "This wasn't the applicant's or previous owner's fault. It was bad oversight of the inspection process, so I'm comfortable with it. So, I will entertain a motion."

The motion was unanimously approved.

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Town seeking input on South Pagosa Park developments

Town of Pagosa Springs

The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking public input on two proposed developments/improvements within South Pagosa Park, located at 550 S. 8th St.

The town is considering an expansion to the existing Seeds of Learning Early Care and Education Center along with a proposed new roofed structure over an enlarged ice-skating rink and future multi-use pavilion.

Seeds of Learning is in the early planning stages for expansion that will accommodate future child care and preschool needs. Seeds of Learning has operated at capacity with 45 students, with another 60 children on a wait list. It serves families from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds and remains a crucial source of care for the community's workforce, offering a sliding tuition scale for many of

its families. Its intended expansion will allow it to enroll an additional 43-53 preschool students by 2027.

The Pagosa Springs Multi-Purpose Pavilion board is requesting support for a roofed structure that will enclose the existing ice-skating rink in its current location. The roofed structure would be phased to expand as additional funding becomes available. The structure would serve several purposes, including lengthening the skating season and allowing for additional revenue and an in-town winter outdoor recreation opportunity.

Both of these projects are located in South Pagosa Park, which the Pagosa Springs Town Council is seeking your input on. To view the conceptual plans for these expansions, please visit MyPagosa.org.

If you have questions, please contact planning@pagosaspings.co.gov or call (970) 264-4151, ext. 221.

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Phone Number: 970-264-8160
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L. Fiedler #17916
190 Tallisman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-507-8528
Case Number 2023CV30026
Plaintiff:
PATRICK H. DISNER
v.
Defendants:
PAGLAND INVESTORS, INC., ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE, PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION and All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action,
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFF: PATRICK H. DISNER
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complaint to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District 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 service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of 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 with 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be entered against you by the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice.
This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated in Archuleta County, Colorado more particularly described as follows:
LOT 77 IN PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74884
Respectfully submitted this 19th day of May, 2023.
/s/ Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler
First publication: May 25, 2023
Last publication: June 22, 2023
Published May 25, June 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Jack Andre Fleuridas, also known as Jack A. Fleuridas, Deceased
Case No. 2023PR30013
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before September 25, 2023, or the claims may be forever barred.
Eddie Dale, Co-Personal Representative
31 Windward Drive
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147
(970)946-3958
Colette Fleuridas, Co-Personal Representative
1222 Anderson Ranch Lane
Napa, California 94459
(925)963-5014
Published May 25, June 1 and 8, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

INVITATION TO BID
Separate sealed BIDS for the **2023 Northlake Avenue Pedestrian Trail Project** will be received by the **Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA)** at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at 188 South 8th Street, P.O. Box 1208, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147, until 2:00 P.M. local time on, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. The project consists of constructing approximately 4,420 linear feet of gravel pedestrian trail along Northlake Avenue from the North Pagosa Boulevard Multi-use Trail at the intersection of North Pagosa Boulevard, proceeding easterly and ending near the intersection of Antelope Avenue. The project will include topsoil removal and replacement, excavation, embankment, subgrade preparation, drainage structures, and aggregate base course placement for gravel trail construction. Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained on or after **June 6, 2023**, at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at the address mentioned above, upon payment of \$50.00 for each set. No refund will be made for returned copies. A **mandatory** pre-bid conference and inspection trip for prospective Bidders will be held **June 13, 2023**, at the office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. (phone number (970) 264-5055), located at the address mentioned above, at 2:00 P.M. local time.
Date: May 25, 2023
Published June 1 and 8, 2023, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

FOR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING ON JUNE 28, 2023
KIP STROHECKER, representing STROHECKER ASPHALT, has applied for a **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT MAJOR AMENDMENT**, on Lots 1 and 2A of the Strohecker Minor Subdivision at 300 County Rd 302, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN23-049). The property is zoned **INDUSTRIAL (I)**. Comments regarding this case may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to PFW@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Planning Commission on June 28, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link.
Published June 1 and 22, 2023, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Outdoors

Chimney Rock National Monument announces June events

By Nadia Werby
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Summer is here, and it's time to get outside and explore. At Chimney Rock National Monument, you can view the stars, the full moon or take a tour of this majestic place where the ancient Puebloans used to live.

Chimney Rock offers monthly programs, annual events and daily guided tours that are fun and educational for the whole family.

Life at Chimney Rock

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) invites you to the Life at Chimney Rock Festival at Chimney Rock National Monument on Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Family activities and interactive demonstrations of the skills of the ancients will be led by CRIA volunteers. Visitors can learn about astronomy and dendrochronology, try tasting a sample of Anasazi beans and get a close-up view of a peregrine falcon. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. This year's Native American Market will include pottery, jewelry, paintings, wood carvings and other art available for sale.

The entrance fee to the monument will be reduced to \$10 per vehicle for this special event, which enables visitors to access the festival and all the regular amenities at the site. These include self-guided tours of the cultural sites, access to the nature trail and Visitor Plaza. The monument is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Flora of Chimney Rock

A thousand years ago, the people who lived at Chimney Rock depended on the plants around them for food, fuel, tools, housing, clothing, medicine and art. The breadth and depth of their knowledge is almost unimaginable today. Join us for an introduction to some of the plant species that grow at Chimney Rock and their uses by ancestral Puebloan people.

The Flora of Chimney Rock will take this month on June 1, 5 and 29 from 8 to 9:45 a.m. and on June 5 and 19 from 4:30 to 6:15 p.m. The tour includes the Great House Pueblo Trail (steep, rough trail with exposure to heights and drop-offs). Guests must enter through the Colo. 151 entry gate during the check-in period stated below; the gate will be locked at the end of that time. The fee is \$16 for adults and \$8 for ages 5-12.

Full Moon Program and Early Tour

The Full Moon Program will take place on June 3 this month against the backdrop of the Great House Pueblo at the top of Chimney Rock Mesa. Beginning about an hour before moonrise, an informative lecture on topics specific to the Chimney Rock site (ancestral Puebloan culture, archaeoastronomy theories, area geology, etc.) is followed by the music of Charles Martinez's Native American flute as the full moon rises. You'll be torn between looking west to see the spectacular sunset and focusing on the eastern mountain range to see the first sliver of moon.

The program lasts approximately three hours including check-in, driving to the mesa top (2.5 miles up a winding dirt road with 20 mph speed limit — allow 15 minutes each way) and hiking to the Great House Pueblo. Please keep in mind that the lecture before the moon rises is approximately

30 minutes in length and the hike back down the high mesa occurs after dark. This program is recommended for ages 8 and up.

Guests must enter through the Colo. 151 entry gate between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 plus a booking fee. Guests are also offered the opportunity to take a tour on the Mesa Village Trail before the Full Moon program begins with the Early Tour Full Moon Package. The cost for this program is \$25 plus a booking fee. Guests must arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 p.m. for the early tour.

Sketching at the Pinnacles

The Sketching at the Pinnacles class takes place on Tuesdays on June 6, 13, 20 and 27. This class is part art, part reflection, part nature study and a little visit to Chimney Rock National Monument — all rolled into one. The class starts at the Mesa Village Trail and then guests will walk down to the Great Kiva to sit on blankets or chairs we bring.

Our goal is to become centered with the site and focus in on a specific item of nature. Using sketchbooks and drawing materials provided, we will examine the item of nature selected and watch how it magically appears on a page in our sketchbook. Afterward, there will be a sharing with each other of what we have learned. No art talent is required, just a desire to be open to suggestions and willing to try a hand at self-expression. Materials will be provided to each participant.

Participants must check in at 5 p.m. The fee is \$20 per person (age 10 and up) and includes all materials.

Birding at Chimney Rock

The Birding at Chimney Rock Program will take place this month on June 7 and 17. This program includes a casual two-hour bird walk led by a knowledgeable birding guide from the Weminuche Audubon Society. These outings are designed to introduce you to the diverse community of birds that spend their summer at Chimney Rock National Monument.

Birders of all skill levels are welcome to participate. Your guide will help you identify various species and explain the unique adaptations that allow these birds to survive here. Good walking shoes are advised, along with plenty of water and sun protection. Bring binoculars if you have them. This program is not recommended for young children. Guests must enter through the Colo. 151 entry gate between 7:45 and 8 a.m. The program ends at 10 a.m. This is a reservations-only program. Tickets are \$16 (ages 13 and up), \$8 (ages 5-12), under 5 free.

Guided Great House Tour

The Guided Great House Tour takes place on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 of a mile up the Great Pueblo Trail and makes several stops along the way to enjoy the ancient Puebloan structures built over 1,000 years ago. Hear the archaeological details that connect this civilization to the Chaco culture located 90 miles southwest of this spot.

At the end of the trail visitors will enjoy the 360-degree view from atop the mountain ridge and have the closest view of the two pinnacles: Chimney Rock and Companion Rock. The tour is available by reservation for up to 10 people and walk-ins are allowed if room

allows. It is recommended for ages 5 and older. Attendees must arrive at the plaza kiosk by 10 a.m.; the tour begins at 10:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$12 (ages 13 and up) and \$5 (ages 5-12) plus a booking fee. Walk-ins do not pay a booking fee but the tour may be canceled for insufficient attendees. The USFS Daily Use fee must be paid (or applicable federal pass used) since this program occurs during the monument's regular daily open hours.

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour

The Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour takes place on Monday and Friday mornings from 8 to 10:15 a.m. and on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7:15 p.m. This engaging two hours will spotlight a number of general topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the ancestral Puebloans who inhabited the area over a thousand years ago. You will walk both the Mesa Village and Great House Pueblo Trails, learning about the structures along each trail, including their significance and uses. You will be treated to the stunning views of the surrounding countryside. Guests must arrive 15 minutes before the program starts. Tickets are \$16 (ages 13 and up), \$8 (ages 5-12), under 5 free.

Geology Tours

Geology Tours place on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 8 to 10:30 a.m. and on Thursday evenings from 5 to 7:30 p.m. This program includes a 2.5-hour guided tour that explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the ancestral Puebloans who lived at Chimney Rock. Tour participants will hear the events in the ancient geology of the area and learn how to identify a common trace fossil in the area. Guests must arrive for check-in 15 minutes before the program begins. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$8 for children (ages 5-12).

Summer Solstice Sunrise Program

Welcome summer at Chimney Rock National Monument. The Summer Solstice Sunrise program will take place on June 20, 21 and 22. Experience the sunrise from the Chacoan Great House and learn why these events were important to the ancient ones. With a 360-degree vantage point and the hush of early morning in the wilderness, the sunrise from the Great House is a marvelous experience for the eyes and the spirit. There is a 3-mile drive to the trailhead and a 30/45-minute uphill hike to the Great House Pueblo in predawn darkness (the trail is rocky and steep in places). This requires very good flashlights and appropriate dress. Following the sunrise, depart the Great House on your own or join your guide for an interpreted hike with fascinating information about the importance this location is thought to have had for the people who lived here a thousand years ago.

Guests must enter the Colo. 151 entry gate between 4:40 and 4:45 a.m. The program is from 4:45 to 6:45 a.m. These are reservations-only programs, not suitable for children under 8. The fee is \$16 for adults and \$8 for children (ages 5-12).

The Night Sky: Stars and Galaxies

The Night Sky: Stars and Galaxies will take place on June 16. This program is timed for when the moon is absent from the sky in

order to enjoy the night sky in a truly dark environment and see deep-sky objects such as binary stars, globular star clusters, open clusters, various nebulae and other galaxies.

Guests must arrive for check-in between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. and the program begins at 8:45 p.m.

The Night Sky: Our Solar System

The Night Sky: Our Solar System program will take place on June 23. This program is timed for when the moon is visible in the early night sky. That makes it so we can enjoy the moon and several planets along with some deep-sky objects that are beyond our galaxy that we can see with the telescopes. Guests must check-in between 7:15 and 7:30 p.m. and the program starts at 8:45 p.m.

There are three parts to the Night Sky programs starting with a live brief history of Chimney Rock, followed by a video presentation about the ancient people and explaining why astronomy was such an important part of their lives. The third part of the program is a recorded presentation that gives understanding of deep-sky objects such as binary stars, globular star clusters, open cluster, various nebulae and other galaxies. The program includes basic astronomy that will prepare you for what we will be seeing through our telescopes. Tickets are \$16 for ages 13 and up, \$8 for ages 5-12, under 5 free.

Flute, Moon and Stars

The Flute, Moon and Stars program takes place on June 24 in the amphitheater area with an amazing view of the pinnacles above. The program will begin with a relaxing walk up the 1/4-mile nature trail above the amphitheater and, upon returning to the amphitheater, the program resumes with an informative lecture on topics specific to the Chimney Rock site.

As the moonlight increases and evening falls, you will be treated to the haunting melodies of a native American flute played by our own Charles Martinez. Gaze in wonder as the moon rises as it did over 1,000 years ago when the ancestral Puebloans called Chimney Rock home.

Guests must enter through the

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Additional Varieties Available



Photos courtesy Beth Tollefsen, Jeff Monafio and Dan Rosenblatt

Spring brings forth new life, new beginnings and new friends. Area photographers have graciously shared a variety of local wildlife pictures this spring, including geese, a fox, blue birds and Onyx the horse playing along a fence with her new elk friend.



Events

Continued from A13

Colo. 151 entry gate between 5:45 and 6 p.m. The program ends at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$16 (age 13 and up) and \$8 (ages 5-12) plus a booking fee.

More Information

For tickets for any of these special programs, please visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call (877) 444-6777. A booking fee applies to each ticket purchased online or through the call center. Purchasing your tickets in advance is the only way to guarantee a spot for the monthly and annual programs. Chimney Rock uses a fee system.

All vehicles and motorcycles will be subject to an activity pass fee — \$20. The activity pass fee provides five days of access to the Chimney Rock National Monument.

To purchase your required activity pass, you can:

- Purchase your activity pass in advance at Recreation.gov.
- Download the Recreation.gov mobile App — purchase your pass in advance or arrive on site and use the app to provide payment (Android or iOS) by scanning the on-site QR code.
- Arrive on site and pay cash.
- Interagency, Access, Senior, Military, and fourth-grader park

passes are accepted for national monument access.

Include Chimney Rock in your plans this summer. This ancestral Puebloan cultural site is located 17 miles west of Pagosa and 3 miles south on Colo. 151. To view the calendar of events, go to www.chimneyrockco.org.

CRIA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that offers interpretive programs at Chimney Rock National Monument in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the San Juan National Forest. For more information, see the CRIA website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call (970) 731-7133.

Card of Thanks

Weber family

On behalf of the Weber family, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the people who made Jim's passing a little easier. Thank you to: Fr. Sam, Deacon Mark, Uncle Bob and Lalo for the beautiful Mass; Steve and the JP II choir for the awesome music; Jim and the AV volunteers for the livestream; Gene for the amazing slideshow; the Guadalupanas for the delicious food and hospitality; Augusta, the Wood family, Noreita and Mau-

reen for the food and flowers at our home; Sheila for her love and generosity; everyone who gave us gift, sympathy and Mass cards; Fr. Kenny for the lovely letter; the Knights of Columbus for the donations from the pancake breakfast; Kathy and Michelle for the quilt; and Scott and Suzanne for the lovely flower arrangement at the church. A special thank you to Ron and Val for our beautiful niche and never ending care. I hope you all know how blessed we feel for the love and support you have shown

us in this most difficult time.

Sincerely, Jackie Philippians 1:3

Cemetery

A huge thank you to the Town of Pagosa.

The hardworking crew at the cemetery is very much appreciated. The cemetery has not looked so nice in years.

We commend those that made the decision and the crew that worked so hard.

Lucille Alley and Jani Candelaria

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Photo credit Rick Bass

Martial arts students faced some very tough competition at the New Mexico state karate championships in Albuquerque, N.M., recently, and performed very well with one second-place, three third-place and three fourth-place medals. Pictured, from left to right, are Amelia Berndt, Nate Capri, Rylan Chavez, Addie Hunt, Matt Hunt and Mathew Capri.

Ambulance licensing changes slated for 2024

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard an update on changes to state regulations concerning ambulance licensing and permitting from Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Deputy Chief Connie Cook on May 16.

Cook opened her update by explaining that the expectations for ambulance service include immediate service, that the ambulance comes with competent providers and appropriate equipment, and that it complies with regulations.

She explained that, up to this point, ambulance licensing has been with counties.

However, a panel convened to review the use of ketamine following the death of Elijah McClain, who died in Aurora in 2019, had recommended ground ambulance licensing at the state level, Cook stated.

McClain was killed in an Aug. 30, 2019, altercation with police during which he was sedated with ketamine in excess of the amount recommended by local protocols, according to an article in the Colorado Sun.

The three police officers and two paramedics involved in the incident are awaiting trial on charges of manslaughter and other crimes.

At the meeting, Cook explained

that state licensing would likely improve oversight, as it is currently fragmented statewide.

Cook explained that, in 2015, the county updated the ambulance licensing requirements and is likely one of the most compliant entities in the state with the upcoming rules.

She added that the local licensing rules have been effective, but that she does support the statewide regulations as she feels they will benefit the public and ambulance services.

Cook explained that the state Ground Ambulance Task Force is working on developing regulations which should be completed and submitted to the state health board by August, which would then be adopted by the state board by Jan. 1, 2024.

She added that the state licensing program would begin July 1, 2024.

Cook then discussed the county's role in the process, highlighting that counties can decide whether to allow all ambulance services with state licensure to operate in the county or whether to add additional stipulations for ambulance services operating in the county.

She explained that she felt that creating language early would be valuable as PSMC EMS is currently the only service in the county and private ambulance services, which she felt would be most likely to move in, would likely be "cherry-pickers" who take only calls that make money, which excludes most 911 calls.

Cook explained that she spoke with County Manager Derek Woodman about what kind of language would need to be put in place as the current language would be rendered void by the state regulations.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez commented that he feels that the county is likely not large enough for another ambulance service and that he favors keeping local control of ambulance services with PSMC.

Cook noted that PSMC is having challenges with staffing, as are many organizations in town, and that the volume of calls has increased.

Commissioner Veronica Medina asked how many ambulances PSMC has.

Cook explained that the PSMC has five ambulances and works to staff three every day, although staff shortages and the high cost of living are making this difficult.

The BoCC and Cook then discussed the challenges of growth and the potential value of private ambulance services, with Cook highlighting the importance of requiring that ambulance services provide backup 911 service.

Cook also noted, if PSMC EMS were fully staffed, she is confident that the program could meet the current call volume.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked if the state regulations would increase or decrease costs.

Cook indicated that the state

regulations could potentially increase costs in rural areas, although they might decrease them in urban areas.

Brown expressed concerns about the state taking away local control, and Cook highlighted that the ability to control local ambulance services is a key element of preserving local control.

She also highlighted that the PSMC EMS service focuses on the stewardship of the ambulance resources in the community and ensuring the highest value for the costs incurred by ambulance users.

Maez added that he felt some county residents would be underserved with private ambulance services that pick their calls and reiterated that he would support local control.

The group then discussed when a resolution on the county's requirements for outside ambulance services would need to be in place, with Woodman indicating it would need to be in place by July 1, 2024.

Cook explained that PSMC will continue through the county licensing process for one more year and that this license would then be grandfathered into a two-year state license when the transition occurs.

She added that this would be useful as it would give an opportunity to see other agencies go through the state licensing process before PSMC has to undertake it.

joshi@pagosason.com

Town council, tourism board discuss future indoor event venue at joint work session

By Derek Kutzer
Staff Writer

At a joint work session of the Pagosa Springs Town Council and the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board, the group discussed ideas about how to collaborate on getting an indoor event venue built in Pagosa Springs.

The idea of an event venue has floated around the tourism board for quite some time, with Jennifer Green, executive director of Visit Pagosa Springs, saying in February that "a permanent event venue has been a topic of discussion at the tourism board for a while."

The idea of an event venue stems from "the Destination Master Plan, adopted by the Town and County in 2019," Green said.

At the May 25 joint work session, Green added that the tourism board has been focusing on the possibility of an event center because it is following the guidance that it had received from the joint town/county Destination Master Plan and that one of that plan's "key findings" was that the area did not have a significant indoor event center.

Tourism board member Julian Caler said that "we just know that this is something we want to do" and that the board hopes "to get some money put aside, allocated for that purpose."

Caler also explained that the specific plans about "what it's gonna look like" and "where it's gonna be" would develop along the way, but that it was important for the three entities — the town, the county and the tourism board — to get on the same page about the project and put some funding aside for the effort, which would help get the ball rolling on the project.

He added that the tourism board seeks a venue "to hold an indoor concert. We want to be able to have events of all types, indoors, maybe something like Breckenridge, where it has sliding doors and it's an outdoor/indoor venue, possibly."

Mayor Shari Pierce asked what other indoor events, besides concerts, the tourism board had in mind.

Caler answered that it could be a place to "hold a conference in Pagosa, something like that. Just a bigger area for people to gather."

Green explained that the tourism board would be going on a number of "field trips" to visit other event venues around Colorado to see how other places have achieved building and managing such event spaces.

She noted that through these visitations the board can gain "a better idea of what the options are and what fits our community the best."

Tourism board member Michael Whiting stressed the importance of allocating some funding to the idea of an event space before any specifics, such as building location, design and size, are hashed out, saying that "it's a little cart before the horse" to focus on specifics.

Whiting mentioned other area projects, such as the Town-to-Lakes Trail system, that have a specific plan, but "we didn't allocate any specific resources for it and the results speak for themselves."

He suggested that to give this event space project the best chance to succeed it "would require, for lack of a better term, a down payment, to leverage against, to raise ... the millions of dollars necessary to actually pull this off."

He added, "If you don't put some

money in a pot and leave it there and have it ready to deploy, you kinda get in this cart, horse, chicken, egg thing where you don't actually end up doing much of anything, because you need the money to do it, but you don't have the money to get the money you need to do the project."

This is why the tourism board wants to focus, as its first priority, "beginning to set aside some working funds" for the event space project, he noted.

When opened up to questions, town council member Madeline Bergon expressed that she hoped as the tourism board plans and filters "down the vision" that it thinks "about how you see management and staffing and how that all fits into the bigger picture."

Green replied, "That will be part of the field trip. We would meet with the stakeholders in the different communities and understand how they financed it, who manages it, how it's all run, etcetera," adding that the fact-finding mission "might take more than one field trip."

Both Caler and Green expressed that the project could end up being either public or private and that this issue will also be something that will be investigated on the field trip.

Whiting stressed that the specific plans, whatever they end up being, remain "scaled to this community," adding that "that's where projects go south here — when they are too big."

Archuleta County Commissioner Ronnie Maez, who also sits on the tourism board, suggested that the event venue could be designed smaller and could always be expanded at a later date should the community grow and decide it needs a bigger venue.

Maez also mentioned the ongoing discussions about the formation of a jointly run county and town recreation district, which could possibly "help fund this in the future."

He said this is something that "needs to be seriously discussed, because most event venues, or even rec centers, are usually kind of a black hole. So, they do need a funding mechanism to go along with it."

Town council and joint parks and recreation board member Mat deGraaf said that he has "not heard of the event center as a part of the recreation district formation discussion," but he also said that it is "very early" in the discussions about a potential district.

Caler added that the tourism board should move forward with its plans regardless of whether "this parks district happens or not, or another entity comes in, or whatever, we just need to be moving forward, taking next steps," so that it is prepared to get the ball rolling.

Caler's comment sparked Bergon to ask if the tourism board would be OK if another entity comes along and wants to build it.

There was general agreement among the tourism board members that they'd be open to a private entity building the event venue as long as it is the type of indoor venue, not an outdoor venue, that the board envisions and believes is needed in the community.

"If someone comes to the council or county and brings this idea, it would be nice to bring it to us and we can intercept it, and say, 'Hey look, you have this idea, but we have this money, would you mind changing this, this, and this?'" Caler said.

Whiting reminded the partici-

pants at the work session that the tourism board is an advisory board whose job is to advise the town and the county about ideas and plans related to the area's tourism economy, but that it is the town councilors and county commissioners who would ultimately green-light the funding for the venue.

Pierce explained that, while the tourism board is an advisory board, town council generally agrees with its decisions and usually trusts it on "how best to use the money," adding that she can't remember ever not approving "the budget you have brought to us."

However, when the next agenda item came up about using reserve funds for a future event venue, Pierce noted that she was concerned about setting aside money without any solid language that could account for various contingencies related to the project.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips suggested that the town could set this up as a resolution, which would involve town attorney Bob Cole working out the draft language.

Pierce added that she wants the tourism board's input on what the language would look like, "because if you're really wanting to direct it to an event center, then we need to say that, but then if that doesn't happen, then what do you want the language to say?"

She noted that in the language as many contingencies should be addressed and planned for now, because, in the case that the funds are directed toward a different purpose in the future, this would give the public some clarity on the issue.

Agreeing, Phillips stated it would be important for the language to clearly set the parameters for what the money "can be spent on, how those decisions get made and then,

if there's a course correction, because maybe it's no longer needed for some reason ... what happens to the fund, right?"

Phillips added the funds should be assigned to the town's "trust account," where it has restricted line items for different purposes.

Funds could be approved for this account as a resolution action of the town council, she explained.

Some at the meeting indicated funding could also stem from the tourism board's "tourism-related infrastructure" line item. In its 2023 budget, the board allocated \$437,500 for tourism-related infrastructure projects. Out of this, the board has allocated \$237,680 to various infrastructure projects, leaving nearly \$200,000, which could be applied to the event space project.

At previous tourism board meetings, it has been suggested that the board could reserve about half of its tourism-related infrastructure money for this purpose.

However, at the work session, Green explained that she did not think that the tourism board would be "able to sustain" the current level of infrastructure dollars.

Thus, the board should plan on having less money at its disposal for future infrastructure projects, she noted.

She added that the board, with the town and the county's approval, could still allocate a percentage of its infrastructure line item funds to the event venue project.

With all of this, Phillips explained that she believed she had enough information and input from the tourism board to draft a rough resolution that would also address potential contingencies which could be handed over to the tourism board for further editing.

derek@pagosason.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, June 1

Archuleta County Combined Dispatch meeting. 9:30 a.m., sheriff's office board room, 85 Harman Park Drive. Zoom: 7186713647.

Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community

Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaspings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Monday, June 5

Archuleta County Public Health Department Transitional Advisory Committee meeting. 9 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more

information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Tuesday, June 6

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=d1FFV0J1cGVka1N>

HWHFsa2taeGxtZz09, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30 p.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVka1N>

0J1cGVka1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaspings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Thursday, June 8

Main Street Advisory Board board meeting. 4-6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center meeting room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89821999924?pwd=ZlKSJlYlBkNmRzRUpZcUxkUkx5Zz09>.

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

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Memorial Day
 SUN photos/Randi Pierce
 American Legion Post 108 held its annual Memorial Day ceremony at Hilltop Cemetery Monday, honoring Archuleta County's war dead as well as veterans who have passed in the last year. The ceremony also included, among other things, a flyover, a reading of "In Flanders Fields," and speeches from Jim Huffman and Warren Brown.



Luminaria Tribute

SUN photos/Randi Pierce
 Veterans for Veterans hosted its inaugural Memorial Day Luminaria Tribute Monday at Veterans Memorial Park. The ceremony, which included American Legion Post 108 and the San Juan Squadron, featured a flyover, flag ceremony, 21-gun salute, flag-folding ceremony, the playing of taps and more. The evening was capped off with the lighting of luminarias dedicated to service members past and present.



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ARTS & LIFE

Pagosa Springs Car Show

Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10 • Lewis Street



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

June 1, 2023

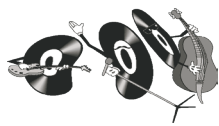


Pagosa Springs Car Show

Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The Pagosa Springs Car Show will again take over Lewis Street on June 9 and 10. The annual event draws more than 100 cars, trucks and motorcycles for two days of mechanical art.

Live Performers



Friday

Meltdown on Main: Emily Tholberg, 5 p.m.
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: The Pastor and The Pagan, 5 p.m.

Saturday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bob Hemenger, 5 p.m.

Sunday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jason Rose, 5 p.m.

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: San Juan Mountain Boys, 5 p.m.

Wednesday

Alley House Grille lounge: Bob Hemenger, 5:30 p.m.
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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Start your engines: Pagosa Springs Car Show set for June 9 and 10

By **Mary Jo Coulehan**
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

The 14th annual Pagosa Springs Car Show will be held Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10, on Lewis Street. This annual event brings over 100 cars, trucks and motorcycles to historic Lewis Street for two days of mechanical art. Owners have meticulously preserved or rebuilt classic cars, much to the delight of the spectators and other car aficionados.

To take in all that is occurring at that event, here is a listing of activities.

The show and the party on Lewis Street opens on Friday at 5 p.m. Car Show participants may start lining up on Lewis Street at 3 p.m. Access to the lineup is available from 3rd or 2nd streets; 4th Street will be closed at Lewis Street and access to the show via a vehicle. The live music featuring The San Juan Mountain Boys will begin at 5 p.m. There will be food vendors down at Bell Tower Park and a beverage garden near the Catholic Church Parish Hall with an assortment of chilled adult beverages, sodas and water. Get your first glimpse of these magnificent vehicles on Friday evening until 8 p.m.

On Saturday, June 10, vehicles may start lining up again on Lewis Street beginning at 7 a.m. After giving the participants time to shine up their entries, the show begins at 9 a.m. On this day, you can vote for your favorite vehicle to qualify it for the People's Choice award. The voting will be done online, so bring your cellphone, scan the QR code from the ID card of your favorite ride and submit it to win

this coveted award. There will also be first- and second-place winners in 16 categories. Again, on this day there will be even more vendors with delicious food and beverages as well as the beer and wine tent. The live music will take place all day long thanks to the sounds and dedication of the Retrocats.

After a day of fun, oohing and aahing at the gorgeous cars, trucks and motorcycles, the awards ceremony will take place at about 2:30 p.m.

Entrants travel from all over the southwest and even other parts of Colorado. Come out and enjoy yourself and marvel at the classic cars and those that will be defined as classics in years to come. Those first 100 entrees to the Car Show will receive a free collectible T-shirt and dash plaque. Additional merchandise will be sold at the

registration table. You can register in advance for the show at www.pagosachamber.com. Click on the Car Show icon and it will take you to the registration website. If you have multiple cars to register and you would like a T-shirt with each registration, you can do that through the online registration site. If you do not want additional T-shirts, just contact the Chamber and we will register those

vehicles for you at a reduced price. Please contact us at (970) 264-2360.

We are excited to host this annual event. If attending the Folk 'n Bluegrass Festival, you will have time to visit the Car Show before the music starts or if you want to take a break and wander around town and enjoy the community. Questions on the Car Show can be directed to the Chamber at (970) 264-2360.



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Riverwalk naturalist tours returning

By Josh Pike
Pagosa Wetland Partners

The Riverwalk wetlands are one of the richest and most unique natural areas around Pagosa Springs.

Fed by geothermal water, they are filled with an extraordinary diversity of birds, plants and mammals and an abundance of natural beauty.

Easily accessed by the Riverwalk trail that winds through the wetlands, they form an oasis of nature and peace in the middle of downtown Pagosa.

And now, for the third year, you have the opportunity to explore the wetlands through the free nature tours being offered weekly by the Riverwalk Naturalist Program.

This program is the result of partnership between Pagosa Wetland Partners, Weminuche Audubon Society and The Springs Resort, and will offer two guided naturalist tours of the wetlands every week between June and September.

These tours provide a bevy of information on the ecology, geology and history of the area, as well as a

prime opportunity to observe the wildlife of the wetlands and relax in their soothing beauty.

Each tour is led by our passionate and knowledgeable guides, community members who are excited to share the wetlands and their value with you.

Free tours will be offered starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday mornings and 7 p.m. on Tuesday evenings from June to August.

In September, tours will be offered at 9 a.m. on Saturday mornings and 6 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.

No reservations are required; just show up when you want to join us.

Each tour will last between 1 and 1.5 hours and will involve an approximately 1.5-mile walk on a paved trail.

People of all ages, abilities and identities are welcomed to join us.

Tours will meet at the Habitat Hero Native Plant Garden in Centennial Park behind the courthouse near the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership domes.

Tours will then follow the Riverwalk trail through the wetlands,

ending near Town Hall.

At the end of the tour, participants will have options for their walk back to their lodgings or vehicles.

Bringing binoculars and a water bottle is recommended, as many wetland animals, such as birds, are more easily seen with binoculars and the trail can be quite warm in summer.

We ask that you leave your furry friends at home, as their presence will often disturb wildlife on the trail and reduce the amount of things we can see. However, service animals are always welcome.

Each tour is quite different, as the wildlife and situations encountered vary greatly across different days and times of day.

Therefore, coming to multiple tours is encouraged to get the full portrait of the Riverwalk wetlands.

We look forward to welcoming residents and visitors to explore the wetlands with us for another year.

Contact us at pagosawetlands@gmail.com if you have questions.

Otherwise, we will see you on the trail.



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Life at Chimney Rock: A Festival of Crafts and Culture planned for June 3 and 4

By Nadia Werby
Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) invites you to the Life at Chimney Rock Festival at Chimney Rock National Monument on Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Family activities and interactive demonstrations of the skills of the ancients will be led by CRIA volunteers and will include pounding yucca, making coil pottery, creating rock art, weaving, corn grinding and throwing a spear with an atlatl.

Visitors can learn about astronomy and dendrochronology, try tasting a sample of Anasazi beans and get a close-up view of a peregrine falcon.

A food vendor will have a variety of lunch items and drinks for sale.

The entrance fee to the monument will be reduced to \$10 per vehicle for this special event, which enables visitors to access the festival and all the regular amenities at the site. These include self-guided

tours of the cultural sites, and access to the nature trail and Visitor Plaza. The monument is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Visit this ancient Puebloan cultural site located 17 miles west of Pagosa Springs and 3 miles south on Colo. 151. CRIA is a nonprofit

organization which operates the interpretive program at Chimney Rock National Monument under a participating agreement with the USDA Forest Service/San Juan National Forest. For more information, please visit www.chimney-rockco.org.

LIVE MUSIC
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THE BUCK STOPS HERE



Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company
 “The Great American Trailer Park Musical,” with music and lyrics by Colorado resident David Nehls, will open at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts on June 2. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970)7631-SHOW (7469).

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‘The Great American Trailer Park Musical’ to open at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By R. Eli Townsend
 Thingamajig Theatre Company

After a few seasons of truncated shows and industry-wide devastation by unforeseen forces, Thingamajig Theatre Company is back in full form and its season opener is chocked with rocking music, incredible talent and plenty of laughs to welcome us all back to the theater.

Prepare to be thoroughly entertained and captivated by the uproarious production of “The Great American Trailer Park Musical,” with music and lyrics by (Colorado resident) David Nehls and book by Betsy Kelso, presented by Thingamajig Theatre Company at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Under the brilliant direction and choreography of Ann Evans Watson, a University of Michigan professor, this show is a delightful rollercoaster ride of laughter, heartwarming moments and unforgettable performances.

Leading the charge with their remarkable onstage chemistry, Allie Tamburello and Zac Mitchell bring an abundance of heart, humor and love to the production. Their performances are simultaneously heartwrenching and heartwarming, drawing the audience deeper into the story with each scene.

The ensemble cast, featuring Samantha Luck as Betty, Rosa Campbell as Lin and Nadia Belouchiu as Pickles, form a hilarious trio of trailer park denizens who

never fail to keep the audience in stitches. Their impeccable comedic timing and vibrant portrayals add a layer of authenticity to the show’s humor, making every moment a joy to behold.

One cannot overlook the astounding talent of Ashley Woodson, who shines as Pippi, the runaway stripper. Her onstage presence and magnetic energy make it clear that she is a star in the making. Watching her perform is an absolute pleasure, as she effortlessly commands attention and showcases her exceptional skills.


Making a return to Pagosa, Trevor Brown delivers side-splitting comedic brilliance as Pippi’s dim-witted boyfriend. His impeccable timing and physical comedy skills have the audience roaring with laughter, reminding us all why he is a beloved performer in this community.

A musical is only as good as its “tunes.” The show and audience are in the good hands of the talented music director, Boni McIntyre. Every note of the production hits the mark with precision and passion. The music is a vital component of this show, and McIntyre has done a remarkable job of bringing the catchy tunes and infectious rhythms to life. The harmonies are tight, the melodies soar and the arrangements are simply superb.

One cannot overlook the incredible contributions of the live band, whose presence on stage adds an

■ See Arts on next page

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19th Hole Concerts

Photo courtesy Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The 19th Hole Concerts at Pagosa Springs Golf Club are set to kick off June 1 and run Thursday nights for the month of June. At the end of the concert series, funds are distributed to several chosen nonprofits.

Arts

■ continued from previous page electrifying energy to the entire performance. The musicians are incredibly skilled, and their mastery of their instruments is evident throughout the show. The live music enhances the overall experience, creating an immersive and unforgettable atmosphere that transports the audience straight into the heart of the story.

“The Great American Trailer Park: The Musical” is a must-see for anyone seeking a night filled

with laughter and a truly fantastic time. Opening June 2 at 7 p.m., this production will grace the stage at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, running in repertory throughout the season alongside the sensational productions of “Jersey Boys” and “Godspell 2012” until Aug. 27.

Be sure to grab your tickets and immerse yourself in this hilarious, heartwarming and unforgettable experience. You won’t want to miss this fantastic theatrical gem that celebrates the beauty of laughter

and the power of live performance.

“The Great American Trailer Park Musical” will run June 2-Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970)731-SHOW (7469).



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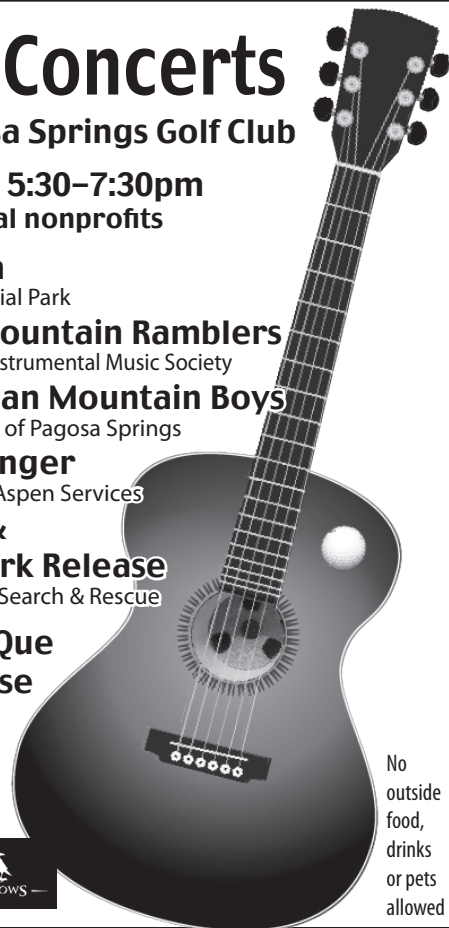
19th Hole Concerts

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- June 1 Bo DePeña**
Veterans Memorial Park
- June 8 Jackson Mountain Ramblers**
Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society
- June 15 The San Juan Mountain Boys**
Humane Society of Pagosa Springs
- June 22 Bob Hemenger**
Aspen House & Aspen Services
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Live outdoor music: 19th Hole Concert Series will benefit local nonprofits

By Robson Reyes

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Join us for an extraordinary series of concerts that combine the joy of music with the spirit of giving.

The 19th Hole Concerts pair an Archuleta County nonprofit with a local music talent each Thursday evening throughout June.

Please join us Thursday, June 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to enjoy our first concert this year promoting Veterans Memorial Park. Bo DePeña gets us started with modern Texas-style country music with a little rock 'n' roll swagger.

Veterans Memorial Park of Pagosa Springs' mission is "to develop and maintain a Memorial Park in honor of all past, present and future veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America; to be a place for veterans, their families and the public to remember, reflect and contemplate the sacrifices of these individuals; and to serve as an educational venue."

Concert schedule

Mark your calendar to enjoy them all:

- June 1 — Bo DePeña — Veterans Memorial Park.
- June 8 — Jackson Mountain Ramblers — Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society.
- June 15 — The San Juan Mountain Boys — Humane Society of Pagosa Springs.

• June 22 — Bob Hemenger — Aspen House and Aspen Services.

• June 29 — Jack Ellis and Out on Work Release — Upper San Juan Search and Rescue.

Each concert is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., rain or shine, at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. Your \$10 cover charge supports five local nonprofits. At the end of the concert series, all proceeds are pooled and distributed equally to the five featured organizations.

Food from the grill, beer, wine and signature cocktails will be available for purchase. You are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket. No outside food, drinks or

pets are allowed.

Local nonprofits participating this year are Veterans Memorial Park, the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society, Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Aspen House and Aspen Services, and Upper San Juan Search and Rescue.

Gather your friends and family and join us for the 2023 live concert series. We'll see you on the green.

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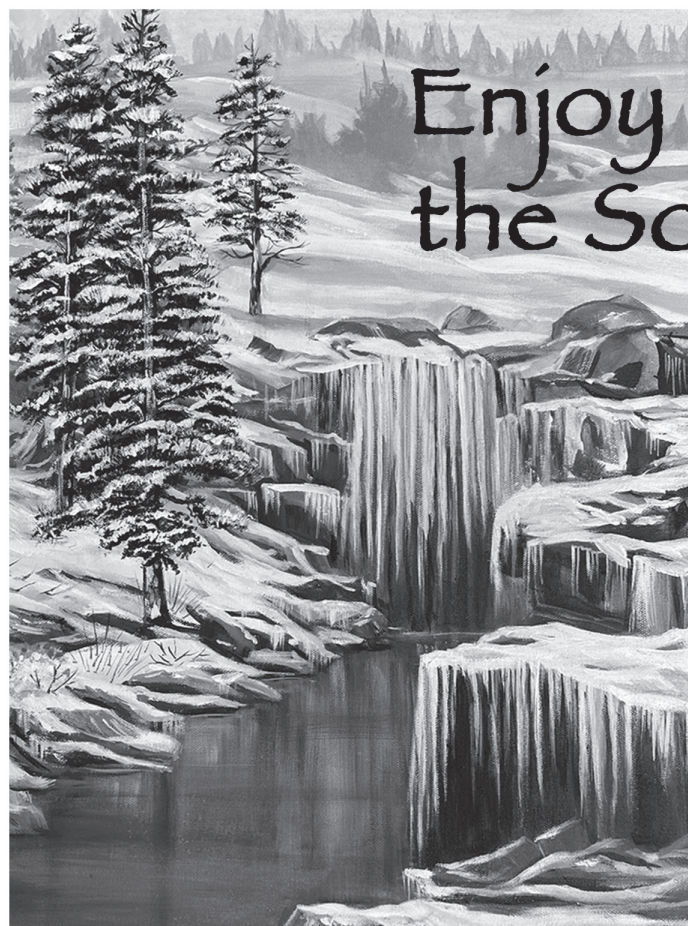
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‘Men for All Seasons in Story’ set for June 17

By Deborah Fox

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation

The Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation is pleased to welcome back professional storyteller Kathy Santopietro for another magical evening of storytelling, accompanied by local pianist Sally Neel and a special guest appearance by vocalist Robert Neel.

Santopietro happened upon storytelling along her journey as an award-winning adult educator and has shared traditional stories in a variety of adult venues for over 28 years. She will treat us to stories appropriate for Father’s Day weekend, especially since she enjoys crafting stories that are relevant and spark the imagination of the audience.

Father’s Day reminds us to celebrate relationships with some very important dads, grandpas, husbands, friends and lovers whose presence is woven into our lives. Santopietro will weather the four seasons in stories where we’ll meet a knight, a farmer, a soldier, a sheep herder and other such heroes who nourish with love. Who knows, you might even recognize your own champion.

The doors will open at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and entertainment. Stories begin at 7 p.m. Light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar will follow at 8 p.m., and you’ll have an opportunity to meet Santopietro.

The event will take place at the Tennyson Building Event Center and is for ages 16 and older. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased online at <https://pagosalibrary.org/> or in person at your Ruby Sisson Library. Tickets at



Photo courtesy Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation

Professional storyteller Kathy Santopietro will present “Men for All Seasons in Story” on June 17. Tickets are available online and at the library.

the door on the night of the event will be \$45.

Although the evening event is for adults, there is a separate free storytelling for families at 11 a.m. on June 17 at the library.

Proceeds from the evening

event will support our Mountains of Opportunity campaign to expand and renovate your Ruby Sisson Library. To learn more, please contact Cindi Galabota at (970) 264-2209 or cindi@pagosalibrary.org. We hope to see you on June 17.

Free Medicare 101 class to be offered June 12

By Caryn Hill

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging

A free introduction class to Medicare will be offered at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library on Monday, June 12, at 1 p.m. This

class is open to everyone, whether currently enrolled in Medicare or planning to enroll soon.

A certified Medicare counselor from the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA) will present Medicare basics such as:

- Medicare eligibility and when to enroll.
- Definitions and explanations of parts A, B, C, D and Medigap plans.
- Deadlines, open enrollment
- See Medicare on next page

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Restoration Fellowship Food Pantry announces new, larger location

By Adriene Doray
Restoration Fellowship Food Pantry

The Restoration Fellowship Food Pantry is excited to announce that we have moved to a new location.

Our move was necessitated by reaching critical mass at the former location; patrons were waiting in line for over 45 minutes at peak periods to go through our 250-square-foot food pantry.

The move to the new location could not have become a reality if not for the very charitable actions of Stephen and Yvonne Giesen, owners of the new location. We are now thrilled to be located in the old Sears building, 2800 Cornerstone Drive, A1. The Giesens are allowing us to rent this space at a significantly reduced rate.

At this new location, our expansion will be twofold, substantially increasing our shopping square footage area while adding increased operational hours. Our operational hours are listed below.

The Restoration Pantry is a “choice” pantry, which means the patron is able shop the pantry as one would shop in a grocery store. They choose what foods they like to consume instead of being given a box of food they may or may not like. This helps cut down on food

waste as the consumer has a say in what they eat. We try hard to provide local fresh foods and organic items whenever possible.

Currently, we are feeding 2,600 patrons monthly. We expect those numbers to double as food insecurity becomes a factor in more people's lives. Seniors from Arboles are being bused up to our food pantry weekly, as well as people from our neighboring counties.

The following are factors in the expanding dependency of our patrons on our pantry:

- The COVID emergency food stamp program has been extensively reduced. Families who received \$450 a month are now getting roughly \$56 a month.

- Rent in Archuleta County is astronomically high and families are spending more than 65 percent of their income just for rent.

- Food costs at the grocery store are exponentially higher than ever and out of reach for many. When bills can't be met, their food budget is the first to be cut.

The Restoration Pantry runs the The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) as well as the Federal senior box program. Fifty prepackaged boxes of food are delivered to seniors and shut-ins. Seniors over 60 years old who applied for the senior box program also can

pick up their boxes from our location during operating hours.

Currently, the Restoration Pantry receives donations from Colorado Care and Share, Walmart, Healthy Archuleta and GrassRoots Meats here in town to help us with our meat needs. Once every seven weeks, we also receive a donation from Natural Grocers. We apply for as many grants as we are eligible for, but those grants are sought by a mass of organizations helping with food insecurities throughout southwest Colorado. Currently, we are distributing roughly 40,000 pounds of food monthly.

When food security becomes a reality, it makes for a healthier, safer and vibrant community for everyone. Life is challenging enough, but the physical pain of hunger and the emotional strain of not knowing where your next meal is coming from is a consideration no one should have. We can do great things to make sure all can eat.

We have many amazing volunteers from churches all over our community and varied walks of life. If you would like to join us in this effort, please email Katherine Solbert at kjsolbert@gmail.com. If you would like to donate funds to this effort, a check can be mailed to Restoration Fellowship (memo line “food pantry,” 264 Village Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

The hours of operation are: Monday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 4 to 6 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to noon.

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hear about the Fibonacci number sequence

By Joan Ward
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

On Sunday, June 4, at 10:30 a.m., please join the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in person or on Zoom to hear a presentation about the Fibonacci sequence.

From sciencefocus.com: “1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21... The Fibonacci

sequence. Every number in the sequence is generated by adding together the two previous numbers. So the next Fibonacci number is $13 + 21 = 34$. They are the simplest example of a recursive sequence where each number is generated by an equation in the previous numbers in the sequence.

■ See Unitarians on next page

Medicare

■ continued from previous page
dates and avoiding penalties.

- How Medicare works with other health insurance plans.

Medicare counselors from SJBAAA are certified by the Colorado State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and are not associated with any health insurance company.

Medicare can be confusing, but SHIP counselors are available to help you navigate the program with as much ease as possible. Attending a Medicare 101 class is a great way to start your journey and

meet your local SHIP counselors.

To register for the class, please leave a message and your contact information at (970) 264-0502, ext. 4. You can leave a message 24/7.

The Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library is located at 811 San Juan St.

If you can't attend the class but would like to meet with a Medicare counselor, call (970) 264-0505, ext. 4 to request an appointment. The SJBAAA Medicare office is located in the Pagosa Senior Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Counseling sessions are by appointment only.

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Sharing one's true self

I stood before my writers' group to challenge and awaken the gift in them. I asked them to think about their encounters with God, mull it over and understand what has passed between them and their God. Only they know.

Life has been thrown at them. Some things are too hard to share, so they hide them. I asked them, if they were ready to write, what they had gone through. Some are very protective of themselves and they're not ready to strip the veil off their writing.

Why is that? It's not so much sharing their words, but the fear of sharing themselves. Putting one's self out there, being seen and known, to be shot down and judged is horrifying. But how is truth seen if we're afraid to share it?

We have some who have shared themselves. One writer is a very shy lady. It takes overwhelming courage for her to stand in front of the group and read what she has written. Her writing takes our breath away. Her words are full of spirit and truth. She doesn't know how her gut-wrenching words strike us to our very core as she shakes in fear and reads her words.

I have reminded her many times how the world needs her words of truth. She has something powerful to say. Does she believe me? I don't think so.

We have another writer in our

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



Revelation light exposes, it corrects, and everything that reveals truth is light to the soul.

This is drastic, but I am stretching this principle to show an example of truth being exposed. When a hus-

■ See Lane on next page

group who is not afraid to share himself. I can hear his cry and pain as he reads his words. I don't believe he knows how he affects others with his writings.

We all come with our own baggage. A professional speaker and writer spoke recently to our group. She stripped off her veil and confessed she was hard on herself. She believed her own lies as she told herself she couldn't write and no one wanted to read what she wrote. After speaking, she'd beat herself up with doubt.

She had to deal with herself and get truthful to be successful. She said, "I wouldn't talk to my worst enemy the way I talk to myself. I had to fight to get out of my head and not believe my own lies."

I challenged the writers to remember when they were pierced in their heart to know the truth. John writes in his gospel, "Those who love the truth will come out into the light and welcome its exposure" (John 3:20,21 TPT). When something is brought into the light, it will not have power over them.

interdependent web of all existence.

For more information on the presentation and speaker, see our June newsletter at <https://pagosauu.org/newsletterpage>.

Join the Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305> or by calling (346) 248-7799. The meeting ID is 899 194 1305.

Services are on the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 a.m. Meditation is on the second and fourth Sundays at 9 a.m.

Depending on the current COVID recommendations, please be prepared to wear a well-fitting mask, if deemed necessary, while in the building. Social distancing will be encouraged and, to that end, the maximum capacity of the fellowship has been reduced to 25, a very good reason for arriving a few minutes early.

Our fellowship offers each individual support in their unique spiritual path and an opportunity to participate in positive social and environmental action. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community. Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the mountains.

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Bell Peppers

Bell Peppers (*Capsicum annuum*) are fruits that belong to the nightshade family. They are related to chili peppers, tomatoes, and breadfruit, all native to Central and South



America. While research studies have tended to focus on carotenoids as the hallmark antioxidant in bell peppers, this vegetable actually provides us with a very broad range of antioxidants, including capsanthin, violaxanthin, lutein, quercetin and luteolin. In terms of conventional nutrients, bell pepper is an excellent source of vitamin C at 117 milligrams per cup. (That's more than twice the amount of vitamin C found in a typical orange.) Bell pepper is also a good source of vitamins K1, E, A, folate and potassium. Other health benefits include improved eye health, reduced risk of anemia, and reduced risk of several chronic diseases, such as cancer and heart disease. Enjoy some fresh bell peppers in your salads today!

What Seventh-day Adventists Believe...

CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR (part 2): "We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with the principles of heaven...It also means because our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, we are to care for them intelligently. Along with adequate exercise and rest, we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean foods identified in Scriptures. Since alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and the irresponsible use of drugs and narcotics are harmful to our bodies, we are to abstain from them as well. Instead, we are to engage in whatever brings our thoughts and bodies into the discipline of Christ, who desires our wholesomeness, joy, and goodness."

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove which is good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12: 1.2

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Unitarians

■ continued from previous page

"Hidden inside this sequence is another important number in mathematics: the golden ratio. Denoted by the Greek letter phi, it is a number like pi that has an infinite decimal expansion with no patterns ... This is regarded by many artists as the perfect proportion for a canvas.

"Why are Fibonacci numbers so important? They are nature's favorite numbers. You find them all over the natural world. Count the number of petals on a flower and often it's a Fibonacci number. (If it isn't, that means a petal has fallen off your flower, which is how mathematicians get around exceptions).

"Cut open a fruit and often you'll find a star shape with a Fibonacci number of arms. A banana has a three-pointed star, an apple a five-pointed star, a persimmon an eight-pointed star. Count the cells on a pineapple and you'll find several Fibonacci numbers. The seeds in a sunflower also exploit Fibonacci numbers to pack efficiently."

Why are we discussing the Fibonacci sequence? It is to increase our understanding of our world, based on the Unitarian Universalist seventh principle: Respect for the

How to take pictures for plant identification

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Extension Viewpoints

One of the best ways to get an accurate plant identification is to ask a local expert. The preferred method is to bring a sample specimen, root and all, but sometimes that's not practical.

The second best option is to take pictures of the plant. These days, it's easy to whip out your phone and snap a quick picture, but in this case, let's slow down a bit.

To identify a plant, you need a good, clear picture of its constituent parts. A picture taken chest high of a grouping of plants that only grow to ankle height is going to be tricky to identify. There are plenty of plants that I can identify from a single leaf, bloom or maybe even a stem, but don't give me too much credit.

To take great photos for plant identification, you should take three pictures: a photo of the entire plant and its growth habit, a picture of the flower, and a close-up of the leaf. These features give plant experts the big and small picture (pun intended) of the specimen.

The growth habit, leaf features and flower are all used to identify plants when using a dichotomous key, which is what I will use if the plant is unfamiliar to me. A dichotomous key is a series of yes/no questions that eventually land you on the right species. Questions in a dichotomous key will look like: Does the plant grow erect? Does it sprawl across the ground? Are

the leaves lobed? Are the leaves serrate? But the key is littered with words like glabrous, stellate, peduncles, papillose and seven different words that mean hairy.

Back to the picture-taking. A lot of plants are green and when taking a photo in their natural setting, sometimes it is difficult to get a clear image of exactly what you need identified. Or, the wind is blowing so hard that your subject won't sit still for a minute and your camera will only focus on what's behind it. I have spent many long minutes in the field trying to photograph a swaying weed and, much to my dismay, every picture was blurry. In these cases, I recommend taking the picture of the entire plant in the field and bringing a bloom and a section of the stem inside the house and placing them on a piece of paper to take a picture. When collecting the stem, you want to find a good section that contains any branches and a handful of leaves. If the plant's branches are opposite of each other or alternating is another indicator of its identity, so you do not want to take a single branch.

There are plenty of plant identification apps that work pretty well, but, in my experience, its always

best to get a second opinion.

For these and other events, please check out our facebook page at Archuleta County Extension or call the office at 970-264-5931

Upcoming events

June 1 — Cottage Foods certification online.

Save the date for the viticulture workshop to be hosted at Fox Fire Farms on July 15.

The Archuleta County Fair is the first full weekend in August, Aug. 3 to Aug. 6. Go to www.ArchuletaCountyFair.com for more info. Volunteers are wanted.

For more on these and other events, please check out our Facebook page at Archuleta County Extension or call the office at (970) 264-5931.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month 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) 264-5931 to register.



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Lane

■ continued from previous page
band is having an affair, he'll hide it because he doesn't want to be found out. He doesn't want to give it up. He's not ready to confront himself or the sin. But when he is confronted, he has to make a decision. He'll either lie, leave or get right.

When the knowledge comes into the light, there is a decision to be made by the wife, also. The wife can believe his lies and deny it. Or she sees the truth, and truth demands an answer. If she accepts the truth of her husband's affair, she has to deal with it, see it for what it is, forgive him or walk away. That could mean tearing up the family, leaving his support and raising their children alone.

It is the same for writers. Life has been thrown at them. Negatives have been spoken to them, and they have believed the lies and have hidden their pain. They can choose to step out of their shadow to deal with whatever has plagued them or hide. It will come out in their writings. Readers know the difference if the writing is flat, dead or full of life.

I've doubted my ability, my words, and I've embarrassed myself at times. The self-preservation comes out in me and I have to fight against it. I've had to choose to step out of my own shadow, be vulnerable, so that I can walk in the truth of the light.

Final brushstroke: I desire to touch the depth of another's soul and make a difference. Only revealed light will bring truth. The morning I stood before the writers to fan the flame in them, I challenged them to open wide their hearts and be vulnerable, bring themselves open-faced to the reality of who they are. Invite others into their pain and share their true selves. Then their writing will make a difference.

Send your comment to bettyslade.author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

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Free all-ages special event Saturday with Forest Service rangers will launch Summer Reading Program

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

You are cordially invited to a free all-ages special Camp Out Read Out event on Saturday, June 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. as you join rangers from the Pagosa Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest to kick off the 2023 Summer Reading Program.

Enjoy reading, storytime, crafts, educational displays, hands-on activities, camping-skills demonstrations and more as we celebrate literacy and the great outdoors.

There will be multiple activities throughout the day for children, tweens/teens, adults and families. Come for an hour or stay for the day and enjoy reading in hammocks, making nature-inspired crafts such as building solar ovens to bake s'mores, and participating in interactive presentations such as how to set up a tent, make a bear bag, read a trail map and compass, or how to become a junior ranger.

Other activities will include a scavenger hunt through the library for prizes, educational displays, storytime and outdoor activities. Special guest Smokey Bear will visit from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for photos and to share some important fire safety information.

For more information and a full schedule of this special day, visit pagosalibrary.org.

Sign up for Summer Reading Program

Be sure to sign up in person or on the library's website at <https://pagosalibrary.org> for the free Summer Reading Program to enjoy special programs, storytimes, a reading club and much more from June 2 through July 28.

It is open to everyone with weekly prize drawings for completed bingo cards and will conclude with a fun celebratory party July 28. Pick up monthly events calendars at the library so you don't miss any of the free library activities available to you and your family this summer.

Local author

"Taming Wild Hearts" by Betty J. Slade is a novel about a woman on the run after witnessing a murder in San Francisco. She hitchhikes to a ranch in the heart of the Rocky Mountains and becomes involved in a rescue group working to save the curly sulphur mustang breed from extinction.

Slade is well-known in Pagosa for her impressive writing skills. She has written more than 600

Library News

columns titled "Artist's Lane" for The Pagosa Springs SUN. They showcase stories about her family and friends, and they pass along down-to-earth advice and lessons learned based on her Christian faith in a nonjudgmental way. She also has played a leadership role in the Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network since its creation in 2015.

Rhythm and rhymes tomorrow

Youngsters aged 1-5 are invited to a free music-based storytime with movement and singing tomorrow, Friday, June 2, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Tween/teen takeover tomorrow

Teens and tweens will want to join us tomorrow, Friday, June 2, for our free Teen and Tween Takeover of the library from 2 to 4 p.m. During that time, our conversational computers will be reserved only for users aged 9-19.

Board games tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, June 2, is our free Board Game Central from 4 to 6 p.m. If you love board games, we invite you to bring your favorite game or explore the library's collection.

Music fun

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. on Monday, June 5, for amateur musicians who want a safe, supportive, non-bar setting to play, sing or both with other people. Anyone under age 18 is welcome with a signed parental permission, available at your library. For program information, contact Susan at (970) 946-3396 (not the library).

■ See Library on next page

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				3		4	1	6
		6	4		5	2		9
							3	
			8			3	6	4
6		9	3	4				7
			7				8	1
4			1		3		5	8
				2	9		4	
	1	5	6		4	7		

Level: Beginner

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!

2	6	7	4	8	9	5	3	1
3	4	1	9	2	5	8	6	7
8	5	9	3	7	1	2	4	6
1	8	9	6	5	7	3	4	2
7	2	5	1	4	3	9	8	6
4	3	6	2	9	8	1	7	5
5	3	8	7	6	9	4	2	1
9	2	7	5	1	4	3	6	8
6	1	8	4	3	2	7	5	9

ANSWER:

Library

■ continued from previous page

New book club for kids

Our newest free book club — Junior Page Turners for elementary students in the third through fifth grades — happens next Tuesday, June 6, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Their book will be “An Elephant in the Garden” by Michael Morpurgo. Copies are available at your library. This book club is geared for kids reading at or above grade level.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, June 6, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Registration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org to join.

STEAM program

Camp Connect is a free STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) program for fifth- through eighth-graders next Wednesday, June 7, from noon to 2 p.m.. Registration is required.

Wacky Wednesdays for kids

Ages 6-11 are invited to get silly and play next Wednesday, June 7, and every Wednesday in June, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Writers support group

Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Ruby’s Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for opportunities, support, resources and camaraderie with other writers.

Online author talks

There will be three talks in June in our free online virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors with an opportunity to ask questions.

Wednesday, June 7, at 2 p.m. will feature “The Fun Habit: How the Pursuit of Joy and Wonder Can Change Your Life” by Mike Rucker, Ph.D.

Thursday, June 15, at noon will showcase “An American in Provence: Art, Life and Photography” by photographer Jamie Beck.

On Wednesday, June 28, at 6 p.m., you can interact with Tannarive Due, co-author of “Black Panther: Tales of Wakanda.”

Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join us for a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

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

Join Mark or Sally for free PALS sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets and also provide assistance in accessing any of the library’s online resources. No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions.

Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages. To access this free digital collection, 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. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

Books on CD

“Lassiter” by J.R. Ward is part of the Black Dagger Brotherhood urban fantasy series. “Simply” by David Baldacci is a psychological thriller. “Things I Wish I Told My Mother” by Susan Patterson and Susan DiLallo focuses on secrets from a mother-daughter trip to Paris. “Happy Place” by Emily Henry features a perfect couple since college on the verge of breaking up. “Where Are The Children Now?” by Mary Higgins Clark and Alafair Burke is a sequel to Clark’s first book that greatly influenced the psychological thriller genre. “The Only Survivors” by Megan Miranda follows nine survivors of a car accident who meet annually on the anniversary of the crash.

Large print

“The Soulmate” by Sally Hepworth centers on a man who saves potential suicides in a sleepy coastal town. “Texarkana” by Wil-

liam W. and J.A. Johnstone is a Perley Gates western.

Nonfiction

“The Making of Hong Kong” by Vaudine England explores the diverse peoples who have made this port city a multicultural world metropolis. “King: A Life” by Jonathan Eig is the first major biography in a decade of civil rights leader Martin Luther King. “When the Heavens Went on Sale” by Ashlee Vance looks at the private companies building a revolutionary new economy in space. “Calm Moments for Anxious Days” by Pastor Max Lucado offers a 90-day

■ See Library on next page

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Brand New Construction on Canyon Rim Lot

Enjoy beautiful canyon views from every porch and most windows in this beautiful energy efficient home! Thanks to the placement of this home on the canyon rim lot you will never have another neighbor build close to you, which makes for a nice private setting. Venture inside to find 10 foot ceilings, 8 foot doors throughout and the great room and kitchen have gorgeous beetle kill tongue and groove, vaulted ceilings and a wonderful open concept floor plan. Upgrades in the home include premium leathered granite counter tops through out, custom stained maple cabinetry, upgraded stainless steel appliance package to include a 36" range oven, free standing soaker tub, custom tiled showers, modern fixtures and an oversized 2 car garage that has an epoxy floor for great looks and easy clean up. The exterior of this home features low maintenance siding of stucco and rusty metal, an extra large 16x20 foot covered back porch with beetle kill tongue and groove ceiling that overlooks Martinez Canyon and the seasonal creek, and a lovely covered entry/front porch. Having both porches covered means less snow to shovel in the winter! This home sits on a cul-de-sac road that has National Forest access meaning very little vehicle traffic and easy access to many hiking/biking trails. This is truly a rare find!



MLS#803628 • \$799,000 • 3 bed • 2 ba • 1771 sq ft • 48 Caleta Place

Beautiful Energy Efficient Home

High efficiency home in desirable Twin Creek Village! This home’s exterior features low maintenance stucco and rusty metal, a concrete apron from the garage to the covered front porch, metal roof for easy snow shedding, gravel driveway and a large back deck that spans the entire length of the home. Professional landscaping & a custom built split rail fence with 3 access gates give this home wonderful curb appeal & a beautiful relaxing back yard that is safe for your furry family members! Venture inside this beautiful home to find an open concept floor plan, vaulted ceilings, natural solid knotty alder doors & trim throughout and a stacked rock natural gas log fireplace in the living room complete with a mounted flat screen TV! Granite counter tops are featured throughout the home & include a large kitchen island. This wonderfully functional kitchen features a stainless-steel appliance package with an oversized French door refrigerator, natural hickory cabinetry, glass tile backsplash & a lovely dining nook. The Primary Suite features a walk-in tile shower, double sink vanity, modern fixtures, mounted flat screen TV and an extra-large walk-in closet that offers plenty of storage space. Both guest rooms offer walk-in closets, and the guest bath features a tile shower and cast-iron tub. All bedrooms & great room have ceiling fans, however a great added bonus for this home is that it has Central A/C! You will not find this in many homes in Pagosa! Enjoy watching our local wildlife off your large back deck which has access from the great room and master bedroom. This lot backs up to greenbelt meaning there is ample space and privacy between neighbors to the back. There is a custom-built matching heated studio/shed in the back yard which makes it perfect for year-round use as a studio, workshop, or pet enclosure...you name it! The possibilities are endless. The home’s close proximity to National Forest access means you’ll find a plethora of hiking/biking trails to get you out into the great outdoors without being far from home and being a PLPOA member gives you fishing rights to all of the association’s stocked lakes. This home is being sold partially furnished and is immaculate and move in ready! If you’re looking for a beautiful, energy efficient home with low utility costs on a pretty lot in one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Pagosa, then this is the home for you!



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Pagosa Senior Center partners with Archuleta County MET for free rides

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

Older adults 60 and older are eligible for free transportation provided by Archuleta County's Mountain Express Transit (MET). Older adults can ride the MET Pagosa Springs route for free Monday through Friday. This route stops at the Pagosa Senior Center and Pagosa Springs Medical Center 10 times per day.

Disabled community members that live within 3/4 of a mile of this route but are unable to make it to a stop can qualify for free paratransit service. Paratransit service requires community members to book their ride 24 hours in advance. Community members must call the MET at (970) 264-2250 by 3 p.m. the day before Monday through Friday to reserve their ride.

Additionally, the MET offers discounted dial-a-ride service to eligible seniors for \$4 per stop within town limits or \$8 outside town limits.

Spanish Fiesta planning session June 2

The Senior Center invites community members of all ages and backgrounds to rekindle the Span-

Senior News

ish Fiestas of the past that honor the culture and diversity of the Archuleta and Pagosa Springs community.

On Friday June 2, at 10 a.m., community members interested in helping revive and honor the heritage of Pagosa Country with an emphasis on Hispanic and Indigenous are asked to meet at the dining hall in the Senior Center, located within the Ross Aragon Community Center. We are a group of folks trying to revive a custom that used to celebrate our local heritage and promote scholarship in our local youth. This includes many of Archuleta County's founding families.

The group is planning a headliner concert featuring the music of the godson of New Mexico music, Al Hurricane Jr., and his band, along with local talent Los Mitotitos at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds during the afternoon and evening of July 29.

During these initial meetings, we will discuss ideas to celebrate Hispanic and Indigenous heritage in conjunction with the musical event planned for this summer. Funds raised during this event will be used to support the intergenerational mission of Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and a future scholarship fund for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and youth of color) youth of Archuleta County.

All community members are welcome to attend. For more information, contact rosa@psseniors.org.

Senior Conversations

Join us Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. for a series of Senior Conversations with local Bill Salmansohn. He will lead the group through mindfulness exercises and discussion of various topics pertaining to aging in Archuleta County. Explore and discover for yourself answers to your questions and concerns.

The meeting will be held at the Senior Center in the dining hall. Snacks will be provided.

Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking Club

The Pagosa Springs Scrapbooking Club holds monthly meetings

■ See Senior on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page
devotional journey.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"Before We Were Innocent" by Ella Berman follows two teen best friends' lives after their friend dies on their summer trip to Greece. "Fire with Fire" by Candice Fox describes an ultimatum after a young woman's mysterious disappearance.

Other novels

"Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano, an Oprah book club selection, tells of a tragedy from the hero's past that jeopardizes his and three sisters' relationships. "Where Coyotes Howl" by Sandra Dallas is a romance set in rural Wyoming. "The Long March Home" by Marcus Brotherton and Tosca Lee follows three friends subjected to the horrors of the Bataan Death March in World War II. "The Unbreakable Heart of Oliva Denaro" by Viola Ardone is based on a true story of a strong young woman spurning a forced marriage in Sicily. "The Book That Wouldn't Burn" by Mark Lawrence is the first book in a new fantasy series. "Close to Home" by Michael McGee is a portrait of working class Ireland during The Troubles. "The Garnett Girls" by

Georgina Moore, set on a beautiful beach, asks if children can ever be free of mistakes their parents made.

Donations

We are grateful to Linda Lutomski Connor for materials donations. 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 from 2018 or newer. Limited workroom space means we can only accept one or two small boxes at a time.

Quotable quote

"We need your voice to speak for knowledge, for justice and for truth. Sometimes we just need your reasoning born of learning, your sober thinking and real experiences that elevate our problem solving. And not everything requires an instant immediate response. Take a chance. Learn to pause, to be silent. To pick your moment based on knowledge and full understanding. Foster an informed debate." — Lester Holt, award-winning anchor of "NBC Nightly News," in a commencement speech to the Villanova University graduating

class of 2023 on May 19.

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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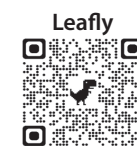
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PARAMOUNT
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Senior

■ continued from previous page

the second Saturday of each month at the Senior Center.

It meets each month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to be creative, share ideas, connect with friends, learn new techniques, share supplies and indulge in a potluck lunch together.

Bring your scrapbooking projects — or any crafting project that you may want to work on with the group. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive notifications each month of the upcoming meeting along with handy tips and tricks for scrapbooking, please send your request to copenhagencreative@gmail.com.

Share lunch Monday through Thursday

Join us at the Silver Fox's Den, aka the Community Cafe, in person for daily hot/cold meals Mondays through Thursdays downtown at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is open to all. Pickup is available all week, including Fridays.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$10, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage. Some popular menu items include Frito chili pie, pork tenderloin with harvest chutney, Singaporean pork ribs, vegetarian lasagna, Hawaiian shrimp with coconut rice and always a beautiful green salad. Many of our items are locally sourced and organic.

Our chef works with a team of local food professionals to hand-prepare your meal for dine-in service in our cozy dining room (with an amazing view of the San Juans) or for takeout (via our convenient drive-through). Our menu changes daily.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. weekdays.

We provide a welcoming gathering space that serves as a community hub where nutritious food and other resources/supports are available to help older adults and their caretakers stay independent, active, engaged in our community and living in their homes. Weekly educational and social activities include our healthy aging and yoga therapy class, Mahjong and more.

Check out our senior discount card for local discounts and perks at <http://www.psseniors.org/discount-club.html>.

Community Cafe menu

Thursday, June 1 — Baked cod with broccoli hollandaise, salad, fresh fruit and milk.

Friday, June 2 — Sliced ham with cherry sauce, scalloped potatoes, salad, fruit, dinner roll and milk.

Monday, June 4 — French dip sandwich with au jus on hoagie roll, sweet potato fries, garden salad, fruit, chocolate cake and milk.

Tuesday, June 5 — Butternut squash ravioli casserole, wilted spinach and red onion, garden salad, fruit, banana bread and milk.

Wednesday, June 6 — Green chile chicken, pinto beans, cornbread, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, June 7 — Cajun shrimp with cheesy grits, zucchini and squash saute, garden salad, fruit, blueberry streusel muffins and milk.

Friday, June 8 — Turkey tetrazzini, green beans, dinner roll, 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 also. 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.

Mobile food pantry service discontinued

The Mobile Food Pantry Service has been discontinued due to funding shortages. Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the Archuleta County MET to schedule a ride with their paratransit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone

number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

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 who needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

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.

■ See Senior on next page



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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 brown-headed cowbird.

Some bird groups increase their reproductive success by adhering to the adage of not putting all your eggs in one basket. This is common practice among many waterfowl species which regularly sneak some eggs into each other's nests. Cowbirds take this behavior one step further by being obligate brood parasites who never build nests, instead depositing all their eggs in the nests of other species.

When bison herds roamed the great plains, brown-headed cowbirds followed to eat the insects that they flushed. It is unknown if the unusual reproductive strategy of the cowbird was a result of, or predated and allowed, these nomadic movements.

More than 220 species of birds have been found serving as hosts to cowbird eggs. Typically, cowbird eggs hatch sooner, and the nestlings develop faster than those of the host bird. Eggs and young of the host may not survive their aggressive nestmate. Some bird species recognize cowbird eggs in their nests and destroy them, but most end up raising these strange-looking young as their own. It is not unusual to find a small mother bird dwarfed by the cowbird fledgling it feeds.

Female cowbirds may lay up to 40 eggs in as many different nests over a two-month reproductive season, but on average only 3 percent of these produce a bird that survives to adulthood. Females locate host nests by watching for nest-building activity by other birds and sneaking in to lay an egg when the resident bird is away. A female may return to host nests many times to check on the status of her eggs and young.

Brown-headed cowbirds mainly eat the seeds of grasses and weeds. If you scatter seed for ground feeders in your yard, expect to find brown-headed cowbirds there in summer. They are small members of the blackbird family, males glossy black with brown heads and females colored a plain, dusty brown.

Although they are often vilified and have caused population declines in some host species, brown-headed cowbirds are fascinating members of our birds of summer.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

Senior

■ continued from previous page Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:15 p.m.

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.

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Thursdays at 1:15 at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached — some two to

three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

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.

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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, June 1

Ruby Writer's Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writer's Guild will welcome writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring all your device chargers. We provide 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.

19th Hole Concerts Presents Bo DePen. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. A community event that showcases an Archuleta County nonprofit and a local music talent. The cover charge is a \$10 donation. The featured nonprofit will be the Veterans Memorial Park.

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.

San Juan Stargazers. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. There will be a social hour at 6 p.m. with coffee/tea and treats. From 7 to 8:30 p.m., the program will be on dwarf planets.

Friday, June 2

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Rhythm and Rhymes. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For ages 1-5. A music-based storytime with movement and singing. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Spanish Fiesta Planning Session. 10 a.m., Senior Center. Community members of all ages and backgrounds with an interest in rekindling the Spanish Fiesta are invited.

Tween and Teen Takeover. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Conversational

computers will be reserved for users aged 9-19. Come play. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Board Game Central. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn to play a new board game or bring your own to share with others. Families are welcome. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

'The Great American Trailer Park Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, June 3

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 8 a.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join naturalist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Pagosa Springs High School Graduation. 9 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium.

Camp Out/Read Out. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. People of all ages are welcome at Camp Out/Read Out to kick off the Summer Reading Program. Come stay for an hour or stay for the whole day and enjoy reading in our hammocks and tents. Activities will include crafts, educational display tables, mini talks related to the outdoors, puppet storytime and a chance to meet Smokey Bear (from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.). There will be snacks, including the opportunity to make a small solar oven to bake s'mores outdoors. Visit pagosalibrary.org for a detailed schedule and more information.

Life at Chimney Rock Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. No reservations and no fees required — just come and enjoy. For more information, see the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call (970) 731-7133.

San Juan Mountain School Graduation. 1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

'The Great American Trailer Park Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Sunday, June 4

Plant Walk. 9:30-11:15 a.m., Turkey Springs Trail System Gate No. 3 on Fremont Court. There is a 15-person maximum on each walk. Please call Lake McCullough to reserve a space at (970) 398-0923.

Life at Chimney Rock Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. No reservations and no fees required — just come and enjoy. For more information, see the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call (970) 731-7133.

Plant Walk. 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Turkey Springs Trail System Gate No. 3 on Fremont Court. There is a 15-person maximum on each walk. Please call Lake McCullough to reserve a space at (970) 398-0923.

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, June 5

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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Service to the community

Photos courtesy Wolf Creek Wonders 4-H Club

The Wolf Creek Wonders 4-H club picked up trash in Town Park and along the river on May 12, one of the many acts of service the club performs.

A CUSTOM TREE



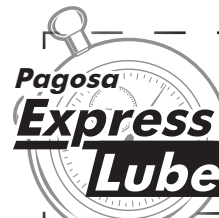
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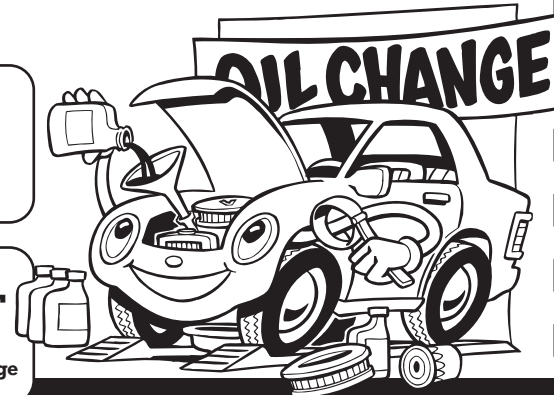


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Help support our TNR program today!
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Line Dancing. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., advanced group at 10:15 a.m. If you have not attended before, please call Beverly at (970) 264-2064 for more information.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Inviting musicians of all levels and abilities to jam and sing with others. Call Susan at (970) 946-3396 for details.

Tuesday, June 6

Centerpoint Church Vacation Bible School. 9-11 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. For ages 4 years to fourth grade. Preregister at www.centerpointpagosa.com.

Pickleball. 1:30-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo

Trail Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. We welcome your participation in fundraisers to benefit fellow vets. You served once, join us in continuing that service. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10
■ See Calendar on next page

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

a.m.-noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. Open to all.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring all your device chargers. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Junior Page Turners. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. For those in 3rd-5th grade. Discover the joy of reading a book and discussing it with others. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Duplicate Bridge. 12:30 p.m., PLPOA clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Duplicate players new and experienced are welcome. We are now members of the Durango Bridge Club and play ACBL-sanctioned games with computer-dealt hands for maximum review options. Please email names of playing pair to pagosaduplicate@gmail.com or call (970) 946-6454 for more information.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Registration is required. 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.

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.

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 7 p.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join naturalist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Wednesday, June 7

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Pickleball. 8:30-10:30 a.m., Community Center. Free beginner lessons. Reserve at www.pagosapickleball.org.

Centerpoint Church Vacation Bible School. 9-11 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. For ages 4 years to fourth grade. Preregister at www.centerpointpagosa.com.

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. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Camp Connect. Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. A S.T.E.A.M (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) program for 5th-8th graders. Registration is required.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Author Talk: 'The Fun Habit' by Mike Rucker, Ph.D. 2 p.m., virtual. Listen live or recorded. For details, go to <https://library.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

Wacky Wednesdays. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Let's get silly and play. Each week will be a different activity. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Thursday, June 8

Ruby Writer's Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writer's Guild will welcome writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Centerpoint Church Vacation Bible School. 9-11 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. For ages 4 years to fourth grade. Preregister at www.centerpointpagosa.com.

Summer Reading Club. 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Explore the summer reading theme "All Together Now" through engaging activities, stories and crafts.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring all your device chargers. We provide 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.

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.

19th Hole Concerts Presents Jackson Mountain Ramblers. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. A community event that showcases an Archuleta County nonprofit and a local music talent. The cover charge is a \$10 donation. The featured nonprofit will be the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society.

Friday, June 9

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Mini Monets. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For ages 1-5. This program uses art, sometimes messy, to build early literacy skills. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Tween/Teen Makers. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice weaving and felting. No experience required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m., Sisson

■ See Calendar on next page

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Farmington, a town in need of a jolt

By **Dave Marston**
PREVIEW Columnist

The good news these days about Farmington, N.M., is that the air looks clear. That's a huge change.

For 60 years, the air was dingy, polluted by two enormous coal-fired power stations in nine units that produced 3,723 megawatts

Opinion: Writers on the Range

of generation — enough to power 2 million homes. Now, just 1,540 megawatts remain in two units equipped with modern air-pollution control systems.

Starting in the 1960s, the town's giant smokestacks could be seen from miles away, and their dangerous emissions helped add the designation of "national sacrifice zone" to this Four Corners area.

Pollutants included "beryllium compounds, chromium compounds, cobalt, and five other carcinogens," reports ProPublica.

But, these days you might describe Farmington, population 46,422, as an attractive river town where "you can see mountains 100 miles away," said Mike Eisenfeld, energy and climate program manager of the San Juan Citizens Alliance, a regional environmental powerhouse with 1,000 members.

Farmington is becoming known for its recreation, ranging from na-

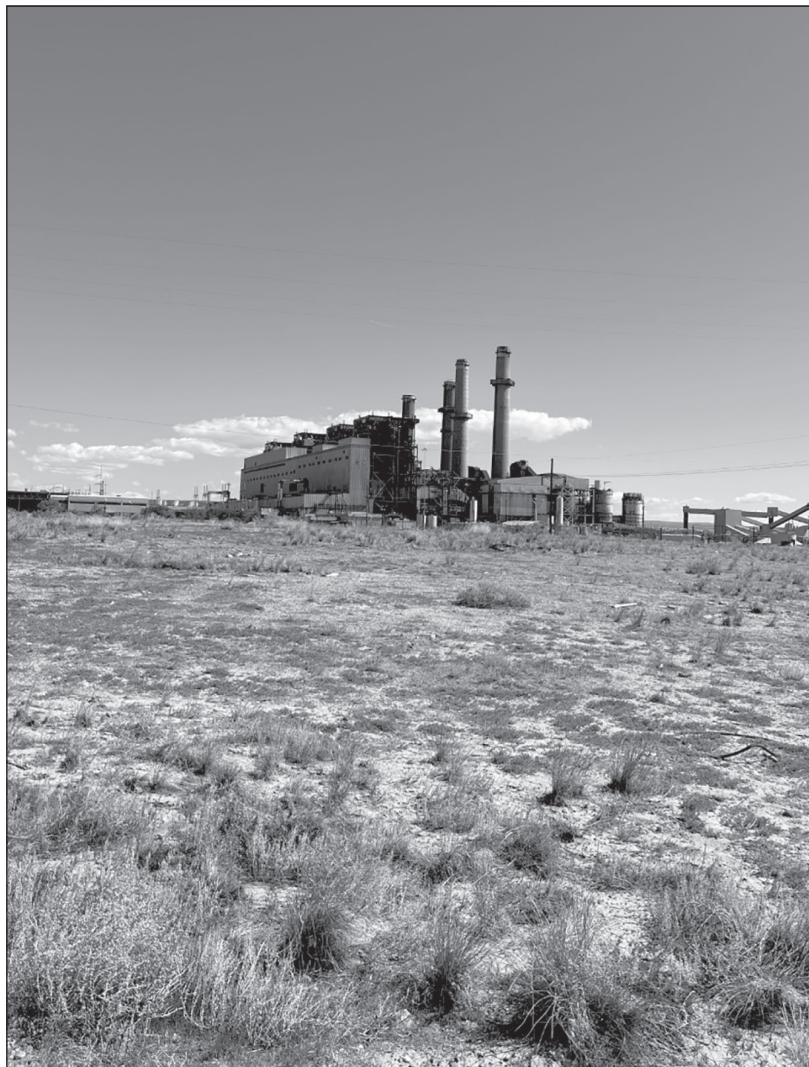


Photo courtesy Mike Eisenfeld

The San Juan Generating Station near Waterflow, N.M.

tional parks and monuments to 8 miles of river walks and mountain biking on 120 miles of trails.

"Jolt Your Journey!" is how the town promotes itself to visitors.

A cultural battle, though, is being fought over what substitutes for coal as a power supply.

Given the town's near-constant

■ **See Range on next page**

Preview Calendar

continued from previous page

Library. Meet with a volunteer civil attorney via Zoom at the library. Contact (970) 264-2209 or ruby@pagosalibrary.org. Registration opens on the first day of each month. Space is limited.

Summer S.T.E.A.M. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Solve engineering challenges and science experiments. Activities available for multiple age groups. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Springs Car Show. 5 p.m., Lewis Street. Cars and motorcycles will be on display. There will also be live music and more.

'The Great American Trailer Park Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, June 10

Riverwalk Naturalist Tours. 8 a.m., Native Plants Garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park. Join natu-

ralist guides on a tour of discovery through the Riverwalk wetlands conservation area. Tours are free and last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The 1.5-mile paved trail is wheelchair accessible. Please bring water, sunglasses, a hat and your curiosity. Cameras and binoculars optional. Pets should be left at home. No reservations are needed. This program is sponsored by the Weminuche Audubon Society, Pagosa Wetland Partners and The Springs Resort. For more information, email pagosawetlands@gmail.com.

Pagosa Springs Car Show. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Lewis Street. Cars and motorcycles will be on display. There will also be live music and more. Awards will be given out at 2:30 p.m.

Chess Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to play chess with quick lessons and game time. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6 and up. Bring your

own or use our LEGOs to build.

Knitters Circle. 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For new or experienced knitters. Get help with your project or sit and knit.

Global Wellness Day. 5-7 p.m., The Springs Resort. A free dance event and gratitude ceremony at the Mother Spring.

'The Great American Trailer Park Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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United States flag facts and handling etiquette

Special to The PREVIEW

The United States flag was first imagined after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The Continental Congress authorized creation of the first national flag on June 14, 1777. It was decided that the flag should have 13 stripes, alternating red and white, to represent the original 13 colonies, and that the new union be represented by 13 white stars in a blue field to signify a “new constellation.” Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is most often credited with the original design.

Today there are 50 stars on the flag to represent the 50 states, while the 13 stripes still represent the 13 British colonies that became the first states. While this may be common knowledge, Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, may not be as widely known. The code dictates that the flag is to be treated with respect and proper etiquette.

The code is extensive, but the fol-

lowing guidelines can help private individuals interested in displaying their flags do so in accordance with the law:

- Flags should only be displayed in public from sunrise to sunset, unless the flag can be properly illuminated during darkness. In this instance, it may be displayed at all times.

- When displayed with other flags, such as on a single staff or lanyard, the U.S. flag should be above all other flags. If flags are displayed in a row, the U.S. flag goes to the observer’s left.

- State and local flags are traditionally flown lower than the American flag.

- During marching ceremonies or parades with other flags, the U.S. flag should be to the observer’s left.

- The flag should be displayed at every public institution and at schools during school days.

- When displayed vertically and not on a staff, the union should be on the left when observed. It should be suspended so its folds fall freely as

though the flag were staffed.

- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

- The flag is often displayed at half-staff on days of mourning, including Memorial Day. The flag should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to half-staff position, which is half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.

- On a vehicle, the U.S. flag should be displayed from a staff firmly fixed to the chassis. It should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle.

- The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise. It also should never have anything placed on it.

- A flag in poor condition should be destroyed with dignity, preferably by burning. Most American Legion posts and local Boy Scouts troops will have the resources to retire flags accordingly. Many will host annual flag retirement ceremonies on Flag Day.

Range

■ continued from previous page
sunshine and underused grid ties in to Sunbelt cities, solar-powered electricity might seem the obvious replacement. However, the people with clout in town — Mayor Nate Duckett, City Manager Rob Mayes and the nonprofit Farmington Electrical Utility — yearn for the good old days of fossil fuels.

Power from the now-closed San Juan Generating Station was cheap, said Duckett, who enjoys broad local support, having won his seat with 86 percent of the vote in his last election in 2018.

“It was also homegrown,” he added, “and there were good jobs.”

To keep its coal plant open, Farmington chased a carbon-capture scheme even though its history is one of failure. All 11 of President Barack Obama’s carbon capture projects have either gone belly up or were never built. A Mississippi coal project alone cost \$7.5 billion, leaving only mountains of scrap.

Farmington’s failed carbon-capture scheme cost millions of dollars in legal fees and precious time. Without power-purchase contracts, Farmington Electric had no steady electrical supplier when its coal-fired electricity was switched off. The utility burned through a good portion of \$100 million in reserves buying gas and electricity on the open market.

To rebuild a financial cushion, the Farmington utility raised customer rates in April. This angered many residents, though resentment had been simmering for years. Everyone knew that coal was nearing its end, yet no plans had been made for developing a major replacement.

Aztec, a town of 6,163, was once a

customer of the Farmington utility, but it rebelled, now buying carbon-free electricity from Guzman Energy. Neighboring Bloomfield, population 7,371, says it also wants to partner with Guzman. Meanwhile, solar development has been flourishing around Farmington, with 1,300 megawatts of utility-scale generation either planned or under construction.

Farmington could easily get into the action since it can self-permit. It also owns those valuable grid tie-ins through its substations. In fairness, it has vague plans for a solar array, but an inefficient, gas-powered plant is what’s in the process of getting built to augment a big gas plant they already own.

Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, which gave a boost to nonprofit utilities like Farmington Electric, there’s federal money available to help build solar arrays. The act allows a utility to build and sell renewable electricity while also raking in generous government incentives. Farmington’s need is pressing, as both New Mexico and the region aren’t producing enough home-grown energy.

All of the financial support right now for developing solar power adds to the frustration of area conservationists.

Mark Pearson, executive director of the San Juan Citizens Alliance, said, “Farmington ... wants to export chemicals manufactured from natural gas in the region. But they have the means to export a finished product — electricity made from the sun — via high-voltage electric lines.”

The Alliance’s Eisenfeld thinks a tipping point is fast approaching.

“You need the philosophical buy-in that the transition from coal to clean energy is actually upon us,” he said. “Then it all happens quickly.”

But for now, the good ole’ boys are still in charge.

Dave Marston is the publisher of Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He lives in Durango, Colo. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.



Debra Zenz

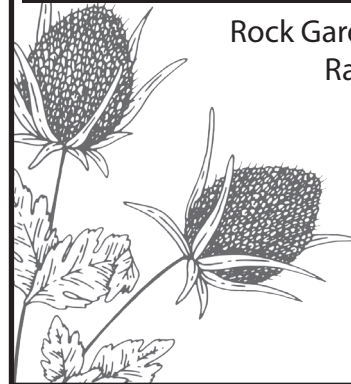
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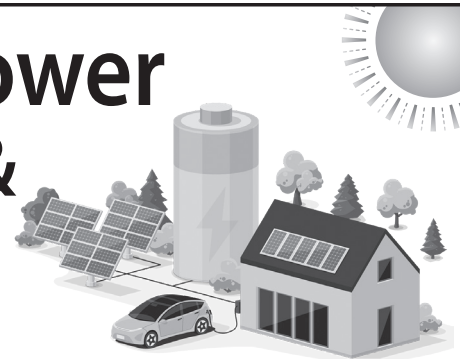
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‘Dad, would it bother you if I became a plumber?’

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Our daughter, Clarissa, called me. “Dad, would it bother you if I became a plumber?”

“Why would that bother me?” I asked.

“Well, I thought it might after all those years of education if I just set it aside to do something else.”

I laughed. “Have I ever told you the story of the plumber and the doctor?” She said I hadn’t, so I shared it.

We had a fun conversation, and when I hung up, I thought about her. To be honest, it didn’t surprise me that she made this move.

“There was a doctor that was building a new house. A plumber came and did all the plumbing work. When he finished, he handed the doctor the bill. The doctor gasped. ‘You’ve got to be kidding! I’m a surgeon, and I don’t even make these kind of wages.’ The plumber nodded. ‘I know what you mean. I didn’t when I was a surgeon either.’”

Clarissa laughed. “That’s a good one.”

“I really don’t care what you do, as long as it is honorable and you work to be the best you can.”

“But don’t you feel all of my education will be wasted?” she asked.

“Education is never wasted,” I said. “Learning is always beneficial in its own right. And I have found from personal experience that often even the smallest thing I learn comes back to benefit my life in simple, but powerful, ways.”

We had a fun conversation, and when I hung up, I thought about her. To be honest, it didn’t surprise me that she made this move. Of all our children, she was probably the one that loved outdoor, physical kind of work the most. She had

from the time she was small.

When she was 4 years old, I was adding on to our house. She was our eighth child, and with some added foster children we took in, the house seemed rather small. We received bids on the cost for contractors to do the addition, but none were in a price range we could afford. So, we decided that if we were going to do it, I would have to build it myself.

In the winter, I worked during the week and got home after dark. So, it was almost impossible to get anything done then. But on Saturdays, I got up early, grabbed a little breakfast and headed out to build. The first thing I had to do was shovel the snow out so I had room to work

The minute Clarissa saw me getting ready to build, she would go get her snowsuit. Usually, at that age, she ended up getting it all mixed up, backward and upside down. I would leave it to her mother to get her untangled and warmly dressed. Then Clarissa would come out to “help” me.

Of course, at that age, the word “help” is taken loosely, but if it wasn’t something dangerous, I would put nails or something in her mittened hands to hold for me until I needed them. If I was doing something dangerous, like lifting a wall I built, I insisted she sit over on the steps safely out of the way. To have something to do while sitting there, she made up knock-knock jokes to tell me. I think my sanity level dropped a few notches that winter. If you have heard knock-knock jokes made up by a 4-year-old, you understand what I mean.

But I did enjoy her company. When she looked like she was getting cold, I’d send her in to get warm, but it wasn’t long before she would return.

Since the day of the phone call, she has become a good plumber. Now and then, she will send us pictures of herself up to her knees in mud, working on a broken water pipe or something similar. She is smiling as she works at getting it fixed.

And indeed, I am not the least bit surprised.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Skip, as school
- 6 Song and dance, e.g.
- 10 Chrome alternative
- 14 Take back
- 15 Wedding wear
- 16 Crude wooden cross
- 17 Say "Boo!" to
- 18 Guessed roughly
- 20 Royal seat
- 22 Woven wall art
- 23 Substance in red wine
- 25 Golf gadget
- 26 Apple discard
- 29 Football's Marino
- 30 Dillydally
- 33 Pop the cork
- 34 Group of geese
- 36 Fall behind
- 37 Chopper to the ER
- 39 Doing injury to
- 41 Historic time
- 42 Put to work
- 44 ___ in a blue moon
- 45 "Bonanza" prop
- 47 Sixth sense, briefly
- 48 Robert of "The Brady Bunch"
- 49 Flo and Vera's boss
- 50 Like some fingerprints
- 52 Incentive
- 55 Head, slangily
- 59 Burning desire?
- 61 Taco or tomato
- 62 Persia, today
- 63 Astronaut drink
- 64 Shore bird
- 65 Harriet's hubby on "Little House on the Prairie"
- 66 Conclusion starter
- 67 Children's doctor?

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18				19				
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59								60			61			
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

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DOWN

- 1 Attic accumulation
- 2 Rainfall measure
- 3 Russian emperor
- 4 Vitamin A source
- 5 Four-legged laughter
- 6 Road map abbr.
- 7 Taking a break
- 8 Nashville NFLer
- 9 Lose traction
- 10 Wiped the slate clean
- 11 Place to sign
- 12 Active one
- 13 Swirling current
- 19 Forte
- 21 2019 film, "Avengers: _____"
- 24 Org. co-founded by Ida B. Wells
- 26 Word with clean or unglued
- 27 Music drama
- 28 Type of butterfly

- 30 Kiddie corral
- 31 Medieval weapon
- 32 Urged (with "on")
- 35 Pac-Man enemy
- 38 Parchment paper
- 40 Home loan
- 43 Alternative to buying
- 46 Exorcism targets

- 50 Like some eclipses
- 51 Plastic surgeon's subjects
- 52 Quick drive
- 53 Radial on a Rolls
- 54 Overdue
- 56 All-knowing one
- 57 Covers a cake
- 58 New Jersey five
- 60 Long ___

Answers to Previous Crossword:

D	C	C	C		S	L	E	P	T		P	A	T	S		
E	U	R	O		T	I	A	R	A		O	B	I	T		
E	B	A	Y		A	S	S	I	M	I	L	A	T	E		
D	E	S	P	E	R	A	T	E		N	I	C	H	E		
		H	U	G					S	M	A	C	K	E	D	
A	C	T			G	E	M	S	T	O	N	E				
C	H	E	S	S	S	E	T		D	E	C	E	I	T		
M	A	S	T		T	W	I	C	E		A	P	S	E		
E	N	T	R	E	E		N	O	S	T	R	I	L	S		
					E	L	E	V	E	N	T	H		S	A	S
C	E	N	T	I	M	E					A	R	C			
R	E	A	C	T		S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	S		
O	R	C	H	E	S	T	R	A	S			S	P	O	T	
S	I	R	E			I	R	A	T	E			E	A	S	E
S	E	E	S			T	Y	L	E	R			S	L	E	W

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 G R V R B I V R A D I S H E S P O O A M
 H L A I H V P D S R M Y S D L O V P T A
 I B O C U K E E P L P E Y G U A U S P T
 L N I P U O P T D E V Y E Y V C K M K O
 V O A P G P P N P I V C H C A N I P S E
 L I C V K M E R L E U M C L V D M B I S
 M L N N O P R O Y T C H T T H N C U I M A
 L S R E Y C S G T O I V E E D N T C H A
 V P G H G O A E S C H P U M S L H C L A
 T R N N V A L D K Y O I S E K O C T N E
 N O D H O P R P O O U D I R G R C S P E
 P U I C R T E O P G E R P E O L C T C Y
 B T M S T A I B B E R N Y U T T C B E M
 O S O L D H G D S E M C T S T U N N L T
 N G S E L P P A B V V O L E E D L U E O
 R C R E H O I O C P N M O A E S H E R A
 E U C H I C K E N S K C O T A M O T Y I

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- APPLES
- ARUGULA
- AVOCADO
- BEANS
- BEETS
- BERRIES
- CELERY
- CHICKEN
- CHICKPEA
- CROUTONS
- KALE
- LETTUCE
- NUTS
- OIL
- OLIVES
- ONION
- PEPPERS
- RADISHES
- SEEDS
- SPINACH
- SPROUTS
- TOMATO
- VINEGAR

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Old bones can be a small town's movie stars

By Adam Larson
PREVIEW Columnist

The prehistoric past can perk up the present. When woolly mammoth bones were found in my hometown in Wisconsin years ago, they became the centerpiece of one of our local museums. Today, they continue to attract visitors and serve as one of

Opinion: Writers on the Range

the city's informal symbols.

Unfortunately, the story across much of the fossil-rich West is more abandonment than local fame. During the late 19th century, paleontologists made huge finds in the region, excavating specimens of famed dinosaurs like triceratops, stegosaurus, diplodocus and allosaurus.

But like many would-be movie stars, the bones ended up leaving their rural sites to find fame in the big cities. Left behind were holes — literally, in the case of the dinos.

It took time for the West to stake its claim to keeping some fossil finds at home. Countless fossils, for example, have been exhumed in Wyoming since the late 19th century, but the University of Wyoming Geological Museum in Laramie didn't have a single mount of a Wyoming dinosaur until 1961.

One reason was money. Even today, a town might be located right next to spectacular fossil sites, but limited municipal budgets can make it hard to keep the lights on in a museum. Funding for the collection, curation and study of fossils doesn't always match up with areas containing many fossils.

Yet everyone benefits when at least some fossil finds stay put. In many cases, they are discovered not by paleontologists, but by ordinary citizens. In 2006, oil workers in Wyoming happened upon giant white bones, recognized their importance and called in experts. The



Photo courtesy National Parks Service

Allosaurus jimmadseni.

bones were part of an enormous, 11,600-year-old Columbian mammoth.

Thankfully, that mammoth is now on public display at the Tate Geological Museum in Casper, Wyo. The landowners whose property contained the mammoth bones thoughtfully chose to donate them.

Once in local museums, fossil displays give people in the area examples of the bones they might come across, and a place for them to contact if they find something unusual. When locally found fossils stay local, they also connect people to their prehistoric heritage and encourage them to donate discoveries to local museums.

But there's more: Fossils help the local economy by attracting visitors. Once local museums start drawing a crowd, they can help pay for themselves while also indirectly contributing to schools and roads. According to the national group Americans for the Arts, tourism from museums and other cultural nonprofits generates \$5 in tax revenue for each dollar they receive in government funding.

Thankfully, a lot has changed since the first fossil hunters descended upon the West in search of prehistoric dinosaurs, mammals and more. Fossil fans in the West no longer have to travel hundreds or thousands of miles to see incredible discoveries made in their

home states.

For example, in Ekalaka, Mont., population 399, the Carter County Museum hosts the annual Dino Shindig that attracts paleontologists from across the country and hundreds of other visitors.

As Carter County Museum director Sabre Moore told the documentary series "Prehistoric Road Trip," the Shindig shares groundbreaking science and includes the landown-

ers who made the discoveries possible.

At the Wyoming Dinosaur Center in Thermopolis, population 2,725, visitors can see fossils of dinosaurs large and small, tour active dig sites and even take part in the digs themselves.

"I like that we're a destination for folks coming to Thermopolis," said Levi Shinkle, collections manager at the Wyoming Dinosaur Center and a Thermopolis native.

"We're a small museum," he added, "but we're often in the same conversations as the large museums in urban centers."

In North Dakota, the North Dakota State Fossil Collection is on a quest, in the words of founder John Hoganson, to put "a fossil exhibit in every town."

The program has helped put up more than two dozen paleontology and geology exhibits across the state, from Pembina, population 512, to Lidgerwood, population 600, to Bowman, population 1,470.

Sharing a home where the dinosaurs once roamed definitely adds to local pride. When the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Mont.,

obtained a second large tyrannosaurus rex, they put the second one up on display in the museum as "Montana's T. rex," and they loaned the other to the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., where it's now known as the "Nation's T. rex."

Sharing the riches of the West's past — right here in the West — enriches everyone.

Adam Larson is a contributor to *Writers on the Range*, writersontherange.org, an independent nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is a former editor of the Wyoming Dinosaur Center's newsletter. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of *The SUN*.

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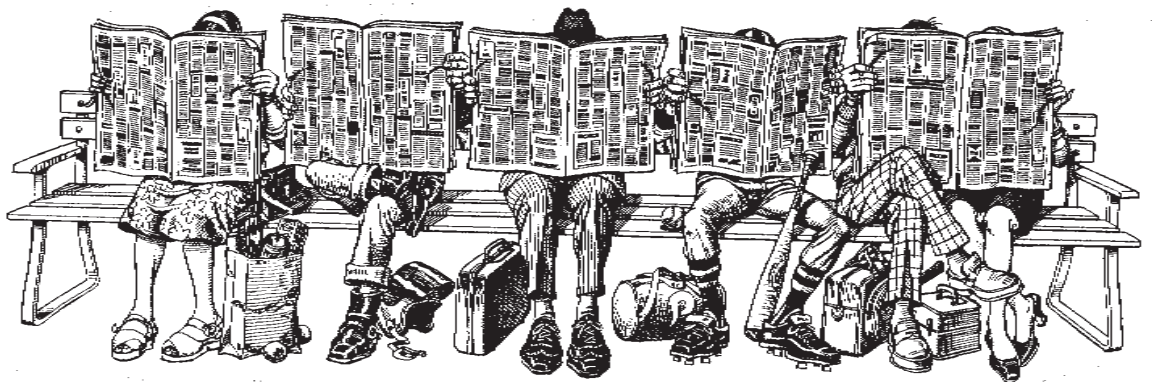
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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WALK

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Scene ... bringing awareness during Youth Rise's annual Mental Health Awareness Walk around downtown Pagosa Springs on May 20. The annual walk brings attention to the idea that it's OK to not be OK, and it's OK to talk about mental health. Rain didn't dampen the event, which featured the walk, informational booths and speakers.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. at the Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Questions? Contact Richard at (970)903-1456 or Diamond at (970)264-1073. More resources at www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30P.M.; Sunday 10a.m., Tuesday and Thursday at noon, Saturday at 10a.m.. Zoom Sunday 10a.m., ID 858 319 763, password 754 234, 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Information, call Kathi (970)946-1482, or Central Office (888)333-9649.

FREE ISRAELI FOLKDANCE CLASS at Ross Aragon Community Center every Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. Ages 13 and up. Come in comfortable clothes. No experience necessary. Call Kim at (970)946-7285 or Jasmine at (276)730-4408.

CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER'S DRINKING? Pagosa Springs Al-Anon Family Group, Tuesdays 6-7p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. Questions? Call/text (303)815-8569. www.al-anon.org.

IF YOU'VE WANTED TO LEARN more about the US Constitution, but it seemed so boring and antiquated, come and learn with us. Grace in Pagosa is hosting Constitution Alive for 10 weeks beginning on Monday, June 12, from 6-8p.m. at 1044 Park Ave. This exciting, fast-paced program will cover the 7 articles, 27 amendments and the Bill of Rights. Call Perry at (970)903-3011 for more information.

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NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier and a full-time deli cook. Deli hours are Monday thru Friday, 5a.m.-1p.m. Please come apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Davis Engineering Service, Inc. is looking for a highly organized, detail oriented, meticulous individual to fill an administrative assistant position in our Pagosa Springs office. The job entails general administrative tasks, bookkeeping, accounting, customer service, and support of engineering and surveying staff. Excellent communication (verbal & written) and computer skills are necessary with Microsoft Office products (especially Word & Excel) and QuickBooks experience a plus. Benefits for full time employees include paid time off, retirement plan, health insurance. Pay dependent on qualifications. Send resume to myron@daveng.com. Successful applicants will be contacted for interview.

SAN JUAN DENTAL is seeking a patient relations manager for our growing practice in downtown Pagosa. Responsibilities include scheduling, collection, patient interaction, and inter office interaction. Candidate must be friendly, outgoing, team oriented, and computer and phone literate. Financial experience is a plus. Join a team with a wonderful staff and supportive management. Fantastic upside potential for financial growth. This is a professional position, so demeanor is important. Two of our core values are communication and care. These play significant into this position. Job Type: Full time, Salary: \$20.00+. Apply in person or email dreicsmithdds@aol.com.

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MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE. 395 Twin creek Circle, 172 Caleta at 8a.m. Saturday 6/3.

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY 6/3, 8a.m. sharp. Lift chair recliner, kitchen items, tools, radial arm saw, drill press, band saw, router table, electric limb saw, ladders and more. Hwy. 160 west, right on N. Pagosa, left on Sweetwater, left on Twin creek Circle, left on Caleta Place, house #172, Rain or shine. AEHPOS.

DOWNSIZING SALE JUNE 2 AND 3, 8a.m.-6p.m. 320 Horseshoe Circle, Jones household. Furniture, too much to list.

MOVING SALE. SATURDAY 6/3, 9a.m.-3p.m. Homestead supplies, building materials, flooring, windows, doors, tools, camping, kitchenware, lots more! Everything must go. 98 Kirk's Court.

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

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LABORER LANDSCAPING. General help for assistance in landscaping around homes. For details, call Charlie at (970)264-0913.

GENERAL LABORER, general labor, construction and ranch work. Please call (970)264-5000.

CITY HALL CAFE LOOKING for Line Cooks and Dishwashers. Starting pay based on experience. Please call John (970)398-0355 or apply in person, 2151 Eagle Dr.

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1ST SOUTHWEST BANK, a locally owned CDFI community bank, is seeking a **PERSONAL BANKER & TELLER.** FSWB offers competitive compensation, generous benefits, & career development. Join FSWB's award-winning team dedicated to supporting rural Colorado's agricultural, nonprofit and small businesses. For details and to apply, visit fswb.bank/about/careers. EOE.

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ONE 50-GALLON STEEL DRUM with lid. Used, great condition, \$45. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

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FOR SALE

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2023 4RUNNER TRD off road premium wheels/ tires, Dunlop AT20 265/70 17, rims 6x5.5, 7.5, only 100 miles, \$900. Text (256)366-0406.

Wrightnaturalbakery.com. BEST EGGS AVAILABLE! Reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, unprocessed, Paleo, unrefined, gluten free ingredients. (970)883-2600, wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com. Products available at Choke Cherry Tree.

HUSKIE 24" SNOWBLOWER. 208cc. Purchased new in 2016. \$225. (719)244-0439.

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2019 CF600 MOTO ATV. In fair shape, currently not running. Low miles, clean title. \$2,000. (970)880-2214.

COLEMAN BAYSIDE POP-UP CAMPER. Slide out, extra roomy. \$1,500. (970)946-8648.

PagosaSUN.com

AUTOS

2008 4RUNNER URBAN RUNNER. 4WD, 3-2 lift, 285/70 17 KM3, 150K miles. \$12K. Text (256)366-0406.

'88 F250 CUSTOM 4X4 for sale. Good condition. New tires, front and rear brakes, spark plugs and wires, battery, radiator, etc. \$5,000 OBO. (970)585-4259, text.

BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR LLC has a silver 2005 Mercedes-Benz C240 sedan, VIN#651075 for sale. Please stop by Buckskin Towing & Repair at 1435 E. Highway 160 to place a bid on this vehicle. 1435 E. Hwy. 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, (970)264-2500.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

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.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ADS — tinyurl.com/d64deei9. The Pagosa Springs SUN.

DOWNTOWN 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath home. \$1,700/ month. Available now. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH on the Golf Course. Very nice duplex in uptown Pagosa Springs. Well-behaved pets are permitted with additional fee and landlord approval. \$2,000/ month. Call or text (505)980-9227 for more information.

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.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH unfurnished apartment for one person. Large living area, kitchen, walk-in closet, washer and dryer, quiet neighborhood in Pagosa Lakes. \$1,300 per month plus deposit. All utilities paid. No smoking, no pets. References and background check required. (970)946-3105.

PAGOSA LAKE VIEWS. 3 bedroom in 4plex. Available June 1. Most utilities paid, W/D, dishwasher, range, fridge, covered deck, seasonal stream, 10 minute walk to lake. \$1,585 for 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$1,000 security deposit. No pets, nonsmokers preferred. For details, call or text John at (720)960-4910.

AVAILABLE IN JUNE: 1,000 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house with garage in Pagosa Lakes. No pets. Unfurnished. Month to month lease. Credit score, background check, and proof of income required. \$2,000 monthly rent plus deposit and utilities. Call (970)398-1515.

FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 car garage. Includes all utilities. At least 3 months, up to 7-1/2 months lease required. \$3,200 per month. Call Team Pagosa. (970)731-8599.

2 BED 2 BATH 1 car garage duplex \$2,100. Available 4/1/23. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

GENTLY FURNISHED ONE+ BEDROOM CABIN, 7 miles west of City Market, available for quiet renters. Hauling water vehicle needed. Driveway snow removal ability required, no pets, smoking or DISH. \$950/ month + utilities + deposits. (970)731-5098.

2 BED 2 BATH 2 car garage furnished townhome \$2,250.00/mth. Available now Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO PURCHASE a home but can't qualify for a conventional mortgage because your income isn't high enough? You may qualify for Habitat for Humanity's Affordable Homeownership program if you are an Archuleta County resident (1 year+), have good credit and dependable household income. We will be building three homes in 2024 and are looking for potential homeowners who are willing to put in sweat equity to build their own home alongside volunteers. Pick up an application packet at Habitat Archuleta, 703 San Juan St., #201 (above TBK Bank downtown), download an application at HabitatArchuleta.org or email Home@HabitatArchuleta.org. Completed applications should be returned to our office by June 30, 2023.

NEW CUSTOM TOWNHOME. 260 Lakeside Dr. 3/3, 2 master suites on main floor. Views, lake, green space, bike paths, shopping, rec center, no maintenance, partially furnished. \$2,650. (707)815-7070.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DUPLEX apartment on golf course. Lots of storage and garage. \$1,500 plus utilities and deposit. (970)946-4181.



27' Airstream 2007 RV Classic LTD
 Excellent condition. \$42,700.
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Classic 16' Richline Aluminum v-hull fishing boat.
 Built 1958. Includes trailer, rebuilt 2022, new tires, new lights. Oars and life preservers included. See in Pagosa Springs. \$850
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HOUSES FOR SALE

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HOUSES FOR SALE

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

4 BEDROOM EXECUTIVE HOME. Four miles north on Snowball Road (CR200). One mile to trout streams and National Forest, possible irrigated pasture. \$3,200 per month. (970) 946-6274. Leave message.

BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR RENT: Fully furnished 2,200 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with mountain views on approximately 4 acres is for rent on a monthly basis. This is an amazing home and property that adjoins National Forest with direct access to hiking, mountain biking, ATVing while also providing a quiet place to vacation, live or work remotely from. Rent is \$3,000 per month plus propane, all other utilities provided. Deposit and background check required. Available mid-May. Call (970)398-0573 now for availability.

FOR RENT — Prime downtown location. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom with washer and dryer. Open living floor plan. No pets. 1 year lease, \$1,600 month plus utilities. Rental is available June through August. (970)749-9442.

NEW 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH, with garage townhome. Gigabit speed Internet capability in HOA. No snow removal, maintenance, or lawn care needed. Views of Pagosa Peak and Pinon Lake. Heat and air conditioning. \$2,950/ month. rburnett@bwdconstruction.com (970)903-2381.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

LIVE/ WORK ON THIS 1.11 acre just off Hwy. 160. \$300,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

MULTI USE 6,800 SQUARE BUILDING in prime location with high producing business .60 acre. lot \$2,350,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MULTI USE 6,800 SQUARE FOOT building in prime location on .60 of an acre. \$1,375,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

THREE UNITS FOR LEASE in Uptown- West Village Plaza. Ranging from \$775 to \$2,000. Utilities not included. Please call for additional details. (970)880-0910.

OFFICE FOR SHARE: Centrally located, furnished office suite available 2-5 days/ week. Great opportunity for a bodyworker, psychotherapist, or person who needs a quiet place to work or meet clients. 720.231.4288 for more information.

2,880 SQUARE FEET. Used to be JOYs Natural Foods. Between Dr. Milner, chiropractor and Alpine Medical. \$2,500 per month. (970)946-3902.

PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES: Offering Cornerstone Drive Professional Office Suites available from 100 sq.ft. to 255 sq.ft., priced from \$450-\$1015/month. Includes furniture, all utilities and Internet. Call (970) 889-2022 for more information.

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.

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

1,500 SQ. FT. FOR LEASE. West Village Plaza. Utilities, electricity and fiber optic Internet included, \$2,500 a month. Minimum 1 year lease. Plenty of parking and great visibility from the highway. Retail, office or restaurant possibilities. Please call (970)880-0910 for more information.

HOUSES FOR SALE

IMMACULATE 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath home, laminate floors, 3 air conditioner units. Covered deck, fenced yard, 30x40 metal shop to store your vehicles, 4 wheelers and toys. Beautiful setting with 1 acre of usable land and amazing mountain views. No HOA! \$415,000 Call Jennifer Reno, Broker Associate, Team Pagosa Realty (970)317-8493.

POSSIBLE OWNER CARRY. Two single-wides, greenhouse, cross fenced, 12.25 acres, located in Allison, Colorado. \$325,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

HOUSES FOR SALE

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ARBOLES CUTE ONE BEDROOM, one bath with 1,260 square foot heated garage and very well landscaped, beautiful property, 3.5 acres, \$425,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

RANCHES

HOBBY FARM FOR SALE. 34 irrigated acres, Timothy/ Alfalfa Hay, Rutherford house water system, 3 barns, artist studio, 3 bedroom cabin, 3 greenhouses, beautiful views, located 3 miles west off 95 towards Lake Heron, information (505)720-7731.

PROPERTY

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

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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.

1 ACRE WITH WATER TAP in Arboles. Beautiful views. \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

5 BEAUTIFUL ACRES. Centrally located, all utilities near. \$250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

PERFECT GETAWAY PROPERTY. 55 acres between Arboles and Ignacio. \$250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

RIVER FRONT PROPERTY, 1.45 acres, electricity across the street. \$289,900. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

5 ACRES MINUTES FROM TOWN. Water tap available, electric near, beautiful views. \$250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties 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.

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.



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.

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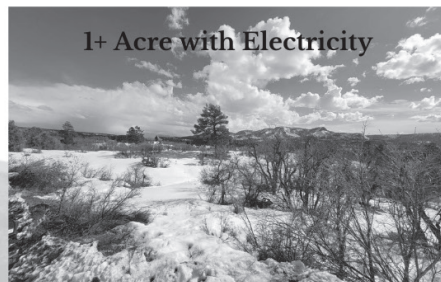
Majestic Mancos on 35 Acres 17300 CR 36.5



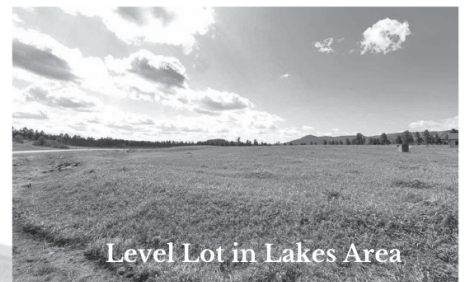
Large Lakefront Lot



6.3 Acres of Non HOA Bliss!



1+ Acre with Electricity



Level Lot in Lakes Area



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