



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 [www.PagosaSUN.com](http://www.PagosaSUN.com) VOLUME 115 — NO. 37, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

# County discusses valuation protests, tax revenue limits

**By Josh Pike**  
 Staff Writer

At the June 13 work session of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), the commissioners continued to debate hiring independent referees to assist the Board of Equalization (BOE) in hearing property valuation appeals and discussed whether or not county voters approved the county collecting property tax revenues above state-imposed limits.

Commissioner Warren Brown raised the issue of the BOE, asking if the other commissioners had given further thought or done additional research on appointing independent referees to the BOE.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez stated that he had gotten additional information that was "interesting," though he still opposed the idea on the grounds of his opposition to bureaucracy and his view that the BOE hearings are a job the commissioners were voted in to do.

■ See County A4

# Department of Human Services receives award for distinguished performance

**By Josh Pike**  
 Staff Writer

A June 7 press release from the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) recognizes the Archuleta County Department of Human Services (ACDHS) as one of 15 county human services departments for 2022 C-Stat Distinguished Performance Award.

"C-Stat is a performance management tool that allows CDHS to better focus on and improve performance outcomes that enhance people's lives," the press release states. "The Distinguished Performance Award recognizes counties that meet goals for timeliness, safety and accuracy in their work. Counties that meet their goals are more likely to be meeting the needs of individuals and families

ment tool that allows CDHS to better focus on and improve performance outcomes that enhance people's lives," the press release states. "The Distinguished Performance Award recognizes counties that meet goals for timeliness, safety and accuracy in their work. Counties that meet their goals are more likely to be meeting the needs of individuals and families

■ See Award A8

# Town to explore moving multiuse pavilion to South Yamaguchi Park

**By Derek Kutzer and Monica Nigon**  
 Staff Writers

At a June 6 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council decided to explore the idea of moving the proposed multiuse pavilion, which has been advocated by a group of volunteers called the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion (PMPP), to a new location at South Yamaguchi Park.

According to the Friends of Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion's social media account, it is "a 501c3 non-profit organization working on a multi-phase plan to bring a multi-purpose facility, offering year round recreation opportunities" for the Pagosa Springs area.

Currently, the group operates the ice skating rink located on South 8th

■ See Pavilion A8

# School district's draft budget includes proposed pay increase

**By Monica Nigon and Randi Pierce**  
 Staff Writers

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education met May 30 for a work session to hear a draft budget for the 2023-2024 school year, with that budget anticipated to be voted on during the board's meeting on Tuesday, June 20.

Superintendent Rick Holt began the meeting with a presentation and proposal regarding the allocation of additional funding anticipated from the state for the 2023-2024 budget.

Holt proposed using much of the new funding for salaries.

Holt indicated the proposal stems from ASD's established priorities and

■ See School A8



# Pagosa Springs Car Show

SUN photos/Randi Pierce  
 The Pagosa Springs Car Show took over Lewis Street Friday evening and Saturday, with spectators able to peruse classic, new and unique vehicles while visiting, listening to live music and voting for their favorites.



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# Opinion

## The Pagosa Springs SUN

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| 6/8  | 73   | 37  | -             | -     | -        |
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## OUR VIEW

### Catching the decluttering bug

It all started with the community's Big Spring Clean event.

We caught a bug and couldn't stop cleaning and decluttering.

We had started clearing out our file cabinets in the newspaper office pre-COVID, but the pandemic kept us so busy that there was no time to get things into some semblance of order. Paperwork sat in piles on the conference table for too long.

It was time to tackle the mess.

We discovered 32 boxes of shredding in a storage room. Yes, at least 32 boxes. Some of those boxes were marked for destroying in 2012. It seemed like it was time to finally let go of those.

There were three huge boxes of old phones that hadn't been in use for more than five years that went off to be e-cycled.

We found bookkeeping records from the early 1980s stuffed in file cabinets. Don't ask why. We can't explain it.

There were files filled with letters from people who love our work and from people who were angry that their letter wasn't printed.

Does anyone remember where the Tastee Freez was on Put Hill back in the day? We found business directories listing numerous businesses we had long forgotten from the 1990s stuffed in a drawer. What about Villa De Roma? It was noted to be "at the traffic light, downtown Pagosa." Was there only one traffic light back in 1990?

There were magazines in stacks from a time before social media existed.

Decluttering is a trip down memory lane. We found ourselves reading through old letters written in long-hand before email was even a thing. We held on to special memories such as Patty Tillerson's personal notes and Lee Sterling's photos of himself reading The SUN on his trips abroad.

Those were the good old days. Someone suggested those need to be donated to the museum. We can't imagine they would want to see us coming with a donation of boxes and boxes of our clutter.

It was liberating to throw the majority of our findings in the trash.

There is so much stuff to dispose of that we've had to order extra dumpster pickups from the disposal company.

It didn't take long before the cleaning bug spread to our home.

We started pulling out junk from drawers and closets and cabinets and soon realized our clutter was multiplying by leaps and bounds as we sorted into piles and rearranged the clutter we were keeping.

Organizing tubs were purchased and strewn around the house. We didn't know what to put in them. We were walking through a maze of memories and mess.

Amazingly, I found my lost, expired passport and original Social Security card.

We ended up culling out seven large boxes of books to donate and discovered there were plenty of books left that we longed to have the time to read.

Does one household really need six different sets of dishes?

We hadn't finished with the office or the house when the decluttering bug hit our garage. There was junk that we didn't even know that we had.

We made multiple trips to the dumpster and have lined up plenty of donations to take to the thrift stores.

We even left out things with "free" signs by our dumpster. Thank you to those who have hauled off our freebies. Trust us, there will be plenty more appearing after the Fourth of July holiday. Who wants a boxing dummy that lights up? It was inherited; we didn't buy that thing.

We've had to stop the decluttering frenzy due family coming to town for a visit.

With company arriving, we started shoving the junk we were sorting out back into boxes and into those empty storage containers and stuffing them back into closets they came from and back into the garage.

Cleaning and decluttering has been exhausting. We could use a vacation from cleaning.

Now, if only we knew which container we crammed that expired passport and Social Security card into.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

## LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

### 100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
June 15, 1923

D.B. Miller, the bridge contractor, has about completed the construction of a fine new cement sidewalk at the east end of Pagosa street, on the south side, fronting the following properties: Dr. Mary Fisher, M.O. Brown, Chas. Dunagan and Chas. Schonefeld. The walk connects with the Harry Macht cement walk and was built under the ordinance and resolution recently passed by the town board of trustees. Several additional walks throughout the town, which were ordered at the same time, will shortly be built.

As predicted in these columns last week, Wolf Creek highway was actually opened for traffic last Saturday afternoon, and several cars took advantage of the opportunity to cross the divide the next day, traveling in both directions.

A small crew on the Del Norte side worked daily commencing on Monday of last week, blasting and shoveling out the snow to the top, which had already been reached the Sunday previous by the Pagosa Springs party.

### 75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
June 18, 1948

Amos Padilla, widely known amateur boxer, was leaving Thursday night for Denver on the first leg of a journey he hoped might take him to London, England, and the Olympics.

Padilla will probably meet Melvin Nelson, who won from him in the Golden Gloves tourney. The Pagosa boxer has been working out for three weeks here and is expected to make a good showing. Winners in Denver go to Boston following their bouts. Padilla was accompanied by Sonny Alley.

A special program covering fish stocking in the area will be presented at a meeting of the Pagosa Rod & Gun Club June 21, Monday night, in the Court House at 8 p.m.

Ed Busch, club president, said that 70,000 trout have been planted in the Navajo, Blanco and San Juan Rivers and in Turkey Creek. A similar number will be planted next week in the Piedra drainage streams.

### 50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
June 14, 1973

Work on the museum for the area, is progressing rapidly. The new museum, which is being sponsored by the San Juan Historical Society, may be in use before the end of the summer.

It is to be placed at the site of the present town water plant, near the east edge of town. Eventually the old pumping plant may become a part of the museum complex. A steel building is to be erected there now to house the material that is presently available.

A cement floor has been poured, sidewalks are going in, the area has been filled, and the moving in of the building should start very soon. When completed, it will be large enough to serve its purpose for several years.

The San Juan River through town hit its high mark of the season this week. Streamflow, on the depth gauge, was 7.40 feet on the 11th and 7.39 on the 12th. The Bureau of Reclamation says that over 8 feet will be enough water for the river to go out of the channel.

### 25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of  
June 18, 1998

Vacationers driving over Wolf Creek Pass Wednesday morning were surprised and slowed by a slight snow fall. About two or three inches of slushy snow covered the surface of U.S. 160 at the Wolf Creek summit before the cloud cover broke and sunshine cleared the roadway.

A local woman was in a Denver Hospital yesterday afternoon, reportedly being treated as a victim of plague.

Lynn Westberg, director of San Juan Basin Health Department in Durango, said Wednesday the 39-year-old woman — whom the health department is not allowed by law to identify — has been presumptively diagnosed with plague, although the diagnosis has not been confirmed at this time. If confirmed, this will be the first case of plague in Colorado in 1998." Westberg said conclusive test results are expected by next Monday, and added that state authorities have reported there is a 90 percent possibility the Pagosan has contracted plague.

According to Westberg, health department officials "began investigating the area surrounding the plague case's residence on Wednesday."



Taken from The Pagosa Springs SUN files of Dec. 6, 1990: Pagosa Woman's Club representative Patti Stickler recently presented Shadd Rohwer with a \$500 check to be used by Pagosa Springs Youth Center directors. The funds were raised through the club's annual fashion show.

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# 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.

## Rural Philanthropy Days

Dear Editor:  
 Congratulations to Durango and Southwest Colorado for hosting a very successful Southwest Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) event. On behalf of the Anschutz Family Foundation, I wish to express my deep appreciation for all the efforts toward once again organizing a successful RPD.

In the more than three decades since I envisioned and initiated RPD, I have continued to be impressed with the dedication and deep commitment of rural communities. I know how much time and energy go into producing a successful RPD, and I commend the community for their dedication

and hard work. From the hospitality of the city and the organization of the steering committee – I was most impressed with the entire event.

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers  
 chair and president  
 Anschutz Family Foundation

### 'Trump legacy'

Dear Editor:  
 Former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi died this week. Before politics, Berlusconi was a TV mogul. One news outlet described him as bringing sex and glamour to Italian TV – and then to Italian politics.

That account made me think about our reality TV president, Donald Trump. What did he carry forward from his entertainment industry gig? Institutionalized bullying.

And now his brand of "reality" public service is the primary objective of MAGA Republicans. Here's the formula: make an individual or vulnerable group a target of shocking allegations or oppressive legislation, deflect any critic with feigned injury and offense, toss out soundbites to fuel outrage (accuracy optional), and then hit the email, text, and social media with fundraising pleas.

It's been lucrative for him. The day after he was indicted by a New York grand jury, he raised \$4 million; within two weeks, he hit \$15 million. He's following the same playbook since his federal indictment for refusing to return national secrets he took when he left the White House.

And it's been costly for the rest of us. Look at the bandwagon full of Republicans bashing the FBI after the documents indictment. For what? Investigating credible allegations that national secrets have been handled like a pile of old magazines. Not looking the other way because Trump thinks he is above the law (and seems to have convinced MAGA Republicans that's the case). According to a Pew Research Center survey conducted in March, Americans' views of the FBI are now deeply divided along partisan lines.

Anger, hate, and bullying at the top filters down. Look at the polarization among neighbors, the hateful way people are treated because they are different – read: "not the way we think they should be," and the intrusions on personal choice – book bans, voting impediments, gender identity, birth control and abortion. Classic conservatives used to be wary of government treading too much on individuals.

In the meantime, policies aligning with the popular views of most Americans about pressing issues are ignored. Institutionalized bullying is sucking time and energy from things that most of us would prob-

ably agree are important and worth honest debate: help for young people rebounding from pandemic disruptions to education and early career opportunities, affordable housing, living wages, healthy environment and sustainable use of water and other scarce natural resources, affordable and accessible healthcare, personal space to make intimate decisions about healthcare, individual identity, and relationships, rational gun safety regulation, responsible technology development, healthy competition in the economy, . . . and so on.

It's time for reality public service to be taken off air and the Trump legacy of institutionalized bullying consigned to history. Accomplishing that means all politicians who've embraced institutionalized bullying change their ways or be sent home with the clear message that generating hate and anger is not public service and does not advance the interests of their constituents or their country.

Candace Jones

### Posole for pioneers

Dear Editor:  
 In 1949, a group of local families had a vision. They collected nickels, dimes and quarters. Bake sales, bingos and numerous campaigns took place and what stands as a tribute to their hard work, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Lewis Street.

Saturday June 17, is the feast day of the patroness of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. A mass is scheduled at 2:00pm at IHM. At nominally 3:00pm, the Rivas Family Spanish Choir will provide music and perform a small concert for anyone who attends the mass and who sticks around for the posole dinner which will be provided by Las Guadalupeñas at 4:30pm. The stained-glass windows in the church, call out some of the pioneer families that participated in building the church: The Gallego's, the Cordova's, the Pomas, the Shahan's, the Ortega's, the Belarde's, the Bramwell's. The window dedicated to the Parishioner's is where the Mestas', the Martinez's, the Lynch's, the Trujillo's, the Rivas's, the Archuleta's, the Maez's the Lucero's and many more including members

of the mission churches, who participated in getting the church built. The posole dinner provided by the Guadalupanas, who have served the community for the last 50 years, is as much to celebrate the feast day as it is to honor those pioneer families that helped to establish the church. The music and dinner will be an outdoor event, held under a tent in the parking lot set up by the Knights of Columbus.

Join those pioneer families on Lewis Street, who like many in this community, work towards making the Pagosa Community better for all.

J. L. Martinez

### Beauty

Dear Editor:  
 Beauty: The "seen" vs. the "unseen". Ahhhh, yes. I recall the life of my Grandpa Patton in the early 1900s. He grew up in the life of the cowboy — during the Civil War, he rode with his father to drive cattle north to feed the Union Soldiers when Texas voted to support the South. They were men of principle. He grew up to become a leading cowboy on the T-Anchor Ranch (Texas Panhandle) which eventually became the town of Canyon. He later moved into Amarillo where he was twice-elected Mayor. During his tenure, he established a charity to support widows and orphans. While his income was from wholesale liquor sales, he was successful in getting an ordinance passed making it illegal for minors to enter a bar or a saloon. Those were the days of the Old West.

As the West continued to grow in population, he decided to answer the "call" of the writer and newspaper man, Horace Greeley: "Go West, Young Men, Go West". He moved his family to California. However, tragedy met him soon after when his team of horses was "spooked" and during their runaway, he was thrown under the wagon and dragged beneath, leaving his face badly disfigured. This occurred before he had time to establish himself. He knew it would be difficult. He decided to return to Texas where he was well-known for his honesty and integrity as well as his service to community. That was a good decision. He recovered

■ See Letters A4

## 19th Hole Concerts

at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club

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 \$10 ticket supports local nonprofits

- 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
- June 29 Jack Ellis & Out on Work Release**  
Upper San Juan Search & Rescue
- July 13 Bo DePeña**  
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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.



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# Obituaries

## Rex Rucker Nelson

Born on Feb. 19, 1946, Rex Rucker Nelson passed away on May 14 in Pagosa Springs. He grew up mostly in west Texas and eastern New Mexico, residing in southern Arkansas for a few years. Rex graduated from Friona High School, Friona, Texas, in 1964 and went on to Texas Tech University, majoring in agricultural engineering. After graduating from Tech in 1968, he studied at Oklahoma State University, earning a master's degree in agricultural engineering in 1970. He was hired in 1970 at Ditch Witch (Charles Machine Works). Ed Malzahn, the inventor of the Ditch Witch and the owner of the company, personally hired him and Rex was so proud. For the next 39 years he did his best as a loyal employee to help Ditch Witch grow. He worked on the development of trenchers for many years, but always talked with great pride of his last years as design team manager on the Jet Tracs developed by Ditch Witch. He retired from Ditch Witch in April 2009. He and his wife moved to Pagosa Springs to reside in the mountains he loved so much.



On Dec. 23, 1978, he married Marlys Knutson, the love of his life, in Fargo, N.D. Their family was completed when they became the proud parents of two children: daughter Moriah Nelson, born Dec. 7, 1985, and Nathan Nelson, born March 23, 1988. Rex was passionate about his family. They enjoyed many family vacations across the western United States. Rex was proud to become a grandfather and very much enjoyed spending time with his three granddaughters: Jacqui, 17; Vivien, 4; and Margaret, 2. Rex was also very involved in his church, Pagosa Bible Church in Pagosa Springs. Rex never wanted to miss church or his Thursday morning men's Bible study. He never missed an opportunity to help his church by volunteering in many capacities and serving as an elder for many years. He loves his family in Christ dearly. He is preceded in death by his mother, Iola; father, Jack; and younger brother, Roger. He is survived by his wife, Marlys; daughter, Moriah; son, Nathan; and granddaughters Jacqui, Vivien and Margaret.

A celebration of life service for Rex will be held Saturday, June 24, at 2 p.m. at Pagosa Bible Church. Donations in his memory may be made to Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

## Michele Yvette (Marcellin) Smith

Late on the morning of May 30, Michele Yvette (Marcellin) Smith — with her hand on her Bible, heart set on Jesus and surrounded by loved ones — completed her earth-

ly journey and passed through heaven's gates.

One of the few advantages of battling MSA the past several years is that Michele's love for God and her people grew exponentially. Despite this dreaded disease slowly destroying her body, it could not touch her spirit. Michele continued to shine brightly for Jesus 'til the very end — continually thinking of others and constantly living out the principles of God's word.

Although Michele was born two months early on April 27, 1962, in southern California, it was still 10 minutes after her identical twin sister, Minette. Her parents Louis and Linda Marcellin and older sister Melissa formed a close-knit family that literally provided what Michele would call a charmed childhood.

Michele relished growing up in the church and was baptized when she was 7 years old. While attending Angeles Crest Christian Camp as a teenager, and with the guidance of her older sister Melissa as her camp counselor, Michele fully committed her whole self to living all for God and never looked back.

Both Minette and Michele attended Biola University, where the first person Michele met at a freshman ice cream social ended up being her adored husband of 38 years, Christopher Smith.

Chris and Michele were mar-



ried June 8, 1985, and served at Angeles Crest Christian Camp for nearly a decade. While living in the mountains at camp, they added Keagan, Kailey, Sawyer, Sydney and Cassidy to their family. Sullivan was born soon afterward while they lived the city life in southern California.

In 1999, Michele moved to Pagosa Springs with her beloved family. It was a dream come true for Michele to home-school her children and live life to the fullest in their mountain paradise.

Michele was instrumental in starting Visiting Angels Home Care in Pagosa Springs, where, for the last 13 years, she and Chris have counted it a privilege to serve and bless those in need.

Michele's only hesitation in heading heavenward was the heartache of leaving her precious people behind, including her husband, Chris; daughter Kailey and husband Kyle (Ivy, Erin and Robin) Wiggers; son Sawyer and wife Hadley (Louis, Charlie and Teddy); twin daughters Sydney and husband Tadd (Abel, Eden and Jedd) Quiller and Cassidy (Titus, Ezra and Renley); son Sully and wife Ellen (Quinn); grandsons Kai and Liam; and her mom, sisters, brothers-in-law and so many dearly loved nieces, nephews, mother-in-law and sisters-in-law.

But the undeniable fact that she would be greeted in heaven by her hero daddy, firstborn son Keagan, and Jesus himself gave her continual hope despite the constant hard she recently endured and helped her stay faithful to the end.

# County

Continued from front

Brown commented that he appreciated Maez's comments and that he feels that independent referees would create an independent group of experts to review the cases and provide recommendations to assist the commissioners in their decisions.

Maez stated that he would like to hear public input on the matter, such as through a poll, which Brown agreed is a "great thought."

Commissioner Veronica Medina commented that she researched the issue and noted that there could be "a lot" of appeals.

She added that she has heard from constituents who would strongly support having an independent committee.

Medina commented that she understood Maez's sentiments on not creating bureaucracy and that she was "torn" on the issue.

She pointed out that it is key that the county continue to build trust and transparency with residents, although it cannot rectify past issues, and that she feels that constituents would appreciate an independent

committee to review the appeals.

"I'm really torn because I agree I don't like to spend the taxpayer's money if we don't need to, but just hearing a handful of people that I've spoken to, they would appreciate that we would do this. That's my two cents," Medina said.

County Attorney Todd Weaver then commented on the situation, explaining that he has worked in counties that did use independent referees and those that did not and that he sees benefits to having referees, including the hearings not tying up the commissioners, although the process placed additional work on staff.

Weaver added that Assessor Johanna Tully-Elliott estimated that her office had received 2,000 protests and that she believed that, in the past, 10 percent of protests had gone on to the BOE, although there could be more given the increase.

He noted that, given the BoCC currently has 10 days scheduled for appeals, this would mean hearing 20 appeals a day for 10 days straight.

Weaver added that the number of appeals will not be known until mid-

July, with the deadline to file appeals to the BOE falling on July 18.

"And like even, you know, getting a board of professionals, we have one," Maez said. "It's the assessor herself, and they usually pose a recommendation to either approve or deny and a lot of times prior to this, she sits with the people that are protesting and she works it out with them and she hears 'em out there and then. She has the liberty to either see the rationale on their side or have them understand the rationale on her side and then they work it out through there. And then, at that point in time, when they can't work it out from there, then it's presented to us and then ... each person presents their side of the case and then we make the determination. It's always worked. I don't know why adding another group to it is gonna make it work any better or any faster. ... I think it's going to alleviate the commissioner's time, but it's not going to make it better or faster."

Medina commented that "it's not about whether or not I want to spend the time here to listen to my constituents. That has nothing to do with it. ... Why I'm even considering this is for the constituents, for them to feel like we are hearing them, that it's going to be independent, that it is not just, 'I have 100 percent faith in the county assessor.'"

Maez commented that county residents voted the assessor into office.

"Exactly, but so many people think that this is ... county-driven as far as, you know, how ... the taxes, that we're going to get all the money. There is this misunderstanding and I feel like, and maybe it's not true, I feel like maybe having this independent board of equalization to do this that

we select might help."

Maez questioned if the independent referees would educate the public or just hear cases and commented that he feels there is a lack of public education.

He then questioned whether the county de-Bruced or not.

De-Brucing is a process by which government entities can exceed fiscal year spending limits set by the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) and requires voter approval. The process is named after TABOR sponsor Douglas Bruce.

Weaver stated that, according to Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI), the county is fully de-Bruced.

Maez stated he did not remember the county voting to de-Bruce and Weaver stated that CCI had 2010 as the date the county de-Bruced in its database.

"Then, since we have de-Bruced, there is not a percentage limit on it," Maez said. "And, to my understanding, I had talked to a few constituents saying to them we were still under TABOR which had a protection to the tax increase. But, now, here's the education process, we're not under TABOR no more, if that ... is absolutely what the voters voted on. So ... that is gonna ... I mean, some people's properties have increased 80 some percent or even more ... and ... COVID did it. ... And even Commissioner [Steve] Wadley said, 'COVID's going to get the blame for everything for the next five, 10 years,' and here we are. But, it did."

Maez explained that property values increased during the pandemic due to an increased desire for rural properties, which increased property values.

See County A8

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# Letters

Continued from A3

well and settled in Wichita County where he was elected District Attorney and served until old age health problems set in.

Yes, his "unseen" reputation identified him well. Over his final years, he would dress in suit and tie and take the street car to town. He would sit on a bench outside the Court House and Passer-bys would stop to visit and share thoughts

about current issues. Yes, he continued his life of purpose. He was a great Dad to his five boys and was happy to welcome little granddaughters into the family.

Yes, what matter most is one's history for honesty and goodness towards all. It was the "unseen" that defined my beautiful Grandpa, Judge James Horace Patton.

Happy Father's Day to Our Dads.  
Patty Tillerson

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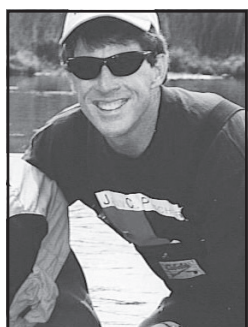
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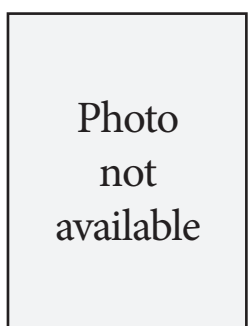
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# Business

## La Plata Electric Association election results announced

By Carrie Hugus  
La Plata Electric Association

Results of the 2023 La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) election were announced at the cooperative's annual meeting on June 8.

This meeting was held to elect and seat new directors and present LPEA's 2022 accomplishments. In accordance with LPEA bylaws, one seat in each of LPEA's four districts comes up for election annually.

This year, members also voted on a bylaw amendment that allows the LPEA Board of Directors to add electronic balloting in future LPEA elections.

Detailed election results are as follows:

- District 4 (north and east La Plata County): Candidate David Luschen won with 1,187 votes. Candidate John Purser received 769 votes.

As no challenger applications

were received in Districts 1, 2 and 3, the following candidates were seated unopposed:

- District 1 (Archuleta County): New candidate Nicole Pitcher filled the seat vacated by retiring director Bob Lynch.

- District 2 (south and west La Plata County): Incumbent John Lee Jr. was seated.

- District 3 (city of Durango): Incumbent Rachel Landis was seated. The proposed bylaw amendment

passed with 3,973 in favor and 2,021 opposed.

Out of 36,003 ballots mailed in all districts, a total of 6,083 LPEA members cast votes for an approximate 17 percent return rate. Due to unopposed candidates, there was no election in 2022.

Officers were elected at the LPEA Board of Directors meeting on June 14. Meeting details can be accessed at <https://lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources>.

## Main Street board again discusses branding, events

By Monica Nigon  
Staff Writer

The Main Street Advisory Board met on June 8 to discuss an update on the Pickaxe Branding Project, collaboration with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and downtown infrastructure developments.

The Pickaxe Branding Project was an exercise held in April with the Main Street board to promote a revitalization project in downtown Pagosa Springs.

Through an intensive exercise, the board and Pickaxe came up with the brand "STEAM."

Several members of the board expressed trepidation about the brand, in particular that it is already the name of an educational program and could also be mistaken for "STEAM" (science, technology, engineering, art and math).

The board spent a month allowing board members to take the opinions into consideration and incorporated graphics from Pickaxe but ultimately tabled using "STEAM" as the program's brand.

At the June 8 meeting, the committee proposed utilizing numerous graphics and a "toolbox of words" to promote main street revitalization.

The board members debated about using the prefix "re," using words such as "refresh," "reflow" and "reconnect," but ultimately decided to keep things more timeless and

simply use "Pagosa Springs Main Street" with mountains and flowing water for graphics.

"It's a good compromise ... I agree also with 'Let's go.' Let's grab this and let's run," member Robert Melum said.

The board decided it will unveil the brand during the Fourth of July parade.

The board then moved on to hear committee reports.

Jeremy Martin, representing the CDOT committee, updated the board and explained he met with representatives from CDOT regarding the "Cone Survival Guide."

"We basically got the go-ahead to do whatever we want," Martin said, referring to events, signs and cone configurations for entertainment for those stuck in traffic.

Barbara Swindlehurst, representing the events committee, told the board she visited Buena Vista to gather ideas for main street revitalization.

She suggested a chalkboard with a prompting question such as "What I love about Pagosa" or "Before I die I want to" would allow area residents to interact with the project.

Swindlehurst also noted mini murals down the main street were something else she appreciated about Buena Vista's Main Street project.

Board member Shari Pierce added, "I would like to see, maybe a Saturday morning, where we clean

main street ... Just something to make this look a little more attractive for the summer coming up, and that helps our businesses, too."

Rose Chavez, representing the historic preservation committee, explained her committee is planning on a work session in the near future to plan the Spanish Fiesta, which will be held July 29, in collaboration with the Spanish Fiesta committee.

"We're really excited about bringing Al Hurricane Jr., who's the son of the godfather of New Mexico music, to Pagosa Springs," Chavez said, "and also featuring some local talent with Los Mitotitos and also a dance group and really just as an invitation to welcome back these historical events that have been the source of pride for our community in the past.

"This is really for families and people of all ages to celebrate culture in our community. And, having you guys spread the word really helps a lot."

It was suggested there could be "pop-up" events downtown to help advertise the event.

Chavez also explained she's hoping to work with the historic preservation committee to catalog the unique Spanish dialect in the community.

Following the committee reports, Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke addressed the CDOT Revitalization Grant.

That grant would bring \$250,000

to "support downtown vitality and the built environment by encouraging economic development, supporting community access to public streets and multi-modal transportation, and bringing innovative uses of public spaces for people to live. The funds are used for infrastructure improvement projects that meet the aim of the program and 'shovel ready' and therefore can be completed within a 12 month period from grant contract execution, if approved," according to the application for the grant.

Lashbrooke explained they would be able to work more on the grant application during the next work session of the Main Street board.

The board next discussed the visit of Traci Stoffle, Main Street specialist from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, who will be in Pagosa Springs on June 20.

Members of the board decided they will walk her around town and go over their ideas for the Main Street branding with her.

The board lastly addressed how to keep traffic on main street during construction, specifically potentially utilizing the alley between main street and Lewis Street for pedestrian events for "First Fridays" or "Wild Wednesdays." They added they could use the CDOT grant to revitalize the area.

The board's next meeting will be July 13 at 4 p.m.. [monica@pagosahun.com](mailto:monica@pagosahun.com)

## Town seeks public input on land use code rewrite

By Karl Onsager  
Town of Pagosa Springs,  
Community Development Department

The Town of Pagosa Springs initiated a land use code rewrite in 2021 with the support of the Pagosa Springs Town Council, Pagosa Springs Planning Commission, a steering committee and public input.

The purpose of the project is to clarify standards, update regulations to incorporate best practices and align the code to realize the community vision from the 2018 comprehensive plan. The project was put on hold in 2022 due to capacity. Town staff restarted efforts to review and rework the draft code in February 2023. The renewed consideration resulted

in a joint work session with town council and planning commission on April 27 to receive direction on several topics.

The town needs public input on questions like: Should tiny homes on wheels be allowed as accessory dwelling units? Should sustainability requirements be for new construction, and also for major modifications to existing com-

mercial and multi-household developments? What standards are appropriate for the new East End Overlay and Put Hill Overlay? And, the town needs input on the sign code, among other things.

The survey can be found at [www.mypagosa.org](http://www.mypagosa.org) along with project updates. Paper versions of the survey are available upon request from the Community Development Department in Town Hall, located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

The town anticipates the next draft of the code will be available for review in late June or early July. Contact the senior planner, Karl Onsager, with any questions at [konsager@pagosaprings.co.gov](mailto:konsager@pagosaprings.co.gov).

## Plenty of community events on tap

By Mary Jo Coulehan  
Pagosa Springs Area  
Chamber of Commerce

It seems with the onset of summer activities are moving more outdoor and they are increasing in number. There is almost something to do every weekend and many of them are no to low cost for participants.

If you're a Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) resident, don't forget about the free Family Summer Nights the second and fourth Thursdays of the months of June and July at the PLPOA Rec Center. Enjoy games beginning at 6 p.m. and a movie on the lawn beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Town of Pagosa Springs is starting up its free concerts in the park for ComFest on Friday, June 16. It will continue the third Friday of each month through the month of August, when there are two (Aug. 18 and 31). There is a different band

each month and each concert benefits a different nonprofit agency. Food and spirits for purchase will be available at each concert. Grab a blanket or some chairs and head over to the athletic field in Town Park — for free.

Speaking of concerts, the 19th Hole Concert Series continues until June 29. The series is sponsored by the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado and these concerts also benefit a different nonprofit every week. The concerts are held at the Pagosa Springs Golf Course and start at 5:30 p.m. The admission price is only \$10 and there will also be food and beverages available for purchase at this event. Bring your chair or blanket and get ready for some great music by local musical artists.

Our local and regional theaters will have a full slate of productions all summer long. Our community theater group, Curtains Up

Pagosa, will feature "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" June 29 through July 2 at Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets will be on sale soon for this must-see event.

For bingo players, the usual Sunday schedule has been modified for the months of July, August and September for the games to be played on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at John Paul II Catholic Church at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. starting at 6 p.m. with doors opening at 5 p.m. The schedule changed during the summer to accommodate the Fourth of July and Labor Day holidays.

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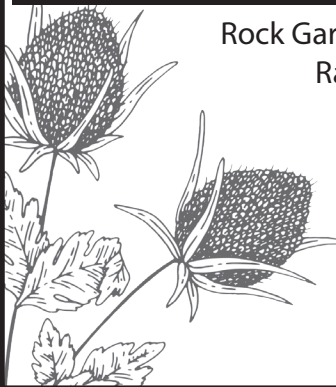
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for the issue of July 6

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Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day

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# Town moves forward with plan to transfer property to county

By Derek Kutzer  
Staff Writer

At its June 6 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council entered into an executive session to discuss a town-owned property located at 2140 County Road 500 (Trujillo Road).

Following the executive session, the council took the next steps to transfer portions of the property to Archuleta County and La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) with the caveat that the town will explore a trade of some sorts for these segments of property.

The 21-acre parcel, roughly 2 miles from town limits, includes a section that the county has leased since 1985 for \$1 per year for the purpose of operating the transfer station.

Agenda documentation states that, "In 2017, an amendment to the ground lease agreement was entered into with the County, increasing the leased area to 2.61 acres from the original one acre for their use."

With the community facing "challenges with landfill capacity," the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) expressed "a desire to enhance the transfer station with the plan being to help lengthen the life of the county landfill and providing more holistic trash and recycling services," states the agenda documentation.

The county hopes to enhance recycling operations by adding equipment such as a glass crusher "and perhaps build an enclosure to hold trash and debris before it can be trucked out of the area or down to the landfill if needed," agenda documentation states.

However, the county has also expressed a reluctance to invest in more infrastructure on the town-owned property since the county doesn't own the site on which its transfer station facilities operate, according to agenda documentation.

The agenda documentation further indicates the county's hope is that the town will donate or transfer this property to it so that it can meet the community need for expanded recycling operations and to alleviate landfill capacity challenges.

In addition, LPEA has also "expressed a need to locate a substation near their transmission

line" on roughly 2 to 3 acres of the property, which, LPEA states, "will help with redundancy and critical infrastructure," according to the agenda document.

The remaining sections of the property are on a sloped hillside and the town does not currently utilize the property for any specific purposes, Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained at the meeting.

Historically, the property was the site of the town landfill, which the town decommissioned in the mid- to late 1980s, when the county landfill was built.

The council opted to go into an executive session to discuss the possible transfer of sections of the property to the county and LPEA. The session included Phillips, Town Clerk/Finance Director April Hessman, Community Development Director James Dickhoff, Town Attorney Bob Cole and the town council.

After emerging from the nearly two-hour long executive session, the council took up the issue of the property, with council member Mat deGraaf declaring, "I'll just say that I do not believe we should be giving anything away" to the county or LPEA.

He added that "the transfer station is not only valuable to the community, but its location is also valuable to the county, and I'd like to see that come with an offering of perhaps a trade. The county has properties that perhaps the town could benefit from."

Council member Brooks Lindner agreed, adding, "That whole area that LPEA wants to rent to the south is still valuable land, even with its proximity to the transfer station, so... I don't think we should just be giving this away."

He suggested he didn't "have the exact solution on how we don't just give it away, but it feels a little odd to me that we are doing that" considering the size and value of the parcel.

Council member Gary Williams explained that he had walked the property about a year ago and that the way he sees it is the property includes "four chunks" or segments that should be considered separately.

"There's the chunk where the transfer station currently is, there's the old landfill, there's the spot that LPEA wants, and then there's this kinda southwest corner that's rocky and high and curls up and is

adjacent to Trujillo Road," he said. "So that fourth chunk, I wonder, why would we give that away?"

He also suggested a trade with LPEA, with the town offering the segment of property in exchange for LPEA waiving the town's costs for using its fiber optic cables.

Finally, Williams noted that based on his conversations with Archuleta County Commissioner Warren Brown, he did not believe the county really cared if it owned or leased the land as long as it feels secure in a long-term deal, which would justify expanding infrastructure on the property.

On this front, Williams suggested that "we keep the land and lease it to them," perhaps in a long-term 30- or 40-year lease.

He also suggested the town should trade with LPEA for fiber optic usage and that the town should keep and maintain the other section, because "you just never know what you might need that big chunk of land for ... that's my suggestion."

Council member Matt DeGuise disagreed with these sentiments, indicating he believes the property to be a "liability" for the town due to the environmental issues stemming from the parcel being a former landfill.

"By giving it away, we are minimizing the amount of liability still left on the town," DeGuise said.

He also added that "the expansion of recycling would be a huge benefit" for the community, with council member Madeline Bergon agreeing.

Bergon expressed that the county expanding its transfer station operations and LPEA building a substation there is "benefiting utilities" for the entire community.

Council member Leonard Martinez noted that he sympathized with some of the arguments about not just giving away the property, but that the town should not let this hold up the transferring of the property to both the county and LPEA.

He also agreed with DeGuise that the property is "a burden on us" because of the liability issue.

But deGraaf clapped back, saying that he "just sees that property as valuable and not something we should just discard."

Lindner spoke to the liability issue and suggested that, based on his understanding of his conversations with "the environmental

lawyer," the town transferring the property does not necessarily let it off the hook.

"If something serious emerges from the old landfill, we are liable as prior owners and operators, and so, to me, we are giving away a piece of land for nothing, like, we could still be on the hook for the most serious issue that could happen there," he said.

Lindner explained that he favored Williams' proposal to view the property as four chunks, each with separate deals to be made, which would include a long-term lease with the county for the transfer station segment of the land.

Mayor Shari Pierce added that she wanted the council to "make a decision tonight that we can stick with, because we directed staff to do just what they did and I hate just making a 180 here."

She expressed concern over what it would say about the town council as a body if "we get down this far and all of a sudden we change our minds."

Pierce was referring to the ongoing conversations between the town and the county about transferring the property and the community aspects of "working together" on expanding recycling to include glass and alleviating capacity issues at the landfill.

"I would support moving forward" with the transfer of the property, she added.

But Williams noted that these joint community goals, centered around the county transfer station and the LPEA substation, could both still happen under his plan.

"If we gave them a 20-, 30- or 40-year lease, I don't care, they can move forward with the transfer center and everything is fine, but we maintain the land," he said.

When all was said and done, Bergon entered a motion "to direct staff to move forward with the purchase and sale agreement to be brought back before council as an ordinance and bring with it the thought of potentially a trade with the county and LPEA, but I do not want the purchase and sale to be compromised."

The motion was seconded and when it came up for a roll-call vote, it carried 4-3, with Bergon, Pierce, Martinez and DeGuise voting in favor of the motion and Williams, deGraaf and Lindner voting against it.

derek@pagosasun.com

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## Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

**Monday, June 19**  
**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>.

**San Juan Water Conservancy District meeting.** 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5.

**Tuesday, June 20**  
**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=dFFFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, 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=dFFFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agenda>

center.  
**Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting.** 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St. Zoom information: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89392173022>.

**Wednesday, June 21**  
**Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting — Hinsdale County annual meeting.** 11 a.m., Sportsman Campground, 2095 Taylor Lane. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agenda>

center.  
**Upper San Juan Library District board meeting.** 4 p.m. via Zoom. Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83398449146>.

**Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors regular meeting.** 5 p.m., 3133 Cornerstone Drive. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9656099136?pwd=Z3Job2R1eXl0SE8rRzNpL0FucGpKZz09>, meeting ID: 965 609 9136, passcode: 00001.

**Thursday, June 22**  
**Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting.** 5 p.m., Town Hall

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

**Monday, June 26**  
**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>.

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# School

## ■ Continued from front

that it was reached through interest-based problem solving and working with a teacher committee.

Holt then updated the board about school finance at the state level.

He noted in a slide that the School Finance Act, passed by the Colorado Legislature, increases K-12 funding by \$150 million — up 7.5 percent from the current year — and would “set aside \$30 million for rural schools to mitigate their higher costs and smaller student populations.”

It further notes the average per-pupil spending is proposed to reach \$10,579, which is a 10 percent increase from this year.

Holt noted the need to not build things on onetime funding, which the state said the \$30 million for rural schools is.

He also noted there is a plan in place at the state level to eliminate the budget stabilization factor next year.

Holt then explained ASD’s funding distribution before delving into the proposal for the new state funding.

The district’s 2022-2023 budget is 78 percent salaries and benefits and 22 percent operating expenditures. Holt told the board, which is changed from 76 percent and 24 percent, respectively, at the beginning of the budget year.

The upcoming budget will be closer to 80 percent salaries and budgets and 20 percent operations, which he added is about as lean as a district the size of ASD should get.

Holt explained the district is projected to receive \$1,483,182 in new per-pupil revenue, adding the district will no longer have to serve as a pass-through for preschool funding due to universal preschool beginning.

Under the proposal, 78 percent of the \$1.48 million would go to salaries and benefits. The remaining 22 percent would go to the district’s operations budget, according to Holt.

This equates to \$1,156,882 for salaries and budgets and \$326,300 for operations.

Of the increase the operating budget, Holt explained the district is facing “inflationary pressures in all areas.”

He added the split seemed like the

right ratio between the two uses.

Holt noted the potential allocations were based on surveys from a teacher committee, explaining they were given a number of items for preferential spending. The majority of respondents were interested in increasing certified staff salaries (teachers/counselors/school psychologists) by about 6 percent, additional positions and vertical steps, and health care reductions and instructional coaches or deans.

Holt noted that three times the number of people voted for salary increases than the next two options put together.

The presentation reads, “In addition to the step increase we propose a 5% salary increase across most classified, all certified and coaching positions (except the Superintendent) for Archuleta County Schools for the 2023-24 school year.”

“It’s definitely a recruiting strategy,” Holt said.

Of the total available \$1,156,882 to address salaries and budgets, Holt outlined 80 percent would be invested in salaries (step increase and 5 percent salary increase; 10 percent for bus drivers, bus aides and kitchen staff; and 7.1 percent increase for substitutes), equating to \$930,695. Eighteen percent would be invested in new positions, including two new English language development teachers and a fifth-grade interventionist, equating to \$206,086. One percent would go to increase steps for the new positions, equaling \$11,024. The district would be left with a balance of \$9,077.

Holt noted bus aides and kitchen staff are some of the district’s lowest-paid employees.

The increase for drivers puts the district more on par with other businesses that require the same class of driver’s license, he indicated, adding the district has struggled to keep drivers.

He added that the teacher surveys showed “little or no interest in using funds to expand health insurance to all staff, or increasing the number of years teachers could bring into the district.” The maximum number now is seven years of experience to transfer to the school district, according to the presentation.

With regard to health care, the district increased its yearly contri-

bution by \$120, also giving staff two options for health care plans, Holt explained. One would lower premiums, reducing out-of-pocket expenditures. These costs are included in the salary increase.

If the budget is approved, the starting salary would be \$50,140 for certified staff, the presentation indicates.

This contrasts greatly with September 2018, when the starting salary was \$34,500, Holt said.

“That’s competitive for our region, I think on par with what Durango would be offering this next year,” Holt said. “It keeps us looking attractive and certainly we pay considerably more now than if you were looking at Ignacio or Bayfield, even if you were swayed by a four-day workweek plan, you would still want to come to us because of the significant salary difference.”

The presentation showed that the total percent change for the starting salary for certified staff from 2018 is 45.3 percent.

“This is a good indicator that the district is working extra hard ... to take care of our staff and make sure they’re well-compensated,” Holt said.

Holt explained they presented the results of the surveys to the teacher committee and it unanimously approved.

In response to a question from board member Amanda Schick about if the amount allocated for operations can help the district fill academic demands, Holt explained it is, with some expected to be spent on career and technical education and things such as fuel.

He also added the district is in a “fortunate position” with COVID-related federal funding that can be used for curriculum needs.

Board member Tim Taylor proposed also including coaches and stipend positions for activities be included, with most working for less than \$10 per hour.

He added the salary proposal will be brought before the board for consideration at its June 20 meeting along with the budget.

Assistant Finance Director Eric Burt presented the high-level assumptions used in the draft budget.

Burt explained the district will begin the 2023-2024 fiscal year with

a fund balance of \$9 million in the general fund with \$20 million in revenue anticipated.

According to the draft budget, \$13,311,942 is budgeted from local revenue, up \$1,641,122 from the 2022-2023 revised budget. State funding sits at \$7,674,705 in the draft budget, down from \$8,038,120 in the revised budget.

The draft budget allocates about \$19.3 million in expenditures with \$580,000 transferred to capital projects, leaving a \$258,444 surplus and projected ending fund balance of about \$9.2 million.

Burt added that the School Finance Act increased funding by 7.5 percent, and the district will see a 10.8 percent increase in per-pupil funding to \$10,723.

He noted the pupil count is forecasted to decrease by 13.3 students.

Finance Director Mike Hodgson

# Award

## ■ Continued from front

in their community. They are also more likely to have more completed applications for programs such as SNAP, the Low-income Energy Assistance Program and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).”

The CDHS website further explains, “C-Stat is a performance-based analysis strategy that allows every program within the Colorado Department of Human Services to better focus on and improve performance outcomes. By identifying areas of focus, CDHS determines what is working and what needs improvement. By measuring the impact of day-to-day efforts, we are able to make more informed, collaborative decisions to align our efforts and resources to affect positive change.”

It adds that C-Stat data is then

analyzed by CDHS leadership and staff and discussed at monthly meetings where CDHS representatives and staff from individual human services departments work together to identify strengths and weaknesses and formulate strategies for improvement.

The press release explains that ACDHS met 75 percent of its C-Stat goals for 2022.

ACDHS Director Isabel Vita commented on the award, “I am very proud of my team at the Archuleta County Department of Human Services. Receiving the 2022 Distinguished Performance award means that all staff strived hard to meet goals for timeliness, safety, and accuracy. There were 15 Colorado counties that received this award and all of the counties worked through

incredible challenges to meet the needs of their communities.

“The significance of the award means that teamwork went into the day to day business process at ACDHS. Families, single adults, the elderly, and the disabled received their eligibility benefits timely. This allowed our community to put food on their tables, heat their homes, and receive referrals to community support systems.

“ACDHS staff hold high standards for their internal and external customer service. It is my belief that their character and behavior inspire people more than anything else.”

Vita also noted that CDHS is coming to the southwest region in August to officially present ACDHS with its award.

Board president Bob Lynch brought up the topic of increased

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# County

## ■ Continued from A4

“It’s not the county, it’s not the commissioners, it was the economics,” Maez continued. “It was the factor in the situation where people were tryin’ to escape the city, get second, third homes, short-term rentals — all this drove the market up. But, usually a lot of times, the economy sets the standard, so it will come back down, it’s just these next two years are gonna sting on property taxes.”

“I think what my perspective is, is I’m really trying to make a concerted effort to let our taxpayers know that this is not a foregone conclusion,” Brown commented. “And I, from what I have been told from a number of our constituents, is that’s how they feel. ‘I’m gonna get to say what I want to say, but, at the end of the day, it’s a foregone conclusion because y’all in it together.’ And that’s not the case.”

Brown noted that he did not benefit from the increase and did not “like it” personally, “But what I’m trying to do is to provide a third party that, if there is an error, and human beings can make errors, that it will be found, and it will be without influence from the county board of commissioners, it will be without influence from the assessor; it will be independent.

“That’s really what I’m trying to do here and why I even brought this up. Because I want our constituents to trust us. Because we’re not some cloud of mystery. We’re very hardworking folks. I’ve been in the office so much in a year and a half. I know, Ronnie, I see you here all the time. Veronica, you’ve come in and you’re working yourself to death and ... we’re killin’ our staff because we’re here all the time and we’re saying, ‘Hey, I need this, this and this,’ and everybody’s doing it and I think because of, right or wrong,

historical or just the public’s view of government in general, and I have to say I’m not far off the course.

“That’s why I got involved, maybe you too, because I wanted to do it firsthand and bring an honest perspective, and maybe that’s always been the case, but that was my perspective and that’s why I’m bringing this up. It’s not because I’m afraid of work. I can show you 30 years of not afraid of work.”

Maez commented that he does not believe Brown is afraid of work.

“And I’m not afraid of the decision,” Brown continued. “I’m just trying to create some independent, outside process and I know it’s ... money that we’re spending. I know it’s a bureaucracy, but if I’m going to be put in a position to approve money to be spent for the benefit of the public, and that’s what I see this as, then I’m going to do that. That’s just my whole motivation. Where I’m coming from.”

“Look at the scrutiny that the people are already gettin’ on the boards and committees we’ve already selected,” Maez replied. “It’s still gonna be the same. It’s not gonna change. It is not. It will be an added scrutiny for the public to look at and say, ‘Oh, you guys created this board so you can avoid the heat,’ or ... ‘Oh yeah, now that we’ve got this board and now they’re gonna make their decision,’ or, ‘Now it’s loaded with X amount of people that are involved in the field that, oh no, now it’s overweighted on this side or now it’s too different.’ The more we create, the more problems we have.”

“All we can do is try, Ron,” Brown replied. “And I appreciate and respect it. I know where you’re coming from. I’m just trying to try something different to generate a little more trust and to know that we are trying

to do our best.”

Maez commented that the county needs to “educate the people” by highlighting the “huge amount of mill levies” that the Archuleta School District has or the value of a mill levy, which would help citizens understand how their money is used.

He added that the independent referee group would be “skewed” and would be criticized and that he thought education would be more useful.

“That’s it and that’s transparent enough,” Maez said. “When you add bureaucracy to it they always question it because, ‘What are you trying to hide now?’”

Brown commented that he would be willing to consider further education.

Maez concluded by reiterating his desire to educate taxpayers further and stating that the increase in valuations was caused by the market, not by the county.

In a later interview with The SUN, Weaver clarified that he believes CCI is incorrect about the county having de-Bruiced in 2010 and that no de-Bruicing occurred since a ballot measure that would have done so in 2010 failed.

TABOR states in part on the changes in property tax revenues and rebates, “The maximum annual percentage change in each district’s property tax revenue equals inflation in the prior calendar year plus annual local growth, adjusted for property tax revenue changes approved by voters after 1991.”

It also indicates, “If revenue from sources not excluded from fiscal year spending exceeds these limits in dollars for that fiscal year, the excess shall be refunded in the next fiscal year unless voters approve a revenue change as an offset.”

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# PAWSD approves contract related to plant upgrade, tables hazard mitigation plan

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At its June 9 meeting, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved a contract with Pall Corporation for water filtration equipment and tabled the Archuleta County hazard mitigation plan to request revisions.

Discussion of the Pall contract opened with District Engineer/Manager Justin Ramsey explaining PAWSD received the Pall contract at the “zeroth hour,” which included the changes requested by the district.

He noted that the contract is for the filtration units for the Snowball water treatment plant project and that, once approved, the contract would be written over to PCL Construction, the primary contractor for the project.

Ramsey added that the costs associated with the Pall equipment were included in the contract with PCL.

He also explained that the reason PAWSD is working with Pall is because it is the same company that provided equipment for the district’s Hatcher water treatment plant.

PAWSD board vice president Glenn Walsh then asked several questions about the contract, including about terminology related to list price in the contract that indicated that the membrane replacement price would be “\$4,200 or ... basically three quarters of list price, whichever is greater.”

Walsh noted that, if the list price drops, PAWSD could end up paying more than 100 percent of list price with the way the contract was worded and proposed that the contract be changed to state that PAWSD would pay the fixed amount or three quarters of the list price, whichever is lesser.

During a discussion on how list price could be changed, Ramsey noted that increases in the list price on Pall equipment is “one of the things that turned this into such a fiasco” and that “it hasn’t been pleas-

ant working with these guys.”

The board then agreed to change the wording and send the contract to Pall.

In response to a question from Walsh, Ramsey also stated that staff is comfortable with the amount of engineering testing and support hours in the contract, though there had been substantial negotiation on them.

The board unanimously approved the contract.

The board then considered the adoption of the Archuleta County hazard mitigation plan, which Ramsey noted is updated every four years.

He explained that the county gathers input from PAWSD and La Plata Electric Association, among others, and that he had “no problem” with the plan, which PAWSD plays a “small role in.”

Board member Gene Tautges asked if the plan obligates PAWSD financially, with Ramsey stating it does not.

Ramsey added that the plan includes a list of PAWSD equipment that the county could use at Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) rates.

Board secretary Bill Hudson commented that there are “two glaring errors in the document. One has to do with population projections and one has to do with the fact that the second biggest possible environmental disaster that we’re looking at after wildfire is a failure at the town and it’s not included in this plan. So we don’t have any plan for the second biggest environmental hazard that we’re possibly facing.”

Hudson asked if PAWSD can send corrections, which Ramsey indicated he assumed is possible.

Walsh noted that the county hires a consultant to update the plan and that it has been updated for issues like pandemics, but has not been updated to include a potential failure of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) pumping system, which he characterized as potentially the

“biggest environmental threat or multidistrict hazard.”

He added that having the potential for pump failure included in a FEMA report “and that to date our best attempt to redress this is with a couple of temporary ponds and with a conga line of 28 vac trucks running up and down Put Hill” could give PAWSD leverage in its efforts to obtain a delay from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for the implementation of required environmental upgrades to the Vista wastewater treatment plant in order to consider a new arrangement with PSSGID.

Walsh added that he is not sure of the likelihood of this occurring in the next 10 years, but that he expected it is greater than 50 percent.

Ramsey stated that he would be willing to bring the issue to Archuleta County Emergency Operations Commander Ryan Foster.

Hudson noted that the town and county have already approved the plan and asked if PAWSD could feasibly request changes.

Ramsey stated that the town and county cannot force PAWSD to approve the document if they are not comfortable with it and that changes could be requested if that would be needed for the board to approve it.

Hudson proposed tabling the plan to see if it could be fixed.

Ramsey asked what the issue with the population projection is.

Hudson explained that the plan had taken numbers from the previous plan which were “outrageous” and slightly modified them.

He added that the plan shows the 2020 population of the county at 17,000 when it was actually 13,500 and that the plan projected 3.5 percent growth per year beyond that, which is higher than any other projection in the community.

Hudson commented that PAWSD and Growing Water Smart both projected 2 percent growth and questioned why the plan is using 3.5 percent growth.

Ramsey raised the possibility that perhaps higher numbers would

increase the amount of hazard mitigation funding, which Walsh agreed is possible.

However, Walsh added that he agreed with Hudson that the numbers for full-time residents are “kind of a lazy application of some studies that are 15 years old,” although they would potentially be more accurate factoring in the number of short-term rentals (STRs) in the community.

Walsh added that he would want either a more accurate assessment of the full-time residential population or a “more nuanced” description of the fact that figure includes visitors in STRs as the current figure could lead to further inaccuracies in the future.

“So, I appreciate Glenn’s comments,” Hudson said. “I’m very sensitive to population projections because that’s the reason that we paid \$10 million for a \$4 million property was population projections that were wrong, horribly wrong. And these are horribly wrong population projections. So, I would seriously want those fixed to align with Growing Water Smart’s projections and our projections.”

Hudson then moved to table the plan and work with the plan’s author to fix the errors in the plan.

The board then discussed that the plan had not been included in the board packet, which should be done in future, and Walsh again highlighted the importance of having the potential failure of the PSSGID pumping system included in the plan.

The board then unanimously voted to table the plan with a request to approach the author and request changes.

## Potential RV park

At the meeting, the board also discussed a proposal by PCL to park recreational vehicles (RVs) for housing workers on the Snowball water treatment plant on a PAWSD-owned 20-acre parcel adjoining the San Juan River and opposite the Running Iron Ranch.

The board discussed several options for where to locate the trailers and how many amenities in terms of water and electrical connections would be offered as well as the possibility that the site could be offered as housing to PAWSD employees in the future.

Following the discussion, the board indicated general approval with moving forward with researching and developing the proposal.

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## Boebert’s staff to hold mobile office hours in Piedra area

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert’s office

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert’s office announced mobile office hours in the coming weeks.

Staff from Boebert’s office will be available to help constituents who aren’t getting answers from federal agencies, like veterans seeking to get the care they

earned from the Veterans Affairs, travelers that need expedited assistance to receive a passport on short notice, taxpayers being harassed by the IRS and senior citizens having issues with the Social Security Administration or Medicare.

Additionally, constituents are invited to come to the office hours to express their viewpoints on legislative issues or request special Congressional Commendations recognizing outstanding public achievements.

Mobile office hours will be available Wednesday, June 21, in the Piedra area with combined mobile office hours for Archuleta, Mineral and Hinsdale counties at the Sportsman’s Campground, Main Lodge, 2095 Taylor Lane, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Archuleta Democratic Club to meet

By Lynn Frederick  
Archuleta Democratic Club

The Archuleta Democratic Club will meet Wednesday, June 21, at 11:30 a.m. at The Den, 729 San Juan St.

Kirsten Skeehan will be our speaker. She is one of the members of the La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) board who represents Archuleta County. Skeehan will speak about LPEA and its policies in regard to renewable energy. If you have questions about the

possibilities of renewable energy and the restraints in its adoption, please come to hear Skeehan.

In appreciation for the use of The Den, we encourage you to stay for lunch and socialize with fellow Democrats. The purpose of the Democratic Club is to provide an opportunity for Democrats to hear about local issues and meet other Democrats. However, you do not have to be a Democrat to attend. Our meetings are open to all. For more information, please email candace.pspgs@gmail.com.



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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!



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# Education



Hayden Kiker



Karissa Foster



Hannah Rockensock



Kaeden Thomas

## Curtains Up Pagosa announces scholarship winners

Curtains Up Pagosa

Curtains Up Pagosa is happy to announce this year's college scholarship recipients.

This year, we have awarded four deserving students with a \$1,000 scholarship toward their college tuition.

Hayden Kiker will be attending Tennessee Tech University, majoring in vocal performance.

Karissa Foster will be attending Brigham

Young University in Idaho and be majoring in communications with an emphasis in video production.

Hannah Rockensock will be attending Tennessee Tech University and will be majoring in musical theater with a minor in computer science.

Kaeden Thomas will be attending Colorado Christian University with his sister, Anika (a previous scholarship recipient and choreographer for our upcoming production of "Chitty Chitty

Bang Bang"). He will be dual majoring in vocal performance and ministry management (business and theology).

All four of our recipients are very talented and well-deserving students. Each of them have spent countless hours helping Curtains Up in various aspects of productions from acting, to backstage and technical work.

Curtains Up Pagosa is very proud to help support these students further their education and help to build their future.

## Middle school announces fourth-quarter honor roll

By Anjelica Gallegos  
Pagosa Springs Middle School

The following Pagosa Springs Middle School fifth-grade students made the fourth-quarter honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Elias Becker Sweden, Camellia Bellina, Kiana Bennett, Kenzy Bowdridge, Carlie Bridges, Zander Campbell, Kyleah Coss, Chloe Crabb, Keyonnah Daniels-Wesley, Ruby Daugaard, Shiloh Degelman, Miles Dempster, Delilah Dishface, Gavino Dozal-Nevarez, Jemma Flaugh, Kayleen Gonzalez, Esperanza Gutierrez Calvillo, Maddison Hunke, Bixby Hyman, Kadence Inez, Cooper Laner, Avitt Lee-Shaw, Davyn Leiker, Skylar Leiker, Marleigh Lucero, Mia Lucero, Jazmine Martinez, Oliver Mendoza, Ty Mitchell, Lucy Modern, Katalena Ordonez, Vanessa Ramirez, Sofia Sauzameda, Kadence Shawver, Neitzey Shepherd, Journey Sparks,

Trent Tator, Jacob Tracy, Micah Tyler, Levi Velarde and Francis Witting.

The following fifth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Adam Candelaria, Olivia Diffey, Eduardo Marinelarena, Asher Smith, Livia Souza, Tuff Terrazas and Jaycee Wallace.

The following sixth-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Rylan Ash, Marcela Barnas, Treyson Cotts, Jayce Davidson, Veda Deitemeyer, Charmayne DeJesus, Fox Dietsch, Cole Hancey, Kaydence Hibbert, Aliana Hoffschneider, Derek Johnson, Brandt Kerns, Delaney Kirkham, Logan Lamoreaux, Ember Liverett, Brynn Looper, Whiley Lucero, Ahrianna Martinez, Kelsey Matyniak, Jimena Moreno Echavarría, Kairan Munro, Lily Peck, Valeria Pereyra, Laken Pitcher, Bella Postolese, Wayde Sutherland, Marcayle Vigil, Briggs

Wilson and Reilly Yates.

The following sixth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Avery Book, Kylie Coleman, Samson Dennis, Alexander Forster, Corinna Galabota, Ward Halterman, Quinn Howard, Raleigh Iverson, Paisley Lister, Alan Renteria, Evelyn Rohwer and Sofia Souza.

The following seventh-grade students made honor roll with a 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: Zaiden Adams, Ethan Bracken, Riley Culligan, Tyler Dimond, Aubriana Fay, Darria Fiorenza, Laurence LeftHandBull, Katie Lucero, Hunter Martinez, Xavier Martinez, Nayely Mendoza-Montes, Mila Miller, Sara Morse, Peyton Pfeiffer, Angel Ramirez, Isabelle Ratcliff, Ryan Rich, Liam Sherman, Audrina Smith, Weston Sweet, Liana Vega, Molly Washburn, River Wilson and Blakely Woodward.

The following seventh-grade students made the A honor roll with

a 4.0 GPA: Mikaila Anderson, Noah Bellina, Ave Bruce, Vivvy DavRem, Tristan Harper, Bella Jackson, Reese Jenkins, Kasen Limebrook, Jessica Parker, Sydney Plake, Luke Reynolds, Colby Ross, Gage Sams, Oliver Samu, Gianna Shaeffer, Leela Simpson, Carrington Smith, Nicolas Tator, Avonlea Thomas and Ellie Vining.

The following eighth-grade students made honor roll with 3.5 to 3.99 cumulative GPA: David Al-bue, Laykyn Baxstrom, Cheyenne Bechhold, Victoria Currier, Trevor Faber, Ximena Garcia, Jeremi Gutierrez, Van Halterman, Deegen Hoffschneider, Taylor Kerns, Connor Kirkham, Lucille Kleckner, Kelly Anne Kubelka, Asher Kurz, Lisette Lescas, Madelynn Mathis, Samuel Munro, Shantea Murphy, Adelaide Oelking, Alihana Perea, Italia Pereyra, Apolonia Pinto, Koen Pitcher, Jaxon Postolese, Alyzia Quezada, Brian Rafferty, Kelly Romero, Richard Russom, Eric Smith and Ayden Sollars.

The following eighth-grade students made the A honor roll with a 4.0 GPA: Marlie Adams, Trinity Angle, James Beaudry, Nile Bollig, Damian Cardenas, Jackson Chaney, Sebastian Coba, Katie Court, Baylee Davis, Leo Dennis, Makaela Denton, Nevaeh Evans, Isabela Forster, Parker Frame, Isaac Hanto, Dawson Iverson, Emma Jackson, Ryder King, Braylon Landry, Aki'chita LeftHandBul, Kaiya Lyons, Sophie Martinez, Kyle Matyniak, Stetson Osborn, Jonathan Rodriguez, Jutin Sewell, YuHuang Su, Gwendolyn Tyler, Reagan Vanatta, Stefani Vele-ta-Echavarría and Peyton Yates.



Photo courtesy Glenn Sterkel

Kaylor Christians and Glenn Sterkel shake hands at the Pagosa Springs Car Show on Saturday. Christians was awarded the first Ruby Sisson Scholarship. He is a graduate of Pagosa Springs High School and will be attending Universal Technical Institute this fall to study diesel mechanics. Sterkel was the vocational mechanics teacher in 1980 when Sisson donated her 1950 Chevrolet truck to the school. The truck was auctioned off to begin the scholarship fund. Each year, vocational mechanics will be awarded scholarships to attend vocational school.

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# Airport Advisory Committee approves recommendations for economic impact study

By Josh Pike  
Staff Writer

At a June 12 meeting, the Archuleta County Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) voted to move forward with recommendations for a plan and methodology for an economic impact study for the airport.

AAC chairman Bill Sommer outlined that, after approving moving forward with the study at the AAC's March 23 meeting, the committee formed a working group to research methodologies and plans for the study.

Sommer then reviewed the recommendations for the impact study, including an approach, methodology and analysis tools.

He noted that, if the AAC voted to move forward with the recommendations, the next step would be to meet with the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) at a work session to discuss the study.

Sommer started by explaining that the working group researched a range of economic impact studies, from both Colorado and other states, and identified consistencies, as well as finding a guide on how to do economic impact studies from the National Academy of Sciences among other resources.

He noted that economic impact studies follow a process of collecting data and then doing analysis to capture indirect or tertiary economic impacts.

Sommer added that he could not find any counties of Archuleta County's size that had done a similar economic impact study, although he noted there are a large number of resources available and that the AAC would not have to invent a new procedure.

He stated that the economic impact study is intended to educate stakeholders, including the BoCC and other members of county government, about the economic and noneconomic impacts of the airport on the community.

He also noted that the study would help educate the community and assist the airport in acquiring government funding and facilitating "development synergies" with other enterprises in the area.

Sommer then discussed the range of resources for the study and highlighted the fact that the Colorado Division of Aeronautics will be doing an economic impact study beginning next year, though it will not consider intrastate travel and economic impacts.

He stated that he also met with the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation and was attempting to work more closely with Visit Pagosa.

He added that the working group analyzed the 2012 economic impact study done on Stevens Field, but noted that it was shaped by its timing after the Great Recession and its approach and questions would be unlikely to be effective today.

Sommer then covered the components of an impact study, including surveying users of the airport on their spending in the community, much of which would be done by fixed base operator Avjet.

He noted that many economic impact studies are exclusively survey-based, though this can cause the survey to be limited in scope.

The board then discussed where charter aircraft operators and passengers would be covered in the surveys, with the group deciding that having a separate survey for both charter pilots and passengers would be appropriate instead of them being amalgamated with businesses and part-time residents.

The group also discussed how to categorize and survey military aircraft and pilots, ultimately deciding that the group did not merit a separate survey from visitors.

**[Derek] Woodman commented that it is possible that tourism funding could be used to fund a portion of the analysis cost as tourism officials could use the data as well.**

Sommer then explained that the economic impact study would include personal interactions and visits with associated businesses and airport tenants to gather additional data and encourage a higher rate of response.

Sommer stated that the second piece of the study is analysis, which captures the indirect impacts of the airport (such as the flow of goods, materials and services to entities off the airport) and the induced effects (such as the spending enabled by employees of business supported by the airport).

He then outlined three different models for doing the analysis, including the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, which he described as a spreadsheet-based model that uses data collected at the county and regional levels for economic multipliers.

He stated that the RIMS II model would be the cheapest but is less user-friendly than other options, though he feels it could be used due to the relatively simple economics and limited numbers of industries in the region.

Sommer next described the IMPLAN model, which he noted is the model used in most state studies the working group looked at.

He noted that IMPLAN has more user tools and a more sophisticated

user interface, but a one-year license would cost \$2,500.

He stated that it would allow the AAC's study to align with the state's study and that it integrates a broader range of data sources than RIMS II.

Sommer also briefly noted that the working group considered the REMI model as well, but had decided it was out of scope for the study.

He stated that, from the data the working group collected, they designed an approach that they wanted to recommend to the AAC that used "pretty widespread and accepted methods and analysis tools."

The group then discussed the timeframe of the study, which Sommer stated would be for a year beginning in July 2023 to capture seasonal variations.

The group then discussed if there would be benefits in changing the timing or timeframe of the study, which they decided would not be useful as there are limited future events that would require the study to be finished at a different time.

The AAC also discussed data-collection methods for study, including ways to actively distribute the surveys to potential respondents while not biasing the survey results, ways to reach highly private customers and methods for entering data, including nonelectronic data.

Sommer stated that, once the June 30, 2024, end date for the survey had passed, the AAC could "crunch the numbers," although he expressed the hope that some of the analysis could be done beforehand to spread out the work of creating the report.

The group then further discussed the potential use of online surveys and QR codes for the surveys, with County Manager Derek Woodman noting that the county could handle the electronic logistics of the survey and the data entry for the surveys.

However, the group also agreed that having paper surveys available would be valuable to ensure that highly private individuals would feel secure in taking the survey.

Sommer explained that the economic impact study would include five types of surveys as well as interviews of a wide range of stakeholders and interviews with county staff to assess the revenue generated by property taxes, hangar leases and labor at the airport.

He explained that there would also be interviews to assess non-economic impacts, including those from medical evacuations and potentially wildfire-fighting operations.

The group discussed the impacts of having a local airport on wildfire fighting capacity, noting that it likely improves the effectiveness of the response.

Sommer then discussed the analysis of the data, noting that IMPLAN would be the working group's

recommendation going forward, but a final decision on the analysis would not necessarily need to be made this year.

However, Airport Manager Chris Torres stated that the AAC needed to decide on what analysis tool it would use since it would need to be integrated into the budget for 2023.

The group also discussed that the data would need to be formatted appropriately for whatever tool is used and that a change could cause delays and extra work because the data would likely need to be reformatted.

Woodman noted that the AAC would only need to offer the BoCC a general estimate of the cost of the model and that the cost could be presented by Torres in his 2024 budget request.

Sommer stated that he is unsure if IMPLAN would be worth the cost or if they could get by with RIMS II. Woodman commented that it is possible that tourism funding could be used to fund a portion of the analysis cost as tourism officials could use the data as well.

Sommer also mentioned that, if there is no interest in spending any money, the AAC could plug the data into the Colorado economic impact study, although this would provide data of potentially limited accuracy.

He also noted that the study should provide some data before the study period and project into the future beyond the end of the period to provide context on how the study period compares to other periods.

Sommer then discussed risks associated with the study, which he commented is not a "slam dunk."

He noted that there could be potential difficulties in securing information from highly private "high net worth individuals" who make up a substantial portion of the airport economy.

He also highlighted the large amount of volunteer time that the project would take as a challenge.

AAC member John Musser asked what the BoCC would do at the meeting with the AAC, with Woodman explaining it would be strictly informational although he would get a "feel" for the board's support of the study.

The AAC then moved to approve the recommendations for the study and to refer it to BoCC.

According to Sommer, the AAC is scheduled to discuss the study with the BoCC at its June 20 work session.

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# Sports

## Wrestle the World



SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Nearly 400 campers, including more than 50 Pagosa Springs athletes, took part in the annual Wrestle the World camp held at Pagosa Springs High School June 5-9. The award-winning clinicians at the camp include Terry Brands, a two-time world champion, two-time NCAA champion and Olympic bronze medalist who started the camp in 1991.



# 'It was just time': Pagosa Springs Middle School finds success in girls' wrestling

By Randi Pierce  
Staff Writer

This year's Wrestle the World training camp, held last week at Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS), allowed hundreds of wrestlers from across the region and country to learn from some of the best.

Among the nearly 400 wrestlers who participated in the camp this year, 56 were females — a number up from previous years, according to PSHS wrestling coach Dan Janowsky, and is indicative of a larger trend.

Girls' wrestling, Janowsky and Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) Principal Chris Hinger noted, is the fastest-growing sport at the high school level.

In Pagosa Springs, girls' wrestling is taking off at the middle school level, with PSMS boasting enough girls during the 2023 season to participate in a girls' division.

"Over the season, they worked hard, honed their skills, and eventually placed third in the Wolf Creek Rumble Tournament," Hinger wrote of the girls' team in the PSMS newsletter following the season. "This year's Wolf Creek Rumble was the first time a middle school tourney has run two side-by-side tournaments in one, awarding a girls team trophy at the end."

The Escalante Middle School girls' team won the trophy at the Rumble, with more than 40 girls wrestling at the tournament overall, Hinger reported.

"It was just time for us to do it," Hinger said of PSMS putting more



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Middle School

For the first time in its history, Pagosa Springs Middle School had a girls' wrestling team participate in the Wolf Creek Rumble, with the team taking third.

into having a girls' team.

He also noted the addition of the girls' program fell around the 50th anniversary of Title IX, which declared gender equity in education a civil right.

"We kind of attacked it ... last year pretty ... intensely. We surveyed the girls and we asked, if we had a girls wrestling team where you predominantly wrestled other girls, would you come out? And we had probably 30 girls that said absolutely," Hinger said, explaining some who showed interest said they were previously not allowed to or felt uncomfortable wrestling boys. "I think that really helped."

So, Hinger explained, the school

budgeted for another coach to be involved with the program.

And while the team didn't boast a roster of 30 in its first season and instead had about 11, Hinger noted, "That's probably five times more than we had."

He added the team has had one or two female wrestlers a year, with wrestlers this year from sixth, seventh and eighth grade.

He also noted the kids were not made to wrestle in tournaments throughout the season, with some primarily participating in practices and not wrestling until the final tournaments.

Hinger also explained the girls had the option to wrestle in a girls'

bracket or a mixed bracket where they could face a male wrestler.

"We had a number of kids that just really did well and kind of figured out wrestling and learned enough about it to be pretty effective wrestlers," Hinger said.

But, beyond success on the mat, Hinger relayed stories of female wrestlers who reported that wrestling helped them develop confidence and that the sport helped athletes connect more with adults in the school.

"We are proud of the hard work and dedication of our athletes and coaches in leading this effort to expand girls wrestling," Hinger wrote in the newsletter.

## Red Ryder Roundup: a multistate sanctioned rodeo series

By Diana Talbot  
Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo

This year marks the 73rd anniversary of the Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo held annually in Pagosa Springs. This multistate sanctioned rodeo series features amateur cowboys and cowgirls from various states competing for prizes and prize money. Rodeo participants receive cash and prize awards for their daily performances, including the coveted personalized belt buckle.

The overall cowboy and cowgirl award is presented after the third and final performance, and each winner receives a Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo Golden Boy Henry rifle.

The rodeos are July 2 and 3 at 6 p.m. and July 4 at 2 p.m., presented at the Western Heritage Event Center arena and grounds. Tickets are available online at [www.pagosarodeo.com](http://www.pagosarodeo.com) and at the gate prior to the event. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 for children. Box seats are available and can be purchased by calling Diana at (970) 749-3492.

Concessions are available throughout the events.

Traditional American rodeo features cowboys and cowgirls in the various livestock events like bronc riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, breakaway roping, barrel racing, bull riding and team roping. Various activities are included in the daily performance like the Daisy BB gun raffle and the presentation of the honorary Red Ryder Award.

An impressive grand entry with flags waving from westerners on horseback kicks off each performance and is accompanied by the announcer introducing special guests and the crowd singing the national anthem.



Photo courtesy Lea Leggett

The Red Ryder Roundup Rodeo is a multistate sanctioned rodeo series featuring amateur cowboys and cowgirls from various states competing for prizes, prize money and coveted personalized belt buckles.

Mutton bustin' is always fun and full of laughs as boys and girls, 6 years old or younger, don helmets and vests prior to mounting a sheep, gripping a rope tied around the chest of a sheep and hanging on while the sheep races out of the chute as it opens. Ten contestants each day vie for the coveted belt buckle that is given to the daily winner with the longest ride time. Every rider goes home with a Daisy BB gun.

The rodeo clown is a staple in the rodeo arena. Called a bullfighter, the chief responsibility is to protect the

cowboy from dangerous livestock. While the cowboy is focused on the ride and maximizing time, the bullfighter distracts the livestock once the rider dismounts. The term "clown" comes from the entertaining side of this job where the bullfighter entertains the crowd during the lulls in the action.

Red Ryder was the main cowboy character in the popular western comic strip created by Stephen Slesinger and artist Fred Harman that ran for more than 25 years in newspapers all over the country.

Red was a strong and ethical cowboy who lived on Painted Valley Ranch in the Blanco Basin in the San Juan Mountains. His horse was Thunder, his sidekick was Little Beaver with horse Papoose, and they protected the people and land from unscrupulous behavior. The geography is that of Pagosa Springs and this community was blessed to have Fred Harman III as a town resident for decades.

More rodeo information is available by calling (970) 749-3492 or visiting [www.PagosaRodeo.com](http://www.PagosaRodeo.com).

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If you are interested in participating in the Red Ryder Roundup Mutton Busting event, please register by Friday, June 23. Applicants must be 6 years old or younger and a parent must attend the rodeo with you. There will be 10 riders per day on July 2, 3 and 4. Helmets, vests and ropes will be provided at no charge. There is no charge for this event and all participants will be drawn out of a box on Saturday, June 24. If you are selected, you will be notified of the day you will ride by telephone or email.

[www.pagosarodeo.com](http://www.pagosarodeo.com)

Email application info to:  
[pennie.declark@bankofcolorado.com](mailto:pennie.declark@bankofcolorado.com)

Child's name  
Child's age  
Parent's name  
Parent's contact email and phone  
Preferred day (no guarantee)

**RED RYDER ROUNDUP**  
© 2023 RED RYDER ENTERPRISES, INC.





Photo courtesy Worm Charbonneau

Pagosa Springs athletes compete in the Special Olympics Colorado State Summer Games over the weekend in Grand Junction. The team brought home 10 gold medals, eight silver medals, two bronze medals and two ribbons.

## 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 two weeks: 476.  
 May 29 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, second-degree assault-caused/intended serious bodily injury, menacing-misdemeanor, Canyon Circle.  
 May 29 — Information only, Heath Drive.  
 May 29 — Animals running at large, County Road 973.  
 May 29 — Criminal mischief, Park Avenue/Cloud Cap Avenue.  
 May 30 — Agency assist, South Pagosa Boulevard.  
 May 30 — Violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, violation of restraining order, Pineview Road.  
 May 30 — Animals running at large, information only, County Road 411.  
 May 31 — All other thefts, Jack Rabbit Road.  
 May 31 — Third-degree assault-simple assault, Great West Avenue.  
 June 1 — Drove vehicle without insurance, improper registration, drove vehicle when license suspended, failed to observe or disregarded traffic control device, failed to display valid registration, West U.S. 160/Pinon Causeway.  
 June 2 — Harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, domestic violence, Midiron Avenue.  
 June 2 — Information only, Hills Circle.  
 June 2 — Agency assist, Coyote Drive.  
 June 2 — Warrant arrest, North Pagosa Boulevard.  
 June 2 — Information only, North Pagosa Boulevard/Navajo Trail Drive.  
 June 2 — Criminal mischief, Buttercup Drive.  
 June 4 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, driving under restraint alcohol/drug-related offense, expired license plates, Navajo Trail Drive.  
 June 4 — Information only, Dandelion Drive.  
 June 5 — All other thefts, information only, Simmons Drive.  
 June 5 — Information only, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, Industrial Circle.  
 June 6 — Second-degree burglary, theft-from building, second-degree criminal trespass, West Peregrine Circle.  
 June 7 — County warrant, North Pagosa Boulevard/Country Center Drive.  
 June 7 — Information only, North Pagosa Boulevard.  
 June 7 — Information only, trespass warning, Allison Place.  
 June 8 — All other thefts, Antler Court.  
 June 8 — Information only, County Road 600.  
 June 8 — Failure to comply, failure to comply, failure to comply, Harman Park Drive.  
 June 8 — Warrant arrest, Susan's Place.  
 June 8 — Criminal mischief, West U.S. 160.  
 June 9 — Death investigation, Pinon Hills Circle.  
 June 10 — Identity theft-uses identity, Inspiration Drive.  
 June 10 — Dog at large (first offense no injury), North Pagosa Boulevard.  
 June 11 — Trespass warning, Elk Drive.  
 June 11 — Driving under restraint alcohol/drug-related offense, failed to stop at stop sign, open container in a motor vehicle, Park Avenue/Midiron Avenue.  
 June 11 — Warrant arrest, Park Avenue/Midiron Avenue.

### Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service for two weeks: 343.  
 May 27 — DUI, careless driving, Eagle Drive.  
 May 27 — Violation of restraining order, Pagosa Street.  
 May 28 — Trespass first degree, attempt to commit criminal misdemeanor, Hot Springs Boulevard.  
 May 28 — Criminal mischief, 5th Street.  
 May 29 — Theft, Hot Springs Boulevard.  
 May 30 — Disorderly conduct, obstructing peace officer, resisting arrest, Pagosa Boulevard.  
 May 30 — Careless driving causing bodily injury, Great West Avenue.  
 May 31 — Warrant arrest, Pagosa Street.  
 May 31 — Warrant arrest, Navajo Street.  
 June 2 — Theft, Yamaguchi Park.  
 June 5 — Unsafe backing, San Juan Street.  
 June 6 — Nuisance, accumulation of weeds, Village Drive.  
 June 6 — Theft, 8th Street.  
 June 8 — Burglary, theft, criminal mischief, Country Center Drive.  
 June 8 — Warrant arrest, Eaton Drive/Village Drive.  
 June 8 — Warrant arrest, Cemetery Road/Juanita Street.  
 June 9 — Harassment, 14th Street.  
 June 9 — DUI, failed to drive in single lane, failure to use turn signals, U.S. 160.  
 Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Anthony D. Edwards  
 No report.  
 Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay  
 May 31 — Caleb Lee Matot, driving under the influence, 30 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 12 months probation alcohol evaluation and supervision, fines and costs — \$720.50.  
 May 31 — Joseph Espinosa Jr. Harassment-strike/shove/kick, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$872.50.  
 May 31 — Austin J. Saunders, speeding 5-9 over limit, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$256.50.  
 May 31 — Jose M. Saucedo Alfaro, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$107.50.  
 May 31 — Cody R. Cannon, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.  
 May 31 — Travis J. Black, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.  
 May 31 — Jacob Griego, failed to stop at stop sign, fines and costs — \$140.

June 7 — Sierra Elizabeth Tobias, violation p/o-criminal, 63 days jail, fines and costs — \$247.50.  
 June 7 — Sierra E. Tobias, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 60 days jail, 24 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,492.50.  
 June 7 — Jerry D. Girardin, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$133.50.  
 June 7 — Tyler DM Goss-Fackender, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$198.50.  
 June 7 — Tywania S. Holly, improper mountain driving, fines and costs — \$172.50.  
 June 7 — Kari Leanne McKeen, obedience to official traffic control device, fines and costs — \$170.  
 June 7 — Joseph M. Piscitelli, fail to yield right of way/left turn, fines and costs — \$142.50.  
 June 7 — Justin S. Pizzica, seat belt not used, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$227.50.  
 June 7 — Peter S. Ronney, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$198.50.  
 June 7 — Sergio Blaze Salazar, speeding 20-24 over, fines and costs — \$255.  
 June 7 — Theodore J. McCormack, driving under the influence, 15 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, fines and costs — \$725.50.  
 June 7 — Molly L. Holliday, driving under the influence, 15 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 12 months probation alcohol evaluation and supervision, fines and costs — \$725.50.  
 June 8 — Dalton L. Perkins, controlled substance-unlawful use, 90 days jail suspended imposition, fines and costs — \$524.50.  
 June 12 — Alissa J. Zissman, speeding 5-9 over, fines and costs — \$125.  
 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay  
 May 25 — Zebulun S. Merfeld, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 180 days jail suspended imposition, fines and costs — \$258.50.  
 June 7 — Brandy Yarbrough, theft-\$300-\$1,000, one day jail, fines and costs — \$258.50.  
 June 8 — Mathew Poma, assault 3-know/reckless cause injury, 197 days jail, fines and costs — \$258.50.  
 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson  
 May 31 — Michael Dennis Andring, stalking-emotional distress, 18 months Department of Corrections, fines and costs — \$456.50.

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## Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
 Court Address: 109 Harman Park Drive  
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
 Phone Number: 970-264-8160  
 Attorney for Plaintiff:  
 Daniel L. Fiedler #47916  
 190 Talsman Drive, Suite D-6  
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
 970-537-8528  
 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 Plaintiff 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*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
 Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr/PO Box 148,  
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
 Phone Number: (970) 264-8160  
 Plaintiff:  
 ANDREW GUINN  
 v.  
 Defendants:  
 DANIEL L. VALDEZ and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION.  
 Submitting Attorney:  
 Duke Eggleston, #24965  
 Eggleston Kosnik LLC  
 160 E. 12th St., Ste 7  
 Durango, CO 81301  
 Phone Number: (970) 403-1580  
 E-mail: deggleston@e-k-law.com  
 Case Number: 2023CV30039  
**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
**PLAINTIFF: ANDREW GUINN**  
**TO THE BELOW NAMED DEFENDANTS:**  
**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 Plaintiff in writing with 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.  
 This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situated in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:  
 Lot 26 in Hudson's Rio Blanco Subdivision No. 5 according to the Plat thereof filed for Record September 1, 1964 as Reception No. 65907.  
 Respectfully Submitted this 31st day of May, 2023.  
 Published in *The Pagosa Sun*  
 First Publication: June 8, 2023  
 Last Publication: July 6, 2023  
 Eggleston Kosnik LLC  
 /s/ Duke Eggleston  
 Duke Eggleston, #24965  
 160 E. 12th St., Ste 7  
 Durango, CO 81301  
 (970) 403-1580  
 Published June 8, 15, 22, 29 and July 6, 2023, in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO  
 Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., PO Box 148  
 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
 Case No. 23C48  
**PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
 Public notice is given on June 2, 2023 that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Adult has been filed with the Archuleta Court.  
 The Petition requests that the name of Sylvia Lucette Goossens be changed to Sylvia Lucette Thompson.  
 /s/ Billen Lohar  
 Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk  
 Published June 8, 15 and 22, 2022 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET  
 Archuleta School District 50 Jt.  
 Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Board of Education of the Archuleta School District 50 Jt. on May 30, 2023 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and has been filed in the Administration Office of the School District where it will be available for public inspection. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a regular meeting of the Board of Education of said District on June 20, 2023 at 3:00 pm in the Middle School Library, 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. A Zoom meeting link will be posted on the District's web site www.mypagosaschools.com at least 24 hours prior to said June 20 meeting.  
 Any person paying school taxes in said district may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his or her objections thereto.  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 May 30, 2023  
 Archuleta School District 50 Jt.  
 Mike Hodgson, Finance Director  
 Published June 8 and 15, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Invitation to Bid - The Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association is seeking proposals for the installation of a new commercial HVAC and dehumidification system at the Recreation Center pool room. Equipment and design have been specified by a mechanical engineer, outdoor mounted hybrid unit. If interested please contact Larry Lynch at PLPOA, 970-731-5635 ext. #5.  
 Published June 15, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Town of Pagosa Springs has received an application for Sketch - Major Subdivision at X (unaddressed) Rob Snow Road which proposes to subdivide the existing 22-acre parcel into four lots.  
 The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 5:30 pm to consider the Sketch Major Subdivision Application.  
 The Public hearing is open to the public and will also be held by Zoom online meeting platform and accessible to anyone in the public from the Town's online portal. Please note: the Town does not and cannot guarantee internet service or online broadcasting for remote attendance. Remote attendance is at risk of the attendee as the public meeting will continue in person regardless of the Town's broadcast capability.  
 To access the meeting agenda and staff report, click the Meetings and Agendas tab on the left-hand side on the Town's website home page at pagosasprings.co.gov.  
 You may also view the application at mypagosa.org/proposed-development-projects.  
 We encourage interested parties to contact the Planning Division prior to the meeting date, with any questions or comments via phone at 970-264-4151 x221 or email at cschultz@pagosasprings.co.gov. Written comments will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for their consideration. Public comments will be accepted at public hearings/meetings.  
 Published June 15, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET  
 Pagosa Peak Open School  
 Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Pagosa Peak Open School Board on May 17, 2023 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and has been filed in the Administration Office of Pagosa Peak Open School and online at pagosapeakopenschool.org where it will be available for public inspection. Such proposed budget will be considered for adoption at a regular meeting of the Board of Education of said District on June 21, 2022 at 5:00 pm in the conference room at PPOS, 3133 Cornerstone Dr., Pagosa Springs, Colorado.  
 Any person paying school taxes in said district may at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget file or register his or her objections thereto.  
 PAGOSA PEAK SCHOOL BOARD  
 June 6, 2023  
 Pagosa Peak Open School  
 Charter School authorized by Archuleta School District 50 Jt.  
 Angela Reali Crossland , School Director  
 Published June 15 and 22, 2023 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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# Outdoors

## Weminuche Audubon Society: more than birds

By Jean Zirnhelt  
Weminuche Audubon Society

At our June annual meeting, held this year on Wednesday, June 21, Weminuche Audubon members will gather to share a potluck dinner, review accomplishments of the past year and hold elections for positions on the board of directors. We invite you to join in the fun, find out what we've been up to and help us plan for the future. For more than 100 years, the name Audubon Society has been associated with the protection of birds. At the national level, the motto of the organization reminds

us that by protecting birds we protect the earth. And while a love of birds certainly is shared by members of our local chapter, we are so much more. Our projects reflect the varied interests and talents of our members. We maintain a beautiful garden on the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park to showcase and promote the use of native plants in landscaping. Through Pagosa Wetland Partners, we conduct tours along the Riverwalk which highlight the importance of wetland areas and advocate for their protection. Our members volunteer in education

programs for area youth which are organized by Audubon Rockies Community Naturalist Keith Bruno. We partner with certified herbalist Lake McCullough by sponsoring popular walks to learn about edible and medicinal qualities of the plants around us. We even go out at night to look for bats. The list goes on. Oh, and yes, we look for birds. We are in the middle of our chapter's annual survey of birds in areas of the national forest to compare bird populations in areas which have been treated or not for fire prevention. We lead bird walks at Chimney Rock

National Monument, survey shorebird populations at national wildlife refuges in Monte Vista and Alamosa, look for evidence of the disappearing Mexican spotted owl and organize the annual Christmas Bird Count in our community in December. The public is invited to join us at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street at 5:30 p.m. for our meeting on June 21. Please bring a dish to share and your dinnerware and utensils. Memberships to our chapter are available for \$15 per year. Contact us at [weminuche.audubon@gmail.com](mailto:weminuche.audubon@gmail.com) for further information.

## Do your part to remain bear aware

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) reminds citizens and visitors that bears have emerged from hibernation. As of May 12, CPW has already received 173 reports of bear activity in 25 Colorado counties this year. Wildlife officials are urging residents to secure any and all attractants. Bears should not be eating from trash receptacles, bird feeders or other human-provided food sources around homes or businesses.

"Every time a bear gets a treat, a bird feeder, a hummingbird feeder or trash, it teaches the bear that people mean food," said Matt Yamashita, CPW's area wildlife manager for Area 8, covering Aspen, Glenwood Springs and Eagle and Pitkin counties. "People who think that it's one time, no big deal, are totally wrong. It is a big deal when you compound that 'one time' with how many 'one timers' they get from your neighbors, too. It adds up."

The first bears to emerge from their winter dens are typically males (boars) followed by females (sows) that did not give birth to cubs over winter. The last bears to emerge from winter dens are the females who gave birth to this year's cubs, usually in late April.

"Over the past several years, Area 8 in particular has seen a high number of bears inhabiting municipalities across both valleys and a subsequently high number

of human-black bear conflicts," Yamashita said. "Even with a lack of natural food sources, bears continue to have large litter sizes of three to four cubs, indicating they are receiving supplemental food from humans." Early season natural food sources for bears include grasses, aspen buds and other vegetative matter that is beginning to sprout. Those gentle food sources, which are the first crops available to them, help a bear's digestive system and metabolism adjust back to normal after not consuming anything for months.

"Their bodies are needing to adjust to the fact that they haven't consumed anything for sometimes six months," said Mark Vieira, Carnivore and Furbearer Program manager for CPW. "So there is this phase that is referred to sometimes as walking hibernation, where they are out on the landscape moving slowly and eating what tends to be more vegetative material that starts to pass through their system to get their bodies ready for early summer food sources. That is when they will move back into the typical omnivore diet that we see bears eating the rest of the year."

Over 90 percent of a bear's natural diet is grasses, berries, fruits, nuts and plants — native crops all dependent on moisture. Wildlife officials monitor weather patterns in the spring and summer to help determine what natural forage will be available in the summer and fall. In years where there is good

moisture and natural food sources are abundant, human-bear conflicts and interactions are down. Though most human-bear interactions occur in the late summer and fall months, a late frost or prolonged dry weather could lead to localized natural food failures and a rise in conflicts. A lack of natural food availability pushes black bears to be more persistent in their search for human-food sources. Being bear aware not only protects your home and property, but it can save a bear's life. Starting with proper bear aware practices early in the season may help prevent bears from discovering your home or neighborhood as a food source that it will return to throughout the year.

### Become bear aware

- CPW offers a reminder that by taking some simple precautions, you can avoid human/wildlife conflicts and help to keep bears wild.
- Bear-proof your home:
    - Keep garbage in a well-secured location. Only put out garbage on the morning of pickup.
    - Clean garbage cans regularly to keep them free of food odors: Ammonia is effective.
    - Keep garage doors closed. Do not leave pet food or stock feed outside.
    - Use a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster.
    - Bird feeders are a major source of bear/human conflicts. Attract birds naturally with flowers and water baths. Do not hang bird feeders from April 15 to Nov. 15.
    - Don't allow bears to become comfortable around your house. If you see one, haze it by yelling at it, throwing things at it and making loud noises to scare it off.
    - Secure compost piles. Bears are attracted to the scent of rot-

- ting food.
  - Clean the grill after each use and clean up thoroughly after cookouts.
  - If you have fruit trees, don't allow the fruit to rot on the ground.
  - Talk to your neighbors and kids about being bear aware.
  - Lock your doors when you're away from home and at night.
  - Keep the bottom-floor windows of your house closed when you're not at home.
- Cars, traveling and campsites:
  - Do not keep food in your vehicle; roll up windows and lock the doors of your vehicles.
  - When car-camping, secure all food and coolers in a locked vehicle.
  - Keep a clean camp, whether you're in a campground or in the backcountry.
  - When camping in the backcountry, hang food 100 feet or more from the campsite; don't bring any food into your tent.
  - Cook food well away from your tent; wash dishes thoroughly. Protecting your chickens, bees, livestock:
    - Keep chickens, bees and livestock in a fully covered enclosure, especially at night.
    - Construct electric fencing when possible.
    - Don't store livestock feed outside.
    - Keep enclosures clean to minimize animal odors.
    - Hang rags soaked in ammonia and/or Pine-Sol around the enclosure as a scent deterrent.

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Illustration courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

This year's Fourth of July Parade has a new route. Entrants will line up on 6th Street and proceed out onto U.S. 160 heading east and then turn south onto Hot Springs Boulevard, ending at Apache Street.

## Fourth of July Parade entries now being accepted, new route planned

Town of Pagosa Springs

The Fourth of July Parade will be held at 10 a.m. on July 4.

Applications to submit an entry for the parade and the parade route map are available on the town website at <https://www.pagosasprings.co.gov/4th-july>.

The deadline to submit an entry is Tuesday, June 27, at noon. Late entries will not be accepted. The theme for the parade this year is "Freedom." Check-in and staging

will be held in the high school parking lot beginning at 7 a.m.

Parade entrants will line up on 6th Street and proceed out onto U.S. 160 heading east and then turn south onto Hot Springs Boulevard, ending at Apache Street. Traffic will be diverted around the parade route and spectator viewing is allowed as indicated on the parade route map listed below. There will be no parking along the parade route; additional information will be published at a later

date as to when the road closures will occur.

For safety reasons, no items or candy are to be thrown from the entries. Walking participants may hand out items to spectators, which is always appreciated.

The parade is a fun family activity and requires a lot of volunteers from the community to help make it a success every year. If you're interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Town Hall at (970) 264-4151.



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# preview

## ARTS & LIFE

# Auction for the Animals

June 16-26



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Humane Society

June 15, 2023



# 29th annual online Auction for the Animals to start June 16

**By Robson Reyes**  
Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs (HSPS) is excited to share that this year's virtual Auction for the Animals event will start June 16 and end June 26. For 10 days, supporters of HSPS can participate in the virtual auction from the comfort of their homes, from anywhere in the world.

Access is easy. Simply log in to [www.hspsauction.org](http://www.hspsauction.org) to browse hundreds of auction items and bid on your favorites, all in support of our community's only animal shelter.

Virtual auction attendees can bid on hundreds of incredible items including jewelry, art, home goods, outdoor gear, gift baskets and gift certificates donated by generous local businesses, as well as gift certificates and items from nearby towns like Creede, Lake City, Ouray, Chama and Durango. There are adventure items like Durango and Cumbre Toltec railroad train passes, dog sledding, Wolf Creek ski passes, Overlook Hot Springs soak passes and so much more.

The Auction for the Animals is the Humane Society's most important annual fundraiser. The success of the auction makes a huge difference in the organization's ability to provide nutritious food, safe shelter

and quality medical care that every lost, abandoned and homeless animal needs and deserves. The success of the auction will help HSPS continue to provide a safe haven to nearly 700 animals that will call the shelter home, at least until a family and a forever home can be found.

Bidding on auction items isn't the only way to help the shelter animals. You can make donations to help buy animal food, assist with funds needed for spay and neuter surgeries, help cover the cost of emergency veterinary care and so much more. You can also make general donations that will be used wherever the need is greatest. Any donation, no matter the amount, will make a tremendous difference in the lives of the animals that come into the shelter's care. To bid on an auction item or to make an outright donation, visit [www.hspsauction.org](http://www.hspsauction.org) and follow the user-friendly prompts.

The Humane Society would like to thank everyone who has already helped make this year's virtual Auction for the Animals a great success.

Start previewing items and bidding on your favorites starting June 16 by visiting [www.hspsauction.org](http://www.hspsauction.org). And don't forget the auction ends at 5 p.m. on Monday, June 26. HSPS thanks you for your support.

■ See Auction on next page

## Live Performers



- Friday**  
**Meltdown on Main:** Unexpected 'Em & the Boys, 5 p.m.  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Ron and Susan, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Glenn Unrath and Jack Ellis, 5 p.m.
- Sunday**  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Jason Rose, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**  
**The Springs Resort lodge atrium:** Terry Rickard, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**  
**Alley House Grille lounge:** Bob Hemenger, 5:30 p.m.  
**The Den:** Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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# 19th Hole Concert Series continuing Thursday with San Juan Mountain Boys

By Robson Reyes

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Join us as we celebrate the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs at the 19th Hole Concert at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club on Thursday, June 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

We will be enjoying Ron Lowe on acoustic guitar and Glenn Unrath as the San Juan Mountain Boys play hits starting from the '60s through today.

Every week, your \$10 cover charge supports five local nonprofits that are part of the 19th Hole Concerts. Local nonprofits participating this year are Veterans Memorial Park, Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society, Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Aspen House and Aspen Services, and Upper San Juan Search and Rescue. All concerts are at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club. At the end of the series, all proceeds are pooled and equally distributed to

the featured organizations.

Food from the grill, beer, wine and signature cocktails will be available for purchase. You are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or a blanket. No outside food, drinks or pets are allowed.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming concerts:

• 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.

• July 13 — Bo DePena — Veterans Memorial Park.

Gather your friends and family and join us for the 2023 concert series. We'll see you on the green.

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## Auction

continued from previous page

The Humane Society is a local private nonprofit organization that operates the only animal shelter in Archuleta County. Your local humane society does not receive funding from the Humane Society of the United States, American Humane, ASPCA or any other national animal welfare organizations. Private donations, grants and thrift store revenues cover only a portion of animal shelter operating expenses. The remainder of shelter costs must be met through fundraising events like the Virtual Auction for the Animals. HSPS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.



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# Professional storyteller Kathy Santopietro to present Men for All Seasons in Story June 17

By Deborah Fox

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation and Friends

Save the date for Men for All Seasons in Story on June 17 at 6 p.m., an event perfect for Father's Day weekend.

The Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation and Friends 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.

The doors will open at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and entertainment. The stories will begin at 7 p.m., with lite hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar to follow at 8 p.m.

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 the door on the night of the event will be \$45.

Santopietro has an interesting story to tell about her adventure into storytelling and we had an opportunity to ask a few questions:

What drew you to storytelling? "I worked in the field of adult education for 30 years. For most of that time, I was a teacher trainer for English as a Second Language programs. Because I wanted a creative way to present teaching approaches and methods, I was drawn to oral storytelling. Folk tales, fairy tales and fables can become scaffolding for teaching complex educational principles by way of enjoyment and engagement. After I retired from adult ed. I've been fortunate to become a storyteller in a variety of community venues — museums, senior centers, churches, libraries and local organizations along the Front Range. There's nothing more rewarding than to share stories as an art and a professional tool."

How do you create programs/presentations? "Almost always those who request storytelling programs have a purpose or theme. Providers want to entertain and enlighten and to educate. A storyteller can weave stories into a



Photo courtesy Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation and Friends

**Professional storyteller Kathy Santopietro will present Men for All Seasons in Story, a fundraiser for the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation and Friends, on June 17. Tickets are available now.**

blanket that covers an audience with comfort while surrounding a theme or topic of interest. I find that programs fall into place because stories can hold a mountain of meaning and metaphor no matter the audience. I find that as a traditional storyteller, programs filled with images from fables, folktales, fairy tales or literary tales are welcome avenues for applied storytelling."

How did you come up with the theme Men for All Seasons? "Traditionally, we celebrate men who are fathers this holiday. But, what about men who provide and care for others? What about men who cultivate, foster, boost and look after others? Let's acknowledge fathers, grandfathers, brothers, uncles, lovers and friends with tales that help us reflect on all that love. The program title illustrates our

purpose in stretching the scope of our gratitude to all men no matter the season of the year and no matter their role in our lives."

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# June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month: Learn 10 ways to love your brain

By Jim Herlihy  
Alzheimer's Association

This June, during Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, join the Alzheimer's Association to help raise awareness of this devastating disease.

You can start by learning and sharing 10 ways to love your brain.

Nearly 7 million people in the United States, including 76,000 Coloradans, are living with Alzheimer's disease. The seventh-leading cause of death and the only leading disease without a prevention or cure, Alzheimer's kills more Americans every year than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined.

When possible, combine these habits to achieve maximum benefit for the brain and body:

1. Break a sweat: Engage in regular cardiovascular exercise that elevates your heart rate and increases blood flow to the brain and body. Several studies have found an association between physical activity and reduced risk of cognitive decline.

2. Hit the books: Formal education in any stage of life will help reduce your risk of cognitive decline

and dementia. For example, take a class at a local college, community center or online.

3. Butt out: Evidence shows that smoking increases risk of cognitive decline. Quitting smoking can reduce that risk to levels comparable to those who have not smoked.

4. Follow your heart: Risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke — obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes — negatively impact your cognitive health. Take care of your heart and your brain just might follow.

5. Heads up: Brain injury can raise risk of cognitive decline and dementia. Wear a seat belt, use a helmet when playing contact sports or riding a bike, and take steps to prevent falls.

6. Fuel up right: Eat a healthy and balanced diet that is lower in fat and higher in vegetables and fruit to help reduce the risk of cognitive decline. Although research on diet and cognitive function is limited, certain diets, including Mediterranean and Mediterranean-DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension), may contribute to risk reduction.

7. Catch some ZZZs: Not getting enough sleep due to conditions

like insomnia or sleep apnea may result in problems with memory and thinking.

8. Take care of your mental health: Some studies link a history of depression with increased risk of cognitive decline. Seek medical treatment if you have symptoms of depression, anxiety or other mental health concerns. Also, try to manage stress.

9. Stump yourself: Challenge and activate your mind. Build a piece of furniture. Complete a jigsaw puzzle. Do something artistic. Play games, such as bridge, that make you think strategically. Challenging your mind may have short- and long-term benefits for your brain.

10. Buddy up: Staying socially engaged may support brain health. Pursue social activities meaningful to you. Find ways to be part of your community — if you love animals, consider volunteering at a local shelter. Enjoy singing? Join a local choir or help at an after-school program. Or, just share activities with friends and family.

It's never too late or too early to start thinking about your brain's health — making healthy choices at any age is beneficial. Visit alz.org/10ways to learn more.



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Photo courtesy Thingamajig Theatre Company

Ze'ev Barmor, Trevor Brown, Evan Hoefler and Justin Autz star as the electrifying singing group The Four Seasons in "Jersey Boys," opening this weekend at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

## Thingamajig Theatre Company's 'Jersey Boys' set to premiere June 16

By Carter Merritt

Thingamajig Theatre Company

As the summer season kicks off at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, theater enthusiasts are in for a treat with Thingamajig Theatre Company's production of "Jersey Boys."

With its highly anticipated opening weekend on June 16 and 17, this show promises an unforgettable experience. From the first look at the final preview, "Jersey Boys" is a production that should not be missed.

Under the guidance of director Dennis Elkins, "Jersey Boys" truly shines. Elkins brings his vision to life with precision and creativity, seamlessly blending the captivating story with the electrifying performances on stage. His ability to guide the cast in delivering authentic and emotional portrayals of the characters is commendable.

Dani Loewen's choreography adds layers upon layers of excitement to the production. With dynamic and energetic dance, Loewen ensures that the performances are visually stunning and perfectly complement the music and storytelling. It's near impossible for the audience to resist tapping their feet and moving along to the beat. With nearly 60 characters portrayed onstage, Alexandra Saeger's costumes are visually stunning, capturing the era with impeccable detail.

Boni McIntyre's music direction is once again exceptional. Each vocalist's performance is executed with precision and a perfect blend of harmonies.

The cast of "Jersey Boys" delivers stellar performances that leave a lasting impact. Trevor Brown, portraying Bob Gaudio, brings depth and passion to his character. His voice resonates with emotion and his portrayal is a testament to his remarkable talent. Evan Hoefler, in the role of Tommy DeVito, delivers a

captivating performance, capturing the essence of the charismatic founding member fueled by ambition and relentless determination. Justin Autz as Nick Massi showcases his exceptional range as an actor, leaving the audience in awe of his powerful presence on stage.

However, it is Ze'ev Barmor's portrayal of Frankie Valli that steals the show. Barmor's incredible performance is nothing short of extraordinary. With a voice that soars effortlessly through Valli's iconic songs, he captivates the audience from the very first note. Barmor's future in this role is undoubtedly promising, and it's not hard to envision him gracing theaters across the country with his immense talent.

The entire cast of "Jersey Boys" deserves recognition for their exceptional abilities. Together, they create a harmonious and captivating ensemble that brings the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons to life. Their chemistry on stage is palpable, adding the critical layer of authenticity to the production.

Following the success of its season opener, "The Great American Trailer Park Musical," Thingamajig Theatre Company proves once again that it is a force to be reckoned with. "Jersey Boys" promises to be an unforgettable experience and a highlight of this summer season.

Mark your calendars for the opening weekend of "Jersey Boys" on June 16 and 17. Don't miss the opportunity to witness this phenomenal production at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Thingamajig Theatre Company's summer season is shaping up to be one of its best, and "Jersey Boys" sets the bar high with its incredible talent, infectious music and compelling storytelling. Secure your tickets now for an evening filled with nostalgia, excitement and pure theatrical magic.

"Jersey Boys" is rated PG-13. For tickets and show information, see [pagosacenter.org](http://pagosacenter.org) or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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Photo courtesy Colette Tressler

Pi Beta Phi members of the local San Juan alumnae club gathered for a springtime lunch on the patio at Kip's Grill on June 9. Pictured are (left to right) seated Melissa McDonald and Joni Rose; standing Laurie Williams, Carolyn Edlund, Carole Howard, Lisa Scott and Paula Tennant. The event honored the sorority's Founders' Day and the club's Golden Arrow members — women who have been Pi Phis for 50 years or more. Pi Beta Phi, founded in 1867, is the oldest national sorority in the U.S. Today there are 135 collegiate chapters in the U.S. and nearly 300 alumnae clubs around the world. Scott is grand president of the entire organization.

## Panhellenic luncheon planned for June 28

By Lisa Scott  
Special to The PREVIEW

The National Panhellenic Conference has 26 sorority groups as member organizations. In 2006, the initial local luncheon was held to celebrate and share in our collegiate sorority roots. The luncheon continued for 11 years and disbanded without volunteers to organize another event.

With Sherry Spears at the lead, the event is being reorganized.

A gathering of sisters is planned for Wednesday, June 28, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Alley House Grille. The event will feature hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. A \$10 donation at the event is requested to assist in covering the cost of the appetizer and beverage service.

We look forward to welcoming the traditional attendees, as well as new faces, to this special event, so please help us by spreading the word and finding the sorority sisters in your neighborhoods and

friend circles.

The planning committee consists of Sherry Spears, Delta Delta Delta; Joni Rose, Pi Beta Phi; and Lisa Scott, Pi Beta Phi. For planning and food preparation, please let us know you are attending; call or text Spears at (940) 887-9208 or sherrykayspears@sbcglobal.net.

This special event is greatly enjoyed by all and previous events attracted more than 30 collegiate sorority women.

## Adventure Clubs for kids announced

By Frank Porter  
Adventure Club

Two Adventure Clubs are scheduled in Pagosa Springs in June.

Each Adventure Club will include a Bible story with drama and activity, a memory verse, high-energy songs, games, crafts, snacks and more games.

It is two hours of fun and learning for kids 5-12 years old and it's free. Come and bring your friends.

Adventure Clubs in locations in Pagosa Springs:

- June 20-22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at

Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. This club has a separate class for little ones who are 3-5. (This includes any little ones who will not start kindergarten until the fall.)

- June 20-22, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Pagosa Vista Estates, 129 Fireside St.

The two Adventures Clubs will have the same three-day program, so choose the Adventure Club that works best for you. For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.



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# Elkins to return to Thingamajig Theatre Company to perform final play in personal trilogy

By Carole Howard  
Thingamajig Theater Company

Dennis Elkins will return to the Thingamajig Theater Company stage for a one-man performance of “blood(line)” (pronounced bloodline), the concluding play of the actor/director/playwright’s autobiographical trilogy, at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts at 7 p.m. on July 2.

This special event is free for the theater’s summer season ticket holders, but you are advised to reserve your place quickly by emailing thingamajigbox@gmail.com before all the seats are taken.

This final version of “blood(line)” incorporates input to Elkins’ script from Friends of the Theater and season ticket holders who participated in a mini-Thingamajig Playwrights Festival two-day collaborative process in November 2021.

At that time, Elkins said his play was in draft form and he wanted suggestions and guidance from theater lovers in Pagosa, whom he has come to admire from directing and performing in so many Thingamajig productions. He read his play from the stage and solicited feedback from the audience on where the show needed rewriting to improve the flow of the story and to clarify the purpose of a scene or character.

“Thingamajig audiences are some of the most intelligent and discerning in the theater world,” Elkins said. “They’re also not afraid to express their opinions and ask good questions. Their input was invaluable to making ‘blood(line)’ a better play.”

### Three one-man shows

The three plays in this autobiographical series are written, produced and performed as one-man shows by Elkins, who is a master storyteller.

The first, “box,” was originally performed in Pagosa to standing ovations and rave reviews at

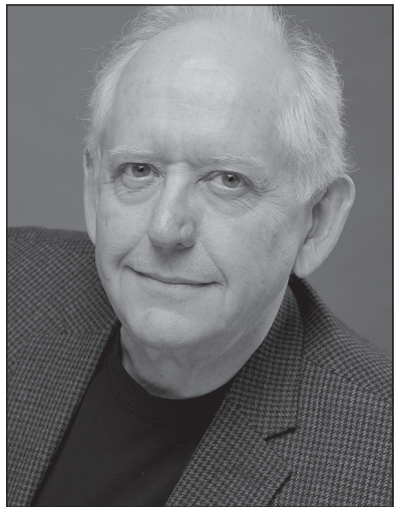


Photo courtesy Carol Siwek

### Dennis Elkins

Thingamajig’s Playwrights Festival in 2018. It focuses on the psychological trials in our lives associated with packing and unpacking boxes — literally and figuratively. We follow Elkins through major events in his adult life including his mother’s death, his son’s overdose, coming out of the closet and leaving academia at Fort Lewis College in Durango.

The second installment is “bag—” (pronounced bag dash), which debuted at Thingamajig in July 2021. It is based on Elkins’ trip to India in the winter of 2017 as he approached his 60th birthday. In this poignant comedy of travel and identity, Elkins crisscrosses India via buses, tuk-tuks and taxis in hopes of uncovering the mysteries of life and middle-age.

Now, “blood(line)” rounds out the trilogy. This play expands our knowledge of the Elkins’ family on his mother’s side that we initially met in the trilogy’s first show “box.” and explores their influence — good and bad — on his life. We also meet others who have impacted his experiences over the years, including friends, academics, mentors and lovers.

After being showcased in Pagosa, “blood(line)” will head to Scotland, where Elkins will

perform all three shows at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August.

### Songs added to ‘blood(line)’

In addition to responding to Thingamajig patrons’ advice regarding the script, Elkins has added six songs to the show in partnership with Brandon Scott Grayson, a composer, lyricist, music director and arranger originally from Las Vegas.

Highlights of Grayson’s career include more than a dozen productions with the Utah Shakespeare Festival as well as music directing multiple world and U.S. musicals, and writing music for other shows.

Elkins wrote the lyrics for the “blood(line)” songs and Grayson wrote the music.

“One of the most powerful times I’ve experienced as an artist is when Brandon and I are in the same room — he at the piano and I with my script — and the magic is happening faster than either of us can write the ideas down,” Elkins said.

The audience will meet Grayson at this Pagosa performance when he will be on stage playing keyboard.

### Impressive history with Thingamajig

Elkins, the former head of the Fort Lewis College theater department and a veteran performer on stages around the world, is well known to Thingamajig audiences. Over the years, he has impressed both locals and out-of-town visitors with his brilliant acting, keen directing and remarkable versatility.

He starred in significant dramas including “Red,” “A Picasso,” “A Few Good Men” and “Proof”; played major roles in musicals like “Cabaret,” “Hairspray” and “Sister Act”; earned laughs in comedies like “Lend Me a Tenor” and “Tuna Christmas”; and directed hits like “Thoroughly Modern Millie.”

■ See Elkins on next page

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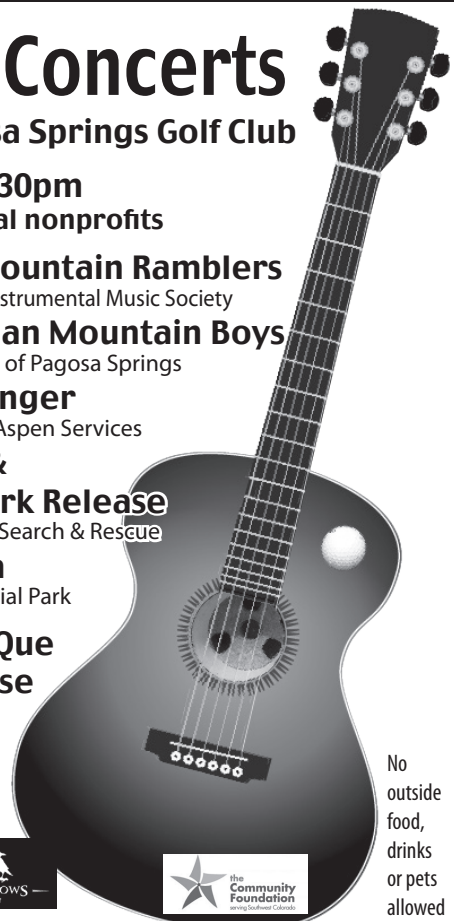
June 15 The San Juan Mountain Boys  
Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

June 22 Bob Hemenger  
Aspen House & Aspen Services

June 29 Jack Ellis &  
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# Professional storyteller returning to Pagosa for two special events Saturday

By Carole Howard  
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Professional storyteller Kathleen Santopietro returns to Pagosa to share more stories at a special pre-Father's Day event to support our campaign to expand and renovate your Ruby Sisson Library.

You may remember this talented lady from her visit last September, when she took us on a storytelling journey around the world. Now she will celebrate male heroes including fathers, grandfathers, brothers, husbands and lovers this Saturday evening, June 17, on the day before Father's Day.

This important fundraiser takes place at the Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive, with a cash bar and seasonal hors d'oeuvres. As an added bonus, it also showcases pianist Sally Neel, with a guest appearance by soloist Robert Neel, both beloved local



musicians.

The doors open at 6 p.m. with storytelling starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door.

Before the evening event, Santopietro will appear at the library on Saturday morning from 11 a.m. to noon for a free storytelling program for all ages.

## Library closure

Your library will be closed on Monday, June 19, for Juneteenth, a federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.

## 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. It offers a huge variety of special programs for all ages and lots of prizes, and will conclude with a celebratory party July 28. Pick up monthly events calendars at the library so you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your family this summer.

## Save the date for book sale

The Friends of the Library have announced their highly popular annual summer book sale will take place July 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friends members will have early access to the sale both days, so you

■ See Library on next page

# Elkins

■ continued from previous page  
"A Christmas Carol" and "Little Women, the Musical."

This summer he returns to the Thingamajig stage from his home in New York City not only for "blood(line)," but also to direct "Jersey Boys," which opens tomorrow, June 16, at 7 p.m. It became an international music phenomenon as it dramatized the story of the formation, success, eventual breakup and great music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, the iconic '60s rock 'n' roll group.

## This summer's musicals

In addition to "Jersey Boys," Thingamajig is producing two more musicals in this summer's Broadway in the Mountains season.

"The Great American Trailer Park Musical," which opened June 2, is a heartwarming musical comedy about the female experience that explores the complicated relationships between a group of misfits living at a trailer park in Florida. It is directed by Ann Evans Watson in her first appearance at Thingamajig. She is associate professor of musical theater at the University of Michigan, an Equity actor, vocal instructor and coach.

Four musicians make up a live band for "Trailer Park." They are Dale Scrivener on keyboard, Will Spears on guitar, Joan Knab on drums and James Kiker on bass.

"Godspell," which will open June 30, is structured as a series of parables based on the Gospel of St. Matthew, interspersed with multiple music styles. It will be directed by Andrew Barratt Lewis, associate professor of musical theater at

Weber State University in Utah. He is a Thingamajig favorite for previously directing "Bright Star" and past Christmas shows "Grand Night for Singing" and "Miracle on 34th Street."

The three musicals are running in rotation until late August. Boni McIntyre is music director, JD Madsen is scenic designer, Mackenzie Lowe is lighting designer, Elly Hunt and Lexi Saeger are costume designers, and Jill Fives is the scenic artist for the shows.

As well, "Newsies Jr.," playing July 15 and 16, will be the theater's Whatchamawhozits children's summer camp show. This year's fundraising Broadway Gala will take place July 25.

## Tickets available now

Tickets for the Elkins show are free for the theater's summer season ticket holders, but you are advised to reserve your place quickly by emailing [thingamajig-box@gmail.com](mailto:thingamajig-box@gmail.com) before all the seats are taken.

Season tickets for all three summer musicals are available on the theater's website at [pagosacenter.org](http://pagosacenter.org) or by phoning the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Individual tickets for the musicals also are available on the website — \$42 for adults for all three shows and \$25 for kids 12 and under for "Godspell." "Trailer Park" and "Jersey Boys" are recommended for mature audiences. Evening performances are at 7 p.m. and matinees are at 3 p.m.

Thingamajig Theater Company was co-founded in 2011 by Tim and Laura Moore. It is an award-win-

ning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented actors, directors and production experts come from across the U.S. and around the world to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round. Thingamajig also is dedicated to providing theatrical experiences and educational opportunities for youth and teens in our community.

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# Library

■ continued from previous page

may want to take this opportunity to join the Friends before the sale or at the door.

Between now and then the library is not accepting any more donations of books, DVDs and other materials because the Friends have all they need for the sale.

## Summer Reading Club today

Our weekly Summer Reading Club for kids in kindergarten through fifth grade takes place Thursdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. with crafts, guest speakers, stories and more. We'll explore topics such as kindness, service, teamwork, connection, friendship and community. No registration is required.

## Online author talk today

There will be two more talks in June in our free online virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors with an opportunity to ask questions.

Today, Thursday, June 15, at noon showcases "An American in Provence: Art, Life and Photography" by photographer Jamie Beck. On Wednesday, June 28, at 6 p.m., you can interact with Tananarive Due, co-author of "Black Panther: Tales of Wakanda."

## Cardboard construction tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, June 16, from 2 to 4 p.m. for the free all-ages cardboard construction event where we will be building superhero gear for a mythical adventure. All supplies will be provided.

## Tween, teen taskmaster tomorrow

Tweens and teens are invited to a free session to test your problem-solving skills with a variety of challenges on Friday, June 16, from 1 to 2 p.m.

## Wee Play tomorrow

Youngsters aged 1-5 are invited to enjoy free play with our collection of toys tomorrow, Friday, June 16, from 10 to 11 a.m.

## Pokemon Club on Saturday

If you love Pokemon, this club is for you. Bring your cards to a fun, free event for ages 6-11 on Saturday, June 17, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. when you can play games with others who feel the same way. No experience is required.

## Adult DIY

At the free adult DIY next Tuesday, June 20, from 1 to 3 p.m., you will learn the art of composting to minimize your waste in landfills.

## Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, June 20, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. No mini-

mum skill level is needed.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, June 20, from 4 to 5:30, join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@pagosalibrary.org.

## Wacky Wednesdays

Ages 6-11 are invited to get silly and play next Wednesday, June 21, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. and every Wednesday in June.

## Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, June 21, from 11 to 11:45 you are invited to come to the library for a free visit with a certified therapy dog. Visits are limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi." This is an all-ages activity.

## STEAM program

Camp Connect is a free STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) program for fifth- through eighth-graders next Wednesday, June 21, from noon to 2 p.m. Preregistration is required.

## 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.

## 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.

## Large print

"All That is Mine I Carry With Me" by William Landay focuses on a family when the mother's remains are found after two decades. "A Calder at Heart" by Janet Dailey is book three in the Calder Brand series. "The Only Survivors" by Megan Miranda takes place on the 10th anniversary of a horrifying school van crash. "My Heart Will Find You" by Jude Deveraux is a romance set in COVID times. "The Fourth Enemy" by Anne Perry is a Daniel Pitt legal mystery. "The Bride Wore White" by Amanda Quick features a psychic dream consultant. "Blue Moon Haven" by Janet Dailey is a New Americana romance set in Alabama. "On the Line" by Fern Michaels begins when a rising star chef collapses mysteriously.

## Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"Blind Spots" by Thomas Mulen centers on murders in a world where everyone went blind in a few months. "Murder Under a Red Moon" by Harini Nagendra features Bangalore Det. Kaveri Murthy. "Death of a Bookseller" by Alice Slater tells of two women

■ See Library on next page

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# Unitarian Universalists to hear about Chimney Rock, Puebloan peoples and the summer solstice

By Joan Ward  
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

This Sunday, June 18, at the 10:30 a.m. service, the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will be honoring the summer solstice a few days early.

Joan Ward will discuss the summer solstice at Chimney Rock National Monument and Judith Jubb will present on celebrating with Puebloan peoples in the southwest at summer solstice.

Jubb will introduce a circle dance step with Hopi music and will share poetry and prayers, and

show a few objects used in ceremonies. Come participate and meet your neighbors in Pagosa Springs.

The first day of summer by the universal solar calendar initiates a flurry of celebrations throughout America for native people in many locations and include music, dancing, regalia, rodeos, storytelling, traditional foods and, of course, bartering goods. In the southwest, pottery, beadwork, silverwork, leather crafts and beautiful weavings of all kinds are a part of coming together. Marriages between clans are also traditionally popular as a means of solidifying good rela-

tions between extended families and groups.

Powwows are wonderful festivals open to the larger population and are easily accessed in Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, California and elsewhere while on family vacations. AAA has listed activities for tourists including Dulce — Jicarilla Apache; Albuquerque and Taos, N.M. — Puebloan; Winslow, Prescott and Montezuma, Ariz. — Sinagua and others. San Jose, California hosts one of the largest celebrations open to many nations. The Ignacio

■ See Unitarian on next page

## Library

■ continued from previous page working in a bookstore. “Ascension” by Nicholas Binge focuses on scientists researching an enormous mountain that appeared in the Pacific Ocean. “Breakneck” by Marc Cameron is an Arliss Cutter thriller set in Alaska. “Death by Chocolate Marshmallow Pie” by Sarah Graves starts with a death in a rival bakery. “Irish Coffee Murder” contains three mysteries by Leslie Meier, Lee Hollis and Barbara Ross.

### Other novels

“The Making of Another Major Motion Picture Masterpiece” by Tom Hanks is the actor’s novel about the making of an epic film. “Lone Star Legacy” by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is a Forever Texas western. “Paper Man” by Billy O’Callaghan pieces together a family’s history after letters and newspaper clippings are found. “Like the Appearance of Horses” by Andrew Krivak is a family saga set in a small mountain town in Pennsylvania. “Hula” by Jasmin Iolani Hakes explores the heritage of a family in Hilo, Hawaii. “The Enchanted Hacienda” by J.C. Cervantes follows a young woman who escapes New York City for a magical home in Mexico.

### Nonfiction

“Empire of Lies” by Dr. Paul Craig Roberts is a collection of essays by the former assistant secretary of the Treasury in the Reagan administration. “The Russo-

Ukrainian War” by historian Serhii Plokhy explores the origins and possible consequences of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

### Important alert about donations

Many thanks to Susan and Terry Arrington, Jeanette and Bob Pike as well as Rob Pew for their generous monetary donations, and to Joanne Ferko and Ainslee Kincross for materials donation.

Please note that the Friends of the Library have announced their annual summer book sale will take place July 21-22. Between now and then, the library is not accepting any more donations of books, DVDs and other materials because the Friends have all they need for the sale.

### Quotable quote

“Perhaps the secret to a happy life isn’t about making the right choices so much as learning to live with the ones we do make.” — Mary Louise Kelly, American broadcaster and author, co-host of NPR’s afternoon news program “All Things Considered,” in her new memoir “It. Goes. So. Fast.,” which is available at the library.

### 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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### 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!



MLS#803172 • \$699,000 • 3 bed • 2 ba • 1677 sq. ft. • 177 TwinCreek Circle

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Photo courtesy St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

The labyrinth at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is open from dawn to dusk every day. On Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon, members will be there to greet and offer information on walking a labyrinth.

## St. Patrick's Episcopal Church announces summer labyrinth walks

By Michelle Chapman  
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is pleased to welcome visitors to our labyrinth this summer Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon.

St. Patrick's is at 225 S Pagosa Blvd. The labyrinth is to the west of the parking lot by the wooden cross and green labyrinth welcome station where you can find materials on how to walk a labyrinth and scriptural quotes to meditate on as you walk.

The labyrinth is open for walking on your own every day from dawn to dusk. During these special hours, one or two of our members will be there to greet you and offer information on walking a labyrinth. They will leave you in peace or walk with you if you prefer. Feel

free to stop for a chat in the shade of our picnic area after your walk.

St. Patrick's labyrinth is an approximate replica of the 11-circuit labyrinth in Chartres Cathedral, France.

It is designed to give you new perspectives on your life and world as you continually wind your way to the center. Walk slowly, concentrate on your breath and the view ahead of you, and let thoughts drift away. By the time you reach the welcoming benches at the center, your mind may be clearer. Here you may sit in meditation on a line of scripture, with your personal mantra or just soaking up the breeze and listening to the birds. When you feel complete it is time to wind your way slowly back to your life, feeling refreshed and fortified with God's grace.

## Unitarian

■ continued from previous page  
Powwow — Southern Ute — occurs in September as the equinox approaches.

Jubb was raised in Colorado and exposed to the American Indian cultures around her from youth. Her interest in art history expanded while attending the Maryland Institute of Art. She has had opportunities in her life to work with shamans and medicine women throughout the American West in religion and healing through prayers.

While traveling abroad, interacting with respected spiritual leaders of many traditions, she learned diverse techniques of using elements available on the planet.

Jubb is a published author and has toured and spoken to many organizations on subjects relating to

the long history of human beings' artistic and spiritual expressions. The ancient art of dowsing for water has enhanced her awareness of the environment and cycles of the Earth. In 2005, she was asked by members of the Hopi Nation Water Clan to find water, if possible, in their area. The southwestern United States has long been in drought and crops have been harder to cultivate. The water table has dropped due to overuse in adjoining states. As the climate is changing everywhere, this is becoming an increasing issue around the world.

Ward is a member of the fellowship and a long-time volunteer at Chimney Rock National Monument. She is greatly appreciative of the site and its significance in the world of the Ancestral Puebloans.

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## SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 7 | 2 |   |   |   | 6 | 4 | 3 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | 5 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |   |
| 8 |   |   |   | 3 | 6 |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 4 |   |   |   | 2 |   |
|   | 4 |   |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |
| 6 |   | 1 |   |   | 8 |   |   |   |
| 9 |   |   | 1 |   |   |   | 8 | 6 |
|   |   |   |   | 9 |   | 7 |   |   |

Level: Advanced

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 1 |
| 9 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 |
| 2 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| 7 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 7 |
| 1 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| 3 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 3 |

ANSWER:



# Archuleta County's Mountain Express Transit fare-free June through August

Mountain Express Transit

Zero Fare For Better Air, We'll Get You There is a collaborative, statewide initiative designed to reduce ground-level ozone by increasing the use of transit. Starting June 1, Mountain Express Transit is encouraging community residents and visitors to ride transit to help keep Colorado's air clean during the summer months when air pollution is at its highest.

Mountain Express will offer free trips during the months of June, July and August on all fixed routes. The effort is made possible by Colorado Senate Bill 22-180, the Ozone Season Transit Grant Program, in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office.

Mountain Express welcomes individuals who may have never used its transit services and customers who are regular transit users to ride often all summer long and save money getting where they need to go.

"The pilot program that launched August of last year was highly successful. Transit systems from all over the state participated, ranging from those serving the largest cities like RTD in Denver to regional rural systems like SMART in San Miguel County (Telluride region). Mid-size cities throughout Colorado, like Greeley, Pueblo and Colorado Springs participated in the program. Smaller communities in mountain towns, the eastern plains and Western Slope also took advantage of this amazing opportunity," Colorado Association of Transit Agencies Executive Director Ann Rajewski said. "All agencies that participated increased ridership — ranging anywhere between 2 percent to 59 percent. This year we are expanding the program for the entire summer and are expecting to increase the number of transit agencies participating."

Approximately 85 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions that come from transportation are due to day-to-day commutes. By leaving the car at home, a person can save up to 20 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions every day depending on the length of the trip.

Additional customer benefits of the Zero Fare program are substantial. Riders experience environmental, financial, lifestyle and community benefits of transit that include the following.

## Cost savings

Taking the bus saves on car expenses including maintenance and parking, which add up quickly. Not only do you save money on gas, but you also reduce the wear and

tear on your vehicle. According to a recent study by AAA, a new car's routine maintenance and repairs could cost an average of \$0.09 per mile. If you drive 10,000 miles in a year, that totals \$900. If you drive 20,000 miles, that figure jumps to \$1,800 annually.

## Gas savings

Riding public transit frees up additional funds in customers' everyday budgets. In addition, public transportation saves the United States an estimated 4.2 billion gallons of gas annually, reducing our dependency on foreign oil.

## Reduction in traffic

Taking public transit keeps cars off the road, limiting traffic congestion, air pollution and ground-level ozone.

Colorado's population grew 39 percent over the past 20 years and is expected to grow another 30 percent in the next 20, significantly increasing traffic around the state. This robust growth makes it essential for commuters to have public transit options to offset the increase in traffic and increased distances to work.

## Reduction in stress and increased safety

Taking public transit removes the stress and anxiety of battling everyday traffic. Public transportation is one of the safest ways to travel and it is 10 times safer per mile than traveling by car.

## Increased productivity

While taking public transit, customers can catch up on reading, emails, podcasts or just sit back and relax.

## Improved air quality

Transportation is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change. Using public transit creates 84 percent less carbon emissions than driving a car. That is a savings of 63 million metric tons annually.

Mountain Express is designed to increase mobility options for residents in Archuleta County. With free service all summer long on fixed-routes, transit riders can experience cost savings, stress reduction, a safer ride and increased productivity while helping get cars off the road and improving Colorado's air quality.

Mountain Express supports Archuleta County with fixed-route public transit and on-demand service. It also provides paratransit for elderly and disabled persons. The fixed-route system serves uptown and downtown Pagosa Springs with 21 scheduled stops that are served 10 times throughout the day. The Moun-

tain Express also provides weekly service from Pagosa Springs to Durango and Arboles to Pagosa Springs.

For more information, visit [www.ArchuletaCounty.org/681/Transportation-MET](http://www.ArchuletaCounty.org/681/Transportation-MET).

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## Black Beans

We tend to think about brightly colored fruits and vegetables as our best source of phytonutrients, but recent research has recognized black beans as a strong contender in phytonutrient benefits. The seed coat of the black bean (the outermost part that we recognize as the bean's surface) is an outstanding source of three anthocyanin flavonoids: delphinidin, petunidin, and malvidin. These three anthocyanins are primarily responsible for the rich black color that we see on the bean surface. Kaempferol and quercetin are additional flavonoids provided by this legume. Also contained in black beans are hydroxycinnamic acids including ferulic, sinapic, and chlorogenic acid, as well as numerous triterpenoids. In Brazil, beans have been given an exclusive place on the Brazilian Food Pyramid. In other words, beans are recommended as their own unique food group! This food guide recommends that beans be consumed at least once every day. That recommendation is actually quite close to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which establish 3 cups of cooked legumes per week, or 1/2 cup serving six days a week, as the minimum desired amount. Recent research linking bean intake to lower risk of type 2 diabetes, many types of cardiovascular disease, and several types of cancer was one of the key factors used by the Brazilian government and the U.S. government in establishing their bean intake recommendations.



## What Seventh-day Adventists Believe...

SABBATH (Part 1): "The beneficent Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath."

*"Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which he had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh-day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work, which God had created and made." Genesis 2:1-3*

*"And He (Jesus) said to them, 'The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.'" Mark 2:27, 28*

For more biblical information on the Sabbath, please check out "Sabbathtruth.com."

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



# Seventh-day Adventist® Church

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Photo courtesy Archuleta Seniors Inc.

Archuleta Seniors Inc. staff (Janet Monks and Executive Director Rose Chavez) and board members (Crystal Gillich and Joan Ward) enjoyed many networking and educational opportunities provided at Southwest Rural Philanthropy Days in Durango last week.

# Al Hurricane Jr. to headline 21st annual Spanish Fiesta

By Rose Chavez  
PREVIEW Columnist

You are invited to the 21st annual Spanish Fiesta sponsored by Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) on July 29: “Viva la familia, cultura y tradición!”

Enjoy the Spanish Fiesta in Pagosa Springs, where Spanish, Mexican and Native American cultural traditions intertwine to create the strong heritage we have today here in southwest Colorado. Food, music, dance, vendors, color and good company provide the ingredients of a party to delight all the senses.

This year is the 21st anniversary of the Spanish Fiesta in Pagosa Springs after being dormant for some 20 years. The Spanish Fiesta Committee (formed by the families and royalty of fiestas of years past) of ASI has worked hard to make this first year back memorable.

The headliner for the day’s activities will be the famous New Mexican artist Al Hurricane Jr. and his band during the evening at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds. Hurricane is generously giving his own time to benefit the fundraiser.

Activities earlier in the day will include authentic Hispanic cuisine of southern Colorado and northern New Mexican plus a variety of other food trucks, artisan vendors, music from local band Los Mitotitos and folklorico dance performances from local artists. While there will be

no royalty during this first event, we look forward to engaging the community and youth to support the fiestas in this capacity once again.

Proceeds from this event will support older adults of Archuleta County through the services of ASI and a BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, people of color) youth scholarship fund.

Admission is for an afternoon and evening from 3 to 8 p.m. filled with fun for all. To purchase tickets, visit online at <https://givebutter.com/asispanishfiesta2023> or stop by the Pagosa Senior Center located in the Ross Aragon Community Center.

If you are interested in being a sponsor or vendor, please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/events-and-fundraisers.html> for more information or call (970) 264-2167.

## 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 Scrapbook-

ing Club holds monthly meetings 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

■ See Senior on next page

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# OPEN HOUSE

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# Senior

■ **continued from previous page**  
 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 [copenhaver-creative@gmail.com](mailto:copenhaver-creative@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 Ross Aragon 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 15 — New Mexican chicken enchilada casserole, Spanish rice, garden salad, fruit, flan and milk.

Friday, June 16 — Barbecued pulled pork, coleslaw, blueberry cobbler, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, June 19 — Closed for Juneteenth.

Tuesday June 20 — Eggplant Parmigiana, garlic bread, cannellini beans and greens, garden salad, fruit, yogurt and milk.

Wednesday, June 21 — Pork tenderloin with apricot glaze, cous-cous, buttered turnips, garden salad and milk.

Thursday, June 22 — Beef cot-

tage pie with mushroom gravy, roasted cauliflower, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, June 23 — Thai coconut mango chicken with corn salsa, quinoa pilaf, garden salad, fruit, lime bars 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

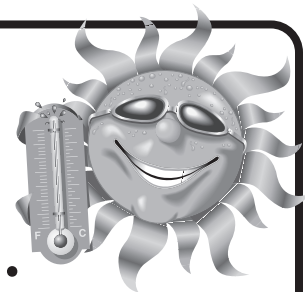
We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970) 264-2167.

## Mobile food pantry service discontinued

The Mobile Food Pantry Ser-

■ **See Senior on next page**

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# Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

## Thursday, June 15

**Ruby's 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.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m. -noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**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.

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or until food

runs out, Community United Methodist Church. Note: until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving a hot meal to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat, and other staples are available for those in need.

**Author Talk: 'An American in Provence' by Jamie Beck.** Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. For details, go to <https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming>.

**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.

**TARA Food Pantry Mobile Market.** 5-6 p.m., TARA Community Center parking lot, Arboles. The TARA Food Pantry, in conjunction with Care and Share Food Bank, will hold the Mobile Market. Bring your own bags. No boxes, please. For more information, call Pat Everett at (970) 883-7711 or Penny Holmes

■ See Calendar on next page

## Senior

■ continued from previous page  
vice has been discontinued due to funding shortages. Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the 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 kits 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.

### Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare

plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext 4.

### Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:15 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.

### Engaging pictures

Engaging pictures are needed from seniors and their families who live, work and play their best lives in Archuleta County. We are looking for pictures that convey people's active lifestyles, families, culture and more. We would like to use these pictures in our grant applications, on social media and on our website. Please email all pictures to [rosa@psseniors.org](mailto:rosa@psseniors.org) or feel free to drop them off.

### Requesting donations

ASI has an immediate monetary need to support ongoing operations and programming that provide critical services to some of the most vulnerable in Archuleta County. Please consider donating.

You may mail your donation to P.O. Box 3444, Pagosa Springs CO 81147 or please visit our website: <http://www.psseniors.org/>. Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

For more information about ASI, please visit <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

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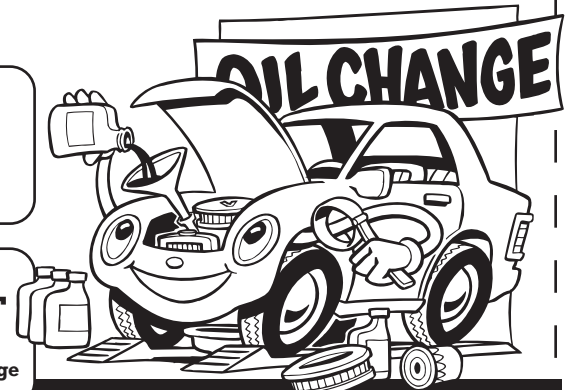


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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page at (970) 883-5394.

**19th Hole Concerts Presents San Juan Mountain Boys.** 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 Humane Society of Pagosa Springs.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency. GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Friday, June 16**

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community

Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**Wee Play.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For ages 1-5. Enjoy free play with our collection of toys.

**Labyrinth Guided Walk.** 10 a.m.-noon, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. On Fridays through the fall a docent is available for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. The labyrinth is available to the public seven days a week dawn until dusk, in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooden cross.

**Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Tween/Teen Taskmaster.** 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Test your problem-solving skills with a variety of chal-

lenges.

**Cardboard Construction Zone: Superhero Gear.** 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Come build with us. Transform regular cardboard into superhero gear.

**ComFest.** 5:30-8:30 p.m., Town Park athletic field. A free outdoor concert featuring the Jackson Mountain Ramblers and RPM.

■ See Calendar on next page

## 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 warbling vireo.

Vireos that spend the summer in our area can be difficult to spot high in the treetops. These small songbirds don't wear flashy colors, and their methodical searching for insects while hidden by foliage doesn't call attention to their presence. What gives them away is their habit of singing nonstop, even at midday when other birds have gone quiet.

The warbling vireo that breeds here is a greenish-gray bird with a darker crown, whitish eyebrow and dark line through the eye. Like others in the vireo family, it has a stout bill with a tiny hook at the end. Although these birds can be difficult to see, hearing their distinctive cheery up and down songs will alert you to just how many of them are hiding in the trees.

In summer their breeding range extends across most of the United States and western Canada. They inhabit mature woodlands with deciduous trees and are rarely found in purely coniferous forests. Their winter range is compressed into a much smaller area of western Mexico and northern Central America.

Adult moths and butterflies and their pupae and caterpillars are the mainstay of the warbling vireo diet. They also eat other insects and spiders, adding some berries and fruits in fall and winter.

Males are highly territorial, declaring ownership and fending off rivals in song. During nest building and while the female is incubating eggs in the nest at night, he stays nearby and guards her. The nest is a hanging, rounded basket built by the female and suspended from the rim in the fork of a deciduous tree.

Both sexes share incubation duties and feeding of the young. Males are such songsters that they even sing while sitting on the nest. Follow the song now and you may be able to spot this elusive bird and its hidden nest.

For information on events, visit [www.weminucheaudubon.org](http://www.weminucheaudubon.org) and [www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/](http://www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/).

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

**'Jersey Boys.'** 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 17

**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.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Social round-robin. Loaner paddles are available.

**Oral Storytelling.** 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Experience the power of oral storytelling with professional oralist Kathleen Santopietro.

**Pokemon Club.** 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon too. No experience required.

**Allison Community Church Pig Roast.** 5:30-7:30 p.m., Allison Community Church, 2724 County Road 329. The meal will consist of roasted pork, cheesy potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, cobbler with ice cream and drink. Adults are \$15/person, kids 6-12 are \$7, and kids 5 and under are free. There will be a cornhole tournament open to everyone 12 and up. Free entry with meal ticket purchase. Prizes for top four winners.

**'Men for All Seasons in Story.'** 6 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center. Professional storyteller Kathy Santopietro will present an evening of stories accompanied by live music. Tickets are \$40 per person and can be purchased at pagosalibrary.org or in person at the library.

**'Jersey Boys.'** 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see pagosacenter.org or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

**Free Family Movie Night.** 7:30 p.m., Town Park athletic field. Bring your blankets and chairs. There will be free food at 7:30 p.m. The movie will start at approximately 9 p.m. Sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Police Department.

## Sunday, June 18

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa

Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**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 19

**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.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**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.

**Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

## Tuesday, June 20

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**Adventure Clubs for Kids.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Classes for elementary and preschool kids. This club has a separate class for little ones who are 3-5 years old. (This includes any little ones who will not start kindergarten until the fall.) For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

**Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.** 10 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 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.

**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.

**Adult DIY.** 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn the art of composting and minimize your waste in landfills. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Bridge.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Mahjong.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Adventure Club for Kids.** 1:30-3:30 at Pagosa Vista Estates, 129 Fireside St. Exciting Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, snacks, and more. For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

**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.

**Conversational Spanish.** 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level is required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency. GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**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 21

**Pickleball.** 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Pickleball.** 8:30-10:30 a.m., Commu-

■ See Calendar on next page

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# Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**  
 nity Center. Free beginner lessons. Reserve at [www.pagosapickleball.org](http://www.pagosapickleball.org).

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**Adventure Clubs for Kids.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Classes for elementary and preschool kids. This club has a separate class for little ones who are 3-5 years old. (This includes any little ones who will not start kindergarten until the fall.) For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.com).

**Mountain High Garden Club.** 10 a.m., Archuleta County Extension Office, 344 U.S. 84. Come join us for a roundtable discussion of your gardening successes and challenges. We will share our collective knowledge to help us all succeed in our gardening goals.

**Family Storytime.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Community Center. Free beginner lessons. Reserve at [www.pagosapickleball.org](http://www.pagosapickleball.org).

**Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Therapy Dog Visit.** 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**The Archuleta Democratic Club.** 11:30 a.m., The Den. All are welcome to attend.

**Camp Connect.** Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. A STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) program for those in 5th-8th grade. Registration is required.

**Senior Conversations.** 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

**Adventure Club for Kids.** 1:30-3:30 at Pagosa Vista Estates, 129 Fireside St. Exciting Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, snacks, and more. For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.com).

**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.

**Weminuche Audubon Society June Meeting.** 5:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Weminuche Audubon members will gather to share a potluck dinner, review accomplishments of the past year and hold elections for positions on the board of directors. We invite you to join in the fun and

find out what we've been up to and help us plan for the future. The public is invited to join us. Please bring a dish to share and your dinnerware and utensils. Memberships to our chapter are available for \$15/year. Contact [weminuche.audubon@gmail.com](mailto:weminuche.audubon@gmail.com) for further information.

## Thursday, June 22

**Ruby's 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.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**Adventure Clubs for Kids.** 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Classes for elementary and preschool kids. This club has a separate class for little ones who are 3-5 years old. (This includes any little ones who will not start kindergarten until the fall.) For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.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.

**Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or until food runs out, Community United Methodist Church. Note: until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving hot meals to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat, and other staples are available for those in need.

**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.

**Adventure Club for Kids.** 1:30-3:30 at Pagosa Vista Estates, 129 Fireside St. Exciting Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, snacks, and more. For more information, call Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email her at [ceflittlekids@gmail.com](mailto:ceflittlekids@gmail.com).

**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 Bob Hemenger.** 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 Aspen House and Aspen Services.

**PALS Adult Education.** 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency. GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

## Friday, June 23

**Labyrinth Guided Walk.** 10 a.m.-noon, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. On Fridays through the fall a docent is available for a guided tour of the Chartres-design labyrinth. The labyrinth is available to the public seven days a week dawn until dusk, in the wooded area behind the parking lot at the wooden cross.

■ See Calendar on next page

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# A teenager who was killed should still be with us

By Matt Witt  
PREVIEW Columnist

If you think that race is only an issue in the country's biggest cities, consider a murder trial that recently concluded in the small town where I live, in the Rogue Valley of southern Oregon.

The defendant in this criminal case was Robert Paul Keegan, a 50-year-old white man. In November 2020, Keegan was staying at a motel in Ashland, a few miles from my home, because his house had burned down two months earlier in a wildfire.

Keegan, who had complained before about noise at the motel, testified that one night at around 4 a.m. he heard loud music and believed it was coming from the motel parking lot where a Black teenager, Aidan Ellison, was sitting in a parked car.

Ellison, 19, was staying at the motel because he'd also lost his home in the fire. A roommate told police that Ellison had trouble sleeping and had gone outside to sit in her car to avoid keeping her awake.

## Opinion: Writers on the Range

Keegan admitted that he used profane language in shouting at Ellison and claimed that Ellison responded in kind.

The motel clerk testified that after Keegan complained, he checked the parking lot, heard no music, and found Ellison to be "very chill" in his car.

Then, while Ellison and the clerk were talking, Keegan entered the parking lot with a gun and confronted Ellison. The clerk, the only eyewitness to these events, testified that he tried to break up their heated argument. The argument only lasted a few minutes because, suddenly, Keegan fired, killing Ellison with a single gunshot to the chest.

Keegan at first claimed that Ellison hit him in the face, causing him to fear for his life and to fire

in self-defense. But photos taken that night by police showed no evidence of Keegan's face having been hit, and a medical examiner testified that an autopsy showed no evidence that Ellison had struck anyone.

Killing Ellison was "not a reasonable use of force in this situation," the prosecutor told the jury.

Faced with overwhelming evidence that a white man had killed a young and unarmed Black man, Keegan's lawyers crafted their case to appeal to the jury, which was composed only of white people.

Keegan claimed he was frightened by this tall Black person, and his lawyers told the jury that Keegan was being unfairly charged by authorities who felt pressure to be "hyper-vigilant" in a "post-George Floyd world." The reference was to nationwide protests that followed the police killing of a Black man in Minneapolis in 2020.

After hearing the arguments, the jury found Keegan not guilty of murder — a crime that would have resulted in a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years. Instead, the jury found him guilty

■ See Writers on next page

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# Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

**Eric Carle Birthday Party.** 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Let's celebrate the beloved children's author with cake, stories and crafts. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

**Pickleball.** 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

**Video Gaming.** 2-4 p.m. Sisson Library. Play age-appropriate video games on various systems. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**'Jersey Boys.'** 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For tickets and show information, see [pagosacenter.org](http://pagosacenter.org) or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

## Saturday, June 24

**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@](mailto:pagosawetlands@)

[gmail.com](mailto:).

**Together for Toklar.** 8:30-9:30 a.m., CrossFit Pagosa, 81 Greenbriar Drive, Unit B. Fun and free event to raise funds to support Toklas Howell and his family while he battles brain cancer. Come get your WOD on and help out the Howell family. Call (512) 745-2641 for more information.

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Social round-robin. Loaner paddles are available.

**Book Buddies.** 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For those in K-2nd grade. Let's read together and enjoy games, crafts and playtime. We will partner read, echo read and more. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

**LEGO Club.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Sisson Library. For kids 6 years and up. We have the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

**Learn to Knit or Crochet.** 1-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Come learn to knit or crochet. For ages 8 and up. Supplies provided. 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](http://pagosacenter.org) or call (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

## Sunday, June 25

**Pickleball.** 9 a.m.-noon, South Pagosa Park. Loaner paddles are available.

# Early Deadlines for the issue of July 6

**Display Advertising:** Noon, Friday, June 30

**Legal Advertising, Articles and Letters:**

Noon, Thursday, June 29

**Classified Advertising:** Monday, July 3, 10 a.m.

**Too Late to Classify:** Monday, July 3, 10 a.m.

**Call your ad rep today  
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264-2100**

*The Pagosa Springs SUN will be closed  
Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day*

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**



# Writers

■ continued from previous page of manslaughter — a killing that is “committed recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life.” That crime carries a minimum sentence of 10 years.

The judge in the case applied the minimum sentence plus one additional year each for convictions of unlawful possession of a firearm and reckless endangerment of the motel clerk.

At a community meeting in Ashland last year, Black speakers put the killing of Aidan Ellison in a context they know well. They said that unlike most white people, many people of color live with the constant fear of harassment, discrimination or even death.

“This is a story we’ve heard again and again, in community after community,” said Nkenge Harmon Johnson, head of the Urban League of Portland. “Something that should have been nothing at all turns into a deadly situation, and often it’s for a Black or brown person. They are killed at the hand of someone who thinks they have the right to do it, perhaps very much because of the color of the skin of their victim.”

After Keegan was acquitted of murder, speakers at a protest said that regardless of the trial’s outcome, justice had never been possible for Aidan Ellison, a Black young man who many local residents believe would still be alive today if he’d been white.

“Aidan’s mom will never see her son again,” said Ashland city councilor Gina DuQuenne. “Aidan will never be a dad. Aidan will never be



Photo courtesy Matt Witt

Aidan Ellison’s mother, Andrea Woffard.

able to be a grandfather.

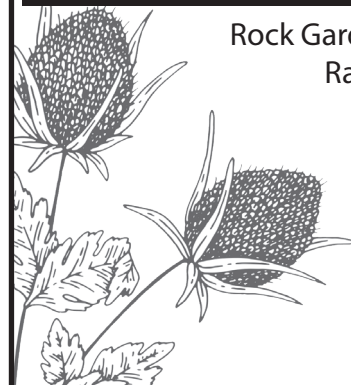
“Aidan will never be able to experience life because he is gone, and he’s never coming back.”

*Matt Witt is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writerson-*

*therange.org, an independent non-profit dedicated to spurring conversation about the West. He is a writer and photographer in Talent, Ore. Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.*

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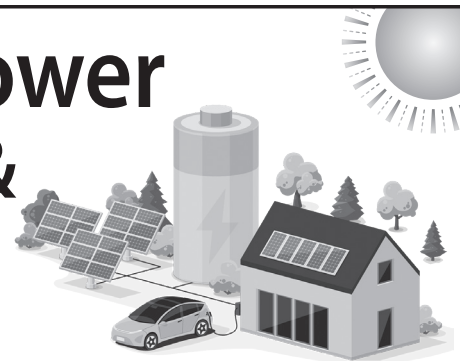
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# Medicare Fraud Prevention Week teaches everyone how to prevent fraud

By Caryn Hill  
San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging

Fraud costs Medicare an estimated \$60 billion per year. It costs Medicare beneficiaries in time, stress, their medical identities and potentially their health. It costs families, friends and caregivers in worry and lost work when helping their loved ones recover from falling victim to Medicare fraud.

"Medicare fraud has a devastating impact on both beneficiaries and the Medicare program," said Caryn Hill, Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) for Pagosa Springs. "We teach people how to avoid experiencing Medicare fraud. By preventing fraud from happening, this program helps individuals and protects the Medicare program for generations to come."

Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones by joining the SMP and its partners for Medicare Fraud Prevention Week, held June 5-11. This observance starts on June 5, or "6-5," because most people become eligible for Medicare when they turn 65 years old.

"We're excited to teach people both about how to protect themselves from Medicare fraud and about the services that the Senior Medicare Patrol program offers. We hope that people will remember the numbers '6-5' to help us celebrate Medicare Fraud Prevention Week," said Hill.

Everyone plays a part in the fight against fraud. During Medicare Fraud Prevention Week:

- Medicare beneficiaries can monitor their insurance statements to make sure products and services received match what is on the statements. Unrequested COVID-19 tests are the latest products being shipped without beneficiaries' request. They can request free My Health Care Trackers from their local SMP.

- Caregivers can help by being on the lookout for items such as durable medical equipment (like boxes of knee braces) lying around the house that may have been shipped to the beneficiary without their or their doctor's approval. They can remind their client or loved one to never give out their Medicare number or other personal information over the phone.

- Families can help by talking to their loved ones about protecting their Medicare number just as they would a credit card number. They can help their loved ones create a Medicare.gov account to access

their Medicare statements online or remind them to open and review them when they come in the mail. They can also register their phone number on "do not call" lists and go to [optoutprescreen.com](http://optoutprescreen.com) to opt out of mailings.

- Partners and professionals can help by sharing SMP information on social media, referring clients and consumers to the SMP, and inviting the SMP to speak during a shared event.

- Health care providers can help by talking to patients about health care-related scams such as those related to durable medical equipment and genetic testing schemes. They can remind them that products and services should only be ordered by physicians they regularly see. Needed medical items should never be ordered through TV ads or unsolicited calls.

- Community members can help by looking out for older neighbors. When in public, they can be aware of older individuals purchasing gift cards in large amounts. They can encourage those they know to talk to a trusted source about their Medicare questions and tell neighbors about the most recent Medicare scams. They can even consider volunteering with the local SMP.

The SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to protect yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; detect potential fraud, errors and abuse; and report your concerns. SMPs help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries in the fight against health care fraud. Your SMP can help you with your questions, concerns or complaints about potential fraud and abuse issues. It also provides information and educational presentations.

For help or questions regarding Medicare fraud, contact your local Area Agency on Aging office at (970) 264-0501, ext. 4.



## The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

### ACROSS

- 1 Squabble
- 5 Broker's advice
- 9 Cowboy garb
- 14 Big fuss
- 15 Sleuthing game
- 16 Embankment
- 17 Familiar with
- 18 Wolfgang Puck's Spago, e.g.
- 20 Run down
- 22 Do a grand jury's job
- 23 Take in, as a child
- 24 Aggravate
- 25 Zodiac sign
- 26 "M\*A\*S\*H" prop
- 28 More robust
- 31 Like a gymnast
- 33 Terminal, as a disease
- 37 Gin flavor
- 38 Now-defunct Toyota brand
- 39 Icky buildup
- 40 Feeling
- 42 Uncle Sam feature
- 43 Asphyxiate
- 45 Wild blue yonder
- 46 Pop-ups, e.g.
- 49 "The Valley of Amazement" author
- 50 Carnival attractions
- 52 Consider
- 54 Colt handler
- 57 Hint
- 59 Amanda of "Dirty John"
- 60 Quick bite
- 61 Shivery fever
- 62 Airport conveyance
- 63 Items on to-do lists
- 64 Blog update
- 65 Shout

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| 31 |    |    | 32 |    |    | 33 |    |    |  |    |    | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 |    |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |    |  |    | 39 |    |    |    |
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| 63 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 64 |    |  |    | 65 |    |    |    |

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### DOWN

- 1 Wall frame part
- 2 Vatican VIP
- 3 Worshipful love
- 4 In shape
- 5 Lines at the movies?
- 6 Wiring tradesman
- 7 Deep desire
- 8 Give the go-ahead
- 9 Junkyard staple
- 10 Grazing group
- 11 Be of help
- 12 48th U.S. VP
- 13 Brief brawl
- 19 BB shooter
- 21 Give the slip to
- 24 Out of place
- 26 Musical Mama
- 27 Eye flirtatiously
- 29 Burger garnish
- 30 Political contest
- 32 More or \_\_\_\_
- 34 Lingerie top

- 35 Lie in wait
- 36 Singer Arnold
- 38 Geologic layers
- 41 Goes on the offense
- 42 Garden areas
- 44 Old World finch
- 46 Select group
- 47 Prima \_\_\_\_
- 48 Bubbly drinks
- 51 Ready for a refill
- 53 Gun's recoil
- 54 Acronym for bad PC data
- 55 Blue-green color
- 56 Website language
- 58 Draft source

### Answers to Previous Crossword:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | C | T | S |   | S | A | S | S |   | S | K | I | F | F |   |   |   |
| R | O | O | M |   | T | W | I | N |   | I | N | N | E | R |   |   |   |
| C | L | O | I | S | O | N | N | E |   | D | O | G | M | A |   |   |   |
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| C | N | C |   |   | S | T | A | R |   | S | O | F | T |   |   |   |   |
| R | O | O | T |   | R | U | E |   |   | P | O | L | I | T | E |   |   |
| A | E | R | O | S | O | L |   |   |   | F | O | R | E | A | R | M |   |
| B | L | O | T | T | O |   |   | P | E | N |   | A | T | O | M |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | N | E | A | P |   | R | A | S | H |   | E | T | A |
| B | O | A |   |   | R | E | F | E | R | E | E | S |   |   |   |   |   |
| O | U | T | S | T | R | I | P |   |   | T | I | M | I | N | G |   |   |
| O | N | I | C | E |   |   |   | S | A | T | I | R | I | C | A | L |   |
| S | C | O | U | R |   |   |   | T | R | A | M |   |   | R | O | M | E |
| T | E | N | D | S |   |   |   | S | E | R | E |   |   | K | N | E | E |

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 N K F C M Y U O L N Z F R S F A O U I D E  
 T Y U U M R S D E B F C E L O Z N O T E  
 O D R G N I M M I W S S L C H U T E A R T  
 B N Y C D K L C D N S K L U A F Z L X T O  
 I A K G I H K E Z A F M A O Y M Z T A W  
 B S G L H H E K L A W D R A O B A S L W  
 A N H B T W I G U U U Z R Z S H H A E O  
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 K S Y E X U S X G U T M F X O Y T D D X  
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 O C F O G N I F R U S S X W B R G L C M  
 Z C S U T U E M T F N S W I M S U I T

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

## WORDS

- BASKET
- BEACH
- BOARDWALK
- BREEZY
- BRIGHT
- COASTAL
- CRASHING
- FOAM
- LAUGHTER
- MARINE
- OCEAN
- RELAXATION
- RIPTIDE
- SAIL
- SANDCASTLE
- SANDY
- SEAWEED
- SUNGLASSES
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- SWIMMING
- SWIMSUIT
- TAN
- UMBRELLA
- UNDERTOW

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# Noxious Weed of the Month: oxeye daisy

By Ethan Proud  
PREVIEW Columnist

Breaking from the trend of showcasing Colorado Noxious Weed List A species that are not found in Archuleta County, this Noxious Weed of the Month is on List B and is found widespread locally. Oxeye daisy is an attractive white daisy which was introduced as an ornamental and has since escaped cultivation and wreaked havoc in subalpine meadows and irrigated agricultural systems.

This plant is a popular one for hikers and recreationists to pick. On a float down the San Juan River, I saw a trio of tourists wearing them as crowns. When picking invasive species, it is important to dispose of them properly to prevent any seed distribution. I wonder if those flower crowns were simply tossed on the ground or if they were brought home as a souvenir, only to be tossed in a yard or out

## Extension Viewpoints

the car window. Each flowerhead produces 200 seeds.

Oxeye daisy spreads through a creeping root system as well as by seed and reduces carrying capacity of meadows that would otherwise support deer and elk populations. Oxeye daisy can be identified from our native white asters or the ornamental Shasta daisy by its pleated, lobed petals (each petal has a line down the center) and the dimple in its center. Shasta daisy is also larger and more showy and forms a root ball instead.

*Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.*



Photo courtesy Jamie Jones

**Oxeye daisy is an attractive white daisy that was introduced as an ornamental and has since escaped cultivation and wreaked havoc in subalpine meadows and irrigated agricultural systems.**

# How to spark more family communication

Special to The PREVIEW

Communication is at the core of any successful relationship. Families who are able to communicate effectively can express their concerns, needs and desires to one another in an open and honest manner. Effective communication can change a home environment, foster more intimate and trusted relationships, and serve as a foundation for children to grow.

The benefits of effective home communication are numerous.

According to Hearing and Speech-Language Services, regular and intentional communication with a child is one of the most effective tools parents and caregivers can use to foster healthy development, paving the way for the child to be an effective communicator as he or she grows and interacts with others. In addition, regular communication can foster a strong sense of self-esteem, improve problem-solving abilities, decrease problem behaviors and prepare kids for voicing their opinion on important issues.

No topics are off limits when it comes to stimulating family conversation. In fact, the more creative, funny and adventurous the ideas, the more apt children and adults may be to engage in the discussion.

These talking points can help get the conversation flowing and require specific answers instead of vague generalities:

- What has been the best part of the week so far?

- Tell me something interesting you learned at school (work) today.
- What is the funniest joke you have ever heard?
- If you could be anyone or anything in the world, what would you be and why?
- If you won a lot of money, what would you spend it on?
- What do you do when you see someone being teased?
- Name a quality of yours that you are most proud of.
- If a genie granted you three wishes, what would they be?
- What is your favorite childhood memory?
- Where in the world would you like to live most?
- Are there things that scare you? If so, what?
- What would your superhero power be?
- If you could fly for a day, where would you go?

These are a handful of interesting conversation starters that can get creative conversation juices flowing at home. Families can customize the questions or turn them into a regular game that everyone can enjoy throughout the week.

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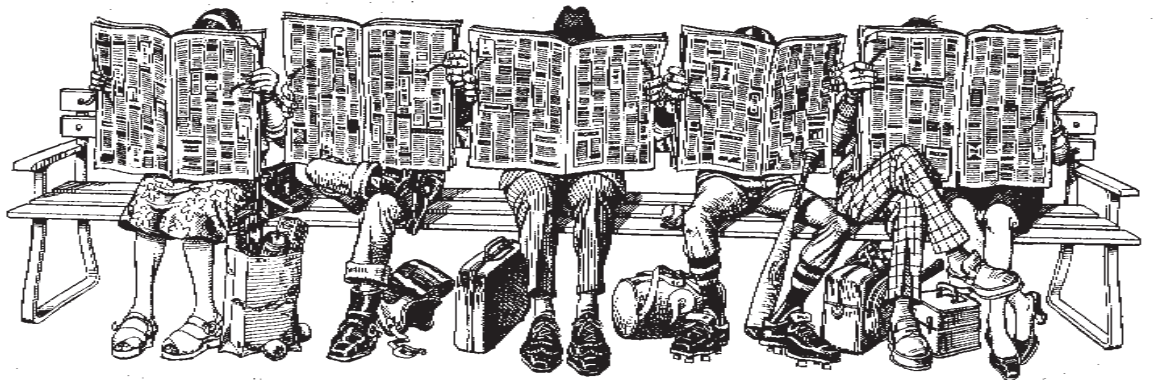


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# PAGOSA SCENE . . .

## LIFE AT CHIMNEY ROCK

Photos courtesy Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Scene ... learning about life at Chimney Rock. The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association held its annual Life at Chimney Rock festival June 3 and 4 at Chimney Rock National Monument, which featured family activities and interactive demonstrations of the skills of the site's former residents. The association also hosted a full moon program on June 3, which included Native American flute music playing as the moon rose.



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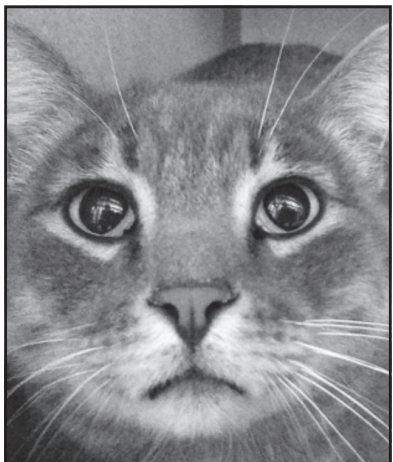
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL:** The Archuleta School District is accepting proposals for the provision of solid waste and recycling pickup services for the 2023-24 school year. Details of the RFP are located on the district's website [www.mypagosaschools.com](http://www.mypagosaschools.com) under District > Bids/RFPs/RFQs. Please contact Josh Sanchez at [jsanchez@pagosa.k12.co.us](mailto:jsanchez@pagosa.k12.co.us) with any questions.

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**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ADS** — [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9). The Pagosa Springs SUN.



Hi guys! My name is Peep. I'm a 4-month-old girl who is confident and fearless, so I need an active person who will keep up with me on adventures. Got time to train a puppy and enjoy some fun times with? If so I'd sure love to meet you! Come to the Humane Society to meet me or call (970)731-4771 for more info.



I'm Titus, a 4-year-old fellow who would love a cozy home to call my own. I want to be your only love, and could be an indoor/outdoor guy once I know where I live. Got room in your life for some furry love? I'm your man! Come to the Humane Society to meet me or call (970)731-4771 for more info.

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**BUSINESS NEED PUBLICITY?** Display your banner at the Red Ryder Rodeo over 4th of July weekend. July 2, 3, and 4. Over 750 people through the main admission gate daily. \$80 for all three days. Contact Bob at (970)585-4007.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY YARD SALE and FOR SALE AD UPDATES** — [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9). The Pagosa Springs SUN.

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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](http://www.aa.org), [www.aa-westerncolorado.com](http://www.aa-westerncolorado.com), (970)245-9649, or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

**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](http://www.al-anon.org).

**RED RYDER ROUNDUP RODEO.** July 2nd and 3rd at 6 p.m. and July 4th at 2 p.m. General admission tickets online or at the gate prior to the event box seats. Call (970)749-3492. [www.pagosarodeo.com](http://www.pagosarodeo.com).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BUSINESS NEED PUBLICITY?** Display your banner at the Red Ryder Rodeo over 4th of July weekend. July 2, 3, and 4. Over 750 people through the main admission gate daily. \$80 for all three days. Contact Bob at (970)585-4007.

**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 FOLK DANCE 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.

**SERVICES**

**PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC.** Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call **KIM**. (970)946-6446.

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**ROOF REPAIR, INSPECTIONS, TIGHTENING,** replacement and more. Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.

**ROOF RESCREWING, CHIMNEY CLEANING,** roof repairs, dryer vent cleaning, dump runs, valley repairs. Arlie's Chimney Sweep, 731-2543.

**THINKING ABOUT A FLAGSTONE PATIO?** Want to install stone or wood landscaping features in your yard? Contact Clarks' Custom Landscaping for a free consultation. (505)709-8579; clarkscustomlandscape@gmail.com; clarkscustomlandscaping.com.

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**TIM BROWN CUSTOM HOMES** is looking for a few high quality, detail oriented craftsmen to help in the framing, interior finishing and painting of our custom homes. We have been building homes in Pagosa Springs for 23 years. Work year around with us and enjoy top pay, paid holidays, paid vacation and a retirement plan. Please call (970)731-7071 or stop by the office at 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., Unit B16.

**ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE.** Looking for a Dishwasher 4 nights a week. \$16 per hour to start. See ChefAnthony Wednesday- Sunday, 1p.m.-4p.m.

## HELP WANTED

**FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME** Front Desk Positions – Healing Waters Resort & Spa. Our front desk is open 8a.m. to 10p.m. daily - shifts may include day, evening & weekend hours. We are looking for self-motivated staff members with strong customer service and computer skills who work well with a team. Comfort with computers a plus. Download application at [www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/](http://www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/) or stop by 140 Hot Springs Blvd. Employees and immediate family soak for FREE! Apply today!

**MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE** is looking for a caring massage therapist ready to share your healing gifts! Fun, relaxed work environment where you are honored and appreciated. TOP PAY: \$50/ hour plus tips. Email [racheldevloo@gmail.com](mailto:racheldevloo@gmail.com).

**JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED** but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

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**ATV / UTV RENTAL COMPANY NEEDS SEASONAL HELP-BEST JOB / SCHEDULE IN PAGOSA.** Pagosa Adventure Rentals is searching for seasonal (May-October) full and or part-time team members. Great schedule with 7 days on and 7 days off. More hours available during peak season. Monday through Friday schedules also available if desired. Duties to include taking reservations, a few phone calls, trail information, operation of ATVs and UTVs, pressure washing, hooking up/ moving trailers and minor mechanical fixes. Experience in any of these areas is a plus, but ability to learn is mandatory. Willing to train. Being polite, positive attitude, respectful, and on time a must. All positions starting at \$18-\$20/ hour DOE. Send inquiries to [Mike@PagosaAdventureRentals.com](mailto:Mike@PagosaAdventureRentals.com), call (970)398-0088 or stop in at 103 Goldmine drive and ask for Mike.

**INVITATION TO BID-** The Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association is seeking proposals for the installation of a new commercial HVAC and dehumidification system at the Recreation Center pool room. Equipment and design have been specified by a mechanical engineer, outdoor mounted hybrid unit. If interested please contact Larry Lynch at PLPOA, (970)731-5635, ext. #5.

**PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING** a person for a yard associate/ driver position. Lumber experience and/or CDL license is a plus, but not necessary. Duties may include delivering loads to job sites, as well as helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and Medical/ Dental insurance for full-time employees. Please apply in person at 2435 Eagle Drive in Pagosa Springs.

**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](http://fswb.bank/about/careers). EOE.

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Submit your resume to [helpwanted@pagosasun.com](mailto:helpwanted@pagosasun.com) or drop off at 457 Lewis Street. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls.

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HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

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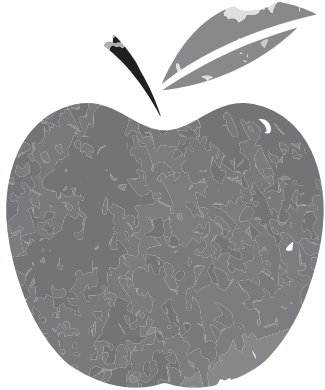
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Email resume to: [Monique@beehivehomesnm.com](mailto:Monique@beehivehomesnm.com)

Looking for a Caregiver's heart!

**HYGIENIST \$55/ HOUR:** Could you make \$80,000+ a year? Ask about \$10,000 full-time first year bonus. Part time also available. The team at Pagosa Smiles is blessed to have family oriented hours with weekends and holidays off, great pay, 401K & bonuses in a beautiful facility. Colorado dental hygiene license required E-mail resume to PagosaSmiles@yahoo.com.

**MAINTENANCE PERSON NEEDED** for Lakeview Estates Apartments. Must have experience and own tools. \$20 per hour. Apply in person, 857 N. Pagosa Blvd. or send resume to mountainsiderhonda@gmail.com.

**LABORER LANDSCAPING.** General help for assistance in landscaping around homes. For details, call Charlie at (970)264-0913.

**CARPENTER(S) - TWO CARPENTRY POSITIONS.** Background with finish carpentry, light framing, drywall and painting. Email resume to [frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com](mailto:frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com), (970)264-5000.

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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](mailto:myron@daveng.com). Successful applicants will be contacted for interview.

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**LANDSCAPE LABORERS WANTED.** Must have own transportation. Call for an application. Good pay for good help. (970)946-2277.

**ROOF LABORER NEEDED** with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

**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.

**PART-TIME GROUNDS KEEPER/ MAINTENANCE POSITION —** Healing Waters Resort & Spa. Some evening and weekend hours may apply. We have a great team in place, just want to add one more to our crew. Looking for someone who is handy with tools - or has the willingness to learn; who doesn't mind sweeping, raking, and shoveling; and who is self-motivated. If this is you, we'd love to talk! Download an application at [www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/](http://www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/) or stop by 317 Hot Springs Blvd. Employees and immediate family soak for FREE! Apply today!

**RISE ABOVE VIOLENCE** is seeking a Youth Advocate for the advancement of our youth advocacy, outreach and education programs. Applicant must be proficient in Microsoft Office; have excellent public speaking and teaching skills; and, be a highly organized, independent worker. Position is PT with benefits. Related experience in human services, education or related field appreciated but not required. Rise is an equal opportunity employer where we celebrate diversity and are committed to inclusion. Visit [www.riseaboveviolence.org](http://www.riseaboveviolence.org) for complete job description. Email resume to [carmen@riseaboveviolence.org](mailto:carmen@riseaboveviolence.org)

**AGAPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY** is hiring teacher(s) for 2023/2024 experienced in children's ministries. (970)444-2111.

**DEDICATED CLEANERS, UP TO \$17/ hour.** Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

**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 [Dreircsmithdds@aol.com](mailto:Dreircsmithdds@aol.com).

**BWD CONSTRUCTION HIRING CARPENTERS,** painters, framers and excavators. Good pay, full benefits and growth opportunities. Looking for people willing to learn and grow in skill. Durango and Pagosa. Apply at [bwdconstruction.com/apply](http://bwdconstruction.com/apply).



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**SOCIAL MEDIA EXPERT** (Facebook, Google, Instagram) wanted to help create and manage advertising and marketing campaign for growing business. Please send resume to pagosad@yahoo.com.

**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.

**PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING** a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

**ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE.** 214 Pagosa Street. Seeks line cooks 4 nights a week. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. \$18 to start. See Anthony or Garrett after 1p.m.

**PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE** are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

**EQUIPMENT OPERATOR - SKID STEER** and mechanized mulcher, multiple years of experience. Email resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com, (970)264-5000.

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL** is now hiring lower grade elementary teachers for the 2023/2024 school year. Please contact Headmaster Wes Odom for information at (970)585-4535.

**GENERAL LABORER,** general labor, construction and ranch work. Please call (970)264-5000.

**EXPERIENCED EQUIPMENT OPERATOR** needed and a CDL is a plus. We offer paid holidays, vacation time and retirement plan. Please call Tim Brown Construction LLC at (970)731-7071.

**NOW HIRING FULL-TIME** kitchen line cooks. Work in a fast paced and clean kitchen. Pay negotiable. Apply within at The Buck Stops Here Market and Eatery.

**THE CO 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT** is accepting applications for a part-time support services position at the Pagosa Springs location. Application period ends at midnight on 6/28/2023. For job description and application submission, please visit the State Judicial career page at [www.courts.state.co.us](http://www.courts.state.co.us).

**HELP WANTED- EVERYDAY STORE.** Apply 300 E. Pagosa St.

## YARD SALES

### Build Pagosa YARD SALE

Construction materials &amp; tools

Sat., June 17 starting at 8 am

BWD Construction  
597 Navajo Trail Dr.

**MULTI FAMILY SALE.** Furniture, towbar, generator, snowplow for 4 wheeler, 12,000 lb. winch, Trek Verve 3 hybrid, collectibles, puzzles, books and lots, lots more. Saturday, Sunday, 8a.m. Hood Ct.

**JOYS NATURAL FOODS.** Store closing. Everything must go. Indoor garage sale. 117 Navajo Trail Drive. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

**SIZING DOWN SALE.** Jones' household. Tools, furniture, household items. Friday, Saturday, 6/16-17/23, 9a.m.-3p.m. 320 Horseshoe Circle.

## PETS

### French Bulldog Puppies For Sale!

Born Jan 15th, 2023 3 Females Available  
Non AKC/Only Parents are AKC  
Very Reasonably Priced!  
Available Now  
Call or Text (909) 900~3063  
3 Sets of Shots  
Bill of Health from Local Vet



**AKC REGISTERED ROTTWEILER PUPPIES** available 6/29 for their forever homes. (970)507-1154.

**CAT SITTING SERVICES.** Will come to your home 1-2 times daily to care for your kitties. Call/text Melissa (970)442-0924.

**DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM.** Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

**FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING.** Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

**ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society.** Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).

**AKC REGISTERED GOLDEN RETRIEVER** boy puppies. Ready for their forever homes: 6/23/23. Text (970)485-1584.

## PERSONALS

**FREE. CONFIDENTIAL. HELP.** 24-hour domestic violence and sexual assault helpline. (970) 264-9075.

## LIVESTOCK

**HORSE BOARDING AVAILABLE,** up to 2 horses. Running stream through 10 acre fenced pasture. \$100 per month. (970)883-2600.

**RED RYDER ROUNDUP RODEO.** July 2nd and 3rd at 6p.m. and July 4th at 2 p. m. General admission tickets online or at the gate prior to the event box seats. Call (970)749-3492. [www.pagosa rodeo.com](http://www.pagosa rodeo.com).

**BUSINESS NEED PUBLICITY?** Display your banner at the Red Ryder Rodeo over 4th of July weekend. July 2, 3, and 4. Over 750 people through the main admission gate daily. \$80 for all three days. Contact Bob at (970)585-4007.

## FOR SALE

**OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES** available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970) 749-1500.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY YARD SALE and FOR SALE AD UPDATES — [tinyurl.com/d64deei9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deei9).** The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**LIMITED TIME.** Fresh, pasture-raised eggs \$5 at Choke Cherry Tree. Wright Natural Bakery. (970)883-2600. [wrightnaturalbakery.com](http://wrightnaturalbakery.com).

**HONDA SNOWBLOWER, 2 YEARS OLD,** \$2500. Dining room set, table, 6 chairs. Two piece sofa, like new, \$1800. Light fixture for dining room, \$75. Band saw, 14 inch, with stand, \$200. Table saw, \$100. Air compressor, 25 gallon, \$50. (254)541-6995.

**DRY, SEASONED PINE/ ASPEN** mix for sale, \$275 delivered, \$150/ cord in rounds if you pick up, \$200 rounds delivered. (970)585-4578.

**DRY FIREWOOD-PINE.** Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

**SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS.** We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

**ONLY USED FOR 4 MONTHS** before Mom went to hospice. Excellent condition, weighs 650 lbs. Hopeful hospital bed, \$3,200. Linak electric motor actuators, central locking system: wheels. Memory foam mattress: Dimensions: 78"Lx36"W, 5.9 inch thickness, multiple positions, side rails ICU bed. (970)903-9125, moving soon.

**4 HANKOOK AT2 275-55-R20,** 17K miles tread 7/32+, \$250. GM 8 spd L45E ATF change kit 12 qt. Mobil LVHP and GM filter and gasket, \$140. Call (970)946-5576 for details.

**WASHER/ DRYER STACKED UNIT.** Dryer needs work. \$50. Call (970)398-1804.

**TREADMILL AND ELLIPTICAL** for sale. \$475 cash and carry. Can help with loading. (301)922-0477.

**Wrightnaturalbakery.com. BEST EGGS AVAILABLE!** Reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, unprocessed, Paleo, unrefined, gluten free ingredients. (970)883-2600, [wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com](mailto:wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com). Products available at Choke Cherry Tree.

**KENMORE 24" ELECTRIC RANGE,** \$100. Sharp microwave oven, \$25. Both in good condition. (970)946-3105.

**AVON 9-1/2 FT. RAFT,** with aluminum custom frame, fold down chairs, oars, motor frame. \$3,500. (720)353-6253.

## FOR SALE

**DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD?** Get your orders in now and GUARANTEE yourself dry wood this fall! Pine mix \$600 per dump truck load. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

**MERCHANT/ ARTIST OUTDOOR BOOTH.** Flourish Trimline Canopy 10'x10'. Great condition. \$1,400 Call for more information (713)927-1548.

**NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE** or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

## RECREATIONAL VEHICLES



27' Airstream 2007 RV Classic LTD  
Excellent condition. \$42,700.  
(850) 585-5718

**A-FRAME POPUP TRAVEL TRAILER.** 12' long, sleeps 3 or 4. Propane fridge, heater and hot water. Heat pump for heat and AC. Microwave. (303)594-5117.

**2019 WINNEBAGO TRAVATO 59K.** 31K miles, great condition, original owner. \$83K. Text/ call (505)205-4865.

**2003 HALLMARK TELESCOPING TRUCK** camper 8-1/2 Ute XL. Extras electric jacks, awning, roof AC. Shower/ toilet, queen over cab. Updated mattress foam and dinette seating. Good condition and garage kept. \$5000. Call (520)488-4572.

## AUTOS

**BRAND NEW 2023 SUBARU** Outback XT. Turbo, with 5 miles on it, you'll be the first to drive it. Includes 7 year 100,000 mile warranty. \$4,500 below dealer cost. \$39,000 firm. (970)946-8638.

**2007 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED.** 4X4, all wheel drive, trail rated, 5.7 Hemi V8. 154,875 miles. Mechanically sound, clean body. We have not done any rock climbing or four wheeling with it. \$10,000. (254)541-6995.

**2004 TOYOTA SEQUOIA.** 269,500K, limited, lowered to \$8K, second owner, all scheduled maintenance records. (720)353-6253.

**GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL!** 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

**FREE TIRES, UNKNOWN SIZES.** Email inquiries to [raymondvernalucas@gmail.com](mailto:raymondvernalucas@gmail.com).

## 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

**DOWNTOWN 2 BEDROOM,** 1 bath home. \$1,700/ month. Available now. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

**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.

**2 BED 2 BATH 2 car garage** furnished townhome \$2,250.00/mth. Available now Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

**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.

**GREAT VIEWS! 2 BEDROOM,** 1 bath open feel mobile home with bonus room. No pets, no smoking. \$1,500/ month plus utilities. Application, deposit, background/ credit check required. (970)239-1675.

**2 BED 2 BATH 1 car garage duplex** \$2,000. Available 4/1/23. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ADS — [tinyurl.com/d64deei9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deei9).** The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**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.

**UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM,** 1.5 bath condo. Water/ sewer, trash and snow removal included. \$1,700/ month. Available now. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for more information.

**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](http://HabitatArchuleta.org) or email [Home@HabitatArchuleta.org](mailto:Home@HabitatArchuleta.org). Completed applications should be returned to our office by June 30, 2023.

**2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DUPLEX** apartment on golf course. Lots of storage and garage. \$1,500 plus utilities and deposit. (970)946-4181.

**3/2 MANUFACTURED HOME** in Vista on corner lot, 2 lots with fenced backyard. \$1,070, first, last. 633 Prospect Blvd., PS, CO 81147. Available 8/1/23. (970)946-3983 Jimmy.

## YARD SALES

**TURKEY SPRINGS STORE PARKING LOT.** 8a.m.-2p.m. 6/17. Household, lots of plumbing supplies.

**BE SURE TO CHECK** for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

**MOVING AND BARN.** 3600 N. Pagosa Blvd. 6/16 and 6/17, 9a.m.-3p.m. Kitchen, household, dorm refrigerator, horse tack and barn items, patio, tools, western decor, collectibles, holiday decorations, free stuff. Cash only.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY YARD SALE and FOR SALE AD UPDATES — [tinyurl.com/d64deei9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deei9).** The Pagosa Springs SUN.



264-2100

# Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

*"We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them."*  
 ~ Michael Gamba

www.RMREALTYANDRENTALS.COM

**Rocky Mountain**  
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Info@rmrealtyandrentals.com  
 117 Navajo Trail Dr. Ste E, Pagosa Springs

*Largest Local Property Management Co.*



150+ SW Colorado  
 Property Owners Served  
 19+ Years. Mortgage &  
 Real Estate Exp  
 FULL LT TENANT SCREENING  
 NATIONWIDE ADVERTISING  
 ON CALL 24 HR 7 DAYS



**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.

**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.

**UNFURNISHED SWEET 3 BEDROOM,** 2 bath, 1-car garage home. \$2,300/ month. Available 7/15/23. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for more information.

**UNFURNISHED 3 BEDROOM,** 2.75 bath, 3-car garage home on 5 acres. Shop and pole barn on property. \$3,750/ month. Available 7/01/23. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for more information.

**BEAUTIFUL RENOVATED PROPERTIES** available for yearly rental to qualified individuals. 304 Fireside, 3/2, furnished, detached garage on 4 lots, \$2,100. 184 Canyon Circle, 2/1, detached garage, gas stove, AC, furnace, \$1,700. 197 Canyon Circle, 3/2, complete renovation, \$2,100. 193 Canyon Circle, 2/1, completely renovated, incredible deck overlooking greenbelt, with shed, double lot, no neighbors, \$2,100. Henry (305)491-9323.

**UNFURNISHED SINGLE STORY,** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage home in the Lake Hatcher area. Available 7/1/23. \$2,500/ month. Call Team Pagosa (970)731-8599 for more information.

**RUSTIC CABIN ON 2 ACRES** is available for monthly rentals and is a fully furnished 900 sq. ft. 1 bedroom, 1 bath cabin with loft that backs up to National Forest where you can hike, mountain bike, ATV, x-country ski directly from the premises. Rent is \$1,500 per month. Deposit and background check required. Available July 1st. Call (970)398-0573 now for availability.

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**

**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.

**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 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**

**2,880 SQUARE FEET.** Used to be JOYS Natural Foods. Between Dr. Milner, chiropractor and Alpine Medical. \$2,500 per month. (970)946-3902.

**4 OFFICE SPACES.** Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

**PAGOSA VALLEY PROPERTIES:** Offering Cornerstone Dr. Professional Office Suites available from 80 SF to 206 SF, priced from \$285-\$734/ month. Includes any furniture in the offices. Expenses are shared by SF size as part of Triple-Net lease and average from \$75 to \$190 per month. Call (970)889-2022 for more information.

**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

**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.

**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.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

**YURT/ CABIN IN THE TALL PINES** on 1.9 acres with septic, chicken coop, gazebo and pond, all fenced. \$195,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**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**

**Christie Calderwood**  
 SRS, ABR, ePRO  
 Serving Sellers & Buyers  
 970-946-6856  
 christie@jimsmithrealty.com

**REAL ESTATE SERVICES**

Call Marcie Lewis (970) 759-8672  
**GALLES PROPERTIES**  
 BUYING OR SELLING  
 MarcieLewis.com

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY REAL ESTATE ADS —** [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9).

**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](mailto:blancoretreat@gmail.com).

**5 BEAUTIFUL ACRES.** Centrally located, all utilities near. \$250,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY REAL ESTATE ADS —** [tinyurl.com/d64deel9](http://tinyurl.com/d64deel9). The Pagosa Springs SUN.

**1 ACRE WITH WATER TAP** in Arboles. Beautiful views. \$55,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties 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.

**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.

**SECLUDED 1.29 ACRES.** Electricity near, no HOA, close to town. \$35,000. 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.

**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.

**FSBO- 1.40 ACRES IN ARBOLES, CO,** Navajo Dam Lake view, water tap at property, electric close. \$75K, will consider 25% down and up to 5 years financing with 2% interest. [kvelle2000@yahoo.com](mailto:kvelle2000@yahoo.com).

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



# Featured LISTINGS



970.507.8655

## MOTEL SOCO Boutique Resort Lounge/Venue



MLS# 803024 & 803025



Fantastic little roadside motel! Rooms were perfect and nothing beats the ambiance of the El Camino lounge and patio. We hosted our daughters wedding reception and weekend festivities here! We had booked out most of the hotel and had zero complaints from anyone. The reception was flawless and brunch Sunday was a nice way to wrap things up. We can't thank all the staff enough. It is a weekend friends and family will not soon forget!

~ Sheri Ventura ★★★★★

## Incredible Opportunity to Own an Iconic Motel in Pagosa Springs!

NextHomeMajestic.com



MLS# 802197

### Exquisite Reserve Home 93 LUCAS BLVD

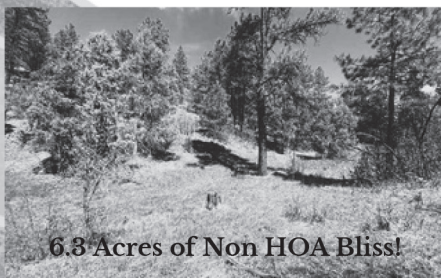


MLS# 800244

### Majestic Mancos on 35 Acres 17300 CR 36.5



Large Lakefront Lot



6.8 Acres of Non HOA Bliss!



Bayfield REO



Level Lot in Lakes Area



CREEDE REO



TWINCREEK RETREAT



CORTEZ REO



1+ Acre with Electricity