



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 115 — NO. 11, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022



Santa Claus is making his list

SUN photos/
Shari Pierce and Randi Pierce

Santa has begun making stops throughout the area to chat with youngsters about their Christmas wishes and more, including making a stop at last week's Festival of Trees public viewing at the Ross Aragon Community Center. The event raised \$35,000 for local nonprofits (something that will surely land those who contributed on the nice list this season). Those wishing to express their wishes to Santa in writing are invited to bring their letters to The SUN's office at 457 Lewis St. by noon on Dec. 16. Letters will be sent to the North Pole and will be shared with the community in the Dec. 22 issue of The SUN.



Saturday crime spree: Three vehicles stolen, others broken into

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Three vehicles were stolen and at least five others were broken into in the Vista subdivision on Saturday, Dec. 3.

All three stolen vehicles were unlocked and had keys in them at the time they were stolen.

According to Undersheriff Mike Le Roux and additional information obtained from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), the course of events began with a call for a stolen vehicle early Saturday morning, with that vehicle wrecked

close to where it was allegedly taken from on Canyon Circle.

There were then multiple other attempted break-ins to vehicles and thefts from vehicles reported and vehicles stolen, Le Roux indicated.

A second vehicle was stolen later that morning and driven to Bayfield, where it was wrecked, Le Roux explained.

The Bayfield Marshal's Office was involved with a male at the scene of the accident, Le Roux reported, but were unable to detain

■ See Crime A8

Study shows supply and demand impacts of STRs

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a Dec. 6 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council heard the results of a nexus study designed to quantify the relationship between short-term rentals (STRs) and workforce housing in the town and develop a supportable impact fee for STRs based on that relationship.

The study was conducted by Root Policy Research, and the results were presented by Managing Director Mollie Fitzpatrick and Associate Avilia Bueno.

Prior to the presentation, Town Attorney Clay Buchner highlighted that the nexus study is unconnected to the current litigation concerning STR fees the town is engaged in — a connection that had been suggested by a public commenter prior to the presentation.

Bueno began the presentation by outlining the approaches and statistics used in the study, explaining that the report includes descriptive statistics outlining current housing and labor market trends

■ See STRs A8

County approves sale of courthouse

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At a Dec. 6 Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners' (BoCC) meeting, the board unanimously approved a purchase and sale agreement for the sale of the county courthouse at 449 San Juan St. to Ronnie Urbanczyk.

The BoCC initially accepted Urbanczyk's bid and entered negotiations on the sale on April 19.

According to the sale agreement,

the county will receive \$550,000 for the sale of the courthouse as well as a 10 percent undivided ownership interest in a 40-acre property on Condor Drive near the airport.

County staff currently occupy a portion of the building, which County Commissioner Ronnie Maez explained at the meeting will be leased back to the county at no cost.

In an interview with The SUN after the meeting, County Manager

■ See Courthouse A8

County accepting applications to serve on county's Board of Health

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Archuleta County is seeking qualified applicants to serve on an Archuleta County Board of Health and help stand up the Archuleta County Public Health Department (ACPHD).

The announcement comes after the Archuleta County Board of Coun-

ty Commissioners (BoCC) and La Plata County Board of County Commissioners each voted unanimously on Nov. 15 to dissolve San Juan Basin Public Health, with that dissolution effective Dec. 31, 2023.

Applications for Archuleta County's board are due by Jan. 20, 2023.

According to a press release,

■ See Health A8

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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OUR VIEW

Newspapers in Education helps students become informed citizens

This month marks the SUN's 114th year of documenting the history of Archuleta County and informing citizens through journalism.

This month is also the month that The Pagosa Springs SUN joins forces with 33 Colorado newsrooms to amplify the impact of local journalism — not just in our newsroom, but in communities across our state — thanks to the generosity of the Colorado Media Project and its matching gift campaign.

Collectively, our work is essential to a better-informed community and a healthy democracy. But it would not be possible without the support of readers like you.

Through Dec. 31, the Colorado Media Project will match your contribution to The SUN up to \$1,000. The SUN's goal is to use this funding to continue the Newspapers in Education program that we launched in 2021.

Former U.S. history teacher Steven Long responded to the idea of introducing a Newspapers in Education program to his eighth-grade students at Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS): "I think studying current events is one of the most critical skills I can teach my students. There are so many valuable topics such as identifying bias, what is credible vs. what isn't."

Long's next question was how do we get the program underway?

Students receive copies of the newspaper each week and SUN staff develops corresponding curriculum for the teachers' use. We are excited to work with our local schools. The importance of local journalism during these uncertain times

cannot be overstated — it's what keeps our community informed and connected, day after day, and is a cornerstone of a healthy democracy.

PSMS Principal Chris Hinger wrote in an email to The SUN, "Thank you for providing these [newspapers]. We appreciate you partnering with us to provide the best education for our students."

This year, Hinger is making the newspapers available in the school library for more students and teachers to access.

Newspapers in the classroom improve students' reading achievement, retention and comprehension. In one study, reading skills increased by two grade levels for students who used the newspaper compared to students using traditional methods.

Teacher Scott White picks up papers designated for San Juan Mountain School every Thursday morning to use as a tool for his civics and government class.

Media literacy is more important now than ever to help students identify credible news sources. Using the newspaper as an educational resource helps students to develop a better understanding of local government.

The program links real-world experience to the classroom and encourages critical-thinking skills and lifelong reading habits. Newspapers contribute in enhancing literacy and help students become better consumers of the news.

"As a Place-Based PBL school, we love the way the newspaper can provide an opportunity for the students to keep up to date on things happening in our community," Pagosa Peak Open School Director

Angela Reali Crossland wrote. "The newspaper provides a great text for students to use during reading comprehension activities as it engages them in something that is relevant to them."

Newspapers influence students' attitudes toward reading and improves their competencies. Research shows that students who read the news perform higher on standardized tests and become more engaged in civics and volunteerism in their communities. Students who used newspapers as principal source material had better achievement scores in social studies, language arts and math than their counterparts.

We hope you will consider a contribution to help a teacher use newspapers in the classroom to better inform students about our community.

Please help us to continue the Newspapers in Education program in our local schools by sending a contribution to The Pagosa Springs SUN, Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or dropping off a check at our office at 457 Lewis St. between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (we close for lunch from 12:15-1:15 p.m.).

You can also make your contribution online at <https://tinyurl.com/mr69d6c2>.

Contributions received before Dec. 31 will be matched up to \$1,000 for a total of \$5,000 in matching funds.

Thank you in advance for your contribution. Your generous support for local journalism and strengthening the education of our youth through Newspapers in Education is greatly appreciated.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 8, 1922

Arrangements for the Community Christmas Tree to be provided in Pagosa Springs on Sunday, Christmas eve, are proceeding in great shape and the actual work has started in preparing a treat for every child under the age of 16 in Archuleta county who can be present at this festival, the first of its kind ever attempted here. Every child in the county is invited and expected to attend and none will be disappointed.

The committee in charge wishes to announce that no presents other than those prepared by the organizations will be permitted to be placed on the tree. Several requests have been made for permission to place individual presents on the tree, but all will be denied. The children's treats will all be uniform in size and contents, and no discrimination will be shown. Having made the rule, the committee will adhere to it.

No eastern mail last evening, and with the storm brewing today the prospects are that there will be no train over Cumbres pass until next Sunday or Monday.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 12, 1947

The Pagosa Springs Buccaneers played their second league basketball game of the season last Friday night against Mancos on the home floor.

The local boys played a much better brand of basketball than they have during previous games. They encountered difficulty in hitting the basket until the last quarter when they opened up and hit for 14 points. Joe Cordova was high point man with 8 points, all made in the last quarter.

(Student) council wants to remind people that only players, officials and cheer leaders are supposed to be in the gym during the basketball games. Please cooperate with us on this matter.

Doings in Archuleta county this week have taken yours truly (Bud Patterson) into the cold and snow, all for good reason. Alvin Fitzhugh is building his irrigation ditches this week — snow or no snow. We spent some cold hours putting in grade stakes for the bulldozer to work by.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 7, 1972

Heavy snows throughout the county left 16 inches of new snow in town and varying amounts elsewhere. County and state highway road crews did a fine job in maintaining all roads and making travel possible. No property damage has been reported as a result of the heavy snow, but fender bender accidents were numerous. Many cars ended up in snowbanks, or in the ditch, but no injuries have been reported.

A Christmas party for the children of the community is scheduled for Saturday, December 16 at the high school gym. All children are welcome, there will be candy and treats, Santa Claus will be present and movies will be shown.

This annual party is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. It is given to show appreciation for patronage the past year and also to give parents an opportunity to shop while children are at the party. Candy, and other gifts, are provided by the Chamber of Commerce. Specially selected movies are also provided by the Chamber.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 11, 1997

County commissioners have refused to meet with employees unhappy with the county's pay raise policy as proposed in the 1998 budget.

Alice Jelinek, speaking on behalf of a group calling themselves "The Archuleta County Employees Group," voiced the group's concerns at the regular commissioners meeting Tuesday.

Jelinek asked for a meeting between the group and the commissioners so the employees could present their concerns face to face and establish a dialogue.

"We want an opportunity to ask questions and get answers," Jelinek said.

"It is inappropriate for us (commissioners) to meet with the employees of other elected officials," said Bob Formwalt, chairman of the board of county commissioners. "We talked with all of the department heads before we did the budget. They had a chance for input then," he said.

LOOKING BACK



Taken from
The Pagosa Springs SUN files
from Dec. 18, 1997

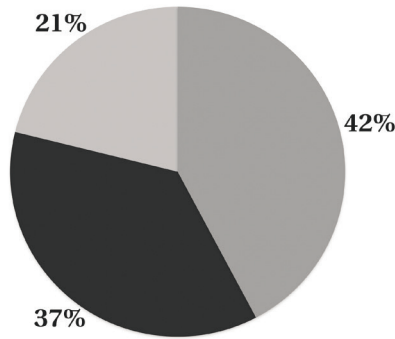
Thanks to the effort of the Student Council and generosity of the students at Pagosa Springs High School, 1,000 toys were collected for the local Operation Helping Hand program. Head Girl Tiffany Wiggers and Head Boy Aaron Esterbrook credited the success of the toy drive to project chairman Rebecca Condon, right.

WHADDYA THINK?

Do you believe in Santa Claus?

Poll results (112 votes)

Once upon a time. — 42 percent
Yes. — 37 percent
No. — 21 percent



Vote this week online:

Have you had your flu shot?

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YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Archuleta County Commissioners

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Ron Maez

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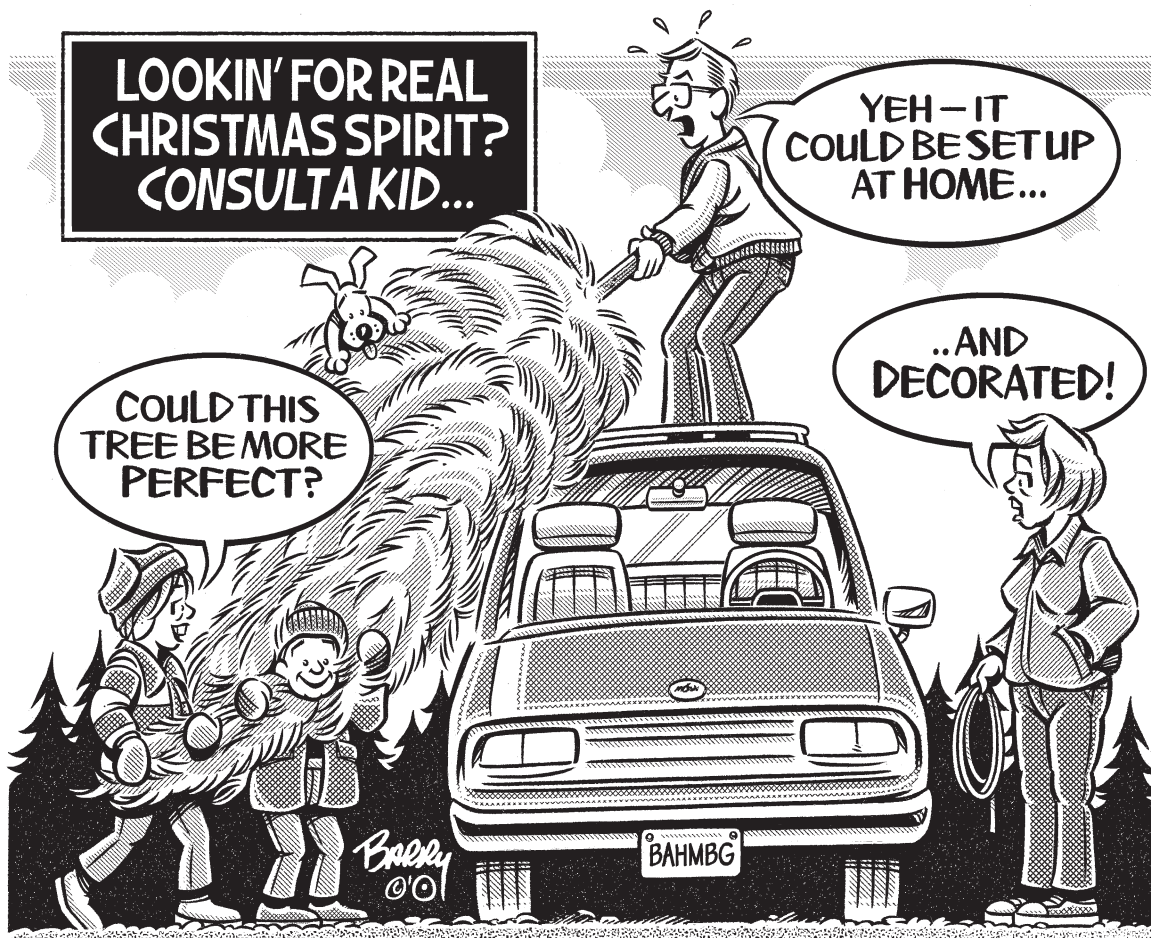
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12/1	48	16	-	-	-
12/2	42	22	S	.3"	.03"
12/3	44	20	S	1.1"	.06"
12/4	45	28	-	-	-
12/5	45	30	R	-	.17"

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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.

'Rome did not fall'

Dear Editor:
 "After surviving about 2,200 years, Rome did not fall, it faded under the pressure of an internal propaganda campaign"...sort of like the GOP/Trump/Evangelical 'election deniers' are putting out thru FOX. Power struggles essentially split the Roman Empire in two. The Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantine) sabotaged the Western Roman Empire. Not unlike those states that made up the Civil War Confederacy and are now the Red State Trump/GOP base who are attempting to do the same thing to America. So, here's the two questions to ask when thinking about the folks living in those 'Red States: why was (and still is) the majority of the opiate crisis theirs and secondly, if they're so Pro-Life why

are they adamantly for the death penalty, no restriction on guns, down on health care and 'death' on any form of assistance to the living.. Google it, add up the deaths?

Another question of why some militia groups like the 'Oath Keepers' would seek to overturn the Fed. gov't stumps most but it seems the answer is simple..they had Trump's backing and could try. So, the next question is why would anyone want to support Trump who just called for the destruction of the Constitution (your freedom have any value?) or join the GOP's campaign against other Americans that might kill thousands and destroy our nation? Well it's not just Trump & the GOP/Evangelicals, don't forget, you wouldn't have FOX if Pres. Reagan hadn't abolished the 'Fair Reporting Act.'

FACTOID..it's not the desperately poor who start civil wars, but 'those who once had privilege and feel they are losing status.' Whether it's money, sex or race people are loss adverse.

To last as long as Rome, America needs a just & serious economic system for everyone; if we can just do that, outside of Climate Change, we should last as long as Rome — hey we already got the first 246.

Dave Blake

Another great fall at Four Mile Ranch

Dear Editor:
 A big thank-you is in order for the group of volunteers that helped to host approximately 800 students from local and regional schools at Four Mile Ranch this fall. This effort was no small feat with volunteers logging more than 1100 hours to prepare for and educate our future conservationists.

Each fall, Audubon Rockies prepares the trails and grounds in the Four Mile Ranch forests and bottomlands for the students of the Archuleta School District, Dulce Independent Schools, and many other local schools for the purpose of offering a special opportunity to connect with the natural world. Students learn about plants, insects, water, habitat, animal needs, and the interconnectedness of our environment, all the while immersing themselves (and 5 senses) in this beautiful place we call home. Local support from the Weminuche Audubon Society and long-standing contributions from the Hershey Foundation have continued to make this possibility a reality.

Lastly, these fall ecology field trips wouldn't be possible without the contributions of so many teachers, aides, parent chaperones, district bus drivers, and volunteers. We sincerely appreciate their efforts in contributing to making

these programs a success.
 Keith Bruno

Holiday Light Contest voting

Dear Editor:
 I tried to vote for the contestants of our local Holiday Light Contest but was dismayed that only people that have a Google account are able to vote. I can not help wonder how many others took the time to visit the awesome display of lights in the area that people spent time and money to assemble with out enjoying getting to vote for the one they liked. Perhaps is this another way the woke culture has shamed non compliant Google users to submit to their submissive ways? Get out and enjoy the lights and have a Blessed Christmas.

G. Margiotta

Trump is the symptom

Dear Editor:
 Trump is not the problem. He is just the symptom of our great national problem. Our main problems are racism and religion. Since the founding or our democracy in the 1700's, this country has been ruled by white Christian people, overwhelmingly men. The stark social divisions we are experiencing in this country today are a backlash from the more progressive political, cultural and social gains this country has experienced from the sixties through the 2000's wherein previously disenfranchised groups had attained a more equal footing with the established ruling group, i.e. white Christians. These conservative white Christians do not like to see brown and black people acquiring power in government, business, and other social venues, they don't like to see LGBTQ people with the right to marry and be open about their sexual preferences, they don't like to see interracial relationships, they don't like women to have a say about their own bodies, etc. Until we allow a more inclusive society and let people with different racial backgrounds and religious beliefs share in the benefits of our democracy, we will continue to have this turmoil. Racism and religion constrain our social progress and

See Letters A4



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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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e-mail:
 editor@pagosasun.com

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

Maria Dulcinea Branson

Mrs. Maria Dulcinea Branson, age 93, a resident of Gillham, Ark., died Saturday, Dec. 3, at her home.

She was born Oct. 25, 1929, in Pagosa Springs, Colo. She was a member of the St. Barbara Catholic Church. She loved her church and loved cooking.



Mrs. Branson was preceded in death by her husband, Carl James Branson; her parents, Tobias and Maria Rosa Romero Trujillo; four brothers, Armando, Fernando, Carlos and Fanio; and one son, Matthew Branny Branson.

She is survived by three children, Terrance G. Branson, C. Anthony Branson and his wife, Tracy, all of Gillham; Roseanne Paslo and husband Joseph, of Concord, N.C.; four sisters, Maria Bradley and Priscilla Gallegos, of Arvada, Colo., Becky Everage, of Thorton, Colo., and Lucilla Hoover, of Houston, Texas; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral Mass was held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, in the Monsignor Scott Friend Pastoral Center

at St. Barbara Catholic Church with Father Ramses Mendieta officiating. Burial followed in Gillham Cemetery.

Visitation was held from 5 to 7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 5, at the funeral home with a holy rosary.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Barbara Catholic Church, 503 W. De Queen Ave., De Queen, AR 71832.

You may leave a condolence online at www.wilkersonfuneralhomes.com.

Phyllis (Ratray) Daleske

Phyllis (Ratray) Daleske died on Nov. 20, a day after her 96th birthday. Known around Pagosa Springs as "The Dancer," Phyl spent the happiest years of her life in this picturesque mountain town ("How lucky was I to move to Pagosa?!").



Phyl grew up in Seattle, attended Goucher College in Baltimore, then returned to Seattle, where she went to secretarial school ("I had to make a living—I was a philosophy major!"). She worked as a secretary at the Seattle Athletic Club and the University of

Washington School of Economics.

In the late 1950s, she moved to San Francisco ("just for the hell of it"), where she lived as a single gal in a great apartment in a "beatnicky" area. It was in SF that she discovered the Unitarian church, which became her lifelong beloved community, giving her a much-needed "something to be connected to."

In 1960 she married Ed Daleske, and they moved to Portola Valley, Calif., where they had two daughters, Sarah and Liz. In 1970 the family moved to suburban Kansas City, where Phyl was happy to once again find a Unitarian church. That church "saved her life" in relatively conservative Kansas in the '70s, introducing her to people she could relate to, many of whom became lifelong friends. Also in KC she volunteered for the county mental health association before being hired to run a transitional living home and later becoming a caseworker.

When she retired in 1992, Phyl moved to Pagosa Springs ("a miraculous place") and lived here for the rest of her life. She embraced small-town living, developed a circle of devoted friends and enjoyed running into acquaintances and future friends wherever she went.

She helped start the San Juan Outdoor Club and the Pagosa Arts Council, volunteered at the farmers market and more. But most important to her, Phyl was one of the founders of the Pagosa Unitarian

Universalist Fellowship. Growing up "with morality but not religion," she connected to UU's logic and lack of dogma, appreciating the setting where she "could relate in a reasonable way to people who were on the same track."

More recently, she renewed her love of live music and discovered a new passion: dancing. She spent many an evening listening to music at local venues ("in Pagosa, for crap's sake") and dancing along to her favorite bands.

Phyl made her own choices till the end ("It's been a good life, why not get out while you can?"), making doctors, nurses, and Sarah and Liz laugh out loud with her often-unintentional humor ("I'm on my way out!").

She was out dancing 10 days before she died ("Isn't that a good way to go?").

Phyl also had a much-loved son-in-law, Alan Barlow, and two beautiful and accomplished granddaughters, Lilly and Greer.

The family is planning a party in the summer to celebrate Phyl's life with her friends in Pagosa. If you'd like to be notified of details, please send a note to Sarah at galsbar4@gmail.com.

If you'd like to give a gift in Phyl's memory, she would appreciate donations to the Pagosa UU Fellowship Growth Fund (P.O. Box 5984, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; pagosa.uu.org).

JIM GARRETT

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Continued from A3
the promise of equality written in our constitution. The greatness of this country is not what we are but in what we aspire to be.

Ernie OToole

Carbon debate

Dear Editor:

In response to Mr. Sharp's critique of my letter of November 10th, I would offer the following:

His letter notes that even though the total carbon in the atmosphere is very small, the increase is large in comparison, and is the critical issue. I would agree with that if carbon dioxide were the only, or even the predominant greenhouse gas. But it is not. The major greenhouse gas in our atmosphere is water vapor. It is huge in comparison, so that if CO2 is a player, the total amount is important. Carbon dioxide is a much stronger greenhouse gas, but the effect is small compared to the 4% +/- water vapor.

The letter mentions the need to regulate heat from the Sun and compares it to being at just the right distance from a campfire. There is an alternative however. We can turn the fire on and off, like most furnaces do. The furniture and walls act as a heat sink, thereby mitigating the temperature change during the off cycle. This is exactly what happens on our planet due to its daily rotation, and with the green house gases (water vapor and carbon dioxide) mitigating the diurnal heat fluctuations. So those gases help us at present. Water vapor is relatively constant, and carbon dioxide would have to increase by several orders of magnitude to be a problem.

The letter also quotes from a

Government publication that; "Concentrations were no higher than 300 parts per million, (ppm) for at least 800,000 years until the industrial age, starting around 1900." That quote was taken completely out of context from a paper entitled "A 40 Million Year History of Atmospheric CO2" (Royal Academy). The purpose of that paper was to explain the precipitous decrease in CO2 levels from about 1200 ppm, and ending at the minimum of 300 ppm, at 800,000 YA. Our Government has "conveniently" left out about 450 million years, for which we have knowledge of CO2 levels prior to the 800k figure. Why? Because the CO2 levels were much higher than currently, throughout the 450 million years. Why would the Government writers do this? Well, we have had three glacial events during that period, and that gives them a problem. I think they have an "agenda" and it obviously is not science.

Dick Riethmiller

Convictions

Dear Editor:

There is a case now before the Supreme Court regarding a woman in Colorado, a web designer who refused to do a web page for a homosexual couple's wedding. She apparently discriminated. She was sued.

What if NAMBLA (the North America Man/Boy Love Association) had asked her to do work for an article about the joys of male adult and child sex? Could she have refused to do that without being sued?

She might believe that marriage is between a man and a woman, or that grown men and child sex is wrong, or that abortion is wrong.

Here in America, the land of free and the home of brave, if we are not free to follow our moral or religious convictions, then indeed we are not free and America has really changed.

Just thinking out loud.

Elly Sherr

Preservation over deterioration

Dear Editor:

In reply to a very rich Texan saying one of our beautiful agricultural meadows would be a wonderful place for a great big house with porches all around, Herb Browning the much respected, loved, wise and discerning old Archuleta County game warden (now diseased) once replied... "Looks like a damn good place for just a meadow to me". And so it is with our Archuleta County beloved ranches and open space meadows...people from other places see them as meat to be consumed

by development and commercial use...not as the beauty God created as medicine for the soul. Please, Please keep our agricultural land regulations from being diluted by those who would ruin their traditional use and integrity by allowing commercial use as a venue for what ever they desire. The Commissioners are signaling, according to the Sun's last week article, that they intend to dilute the proposed changes to the agricultural land use regs. Don't fool ourselves by requiring road reconstruction and repair as a result of increased use (venders, caterers, guests, workers, etc.) to get to one of these beautiful places...we already have enough road repair problems as it is, and can't seem to develop a gravel pit anywhere. The county doesn't have the tax money... or will to enforce complicated regulations - you can see it in the newspaper article. We need to preserve our beautiful ranches and open space. The County Commissioners need to discern what's best for our County Land Heritage... in the long run; they will be doing what's best for their constituents. Please step up and not encourage more development in our unique ranching meadows...please vote for land preservation... not deterioration.

James R. White

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Dispatch board appoints interim director, discusses phone issues

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At the Dec. 1 Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Board meeting, the board voted to appoint Elizabeth Blizzard as the interim emergency communications director (ECD) and discussed the procurement of a new phone customer premises equipment (CPE) system.

Pagosa Springs Police Department Chief Bill Rockensock opened the discussion of appointing an interim ECD by stating that he believed the decision would depend on how long the hiring process for a new ECD will take and questioned if it is

fair to expect an individual — such as Blizzard, then the emergency communications operations manager — to take on many of the responsibilities of the ECD role without offering them additional compensation and authority.

County Manager Derek Woodman then updated the board on the hiring process, explaining that there were currently four applicants and if any of these applicants were qualified the process might take as little as two months.

Woodman added that, although he was unsure of how long the hiring process would take, he supported appointing an interim ECD

to ensure that the individual running the dispatch center is appropriately compensated.

Board members then questioned if Blizzard would be able to fill the interim ECD role, which Blizzard indicated her willingness to do.

The board discussed when Blizzard's increased compensation for taking the interim ECD position would start, concluding that it would begin on her next pay period per county policy.

The board then moved to approve her appointment as interim ECD.

CPE procurement

Also at the meeting, the board

heard an update from Blizzard on the procurement of a new CPE system.

Blizzard explained that the center is continuing to have issues with its phone system and is planning to move forward with procuring a new CPE system.

She added that the center had received two bids for the system so far and was waiting on another and that implementation would likely take around six months following signing a contract with the new CPE provider.

With this timeline in mind, Blizzard indicated that the center would likely not have a new CPE system in place before July.

Public comment invited for district court judgeship candidates

By Jon Sarché
Colorado Judicial Department

The Sixth Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on Dec. 20 at the La Plata County Courthouse to consider candidates for a vacancy on the Sixth Judicial District Court.

Eleven candidates have applied for this vacancy. They are Anthony Baca, of Dolores; Christian Champagne, of Durango; Anthony Ed-

wards, of Silverton; Justin Fay, of Pagosa Springs; Sarah Law, of Durango; Matt Margeson, of Dolores; Mary Pero, of Durango; Douglas Reynolds, of Durango; Barbara Stauch, of Denver; Reid Stewart, of Hesperus; and Todd Weaver, of Pagosa Springs.

The rules of procedure for the Sixth Judicial District Nominating Commission require that the names of all applicants be made public when the application period is closed. The application period has now passed

and public comment on the qualifications of the applicants is invited. Comments may be directed to any member of the commission, with a copy to the ex officio chair, Justice Melissa Hart, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203 no later than 4 p.m. on Dec. 14.

The members of the nominating commission for the Sixth Judicial District are: Kathryn Steelman, Ingrid Alt, Barrie Hedges Newberger King, James Cross and Paul DeBell, of Durango; Albert Northrop, of

Pagosa Springs; and John Wright, of Silverton.

Contact information for the nominating commission members follows:

- Kathryn Steelman, ksteelman-law@gmail.com.
- Albert Northrop, pagosacowboy@gmail.com.
- Ingrid Alt, ialt@gmalawyers.com.
- John Wright, wrightjo@frontier.net.
- Barrie Hedges Newberger King, barrie@newbergerkinglaw.com.
- James Cross, cross_j@fortlewis.edu.
- Paul DeBell, padebell@fortlewis.edu.

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office
Calls for service for week: 149.

Sept. 24 — Violation of restraining order, false reporting to authorities, Cloud Cap Avenue.

Nov. 3 — Cold DV, Homestead Drive.

Nov. 22 — Third-degree assault-simple assault, West U.S. 160.

Nov. 28 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

Nov. 28 — Indecent exposure, Cat Creek Overlook.

Nov. 28 — Information only, Great West Avenue.

Nov. 30 — Information only, East U.S. 160.

Nov. 30 — Failure to appear in court when ordered, Harman Park Drive.

Dec. 1 — Information only, County Road 600.

Dec. 1 — Information only, Nutria Circle.

Dec. 1 — Under investigation, no location listed.

Dec. 1 — Expired license plates, drove vehicle when license suspended, eluding police (misdemeanor), drove vehicle without insurance, County Road 600/Back Swing Drive.

Dec. 2 — Information only, Solomon Drive.

Dec. 2 — Warrant arrest, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Dec. 2 — Vicious dog with injury,

Aztec Drive.

Dec. 2 — Domestic violence, violation of restraining order, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Flicker Lane.

Dec. 2 — Information only, Harman Park Drive.

Dec. 2 — First-degree criminal trespass-theft from vehicle, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 3 — Second-degree aggravated motor vehicle left, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 3 — First-degree criminal trespass-other intent, Highland Avenue.

Dec. 3 — Aggravated motor vehicle theft, Prospect Boulevard.

Dec. 3 — First-degree criminal trespass-theft from vehicle, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 3 — Third-degree criminal trespass, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 3 — First-degree criminal trespass-theft from vehicle, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 3 — Aggravated motor vehicle theft, Prospect Boulevard.

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Dec. 8

Pagosa Springs Main Street Advisory Board meeting, 4-6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center meeting room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89821999924?pwd=ZzlkSlJYl1BKbmRzRUpxZUkxUkx5Zz09>.

Monday, Dec. 12

CSU Extension advisory meeting, 11:30 a.m., CSU Extension building, 344 U.S. 84.

Town boards and commission training, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosaprices.civicweb>.

net/portal/.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting and Pagosa Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund Board of Trustees of the regular meeting, 5:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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

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

Wednesday, Dec. 14

San Juan Water Conservancy District regular meeting and public hearing, 2 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Zoom option available at www.sjwcd.org.

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors 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.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation board meeting, 5:30-7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitors Center meeting room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83552743149?pwd=Z0RXejNjQXo0TkNNZmlyM0h4UHB5QT09>.



SUN photo/Terri House

Pagosa Peak peeks out from behind the clouds on Friday afternoon. On Wednesday morning, Wolf Creek Ski Area reported a season-to-date snowfall total of 71 inches.

Snowfall brings Wolf Creek Pass snowpack to 99 percent of median

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

Additional snowfall has come to the San Juan Mountains, although mostly clear conditions are expected for the rest of the week.

An 8 a.m. Dec. 7 report from Wolf Creek Ski Area indicated that Wolf Creek had received 7 inches overnight and 11 inches in the previous 48 hours, bringing the midway base depth to 39 inches and the season-to-date snowfall total to 71 inches.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Water and Climate Center's snowpack report, the Wolf Creek summit, at 11,000 feet of elevation, had 8.3 inches of snow water equivalent as of 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7.

The Wolf Creek summit was at 99 percent of the Dec. 7 snowpack median.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan river basins were at 88 percent of the Dec. 7 median in terms of snowpack.

According to the Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) website, as of Wednesday morning, sites in Archuleta County received between 0.2 and 1.8 inches of snowfall over the previous 24 hours.

Higher snowfall totals were concentrated in the central and north-

ern portions of the county, with the highest reported snowfall amount located near Lake Hatcher north of Pagosa Springs.

Avalanches

According to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) website, the southern San Juan range, including Wolf Creek Pass, was at level four — high — in terms of avalanche danger as of noon on Dec. 7.

The CAIC uses a scale of one through five to assess avalanche danger in regions around the state.

An avalanche warning is also in effect, beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 6 and ending at 7 a.m. on Dec. 8.

The CAIC website notes on the warning, "An Avalanche Warning is in effect for the areas surrounding Wolf Creek, Cumbres, and La Manga Passes. Heavy snowfall and wind have created dangerous avalanche conditions. Some avalanches will release naturally and can be triggered from a distance or below. Avalanches will break larger and run further than you expect. Avoid travel in or under avalanche terrain."

The CAIC forecast discussion also references the recent storm, stating, "A potent winter storm arrives Tuesday night in the Southern Mountains, and snow continues into Wednesday night. The area

surrounding Wolf Creek Pass looks to be the biggest winner, but the Southwest corner of our zone, including areas from Lizard Head Pass to the La Plata Mountains to Vallecito, will be receiving healthy amounts of snow as well. Though totals are less from Telluride to Ouray to Silverton, expect the avalanche danger to be on the rise across the board Wednesday, no matter where you are traveling in the Southern Mountains. This is the first major storm to challenge our very weak early-season snowpack. Regardless of where you are, you can expect conditions to be spicier than what you've seen recently and danger to be increasing during the day Wednesday as the storm continues."

The forecast discussion also touches on safe travel measures, indicating, "Expect avalanches to break larger and travel farther distances than we have seen this season. Remote triggering and triggering from below will become increasingly likely as we put a thick slab on top of our fragile weak layer. Make sure to give yourself wide margins from steep slopes above you. Very conservative trip planning and careful terrain management will be essential if you choose to venture out today in much of the southern mountains. Give the snowpack a day or two to adjust is the safest bet in locations

under an Avalanche Warning, such as the La Plata Mountains and Wolf Creek Pass."

Additional avalanche information can be found online at <https://avalanche.state.co.us>

Weather

The National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts that mostly sunny skies will return to the region on Thursday, Dec. 8, with a high of 28 and 5 mph winds.

Thursday night is predicted to bring mostly clear skies with a low of 11 and 5 mph winds.

For Friday, Dec. 9, the forecasted high is 29 degrees with partly sunny skies and 5-10 mph winds. The forecasted low is 11 degrees with mostly clear skies.

For Saturday, Dec. 10, mostly sunny skies are expected with a high of 31 degrees. The forecasted low is 16 degrees Saturday night with mostly clear skies.

For Sunday, Dec. 10, the forecasted high is 32 degrees with partly sunny skies and a chance of snow showers, mainly after 11 a.m. The forecasted low is 21 degrees with mostly cloudy skies and a chance of snow showers.

River report

Stream flow for the San Juan River on Dec. 7 at approximately 1 p.m. was 84.5 cubic feet per second (cfs), according to the U.S. Geological Service (USGS) National Water Dashboard.

This reading is up from last week's reading of 59.2 cfs at 1 p.m. on Nov. 30.

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Colorado paid family leave employer portal goes live

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Colorado employers, and the third-party administrators who serve them, have a new, easy way to manage the proven benefits of paid family medical leave as the state Family and Medical Leave Insurance employer services portal goes live.

The My FAMILI+ Employer portal — launched by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment's new Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMILI) Division — is a one-stop shop for employers and third-party administrators to manage employer obligations under the new, voter-approved statewide paid family leave program. The division has already

successfully registered more than 1,300 organizations during the soft launch of the portal over the last several weeks. All employers can now access My FAMILI+ Employer from famli.colorado.gov.

On Jan. 1, 2023, Colorado employers and employees will start contributing to the new voter-approved FAMILI program. Using simple payroll deductions, employers and employees will contribute to the fund that will give more Coloradans wage-replacement benefits during life circumstances that pull them away from their jobs. Benefit payments will become available to most Colorado workers starting in January 2024.

Colorado is joining 10 other states and the District of Columbia to ensure more workers have access

to paid leave during life circumstances that pull them away from their jobs, like a new child, taking care of a loved one with a serious health condition or preparing for a family member's military deployment.

Initiatives in other states have shown that paid leave keeps folks in the workforce and reduces employer expenses when needing to replace talent that had to step away to care for themselves or their loved ones. And a statewide insurance fund funded by a wide variety of employers and employees reduces costs.

For example, California, which implemented its paid family and medical leave program two decades ago, has found that, over

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Respiratory illnesses continue to circulate at high levels

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The region and nation continue to deal with a “trifecta of yuck,” as San Juan Basin Public Health’s (SJBPH) Megan Graham called it, with influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) continuing to circulate.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all three illnesses are increasing in the nation.

Graham, SJBPH communications director, indicated the circulating illnesses are a reminder to continue to take preventative measures.

RSV is not a reportable disease locally, limiting the amount of local information available, though the CDC website notes, “CDC surveillance has shown an increase in RSV detections and RSV-associated emergency department visits and hospitalizations in multiple U.S. regions, with some regions nearing seasonal peak levels. Clinicians and public health professionals should be aware of increases in respiratory viruses, including RSV.”

Flu

SJBPH’s influenza surveillance indicates that, for the week ending Nov. 26, 16.4 percent of flu tests in Archuleta and La Plata counties came back positive, up from 15.5 percent the week before.

The CDC reports a 25.1 percent positivity rate for the week ending Nov. 26.

One hospitalization had been reported in Archuleta County as of Nov. 26, with none reported in La Plata County.

Graham pointed out more recent data reflects an increase in hospitalizations in the area, though that data was not posted to SJBPH’s website by press time Wednesday.

On Wednesday, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) website was reporting 517 hospitalizations in the state due to influenza since Oct. 2.

According to the CDC’s weekly flu report, the agency “estimates that, so far this season, there have been at least 8.7 million illnesses, 78,000 hospitalizations, and 4,500

deaths from flu.”

It also indicates hospitalizations continue to rise.

It further notes that the cumulative hospitalization rate in the FluSurv-NET system for the week ending Nov. 26 (week 47) “is higher than the rate observed in week 47 during every previous season since 2010-2011,” and the “number of flu hospital admissions reported in the HHS Protect system during week 47 almost doubled compared with week 46.”

The CDC report further notes “The majority of influenza viruses tested are in the same genetic sub-clade as and antigenically similar to the influenza viruses included in this season’s influenza vaccine.”

COVID

COVID continues to trend upward nationally, statewide and locally, according to Graham.

Archuleta County continues to move between Community Levels medium and high on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Community Levels for COVID-19.

As of Dec. 1, Archuleta County was in high, as was La Plata County.

The CDC’s Community Levels are updated each Thursday, with the CDC website explaining the agency looks at the combination of three metrics — new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past seven days, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past seven days — to determine the COVID-19 Community Level. Hospital data is determined regionally.

As of Dec. 1, the CDC reports 21.2 new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population, 8.1 percent of staffed inpatient beds in use by patients with confirmed COVID-19 and a new case rate of 99.97 per 100,000 people.

As of Wednesday, SJBPH’s COVID-19 data dashboard showed a one-week incidence rate of 65.20 new cases per 100,000 population and 22 deaths among cases.

“Last week, I think largely what pushed both communities into high was hospitalization numbers,” she said.

Graham reported that hospitalizations in SJBPH’s service territory reached more than 10 last week, but, as of Wednesday, three were hospitalized for COVID at Mercy Regional Medical Center.

She noted that, while regional hospitalizations are trending downward over the past week, officials are seeing an increase in levels of COVID in wastewater, which she explained “tends to be an indicating data point that could tell us what might be to come.”

State data reflects rising hospitalizations due to COVID-19, with 126 hospital admissions across the state on Nov. 29 and a seven-day average of 123 hospitalizations per day as of Nov. 29.

For the week of Nov. 29, the agency reports, 440 were hospitalized for COVID.

In Community Level high, masking is advised for all public indoor spaces per the CDC and SJBPH’s public health advisory.

In Community Level high, the CDC recommends the following individual level prevention steps:

- Wear a high-quality mask or respirator.
- If you are at high risk of getting very sick, consider avoiding non-essential indoor activities in public where you could be exposed.
- If you have household or social contact with someone at high risk for getting very sick, consider self-testing to detect infection before contact, and consider wearing a high-quality mask when indoors with them.

For all community levels, CDC recommends the following individual level prevention steps:

- Stay up to date on vaccination, including recommended booster doses.
- Maintain ventilation improvements.
- Avoid contact with people who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow recommendations for isolation if you have suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Follow the recommendations for what to do if you are exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- If you are at high risk of getting very sick, talk with a health care provider about additional prevention actions.

tion actions.

In addition to local providers continuing to provide COVID vaccine primary series and booster doses, Graham reported Wednesday that the state’s mobile vaccine buses will continue in the area into at least the first part of January.

For information on COVID-19 vaccines, eligibility and local providers, visit <https://sjbpublichealth.org/covid-19-vaccine/>. More information about COVID-19 vaccines, as well as assistance scheduling an appointment, is available at covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine. The public can also call SJBPH at (970) 247-5702 or Colorado’s Vaccine Hotline at (877) 268-2926 to get help finding a vaccine.

COVID-19 treatments for people who currently have mild to moderate symptoms and are not in the hospital for COVID-19, but who are at high risk of getting very sick, continue to be available.

For more information on those treatment options or the state’s telehealth program, visit: <https://sjbpublichealth.org/covid-treatments/> or covid19.colorado.gov/treatments.

Masks, at-home COVID tests available

At-home COVID tests and KN95 masks are available for free at the SJBPH offices in both Durango and Pagosa Springs.

More information on testing can be found at: <https://sjbpublichealth.org/testing/>.

Precautions against respiratory illness

A December update from SJBPH that was released Wednesday explains, “Before getting together with friends and family this holiday season, consider getting your flu shot.”

SJBPH also recommends staying up to date on COVID vaccines.

SJBPH also recommends the following to help prevent the transmission of respiratory illnesses:

- Get vaccinated.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and often.
- Cover up with a tissue or upper arm sleeve to cough or sneeze.
- Disinfect potentially contaminated surfaces often.

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Portal

Continued from A6
the past 20 years, 87 percent of businesses have reported no increased costs, and 9 percent saw cost savings due to lower employee turnover or lower spending on employee benefits.

Colorado workers can start applying for paid leave benefits starting in 2024. Workers will file a claim for FAMILI benefits directly through the state, similarly to how they would file an unemployment insurance claim. Here’s how it works and who is eligible:

- Employers are required to notify employees of payroll deductions by posting the Required Program Notice by Jan. 1, 2023.

- Employers and their employees both fund the FAMILI program and may split the cost 50/50. Premiums are set to 0.9 percent of the employee’s wage, with 0.45 percent paid by the employer and 0.45 percent paid by the employee. (Employers can pay all or some of the employee share as an added benefit if they wish.) Premiums may be adjusted in future years but are capped by law at 1.2 percent.
- Small employers with nine or

fewer employees aren’t required to cover the employer share and are only responsible for deducting and remitting the 0.45 percent employee share to the FAMILI Division once a quarter.

- Eligible workers can get up to 12 weeks of pay (or 16 weeks in situations of certain pregnancy or childbirth complications) on a sliding scale based on earnings, with lower wage earners receiving up to 90 percent of their wages. Workers can take FAMILI leave continuously, intermittently or in the form of a reduced work schedule.
- Instead of asking an employer for leave, Colorado workers will apply directly to the state for benefits. Employers won’t be responsible for directly paying eligible employees while they’re unable to work, reducing costs spent on those wages.
- Self-employed workers and independent contractors can access paid family leave if they agree to pay FAMILI 0.45 percent of their wages for three years. These individuals will be able to self-elect coverage when benefits become available in 2024.
- Local governments (such as

cities and counties) have the option to vote to opt out of the program. Just like independent contractors, employees of these local governments can still access paid leave as long as they agree to pay their share (0.45 percent of their wages) for three years.

- Private employers of any size can apply for approval to use a private plan if they intend to use a private insurance plan that offers the same or greater benefits and protections as the state-run FAMILI plan. Private plans must get approval from the FAMILI Division. This application process is set to open in early 2023. All

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STRs

Continued from front and the STR landscape, supply-side and demand-side impact models, and a fee option that converts the impacts identified into a per-unit annual fee on STRs to mitigate the impacts.

Bueno moved on to explain that the housing supply in the town has remained relatively steady, but the amount of vacant units, which she later clarified would include many STRs, had risen from 24 percent in 2010 to 34 percent in 2020.

She then explained that the town had experienced a growth in the number of STRs that was matched by increases in home values, but not by increases in median household income.

She added that rents had also risen over this period.

Bueno explained that, according to a range of data sources, including the town and AirDNA, the number of STRs in the town was 124, with each STR having an average of roughly two bedrooms.

She concluded her presentation of the descriptive statistics by highlighting that many of the larger

sectors of employment in the town, including accommodation and food service, retail trade and arts, entertainment and recreation are connected to tourism and indicating that the number of workers living outside town limits but working in the town has risen over time.

Bueno then discussed the supply-side modeling, highlighting that the trends reveal an increase in vacation home stock and a decline in permanent residences.

She indicated that the potential negative supply impacts to the housing market include the conversion of owner and rental housing stock to STRs, which could cause declines in the availability of workforce housing and increases in prices and rents for housing.

Bueno then explained that the supply-side model is an econometric model that had been used by the town of Estes Park and reflects a broadly applicable national analysis that was published in a peer-reviewed academic journal.

She added that the model controls for local demographic trends over time and across geographies;

uses a fixed-effect specification to control for shocks to housing market conditions common across geographies, among other things; and uses an instrumental variable approach to measure casual impacts of the growth of STRs on housing supply.

She explained that the model was run three times using national data, Colorado data and Colorado data from areas with above-average tourist activity.

Town council member Gary Williams inquired what the independent variables for the casual model were.

Bueno explained that they included population, income, employment rate and education level in addition to the number of STRs.

She stated that, according to the model, between 3.3 and 9.2 units were lost from rental stock per 100 STRs, and between 3.4 and 6.6 units were lost from the owner stock per 100 STRs.

Bueno then discussed the demand-side analysis, where she explained that STRs could impact demand for housing by indirectly

and directly creating jobs in the community, thus necessitating additional workforce housing.

She explained that the input-output model used to analyze demand-side impacts quantifies the number of jobs directly and indirectly supported by STR visitor spending in the town and calculates the industries the jobs created fall into.

In response to a question from Williams, Bueno explained that the model used for the impacts took spending data from Archuleta County as a whole, which is the smallest geographic area that could be reliably used in the model.

She reported that the model indicated that STR spending supported 175 jobs in the county and 124 of those jobs in the town, with approximately 45 percent of the town jobs in accommodation and food services; approximately 26 percent in retail trade; and approximately 25 percent in arts, entertainment and recreation.

She noted that the wages in these sectors are at the lower end of the wage distribution, making it possible to assume that these jobs are creating a need for workforce housing.

Fitzpatrick then discussed the impact fee calculation, explaining that the calculation used an affordability gap approach, which assesses the difference between market-rate housing and housing that residents can afford as well as the supply-side and demand-side impacts to assess how much of the differential applies and where it applies.

As Fitzpatrick explained, these differentials are then distributed across the STRs in the area to determine the impact fee.

Fitzpatrick explained that, on the supply side, the model calculates the gap between the market rate for property and rent and the rate affordable to residents earning up to 120 percent of the area median income (AMI) and then multiplies this gap by the number of homes and rentals impacted by STRs, as calculated in the supply-side model, to determine the affordability gap created by STRs.

She stated that this value of this gap was then distributed across the number of STRs in the town to create a final supportable fee.

Fitzpatrick then explained that the demand-side affordability gap model operated similarly, although it made the gap calculations using the average wages of the workers in the industries where jobs were created from STR spending instead of various AMI ranges for the community overall.

She then summarized the results of these models, indicating that 9.2 units were lost from rental stock per 100 STRs, 6.6 units were lost from owner stock per 100 STRs and 11.6 units were needed for the jobs created per 100 STRs.

She explained that applying the annual affordability gap created by STRs to a per STR fee resulted in an annual supportable fee of \$2,687 per STR, \$1,014 coming from rental stock losses, \$485 coming from owner stock losses and \$1,188 coming from units needed for jobs created.

Williams questioned what the impacts of the changing units of analysis, such as having economic data from Archuleta County for the model of Pagosa Springs, might have on the model.

He also questioned how the creation of 124 jobs would lead only to the need for an additional 11 housing units.

Bueno explained that the town-level data was small, had a high margin of error and was often not available, making the county data the best alternative.

She added that the study worked to make reasonable assumptions about the town in cooperation with town staff and had integrated town-level data where possible.

She explained that the decrease from the number of jobs to the number of households was partially due to the fact that the study did not assume one job equaled one household.

She added that, because the impact assessment was based on county-level data and STR activity is higher in the county, the impact fees the town could collect were lower than might be suggested by the data.

Council member Jeff Posey questioned if the income estimated for food service workers included tips.

Bueno commented that the data should include tips, although the evidence for whether tips were fully included in the wages workers report was incomplete.

Posey commented that, while the job creation from STRs is a good thing, the low-wage job creation is not a good thing.

He added, "It's partly the responsibility of business owners to price their goods and services at a high enough level so that they can pay their employees enough to find a place to live. ... That's arguably, to me, more their responsibility than it is the government's to cover that particular gap."

Posey commented that the nine long-term rentals lost per 100 STRs according to the study is a notably

small number.

Posey also noted that the number of STRs in the town is likely to remain relatively static given current town regulations, thus making it unlikely more long-term rentals would be lost by the study's calculations.

Council member Madeline Bergon commented that many of the STRs in the town were likely created through the usage of second homes as STRs when they normally would be occupied only a few weeks out of the year.

Bueno agreed with Bergon and noted that, if the town fully banned STRs, not all of the housing would return to the long-term housing market since much of it would remain as largely vacant seasonal housing.

Mayor Shari Pierce noted that the town could not afford to do a study such as this one whenever a decision about STRs needs to be made and asked how the town could best calculate changes to these fees.

Bueno suggested that, as prices change, the town could change the prices in the calculation and recalculate the gap.

Fitzpatrick also recommended that the town could adjust the fees based on inflation and noted that the model is fairly resilient to changes in housing prices, with a recalculation likely needing to be done every five years or every time a major shock to housing prices occurs.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips commended Root Policy's thorough work and noted that the dataset had been quite "noisy" due to the limited amount of data available.

She added that the town had initially asked Archuleta County if it would be interested in a joint study, which it declined.

Council member Mat deGraaf commented on the "staggeringly high" cost of homes in the town, saying that the average home sale price of \$450,911 in 2022 "astounded" him.

Bergon questioned if the relationship between STRs and the pricing of housing was possible to calculate in the study.

Bueno commented that the price impacts of STRs had been folded into the affordability gap.

Posey highlighted that since the number of STRs is currently capped in the town, STRs are unlikely to cause additional impacts on increasing housing prices.

Pierce concluded the discussion by stating it was a "good discussion" and thanking the Root Policy staff.

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Crime

Continued from front the man involved and he fled.

Another vehicle was later stolen from the Vista subdivision late Saturday, according to the ACSO, with the call reporting the theft coming in at almost the same time the same vehicle was reported as being wrecked 12 miles down County Road 500, Le Roux explained.

The suspect, he added, was not in the vicinity.

Le Roux further explained that, following the accident in Bayfield,

the marshals were able to positively identify a suspect and were able to generate a warrant out of La Plata County for his arrest.

The suspect was arrested in Archuleta County on the La Plata County warrant on Sunday, Le Roux reported.

The Archuleta County incidents remain under investigation by the ACSO, Le Roux explained.

According to additional information provided by the ACSO, many of the vehicles affected

were unlocked and items stolen included knives, backpack, laptop, jewelry, visors, gloves and more, with some property recovered.

Le Roux called the course of events a "good reminder to make sure your vehicles are locked and there's nothing of value left in them overnight."

Attempts to reach the Bayfield Marshal's Office for additional information Wednesday were unsuccessful.

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Fort Lewis College's fall commencement set for Dec. 16

Fort Lewis College

Fort Lewis College's (FLC) fall commencement will take place on Friday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. in Whalen Gymnasium. This is the 61st commencement in FLC history.

Addressing the graduates is Paul DeBell, associate professor of political science at FLC. He teaches comparative politics and political psychology courses and is grateful to witness elevated and thoughtful political problem-solving every day with FLC students.

Student marshals — the two students with the highest cumulative GPA of the graduating class — for the ceremony are Sarah Schmutte (exercise physiology) and Margaret Cadilli (business administration).

The ceremonies are not open to the public. Students participating in commencement are each permitted eight guest tickets.

For those not attending the ceremonies in person, a livestream of the ceremony will be available on Facebook at facebook.com/fortlewis.

Students from all majors will be acknowledged at

the ceremony, including accounting, adventure education, anthropology, art, biology, biochemistry, borders and languages, business administration, chemistry, communication design, criminology and justice studies, early childhood education, economics, education studies, elementary education, engineering, English, environmental science, environmental studies, exercise and health promotion, exercise physiology, exercise science, exercise specialist, gender and sexuality studies, gender and women's studies, geology, history, journalism and multimedia studies, marketing, mathematics, music, music education, music performance, Native American and indigenous studies, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, public health, sports administration, sociology, sociology and human services, Spanish, studio art, theatre, writing, Master of Arts in education: teacher licensure, and Master of Arts in education: teacher leadership.

More information about spring commencement can be found at fortlewis.edu/graduation. Join the conversation on social media by using #FLCclassof2022.

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Courthouse

Continued from front

Derek Woodman explained that the terms of the lease would be similar to the agreement initially offered by Urbanczyk, which stipulated a five-year lease for zero dollars.

He added that the lease could be renewed with the cost remaining zero, although he noted that there is an expectation that the county will eventually vacate the building.

The sale agreement allows Ur-

banczyk to begin demolition or reconstruction of the portions of the building the county is not currently occupying once the sale is completed.

As Woodman explained at the meeting, the delay in drafting the sale agreement was partially due to the need to complete a legal description of the Condor Drive property so that a legal description of it could be placed in the sale agreement.

Also, at a county elected officials' work session earlier in the day, Woodman indicated that he had had discussions with Urbanczyk about the possibility of him constructing a building that the county could lease back from him, although Woodman noted that even if Urbanczyk began construction today such a building would not be finished for at least two years.

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Health

Continued from front

"Archuleta County is accepting applications for qualified appointees to its Board of Health that will be empowered to meet in an organizational capacity for the purpose of ensuring that Archuleta County's public health department (ACPHD) is ready to be fully operational on Jan. 1, 2024."

The press release notes that the board's organizational actions "may include but are not limited to":

- Selecting a public health director for ACPHD.
- Recommending a budget for the ACPHD to be included in the 2024 budget for Archuleta County.
- Developing public and general policies for the health department.
- Securing the employees, property, contracts and leases as may be necessary to operate the ACPHD beginning Jan. 1, 2024.

The BoCC will choose, according to the press release, "members of the public who live in Archuleta County and have the education, experience or a combination of both in finance, public administration, public governance, or a public health discipline such as environmental health, health education, epidemiology, social and behavioral health, biostatistics, or public health administration."

The press release notes being on

the Board of Health is a voluntary position and members will not receive compensation for their services, but "shall be entitled to the necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of their duties."

It further notes meeting requirements will vary depending on workload, and prospective members should be prepared to meet on a monthly or bi-weekly basis "as necessary" throughout 2023.

"Beginning January 1, 2024, the Board of Health will be required to conduct regular meetings at least once every three months at such times as may be established by the Board of Health," it states.

The document outlines that the BoCC "is considering the most effective structure for the Board of Health."

Initially, board members will serve staggered terms, with each position serving a five-year term after the initial terms.

Interested applicants should submit an application, which can be downloaded from www.archuletacounty.org, no later than Jan. 20, 2023, according to the press release.

Interviews will then be conducted during an open public meeting in late January or early February, it notes.

Interviewees, it notes, will be offered the option of attending in person or via Zoom.

"The BoCC reserves the right to appoint one, several, or none of the respondent candidates to the Board of Health and may withdraw or terminate the invitation in its discretion for any reason, including its own convenience, at any time," the press release notes.

The press release further adds a disclaimer that materials provided to the county may be subject to public disclosure, candidate qualifications may be discussed in open public meetings, and that the county is subject to the Colorado Open Records Act and Colorado Open Meeting Law.

In showing the press release to the commissioners for their review at a work session on Tuesday morning, County Manager Derek Woodman informed the commissioners that the solicitation mimics what La Plata County is doing.

He also noted to the commissioners it would be "advantageous" to get moving on the formation of the board and, in response to a question from Commissioner Warren Brown, confirmed that this will essentially form the transitional team for the public health department.

randi@pagosasun.com

Outdoors



You are invited to join Audubon's Christmas Bird Count

By Jean Zirnhelt
Weminuche Audubon Society

Members of the Weminuche Audubon Society chapter are inviting you to help us count birds in this 123rd annual census of winter birds. You don't need to be an experienced birder; we welcome participation from all interested community members and visitors.

Volunteer help is critical to the success of this annual event.

On Saturday, Dec. 17, we will join team members to record all of the birds that we identify by sight or sound in our local count circle, following protocols established by the National Audubon Society. Be a part of this important endeavor carried out by people just like you all across the Western Hemisphere.

The Pagosa Springs count is conducted within a 15-mile diameter circle, divided into eight zones and centered on Trujillo Road near

downtown. Areas covered include town, about 6 miles east, most of Pagosa Lakes including Meadows subdivisions, west to Elk Park, Alpha, Rockridge, Timber Ridge, Mill Creek and Holiday Acres areas, Snowball, Cemetery and the first part of Fourmile Road, Loma Linda, south to the Lower Blanco area, Trujillo Road to Burns Canyon and areas in between. It's a lot of ground to cover in one day.

If you live within the count circle,

you can also participate by counting birds at your feeders using the forms provided or let us know that we are welcome to stop by and tally what we see in your yard.

For further information on the count or to sign up as a volunteer, email us at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com. We invite you to join us for our final bird identification class before the count on Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. Class details can be found on our website, weminucheaudubon.org.

Be cautious around deer during peak of mating season

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Throughout Colorado, deer are in the peak of mating season. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) wants to remind the public to take extra precautions to avoid conflicts.

"Bucks are more aggressive this time of year and will stand their ground in the presence of people," said CPW Area Wildlife Manager Adrian Archuleta. "It is especially important for people and their pets to give deer extra space this time of year."

Mating season for deer is known as the "rut." During this time, bucks are territorial and loaded with testosterone. They may attack people that appear to be competitive rivals.

Deer may also see dogs as threats. In past years, bucks have gored people and dogs. If you see deer in your neighborhood, keep your distance. Never attempt to get close to deer, never feed them and never try to pet them.

CPW recommends:

- Keep dogs on a leash.

- On walks, with or without your dog, stay as far away from deer as possible.
- Don't allow dogs to roam free.
- Check your yard before letting your dog outside.
- Never let your dog chase deer or other wildlife.
- Never leave food outside that could attract wildlife.
- Tell children not to approach deer or any other wildlife.

Bucks in the rut may also spar with and become tangled in swing sets, volleyball nets, bicycles, vegetable-wire cages, hoses and more.

Along with tangle hazards in yards, holiday lights become a constant hazard to bucks this time of year. Make sure holiday decorations and lights are attached firmly to structures and strung at least 8 feet off the ground. Do not drape lights loosely on top of shrubbery or wrap lights around the trunks of trees, which bucks rub their antlers on to sharpen them during the mating season.

"Our wildlife officers respond to calls every year of deer stuck in various netting and holiday decorations," Archuleta said. "In some cases, these hazards prevent the deer from being able to eat and breathe. Additionally, this causes high levels of stress on the animal and can lead to fatality."

"When deer do become entangled, it is important for the public to call their closest CPW office

quickly with location information. People should never try to free deer of these hazards themselves because of the serious risk of injury that can be caused by antlers and hooves."

Drivers are also reminded to slow down and be on the lookout for deer on highways. Not only are bucks in pursuit of a mate, but animals are also migrating to winter range and will be more present crossing roadways, both on highways and arterial roadways.

The rut for deer usually continues until late December. For more information on living with wildlife, go to <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/pages/livingwithwildlife.aspx>.



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CPW reminds people to stay safe on the ice this winter

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Frozen waters provide unique recreation opportunities for people to go places that are inaccessible by foot most of the year. Whether ice fishing, skating, sledding or snowshoeing, it is important to take the right precautions and bring the correct equipment to keep you and your family safe.

On Nov. 22 at Crystal Lake Park in Littleton, teenager Dyllan Whittenburg became trapped under ice when he and three other teenagers fell through the barely frozen lake. Dive crews with the West Metro Fire Protection District retrieved him, but he sadly died two days later at Children's Hospital Colorado. Nearby neighbors were able to rescue the other three teenagers using hoses, extension cords and rope.

This tragedy marks the 41st water-related fatality in Colorado this year. It is vital for Coloradans to understand the dangers water and ice can pose.

"When you fall into icy waters, cold water immersion shock can cause you to involuntarily gasp and inhale water" said Grant Brown, Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) boating safety program manager. "Your body will conserve heat by reducing blood flow to your arms and legs, making it difficult to swim and pull yourself out of a hole in the ice. Bringing the correct equipment like a life jacket, ice picks and warm clothes can save your life."

CPW reminds people to stay safe on the ice this winter. While a great reason to get outdoors in the winter months, ice can be dangerous without proper preparation and an understanding of the dangers.

Conditions

- Weather conditions can change quickly; it is important to check weather and ice conditions before trekking out onto the ice.
- Check with the agency that manages the body of water for current conditions before you head out.
- Always assume that unsafe ice conditions may exist.
- Ice conditions can vary across different areas of the same lake.
- Ice near a structure like a dock or log will be significantly thinner than ice in the center of a lake.
- Ice near moving water like an

■ See Ice A10



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SAN JUAN BASIN
public health

The public and environmental health agency for Archuleta and La Plata counties

Outdoor education

Photos courtesy Evan Barrientos

Each fall, Audubon Rockies prepares the trails and grounds in the Four Mile Ranch forests and bottomlands for the students of Archuleta School District, Dulce Independent Schools and other local schools. Students learn about plants, insects, water, habitat, animal needs and the interconnectedness of our environment. Volunteers helped to host approximately 800 students at the ranch this fall. This effort was no small feat, with volunteers logging more than 1,100 hours to prepare for and educate our future conservationists.



Ice

Continued from A9

inlet or outlet will be thinner as well.

- Drill test holes to measure thickness in different areas as you venture out.
- 4 inches of ice is generally considered safe for people ice fishing and ice skating.
- OHVs need at least 6 inches of ice thickness. Cars and medium trucks require 8-15 inches of ice.

Equipment

- Bring the right equipment to make an ice trip more enjoyable and potentially save your life.
- Dress appropriately in warm clothes and layers.
- Bring a friend or family member and walk separately as you traverse the ice.
- Wear a life jacket and whistle, and bring ice picks and rope. If you fall in, a life jacket will keep you afloat, a whistle can call for help, and ice picks and a rope can help you and rescue crews pull you out of the icy waters.
- A float coat can keep you warm and keep you above water if you fall in.
- For ice fishing, bring a hand or powered auger to drill holes and check ice depth.
- A pop-up tent and heater can keep you nice and warm.
- Bring a sled to easily carry your equipment.
- Ice cleats can help prevent slips and falls.

Education

- Become educated about ice conditions and visual cues that can help keep you safe on the ice.
- The safest ice is solid, clear ice that froze very quickly. 4 inches of solid, clear ice is considered safe for walking.
- Milky-colored ice indicates more freezing and thawing has occurred and is considered less safe than clear ice.
- Watch for pressure ridges in the ice, sections where two ice sheets meet and rise up higher than the rest. These are generally less safe than other sections of the ice, especially if riding a snowmobile.
- Pressure ridges can melt into

open water during the warmer parts of the day.

- Ice is always expanding and contracting and can make popping and cracking noises that sound scary. These sounds are actually ice forming and are completely natural and safe.
- Ice along the shoreline can thaw during the warmest parts of the day. If temperatures will get above freezing, get off the ice before noon to avoid getting stuck.
- Keep your pets on a leash and under control at all times. People have fallen through the ice attempting to rescue a dog that wandered into open water.

CPW offers ice fishing and ice safety classes during the winter

months. Check CPW's website for a calendar of upcoming classes and events.

To learn more about ice safety, visit <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/IceFishingSafety.aspx>

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Sports



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

A group of students, many clad in winter-themed pajamas, cheer on the Pirate basketball team during the team's win over the Bayfield Wolverines at the Wolf Creek Classic Saturday.



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BASKETBALL

Pirates finish Wolf Creek Classic 2-1

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team went 2-1 to open the season at last week's Wolf Creek Classic.

"We did a lot of good things in spurts," coach Wes Lewis said of the early-season games. "I'm proud of the kids. I thought we played well. I thought we did some pretty good things as a whole."

The 4A Pirates defeated the 4A Delta Panthers and 3A Bayfield Wolverines at the Classic, and lost a close contest to the 5A Montrose Red Hawks.

Lewis noted there were some lulls where the Pirates went through dry stretches, but that the team was able to be successful over the three games.

The Pirates opened the season with a 59-41 victory over the Delta Panthers.

Lewis indicated the Pirates started the game slow.

At the end of the first quarter, the Panthers held a 15-11 lead.

"I felt like what hurt us in the early going against Delta was some ... unforced, ill-advised turnovers," Lewis said, adding, "Once we ... quit turning the basketball over and started coming away with some offensive attempts, why, the ball started going through the hole and ... we were able to kinda regain some composure in the second quarter and then ... were able to take care of business the second half."

Lewis also noted the Panthers shot the ball well early and the Pirates adjusted matchups defensively and tightened up defense on one Panther in particular.

The Pirates then outscored the Panthers 22-4 in the second to hold a 33-19 lead at the half.

The Pirates went on to best the Panthers 13-11 in each of the game's final quarters to secure the 59-41 win.

Lewis highlighted the shooting of Kayson Shahan on the evening, who led the Pirates in scoring against Delta with 16 points, which included two 3-pointers. He also led the team with 10 rebounds and had two assists.

Blake Laner followed with 12 points. He also had nine rebounds, two steals and a block.

Aaron Aucoin had 11 points and six rebounds. Gunner Dozier had nine points, which included a

■ See Pirates A12

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Pirates

Continued from A11

3-pointer, as well as two rebounds, two assists and a steal.

Seth Aucoin and Colt Lewis each had four points in the game, with Colt Lewis landing one 3-pointer. Seth Aucoin also had an assist and a steal. Colt Lewis also had three rebounds, four assists and five steals.

Chase Harper added three points to the team's total, and had a rebound and four steals.

Nathaniel Kinsley contributed a rebound and an assist.

The Pirates made 21 of 29 free-throw attempts.

On Friday, the Pirates lost to the Montrose Red Hawks 43-41.

"We lost a really close one to Montrose, which I take a lot of the blame and a lot of the fall," the coach said. "I don't feel like I coached a very good game. I feel like I hurt ourselves in a couple situations that could have made us be successful, so I apologize to the boys for not ... doing my part to help us come out successful against them."

Montrose led throughout much of the game, with the Pirates tying the game at 41-41 with 9.7 seconds left.

The Red Hawks led 5-4 at the end of the first, 19-14 at halftime and 31-30 at the end of the third.

The Pirates tied the game with 9.7 seconds left, but Montrose landed the game-winning shot with less than three seconds left on the clock.

"I just felt like, man, we just never could get anything going offensively," the coach said.

He also credited Montrose, noting that the Red Hawks are very well-coached and have been very successful the last several years in their classification.

"But I was proud of the kids. We battled them really tough. We did not shoot the ball very well and that hurt us — got a lot of good looks, but just couldn't get some of our perimeter shots to go in," he said, adding, "But, I felt like we battled and competed, and that's a good program."

Wes Lewis noted that he feels he could have managed some timeouts better toward the end of the game, and could have changed some set calls and taken care of lineup issues earlier in the game that might have given the Pirates an advantage late in the game.

"We just never could get over the hump," he said, calling it "unfortunate" and "a heartbreaker."

Laner picked up 21 points in the game, and had five rebounds and a steal.

Shahan tallied 10 points, six rebounds, an assist and a steal. Colt Lewis contributed six points, two rebounds, five assists and five steals.

Harper and Aaron Aucoin each had two points in the game. Harper also had a rebound, two assists and a steal. Aaron Aucoin also had four rebounds and a steal.

Dozier had a rebound and an assist, and Kinsley had a rebound and a steal.

The team hit 10 of 16 attempts from the free-throw line.

Then, on Saturday, the Pirates took on the Bayfield Wolverines in a nonleague matchup, ending the

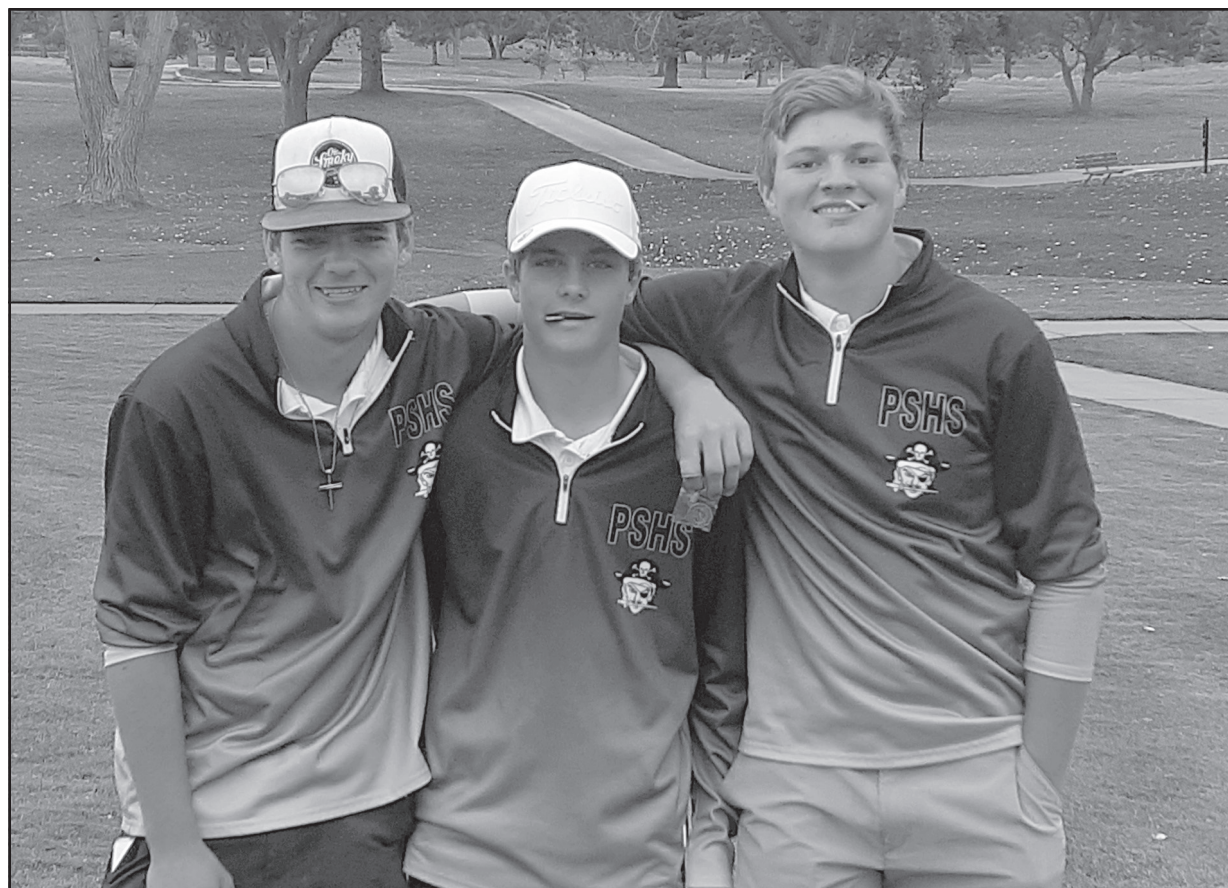
See Pirates A14



Pagosa's Blake Laner puts up a shot in the second half of the team's game against Montrose Friday. Laner had 21 points in the game, which the Pirates lost 43-41.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

GOLF



A trio of Pirate golfers recently garnered all-conference honors within the Intermountain League. From left, Kaison Clifford was named to the all conference team, Johnathon Smith was named Player of the Year and Braylon Cotts was named to the all-conference team. All three advanced to state during the fall season.

Photo courtesy Billy Cotts

RECREATION NEWS

Register now for youth basketball league

By Trevor Gian
Town of Pagosa Springs
Parks and Recreation

The Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for the 9-12 basketball league.

The registration fee is \$40 for the first child and \$20 for the second child. The registration deadline is Dec. 23. Practices will start in January, with games starting in late January and running through February.

Practices and games will be Mondays through Thursdays at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

You can register online at <https://www.pagosaparks.com/recreation-division> or stop by the Community Center to fill out a form.

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The Recreation Department is also looking for a gymnastics instructor. For more information, call the office at (970) 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233.

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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates go 0-3 to open season

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates opened the season with a trio of losses at the Wolf Creek Classic last week.

The 4A Pirates lost to the 4A Delta Panthers 45-30, the 5A Montrose Red Hawks 34-25 and the 6A Rocky Mountain Lobos 50-30.

"This is better competition than we've ever had at Wolf Creek Classic, but I do not think that they are 20 points, 15 or 10 points better than us," coach Sarah Osborn said following the games.

Osborn explained the Pirate program entered the season with fewer athletes than expected at 18 and has a large number of underclassmen, including seven sophomores and seven freshmen.

That has left the program with a varsity squad that, outside of the starting five, is made up of players who play both varsity and junior varsity, she noted.

"They're fightin' hard for the [32] minutes with just that small rotation. They're playing defense without fouling. I'm able to keep them on the floor, they're doing a good job there. Chantelle, my senior leader, has done everything I expected of her," Osborn said, calling Chantelle Caldwell scrappy, strong, a great leader and a great listener.

The Lady Pirates started their play at the Classic against the Delta Panthers on Thursday, Dec. 1.

The Panthers built an early lead over the Pirates in the game, leading 6-2 at the end of the first quarter and 21-10 at the end of the second.

Pagosa bested Delta 13-10 in the third quarter, but the Lady Pirates were again outscored by the Panthers in the fourth, leaving the Pirates with a 45-30 loss to open the season.

Caldwell led the team in scoring in the game with 15 points. Elizabeth Currier followed with nine points, six of which came from 3-pointers. Kylie Ketchum, Cassie Brunson and Karsyn Shahan each contributed two points.

Ten of the Pirates' points came from the free-throw line in 16 attempts.

Caldwell led the team in rebounding with nine. She also had two assists, two steals and a block.

Shahan had six rebounds and two steals.

Annie O'Donnell tallied three rebounds and an assist.

Brunson had two rebounds and an assist.

Currier had one rebound and an assist, and Ketchum had one rebound.

The Pirates turned the ball over 29 times in the affair, with Osborn indicating the Pirates struggled with the Panthers' press.

The following evening, the Lady Pirates took on the 5A Montrose Red Hawks.

Similarly to the previous day, the Red Hawks jumped out to an early lead, outscoring the Pirates 10-3 in the first quarter.

Montrose picked up seven points in the second quarter and Pagosa notched six to give the Red Hawks a 17-9 lead at the half.

The Lady Pirates picked up nine points in the third while limiting the Red Hawks to five to pull within four, 22-18.

Montrose picked up 12 points in the fourth and Pagosa tallied seven, giving the Red Hawks a 34-25 win.

Currier led the Lady Pirates with seven points, with one three-pointer. Caldwell followed with six points, which also included a 3-pointer. Shahan and O'Donnell each logged five points, with Sha-



Lady Pirate Kylie Ketchum fights to put up a shot against the Rocky Mountain Lobos at the Wolf Creek Classic on Saturday. Ketchum led Pagosa in scoring in the game with 10 points.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

han also picking up a 3-pointer.

The Lady Pirates made six of seven free-throw attempts in the game.

Caldwell had six rebounds in the game, as well as two blocks. Currier notched three rebounds, an assist and a pair of steals.

Shahan had two rebounds, four assists, a steal and a block. Ketchum had two rebounds, one assist and two steals. O'Donnell had two rebounds and an assist. Brunson had one rebound.

The Lady Pirates tallied 16 turnovers in the game.

Osborn highlighted several things the Lady Pirates did better in the second game, including having fewer turnovers, more assists and that the team started passing the ball ahead in transition.

The Lady Pirates wrapped up play at the Classic against the Rocky Mountain Lobos.

Osborn noted the Pirates responded well to changes made ahead of the game and came out fast, putting up seven points in the first quarter. The Lobos put up 12.

Rocky Mountain scored 15 in the second compared to the Pirates' 10, giving the Lobos a 27-17 lead

at the half.

The Lobos continued to outscore the Pirates in the second half, 12-10 in the third and 11-3 in the fourth.

Osborn pointed out while the team worked on coming out stronger than the previous two games, it was unable to finish strong.

Ketchum led the Lady Pirates with 10 points in the game. Caldwell followed with eight, O'Donnell contributed seven, Currier logged four and Brunson scored one.

The Lady Pirates made seven out of 16 attempted free throws.

Caldwell had four rebounds and two assists. Currier had three rebounds, three assists and a steal. Shahan had three rebounds, two assists and two steals. O'Donnell had three rebounds. Ketchum had one rebound, one assist and one steal.

The team turned the ball over 24 times.

Osborne points out that the Pirates broke the Lobos' press "very well," with only eight turnovers while the Lobos were pressing.

"We have a lot to work on," she said following the games. "Handling pressure and finding a way

to connect with all five of our players — so, running our plays we had a really hard time doing with any pressure, so getting our point guards ready to play under pressure, that varsity pressure."

She also pointed out the Lady Pirates were inconsistent with their defense at the Classic, and need to work on finishing half-court offense and logging four good quarters a game instead of three.

■ See Lady A14

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WRESTLING

Pirate wrestling triumphs in first three duals of season

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team triumphed in all three of their duals at the Bayfield Quad in Bayfield on Dec. 2.

Coach Dan Janowsky was positive on the meet overall, commenting, "Relative to our experience and those kind of things, I thought we were really ready to go for that first meet, and I was pleased with that. And, we've got a long ways to go and a lot of things to improve on, but we got off to a good start."

Janowsky added that, overall, he feels that the team's performance was solid, although additional improvement needs to occur on wrestling from the bottom and neutral positions to prepare for later in the season.

Ignacio dual

The quad began with a dual between Pagosa and Ignacio, which Pagosa won 67-10.

The Pirates gained 42 points in forfeits, in the 126-pound, 132-pound, 157-pound, 175-pound, 190-pound, 215-pound and 285-pound weight classes, and won five of the remaining seven matches.

Janowsky commented that Ignacio is in a "developmental state" with a large number of young wrestlers, which contributed to the high number of forfeits in higher weight classes.

He added that the younger Pagosa wrestlers performed well

and showed "a lot of potential."

Anthony Manzanares began the dual by pinning his opponent in the 106-pound weight class in one minute and five seconds, garnering six points for the Pirates.

Gabe Ramirez followed by defeating his opponent in the 113-pound weight class 8-6 in sudden victory, earning the team three points.

Janowsky highlighted Ramirez's sudden victory win, noting that the team works extensively on practicing overtime play and typically is highly successful at it.

Xavier Haney pinned his opponent in the 120-pound weight class in one minute, garnering six points, while Luke Tressler in the 138-pound weight class defeated his opponent in a 13-4 major decision, gaining four points.

Wyatt Hoover was defeated in the 144-pound weight class by an Ignacio wrestler in a 13-0 major decision, giving Ignacio four points.

Jacob Miller, in the 150-pound weight class, pinned his opponent in 1:50, winning six points for the Pirates, while Tucker Haines in the 165-pound weight class was pinned in 56 seconds, giving Ignacio six points.

Piedra Vista dual

The next match for the Pirates was a dual against Piedra Vista, from Farmington, N.M., which the Pirates won 48-32.

The coach noted that Piedra Vista is a larger school, although

Pagosa had a slight edge due to many of Piedra Vista's wrestlers only having begun practice recently due to their being on the school's football team, which had advanced to the state championship.

However, he commented that he "had a question mark" concerning how Pagosa would fare against Piedra Vista and he felt the team wrestled well across the board.

The Pirates gained 18 points in forfeits in the match, in the 157-pound, 175-pound and 285-pound weight classes, and won five of the remaining 11 matches.

The dual opened with Ramirez being defeated 11-4, giving Piedra Vista three points, and Haney being pinned in 3:09, giving Piedra Vista another six points.

Farmington's streak of success continued with Michael Thomas in the 126-pound weight class being defeated in a 16-0 technical fall in 3:10, giving Piedra Vista an additional five points.

Pagosa then gained its first victory, with Tressler pinning his opponent in 3:47, gaining the team six points.

However, this was followed by two more Piedra Vista successes, including pinning Colton Lucero in the 138-pound weight class in 4:48 and pinning Hoover in 1:23, which together earned Piedra Vista 12 more points.

Miller then succeeded at pinning his opponent in 31 seconds, earning the Pirates six points, a success balanced by Haines in the 165-pound weight class being pinned in 1:05, earning six points for Piedra Vista.

However, the Pirates finished strong and pulled ahead to victory with a run of pins, including Heath Fulbright in the 190-pound weight class pinning his opponent in 35 seconds, Connor Kelley in the 215-pound weight class pinning his opponent in 1:02 and Manzanares pinning his opponent in the 106-pound weight class in 1:21.

Together, these pins garnered a

total of 18 points for the Pirates.

Bayfield dual

The final match for Pirates in the quad was against Bayfield, which the Pirates won 46-35.

Janowsky commented that this dual was likely the closest of the three duals and that the team had done a good job of maximizing its scores during the meet.

The Pirates gained 18 points off forfeits, including in 150-pound, 190-pound and 215-pound weight classes, and won five of the remaining 11 matches.

The dual began with Haney being pinned in 3:40, giving Bayfield six points, followed by Thomas being defeated in 2:23 in a 17-1 technical fall, giving Bayfield five more points.

Tressler then pinned his opponent in 1:55 and Lucero pinned his opponent in 54 seconds, giving the Pirates 12 points.

Taylor Hancey in the 144-pound weight class was then pinned in 5:14 by his Bayfield opponent, giving Bayfield six points, while Chandler Mazur in the 157-pound weight class defeated his opponent in an 11-2 major decision, garnering the team four points.

Janowsky highlighted Mazur's victory, commenting, "He had a fairly tight match and he kind of broke it open towards the end."

The coach noted the match "could have gone either way" and commended Mazur's tenacity and ability to wrestle while tired.

Haines was pinned in 1:01, losing six points, while Harley Armijo in the 175-pound weight class pinned his opponent in 1:19, gaining six points for the Pirates.

Antonio Quesada in the 285-pound weight class was pinned by his opponent in 3:30, giving Bayfield six points, while Manzanares pinned his opponent in 4:58, gaining six points.

Janowsky noted that Quesada, who moved from junior varsity to varsity this year, had a strong performance against an opponent who was a state qualifier last year,

although he was eventually pinned.

The coach also highlighted Manzanares' performance, his third victory of the event, in what Ramirez described as an even match and one that could have decided the dual for either team.

The dual concluded with Ramirez being pinned in 1:26, giving Bayfield six points.

Upcoming

Janowsky explained that over the next week the team will work on developing strategy, particularly for the older wrestlers, in preparation for the Columbine Tournament, which will occur in Littleton on Dec. 10 beginning at 9 a.m.

He added that the tournament will involve a "broad mix of teams," including teams from the eastern portion of Colorado that Pagosa rarely competes against and larger schools.

josh@pagosasun.com

Public Notices

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr/PO Box 148, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: (970) 264-8160
Plaintiff: SAWMILL CREEK RANCH TIMBER & CATTLE COMPANY, LLC
v.

Defendant: THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ARCHULETA COUNTY, 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 Street, Ste 7
Durango, CO 81301
Phone Number: (970) 403-1580
E-mail: deggleston@e-klaw.com
Case Number: 2022CV30066

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
PLAINTIFF SAWMILL CREEK RANCH TIMBER & CATTLE COMPANY, LLC
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 complaint filed with the court in this action by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:
A tract of land located in the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section 27 and the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 28, Township 34 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M., Archuleta County, Colorado. Said tract of land being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:
Beginning the northeast corner of the tract herein described, from whence the northwest corner of said Section 27 bears N01°53'51"W, 1349.73 feet distant; Thence along the arc of a curve to the left with an arc length of 418.32 feet, and a radius of 603.00 feet, the long chord of which bears S30°10'40"E, a distance of 409.99 feet; Thence S50°00'42"E a distance of 639.00 feet to the projection of the westerly line of Parcel 1 as shown on Survey Deposit Map S1694;

Thence S08°32'05"W along said projection a distance of 23.59 feet to the northerly corner of said Parcel 1, which corner is a point on the southerly right-of-way of County Road 339;
Thence S08°32'05"W along the westerly line of said Parcel 1 a distance of 117.67 feet to the westerly corner thereof, which corner is a point in the center of the Rio Blanco;
Thence N 27°32'44" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 68.49 feet;
Thence N 17°57'11" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 37.86 feet;
Thence N 10°02'01" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 58.56 feet;
Thence N 28°46'51" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 34.13 feet;
Thence N 38°09'55" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 38.60 feet;
Thence N 54°52'10" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 24.40 feet;
Thence N 59°00'41" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 41.73 feet;
Thence N 58°29'49" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 24.79 feet;
Thence N 56°35'27" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 50.73 feet;
Thence N 51°00'55" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 47.20 feet;
Thence N 58°54'30" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 119.17 feet;
Thence N 76°14'18" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 53.88 feet;
Thence N 81°01'41" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 66.03 feet;
Thence N 80°35'54" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 79.96 feet;
Thence N 67°05'59" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 68.16 feet;
Thence N 88°06'11" W along the center of said Rio Blanco a distance of 73.92 feet to a point on the boundary of that parcel of land described in Reception Number 22105549;

Thence N 53°51'02" W along the center of said Rio Blanco and the boundary of said Reception Number 22105549 a distance of 132.20 feet;
Thence N 42°42'41" W along the center of said Rio Blanco and the boundary of said Reception Number 22105549 a distance of 91.50 feet;
Thence N 31°58'45" W along the center of said Rio Blanco and the boundary of said Reception Number 22105549 a distance of 139.20 feet;
Thence N 24°02'47" W along the center of said Rio Blanco and the boundary of said Reception Number 22105549 a distance of 105.44 feet to a point on the boundary of that parcel of land described in Reception Number 21706896 and shown of Survey Deposit Map S2041;

Thence leaving the center of said Rio Blanco and the boundary of said Reception Number 22105549 N65°57'49"E along the boundary of said Reception Number 21706896 a distance of 25.68 feet;
Thence along the boundary of said Reception number 21706896 on the arc of a non-tangent curve to the right with an arc length of 59.64 feet, and a radius of 510.00 feet, the long chord of which bears N69°30'37"E, a distance of 59.61 feet; Thence N 80°09'20" E a distance of 149.32 feet to the place of beginning.
Containing 3.72 acres, more or less.
Respectfully Submitted this 8th day of November, 2022.

Published in The Pagosa Springs Sun
First Publication: November 17, 2022
Last Publication: December 15, 2022
Eggleston Kosnik LLC
/s/ Duke Eggleston

Duke Eggleston, #24965
160 E. 12th St., Ste 7
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 403-1580
Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8 and 15, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION
CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE
SALE NO. 2022-007

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On September 20, 2022, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.

Original Grantor(s) Michael Schumacher
Original Beneficiary(ies) James C. Cunningham
Current Holder of Evidence of Debt James C. Cunningham
Date of Deed of Trust May 25, 2021
County of Recording Archuleta

Recording Date of Deed of Trust May 25, 2021
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 22103836
Original Principal Amount \$49,083.00
Outstanding Principal Balance \$41,390.48

Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: Non-Payment
THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.
Subdivision: ASPEN SPRINGS SUB 6 Lot: 735 AS 6 Sec: 16 Twn: 34U Rng: 3W

Also known by street and number as: 109 Rosabud Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 01/19/2023, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.
First Publication 11/24/2022
Last Publication 12/22/2022

Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
If the SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;
DATE: 09/20/2022

Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: /s/ Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:
Daniel L. Fiedler #47912
Daniel L. Fiedler 190 Tailsman Dr. Suite D-6, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 507-8528
Attorney File # Cunningham 01
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., P.O. Box 148
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.2400
Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.

Defendant: Darwin Patrick, et al.
Defendants
Case No.: 2022CV30062

Attorney for Plaintiff: Christopher B. Conley
Hayes, Johnson & Conley, PLLC
700 South 21st Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901
Tel. 479.242.5906
Email: chris@hjc.com
Atty. Reg. No.: 51651

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S):
STEVEN VARGAS
NORMA YOLANDA VARGAS
ELOYCE JONES FLEMING
ELINOR M DICKSON
FRANK P DICKSON, JR.
TIMOTHY H KLING
CLARA L KLING
BENJIE L DAILEY
JOSEPHINE DAILEY
THE EMMETT JONES FAMILY LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 11, 2004

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice.

This is an in rem action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) for failure to pay the Monthly Payments to Wyndham Vacation Resorts, Inc. The legal description for your real property is below.

Plaintiff Attorney: Christopher B. Conley, Attorney at Law, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901
Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun
First Publication: November 24, 2022
Last Publication: December 22, 2022
/s/ Christopher B. Conley
Christopher B. Conley
Hayes, Johnson & Conley, PLLC
700 South 21st Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901
Atty. Reg. No.: 51651
Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Piedra Park Metropolitan Improvement District (PPMID) Board of Directors for the calendar year 2023. The proposed budget is available for public inspection at 55 MILTON LANE ARBOLES, CO. Copies are also available upon request by email at PIEDRAPARK@YAHOO.COM or phone at (970) 749-9568. The proposed budget will be considered at a regular meeting of the PPMID board of directors to be held on December 13, 2022 at 55 Milton Lane, Arboles, Colorado at 6 PM.

Any interested party may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto in writing at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget. Any objections may be submitted to the PPMID Board of Directors by email PIEDRAPARK@YAHOO.COM or letter P.O. Box 1609 Arboles, CO 81121.
Published November 24, December 1 and 8, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

District Court
Archuleta County, Colorado
109 Harman Park Dr/PO Box148
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Case No. 22CV7

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Public notice is given on September 26, 2022 that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Minor Child has been filed with the Archuleta Court.

The Petition requests that the name of Hunter William Coble be changed to Hunter William Green.
/s/ Debbie Tully
Debbie Tully, Clerk of Court

Published November 24, December 1 and 8, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners is seeking volunteers to serve on the Archuleta County Planning Commission. Applicants must be County Residents with duties to include: recommendations regarding subdivision regulations, zoning, and development projects along with amending the Community Plan and Land Use Regulations. Regular meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner's Meeting Room at 398 Lewis St. Please call Jamie at 970-264-8309 or email jones@archuletacounty.org to inquire and request an application.
Published December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado
Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr., P.O. Box 148
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tel. 970.264.2400

Plamrigan Property Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff

Continued on A15

Lady

Continued from A13

"This week we'll focus a lot on getting solid defense," Osborn said. "If we're not gonna score a ton, we have to keep teams from scoring. So, we can't let 50 points on the board if we're gonna be, we were right around 30 every game. So, we gotta really key in and get either our zone or our man solid

where I can trust it, they can play without fouling — they did a good job this game; I was able to keep them all out on the floor — and we'll really, really key in on being able to run those half-court sets with pressure."

This week, the Lady Pirates will take part in the Heritage Tournament hosted by Heritage Christian in Fort Collins.

The Lady Pirates will take on the 2A Sedgwick County Cougars at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9.

The Cougars opened their season with a win Tuesday.

They will then play either the 2A Heritage Christian Eagles or the 2A Hoehne Farmers on Saturday depending on the outcome of Friday's games.

The Eagles are 1-0 on the season, and the Farmers are 3-0.

randi@pagosasun.com

Pirates

Continued from A12

game with a 57-31 win.

"With Bayfield, it's a rivalry game. You never know what you're going to get," Wes Lewis said. "Their kids were pretty amped up to play us. I thought our kids came out a little bit flat."

The Wolverines led 7-6 at the end of the first.

Wes Lewis indicated the Pirates got going a little bit in the second quarter and took a one-point lead by halftime, 19-18.

At halftime, he explained, the team talked and addressed a few issues.

"I thought they came out in the second half and kinda looked like a different team and played pretty well," the coach said.

The Pirates outscored the Wolverines 15-4 in the third and 23-9 in the fourth en route to logging the 57-31 win.

Colt Lewis notched 17 points in the game, as well as three rebounds, five assists and two steals.

Laner had 12 points in the game. He also had seven rebounds, two assists, two steals and two blocks.

Shahan had nine points, 10 rebounds, three assists and a steal.

Seth Aucoin had eight points, two rebounds and an assist. Aaron Aucoin had six points, four rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Harper had two points, a rebound and an assist. Dozier had one point, four rebounds, two assists and three steals.

Kinsley had one rebound, one assist and a steal. Seth Zeigler had a rebound.

The Pirates landed eight of 14 attempted free throws.

On Friday and Saturday, the Pirates will take part in the Heritage Tournament hosted by Heritage Christian in Fort Collins.

The Pirates will face the 2A Hoehne Farmers Friday, Dec. 9. The Farmers are 2-1 on the season.


On Saturday, the Pirates will face either the 2A Sedgwick County Cougars or the 2A Heritage Christian Eagles. The Cougars are 0-1 on the season, while the Eagles are 1-0.

Despite having several athletes out sick this week, Wes Lewis indicated the team is working to clean a few things up offensively and added he is pressing the team's players to do the little things well.

randi@pagosasun.com

THE HISTORIC PAGOSA BAR
Draft Beer \$3.75 in 16 oz. frozen mugs
Well Drinks \$5 • Cigar Bar
Happy Hour 5-7 • \$3.25 draft • \$4.50 well
Open everyday 10-2 • Historic Downtown Pagosa • 264-5798

Letters to Santa



SANTA CLAUS
c/o The Pagosa Springs SUN
457 Lewis Street
PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Hey, kids!

Send us your letter to Santa and his elves at the North Pole!
Your letter may be selected for publication in The Pagosa Springs SUN.
Please include your first name and age on your letter.

Make sure we receive your letter by noon on Friday, Dec. 16.

You can also email your letter to
editor@pagosasun.com
or drop it off at the Santa mailbox at 457 Lewis Street

The Pagosa Springs SUN

Continued from A14

Bary Wayne Cornell, et al Defendants

Case No.: 2022CV30025 COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM SHERIFF SALE 2022-07

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Ptarmigan Townhouses, recorded on February 18, 1988, Reception No 0153260, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered September 22, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof Owner(s):

- Bary Wayne Cornell
- Patricia Ann Hall
- Patricia A Heller
- Robert O Bunney
- Barbara K Bunney
- Kathleen K Semrau
- Thomas F Ela, Trustee of the Ela Family Trust
- Betty R Ela, Trustee of the Ela Family Trust
- Becky Rodriguez
- Anthony R Phillips

Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Ptarmigan Townhouses, recorded on February 18, 1988, Reception No 0153260, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado. Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Ptarmigan Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 Association Assessments Due to: Ptarmigan Property Owners Association, Inc. Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A" Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A" Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act

THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION. The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 11:00 o'clock A.M., on January 27, 2023 Sale Number 2022-07 in the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association hereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: December 1, 2022 Last Publication: December 29, 2022 Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun NOTICE OF RIGHTS

YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTE WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED. THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147; 970-264-8434. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed this 25th day of October, 2022. Rich Valdez, Sheriff, Archuleta County, Colorado By: /s/ Lorena Medina Lorena Medina, Office Manager EXHIBIT "A" Ptarmigan Townhouses Matter Amount BARRY WAYNE CORNELL (C#177806592) Unit Weeks Numbers 26, Unit Number 7205, Building Number 3, Phase I Unpaid Assessments: \$2,689.54 Interest: \$396.03 Late Fees: \$50.00 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$4,441.17

PATRICIA ANN HALL and PATRICIA A HELLER (C#1778819223) Unit Weeks Numbers 39, Unit Number 7218, Building Number 9, Phase III Unpaid Assessments: \$2,189.77 Interest: \$331.66 Late Fees: \$50.00 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$3,877.03

ROBERT O BUNNEY and BARBARA K BUNNEY (C#1778902813) Unit Weeks Numbers 39, Unit Number 7225, Building Number 13, Phase IV Unpaid Assessments: \$2,719.59 Interest: \$396.03 Late Fees: \$50.00 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$4,471.22

KATHLEEN K SEMRAU (C#178904637) Unit Weeks Numbers 35, Unit Number 7228, Building Number 14, Phase IV Unpaid Assessments: \$1,908.03 Interest: \$312.36 Late Fees: \$305.60 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$3,679.79

BECKY RODRIGUEZ (C#179023585) Unit Weeks Numbers 28, Unit Number 7220, Building Number 10, Phase III Unpaid Assessments: \$3,298.54 Interest: \$608.34 Late Fees: \$50.00 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$5,262.48

ANTHONY R PHILLIPS (C#179811377) Unit Weeks Numbers 40, Unit Number 7206, Building Number 3, Phase I Unpaid Assessments: \$1,983.08 Interest: \$316.11 Late Fees: \$75.00 Costs: \$305.60 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Judgment Amount: \$3,929.79

In Ptarmigan Townhouses. All as tenants in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Ptarmigan Townhouses as depicted on the Plats recorded under Reception Numbers 153256, 156199, 136303, 159241, 179510, subject to the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Ptarmigan Townhouses recorded as Reception Number 153557, as has been amended, supplemented, and/

or restated, all in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado. Published December 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, P.O. Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Tel. 970.264.2400 Village Pointe Property Owners Association, Inc. Plaintiff v.

Inus H Wilson, et al. Defendants Case No.: 2022CV30024 COMBINED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST AND RIGHTS TO CURE AND REDEEM SHERIFF SALE 2022-06

This Notice of Public Judicial Foreclosure Sale is given pursuant to the specific assessment lien in the Declaration of Condominium and Interval Ownership for Village Pointe Condominiums, recorded on January 6, 1989 at Reception No. 160495, Book 239, Page 2, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado.

Under a Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure entered September 22, 2022, in the above entitled action, I am ordered to sell certain real property, improvements and personal property secured by the Declaration, including without limitation the real property described as follows: See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made apart hereof Owner(s):

- INUS H WILSON
- WILLIAM C WILSON JR
- JOHN E JONES
- EVELYN E JONES
- RAMONA CAROLYN DAUPHIN AS TRUSTEE OF THE RAMONA CAROLYN DAUPHIN TRUST DATED DECEMBER 7, 2001
- DONALD MAX DAUPHIN AS TRUSTEE OF THE RAMONA CAROLYN DAUPHIN TRUST DATED DECEMBER 7, 2001
- JACK W LOGGINS
- JANICE F LOGGINS

Evidence of Debt: Declaration of Condominium and Interval Ownership for Village Pointe Condominiums, recorded on January 6, 1989 at Reception No. 160495, Book 239, Page 2, as amended and supplemented from time-to-time, in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado. Current Holder of evidence of debt secured by the Declaration: Village Pointe Property Owners Association, Inc. Obligations Secured: The Declaration provides that it secures the payment of the Debt and obligations therein described including, but not limited to, the payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Agent: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 Association Assessments Due to: Village Pointe Property Owners Association, Inc. Debtor(s) & Amount Due: See attached Exhibit "A" Amount of Judgment: See attached Exhibit "A" Type of Sale: Judicial Foreclosure Sale of Timeshare Interest being conducted pursuant to the power of sale granted by the Declaration, the Colorado Property Code, and the Colorado Common Ownership Act

THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD AND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION. The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 11:00 o'clock A.M., on January 27, 2023 Sale Number 2022-06 in the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147 sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property described above, and all interest of said Grantor and the heirs and assigns of said Grantor therein, subject to the provisions of the Declaration permitting the Association hereunder to have the bid credited to the Debt up to the amount of the unpaid Debt secured by the Declaration at the time of sale, for the purpose of paying the judgment amount entered herein, and will deliver to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication: December 1, 2022 Last Publication: December 29, 2022 Name of Publication: The Pagosa Springs Sun NOTICE OF RIGHTS

YOU MAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED, OR HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS OR SUFFER CERTAIN LIABILITIES PURSUANT TO COLORADO STATUTES AS A RESULT OF SAID FORECLOSURE. YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO REDEEM SAID REAL PROPERTY OR YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO CURE A DEFAULT UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST BEING FORECLOSED. A COPY OF THE STATUTE WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED. THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN.

IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

The name, address, and business telephone number of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows: Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 85 Harman Park Drive, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, 81147; 970-264-8434. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This Sheriff's Notice of Sale is signed this 25th day of October, 2022. Rich Valdez, Sheriff, Archuleta County, Colorado By: /s/ Lorena Medina Lorena Medina, Office Manager EXHIBIT "A" Village Pointe Condominiums Matter Amount

INUS H WILSON and WILLIAM C WILSON JR (C#178917266) Unit Weeks Numbers 43, Unit Number 7513, Building Number 4, Phase II Unpaid Assessments: \$2,668.96 Interest: \$393.78 Late Fees: \$100.00 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Cost: \$349.18 Judgment Amount: \$4,511.92

JOHN E JONES and EVELYN E JONES (C#179007018) Unit Weeks Numbers 6, Unit Number 7518, Building Number 5, Phase III Unpaid Assessments: \$2,668.96 Interest: \$393.78 Late Fees: \$100.00 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Cost: \$349.18 Judgment Amount: \$4,511.92

RAMONA CAROLYN DAUPHIN and DONALD MAX DAUPHIN AS TRUSTEES OF THE RAMONA CAROLYN DAUPHIN TRUST DATED DECEMBER 7, 2001 (C#179014139) Unit Weeks Numbers 1, Unit Number 7530, Building Number 6, Phase III Unpaid Assessments: \$2,627.33 Interest: \$299.23 Late Fees: \$50.00 Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00 Cost: \$349.18 Judgment Amount: \$4,511.92

OF Village Pointe Condominiums, all as tenants in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Village Pointe Condominiums as depicted on the Plats recorded under Reception Numbers 0168713, 171189 and 176324 according to the Condominium Map as recorded, subject to Declaration of Condominium and Interval Ownership for Village Pointe Condominiums as recorded as Reception Number 1309304 and amendments and supplements thereto, in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder in and for Archuleta County, Colorado. Published December 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

OH Pagosa, LLC will submit an application to the Colorado Division of Housing (DOH). The purpose of this application is to request a \$400,000 loan to help develop affordable housing (eight rental units) at 303 S. 7th Street. The request of funding from DOH is to benefit persons with low and moderate incomes by increasing the availability of affordable housing in Pagosa Springs.

All interested persons are encouraged to contact the applicant for further information. Written comments should be sent to:

- 161 East Log Hill Road, Pagosa Springs, Co 81147 or emailed to ptear@pctfinancial.com and will be forwarded to DOH for consideration during the application process. Members of the public may request a public meeting and should arrange a request with the Applicant. Applicant shall post notice of meeting (Date, Time, and Location) to ensure other members of the public are aware of meeting. If reasonable accommodations are needed for persons attending the public meeting, please contact the Applicant. Published December 8, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

County Court, Summit County, Colorado Court Address: PO Box 269 Breckenridge, Colorado 80424 Plaintiff: Winston Financial Services, LLLP, assignee of Skier's Edge Condominium Association, Inc. v.

Defendants: Richard A. Lane a/k/a Richard E. Lane a/k/a Richard Lane a/k/a Rick A. Lane a/k/a Richard Lane a/k/a Rick Lane a/k/a Richard Anthony Lane and Caprice D. Lane a/k/a Caprice Dea Lane a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge-Lane a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge a/k/a Caprice Lane a/k/a Caprice Boyd a/k/a Caprice D. Boyd a/k/a Caprice Dea Boyd Attorney for Plaintiff:

- Sarah M. Pizzo, Esq.
- Douglas A. Turner, P.C.
- 602 Park Point Drive, Suite 240 Golden, Colorado 80401 Phone: 303.273.2923 FAX: 720.746.3027 E-mail: sarah@douglasturner.com Atty. Reg. #: 43826 Case Number: 2011c518 Division: C Courtroom

NOTICE OF LEVY TO THE JUDGMENT DEBTORS: Richard A. Lane and Caprice D. Eldridge-Lane

You are hereby notified that pursuant to and under the authority of a WRIT OF EXECUTION issued by the County Court of Summit County, Colorado, directing the Sheriff of Archuleta County, Colorado, to levy upon and seize certain real property owned by you to pay the claim of the Plaintiff, Winston Financial Services, LLLP. The property being held or taken is described as: Lot 382, PAGOOSA HIGHLANDS ESTATES, County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. Also known by street and number as: 29 Moon Court, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 You have legal rights that may prevent all or part of your money or property from being taken. That part of the money or property that may not be taken is called "exempt property." A partial list of "exempt property" is shown below, along with the law which may make all or part of your money or property exempt. Notwithstanding your right to claim the property as "exempt", no exemption other than the exemptions set forth in Section 13-54-104(3), C.R.S., may be claimed for a Writ which is the result of a judgment taken for arrearages for child support or for child support debt. The purpose of this Notice of Levy is to tell you about these rights. If the money or property which is being withheld from you includes any "exempt property", you must file within 14 days of receiving this Notice of Levy a written claim of exemption with the Clerk of the Court, describing what money or property you think is "exempt property" and the reason that it is exempt. You must act quickly to protect your rights. Remember, you only have 14 days after receiving this Notice of Levy to file your claim of exemption with the Clerk of Court. Your failure to file a claim of exemption within 14 days is a waiver of your right to file. Date: November 17, 2022 By: /s/ Rich Valdez Archuleta County Sheriff

PARTIAL LIST OF EXEMPT PROPERTY (Numbered statutory references are subject to change)

- All or part of your property listed in Sections 13-54-101 and 102, C.R.S., including clothing jewelry, books, burial sites, household goods, food and fuel, farm animals, seed, tools, equipment and implements, military allowances, stock-in-trade, certain items used in your occupation, bicycles, motor vehicles (greater for disabled persons), life insurance, income tax refunds, money received because of loss of property or for personal injury, equipment that you need because of your health, or money received because you were a victim of a crime.
- All or part of your earnings under Section 13-54-104, C.R.S.
- Workers' compensation benefits under Section 8-42-124, C.R.S.
- Unemployment compensation benefits under Section 8-90-102, C.R.S.
- Group life insurance benefits under Section 10-7-205, C.R.S.
- Health insurance benefits under Section 10-16-212, C.R.S.
- Fraternal society benefits under Section 10-14-403, C.R.S.
- Family allowances under Section 15-11-404, C.R.S.
- Teachers' retirement fund benefits under Section 22-6-120, C.R.S.
- Public employees' retirement benefits (PERA) under Sections 24-51-212 and 24-54-111, C.R.S.
- Social security benefits (OASDI, SSI) under 42 U.S.C. §407.
- Railroad employee retirement benefits under 45 U.S.C. §23.
- Public assistance benefits (OAP, AFDC, TANF, AND, AB, LEAP) under Section 26-2-131, C.R.S.

- Policemen's and firemen's pension fund payments under Sections 31-30-117, 31-30.5-208 and 31-31-203, C.R.S.
- Utility and security deposits under Section 13-54-102(1)(j), C.R.S.
- Proceeds of the sale of homestead property under Section 38-41-207, C.R.S.
- Veteran's Administration benefits under 38 U.S.C. §5301.
- Civil service benefits under 5 U.S.C. §8346.
- Mobile homes and trailers under Section 38-41-201.6, C.R.S.
- Certain retirement and pension funds and benefits under Section 13-54-102(2)(s), C.R.S.
- A Court-ordered child support and maintenance obligation or payment under Section 13-54-102(1)(u), C.R.S.
- Public or private disability benefits under Section 13-54-102(1)(v), C.R.S.
- REMEMBER THAT THIS IS ONLY A PARTIAL LIST OF "EXEMPT PROPERTY"; you may wish to consult with a lawyer who can advise you of your rights. If you cannot afford one, there are listings of legal assistance and legal aid offices in the yellow pages of the telephone book. Published December 8, 15 and 22, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON January 3, 2023

PATRICK AND ELYANNE KERRIGAN, have applied for a FINAL PLAT APPROVAL for the KERRIGAN EXEMPTION AMENDMENT 2022-01, of Lot 1 at 2016 County Rd 988, Arboles, CO (PLN22-132). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL RANCHING (AR). The application is to subdivide and create two parcels where there is now only one. Comments regarding this proposal may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to PFlowers@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners on January 23, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Administration Office Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link. Public comment will be taken at the meeting. Published December 8 and 29, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

FOR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON January 3, 2023

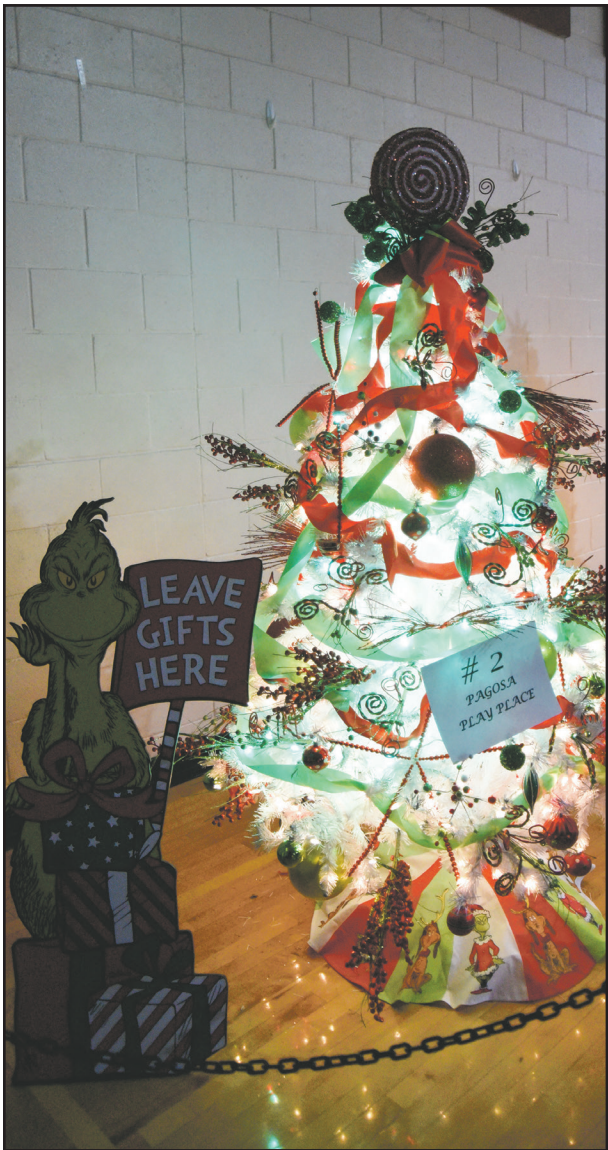
KAREN FRITZ, has applied for a FINAL PLAT APPROVAL for the PAGOOSA ALPHA SECTION AMENDMENT 2022-01, of Parcel 7 at 84 N Squaw Canyon Pl, Pagosa Springs, CO (PLN22-126). The property is zoned AGRICULTURAL ESTATE (AE). The application is to subdivide and create two parcels where there is now only one. Comments regarding this proposal may be submitted to Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507, telephone: (970) 264-1390 or to PFlowers@archuletacounty.org prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners on January 23, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Administration Office Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs and via Zoom Link. Public comment will be taken at the meeting. Published December 8 and 29, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District Notice of Budget Hearing NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a budget has been submitted to the Board of Directors of Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District for the budget year 2023. A copy of such prepared budget has been filed at the office of the President of the District, Bob Milford, 284 Cool Pines Dr. Pagosa Springs, Co. where the same is open for public inspection. Such proposed budget will be considered at the meeting of the Board of Directors held at the Colorado's Timber Ridge HOA Clubhouse, 31 Shooting Star Dr. Pagosa Springs, Co., on December 12th, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Any interested electors within Colorado's Timber Ridge Metropolitan District may inspect the budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the amended budget. 2023 proposed budget will also be posted on CTRMD website. Published December 8, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.



San Juan Water Conservancy District Public Hearing for Consideration of 2023 Budget Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 2 pm 46 Eaton Drive Suite 5 The revised budget is posted for inspection at the SJWCD office and at www.sjwcd.org. Any interested elector of the local government may file objections to the proposed budget at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget by the governing body. Published December 8, 2022 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

ARCHULETA COUNTY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
OCTOBER 2022 PAYABLES		
VENDOR		
4IMPRINT	DHS-LEAP CLIENT SUPP/ADVERT.	5,561.65
A SAFE PLACE IN PAGOSA, IN	CHRISMS - ARPA SUBMISSION #5	17,710.76
AARON ZAK	CHRIS MT VILLAGE II BACKFILL/TRENCH	4,395.00
ACCELA, INC.	BLDG-SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION	13,041.30
ADB SAFEGATE AMERICAS 1 IN	AIRPORT-PARTS&SUPPLIES	1,083.74
ADELYNN MAE HITTLE	2023 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	7,665.74
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	FLEET-PARTS&SUPPLIES	82.42
AFLAC	COUNTY INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,628.68
ALEXANDER KRANICH	R&B TRAVEL REIMB	58.23
ALEXIS DERR	2024 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	7,842.18
ALPINE PORTABLE TOILETS LL	SW PAG TS PORTA TOILET	425.00
ALSCO	SO/FLEET/B&G - WKLY RUG SRVC	895.94
ALTIITUDE RECYCLING EQUIPME	SWL ADMIN-RECYCLING BANDS	800.00
ALVIN SCHAFF	COMMISS TRAVEL TO 10-08	300.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, I	ACSO - JAIL SUPPLIES	418.67
AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INSUR	COUNTY LIFE INSURANCE	1,406.00
ANGELA ALVALU	SO AN CTRL-UNIFORMS	160.00
ANNA BETH RAY	2023 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	10,904.80
ARCHULETA COUNTY HOUSING A	CHRISMS - ARPA SUBMISSION #1	86,481.49
ARCHULETA COUNTY ROAD AND	SO ADMIN KG TARGET PRACT RANGE	32,500.00
ARCHULETA COUNTY SHERIFF	ACSO-PETTY CASH REIMBURSE	12.45
ARCHULETA COUNTY SOLID WAS	R&B DISPOSAL	143.00
ARCHULETA COUNTY TREASURER	COMMISS-TD APPS PHASE 1 6 PAR	3,860.14
ARCHULETA COUNTY VICTIM ASSIS	DHS-TANF-CONTRACT SEPT.	1,667.00
ARCHULETA SENIORS, INC.	2022 4TH QTR GRANT FUNDS	38,750.00
ASHLIE ELLIOTT	2026 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	28,413.94
ASHTON G. TULLY	2027 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	2,893.47
ASPIRE MEDICAL SERVICES	DHS-TANF MEN'S CLASSES AUG.	416.66
AT YOUR DISPOSAL	COUNTY DISPOSAL FEES	992.80
AT&T MOBILITY LLC.	DHS/ACSO - CELL PHONES	2,441.87
ATCO INTERNATIONAL	AIRPORT - SUPPLIES	294.70
BADGEANDWALLET.COM	ACSO-NAME PLATES	307.00
BECKY JACOBSON	EXT PER DIEM REIMB	461.56
BELLA G. ADKISSON	2028 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	7,906.30
BENJAMIN WYATT STRETTON	2029 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	6,498.16
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	COUNTY GAS	1,855.39
BOB BARKER COMPANY, INC.	ACSO-INMATE SUPPLIES	118.89
BOK FINANCIAL	4TH QTR 2022 RCI LOAN PMT	124,291.16
BRUCKNER'S TRUCK SALES	FLEET - PARTS&SUPPLIES	19.55
BRYNN NICOLLE LOOPER	2030 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	5,454.12
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS,	COUNTY COPIER CONTRACT	489.42
CARL MACHT	EXT CPR & FIRST AID CLASSES	400.00
CARLA ELLIOTT	ASSR-PER DIEM TYLER GROUP	197.50
CARLIE ROSE BRIDGES	2031 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	4,935.09
CAROLINA SOFTWARE	SW-SOFTWARE	250.00
CASCADE WATER-COFFEE CO IN	DISP - WATER SRVC	68.04
CDW GOVERNMENT LLC.	IT - PARTS & SUPPLIES	1,220.44
CENTURYLINK	DISP-E911	17,102.93
CHARM-TEX INC.	ACSO - JAIL SUPPLIES	246.66
CIGNA HEALTH AND LIFE INSU	COUNTY MEDICAL & VISION PREM	147,427.69
CINTAS FIRST AID & SAFETY	FIRST AID & SAFETY	605.41
CLAIRE ADKISSON	2032 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	6,867.43
COLLE LOOPER	2033 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	2,495.77
COLLIN BRIDGES	2034 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	929.14
COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTI	ACSO-BACKGROUND CHECKS	825.50
COLORADO CORRECTIONAL IND.	DHS-IM-SNAP APPLICATION FORMS	240.80
COLORADO DEPT OF LABOR & E	ADMIN - UNEMPLOYMENT PYMT	10.38
COLORADO ENERGY SYSTEMS	ACSO - EOM - REPAIR FEE	700.00
COLORADO STATE TREASURER	DHS Q3 Q4 2022 UNEMPLOYMENT	4,413.15
COLTON LEWIS	2022 LIVESTOCK AUCTION	26,337.84
CONSERVANCY OIL CO. OF DUR	FLEET - PARTS&SUPPLIES	1,031.80
COOPER FIRE PROTECTION SER	ADMIN EXT W HERITAGE ALARM	174.9



'Well, in Whoville they say that the Grinch's small heart grew three sizes that day!'

SUN photos/Shari Pierce and Randi Pierce

In addition to Santa, the Grinch, sporting a festive sweater, made a stop at the Festival of Trees public viewing and voting, chatting with youngsters about the upcoming holiday. Multiple trees were also themed to the character and his story.



Don't miss Old-Fashioned Christmas and Holiday Lighting Contest

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

The public is ready, the businesses and nonprofit organizations are ready and, therefore, let the lights shine bright throughout the Pagosa Springs community.

The 2022 Holiday Lighting Contest is in full swing with bright lights and displays on residential, commercial and storefront locations. The judging began on Nov. 25 and will continue until Dec. 18. The lights will remain on until Dec. 31. This is a good time to get out for an evening and take the family to see the lights all along U.S. 160 and then into neighboring areas such as off of U.S. 84 and into the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association area.

An easy way to plan your excursion is to download the Holiday Lighting app on your iPhone or Android phone. Go to your app or play store and look for the Visit Pagosa Springs app. Once that app is downloaded, go to "Things to Do" and click on "tours." The Holiday Lights Tour will come up with a complete map of 32 stops broken out into commercial, storefront and residential locations. Addresses are there along with a map if you click "Map It." Also in the app is the opportunity to vote for your favorite in each of the three categories. Remember that there is only one vote per email address; however, if different people in your party like different displays, each of you can have a vote. All votes must be in by midnight on Dec. 18.

The winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 22. The winners in the residential contest will win \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place. The same denominations will be awarded to the winning businesses but in advertising credit with The Pagosa Springs SUN. Storefront displays will be awarded \$500, \$250 and \$100 in advertising credit. Therefore, it is important that we get out and vote for our favorite displays and help these residents and businesses win. They have dedicated a lot of time and energy to brighten up our community. Let's thank them for their efforts.

Another highly anticipated event is the Old-Fashioned Christmas to

be held on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a magical walk from Town Park to Centennial Park along the Riverwalk. There will be numerous stops along the way sponsored by businesses or nonprofit organizations. Snacks, hot drinks, displays, music and giveaways will be located all along the route. Hot Springs Boulevard will be closed off from Hermosa to San Juan streets to allow pedestrians safe passage from Town Park to the Visitor Center, where there will be live music, registration for the drawing for a Red Ryder BB gun, cookies, hot drinks and much more. You can also enter the scavenger hunt to win a lovely Pagosa holiday ornament.

Continue back over the bridge and finish your walk down to Centennial Park with more beautifully created stops as you also look for Santa milling around the route. Dress warm, bring some lighting and bundle up the family or join your friends for an evening of beauty, family, friendship and lots of community spirit. While down in the Centennial Park area, enjoy a balloon glow in the evening. There is just so much to enjoy on this special night. After your walk, visit some of the stores downtown, which will be remaining open late or head out for a delicious dinner at one of our restaurants. You don't want to miss this event, so put a large X on your calendar marking this day.

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NMLS# 421822



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preview

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Christmas in Pagosa



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ReSport



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Community Choir

The Pagosa Springs Community Choir will present its “Sing We Now of Christmas” concerts Friday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, Dec. 11, at 4 p.m.

Community choir Christmas concerts set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday

By Heidi Tanner
Pagosa Springs Community Choir

The time is finally here to join the Pagosa Springs Community Choir at its annual Christmas concerts.

The community choir will be presenting its “Sing We Now of Christmas” concerts this Friday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, Dec. 11, at 4 p.m.

The concerts will be held in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium and doors will open 30 minutes before each performance. The concerts are free, but donations will be gratefully accepted. The choir is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and a receipt can

be provided for your tax-deductible donation.

This year, the community choir is fundraising for the Pagosa Springs High School Music Department. If you have lived here for long, you know that the music department at the high school presents a very professional musical every spring.

This year the school would like to produce Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast,” but it is very expensive to purchase the licensing from Disney for this show. Thus, the community choir will be donating 35 percent of each night’s concert contributions to the high school music department to help raise funds to pay for the “Beauty and the Beast” production licensing.

■ See Concerts on next page

Live Performers

- Friday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jordan Stern, 5 p.m.
- Saturday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Leah Orlikowski, 5 p.m.
- Tuesday**
The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Terry Rickard, 5 p.m.
- Wednesday**
The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

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SUN

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PagosaSun.com/eedition

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Display - Noon Monday • Classified - Tuesday 10 a.m.
Legal - Friday 4 p.m. • Deadlines are moved up for holiday weeks. Please check for an ad in the paper for specific dates and times.

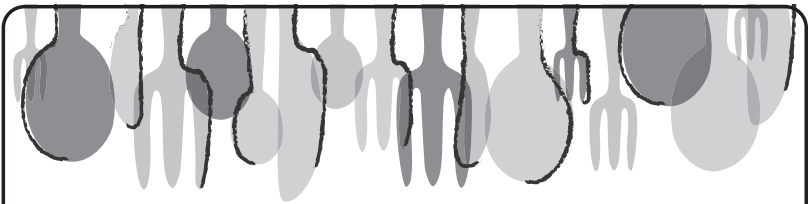
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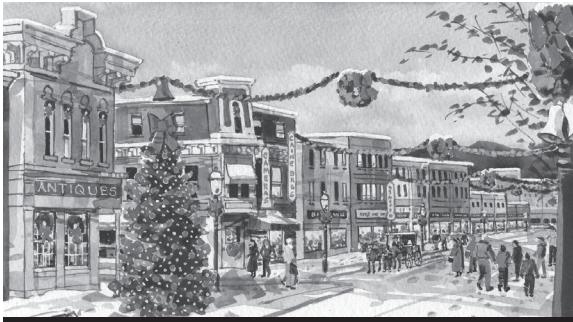
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Christmas in Pagosa

An old-fashioned celebration

Support our community by attending the events and sales at these local establishments this holiday season. These businesses have worked hard to make this a magical shopping season for you!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Drop your letters to Santa off at The SUN

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Just in time for the holiday season, The SUN has teamed up with Santa and his elves to help deliver letters to the guy in the big red suit.

Children are invited to drop their letters to Santa off at The SUN's office at 457 Lewis St. There will be a special mailbox in the front office for the letters.

Letters can also be emailed to editor@pagosasun.com.

Please include your first name and age on your letters.

All letters should be delivered to The SUN by noon on Dec. 16 to ensure delivery to the North Pole.

Letters will be printed in the Dec. 22 edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN.

randi@pagosasun.com

Concerts

■ continued from previous page

Please keep in mind when you donate at this year's choir concerts, you will be supporting the community choir, but you will also be supporting music education in our schools. And, as a bonus, you get to listen to beautiful Christmas choral music. It's a win for us all.

Please join us this weekend for an enjoyable concert of Christmas favorites such as "Jingle Bells" and "Sleigh Ride." In addition to the full choir, you will be treated to our jazz choir, which is a small ensemble that features Christmas songs set in jazz stylings.

We are looking forward to seeing you this Friday or Saturday evening at 7 p.m. or this Sunday at 4 p.m. Brighten your holiday season and join the community choir this weekend as we "Sing We Now of Christmas."

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Sat., Dec. 10 ONLY • 1-4 p.m.

Bring in the kiddos for stories, treats and fun!

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- Games
- STEAM
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- Fun for Baby

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in our
Gift Department

Dec. 10, 1-4 p.m. only

SPECIAL HOURS
Our store will close at 4 p.m. on
Thursday, Dec. 15 for a staff event

Prices are as marked. All sales final on discounted items, cash and carry, no returns on sale items, discounts do not apply to sale items, sale prices may not be combined with other discounts. Delivery and set up or installation not included. Some other exclusions may apply. Limited to stock on hand.



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Christmas in Pagosa

An old-fashioned celebration

Support our community by attending the events and sales at these local establishments this holiday season. These businesses have worked hard to make this a magical shopping season for you!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



Christmas

at Pagosa Baking Company

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Movies that are perfect for families this holiday season

Special to The PREVIEW

Various traditions take center stage during the holiday season. One of those traditions may be sitting down and enjoying any of a number of timeless Christmas movies or even newer holiday films that are quickly becoming favorites.

Film fans have their own ideas about the best films to watch during the holidays, but the following movies are some kids and adults can enjoy together.

- “The Polar Express” (2004): A young boy enjoys a magical adventure to the North Pole aboard the Polar Express train. He learns about the true spirit of the holidays and the value of bravery and friendship along the way.

- “The Muppet Christmas Carol” (1992): Charles Dickens’ classic story about a bitter miser might be a little frightening for young children to enjoy in its more theatrical offerings. However, when the Muppet characters tell their version of the classic tale, the story becomes much more family-friendly.

- “A Boy Called Christmas” (2021): Based on the book by Matt Haig, this movie is a reimagined take on Father Christmas. It focuses on Nikolas as he goes on an adventure to find a magical town called Elfhelm.

- “Jack Frost” (1998): When a father dies in a car accident, he comes back to life as a snowman in his son’s front yard. Jack learns to keep his promises and make things right with his son — things he wasn’t capable of doing as a human.

- “Christmas with the Kranks” (2004): The Kranks decide to forgo their annual Christmas party and plan a vacation since their daughter will be out of town. But when said daughter decides to come home after all, chaos sets in as the couple tries to figure out how to put together an extravaganza at the last minute.

- “Beauty and the Beast: The Enchanted Christmas” (1997): The Beast does not favor the holiday season, so Belle must change his

■ See Movies on next page

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Americana Project to host concert with Thom Chacon on Dec. 13

By Bob Hemenger
Pagosa Springs High School

The Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School will present a very special concert Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. This year's professional guest artist is singer-songwriter Thom Chacon.

Born in Southern California, but raised in Sacramento, Chacon is the son of a Hispanic father, a newscaster who became a public relations executive, and a Lebanese mother, a kindergarten teacher, with five sisters (he was the second youngest child). He first showed an interest in music at a young age, offering as proof a tape recording of him singing "Rhinestone Cowboy" as a 3-year-old. Thom listened to story-tellers like Glen Campbell, Jim Croce, the Beatles of Rubber Soul and Smokey Robinson on his parents' record player before picking up a guitar in fourth grade.

He wrote his first song at age 16.

"It wasn't very good, but in all these years, I've never stopped. It's something I have to do," he said.

Seeing Kris Kristofferson wear a harp rack inspired him to don one as well.

"If you're a solo artist, it's your second band mate," he said, adding, "for me, it's less about my voice and guitar-playing than it is the words and melody, which is why I

■ See Americana on page 9

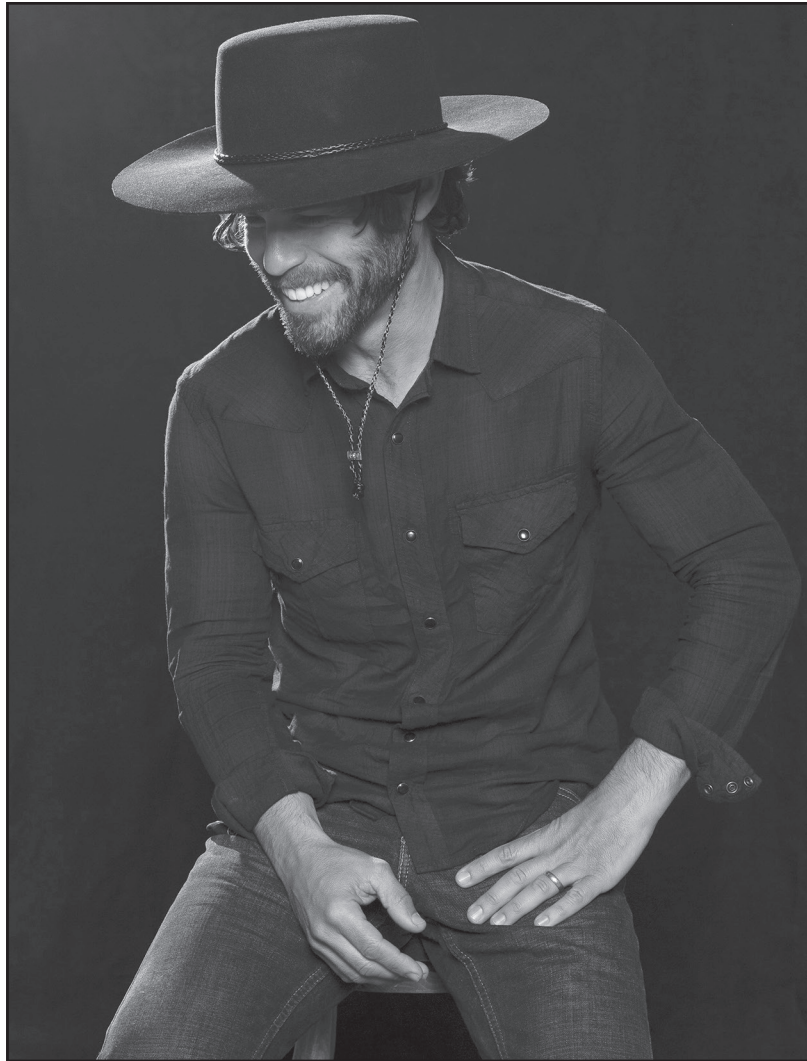


Photo courtesy Bob Hemenger

Singer-songwriter Thom Chacon is this year's professional guest artist for the Americana Project's concert, which is set for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13 in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Movies

■ continued from previous page
mind on the matter in this animated Disney offering.

- "Elf" (2003): As a youngster, Buddy was magically transported to the North Pole and raised by Santa's elves. As an adult, he's determined to find his real dad in New York City and uncover a way

to fit in.

- "Santa Hunters" (2014): A young boy teams up with his sibling and cousins to try to capture new footage of Santa in action and prove that the man in red truly exists.

- "The Nutcracker and the Four Realms" (2018): This is a newer take

on the classic Nutcracker tale. This adventure sees Clara defending the Land of Sweets from the evil Mother Ginger.

Holiday films enhance the celebratory nature of the season. Certain movies are tailor-made for families to watch together during this special time of year.

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Photo courtesy Bob Hemenger

Students in the Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School will host Thom Chacon for their concert at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13, and will play a 45-minute opening set.

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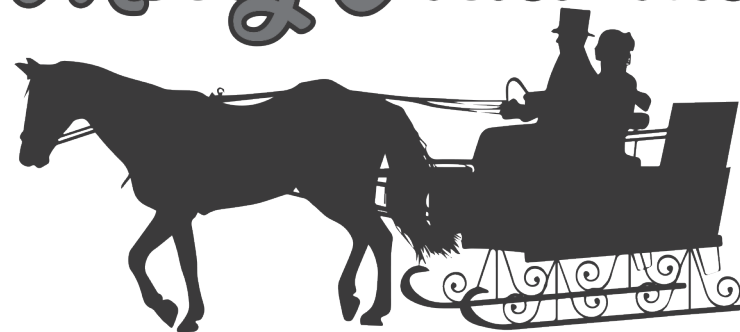
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Merry Christmas!
- from our family to yours.

Thingamajig's professional actors in rehearsals for holiday shows

By Carole Howard
Thingamajig Theatre Company

Professional actors, a director and a costume designer have arrived in Pagosa Springs from across the country for rehearsals of a special Christmas show and concert that Thingamajig Theatre Company will present this holiday season at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Charlie Brown and your favorite Peanuts characters will be lovingly portrayed on stage in "A Charlie Brown Christmas," an uplifting family-friendly production priced at family-friendly rates

Live performances start next Friday, Dec. 16, and continue

through most of the month of December.

In this show you'll watch Charlie Brown and his friends including Lucy, Linus, Sally, Schroeder and Snoopy — among the most iconic group of youngsters on the planet — as they interact and learn the true meaning of Christmas. "Charlie Brown" is a nostalgic show that features the imaginary children created by Charles Schultz. It is based on the 1965 hit animated TV special of the same name.

These beloved characters will be brought to life on the Thingamajig stage by a cast that includes several favorite Thingamajig alumni.

As well, the actors will perform a holiday concert titled "A Merry

Little Christmas" that will showcase the singing and dancing skills of the actors.

The announcement was made by Tim Moore, the theater's producing artistic director.

"It's a special treat for us to present such a heartwarming show about Charlie Brown and his friends for kids of all ages as well as a special holiday concert that will appeal to everyone who loves joyful Christmas music," he said.

Multiple talented artists return

"Charlie Brown" features five professional actors, all hugely popular with local and out-of-town
■ See Shows on next page

Americana

■ continued from page 7

modeled myself after what he was doing."

Moving to Los Angeles in his early 20s, Thom originally sought fame and fortune in the L.A. music scene, then quickly realized he needed something more authentic. He took a job on a horse ranch in the foothills of Los Angeles, learning how to ride and take care of the horses.

Eventually, Thom decided to move to Durango, Colo., seeking more of life's outdoor adventures and to concentrate on his songwriting. Thom became a part-time fly-fishing guide and, when not on tour, takes people on horseback into the mountains of Colorado and New Mexico for extended camping and fly-fishing expeditions.

The cinematic nature of Thom's songs comes not only from spending time as a true outdoorsman, but also from a love of movies and vintage television westerns, with a special affection for the films of John Ford and John Wayne, a favorite of his mom.

Thom's narrative style is influ-

enced by Kristofferson, Steve Earle and Townes Van Zandt, among others. He also draws influence from his colorful family history. His second cousin, Bobby Chacon, was a two-time boxing featherweight champion.

"Bobby taught me no matter how hard it gets, you've gotta get up off the mat and keep fighting," he said.

His grandfather was deputy sheriff in Silver City, N.M., and part of the posse sent to capture Billy the Kid.

Chacon has gone on to tour around the world, opening for artists as diverse as Los Lonely Boys and Jason Mraz, playing shows in Thailand and India, and even one memorable gig on July 4, 2004, at Folsom Prison, shortly after the death of another of his idols, Johnny Cash.

"That was a life-changing experience for me," he said.

With his current music reflecting a good dose of lifetime experiences, along with the hard-earned wisdom of a man who's paid his dues both on the land and the water, Chacon is now being touted

by the press as "an Americana original" and "one of the most important songwriters of our time."

"Thom Chacon's music is simple, but don't mistake that for a lack of depth. Simple writing is the hardest writing. And always the best. His songs are packed with rich imagery and instantly relatable sensibilities. He is a real writer, and by that I mean he has infected visions. I salute him." — Mary Gauthier, Grammy nominated singer-songwriter.

The Americana Project students will be opening the show at 7 p.m. with a 45-minute set. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students, and for 12 and under are free. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with general seating. Tickets will only be available at the door. Cash or check. Donations for the program will also be accepted.

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Photo courtesy Carole Howard
Thingamajig Theatre Company professional actors (left to right) Trevor Brown, Jesse Kortus and Rosa Campbell and are among the favorite alumni who arrived at the Durango airport, where they were welcomed and driven to the actor house in Pagosa Springs by Friends of the Theatre members. The actors have returned to perform in "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and a special holiday concert at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

Shows

■ **continued from previous page**
 audiences from previous performances at Thingamajig.

They include two perennial favorites, Trevor Brown and Samantha "Sam" Luck, who most recently wowed audiences in this summer's season that included "Bright Star," "Guys and Dolls" and "SpongeBob Musical." They are joined by Jesse Cordis, who brought new life to the role of Nathan Detroit in "Guys and Dolls"; Rosa Campbell, a veteran of "Men in Boats" and stage manager this summer; and Kristi Contreary, a star of "Miracle on 34th Street" last Christmas.

"Charlie Brown" is being directed and choreographed by Andrew Barratt Lewis, who directed and choreographed "Bright Star" this summer, "Miracle on 34th Street" last Christmas and "A Grand Night for Singing" during Christmas 2019.

Costume design is by Elly Hunt, whose creative work on the Thingamajig stage has included "Bright Star" and "Men on Boats."

As well, Lewis has conceived and is directing the holiday concert, which takes advantage of his creative skills and the impressive dancing and singing talents of the actors. This special event will be performed three times at 7 p.m.,

on Dec. 22, 23 and 26.

Of course, as befitting good holiday experiences, the audience will be treated to childhood exuberance and an inspirational message in "Charlie Brown." We promise that after this 45-minute performance you will be humming all the way home — and the same will be true after the holiday concert.

Tickets available now

"Charlie Brown" opens on Dec. 16 and will be performed most days through Dec. 29. Evening performances are at 7 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. "Charlie Brown" tickets are priced at the family-friendly rate of \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under.

Tickets for the "A Merry Little Christmas" holiday concert are \$35 for adults and \$20 for kids 12 and under.

You can order tickets for "Charlie Brown" and the holiday concert on the theater's website, pagosa-center.org, or by phoning (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Treating your family and friends to these events makes a very special holiday gift for everyone, yourself included.

Thingamajig Theatre Company was co-founded in 2011 by Tim and

Laura Moore. It is an award-winning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and Canada to produce musicals, comedies and dramas for local and out-of-town audiences.

As well, Thingamajig is dedicated to providing educational opportunities for youth and teens in our community, including a winter theater camp this holiday season that will result in performances of the hilarious and heartwarming "A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS."





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Please join us for a fun and festive evening to celebrate the spirit of the holiday season.

Heralds of Christmas to be performed Dec. 18

By Rick Artis
Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

One of Pagosa Springs' favorite Christmas traditions is coming soon. The Heralds of Christmas concert will once again be held at Pagosa Springs High School on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m.

The presentation is our gift to the community and is presented free of charge. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

A myriad of holiday and seasonal works will be performed by local musicians. Both instrumental and vocal soloists, as well as featured ensembles, will fill the auditorium with festive music.

Heralds of Christmas is presented by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS). PSIMS is dedicated to music education in Pagosa Springs, providing equipment, instrument repair, private lessons and more to several of the schools in town. This year, the schools have a variety of needs.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

A flute quartet performing during a previous Heralds of Christmas concert. This year's Heralds of Christmas concert will be at 3 p.m. on Dec. 18.

From providing pairs of drumsticks or a series of private lessons, to a set of chimes, and many items in between, there are many ways that you can help. Your donations can be earmarked for a specific need or ap-

plied to the general fund which supports the society and our mission.

PSIMS would like to thank Curtains Up Pagosa for its continuing support and collaboration in making this concert possible.

Delicious and nutritious desserts

By Nicole Clark
PREVIEW Columnist

Let's face it, sweet desserts will be around this holiday season. All it takes is one quick glimpse of a delicious holiday treat to send your thoughts into a silently streaming debate on whether you should or shouldn't eat one.

One could argue the best reason to eat is that you're hungry. But we also know food satisfies more than physical hunger. So, what are the chances we could simultaneously satisfy hunger, meet some nutritional needs and embrace a little pleasure by being thoughtful in our holiday sweet treat choices? Chances are good as long as we maintain the perspective that we are discussing desserts. Thus, moderation will always serve us well.

It's been referred to as nature's dessert, and for good reasons. Fruit is the sweetest, most nutritious treat around.

Boring, you say? That's fair, a plain apple doesn't typically tantalize the senses like a beautifully decorated holiday cookie or molten chocolate cake may. But then again, it only takes a little effort to transform plain fruit into a visually appealing, taste-pleasing dessert that's sure to impress. If nothing else, you may be impressed by the nutritional impact of a fruit dessert.

Fruit desserts you will want to try

Visit USDA MyPlate, which offers a wide variety of low-cost, fruit-based desserts. Or, use the terms below in your favorite search

Extension Viewpoints

engine to find a plethora of options. By adding the words "healthy" or "low-fat" to your search you can narrow it down to desserts that emphasize the fruit more than the other ingredients.


- Possible search terms include:
- Baked fruit.
 - Cobblers, crisps and crumbles.
 - Fruit bars and tarts.
 - Fruit (or veggie) cookies and

quick bread (zucchini bread with applesauce).

- Frozen fruit desserts.
- Fruit pies, cakes and galettes (tarts).

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered monthly by the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register. The last classes of the year will be Dec. 19 and 21.



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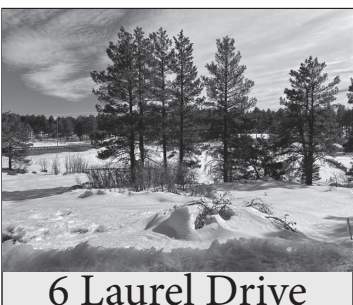
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Spiritual Experiences Group to host discussion: ‘Clean Out Your Karmic Closet: Make More Room for Love’

By **Laurah Brock Young**
Spiritual Experiences Group
of Pagosa Springs

Would you like to know how to change your karmic patterns and bring more love and wisdom into your life? It's a perfect topic for our last discussion of the year. Beginning to clean out your karmic closet could be your New Year's resolution. Learn how you can live free from karma and rebirth and bring more love into your life.

Please join the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs for a lively discussion called “Clean Out Your Karmic Closet: Make More Room for Love.”

It is the law of karma that causes us to continue to reincarnate. Why? So that we can work off the karmic debts we have accumulated from

past lifetimes. There are ways to know what those debts are and how to work through them if we choose.

Once we know the cause of our karmic debts, we can begin learning from our past and choosing to live with more wisdom and love in our lives.

Please join us for this special discussion presented by the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs and sponsored by Eckankar as a community service. Eckankar is a spiritual resource for people of all faiths and beliefs. It is an individual, creative practice to experience and explore your own unique relationship with the Divine.

The discussion is free and open to all people. It will be held at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230-A

Port Ave., on Sunday, Dec. 11, and begins at 1 p.m.

To find other in-person discussions and online events offered by the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs, visit <https://www.facebook.com/Eckankar-in-Colorado-104663979586166>.



Merry Christmas!
I want to thank Pagosa and beyond for decades of patronage. Wishing you love, health, joy and peace for this season and throughout 2023.

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GRABER

New Thought topic: ‘Zen Your Christmas and Embrace the Joy’

By **Shayla McClure**
New Thought Center for
Inspirational Living

The Sunday service at 11 a.m. on Dec. 11 with Shayla White Eagle will be “Zen Your Christmas and Embrace the Joy.”

“When thoughts arise, then do all things arise. When thoughts vanish, then do all things vanish.” — Huang Po.

Upcoming events

SpiritHeart Band practice is Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join SpiritHeart band. Please text Bruce at (970) 507-0739 for band information.

Dec. 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Christmas open house and SpiritFire Store Festival with refreshments and music, and spiritual art, jewelry, spa and health products, body refreshers offered and on sale.

Dec. 24, 5 to 6 p.m.: Christmas Eve candlelight service with potluck after. This is in place of our Sunday service.

Dec. 25: No service. Enjoy the beauty of goodwill toward all.

Jan. 1, 2023, 11 a.m.: Sunday service with Burning Bowl Ceremony with Shayla White Eagle.

About us

The New Thought Center promotes philosophies similar to Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. We honor all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine. The vision of the New Thought Center is to empower possibility through revelation of spiritual truth, and to enhance our members' life experience through self-empowerment, inner peace and being part of an inclusive community. Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through awareness of a higher power. We are the “Good Vibe Tribe” that practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Request prayer treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.



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Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo and a new Pokemon Club

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We hope you will join us for a free all-ages holiday event next Thursday, Dec. 15, from 4 to 6 p.m. at our Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo. We'll help you build the perfect cozy evening kit as you join us for games and fun.

Then you'll want to mark your calendars for another fun all-ages event on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. as we launch our new Pokemon Club. So far, we are only committed to this month, but we would love your feedback to let us know if you'd like it to continue.

Flu season protocols

The curbside service that we began in COVID times continues — and it's a healthful option in the cold and flu season. To save your energy and lessen germ exposure to other patrons, we recommend you use our curbside service — or add a name to your account authorizing that person to pick up items for you while you recuperate. Library hours:

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturdays, your library is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Activities calendar

To be sure you don't miss any of the free library activities available to you and your family, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. Its streamlined format combines all the activities and events for children, teens and adults on one handy, two-sided page.

Online author talks continue

There are two more events this month in our free online virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought-leaders giving live, professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You also have an opportunity to ask questions.

Saturday, Dec. 10, at noon, we'll interact with Fredrik Blackman, author of "The Winners," the third installment of the Beartown series.

Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. showcases Nicole Eustace, author of "A Story of Murder and Indigent Justice in Early America."

Go to <https://pagosalibrary.org/adult-services/> to learn more.

Your library has a year-long subscription through June 30, 2023. At that time, we will evaluate the popularity of the series in order to decide whether or not

Library News

to renew our subscription. If you would like to provide feedback to Judy or Meg, they would welcome your comments. Contact Judy@pagosalibrary.org or meg@pagosalibrary.org.

Legal clinic tomorrow

The free legal clinic this month is happening by appointment tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Come into the library to meet privately via Zoom with our volunteer attorney who will answer your questions, show you legal documents and help you fill out the necessary forms.

To schedule an appointment, at the beginning of the month send an email titled "Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic," with your first name and phone number, to ruby@pagosalibrary.org, or phone (970) 264-2209 or stop by the library. The volunteer attorney's time is limited, so it's first-come, first-served. This clinic takes place on the second Friday of every month.

Paws to Read tomorrow

Friday, Dec. 9, from 2 to 3 p.m., youngsters from kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to share their favorite books with Muppet, a therapy dog who loves listening to stories, at a free Paws to Read session. This is a great way for beginning readers to build confidence.

Gaming tomorrow

Enjoy free all-ages video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 9, from 3 to 4 p.m.

Ruby's Book Club next Tuesday

Ruby's Book Club will meet in person from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 13, to discuss "The Mountains Sing" by Phan Que Mai Nguyen. Copies are available at your library.

This book club is held the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between fiction and non-fiction titles. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Spanish conversation next Tuesday

Next Tuesday, Dec. 13, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., we will gather at the library to practice speaking and listening skills together at this free session. No minimum skill level is required to attend.

■ See Library on next page

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					6			
	8						9	
							3	
4				6				
		3			1	9		8
	3	8				4	1	
		5			3	6		
			1		2	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!

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

ANSWER:

Library

■ continued from previous page

You also can learn Spanish and many other languages using the Transparent Language Learning database available at <https://pagosalibrary.org/online-resources/>.

Therapy dog visit next Wednesday

Join us next Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 11 to 11:45 a.m. for a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say “Hi.” This activity is for all ages.

Homework help and tutoring

Free homework assistance and elementary tutoring are available for students in kindergarten through fourth grade on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is a registration packet for parents and guardians to fill out to enroll your child that you can get by emailing the library or coming in. This program has been a big hit because it helps build essential skills in core subjects. You still can register your child, but you may be put on a wait list.

PALS/GED adult education

Mark is available for his free PALS sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. No registration is required.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Judy will help you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets and also provide assistance in accessing any of the library's online resources. You do not need an appointment for these drop-in sessions.

Writing challenge

A new all-ages writing challenge will be posted Dec. 12 on the library's Facebook page. We hope you will challenge your creativity by participating in this free activity.

Family storytimes

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.,

join us for free in-person children's stories, games and plenty of reasons to get up and move.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners and 5 to 7 p.m. for both intermediate and advanced students. Please help us spread the word about these classes to others in our community who would be interested, and contact us by phone or email if you have any questions.

Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages, and accessing this free digital collection has never been easier. You just need to download the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. You are now ready to browse, borrow and read e-books and audiobooks using cloudLibrary. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

Local author

We have four new books by local author Courtney Weir on the power of faith: “Faith and Where to Put It,” “Joy and Where to Find It,” “Peace and How to Keep It” and “Identity and Where It Comes From.” Two of these books — “Faith” and “Identity” — contain forwards by local Pastor Eric Swithin, well known in our community for his work at Centerpoint Church and his outdoor program for boys.

Nonfiction

“The Servant Queen and the King She Serves” draws on Queen Elizabeth's own words to explain the power of her faith in helping her do her job. “Delete That” by John Crist is an irreverent look at the ridiculous ways we try to make ourselves look better online. “Inside Bridgerton” by executive producers Shonda Rhimes and Betsy Beers uses stories and photos for a behind-the-scenes look at the Netflix series. “There Was Light” by Pulitzer Prize-winner Jon Meacham is a new biography of Abraham Lincoln. “The Persuaders” by Anand

Giridharadas looks at better ways to disagree and persuade without antagonizing others in our polarized world. “Wild New World” by Dan Flores chronicles our human history with animals in North America going back thousands

■ See Library on page 18

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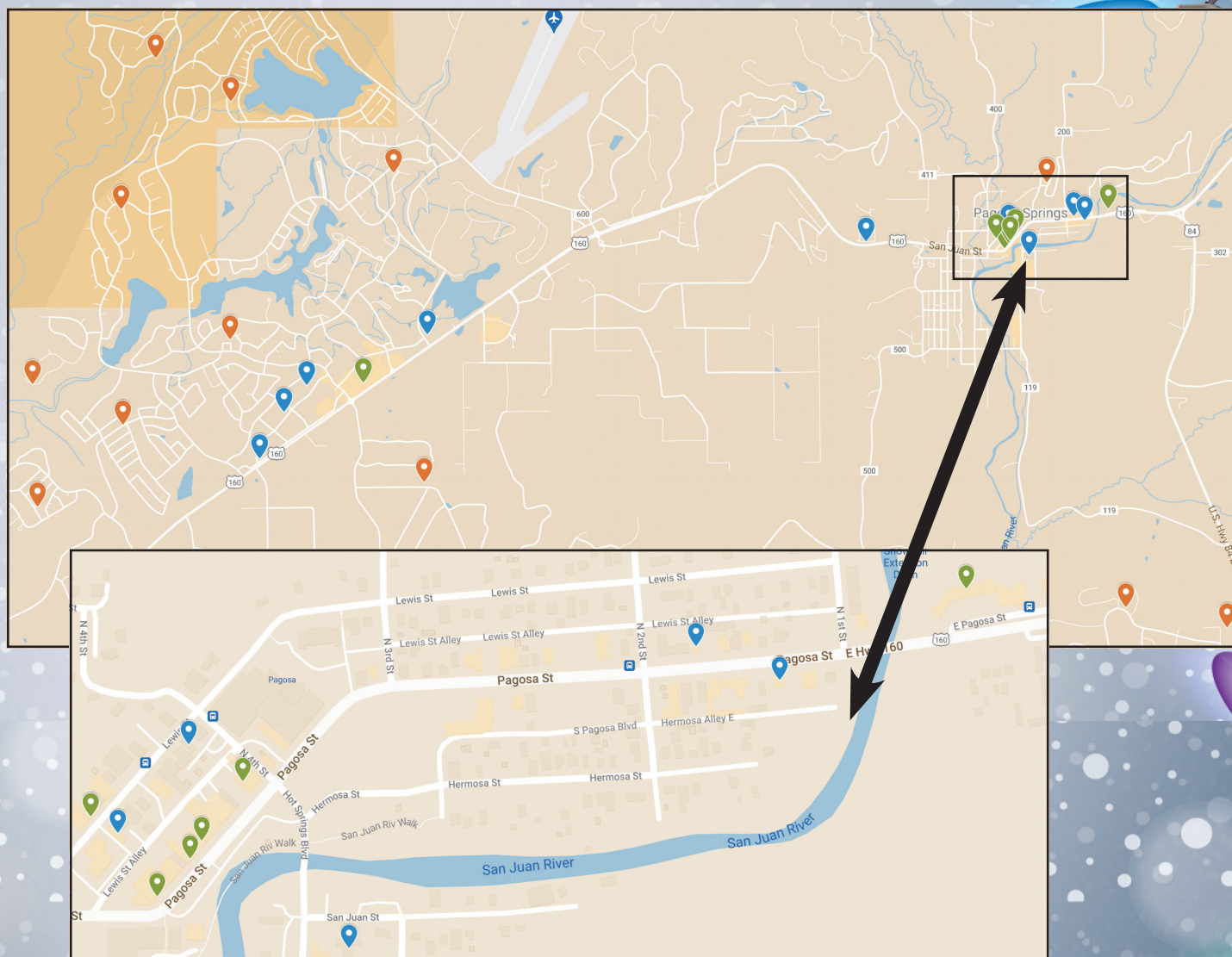
Holiday lights

Entrants for the 2022 Pagosa Springs Area Holiday Lighting contest have been announced, with participants turning on their lights for viewing every evening from 6 to 8 p.m. between Nov. 25 and the end of the year.

Vote for your favorite between Nov. 25-Dec. 18 at <https://bit.ly/2022LightingContest>. Contest winners will be announced in The Pagosa Springs SUN on Dec. 22.

Residential

- 601 Stevens Circle
- 305 Mesa Drive
- 506 Morro Circle
- 585 Shenandoah Drive
- 305 Snow Circle
- 344 Capricho Circle
- 385 Stagecoach Lane
- 578 Lakeside Drive A-1
- 184 Sweetwater Drive
- 150 Lassen Drive
- 181 Inspiration Drive
- 113 Holiday Ave.
- 83 Grey Rock Court
- 226 Wilderness Drive
- 301 Bonanza Ave.



Business property

- PS Froyo - 459 Lewis St.
- Healing Waters Resort & Spa - 317 Hot Springs Blvd.
- Momentum Fitness - 40 N 15th St.
- Pagosa Mountain Sports - 162 Pagosa St.
- Pine Valley Rental & Sales - 305 Bastille Drive
- Mountain & Meadow Real Estate - 409 Lewis St.
- Kip's Grill and Cantina - 121 Pagosa St.
- Club Wyndham - 42 Pinon Causeway
- Rudd Fotos Fine Art Photography Gallery - 633 Navajo Trail Drive
- Pine Ridge Rehab and Healthcare Center - 119 Bastille Drive

Storefront window

- Chow Down Pet Supplies - 100 Country Center Drive Unit A & B
- Happy Trails Ladies Boutique - 454 Pagosa St.
- Foot Prints Pagosa - 458 Pagosa St.
- Two Old Crows - 462 and 468 Lewis St.
- Goodman's Department Store - 402 Pagosa St.
- P.S. Chocolates - 124 East Pagosa St. #5
- The Lost Cajun - 438 Pagosa St., Suite C

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 black-capped chickadee.

These active little birds are so darned cute that they brighten a dreary winter day. Curious and social, they are easy to attract to feeders and nest boxes and can become tame enough to eat from an outstretched hand. Their habit of grabbing one sunflower seed and taking off makes it difficult to figure out just how many are hiding in the bushes.

Perched on a limb, one holds a shell between its feet and hammers it open with the bill. Another bird that hides seeds for later consumption, this one is capable of recalling the locations of thousands of hiding places. In fall, it increases its memory capacity when neurons in the brain with old information die, allowing new ones to grow and store useful information. In spring when increased spatial memory is not as vital, the brain shrinks back to a normal size.

Though they are commonly known for the chick-a-dee-dee-dee call that sings their name, at least 15 different sounds that communicate territory, alarm, location, dominance and other social interactions are recognized. In late winter, males start to define their breeding territories with the familiar, two note fee-bee song.

In North America, seven species of chickadees are identified, with the black-capped found year-round across Canada and the northern half of the United States. This small gray bird with a black cap and bib has buffy-colored flanks and white cheeks and underparts. The similar mountain chickadee, also found here, has a white eyebrow stripe and is not quite as colorful.

In winter, black-capped chickadees live in small flocks which defend a nonbreeding territory of around 20 acres. At night they take refuge either alone or in a small group in a tree cavity, huddling together and lowering their body temperatures to survive the cold. They are often found in the company of other small birds including kinglets, creepers, nuthatches and small woodpeckers.

Challenge yourself to learn chickadee calls and associate them with the season and with what the bird is doing.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheadubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/.

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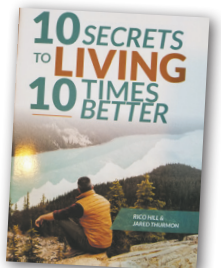
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Aging in place: Helping seniors enjoy the holiday season

By Rose Chavez
PREVIEW Columnist

The holidays can bring sadness to people of any age, especially if you've lost loved ones. They can be especially tough for our older family members. Here are a few suggestions to keep in mind to support seniors during the holiday season.

Limited mobility: Many seniors cannot move around as they once did, especially with physical limitations. This can make the holiday season less exciting for seniors, with the inability to shop, visit and celebrate like others limiting the joy of the season.

Loneliness and depression: Depression, anxiety and isolation are common among seniors, but the holiday season can make these feelings more severe. Whether it's a lack of social interaction, missing family and friends, or remembering what once was, the holidays can make some seniors feel more lonely than any other time of year.

Memories of the past: Many seniors have a hard time accepting that their current life is not like it

Senior News

was in the past.

Financial burden: The holidays can get expensive.

There are some things family members and friends can do to make the season brighter for their older loved ones:

- **Make holiday rituals inter-generational:** Encourage your children, grandchildren and aging loved ones to bake treats, look at pictures, sing Christmas carols or partake in holiday crafts together.

- **Decorate together:** Use your elders' treasured holiday decorations. Talk about each piece as you pull it out of storage.

- **Take your loved one to a holiday Christmas show** occurring in the local area: Music is a wonderful way to lift the spirits and reduce depression. Holiday arts and crafts

shows expose your loved one to a happy, festive environment centering around creators who express their art in a heartfelt way.

- **Assist with holiday greetings:** Ask if they need help writing and sending Christmas cards or holiday letters. You're also helping them stay connected with other family and friends, which becomes more challenging with age.

- **Be supportive:** Be on the lookout for cards, phone calls and other correspondence they receive during the holidays. Often, the news they contain is not pleasant. For example, someone's spouse has died or a friend is very ill. Keep an eye out for signs of depression and be sure to offer support if there's anything weighing on their mind.

- **Reminisce:** Encourage your elders to tell stories of the past. There is something about passing on memories during the holidays that really brings families together.

Year-end giving by 'adopting' a Senior

■ See Senior on page 20

Library

■ continued from page 15
of years.

Novels

"Anything But Plain" by Suzanne Woods Fisher features a bishop's daughter in the Amish community. "Wrath" by Sharon Moalem and Daniel Kraus focuses on a 10-year-old boy determined to stop scientists from torturing animals. "The Impatient" by Djaili Amadou Amal tells of three Cameron women who defy oppressive cultural traditions. "The Lowering Days" by Gregory Brown chronicles of the after-effects on an entire community when a teen sets fire to a paper mill. "The Empress' Gift: The Volga Frontier" by Ellen Laubhan tells of life of German emigrants recruited by Catherine the Great in the 1760s to tame the wilderness.

Books on CD

"Distant Thunder" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery. "The Maze" by Nelson DeMille features NYPD homicide detective is a John Corey novel. "No Plan B" by Lee and Andrew Child is a Jack Reacher thriller. "It Starts with Us" by Colleen Hoover, a romance, is the sequel to "It Ends with Us."

Donations

We are grateful to our anonymous donors for their materials donations.

When we are open, material donations are accepted for the

Friends of the Library at the front desk — not through the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market, please. The Friends take fiction published in 2012 or newer and nonfiction that is 2017 or newer. Limited workroom space means we can only accept one or two small boxes at a time.

Quotable quote

"Develop your senses — especially learn how to see. Realize

that everything connects to everything else." — Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), Renaissance painter, engineer, scientist, sculptor and architect.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at <https://pagosalibrary.org>.

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Senior

■ continued from page 18

To round out our year-end fundraising efforts, Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and the Pagosa Senior Center are announcing our campaign to “adopt” a senior. As food costs continue to rise and cost of living grows in our beloved Pagosa Country, we are hoping the community will stand in solidarity with our Pagosa Seniors and help pay for wholesome and nutritious meals, medical monitoring and social activities for our community in need.

We have a variety of price points that can fit anyone’s budget: \$10 equals one senior meal, \$50 equals five senior meals, \$250 equals 25 senior meals \$650 feeds a senior for three months, \$1,300 feeds a senior for six months and \$2,600 feeds a senior for one year. You are welcome to make your donation via snail mail, online on our website at www.psseniors.org, or feel free to walk in during our office hours and drop off your donation.

COVID-19 test kits available

Stop by the Pagosa Senior Center to pick up a pack of five free COVID-19 tests kits for your personal use. These kits are available to anyone in the public that needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Text reservations

Text us at (970) 264-2167. The Community Cafe is now accepting text messaging for meal reservations, cancellations and/or communication of any kind. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are calling to cancel a reservation, please include your name, phone number

and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dining-in meal reservations, Grab-n-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

Mobile food pantry service available for seniors

The Senior Center would like to remind the community about our mobile food pantry services we provide in partnership with Archuleta County MET to seniors age 60 and older throughout most areas of Archuleta County.

In order to participate in this program, community members must visit with Barbara Noriega at the Senior Center, located in the Ross Aragon Community Center, to fill out an application to qualify for hot meal delivery service and/or the mobile pantry service.

The application, called the dining assessment form, is also available on our website at the bottom of the Community Cafe page: <http://www.psseniors.org/community-cafeacute.html>. For more information, contact us at (970) 264-2167.

Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair. Come to the Senior Center to learn or play every Tuesday at 1:15 p.m.

Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help

■ See Senior on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Crown of the head
- 5 Charitable gift
- 9 Determination
- 13 Plow pullers
- 14 Potting need
- 15 Pet store purchase
- 16 Quarry rock
- 18 Bird of prey
- 19 Kennel sound
- 20 Gum flavor
- 22 Fully attended
- 24 Potpie ingredients
- 25 Stool pigeon
- 26 Assail
- 28 Roman 700
- 31 Box-office winner
- 34 Forgivable
- 36 Louise of "Gilligan's Island"
- 37 Condition
- 39 Not had by
- 40 Like skinny-dippers
- 42 Preordained
- 44 Swarm member
- 45 Vague feelings
- 47 "It's no ___!"
- 48 Remote button
- 49 Time of change
- 53 Garden path piece
- 57 Pursue, in a way
- 58 Getting on in years
- 59 Acrobatic feat
- 61 Soft leather
- 62 "So what ___ is new?"
- 63 Implore
- 64 Stitches
- 65 Palm reader, e.g.
- 66 Bluish-green

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14					15			
16					17					18			
19					20					21			
22			23					24					
			25			26	27				28	29	30
31	32				33			34		35			
36					37			38		39			
40					41			42		43			
44					45		46			47			
				48				49	50			51	52
53	54	55						56				57	
58								59				60	
61								62				63	
64								65				66	

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- 3 Abstinence from alcohol
- 4 U-turn from WSW
- 5 Out of bed
- 6 Nutty place
- 7 Toothpaste flavor
- 8 Word in a Vrbo listing
- 9 Machine parts
- 10 Road ___
- 11 Cruise stopover
- 12 At that time
- 15 Papal diplomat
- 17 Lawn mower's path
- 21 "John Wick" star
- 23 Kind of cavity
- 27 Musical exercise
- 28 Plates and bowls, e.g.
- 29 She played Elizabeth in "Elizabeth"
- 30 Clumsy one

- 31 Ticket tear-off
- 32 Outfielder's cry
- 33 Holed up
- 35 Serenity spoiler
- 38 Answer
- 41 Get even for
- 43 Old TV parts
- 46 Shrubbery
- 48 Watches over
- 50 Anesthetized
- 51 Neighbor of Fiji
- 52 Alpine song
- 53 Mountain route
- 54 Malarial fever
- 55 Hotel room feature
- 56 Whopper
- 60 Boy king

Answers to Previous Crossword:

B	E	G	O	T		T	A	N	K		M	A	L	L			
A	T	O	N	E		A	M	E	N		O	L	I	O			
T	H	R	E	A	D	B	A	R	E		B	O	A	T			
H	A	S	S	L	E		S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S			
E	N	E		E	V	E	S		L	O	L						
						B	O	O	N	E		S	E	E	S	A	W
A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E				H	I	D	E		
N	O	I	S	I	E	R		R	E	C	O	R	D	S			
N	E	S	T			E	C	O	N	O	M	I	S	T			
E	R	A	S	E	S		A	D	D	L	E						
						E	S	P		D	E	E	D		F	E	B
T	A	L	L	T	A	L	E			A	S	P	I	R	E		
O	V	A	L			C	O	N	T	R	O	L	L	E	R		
T	O	K	E			E	A	C	H		R	E	A	C	T		
E	W	E	R			K	N	E	E		E	A	R	T	H		

Answers: A. wash B. sanitize C. clean D. healthy

⊙ * ☼ ☽ ☾ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN
 ☼ ☾ ♁ ♆ ♇ ☽ ☿ ☽
 Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to hygiene.
 Each number corresponds to a letter.
 (Hint: 3 = A)

A. 8 3 9 19

Clue: Clean up

B. 9 3 2 22 10 22 16 12

Clue: Make clean and hygienic

C. 5 25 12 3 2

Clue: Opposite of dirty

D. 19 12 3 25 10 19 1

Clue: Not diseased

Subscribe to The SUN

Senior

■ **continued from previous page**
 enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, we help with parts A, B and D. We can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call our Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext 4.

Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1 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

Hand and foot card game to start up again at the Senior Center. Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Thursdays at 1:15 p.m. 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.

Share your pictures

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

Wingspan and new programming

ASI is looking to expand our programming options. Wingspan, a game for bird lovers, was donated to the Senior Center and is looking for a champion to help facilitate this engaging board game. Come learn more about this fun game or suggest other ideas to help us find some new and meaningful opportunities to connect over and have fun. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to volunteer or for more information.

Volunteers needed

The Community Cafe at the Senior Center is requesting volunteers to help with kitchen tasks and substitutes for our Meals on Wheels drivers. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to volunteer or for more information.

Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has multiple vacant positions open. The terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term. Potential candidates should be at least 55 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.

Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Dec. 8 — Pork kielbasa, German potato salad, sauteed cabbage, garden salad, fruit, milk and German chocolate cake.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Chicken tortilla soup with diced avocados, crispy tortillas, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Dec. 12 — Fish tacos with cabbage, Baja sauce, lime, pinto beans, garden salad, fruit,

■ **See Senior on next page**

Home Sweet Home

for the holidays



38 Hope Lane
 3 bedroom, 3 bath, Vallecito Lake cottage, mountain setting, fenced in, furnished
 MLS 799378 • \$644,500



117 Carefree Place
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, .27 acres, deck, vaulted ceilings, open concept, peek-a-boo lake views
 MLS 798875 • \$535,000



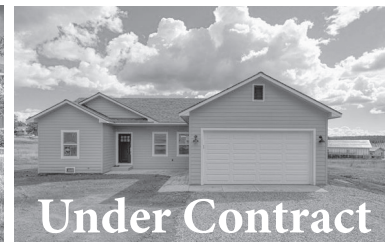
148 Pike Drive
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, cabin, centrally located, mountain views, deck, 1 acre in town
 MLS 797666 • \$495,000



44 Tee Court
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, upgraded, ranch style, cul-de-sac, .29 acres
 MLS 796486 • \$479,000



20 Timberline Drive
 3 bedroom, 3 bath, end unit condo, 2 car garage, core area, easy access
 MLS 797009 • \$459,000



505 Saddle Circle
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Price adj., brand new, Lake Hatcher area
 MLS 797967 • \$445,000



54 Lisa's Court
 3 bedroom, 2 bath, views of Broken Off Point & Dyke Valley, 1.24 acres
 MLS 799359 • \$329,700



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Ace'd out by Henry Fonda

By James R. Van Liere
PREVIEW Columnist

As you may recall from my little story "It's All Your Fault" published recently, I had gone to Jackson, Wyo., looking for construction work for the summer before my senior year in civil engineering at the University of Wyoming. After meeting a local contractor, Johnny, in a restaurant, he hired me to help him restore the Jackson Trading Post. The store had suffered a serious fire while the owners, whose daughter was Miss Wyoming, were in Atlantic City for the Miss America contest

Immediately I went to work with Johnny building partitions to form an office and storage area. In addition, I hung a heavy moose head on the wall, built a sign for the roof, set up a PA system and helped build shelving.

Once the owner's wife learned that I was a senior in engineering school, she asked if I could tutor her daughter in algebra. Her daughter was in the 10th grade and was having trouble in her summer school algebra class.

I told her I would have to check with Johnny to see if I could take an hour off a couple of days a week to do this.

He said that would fine and I would still be paid. Her daughter was very nice and we got along just fine during her tutoring sessions. Once she got over a couple rough spots in her lessons, she succeeded in passing the course. However, her mother's next request really surprised me.

She wanted to know if would

The Writers' Circle

escort her older daughter, who was Miss Wyoming, to the premier of the movie "Spencer's Mountain."

The premier was being held in Jackson in two weeks and her daughter needed an escort. I was reluctant to commit to such an offering because I did not have any decent clothes with me to attend such an event. However, as she pointed out, the premier was not for two weeks and I could have my folks mail me a suit, which was all that was required for this premier.

This seemed like a reasonable plan, so I made the commitment, even though I had never met Miss Wyoming.

"Fine," she said, "and I will make arrangements for you to meet our daughter, Miss Wyoming."

A couple of days later Miss Wyoming came into the store and we were introduced. After some point-less conversation, we decided to meet the next afternoon (I got an hour off from work) and go for a cup of coffee and a snack.

Unfortunately, once we settled in to a booth at one of the local restaurants, I sort of sensed that Miss Wyoming was not too enthused about being escorted to the premier by a construction worker. Upon learning that I was a senior in engineering at the University of Wyoming, she relaxed a little, and I suppose, de-

ecided to accept her fate. At any rate, things progressed smoothly enough that we agreed to go to dinner in a couple of nights. We had a nice dinner a couple of nights later, and a couple more snack dates before the premier and got to know each other enough to feel comfortable going to the premier together.

On Friday afternoon, the day before the big premier, Miss Wyoming's mother pulled me aside and said, "Jim, I'm afraid I have some bad news for you."

It seemed that Henry Fonda had been a little too friendly with his motel maid, and the powers that be declared there was no way that Fonda was escorting that motel maid to the premier. And, Henry Fonda's wife said there is no way I am flying to Jackson, Wyo., to be with that two-timer.

The bottom line was: Miss Wyoming would be escorted by Henry Fonda, and I was now out of the picture.

Of course, I was disappointed, but not so much about losing a unique date with Miss Wyoming, but the fact I would not get a chance to possibly meet Maureen O'Hara and Fonda. Like so many times in life, you just have to accept the inevitable, and move on. Did I continue to date Miss Wyoming? Nope; never saw her again.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

A CUSTOM TREE



A Cut above

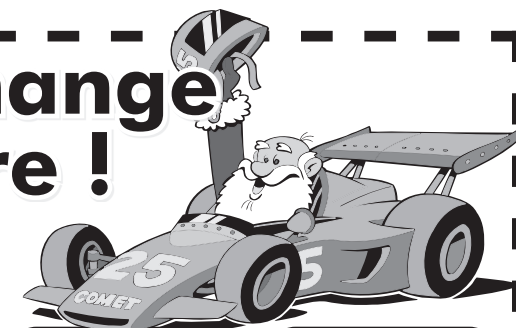
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Senior

■ continued from previous page

milk and cookie.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 — Chicken fettuccine with Alfredo sauce, garlic bread, glazed carrots, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Stuffed portabella mushroom with roasted veggies and feta cheese, baked sweet potato, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Dec. 15 — Beef Frito pie, cilantro lime rice, garden salad, fruit, milk and vanilla pudding.

Friday, Dec. 16 — Pork tenderloins with caramelized onions, apples, cranberries, couscous, asparagus, hollandaise, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Grab-N-Go meals

Grab-N-Go meals 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 \$5 helps to sustain our program. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate.

For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

Meals on Wheels

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

Requesting donations

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

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

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



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\$99 Lifetime Activation Fee

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- ✓ Doctor exams (1 per year)
- ✓ Fluoride
- ✓ Needed x-rays*
- ✓ One emergency exam per year (if needed)
- ✓ 5% off all other treatments (some exclusions may apply)
- ✓ \$99 Lifetime Activation Fee includes first month

* As determined by your dentist.

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HAND HYGIENE WORD SEARCH

M Y V Z S O D S R R Z O S E I S I G C G
 U T I M P T T A M H W E E I E R N A P K
 A P R S R O I T E T V D T T L I U C C P
 H O U Z P R I N I O R U A I H T P C I G
 W L S S E M S E L O D N T C I B H N T M
 F I T T M C U G H Z I V U O U G E S P I
 N O C Y O V V R V M A O N R S B D A E C
 H A U U I D D E A A T A C R O I W N S R
 B D I E K R C T K E L S S S S B Y I I O
 S O I L E D N E L C C E B I C T H T T O
 O F M B S O P D O O C P N H R K C I N R
 A M N R C I H N F A H F D I K I M Z A G
 P N C E R R T A F R E O D L B G O E H A
 Y O D C D A R R K C G S C R I V K R P N
 Z H I H C D U N T O H E E L Z F S N B I
 C B E T Z S I I N G C T R O A P O A Y S
 L P M Y S S O L K R A R Y M F N N G R M
 Z Y M B W N B N W W D K B N S I I K U S
 C D M T D D W O F Y S V N E E K E I D U
 A V A N G N I H S A W D N A H H P E F D

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ALCOHOL
- ANTISEPTIC
- BACTERIA
- CAUTION
- CONTACT
- DECONTAMINATE
- DETERGENT
- DIRTY
- DISINFECTION
- GERMS
- GLOVES
- HANDWASHING
- HOT SPOTS
- MICROORGANISMS
- NAILS
- SANITIZER
- SCRUB
- SINK
- SOAPY
- SOILED
- SURFACES
- TOUCHING
- VIRUS
- WATER

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 8

Insurance Enrollment and Resource Fair. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., San Juan Basin Public Health Pagosa office, 502 S. 8th St. Join San Juan Basin Public Health to meet with programs supporting health for you and your family, and get assistance with insurance enrollment. Review eligibility for low-cost/no-cost insurance and find out about coverage available regardless of immigration status. Food will be provided. For more information, email kmaloney@sjbpublichealth.org or call (970) 585-6121.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Note: Until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving spaghetti, salad and dessert to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate and advanced students from 5-7 p.m.

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

Friday, Dec. 9

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

Pi Beta Phi Christmas Angel Luncheon. 11 a.m., home of Carole Howard. Guests are asked to dress in festive holiday attire. Please bring an anonymous wrapped angel gift to exchange, a dish for the potluck and 10-15 canned or packaged goods for the Healthy Archuleta food distribution center and travel-sized toiletries for Rise Above Violence. RSVP to Carole

and say what you are bringing to the potluck to avoid duplications.

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Registration required. Privately meet with a volunteer attorney via Zoom at the library or by phone to ask questions about all areas of civil law. Visit <https://checkerboard.co/> anytime to access many legal forms and other useful legal information. To schedule an appointment with the volunteer attorney, please contact the library at (970) 264-2209 or send an email at the beginning of the month to ruby@pagosalibrary.org. The clinic takes place on the second Friday of every month, but available appointments are limited, so please contact the library early in the month to reserve your spot.

PAWS to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For kids in K-5th grade. Read with Muppet, a dog who loves stories. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Christmas Celebration for Kids. 2-4 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A Christmas celebration for elementary-age kids that will include games, songs, the Christmas story, crafts, snacks and more. For more information, email Connie at frank.connie@colorado.org.

Gaming. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Springs Community Choir Christmas Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Listeners can look forward to many of their favorite carols such as "Sing We Now of Christmas," "Sleigh Ride" and "Jingle Bells." You will also be treated to some lesser-known Christmas music such as "Still of the Evening," which is a beautiful Christmas melody that will warm your heart.

Saturday, Dec. 10

Holiday Local Makers' Fair. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. This will be a holiday event for local makers offering custom creations of many kinds. This event will be hosted by the Pagosa Community Initiative. In addition to local makers' amazing creations, live music, free parking, gift wrapping, holiday decorations, food and drink will be offered. For more information, contact Jenna Gannon at (970) 277-8697.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For ages 6 and up. Build with us. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Online Author Talks: Fredrik Blackman. 5 p.m.. We will gather virtually with Fredrik Blackman, author of "The Winners," the third installment of the Beartown series. Part of a virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought-leaders giving live,

professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You also have an opportunity to ask questions. Go to <https://pagosalibrary.org/adult-services/> to learn more.

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Sunday, Dec. 11

Annual Christmas in Arboles Celebration. Noon-4 p.m., TARA Community Center, 333 Milton Lane, Arboles. Activities will include a holiday cookie contest, vendors selling holiday items, a silent auction, cookie plate sales and a Thrift Store Christmas Corner. To enter the cookie contest, bring three

■ See Calendar on next page

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■ continued from previous page

dozen of your favorite cookies at noon. For more information, call Susan at (970) 883-0017.

Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs.

1-2:30 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230-A Port Ave. Join for a discussion called "Clean Out Your Karmic Closet: Make More Room for Love." To find other in-person discussions and online events offered by the Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs, visit <https://www.meetup.com/pagosa-springs-spiritual-experiences-group/>. For more information, call (970) 903-5516.

Pagosa Springs Community Choir Christmas Concert.

4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Listeners can look forward to many of their favorite carols such as "Sing We Now of Christmas," "Sleigh Ride" and "Jingle Bells." You will also be treated to some lesser-known Christmas music such as "Still of the Evening," which is a beautiful Christmas melody that will warm your heart.

Monday, Dec. 12

Medicare Mondays. For anyone who needs help navigating Medicare plans, fraud concerns and/or troubleshooting issues that they may be having. By appointment only. Please call our Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext. 4. Someone will return phone messages within 24 hours.

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

Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

Swing Time. 6-7 p.m., Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Beginning West Coast swing class. You will learn seven to nine basic patterns in a progressive format with two or three new patterns each week. A partner is not required, but is strongly encouraged to maintain a leader/follower balance. Wear smooth-soled shoes and come with a smile. For more information, contact Wayne at (970) 264-4792.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.-noon, Community 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.

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.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Duplicate Bridge. 12:30 p.m., PLPOA clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Duplicate players new and experienced are welcome. We are now members of the Durango Bridge Club and play ACBL-sanctioned games with computer-dealt hands for maximum review options. Please email names of playing pair to pagosaduplicate@gmail.com or call (970) 946-6454 for more information.

Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

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

Pickleball. 1:30-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available.

Ruby's Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. "The Mountains Sing" by Phan Que Mai Nguyen will be discussed. Copies are available at your library.

Christmas Celebration for Kids. 3:15-4:45 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School library. A Christmas celebration for elementary-age kids that will include games, songs, the Christmas story, crafts, snacks and more. For more information, email Connie at frank.connie@colorado.org.

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.

Spanish Conversation. 4:30-5:30 p.m. We will gather at the library to practice speaking and listening skills together at this free session. No minimum skill level is required to attend. You also can learn Spanish and many other languages using the Transparent Language Learning database available at <https://pagosalibrary.org/online-resources/>.

The Playground for the People Project. 5:15-6:45 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School, 3133 Cornerstone Drive. We are looking for a few more community members to add to the team. All team members receive compensation for their participation. Food and child care is provided. If you are interested in adding your voice to the creation of the new uptown playground which will honor the history and culture of our region, please come to the meeting or reach out to [\[ppos.co\]\(http://ppos.co\) for more information.](mailto:eosmera@</p>
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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.

Americana Project Concert Featuring Thom Chacon. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. The Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School will present a special concert at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). This year's special guest artist is singer-songwriter Thom Chacon. Americana Project students will open the show with a 45-minute set. Tickets will be available at the door by cash or check and will be \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and free for those 12 and under. Donations for the program will also be accepted.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

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

■ See Calendar on next page



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Center. Beginner lessons, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Loaner paddles are available.

Kids Kare Club. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. For ages 3-5 years old. The program includes songs, games, crafts and an exciting Bible story with lots of interaction with the kids. To register your child, go to coloradocef.org/southwest and click on "Register for a Club."

Online Author Talks: Nicole Eustace. 10 a.m. We will gather virtually with Nicole Eustace, author of "A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America." Part of a virtual series featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought-leaders giving live, professionally moderated book discussions you can view on your computer, tablet or smartphone with Internet access. You also have an opportunity to ask questions. Go to <https://pagosalibrary.org/adult-services/> to learn more.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. All ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Stop by and visit with a certified therapy dog; it's a great way to relax or boost your day.

Elementary Tutoring. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Build essential skills in core subjects. Registration required. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Pipe and Drum Lessons. 5:15-5:45, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Jim Dorian and Paul Elliot, both experienced Scottish bagpipers, are happy to teach the art of piping free of charge. Contact Jim Dorian at (970) 749-2129 for more information.

Weminuche Audubon and Audubon Rockies Presents Winter Birds 101: Raptors. 6-8 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. For virtual sign-on information, consult www.weminucheadubon.org. For more information about the Christmas Bird Count, visit <https://www.audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count>.

Thursday, Dec. 15

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Note: Until further notice, takeout will be available across the street from the Parish Hall at the Methodist Church. Serving ham, green beans, cheesy potatoes and pie to go. In addition, frozen prepared meals,

meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Come alone or bring a partner.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. It's getting cold outside. Build the perfect cozy evening kit with us as you join us for games and fun.

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, Dec. 16

Gaming. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

'A Charlie Brown Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Charlie Brown and your favorite Peanuts characters are coming to Pagosa Springs in this uplifting family-friendly musical. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under and available at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Dec. 17

Wreaths Across America National Remembrance Ceremony and Wreath Laying. 10 a.m., Hill Top Cemetery at the flag pole. The public is invited to attend the second year of Hill Top Cemetery's participation in the Wreaths Across America program to remember our fallen, honor our active duty military and teach our children about the sacrifices others have made for our nation. Warm refreshments are planned. Arrive early for best parking. Bring seating if necessary. Volunteers are needed to stay and lay wreaths on the graves of the known veterans at Hill Top Cemetery at the conclusion of the ceremony. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Linda Hobbs at lindahobbs713@gmail.com or (713) 304-2028.

Makerspace. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Build, design and create at the library. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pokémon Club. 12:30-2:30 p.m. Bring your favorite cards and join the fun. Any questions? Contact Josie at (970) 264-2209.

'A Charlie Brown Christmas.' 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Charlie Brown and your favorite Peanuts characters are coming to Pagosa Springs in this uplifting family-friendly musical. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under and available at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Old Fashioned Christmas. 4:30-7 p.m., Riverwalk. The route this year will be along the Riverwalk from Town Park to Centennial Park, Mary Fisher Park and the Visitor Center. Hot Springs Boulevard will be closed to traffic between Hermosa Street and San Juan Street.

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SOLD: \$10,500. Ruby Sisson's Scholarship Fund. The 1950 Chevy pickup that she donated to the school district in 1980 has graduated after 42 years. A retired firefighter from NY has bought Ruby the truck so the school district can start the Ruby Sisson Memorial Scholarship fund for Mechanics Students to go to vocational school. The truck is moving to Florida for a restoration and will be attending car and truck shows.

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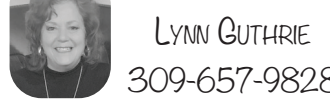
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

AL-ANON TRADITIONAL FAMILY GROUP. Mondays, 7p.m., Tennyson Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail. Contact (970)903-9690.

PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30P.M.; Sunday 10a.m., noon M-F. Zoom Sunday 10a.m., ID 858 319 763, password 754 234, 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Information, call Marcia (970)946-8475, 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.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. at the Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Questions? Contact Richard at (970)903-1456 or Diamond at (970)264-1073. More resources at www.aa.org, www.aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETING at Big Mountain Realty. Wednesdays, 6-7p.m. For more information, contact Jimmy at (512)696-5545.

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.

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ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

CDOT IS HIRING. Colorado Department of Transportation is hiring temporary highway maintenance specialists in Archuleta County. Temporary positions are 9 months or less; salary is \$23/ hour; Colorado Class A or B Commercial Drivers License is required. CDOT is an EEO employer. Apply at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/colorado>.

HELP WANTED PART-TIME or full-time, at Pagosa Bar and Silver Dollar Liquor Store. Must be able to work weekends and nights. Apply at Silver Dollar Liquor Store.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED. SAN JUAN DENTAL is seeking a Dental Assistant to join our lovely practice. Are you kind, caring, compassionate and friendly? Come join our team. Competitive benefits and a great place to spend your working hours, Monday- Thursday. Email resume to drericmsmithdds@aol.com.

ADMIN ASSISTANT. You are looking for a PT or FT entry-level job that will keep you challenged with a wide variety of administrative duties for an established Pagosa technology firm. You have a "servant's heart", as you work closely with like-minded co-workers, and engage with interesting clients. Requirements: Strong verbal, written and interpersonal skills; minimum 2 years employment in customer service and office administration; working knowledge of MS Office. Finally, a good sense of humor and a sincere, innate desire to help others are required! Position offers a competitive hourly rate based on experience, paid time off, and profit sharing plan. (970)585-1235. Email resume to it4corners@protonmail.com.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT is accepting applications for the following positions: **High School Special Education Aide.** Full-time position with a starting salary of \$24,336-\$26,778 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period. **Middle School Special Education Center Based Aide.** Full-time position with a starting salary of \$27,720-\$28,162 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period. **Elementary School Special Education Aide.** Half-time position with a starting salary of \$12,168-\$13,389 for 173 days paid over a 12-month period. **Bus Drivers** (Multiple Positions) with a starting hourly rate ranging from \$21.51-\$24.99/hour. **Substitute Teachers** (Multiple Positions) with a daily rate of \$140/day. **Substitute Aides** (Multiple Positions) with an hourly rate of \$16.00/hour. **Substitute Cooks** (Multiple Positions) with an hourly rate of \$16.00/hour. Benefits for all positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement. For full-time positions Health, Dental, and Life Insurance coverages are also available. For more details and to apply for these positions see the following web-site: <https://www.applitrack.com/archuleta50/onlineapp/#>. E.O.E.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH- Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full-time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT, 35 Mary Fisher Circle or email to rockymountainpt@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.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. Join our successful team. We need experienced line cooks in all stations. \$16/ hour to \$18/ hour when trained. Send resumes and interest to Contact@alley-housegrille.com to set up a meeting.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE opportunity at Bearfoot Garage Doors. Monday-Friday, 8a.m.-4p.m. Main tasks will be answering inbound calls and scheduling. Must have exceptional communication/phone skills and general computer knowledge. Starting at \$15 an hour. Benefit options available. Please email resume or interest to april@bearfootgaragedoors.com.

HELP WANTED



NOW HIRING

The Town of Pagosa Springs Is accepting applications for:

Police Officers Police Officer Recruits

- Full-time with benefits
- Paid time-off
- Sign-on bonus
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- Sponsorship in law enforcement academy for Officer Recruits
- Recruits must be 21 at the time of graduation from the academy

To apply:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pagosasprings>



CUSTOMER SERVICE/SALES

Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual for telephone and counter sales. Knowledge of building materials is a plus. Responsibilities include:

- Answering inbound phone calls
- Customer service
- Stocking
- Data Entry

This is a full time position, which offers Profit Sharing, 401(k), medical/dental, vision and immediate Paid Time Off.

For more information, please call: (970) 731-4111 or apply in person at 2435 Eagle Dr.

HELP WANTED

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware

is accepting applications for an **accounting clerk.**

Full time, 8 to 5, Monday-Friday

Job duties include all Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable; accounting background is desirable. Proficient computer skills and excellent people skills are a must. The ideal candidate is detail oriented, dependable, and eager to learn.

Start at \$20-\$22 per hour, DOE.

Full-time benefits package included.

Apply in person Monday-Friday. Applications on www.terrysace.com



MOUNTAIN EYE CARE, a private optometric practice in Pagosa Springs, is looking for a new team member. We provide full service Vision care with the latest technology available including Contact Lenses and Optical. If you have experience or just have a desire to provide exceptional customer service and are willing to learn, send us your resume. Kderr.mountaineycare@gmail.com.

CNA CLASS STARTING SOON. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

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To apply:

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HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

DENTAL HYGIENIST: San Juan Dental is seeking a caring and compassionate dental hygienist to join our team. Please email resume to drericmsmithdds@aol.com or stop by our wonderful office and meet the team. (970)264-9436.

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.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

IF YOU WANT TO BE on GOD'S PAYROLL, get your marching orders and provisions at 965 Cloud Cap Avenue.

264-2100

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NOW HIRING:

Terry's Colorado Home Supply & Ace Hardware

is accepting applications to join our **Management Team.**

We are looking for reliable, motivated, team-oriented leaders that enjoy working with people in a fast-paced environment.

Full time benefits include paid time-off, healthcare, profit share, discounts, and more!

Starting at \$20 per hour dependent upon experience.

Must be able to work weekends and holidays.

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OFFICE ASSISTANT NEEDED for established construction company. Detail oriented, scopes, scheduling, sales. Please call (970)403-5119 and submit resumes to info@fullertonworks.com.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer \$16 p/h to start, accrued vacation/ personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY HELP WANTED ADS — tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The Pagosa Springs SUN.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

DEDICATED CLEANERS, UP TO \$17/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

JOIN OUR FRONT DESK TEAM. Part-time position opening soon! Strong customer service skills a must, comfort with computers a plus. Shifts may include mornings, days, nights, and weekends. Employees and immediate family receive FREE hot springs admission! Download application at www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/ or stop by Healing Waters Resort & Spa at 317 Hot Springs Blvd. Get your application in today!

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.

HELP WANTED

RG BANK is now accepting applications for the position of **FULL-TIME TELLER**. The job will be in our Pagosa Springs Office. RG BANK is growing and we are evolving to better meet the needs of our customers and the communities we serve. Pay range is \$15.60 to \$16.60 per hour, depending on skills and experience. **PLUS**, bonus opportunities, loan discounts, matching 401k contributions and health insurance! Come work with a great team at RG BANK! Download an application at: www.rgbank.bank/contact-us/#employment.

GENERAL LABORER, general labor, construction and ranch work. Please call (970)264-5000.

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. **Primary responsibilities:** Greeting and checking in customers. Advising customers on the best product for their needs and preferences. Processing payments through a point-of-sale system and cash handling. Ensuring product security and compliance. Maintaining store appearance and organization. **Required qualifications:** Outstanding customer service and communication skills; strong organizational skills and attention to detail; reliable and professional; full-time availability and ability to work nights and weekends. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Previous retail, food service, and/or cannabis industry experience is preferred but not required. We provide an extensive training program on product knowledge and compliance requirements, with opportunities for continuing education. Benefits include paid sick leave, sales bonuses, and employee discounts. We are growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please e-mail your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. We need 2 dishwashers 3-4 nights, 4p.m.-11p.m. \$16 an hour to start. See Anthony or Garrett after 1p.m.

LIKE GUNS? COME SELL them for us. The San Juan Trading Post is looking for a gun sales person. Computer literacy and ability to lift 45 lbs. is required. Starting at \$15/ hour, part time or full time. Stop by in person at 635 San Juan St.

HELP WANTED

JOIN OUR NEWSPAPER TEAM at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Successful candidate will be answering phones, helping customers, assisting with production of newspaper and more. Good work ethic, accuracy and ability to meet deadlines important. Excellent customer service skills necessary. Knowledge of Mac computers and Adobe InDesign is helpful. Must type a minimum of 40 words per minute, be able to lift 50 pounds and stand for long periods of time. Newspaper experience not required. 30-34 hours per week. \$16-\$17 to start. Email resume to helpwanted@pagosasun.com. Successful applicants will be contacted for interview. No phone calls please.

ALL ABOUT YOU DAY SPA is hiring massage therapists. We are paying 50% of commission to therapists. Flexible schedules are available. Contact Rebecca at (970)582-9133.

AT YOUR DISPOSAL. CDL Class B operator wanted. Stop by 128 Bastille Dr. to pick up an application or email resume to pagosa.office@eagleriverwaste.com.

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DRY SEASONED FIREWOOD. Split, ready to burn. \$190. (970)731-2902.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE, split and dry. FULL longbed truckload. Pine, aspen, fir mix. Cut small <16". Price varies. Delivery included. (970)946-4450.

DRY, SEASONED ASPEN FOR SALE. \$275 delivered, \$120/ cord in rounds if you pick up. (970)585-4578.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD? I've got a Pine/ Aspen mix. \$300 per cord or \$575 for a HUGE dump truck load! Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

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).

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All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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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.

DUPLEX, 2 BEDROOM, 1-1/2 BATH. \$1,650, great view. Refrigerator, stove and dishwasher, single car garage, dogs OK, water included. (800)810-9466 (Winnie's Organics).

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CALL TEAM PAGOSA REALTY (970)731-8599 for your long term rental needs. pagosaproperties.com.

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1,000 SF (25'X40') FLEX Industrial space on Bastille Dr. available January 1. \$1,000/ month. Please call Jessica (415)999-7931.

OFFICE SPACE DOWNTOWN in the Historic Metropolitan Hotel. 275 SF and \$470 per month. Jacque (970)946-7636.

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GAS STATION, MOTEL AND CONVENIENCE STORE. Income producing property at prime location. \$1.7 million. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

CLOSE TO NAVAJO LAKE STATE PARK. 3 bedroom. 4 bath, 2-car garage; commercial shop, 2.26 acres multi use property. \$795,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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HOUSES FOR SALE

HOME FOR SALE. River Forest Drive. 3.1 acres, 3 bedroom, 2-1/4 bath, 3,200 sq. ft., unfinished basement. MLS #166847, asking \$740K. (970)585-9181.

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GALLES PROPERTIES

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HOUSES FOR SALE

HUGE GARAGE AND GARDENS. Perfect location, 10 minutes from airport. 4 bedroom, 6-car garage, many extras. Must see! \$1,300,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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MOTIVATED SELLER!! 4 bedroom, 3 bath, close to national forest. Price reduced, \$650,000, also \$10,000 concession at closing. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LIVE AND WORK at this 3 bedroom. 4 bath, 2-car garage; commercial shop, 2.26 acres multi use property. \$795,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PROPERTY

A LITTLE OVER AN ACRE 10 minutes from town. Approved septic system, prefab metal building, 1997 Avion 5th wheel- 38', 2 slide-outs. \$125,000. (970)507-0142.

SECLUDED 1.29 ACRES. Electricity near, no HOA, close to town. \$35,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.



Christie Calderwood
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PROPERTY

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RIVERFRONT PROPERTY. Electricity near, flat buildable lot. 1.45 acre, \$289,900. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

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.

POSSIBLE OWNER CARRY. Electric, septic, cistern, RV cover, two sheds, fully fenced 1.16 acre for \$95,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

35.81 ACRES, VIEWS, has electric, water and phone nearby. Close to NF accesses. House plans included. \$300,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

COME TAKE A LOOK TODAY at this 1.04 acre. Build a great work and live environment, right off the highway. Only \$27,500. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

Life lessons: Finding our seat in the boat

By **Betty Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

Life is interesting. Why did it take a lifetime to learn which seat I belonged in, much less which boat I was to board? I learned from the story “The Boys in the Boat” by Daniel James Brown that the Master chooses the boat, seat and time. Our job is to be prepared.

Our place depends on how He made us in our mother’s womb and called us to do a certain task for a designed purpose. It’s a long life to live without knowing our purpose. For me, it was many years of floundering, pursuing what I thought was mine and wasn’t mine.

The assignment for our writers’ group was to read “The Boys in the Boat.” At a designated time, like a book club, we review and talk about what made the book a classic, a best seller or an engaging story. How did it affect us and what did we learn from reading the book? What will help us in our own writing?

There are many lessons to take away from the account of one young man, Joe Rantz. Staying alive and raising himself was the plight of his existence.

Rantz was one of nine Americans

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



whose quest was to win gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He was part of a working-class team from the American West who had true grit to overcome hardships beyond reason and earn his seat on the boat. He trained his body under grueling conditions to be on the rowing team.

The team, made of ragtag boys, were sons of loggers, shipyard workers and farmers. They were never expected to defeat the elite college teams on the East Coast and Great Britain.

The book’s description reads in part, “The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boy’s own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has

created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement ...”

The specific seat on the rowing team required a certain boy’s makeup — his body, size, upper-body strength, mental strength, instincts, character and uniqueness. He fit in that place among the other rowers. As distinct as each boy was in his place, he was disciplined to become one with the others. They chanted their mantra, “MIB” (mind in the boat). They learned to row as one and row for the others without any selfish notion.

Rantz, a loner, left to take care of himself at 10 years old, had to learn to become part of the team and turn independence into depending on others. It was all necessary to be a contender and win at the Olympics.

On our eight-hour trip home from the weekend boxing meet in Mesa, Ariz., the family listened to and finished “The Boys in the Boat.” We discussed what it took to win the gold and how the boys faced many obstacles but had been through much harsher times. They were disciplined to put aside everything in order to stay focused on their goal — to win the gold.

That weekend, we had also en-

tered into another athletic sport, the world of boxing.

Our grandson, 26, moved to Las Vegas to take his dream seriously — to become a boxer. His first step was to believe in his dream, knowing he needed to be where he could accomplish it. He found a coach, a gym, an apartment and a job.

From Brown’s book to the boxing ring, I saw a similar parallel for these young boys. They were following their dreams, finding their place in life, trying to make their mark, not sure what their dream would require and if it was worth the beating.

Our grandson scheduled a match in Mesa and we made plans to watch him. His opponent went for our grandson’s head. With two brutal blows, the referee stopped the match. With a technical knockout, our grandson was still standing, but with a possible concussion or head injury.

He saw stars and wobbled to the ropes. The doctor examined him. He had suffered two severe blows and his body was shaken. The fight came to a screeching halt. The boxing commissioner took away his pass. He would not be able to fight for a month.

Afterward, our grandson said, “I

don’t know if my head can take any more blows.”

He was being real and honest. Is this the dream he wants to pursue in his life? Is it worth the pursuit? Will he forget what it felt like in a month and climb back into the ring?

For me, it wasn’t a defeat but a pause for understanding. He will never have to say, “I wished I would’ve had the courage to follow my dream.” This bump in the road will buy him time to reevaluate his dream, change his mind or train differently. He was given time to decide his next step.

I felt the weekend was more than the fight. It was knowing about himself. Fighting the good fight doesn’t mean staying in the ring, but learning where his place is.

Final brushstroke: As we fight the good fight of faith, sometimes a knockout is a way to stop us in our tracks, give us understanding of who we are and where we belong. For many, it takes a lifetime of beating the air, taking the blows and running after our dreams to finally fit in the seat made for us.

Send your comment to betty-slade@centurytel.net.

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