



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 115 — NO. 12, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022

School board approves 6 percent raise for most employees

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Tuesday evening, the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education approved a 6 percent raise for most school staff — a decision that was met with applause, the playing of music and confetti.

The increase will be for all positions except for the superintendent, coaches, substitutes, stipends and extra-duty vouchers and will be retroactive to the start of contracts for the 2022-2023 school year.

In November, Superintendent

Rick Holt reported to the board that he, staff and a committee of teachers were working to identify recurring funding that is not being spent that could be used to raise salaries and help the district with its strategic goal to recruit and retain high-quality teachers.

Then, Tuesday, Holt presented what that increase in pay would look like, where the funding would come from and why 6 percent was chosen.

Holt began his presentation to the board by outlining the timeline of

■ See School A8

A higher level of service: Dispatch implements programs to increase accessibility, efficiency

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center has implemented a trio of programs aimed at making emergency communications more efficient and accessible.

Those programs are RapidSOS and Text to 911, which can be used in emergency situations, and Language Line, which can be used in any situation with a caller who does not speak English.

"All of these programs are tools for the Emergency Services Dispatchers to further service to the community," Emergency Commu-

nications Operations Manager Liz Blizzard wrote in an email to The SUN. "Archuleta County is wide spread and RapidSOS has advanced technology to pick up 911 calls as soon as they are made, as well as rapid ping caller location. This means that we can get emergency services sent out more quickly and to accurate location. Text to 911 will provide an alternate way for members of the community to reach 911, particularly if they find themselves in a dangerous situation that they are unable to make a phone call."

According to Blizzard, RapidSOS

■ See Service A8

Town approves East End multimodal plan

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Dec. 6 meeting, the Pagosa Springs Town Council adopted the East End Multimodal Transportation Plan.

Community Development Director James Dickhoff outlined the history of the plan, explaining that the town began discussions with property and business owners in the east end in 2019, and identified and secured a grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) in 2020 for \$156,850 with a \$21,388.64 town match to assist in planning improvements in the area.

Dickhoff explained that the town secured the services of Alta Plan-

ning + Design for the project and conducted several public outreach and engagement events.

Dickhoff explained that CDOT worked with the town through the process and requested that the fifth

■ See Multimodal A8



Fresh powder

Photos courtesy Scott DW. Smith/Wolf Creek Ski Area

Skier Dave Sugnet and snowboarder Pete Macomber take advantage of fresh powder at Wolf Creek Ski Area. The mountain received 13 inches of snow from the latest storm. Wolf Creek's all-natural midway base was 50 inches on Wednesday. Conditions were powder/packed powder with excellent conditions and unmarked obstacles. Season to date, the ski area has received 90 inches of snow. See related story on page 8.

Wreaths Across America Day set for Saturday

By Linda Hobbs
Wreaths Across America

In preparation for the annual Wreaths Across America Day 2022 to be held Saturday, Dec. 17, at 10 a.m., more than a dozen local volunteers gathered to escort and partially unload the delivery truck containing more than 4,000 wreaths that will be laid on veterans' graves across the region.

First responders from the police department and fire department led the escort. This scene has been and will be played out across the nation over the past few and coming weeks as millions of remembrance wreaths are delivered nationwide and overseas for fallen veterans.

Pagosa Springs was the first stop for first-time wreath driver Brian McGill, of Denny Transport out of Denver. An Air Force veteran himself, McGill respectfully and faithfully fulfilled his duty of delivering precious cargo of remembrance wreaths for our fallen veterans buried in Hill Top Cemetery and a few other locations.

Wreath Remembrance Day on Dec. 17 marks Hill Top's second year of participation in the Wreaths Across America Program and its second year

■ See Wreaths A8



Photos courtesy Linda Hobbs

In preparation for Saturday's Wreaths Across America Day to be held at 10 a.m., more than a dozen local volunteers gathered to escort and unload a delivery truck containing remembrance wreaths that will be placed on veterans' graves.

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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12/7	42	32	S	.07"	.10"
12/8	34	16	S	.09"	.21"
12/9	37	14	-	-	-
12/10	45	13	-	-	-
12/11	47	18	-	-	-
12/12	37	7	-	-	-

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OUR VIEW

Lead by example

Monday evening's boards and commissions training with Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency (CIRSA) General Counsel Sam Light was a much-needed training for local officials and community leaders. The training was held by the Town of Pagosa Springs for its various board members and was open to the public.

Light is touted as having decades of experience working with municipalities along with a deep understanding of Colorado municipal regulations.

For new board members, this was a great introduction to responsibilities of being on public boards. For those who have years of experience on boards, it was a welcome refresher course. For newspaper staff, we saw it as an opportunity for board members to gain a new or renewed understanding as to the importance of being transparent, following best practices and being committed to ethical practices.

Light's first suggestion was to recognize the change in roles for individuals when they become board members.

The presentation reads:
• "As local government officials, part of your 'job duties' is delivering good governance which, at root, is based both practically and legally on a few core concepts:

- "Openness & Transparency (open meetings/records laws);
- "Fundamental Fairness (due process);
- "Predictability & Evenhandedness (following applicable rules, bylaws, etc.);

and
• "Civility & Mutuality of Respect."

During the training, Light stressed something that we've tried to hammer home in editorials for years: that "transparency is a basic expectation for public entities." He explained that a lack of transparency could cause massive trust and credibility issues, as well as potential claims and disputes over compliance.

The session spent a fair amount of time focusing on honoring transparency through the Open Meetings Law (OML), explaining quorums and executive sessions.

Light pointed out that you can "break faith" with the OML when board members hold meetings before meetings.

We saw an example of that this week with a quorum of a board present prior to a meeting that was held on Zoom. The board was obviously having conversations that the public wasn't privy to hearing, because the Zoom meeting was muted to the public.

Why not unmute the meeting when you have the Zoom meeting running and a quorum of board members are present? The people present in the room can hear. Why can't those who are waiting online for the meeting to get underway know what you are discussing?

Board members having email exchanges about policy questions was another topic of discussion. Light's presentation reminded: "Keep in mind: The policy of

the OML is that 'the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.' Thus, don't subscribe to any parallel process (e.g., e-mail, social media, etc.) or leave folks feeling like they are walking into the middle of a conversation at your meetings."

We've noticed a couple of times this past month where board members mentioned they had sent emails to the entire board. Discussions of public issues should take place in a public meeting, not by email.

Light stressed the importance of putting ethics first. He pointed out that ethical scandals can be fun to read about, when they do not involve you.

As a newspaper, we prefer not to report on ethical scandals, but, unfortunately, it is part of our responsibility. As citizens, we have the right to expect ethical behavior from our government officials. We cannot turn our backs and ignore irresponsible and unethical behavior. We believe it's better to avoid scandal at all costs.

When it came to embracing wise leadership, Light's final focus was to encourage officials to "commit yourself to the service of board, commission, committee, and its role in furthering the overall good of the Town."

Putting the overall good of our community at the forefront and making our community the best it can be should be the focus of our local officials at all times.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 15, 1922

There is an automobile for every six persons in Colorado, the records in the office of the secretary of state show. Licenses have been issued for 238 cars and 13 trucks in Archuleta county.

Owing to the continued storms of the past week, no train has crossed over Cumbres pass either way since Tuesday, nor will any arrive today. There is a bare possibility that the blockade may be lifted tomorrow. Several Archuleta and Hinsdale county stockmen have been waiting in this city since Thursday of last week with about forty cars of cattle for shipment, but have been unable to load out to date. The cars are here but no engines available, the two that were here Wednesday being called to Chama to aid in clearing the pass. As a result, the stockmen are compelled to feed costly hay in this city and vicinity until such time as the D. & R.G.W. can provide rolling stock to move the stock. Two sheep trains, which were marooned this side of Cumbres station, were successfully returned to Chama last evening.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 19, 1947

Two Pagosa men were out on bond this week, charged in justice court with attempting to break and enter the main house at Saddle Back Ranch, property of Mrs. W.B. Turner of Dayton, O., and Pagosa Springs.

They are Lionel Adams, formerly employed at the ranch, and Wayne Boss.

Justice F.H. Hughes set their bond at \$1,500 each until a hearing set for Dec. 24.

The Pagosa Springs School Board heard protests at their meeting Wednesday night.

E.B. Evans and L.D. Goodrich, both Pagosa businessmen, appeared with their wives before the board.

Rough tactics among pupils, but outside the classrooms, were sharply criticized by Evans. Marion Hays, school superintendent and members of the board said such tactics, if brought to their attention, would bring severe discipline for those involved.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 14, 1972

Local business houses are stocked with the largest assortment of Christmas merchandise ever to be assembled in this community. Too, special prices and bargains are in effect for the holiday season. Shoppers in Pagosa Springs will also find prices that compare very favorable with those in any larger town in this area.

Temperatures in town have not been too balmy and a rather cool 15 below was reported Wednesday morning of this week. Snow depth in town is about 20 inches on the level, although those that have been stuck, or who have had to walk in unshoveled paths are willing to state there is more. Streets have been plowed out, Christmas lights and decorations are up, and while it may be rather chilly just to stand still and take a long look, the surrounding mountains are beautiful and colorful. It will be a white Christmas for sure this year.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
December 18, 1997

The Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association and the Upper San Juan Humane Society are closing in on an agreement that will allow the PLPOA's Public Safety office to use the society's facilities for sheltering impounded dogs.

Before the agreement can go into effect, however, someone has to make up the shortfall between the \$5,000 the PLPOA has agreed to pay the Humane Society and the \$11,470 the society has requested from the association for the use of its services for 1998.

In a final budget work session Wednesday, Dec. 10, PLPOA General Manager Roy Vega said he believed the county commissioners were in agreement that the "Humane Society shortfall is a county responsibility." PLPOA Comptroller Bob Dempsey was also confident the county would make up the difference between what the association was willing to pay and what the society was asking. "The county has indicated that they'll pick up the shortfall," Dempsey said at the meeting.

County Manager Dennis Hunt said Tuesday morning that the \$6,470 to cover the shortfall was not in the county's 1998 budget. Hunt said the budget could still be amended but that "the board hasn't decided" on the PLPOA Humane Society issue yet.



Taken from
The Pagosa Springs SUN files
from Dec. 11, 1986

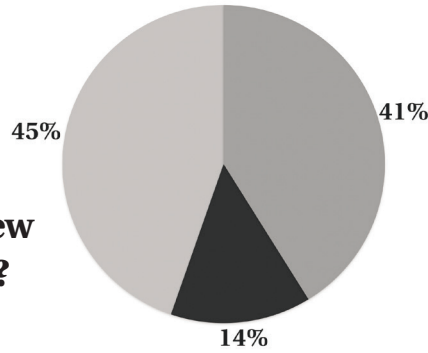
ROBBY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS
— As the good fairy, Patty Romero, uses her magic wand to help Robby the robot, as played by Gene Haning, receive his wished for Christmas present of the ability to read. Close to 200 parents and children enjoyed Tom Tomlinson's entertaining play put on by the Upper San Juan Friends of the Library at Fairfield Lodge Tuesday evening.

WHADDYA THINK?

Have you had your flu shot?

Poll results (111 votes)

Yes. — 41 percent
No. — 14 percent
I will not get one. — 45 percent



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Bally
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Letters

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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.

In response

Dear Editor:
This letter is a response to the letter, "Trump is the Symp- tom", 12-8-22, Ernie O'Toole.

We first boldly admit that we are not ashamed of our profession of Christ and our personal walk with Jesus Christ.

It's not just a "religion" but a true way of life that comes with a book of directions, "The Holy Bible". "Love one another as I have loved you". God provided the core family, a way to live that pleases Him.

Christ's Birthday is sacred, as our God gave us a gift of hope, a little Baby, God's Son, like no other God could give. We will get out of this life into real eternal life. Our forefathers pinned our United States Constitution and Bill of Rights with our Creator God and the Holy Bible. Yes, they were white men. And our free country has lasted well over 2 centuries. We've just about taken our freedom for granted and where it really came from. Every baby and also every man and woman God created any color or race, is under God's care if they choose. Talk about inclusion, God thought about that first.

Pres. Trump is a Christ believer along with an increasing number of our leaders. And the duty of every American Christ believer is to pray for and support righteous leaders. We certainly had a lot better day-to-day life with Pres. Trump, (maybe a good symptom?), but suffered the pain of the left trying to destroy him and us the entire time and continues, just because they can. Good and evil, that's a battle we will win. Good always wins.

So we do not accept your blame game. The woke mess, corruption, and destruction of the disabled Biden regime, reaping havoc and turmoil on the core family, our children, our education, our economy, and our money, destroying our border, killing our babies, and poisoning our watered-down populations with fentanyl and dope, and so

much more evil. So you Left Liberal Socialists resort to lying...It will not work in the end. Only truth will set us free and keep us free. Almighty God, our Creator, is still in control. And, He loves our America. Merry Christmas.

Jan and Tom Carnley

Public health

Dear Editor:
It was suggested at a recent Board of County Commissioners meeting that the BoCC act as the governing body because it was said public health is a political issue. It is a political issue only because the present BoCC allowed it to become that by listening to a small vocal minority of residents. Public health is not and should not have ever become a political issue.

Since it appears that the BoCC is going to appoint a citizen board to advise the future public health district, I would urge the commissions to make sure that it is well balanced and is made up of people who have experience in fields that are relevant to the tasks that are mandated by the state. Some of these should include someone with medical experience preferably in patient care, someone with a background in social work with knowledge of how to reach out to underserved communities, and a civil engineer because the district will have to evaluate and inspect septic systems.

It is very unfortunate that we are faced with creating a district from scratch. It will be difficult to find qualified employees, especially if the prospective employees do any research on how and why we got into this situation. We can hope that the BoCC does its job, which is to act as responsible administrators of the county and to act in the best interests of every resident, not just the ones that are the loudest.

Lynn R. Frederick

STRs and taxation

Dear Editor:
No amount of taxation will ever filter down to the people who cannot afford to pay outrageous rents. The December 8, 2022, edition of the Sun, had an interesting article about the ongoing STR issue. The way I see it, when a property is used as an STR, in reality it is converted into a hotel. A common commercial business with fewer rooms than normal but many more home oriented amenities. There are more than enough rules and regulations surrounding sleeping accommodations and the hospitality industry as a whole. STRs should be treated just like any other hotel property. STRs should be taxed exactly as hotels are.

Instead, public officials and the narrow-minded folks in this community are seeking punishment taxation of STR ownership, only if the property happens to be a house? Taxation is supposed to be uniform in all states under the constitution. This is an extremely sad example of what it means to be an American. Public officials have an oath to uphold federal and state constitutions. People who say the pledge of allegiance and celebrate the 4th of July, are supposed to stand together against unfair taxation, it is one of our founding principles.

Nobody is talking about how landlords are raising rents on properties that have been held for a long-time, just because they can, with absolutely no regard for the loyal renters who are locals. Oh, those locals just happen to be our workforce. The responsibility for runaway home prices and outrageous rents are not because STRs have become popular in tourist towns. It's because we have a debt-based, slave wage monetary system, that is fueled by individual greed.

Here is an example of you can't fix stupid. We are now going to

subsidize workforce housing on our water bills. When you give a developer a pass on fees, if they build "workforce housing", the existing PAWS customers will be required to pay the developers fees for them and get no benefit in return.

All taxation is theft under the guise of authoritarian government. All fees are just another name for taxes.

Most folks don't know it but Pagosa had no property taxes in the beginning. Those were the days when government operated with more honorable people.

Government is books and paper, policies and procedures. Government employees who know nothing of our history or the founding principles of this nation, and have no clue what it means to honor their oaths, are the problem.

Greg Giehl

Archuleta needs a qualified board of health

Dear Editor:
Archuleta County has one year to set up its public health department. The County is looking for volunteers to serve on the inaugural board of health. The board of health will recruit and select the executive director, provide policy direction, and oversee the transition of services from San Juan Basin Public Health.

I hope County residents with public health, medical, environmental, or finance and administration backgrounds volunteer and are selected. I also hope the rest of us provide constructive input as the board works to build the department. Standing up a department in one year is a tall order, and we owe it to those volunteers and our neighbors to approach the task understanding we have a shared interest in the health and environmental condition of our community.

At the County Commissioner's meeting last week, one resident suggested the board of health should be a purely political body composed of the three County Commissioners. She believes a purely political board, which is one option the law allows, would be responsive to public opinion.

See Letters A4



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All letters must:
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be 500 words or less
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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.



Franklin and Martha Anderson, of Allison, Colorado, celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Nov 25, 2022.

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Letters

■ Continued from A3

Let's not forget how Archuleta County arrived at this point. A small but vocal group convinced the Commissioners to convene an investigative committee. The Commissioners did not act definitively after the committee report. That, no doubt, would have been politically uncomfortable. Instead, they left twisting in the wind the question of Archuleta's commitment to the decades-old health district arrangement with La Plata County. In response, La Plata undertook its own study and decided a shared health district supporting Archuleta was not worth the trouble.

Public health should not be left to the vagaries of local politics. Do you care if your restaurant, butcher, or baker has clean facilities and proper food handling practices? Do you care if the septic systems in your neighborhood are properly sized to manage waste? Do you care if the kiddos are properly immunized against communicable childhood diseases—remember the polio outbreak this year?

These should not be political issues. A qualified board should oversee the work health department staff (to be hired) will do delivering services and seeking grant funding to support its operations.

The board of health may, and should, include an ex officio position for a County Commissioner and perhaps a representative of the Town. Those board members should bring public sentiment to the board's planning and oversight role. They should also work at being effective liaisons to County and Town administration, respectively.

If adult individuals want to look to politicians for their own healthcare, so be it. They bear the risk of that choice. I have to believe most of us, however, prefer public health to be guided by individuals with relevant education and experience informing their opinions and judgments.

If you agree, reach out to the Commissioners to let them know. Otherwise, the only voice they will hear is the woman who thinks public health is a purely political domain.

Candace Jones

Big spending

Dear Editor:

Why am I not surprised. Joe Biden wants to give 36 billion dollars to bail out the teamsters pension fund with taxpayer money.

There was 600 billion stolen through fraud in the 5 trillion covid-19 relief bill. Four trillion for student loan forgiveness. What has happened to our lawmakers fiduciary duty to handle our money responsibly. They don't have any accountability but they keep getting re-elected every two or four years. This is not their money being wasted it is yours?

The latest AP poll shows 71 % of the public think the country is headed in the wrong direction yet the big spending Democrats keep getting re-elected.

John Meyer

'Mr. President, what are you doing?'

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to President Biden for supporting Ukraine in their battle with Russia, who has been declared a terrorist entity by the European Parliament. Russian's slaughter of innocent civilians, including women and children, reminds one of the massacres of WWII. Russian dictator Putin's disregard for life is eerily similar to that of Hitler's. Mr. Biden has done a good job of providing military hardware and other aid. He is also endorsing a \$60 cap on the buying of Russian oil. This will reduce Russia's oil income and make it more difficult for them to buy new weapons.

However, at the same time our president is taking these steps, he is also making preparations to help Venezuelan dictator Maduro, a Russian ally, produce more oil. The murderous Maduro regime is one of the reasons escaping Venezuelans are a large part of the millions of people illegally crossing our southern border. More importantly, Maduro had a meeting with Russia's Deputy Prime Minister and they focused on military cooperation.

Mr. President, why are you helping this murderous dictator that is an ally of Russia? I know that you are desperate to lower gasoline prices, but why are you trying to

do this by helping a Russian ally produce more oil? Wouldn't it be in our country's best interest to encourage our own oil companies to produce more oil rather than an ally of Russia. Mr. President, what are you doing?

Charles Newton
Highlands Ranch

Slow down

Dear Editor:

Inflation takes from us, including a portion of what we usually give to the needy. So, how to give more when we have less? One possible answer: What we save by driving the speed limit on highways, we can give to the poor. We also might save the poor unnecessary and costly misery as well.

Saving the gas and money is the easy part. The best selling car in America in 2021 (Toyota Camry) gets 35.9mpg at 65 mph. At 80 mph, it gets 28% less, 28 mpg. Drive 65 and you spend 28% less on fuel. Over a year in that same car, 10 miles a day at 80 mph using gas at \$3.60 per gallon costs \$467.00. At 65 mph that same gas would cost \$365.00. Savings: 102.00. That's \$102.00 to give to the needy. Say you drive 10 times more highway miles per year than this example; that's \$1020.00 for the needy. The average American drives 12,785 miles per year, so about 35 miles per day. Same car driven 12,785 miles at 65 instead of 80, saves \$357.00. Multiply the savings by the 3.2 trillions miles Americans drive every year and we're talking about profoundly impacting the neediest among us, inflation or not.

Bonus: by driving highway speed limits we are automatically charitable, and on a global level, by virtue of what we don't give: CO2. If we are using 28% less fuel, that's also 28% less CO2 (and methane). Those trillions of miles, at 19.6 pounds of CO2 per gallon, if using 28% less gallons, means much less CO2. How does that help the poor? Consider: if CO2 emissions impact extreme weather, and extreme weather too often targets zones typically populated by the poorest of the poor (floodplains), then 28% less CO2 should mean less powerful events less often. That's 28% less misery and hardship for the most vulnerable on the planet.

Maybe we can't personally slow down inflation, but everyone of us can slow down. It's good for us all (including the environment). And, turns out, it's good for giving.

Hope this helps relieve some of the worry of how to find the resources to give as generously as we always have this holiday season, inflation or not.

Selah, W.K. Sheldrake
South Fork

Public health accountability

Dear Editor:

Choosing the correct structure of our new county health department is of the utmost importance. Having served on the Health District Investigation Committee (HDIC) in 2021 and having a back-

ground in healthcare, I'd like to present what I see as the way to structure a public health entity that best serves the people of Archuleta County.

There are three basic choices of how to structure a public health department. There can be a Board of Directors with no representation by any county Commissioners. This is apparently the poor choice being made by La Plata county. This option absolves the county Commissioners of both authority and responsibility leaving the Board of Health unaccountable and ungovernable.

The second option is to have a Board with one county commissioner on the Board, much like the ineffective and problematic arrangement we had with San Juan Basin Public Health. Our representative was not heard being one vote out of seven.

The third option is to have the Board of County Commissioners be the Board of Health (BoH). The BoCC would create a Committee or panel to accomplish most of the work while reporting to the BoCC. This is the only way to structure a Health Department that respects democratic rule and freedoms. It provides absolute accountability to the voters. The Board of County Commissioners will have total control: can hire, fire and veto the Committee's actions and decisions. There would be no unaccountable dictates, mandates, reckless spending and over-staffing. The health department would therefore be accountable to the citizens with an inherent format protective of liberties and freedoms. Only this third option provides for direct accountability through our elected Commissioners.

From the "Snapshot" provided by the HDIC one year ago, the counties that were comparable were investigated by the HDIC. They were found to have chosen to operate under the control of the BoCC. Alamosa, Delta, Gilpin, Grand and Montezuma counties have three County Commissioners on the Board, several along with a health professional and/or members of the community.

Various committees and department employees can then be utilized in advisory and managerial roles wherein the accountable Commissioners have irrefutable roles in directing, controlling and changing health department policies.

Let's avoid creating a mini San Juan Basin Public Health department just like the one we chose to leave. After all the trouble to break free, why would we create another ungovernable entity? We don't want or need another dictatorship running our health department. The policy made now will be in place long after our current Commissioners are gone. It is their duty to protect the citizens from tyrants of the future. This is the chance for our BoCC to act in favor of the citizens.

Marybeth Snyder

■ See Letters A5

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The Pagosa Springs SUN



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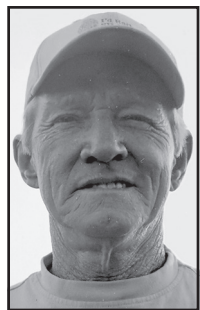
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Obituary

Edwin Arthur Weddle

Edwin Arthur Weddle, 69, died on his fishing boat, wrestling his lifelong nemesis, Walter the bass, into his boat on Dec. 8. He had been trying to catch that fish for years, but today it caught him. Maybe not, but we all know that's the way he would have preferred to go.



If you knew Ed, you knew that he had more fishing poles than he had sense. You want to go bass

fishing? He had a pole for that. Crappie? Yup. Pike with giant teeth? Got you covered. Do you want to go catch that fish that grants wishes and turns everything gold? He's got that one, too.

If you knew Ed, you know there wasn't a song he couldn't dance to. Music was one of the loves of his life, right behind charming the ladies. His smile and laugh could light up a room and turn the worst days into good ones.

Ed was not only a fine fisherman, but he was a father and grandfather as well. He was a father that took pride in his kids' and grandkids' accomplishments. He was a man who was never short on I love yous, on smiles and on laughter when you needed it, or a place at his table if you were down

on your luck.

And if you truly knew Ed, you knew a man who took pride in his work. He was a master plumber that would teach you if it was worth doing, it was worth doing right the first time. Ed could teach you to turn a wrench on just about anything and leave you with the confidence that you could do it right.

Fish everywhere celebrate the end of Ed's life as he has left a legacy of master fishermen and fisherwomen.

Edwin Arthur Weddle, father, grandfather, fisherman, mushroom hunter, dancer and, perhaps, the maker of the best damn steak you've ever had was born May 13, 1953. He was preceded in death by his brother, Roger Weddle, and

father Dean Weddle (Roger, you're gonna need a bigger boat). Ed is survived by his mother, Marie Weddle; brother Mike Weddle; sisters Marcia Core and Jeannie Winters; daughters Mattea Burson and Amy Garcia; and sons Jesse Weddle and Lucas Crowe; as well as seven grandchildren.

Family visitation was from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11, followed by a service at 2 p.m. at the Hann Funeral Chapel, Grant City, Missouri. Per his wishes, Mr. Weddle's body will be cremated. Private family inurnment will be held at a later date.

A celebration of life will be at a later date in 2023 at the Weddle Campground.

And, no, you can't have any of his stuff.

County discusses extending RV permits, approves skid loader purchase

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At its Dec. 6 meeting, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) discussed extending recreational vehicle temporary use permits in the county, and approved opting out of the Colorado Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program and purchasing a new skid loader.

County Manager Derek Woodman presented the resolution concerning temporary recreational vehicle (RV) use permits, explaining that there had been a few applications for the permit, mainly due to the Development Services Department being able to enforce unpermitted RV use.

Woodman added that the resolution would further extend the policy until June 20, 2023.

Commissioner Warren Brown questioned if, given the small amount of registration for the program, the program is valuable to the community.

"We were doing this in an attempt to assist with some temporary housing and it doesn't seem to have quite the response I thought it might have," Brown added.

Commissioner Maez commented that the county might see more response "once it's put into play," while Commissioner Alvin Schaaf explained that the program might be more beneficial if it is permanent.

Schaaf added that, in his view, residents have a right to live in their RV if they choose to as long as they

have sanitation.

Maez added that many people living in RVs cannot afford to live elsewhere, while Schaaf added that people who do not want neighbors living in an RV near them "should have bought into an HOA," referring to a homeowners' association.

Brown and Maez discussed that the permits allow only one RV per property.

Schaaf then requested a motion on the issue and Brown moved to approve the resolution as presented.

Maez then asked if Brown would be willing to make the permits permanent.

Brown stated that he was "not opposed" and asked if it was possible to table the issue and hear comments from Development Director Pamela Flowers on the subject.

Maez agreed that it would be beneficial to table the motion and hear Flowers' comments.

The board then agreed and unanimously approved a 30-day extension to the policy to allow permits to stay in effect while the board waits to hear Flowers' comments.

At the meeting, the board also approved a resolution opting out of the FAMLI program and the

purchase of a tracked skid loader for \$100,302.94 for the Road and Bridge Department to replace a current vehicle.

Woodman noted that Wagner Cat was the sole-source provider for the vehicle.

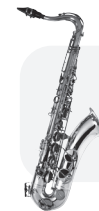
Prior to the vote to purchase the skid loader, in response to a "rhetorical" question from Brown, Woodman explained that this is the third skid loader that the county has tried to purchase this year to replace the vehicle and that the request was timed to ensure the purchase happens under the 2022 budget.

josh@pagosasun.com



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Letters

Continued from A4

Pothole suggestion

Dear Editor:

I am painfully aware of the immense pothole situation here in Pagosa Springs. However, in terms of priorities, it must rank much lower on the "importance" scale of the town management officials in our wonderful town. Thankfully though, they were able to squeeze enough dollars out of their pool of tax revenues to insure the individuals who get incarcerated in our fine, new jail are comfortable. Additionally, soon the inmates and staff will be able to walk from one building to the other in a nicely sheltered walkway. The dollars are probably streaming in as the locals and visitors who strike these road hazards spend their hard earned dollars getting new tires, wheels and alignments.

Since the much needed repair of our local roads seem to have taken a much lower level of importance, I have a suggestion for the "locals" who must do the daily pothole dodge game. Instead of constantly complaining, let's start passing out awards and trophies for potholes based on their breadth and depth and damage they incur.

Still, the hazards will remain. All should drive with care. Rumor has it that recently a small compact vehicle drove into one of our larger crevices never to be heard from again except for a photo that was texted to a family member of the driver. It was a picture of him standing next to Jules Verne holding a sign that read, "Welcome to the Center of the Earth."

Russ Widener

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Community news.

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Recount finished: Boebert retains congressional job

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

On Monday evening, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold announced that the mandatory recount into the U.S. congressional District 3 race is complete and the outcome did not change.

That mandatory recount reconfirmed incumbent Republican Lauren Boebert as the winner of the race.

Griswold also announced the certification of the state's results for the general election.

According to a press release about the recount and the official election results, Boebert received 50.06 percent of the votes cast, or 163,839 votes — three fewer than the initial count.

Democrat Adam Frisch received 49.89 percent of the votes, or 163,293 votes — one more than the initial count.

According to Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta, in Archuleta County, Frisch lost one vote, Boebert gained one and one of the write-in candidates gained a vote.

"I do believe these changes were due to Adjudication and voter intent not being very clear," Archuleta wrote in an email to The SUN.

The following vote totals were certified for Archuleta County on Dec. 6:

- Frisch: 3,574.
 - Boebert: 4,197.
 - Write-in Marina Zimmerman: 3.
 - Write-in Kristin Skowronski: 1.
- Write-in Richard "Turtle" Tetu received no votes in Archuleta County.

According to Archuleta, the recount went smoothly and the state required that a logic and accuracy test be done prior to the rescanning of all the ballots, with the recount taking about 9.5 hours.

Colorado's U.S. House District 3 is comprised of 26 complete counties, as well as part of Eagle County. Those 26 counties include: Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Costilla, Delta, Dolores, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Huerfano, La Plata, Las Animas, Mesa, Mineral, Moffat, Montezuma, Montrose, Otero, Ouray, Pitkin, Pueblo, Rio Blanco, Rio Grande, San Juan, San Miguel and Saguache.

The recount was the only mandatory recount in the state. It was ordered by Griswold on Nov. 30 to follow state statute. Elsewhere in the state, in Colorado House District 43, a permissive recount was completed after being requested by a candidate.

The mandated recount was required for the race due to the narrow vote margin between the winning and losing candidates.

According to statute, "a recount

of any election contest shall be held if the difference between the highest number of votes cast in that election contest and the next highest number of votes cast in that election contest is less than or equal to one-half of one percent of the highest vote cast in that election contest."

According to the press release, counties will be reimbursed by the secretary of state's office for the cost of the mandatory recount.

Griswold also announced the certification of the election on Monday evening.

According to a press release on the certification, it was conducted after each county's bipartisan canvass boards submitted their official abstract of votes to the Secretary of State's Office, as well as the conclusion of a mandatory recount in the race for Colorado's U.S. Congressional District 3 and permissive recount of the Colorado House District 43 race.

"The 2022 General Election was among the most accessible and successful in Colorado's history. I am proud of our State's elections and the voting access that we have added over the last four years," said Griswold via the press release. "I commend the county election officials, election workers, and the employees of the Department of State for their hard work and dedication to delivering great elections

for Colorado voters."

The press release also explains that, after the election, the Secretary of State's Office worked with county clerks to complete a bipartisan risk-limiting audit that verified the results of the election, with each county's bipartisan canvass board certifying the election results and submitting the results to the state.

According to the press release, Colorado had a 66.79 percent active voter turnout for the election, which was 58.5 percent of the eligible voting population.

Further data provided by the state shows that 40.48 percent of ballots cast in the election came from unaffiliated voters, 30.28 percent from Democrat voters and 27.93 percent from Republican voters.

The state also notes returning a mail ballot was the preferred method for voters, with 95.3 percent of voters choosing to cast their mail ballot during the 2022 general election, and 4.7 percent of voters opted for in-person voting.

In Archuleta County, according to election results, Archuleta County's voter turnout was 71.58 percent of active voters.

The official statewide results can be found at <https://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CO/115903/web.3070391/#/summary>.
randi@pagosasun.com

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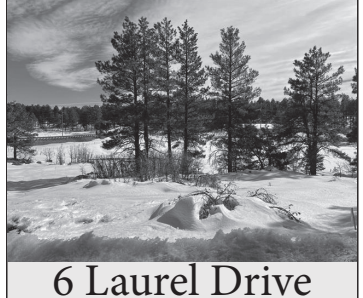
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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Dec. 15

San Juan Basin Public Health Board of Health meeting. 9 a.m. Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89539364442> or call (719) 359-4580 or (312) 626-6799, webinar ID: 895 3936 4442. For more information, visit <https://sjbpublichealth.org/>.

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular board meeting. 1 p.m., administrative offices, 100 Lyn Ave., or join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/821773701893?pwd=VytLRtZtMGhMcWNwVENnRUZqOVN5UT09#success>.

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

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District special meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: <https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.

Tuesday, Dec. 20

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, com-

missioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30 p.m. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91609048375?pwd=d1FFV0J1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09>, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit: <http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter>.

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administra-

tion building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. and via Zoom. For more information, visit: <http://archuleta-county.org/agendacenter>.

Tuesday, Dec. 27

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

Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors regular meeting. Noon, Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd., or Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88304467907>, meeting ID: 883 0446 7907.

883 0446 7907.

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://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/portal/>.
Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosasun.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.



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Town of Pagosa Springs, town sanitation district approve budgets

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At Dec. 6 meetings, the Pagosa Springs Town Council and Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) held public hearings and approved the town and sanitation district budgets for 2023.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips briefed the council on the 2023 town budget, beginning by thanking staff for their work on the document and outlining that the budget was introduced in early October and that the town held two budget work sessions, in October and November, and a public budget hearing in November, as previously covered in The SUN.

She commented that the changes suggested by council during these work sessions had been integrated into the final budget.

Phillips then highlighted certain key elements of the budget, noting that the town budget is primarily supported by sales tax and that revenues for all funds total \$23,916,346, including carryover from the prior year, while expenditures are budgeted at \$14,994,210, leaving the town at a year-end fund balance for

2023 of \$8,560,890.

The 2023 budget message prefacing the town budget also explains that the town is using some reserves in 2023 to fund capital projects, although the town remains in a healthy fiscal position.

Phillips explained that the budget contained significant funding for street maintenance and projects, including a crosswalk improvement at 1st Street and U.S. 160 partially funded by a grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation, and design and engineering for a pedestrian bridge across the San Juan River behind the Malt Shoppe.

Phillips indicated that the budget includes \$500,000 for housing work as well as funding for a housing coordinator.

She added that the budget contains funding for service organizations and nonprofits in the community, \$150,000 for early childhood education and programs, funding for broadband deployment, and continued support of economic development, including the Main Street Program.

In addition, she stated that the budget includes public art funding,

funding for American Disabilities Act compliance and funds for the continued restoration of the Rumbaugh Creek bridge.

Phillips also stated that there are 59 full-time equivalents (FTE) of staffing in the budget.

Council member Gary Williams asked how many FTEs the town currently has.

Phillips explained that the town currently has 55 FTEs, although some positions are vacant, and that the new positions include a part-time parking enforcement officer, a financial specialist within the Administration Department, a Recreation Supervisor within Parks and Recreation, and a full-time equipment operator within the Streets Division of Public Works.

Phillips noted that the resolution adopting the budget also includes the appropriation of funds and the setting of mill levies and that the town mill levy will be 1.577 for 2023, which will bring in an estimated \$107,862 for the town in property taxes.

The council then held a public hearing on the budget and received no comments.

Prior to the unanimous vote to approve the budget, appropriate funds, set mill levies and approve the capital improvement plan, Phillips explained that the capital improvement plan is a 10-year plan for the capital improvements and equipment the town intends to complete or acquire in that period.

PSSGID budget

At the later PSSGID meeting, the town council, acting as the PSSGID board, was briefed by Phillips on the 2023 budget.

Phillips explained that the total resources for the district in 2023, including \$817,089 in carryover funds and \$1,254,454 in revenue, are budgeted as \$2,071,543.

She added that the district anticipates spending \$1,397,564 in 2023, thus spending into reserves by \$143,110.

Phillips noted that the PSSGID has not been the "healthiest fund" in the past and thus is carrying debt which needs to be paid off.

She indicated that the district is also planning to begin design and engineering on additional head

works equipment, including an automated bar screen, as well as work on rebuilding outdated lift stations near Apache Street and the Visitor Center.

She noted that the budget would likely not contain enough money to accomplish the lift station rebuilding projects and that additional funds would need to be found.

Phillips also indicated that the 2023 revenues assume that the district board approves an increase in the monthly service fees to \$53.50, as suggested by a 2018 rate study, as well as an increase in the tap fee to \$4,995 per equivalent unit.

She added that the budget assumes that the district will receive 15 new taps and customers in 2023, although she stated that the district likely would surpass this number due to development occurring in the area.

Phillips also noted that the budget includes funding for phased replacement of collection lines and money to pay the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) for treatment of waste pumped to its plant.

She briefly discussed that the district board had considered the possibility of engineering and analysis studies to analyze the PSSGID system and next steps for the district, although there were no funds specifically for this purpose in the budget due to uncertainties about the exact scope and cost of the project.

During the public hearing on the budget, the PSSGID board heard comments from PAWSD board member Bill Hudson commending the town's interest in assessing the feasibility of new approaches to town sanitation and the potential for collaboration with PAWSD.

Earlier in the meeting, the board also heard comments from PAWSD board member Glenn Walsh expressing concerns about the high town sewer rates and suggesting that the PSSGID consider adopting availability fees.

Prior to the vote on the resolution approving the budget, appropriating funds and setting mill levies, Phillips explained that the mill levy for the district in 2023 is 0.902 mills, which is expected to bring in \$46,213.

The board then unanimously voted to approve the budget resolution.

Urban renewal authority appoints two members, town approves senior center lease

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At Dec. 6 meetings, the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority (URA) approved the appointment of two new members and its budget, and the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a senior center lease with Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI), among other business.

The URA approved the appointment of Archuleta County Assessor Johanna Tully-Elliott to the Archuleta County seat on the board and Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education president Bob Lynch to the Board of Education seat on the URA.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained that Tully-Elliott had stepped in to fill the seat in 2021 following the resignation of the previous assessor and will serve until 2025.

She added that the ASD initially declined to designate a representative to the URA, but had since changed its position and now desired to appoint Lynch to the board and that he would serve until 2027.

The URA also held a public hearing on its budget and adopted the budget, which includes zero dollars in expenditures and revenues and is required by state law.

The discussion of the senior center lease began with Phillips indicating that the town council had previously heard a presentation from ASI and the San Juan Area Agency on Aging concerning the center's difficulties in funding itself and had approved waiving the center's rent for the first six months of 2023, expanded use of the commercial kitchen area to allow the center to do catering activities outside of its regular senior meals and upgrades to the kitchen equipment.

Phillips explained that the lease before council reflected these changes and would involve a lease payment of \$15,712.56.

She added that the town also pays for all utilities and building maintenance for the center excepting Internet and phones and that ASI agreed to the terms of the lease.

Council member Jeff Posey

praised the agreement, stating it is a "good thing to do."

Mayor Shari Pierce raised concerns that allowing ASI to use the facility for catering while the town pays for the building's utilities would amount to subsidizing ASI to compete against local businesses.

Following a discussion where the council considered what entities ASI might cater to and what the cost of the town utilities might be, the council agreed to approve the lease with an additional clause of requiring a report on the catering revenues garnered by ASI in six months.

At the same meeting, the board also approved the payment of \$12,125 from the town's General Fund to the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) to cover the partial waiver of capital investment fees for a development at 303 S. 7th St. containing some units deed restricted for those below 100 percent of the area median income.

Additionally, the board approved a resolution supporting the town's application for Main Street Program candidacy.

Phillips explained before the vote that the resolution was requested by the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC), which is managing the program for the town, and the Pagosa Springs Main Street Advisory Board.

She added that the town's application for main street candidacy had so far received a positive response from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

Posey, the council representative on the Main Street board, praised the creativity and energy of the Main Street board.

The council then unanimously approved the resolution.

At the same meeting, the board also selected HintonBurdick CPAs and Advisors, who had served as the town auditor from 2015 to 2019, as the town auditor for the next four years, and approved the appointment of Diane Knutson as municipal court judge pro tem for an additional two-year period.

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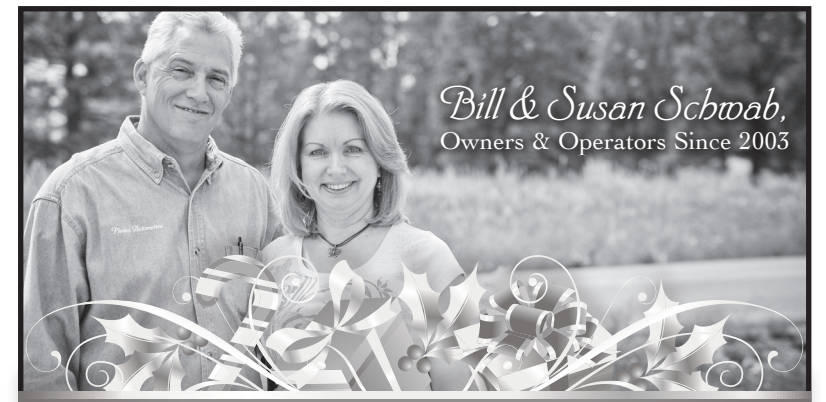
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Winter storm delivers much-needed snow across region

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

A winter storm on Monday and Tuesday brought more snow to the high country, which has been followed by colder temperatures.

A Dec. 14 snow report from Wolf Creek Ski Area indicated that Wolf Creek had received 13 inches of snow in the previous 48 hours, bringing the midway base depth to 50 inches and the year-to-date snowfall total

to 91 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 10.2 inches of snow water equivalent as of 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14.

The Wolf Creek summit is at 100 percent of the Dec. 14 snowpack median.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan river basins were at 98

percent of the Dec. 14 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 1.9 and 4.1 inches of snowfall over the previous 48 hours.

Higher snowfall totals were concentrated in the northern and southern portions of the county, with the highest reported precipitation

amount located east of Chromo.

Weather

The National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts that Thursday, Dec. 15, will bring partly sunny skies, patchy fog before 9 a.m. and a high of 26. Winds of 5 mph are also forecasted.

Thursday night is predicted to bring partly cloudy skies, a low of 1 and 5 mph winds.

For Friday, Dec. 16, the forecasted high is 24 degrees with mostly sunny skies and 5 mph winds. The forecasted low is -1 degrees with mostly clear skies.

For Saturday, Dec. 17, sunny skies are expected with a high of 31 degrees. The forecasted low is 5 degrees Saturday night with partly cloudy skies.

For Sunday, Dec. 18, the forecasted high is 35 degrees with mostly sunny skies. The forecasted low is 7 degrees with mostly clear skies.

Avalanches

According to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) website, the southern San Juan range, including Wolf Creek Pass, was at level three — considerable — in terms of avalanche danger as of 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

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

The CAIC website comments on the avalanche risk, "You can trigger an avalanche where storm snows have thickened into cohesive slabs on slopes facing west though north to southeast. You can trigger avalanches from the bottom of slopes, or from a distance, so give yourself a wide margin around steep terrain and use cautious route finding. Slopes with fresh cornice growth or smooth lenses of snow offer visual

clues to wind-drifted areas where you are more likely to trigger an avalanche. You may not experience cracking or collapsing as a warning sign of unstable snow, so treat all steep wind-loaded slopes as suspect. Stick to more wind-sheltered areas and slopes less than about thirty five degrees with no steep slopes above you for safer options."

The CAIC forecast discussion also references the impact of the recent storm, stating, "A storm system bringing from six to twelve inches of snow brought a much-needed refresh to most of the Southern Mountains, and with it, another challenge to the weak foundation of our snowpack. Most areas did not receive enough new snow to generate a natural avalanche cycle, but reports from observers continue to point towards the weak nature of our snowpack overall.

"As storm snows settle into a cohesive slab, the snowpack is getting less talkative, and obvious signs of instability, such as cracking or collapsing, are decreasing. This does not mean that the weak, faceted snow which forms the foundation of our snowpack has become stronger, rather that the stiffening slab is making the weak layer harder to impact. This large-grained layer of cohesionless facets which formed on the ground after early-season snow will take a long time to gain enough strength to be trustworthy. A strengthening slab is a double edged sword, as it means that you may be able to trigger an avalanche that breaks well above you, even as it makes the weak layer underneath it harder to trigger. Winds that came with the storms also helped to create thicker slabs. Before you get too exuberant, remember that nearly half of our snowpack was deposited

in the last couple weeks."

The forecast discussion also notes that avalanche risks will likely decrease with the upcoming warmer and more settled conditions, although the consequences of triggering an avalanche will remain equally severe.

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

River and water report

Stream flow for the San Juan River on Dec. 14 at approximately 10 a.m. was 60.4 cubic feet per second (cfs), according to the U.S. Geological Service (USGS) National Water Dashboard.

This reading is down from last week's reading of 81.9 cfs at 10 a.m. on Dec. 7.

According to a Dec. 12 press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) District Manager Justin Ramsey, Lake Forest is 2 inches from full.

Village Lake is also 2 inches from full.

Lake Pagosa is 4 inches from full. Stevens Lake is 1 inch from full.

Hatcher Lake is currently 2 inches from full.

Total diversion flows for the district are listed at 6 cfs.

The West Fork diversion flow is listed at 2 cfs and the Four Mile diversion flow is at 4 cfs.

Water production from Dec. 2 through Dec. 8 was listed at a total of 10.93 million gallons. The Snowball water plant contributed 3.16 million gallons, while the Hatcher plant contributed 7.77 million gallons.

The San Juan plant is closed for the season.

Last year, total water production was listed at 10.92 million gallons for those dates.

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School

Continued from front

determining what the proposal would look like, explaining that the effort started in mid-October with a large group of teachers, continued in November with a salary group meeting, went back to the larger group in December for consensus, then to the school board.

He also indicated the matter will be looked at again in the spring, with his presentation stating, "We will review State proposed per pupil funding increases in the spring to determine additional salary increase to be put in place for the 2023-24 school year."

Holt then walked the board through the process of how the group reached the proposal, including that it:

- Analyzed ASD priorities and strategic initiatives, landing on recruiting and retaining staff and a goal of identifying and allocating available general fund dollars into recurring salaries and benefits for all staff, with the salary of the superintendent excluded.
- Picked a theory of action that was future-focused and focuses on a common interest of improving staff salary and a providing a living wage in the school district.

Considerations listed by Holt that were taken into account were defining a fair/livable wage, cost-of-living increases, education and years of service, and looking at what other schools are doing.

The district also conducted a seven-year budget analysis, Holt explained, to look at what has been budgeted that has not been spent and where increases in the budget over the seven years fell.

Holt then outlined that there are limited options for recurring funding, which includes reductions across all expenses not related to salaries and benefits, eliminating some budgets not relating to salaries and benefits, adjusting staffing ratios, increasing enrollment and finding additional recurring revenues.

He noted the group focused on the first two options.

He explained the district has a budget that is roughly \$18 million, with about \$5 million of that not dedicated to salaries and benefits, and showed what different reduction levels would look like with that \$5 million.

- Defined a living wage as allowing a worker to afford a decent standard of living with something left over after bills are paid.

He also walked the board through a Colorado school district cost of living analysis and the Colorado Department of Education's cost-of-living factor, comparing Pagosa Springs to area and like school districts.

He also referenced the Region 9 study that determined Archuleta County is the most expensive place to live in southwest Colorado and that the area has a high cost of housing.

They further looked at several living wage studies, which landed on a range of \$46,000 to \$49,000 per adult for a family of four.

- Conducted a regional salary comparison.

Holt presented a salary comparison between ASD and other area and similar districts, which showed the starting wage near the top of those in the comparison at \$45,050, the starting salary per day at the top at \$257, the average salary of \$52,602 further down the list and the average salary per day of \$301 near the top.

"We lag on the high end of our salary schedule," Holt told the board, adding that it starts to look less enticing to work for the district over time.

- Targeted funding through a budget analysis.

Holt explained that a 6 percent raise and the associated retirement and Medicare payments for all those included would total about \$703,000 per year.

For the current year, Holt proposed taking \$291,603 from under-spent and vacated accounts, \$120,000 from transportation for a bus purchase that was not needed as anticipated and \$310,000 in federal ESSER funds, which totals \$721,603.

Going forward, he explained, there would be a 20 percent (\$178,095) reduction to the district office budgets, a 23 percent (\$416,845) reduction to district operations budgets (not including fixed costs and costs such as fuel and utilities) and a 10 percent (\$127,708) reduction to school expense budgets, with school leaders helping to determine those cuts, which will not include salaries.

Later in the meeting, in response to questions from the board, Holt in-

cluded cuts to district budgets could include transportation, technology and maintenance and that it would be in areas where more is budgeted than is typically spent.

He added he couldn't speak to how schools would choose to meet the reduction and stated he imagines there will be some "pain points."

He further noted that the proposal uses existing funding and is totally within the district's control.

Teachers and counselors, Holt noted, make up 52 percent of the staff and will see 59 percent of the increase in wages, while all others make up 48 percent and will see 41 percent of the increase.

The 6 percent increase, he said, starts to stretch the top end of the district's salaries up while also moving the bottom up.

During board discussion on the matter, president Bob Lynch pointed out the district will have to be accurate with its budgeting since it will have a smaller margin and told those involved, "Good job."

Holt noted in response to questioning from board member Tim Taylor that the increase will not prevent the district from hiring needed personnel and that the salary for an assistant superintendent was "sacrificed" for salary dollars.

He added the team has been capable of absorbing the work of the vacant position and that he also eliminated a line item of \$30,000 per year for a consultant that was used by a previous superintendent.

The board and Holt further discussed if an assistant superintendent or human resources specialist will be needed in the coming years, with board member Butch Mackey suggesting an increase in enrollment might require more help in the form of an assistant superintendent, but would also come with increased funding.

It was also noted the position has not been eliminated, but is just not being filled currently.

Holt noted, "In the next two to three years, we got this."

Holt later pointed out that salary is only one part of retention, which also includes making people feel like they belong to a team that is greater than the sum of its parts.

The salary increase passed with a 4-0 vote, with Dana Guinn abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Wreaths

Continued from front

of 100 percent coverage. This year, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Vets for Vets organization were participating sponsorship groups leading the effort to fulfill this mission. With integrated help of both groups, the cemetery obtained more sponsorships than necessary, and the excess wreaths were directed to our neighbors in La Plata County at the Greenmount, Crestview, Bayfield

and Ignacio cemeteries.

The public is invited and welcome to attend the 10 a.m. wreath ceremony at the flagpole in Hill Top Cemetery which will be performed by the American Legion Honor Guard and members of the Vets for Vets organization. The ceremony will highlight the program's mission to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach about the sacrifices of veterans and their families. After the ceremony,

everyone is invited to assist laying wreaths as they are able or wish. The events will proceed regardless of weather conditions.

Hill Top Cemetery can be reached via Lewis Street to 5th Street, to County Road 411 around the curve. It is on the left. For more information about the program or to become a sponsorship group, kindly contact either group or location coordinators Linda Hobbs and Tanice Ramsperger.

Service

Continued from front

receives data from smartphones or smart watches and sends the data to the 911 public safety answering point that it is in range of.

"This translates to a location for the 911 call center, providing an address if possible or a latitude and longitude," Blizzard wrote in an email to The SUN. "It also provides an uncertainty radius, to let us know how close to the provided location the caller is. It also gives what we refer to as a 'breadcrumb trail' of call pings, to show how the caller is traveling.

Text to 911, she explains, is an interface that allows cellphone

users to contact 911 via text in situations where calling "would not be feasible."

Rapid SOS and Text to 911, Blizzard wrote, "are for emergency situations, when there is a threat to an individual's safety or property, a medical emergency, a fire or a crime in progress."

Language Line, which can be used with any call, is a telephone service that can be used to translate for callers who do not speak English, she explains, noting, "A person can call 911 and once the dispatcher determines that they will need translation services, they will three way in an interpreter to assist in gaining

information needed to dispatch the correct services."

Blizzard also indicated the added programs come at a low cost for the center, with the Text to 911 program being a free interface through Comtech and RapidSOS also being used at zero cost to the center.

Language Line, she notes, is based on the number of calls made using the service, as well as the length of the calls.

"These programs have been implemented in order for Archuleta County Combined Dispatch to provide a higher level of service," Blizzard wrote.

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Multimodal

Continued from front

leg, intended to serve the Mountain Crossing subdivision, of the proposed roundabout at U.S. 160 and U.S. 84 be removed and a disclaimer added to the plan indicating that it is a visioning plan and includes no engineering.

Dickhoff also noted that some potential funding opportunities for the plan's improvements include 2023 CDOT Transportation Alternatives Program funding, 2024 Multimodal Opportunity Funds grants and Safe Routes to Schools grants expected to be announced in 2024.

He added that the town's 1st Street crosswalk project, which will be constructed next spring, and the pedestrian bridge near the Malt Shoppe which will be designed in 2023 and is planned for construction in 2024 are both applicable to the multimodal plan.

Dickhoff commented that he felt that the plan had done a "really good job" in outlining the evolution of the project.

Council member Gary Williams commended the project, stating that he felt the process surrounding the multimodal plan was a "model process for how towns ... move into the future."

The council also discussed the importance of adequate parking to the success of the plan.

Mayor Shari Pierce requested the

removal of selected references comparing sizes in the plan to apartments in Paris and affordable housing in India as well as a reference to rickshaws, noting that different reference points would likely better reflect the community.

She also questioned how the plan to transform the parking lot for the San Juan Historical Society's museum into a public gathering area would impact parking for the museum.

Dickhoff explained that there could be options for expanding parking on 1st street to assist the museum.

Pierce indicated that she felt work in that area would likely happen "sooner rather than later" due to planned construction of a pedestrian bridge across the San Juan River near the museum and that it would be valuable to engage with the museum about the parking challenges.

The board also discussed parking behind the Silver Dollar Liquor Store, Beny's Restaurant, and Summit Ski and Sports.

Dickhoff explained that the town only has a narrow easement between the Silver Dollar and Beny's and had had difficulties in securing an easement through the River Center, thus limiting parking options for the nearby park.

Dickhoff added that the desire to expand park facilities in the area led the plan to include the filling in of

one of the ponds in the River Center Park.

The council also discussed snow plowing and the creation of additional parking on the frontage road near the River Center, although Dickhoff noted that creating such parking might require securing additional easements.

Pierce commented that she liked the plan and thought it would help unify and promote "pride of ownership" in the area.

Pierce also asked what the next steps would be in implementing the plan if the town adopted it.

Dickhoff explained that the next steps would be looking for funding opportunities, which would be supported by the detailed plan that had been created.

He added that the implementation of the plan would be guided by what funding opportunities emerge.

Pierce commented that the plan could be revised if necessary when the council hears requests for funding projects associated with the plan.

She added that these discussions of funding specific projects will also allow for more public comments and concerns about the plan to be raised.

Pierce concluded by reiterating her general support for the plan.

The council then unanimously voted to adopt and approve the East End Multimodal Transportation Plan with the revisions Pierce suggested.

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2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

2022 was an interesting year in Pagosa Country. There was no want for good news, bad news, controversial issues, and no lack of interesting news to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities. The SUN is taking a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at January, February and March.

January

- A number of residents entered the new year worried about heat, with a declaration of local disaster declared and a court order issued to help alleviate ongoing issues with propane delivery in the region.

- It was announced in early January that the Omicron variant of COVID-19 was identified as being in Archuleta County shortly before Christmas 2021. The timing of the confirmation coincided with what San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) called a "dramatic" rise in cases and widespread community transmission.

- Archuleta County continued to be in drought in early 2022, with the National Integrated Drought Information System listing 100 percent of the county as being abnormally dry and in moderate drought, 47.66 percent as being in a severe drought stage and 10.33 percent of the county in extreme drought.

- The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education appointed Amanda Schick and Butch Mackey to the board on Jan. 4 after interviewing a total of five candidates. The board had two vacancies after the resignation of Mike Moore from the District 3 seat in the fall of 2021 and no one running to fill the District 5 seat in the 2021 election.

- The Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a pair of ordinances related to the housing crisis upon second reading on Jan. 4.

- Ordinance 966, providing flexibility in the application of the Land Use and Development Code for the achievement of workforce housing projects, passed unanimously.

- Ordinance 967, amending chapter 16, article 4 of the municipal code to remove the requirement for the annual tourism fund budget to direct a majority of funds for external marketing, also passed unanimously.

- Also on Jan. 4, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved an intergovernmental agreement between Archuleta, La Plata, Dolores, Montezuma and San Juan counties to establish the Southwest Opioid Response District (SWORD), which would be responsible for distributing funds received from the state's opioid settlement across Region 17 of the state.

- The area snowpack started the year above median levels. On Jan. 5, the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan river basins were at 136 percent of the day's median, up from 31 percent of median less than a month prior.

- The Pirate boys' basketball team opened the 2022 portion of its schedule with a 47-31 win on Jan. 7 in Sanford, giving them a 6-3 record on the season.

- The Lady Pirate swim team opened the 2022 portion of its schedule on Jan. 8 in Durango, with many swimmers recording season-best times.

- On Jan. 11, SJBPH reported record COVID-19 transmission in the area. The agency announced it was reporting more positive cases and transmission of COVID-19 than at any time during the nearly two-year pandemic, with more than 580 positive test results received in a 72-hour period between La Plata and Archuleta counties.

- On Jan. 11, Airport Director Chris Torres told the BoCC that operations at the airport, including medical flight services, were down for 10 days during the winter storms that hit Pagosa Country over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

- Also on Jan. 11, the ASD Board of Education voted 4-0 to reauthorize Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) and allow the charter school to expand. ASD board member Amanda Schick recused herself from the vote, stating she works at PPOS.

- The move reauthorizes PPOS for five years and allows it to increase from 135 to 225 students over four years beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.

- At the same meeting, the school board heard data released earlier that day that showed that

stemming from recommendations in a 2018 water rate study the district had done.

- Rescuers worked to save a dog from the top of Treasure Falls on Jan. 15 after the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) reported receiving a number of calls for a barking dog at the top of the waterfall. The dog had been missing for several days after being separated from its owner during a backcountry skiing adventure.

- In mid-January, Town Clerk April Hessman certified a citizen-led petition seeking to put a question on the town's April 5 ballot seeking to add a \$150 per-month, per-bedroom fee on short-term rentals (STRs) located in the town limits that are not occupied by the homeowner for a minimum of nine months per year.

- After 29 days without competition due to holidays and games canceled due to COVID, the Lady Pirate basketball team returned to competition in mid-January by opening league play. The Pirates were 6-1 entering the new year.

- On Jan. 18, following several prior discussions dating back to the fall of 2021, the BoCC voted unanimously to approve an increase in funding to the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs for animal shelter and services. The society requested an increase in contribution from the county of \$12,500, raising the fees paid by the county from \$50,000 annually to \$62,500.

- At the same meeting, the BoCC unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the purchase of the Hughes Pavilion Arena, located at the fairgrounds, with the Western Heritage Event Center (WHEC).

- The BoCC previously voted to approve a purchase and sale agree-

ment with WHEC on Jan. 21, 2020, for \$150,000.

- ASD Superintendent Dr. Kym LeBlanc-Esparza announced her resignation on Jan. 19 after accepting an offer to work in the Jefferson County School District, with the resignation effective Feb. 18.

- According to a Jan. 21 press release from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, Archuleta County's unemployment rate for December 2021 was listed at 3.8 percent.

- At a special meeting on Jan. 25, the ASD board named Laura Mijares, then the assistant superintendent, the sole finalist for interim superintendent.

- The Pirate basketball team logged what coach Wes Lewis called the biggest win for the program in years on Jan. 22 as it handed the Centauri Falcons their first loss of the season, 47-42.

- On Jan. 25, the board of the Upper San Juan Health Service District, which operates as Pagosa Springs Medical Center, approved several aspects of its May election, including that four seats would be up for grabs.

- The BoCC heard about several offers from interested parties to purchase the county's courthouse building at 449 San Juan St. over the course of the month.

February

- On Feb. 1, the BoCC declared an end to the local disaster relating to propane delivery.

- On Feb. 1, the town council approved the second reading of the ordinance stemming from the citizen-led petition seeking a per-bedroom fee on STRs within town limits, officially sending the issue

■ See Review A10



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Review

Continued from A9

to the town's April 5 ballot.

The town ballot was also set to include a trio of council seats and the position of mayor.

At the same meeting, the council approved the northwest corner of Yamaguchi Park South for the construction of eight pickleball courts.

In early February, it was announced that Marilyn Harris was elected as secretary of the National Federation of Republican Women in Washington, D.C., for 2022-2023.

The Pirate wrestling team claimed the Intermountain League title on Feb. 3 as the team defeated the Alamosa Mean Moose in the championship dual. The Pirates won by a score of 47-34, which coach Dan Janowsky called "a very satisfying win for our guys."

Sixteen PSHS students earned their way to the SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference in Colorado Springs in April after placing at the regional championships in Durango on Feb. 4.

The regional competition featured close to 60 students from Southwest Colorado schools, with 20 of those students coming from PSHS.

The Lady Pirate swim team wrapped up its season at the Western Slope conference championships on Feb. 4 and 5 in Grand Junction.

While no PSHS swimmers advanced to state, every Pirate had either their season best time or personal best, with the majority of swimmers logging their personal best times.

Ivana Erne was one one-hundredth of a second away from qualifying for the 50-yard freestyle event, and that Lynelle Bartz was just .81 seconds away from qualifying in the 100-yard backstroke event.

Three members of the PSHS speech and debate team returned home from state competition in early February having placed in the top 10 in their events, with two landing in the top five.

Ten members of the team attended the state tournament. Two seniors placed in the top five in their events, with Caroline Smith finishing fourth in Humorous Interpretation and David Morehouse taking fifth in Debate. Ruth Ann Morehouse, a sophomore, placed ninth in Debate.

SJBPH reported three deaths among cases of COVID-19 in Archuleta County within 48 hours during the second week of February, with the deaths identified in prior weeks. That moved Archuleta County to having 12 identified deaths among COVID cases.

The Feb. 7 arrest of an Archuleta County man by the ACSO prompted concerns from the man's family and internal investigations by the sheriff's office.

At its meeting on Feb. 8, school board unanimously voted to name Mijares as the district's interim superintendent from Feb. 9 through June 30.

On Feb. 9, the community awards in the categories of Citizen, Volunteer, Non-Profit and Small Business of the Year were announced at the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting.

The Citizen of the Year award went to jointly to Dan and Venita Burch. The Volunteer of the Year award went Guiseppe Margiotta. The Non-Profit of the Year award went to Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County. The Small Business of the Year award went to First Southwest Bank.

Seven Pirate wrestlers qualified for the state tournament after competing at the regional tournament Feb. 11 and 12 in Gunnison: Luke Tressler in the 120-pound weight class, Griffin Bower in the 132-pound weight class, Tommy Barker in the 138-pound weight class, Heath Fulbright in the

160-pound weight class, David Morehouse in the 170-pound weight class, Aucoin in the 195-pound weight class and Connor Kelley in the 220-pound weight class.

In mid-February, Pagosa Springs Police Chief Bill Rockensock announced the investigation into the disappearance of Michael Kroll had "stalled." Kroll was last seen on Oct. 16, 2021, and reported missing on Oct. 19, 2021.

The PPOS Board of Directors accepted the immediate resignation of board member Mark Weiler at its Feb. 16 meeting. In January, the board accepted the resignation of Weiler as treasurer of the board, with Weiler then submitting a letter of resignation from the board on Feb. 2.

Pirate grappler Aucoin returned from the state wrestling tournament held Feb. 17-20 as the 3A 195-pound champion.

When SJBPH updated its COVID-19 data dashboard on Feb. 22, it showed a one-week cumulative incidence rate that was the lowest the area had seen since the summer of 2021, before the Delta and Omicron waves hit.

Archuleta County is on the leading edge for case decline in Colorado," SJBPH Executive Director Liane Jollon at the time.

On Feb. 22, Archuleta County Manager Derek Woodman indicated that the county hired a consultant to assist with operations in the Finance Department.

The move followed the resignation of Archuleta County Finance Director LeeAnn Martin, who resigned on Feb. 16. The county had received a draft audit for 2020 on Feb. 15.

After weeks of controversy, a proposal for a gravel pit near Piedra Road was withdrawn in late February, with an organization formed to fight the gravel pit announcing the property proposed to hold the pit was sold.

At its Feb. 24 meeting, the SJBPH Board of Health heard an update from Archuleta County Commissioner Alvin Schaaf on the county's plans concerning its inclusion in the health district.

Schaaf said, "It's the same as last time, and I don't know that the [Archuleta County BoCC] is gonna make a decision to leave. I don't know that it takes a decision to go away."

He continued, "But, I would, per the recommendations of our committee that we put together, just ... stress the importance of open communication and maybe movin' forward to the requests that we had that we sent. ... We know we're not going to get everything, but let's try to make this a better relationship and if it takes better communication, I'm open to it, to better communication, but I don't see any reason to move away. It's worked for a long time. We're just askin' for a few things, and I think it's well within our rights to ask ..."

The questions followed Archuleta County forming the Health District Investigative Committee to look at whether or not Archuleta County should remain part of SJBPH.

The Lady Pirate basketball team claimed the Intermountain League championship on Feb. 26 with a 51-50 overtime win over the Centauri Falcons. The win helped the team earn a No. 6 seed for the playoffs.

After losing to them twice in the regular season, the Pirate basketball team topped the Alamosa Mean Moose 44-41 during the semifinals of the district tournament. The Pirates went on to earn the No. 13 seed for the playoffs.

The BoCC heard more offers to purchase the county building at 449 San Juan St. in February.

March

On March 1, the ACSO announced that it had finished its

investigations into the Feb. 7 arrest of an Archuleta County man

Those investigations determined there were sheriff's office policy violations on the part of one of the officers involved, with other claims over use of force and failure to intervene determined to be unfounded. Two deputies resigned over the matter.

At its March 1 meeting, the BoCC unanimously agreed to table the decision on the sale of the courthouse building at 449 San Juan St. to seek further economic analysis by an outside consultant.

At a meeting on March 1, the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District Board of Directors ratified the purchase of a pump for its pipeline to the PAWSD campus after the public works director expressed concern over the district's pump infrastructure and the district was down to its last spare pump.

Woodman presented the results of the 2020 Archuleta County audit to the BoCC at its March 1 work session after it was finalized on Feb. 23 and 24.

The completion of the audit allowed the county to receive grant funds for the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation and allowed the state to release funds that were sequestered by the state on March 3. The grant was in question and the funds sequestered due to the audit being completed late.

After planning to put a ballot issue and the election of three directors before voters in May, on March 3 the PAWSD Board of Directors opted to cancel its election on March 3.

That decision came after a candidate withdrew, leaving three candidates to fill three director positions, and the district determined the ballot issue could be put forward at a future election.

The Lady Pirate basketball season came to an end on March 5 during the Sweet 16 round of the state playoffs after falling to the No. 11 Colorado Springs Christian Lions. The Lady Pirates ended the season with a 16-6 overall record and 5-3 league record.

The Pirate boys' basketball team also fell out of contention in the Sweet 16 round after a 58-32 loss to the No. 4 Colorado Academy Mustangs. The Pirates ended the season with a 15-8 overall record and 5-3 league record.

In March, a trio of Pirate wrestlers received all-conference honors for their work on the mat during the winter season and Janowsky was named the league's Coach of the Year. Aucoin was named to the all-conference team, and Barker and Fulbright received honorable mentions.

The Fred C. Harman III Judicial Facility opened on March 7, allowing county and district court proceedings to return to Archuleta County for the first time since the fall of 2017.

In the fall of 2017, all court activity for Archuleta County Court and the Sixth Judicial District moved to Durango due to concerns with the air quality in the Archuleta County Courthouse.

In early March, gas prices hit record highs, with AAA reporting that the average national gas price on March 7 was \$4.17 per gallon — the highest ever and up from the average price of \$2.77 per gallon a year prior.

In March, it was announced that 429.77 acres of ranchland with 0.75 miles of Navajo River frontage — part of the Bramwell Valley Ranch — was put into a conservation easement.

On March 12, Four Corners SCI presented Pagosa Springs' Dick Ray with the 2022 Jim Willems Commitment to Conservation Award.

Ballots for the April 5 Town of Pagosa Springs election were mailed in mid-March.

Voters had the choice between Shari Pierce, town council member,

and a write-in option, Sara Cole, for Mayor. Three town council seats were also on the ballot, with three candidates: Madeline Bergon (who was already serving on the council), Matt DeGuise (also already serving on the council) and Gary Williams. It also included the citizen-led ballot question regarding per-bedroom fees on STRs.

The Pirate baseball team opened its 2022 season with a narrow one-run loss to the Shiprock Chieftains on March 14.

In mid-March, it was announced that four Pirate basketball players and three Lady Pirate basketball players garnered all-conference honors for their work on the basketball court: Kayson Shahan, Gunner Dozier, Colt Lewis, Logan Harper, Karsyn Shahan, Chantelle Caldwell and Trista Tully. Boys' coach Lewis was named the Intermountain League's Coach of the Year.

On March 15, the BoCC discussed and opted to not make a decision regarding staying with or leaving SJBPH, again citing that it had made no decision to leave, but had just put together an investigative committee to assess the situation.

On March 17, the PSSGID Board of Directors ratified the purchase of another sewage pump and the rental of a diesel pump, with district staff stating the district was close to an emergency situation.

The sewage pump was an interim pump to be used until a new pumping system could be installed, and the diesel pump was being rented on a "stand-by" rate at \$7,713 per month, which means it wouldn't be installed or used unless it needed to be in an emergency situation.

The March 17 town council meeting marked the end of an eight-year tenure as Pagosa Springs mayor for Don Volger, a long-time Pagosa Springs resident who is credited with roughly 45 years of public service in the town.

The Pirate track and field teams started their seasons in strong fashion on March 18, with a relay team on each squad placing first at the Bayfield Invitational, among others.

On March 29, the ASD Board of Education opted to engage with a consultant from the firm McPherson and Jacobson to lead the district's superintendent search and officially begin the search.

On March 29, Veterans for Veterans commemorated National Vietnam War Veteran's Day with an event to honor Vietnam-era veterans. Approximately 80 veterans, friends and family members attended.

The Lady Pirate soccer team won its season opener against Ignacio on March 29 2-1 in overtime.

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Business

FAMLI registration open for employers

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

Employers can now register their business on the new Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program site through the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE). This new program will take effect in January of 2023 with employees being able to withdraw from this fund in 2024. Employers are required to inform their employees of this new payroll deduction by Jan. 1, 2023. Has your business done this? Do you know how to register and how to process the withdrawals?

The CDLE has a special website portal set up to answer many of your questions, to register, and it also has a number of informational tools. Employers can use this site to print posters to post in the workplace, an employee handbook you can have available, even payroll stuffers you can use now to inform employees of this imminent change. If you would like to familiarize yourself with this new law, the easiest way is to visit www.famli.colorado.gov. Through

this website, you can then access the employer portal.

As a background, Proposition 118 was voted into law by the public in 2020. The withdrawals become effective in January of 2023, with employees being able to apply and, if qualified, withdraw from this fund starting in 2024. Paid leave will be granted to employees that need time off to take care of themselves or a family member for things like maternity leave or serious illness. Employees can receive up to 12 weeks of leave. The amount taken from a paycheck period is a total of .9 percent with .45 percent paid by the employee and .45 percent paid by the employer. Businesses with nine or fewer employees do not need to contribute; however, they must remit their employees' share. Many employers use systems such as QuickBooks or Intuit to process payroll. These accounting or payroll systems will have a new payroll item set up in the system by the end of December. Employers using this or a similar system will not have to come up with a way to take out these deductions. You will report and pay the deductions on a quarterly basis just

as you do now with other quarterly payroll deductions.

The website portal where you must register your business is open. You can access this portal through the aforementioned website link and click on the "Employer" box. The site is user-friendly for both employers and employees and has a significant amount of information as mentioned for both the employer and staff. The Chamber of Commerce also has a link to this site on our website from the home page. Just scroll down to Community and Chamber news and click on the graphic for the FAMLI Program. There is also a link to the Colorado Secure Savings Program, which is also going into effect in January 2023.

It is important that employers do the following: Alert your employees about this new deduction beginning Jan. 1. Alert them through payroll stuffers and posters. Some employees may want to know what their approximate take-out might be. The site also has a calculator that you can use to estimate their deduction. Register your business now. Don't wait until after the first of the year. Get your

business in order now. Check with your accountant or bookkeeper to alert you when the new software is in place and make sure that this new payroll deduction item is on your paychecks beginning in January 2023.

And while you are at it, talk to your employees about the Colorado Secure Savings Program. While this is not a required deduction, it could be a reasonable way for employees to create a savings fund for themselves and their family. Employers will also need to register for this program, which also begins in January of 2023. The Chamber has been alerting businesses of these impending changes for some time now and time is running out. Before the holiday rush descends on your business, get your bookkeeping and employee requirements in order. Should you have questions, visit the site or contact Mary Jo at the Chamber at (970) 264-2360.



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Broadband update: Phase II fiber build includes gigabit service

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation and Visionary Broadband

The Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (PSCDC), the Town of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County and Visionary Broadband are excited to announce the completion of the Phase II fiber build in downtown Pagosa Springs.

The newest phase serves a mixture of both business and residential with expanded offerings and provides gigabit service.

“Business today cannot operate without high-speed and reliable Internet, and we are extremely happy to see this level of speed and service,” said PSCDC Executive Director Emily Lashbrooke, noting

that the increased fiber can be an economic driver.

Stacie McDonald, Visionary Broadband vice president of public relations, shared, “Developing ongoing connectivity solutions throughout Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County is vital to the community. We are thrilled to see our continued partnerships here culminate to serve residents and businesses in Phase II.”

This expansion was achieved in part through the leased utilization of the community's SCAN Network fiber.

County Broadband Manager Eric Hittle added, “We're very pleased with Visionary's investment into our community and to

now have our first residential 'Fiber to the Home' area fully functional, built off the public fiber infrastructure. We look forward to many more partnership projects to try and reach as many Archuleta County residences as possible.”

Citizens in the recently lit area can be serviced through overhead aerial drops, which makes installation possible with minimal disruption year-round — a benefit as winter approaches.

An additional benefit cited in 2015 by the FTTH Council showed that availability of fiber to a property can increase values by up to 3.1 percent, similar in value to adding a half bathroom, according to Computerworld.

Assistance is available for home heating bills

Colorado Department of Human Services

With the holidays here and the cost of basic necessities continuing to rise, the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is helping eligible Colorado households save money by paying a portion of home heating bills and offering tips to save on heating costs.

LEAP, a statewide program, helps keep Coloradans warm during the winter months by making a onetime payment directly to the utility company on behalf of each eligible household. Since Nov. 1, almost 60,000 Coloradans have applied for LEAP, a 7 percent increase over 2021. This season, the average benefit is \$440.

According to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association, the cost of heating bills is up 18 percent this season and that is in addition to the 17 percent increase last winter.

“The choice between heating or eating is real for many in our communities, as the cost of everything from food and energy to basic hygiene products and rent continues to increase,” said Theresa Kullen, LEAP manager. “We encourage anyone who thinks they may be eligible for LEAP to apply.”

In addition to applying for LEAP, there are other steps that can be taken to help lower heating bills. Coloradans can ensure their home's furnace is ready for winter by having it inspected by a professional and changing the furnace filter every three months during the winter months. Sealing gaps around doors and windows can also help keep in the heat on cold days. Following a home energy audit, LEAP recipients may be eligible for emergency furnace repair and replacement and weatherization services.

To qualify for LEAP, Coloradans may have an income up to 60 percent of the state median income level, which equates to a household income of less than \$66,468 a year for a family of four. Additionally, LEAP recipients must pay home heating costs directly to a util-

ity company or landlord as part of their rent and have at least one U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident of the U.S. living in the household.

Currently, LEAP recipients may also qualify for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), which is a temporary program that is part of the American Rescue Plan Act. LIHWAP provides funds to make a onetime payment to the water vendor directly on behalf of eligible households who are facing eviction due to

unpaid water bills or whose account is either in arrears or shut off as long as funding is available and the water vendor is a LIHWAP participant.

To access the LEAP application, visit cdhs.colorado.gov/LEAP. Online applications are processed through the Colorado PEAK system. You can also call the HEAT HELP line at 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) to receive an application via mail or email or visit your county human services office to pick up or drop off an application.



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Outdoors



Photo courtesy Josh Merrill-Exton

Fourth-grade student Sage Merrill-Exton during her first Christmas Bird Count at Lake Forest, where she spotted a hooded merganser, among many other bird species.

Conversation with a young birder

By Keith Bruno
Audubon Rockies

Last week, I sat down for an interview with 10-year-old Sage Merrill-Exton, a fourth-grader at Pagosa Springs Elementary School. Merrill-Exton plans to participate in this year's Christmas Bird Count (CBC), scheduled for this Saturday, Dec. 17, marking her third year of surveying birds for the oldest bird count in the Western Hemisphere. Note: some responses have been edited for brevity.

Tell me about your first Christmas Bird Count. What did you see that day and what was it that made it a fun experience?

It was really, really cold. Otherwise, it was a clear morning and easy to see. I went with my dad. We saw a hooded merganser. Its hood (the male's regal crest) was really memorable. It was fun seeing new birds and challenging myself to identify them. I saw some European starlings ... they were so purple. I really like how colorful they are. Also, I saw the trumpeter swan on Lake Forest.

That's great. Oftentimes, our lakes have frozen over by then and our local swan heads to Navajo Reservoir or elsewhere for open water, so you were lucky to see it on count day. What else?

We counted lots of pygmy nut-hatches at neighbors' feeders.

Why do you keep doing CBCs?

Because every CBC I get to see a new kind of bird. It is fun being involved in it. I get to see connections in our ecosystem. Also, my neighbors now contact me for advice around birds. One neighbor contacted me and asked me to identify a bird in this calendar he made for the new year. I told him it looks like a juvenile Cooper's hawk.

Do you and your dad have traditions around the CBC?

We like to get out early while the birds are active. We'll usually check out the lake (Lake Forest) in a few spots; there are usually a whole bunch of ducks over there. Then, we like to drive up Martinez Canyon and through our neighborhood looking for other birds. When we get

home, we like to warm up by the fire and drink hot cocoa. Then, we send our list to my grandmother and tell her what we found and she tells us what she saw that day, too.

Do you think you've learned other things about birds or science from doing the CBC?

Yes. Birds are a key animal group. It's important to include them in our world and not ignore them. Also, they make me pay more attention in my neighborhood. It's interesting to think about what's going on in their lives, not just ours.

Do you like to go birding outside of the CBC?

Yeah. I like going birding in national parks. One time, for my eighth birthday, we went to the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge. We got to see cranes. Also, there were hawks hovering over the fields. Seeing new species that aren't in our area is fun. I like to write down everything about them in my field journal. I have a blue jay feather in my book from my grandma's house. We got to see a (male) cardinal in Saguaro National Park. It was really bright.

How did you get into birding?

It was mostly my grandma and my dad. He was outside a lot for work and seeing pretty birds, like western tanagers. I thought they were cool and I always wanted to get involved in studying something like birds. When I go to see my grandma, we always go to visit a big lake near her. My favorite animals are turtles, and so she always takes me to see the turtles there. And there's a huge island across the water full of double-crested cormorant nests. There are tons of cool ducks there, too. Also, my grandpa started sending me these magazines with pictures of birds to help me get started. Then I got a bunch of bird books. COVID kind of helped me to get into birds, too, because I could be outside so much more. My friend and I would get done with our lessons on the computer and then go outside.

What do you think are some actions that people and Audubon can do to help birds?

Making birdhouses, so there are more places birds can nest in. And,

stop leaving out trash. Birds are everywhere. There's not any place where there are zero birds.

What do you think would be a good way to get more students your age interested in birds?

I've been thinking of, maybe when I get older, going into the elementary school as a mentor. I could go there and give them a birding lesson once every week. One day, I could teach them about the parts of a bird. And then another day, I'd ask them to request a favorite bird, and we could study that bird and talk about its field marks and stuff. Also, another idea is making bird stickers. Sometimes I like to make earrings for bake sales. I thought it could be cool to make bird stickers to sell as well.

Considering that the average age group associated with birding is typically folks in their 50s and up, Merrill-Exton is a great (and youthful) addition to our local Wemi-

nuche Audubon Society chapter's counts and activities.

As an educator of birds, personally, it's a moment of sincere pride and joy to work with someone so interested and invested in birds. In order to secure a healthy future for birds, it's imperative to foster an interest with our future stewards. That's not always easy, as we are prone to taking birds for granted. They move quickly and can sometimes be well camouflaged or difficult to identify. All it takes is sparking an interest around an initial outing. Treat it like a scavenger hunt.

The CBC is an event that often ignites that lifelong interest. If you and your family are interested in getting involved in this year's count, send an email to kbruno@audubon.org and weminuche.audubon@gmail.com and we'll do our best to pair you up with others going out to survey for the 123rd CBC.

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Be a good neighbor to wildlife by removing tangle hazards

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Antlered wildlife across Colorado are on the move during the fall months and extending into December as they migrate to winter range and seek mating opportunities. During this time of year, deer, elk and moose are increasingly prone to becoming entangled in objects found around homes.

This fall, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) officers in Durango had to tranquilize a mule deer to safely remove a cage for a tomato plant from its antlers. The cage would swing in front of the buck's mouth to prevent it from eating.

The same week, a wildlife officer in Woodland Park had to tranquilize a buck to get a plastic ring removed from around its hoof.

Every year, wildlife officers across Colorado respond to incidents like these when deer, elk and moose have become entangled in hammocks, volleyball nets, holiday decorations and more.

That's why CPW asks the public to assess their homes and yards for potential tangle hazards to wildlife. People can help by putting away summer recreational equipment that is not in use and by making sure any holiday lights and decorations are wrapped tightly wherever they are strung.

"Right now is a good opportunity to clean up your yard and to remove items a curious animal might stick its nose in or get wrapped up in," said CPW Assistant Area Wildlife Manager Steve McClung out of the Durango office. "We see animals get wrapped up in netting, landscaping materials and holiday decorations all the time, and it can impair their mobility, vision and ability to eat and drink."

When deer and elk become entangled, the stress involved and the physical exhaustion caused by trying to break free can lead to death.

Wildlife officers can often get deer entangled if they are nearby and notified in a timely manner. In some cases, they will cut off the animal's antlers to free it. In other instances, they can remove the object. Some cases do not require human assistance if the entanglement is not preventing the animal from eating or drinking or if there is low risk that the animal could get caught up in other items that would prevent it from being mobile. In those instances, the animal will be free of the burden when it sheds its antlers.

"We need to know about these situations quickly," McClung said. "It's best if we can get to these animals before they've undergone too much stress and have exhausted themselves. Darting them also creates stress and can lead to mortality if the animal has already been stressed too much."

"If the animal is not tethered to what it is tangled in, it can also be difficult to chase them through a neighborhood and get into a position to dart them, or sometimes they disappear and we never catch up to help them. The sooner we get information, the more likely we will be able to assist that animal."

As people hang holiday decorations this season, CPW recommends lights and other decorations be placed higher than 6 feet or attached tightly to trees and buildings. Lights that hang low or that are draped insecurely over vegetation easily get tangled in antlers.

If you see wildlife that does become entangled, wildlife officials ask you to report that directly to CPW by calling an office local to you or through Colorado State Patrol (CSP) if it is outside of normal business hours. When calling CSP, they will relay your information to the on-call wildlife officer in your area.

Be prepared when calling CPW with information regarding the animal's location and time observed,



Colorado Parks and Wildlife officers Becca de Vergie and Lucas Clancy work to remove a cage for a tomato plant from the antlers of a mule deer buck in Durango.

its behavior, whether it is tied to an object or still mobile and if the hazard is preventing the animal from eating, drinking or breathing.

Do not try to free wildlife from entanglements yourself and always call CPW.

The rut — or breeding season — for deer enters its peak in late November and will last through mid-December.

During this time, bucks have a one-track mind — they want a mate. So they can become agitated if any other animal, object or person appears to be posing a challenge. Dogs are often targets

and they can be badly injured by a buck's antlers.

Deer can become aggressive toward humans, too, so stay well away from them. Attacks get reported around the state each fall.

During the rutting season, bucks will also rub their antlers on various objects to mark territory and signal their presence to other bucks. That can further increase the possibility of tangle hazards.

You can learn more about living with wildlife by visiting the CPW website: <https://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/LivingwithWildlife.aspx>.

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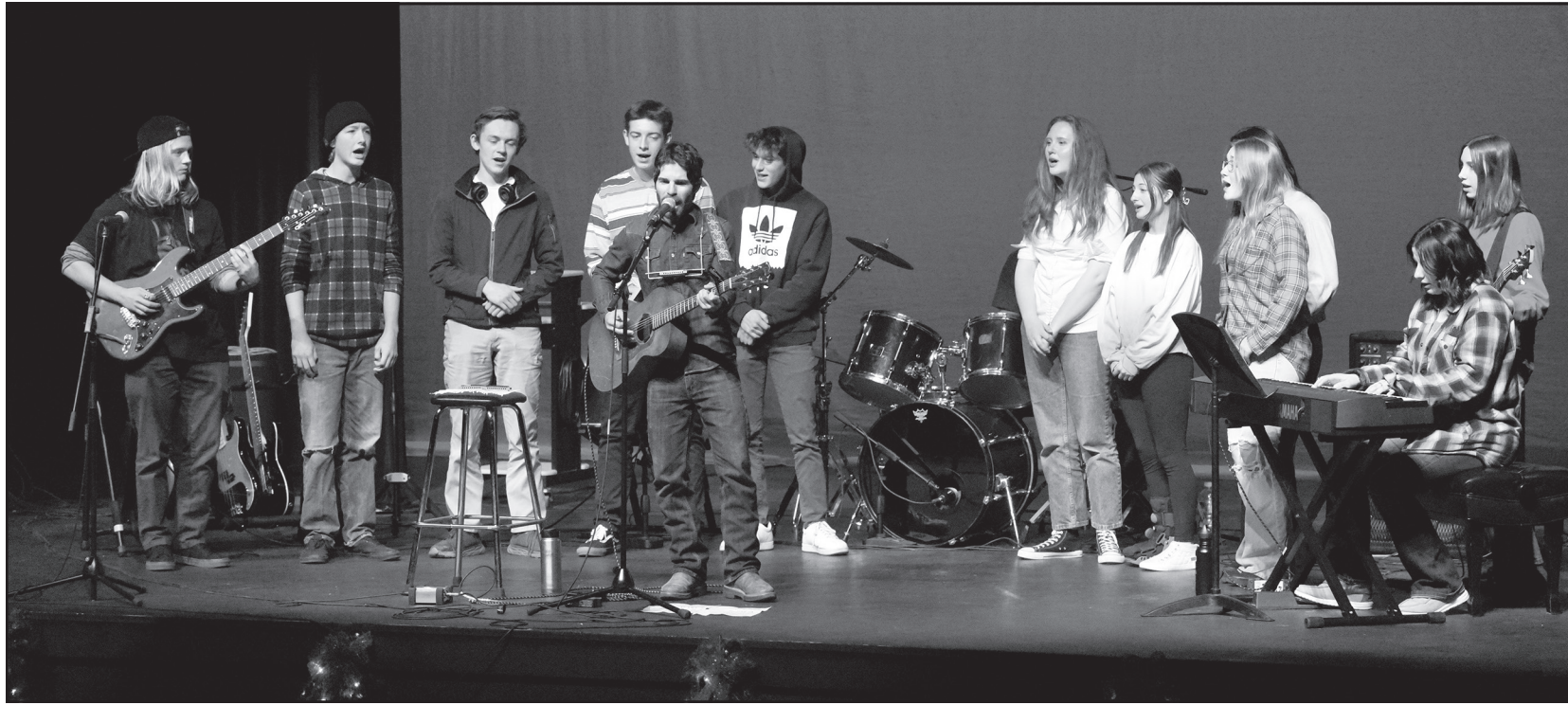
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Education



The Pagosa Springs High School Americana Project class presented a special concert Tuesday evening featuring singer-songwriter Thom Chacon. Students participated in workshops with Chacon before the concert, opened for him with a 45-minute set and joined him on stage for the concert's finale.

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Educators receive grants from Foundation for Archuleta County Education

By Jen Pitcher
FACE

The Foundation for Archuleta County Education (FACE) is a non-profit organization that supports programs to enhance academic opportunities for students K-12 in Archuleta County. Groups or individuals who have innovative or established educational programs are encouraged to submit proposals to the FACE board of directors for consideration. FACE has a long-standing history in annually providing teacher grants.

This year, seven of 10 FACE grant applicants were awarded a total of \$5,000 in grants funded by FACE to

support their teaching endeavors. FACE would like to congratulate the 2022 recipients:

- Andy Guinn and Scott White — San Juan Mountain School.
- Julie Ogier — Pagosa Springs Middle School.
- Kathleen Martinez — Pagosa Valor Academy.
- Katrina Thomas and Malinda Burnett — Pagosa Family School/Pagosa Springs Middle School.
- Mat Wolford — Pagosa Springs Middle School.
- Michele Zeigler and Rachael Christiansen — Pagosa Springs Elementary School.
- Susan Berke-Hand — Pagosa Peak Open School.

FACE is excited to implement a fresh new grant opportunity in 2023; keep an eye out.

As we close out 2022, FACE is looking to replenish funds for 2023. Not only does FACE offer the fall grants for teachers, but they also provide and fund the STEAM educational camp days through the Town of Pagosa Springs' summer K.I.D.S. day camp.

If you are interested in more information on FACE or donating to the cause, you can visit the website at facepagosa.com, email at face81147@gmail.com or pop a check in the mail to: FACE, P.O. Box 2051, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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As I move away, I want everyone to know how grateful my family and I are to you all. I will remember my time here in Pagosa very fondly.

-Thank you Pagosa, from the bottom of my heart.

Christopher Envani, O.D.
ABBA Eye Care
Pagosa Springs

APPLICATIONS TO COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Archuleta County is establishing its own public health department and is appointing members to its Board of Health. Applications are now being accepted for qualified appointees to the Board of Health.

Qualified applicants are those 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.

Applications and more information can be found at www.archuletacounty.org. The deadline for submission is January 20, 2023.

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Sports

SWIM

Lady Pirates open season with state qualification for medley

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team opened its season on Dec. 7 with a big accomplishment: securing a spot at the state meet for one of its medley teams.

The team opened its season at the Salida meet, where the team finished third with 87 points. Salida finished first with 218 points, Kent Denver took second with 125 points and St. Mary's finished fourth with 56 points.

Salida, coach Heather Miller wrote in an email to The SUN, "Was a great meet for a first meet. Our Medley relay qualified for state and we saw many best times or near best times. The meet helped identify some areas we need to work on more, specifically more turn work and more endurance work."

That team, in the 200-meter medley relay, finished third at the event, earning 12 points for the Lady Pirates.

The team — Lynelle Bartz, Karis Blackman, Emma Gantt and Ivanna Erne — finished in 2 minutes, 26.14 seconds.

"We knew they would qualify but did not anticipate it happening in the first meet," Miller wrote.

Another Pirate team — Asia Gorman, Leah Blackman, Bridgette Rollins and Evie Rose — finished eighth in 2:52.70, earning two points.

Gorman finished ninth in the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 3:30.44.

In the 200-meter individual medley, Bartz took fourth with a time of 3:09.39 to earn five points, while Rollins took eighth with a time of 3:48.37 to earn one point.

A number of Lady Pirates par-

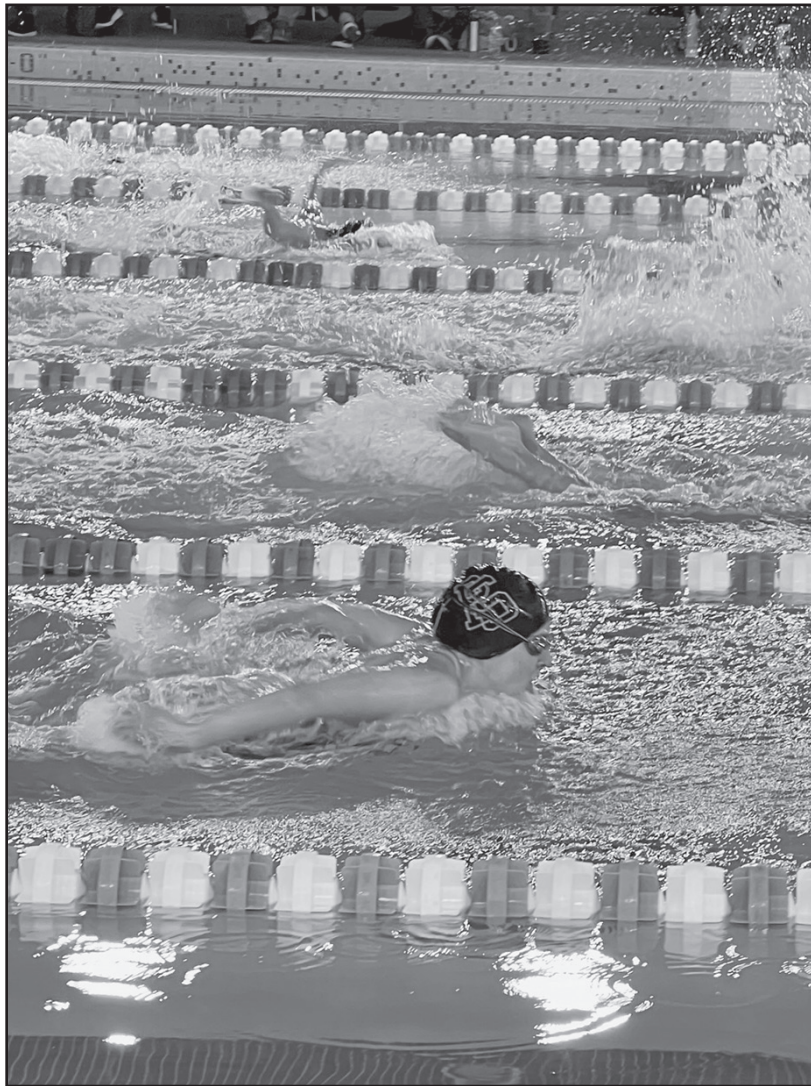


Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Lynelle Bartz and Emma Gantt take part in the Scorpion Invite in Farmington. Both are on the state-qualifying Lady Pirate relay team and recorded their best times in the 100-yard butterfly at the Farmington meet.

icipated in the 50-meter freestyle, with two placing high enough to earn points for the team. Rose took fourth in 33.64 and earned five points, while Kali Jury took seventh in 35.73 to earn two points.

Erne finished third in the

100-meter butterfly with a time of 1:23.53, earning six points for the team.

Several Pagosa swimmers also took part in the 100-meter freestyle, with two earning points. Jury finished seventh in 1:29.28 to earn two

points and Cadence Pair finished eighth in 1:29.71 to earn one point.

Erne also took third in the 400-meter freestyle, finishing with a time of 5:49.35 to earn six points for the team.

Pagosa had two teams in the 200-meter freestyle relay. One team — Jury, Karis Blackman, Dharma Adams and Gantt — finished fourth with a time of 2:23.67 to earn 10 points. The team of Pair, Marlowe Hedgecock, Rollins and Gorman took seventh with a time of 2:41.48, earning four points.

Bartz finished third in the 100-meter backstroke in 1:21.57, earning six points.

Karis Blackman finished third in the 100-meter breaststroke with a time of 1:37.30, earning six points. Leah Blackman finished sixth in the event with a time of 1:47.90 to earn three points.

Pagosa's 400-meter freestyle relay team — Bartz, Jury, Rose and Erne — placed second with a time of 5:17.96 to earn 14 points.

Then, on Dec. 10, the team traveled to Farmington, N.M., to take part in the Scorpion Invite.

"We were able to do a little turn work on our practice in between meets and we saw a little improvement on the turns but we definitely still need to work on turns and endurance," Miller wrote about the meet. "We again saw many best times even from Salida and near best times."

Pagosa finished third out of six teams at the event with a score of 362. That fell behind Farmington's 473 and Piedra Vista's 417.

Two 200-yard medley relay teams scored for the Pirates. A team comprised of Hedgecock, Karis Blackman, Gorman and Adams finished fifth with a time of 2:39.81 to

■ See Swim A16

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BASKETBALL

No. 4 Pirates pick up pair of wins at Heritage Tournament

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team picked up two more wins at last week's Heritage Tournament in Fort Collins, improving to a 4-1 record and moving into the No. 4 spot in the Ratings Percentage Index, which helps determine postseason seeding.

"We won both games," coach Wes Lewis said. "Saturday was pretty tight and pretty close."

The team opened play at the tournament against the Hoehne Farmers, with the Pirates going on to defeat the Farmers 72-38.

"We played pretty well in the first half," Lewis said.

Lewis also acknowledged a Farmer player who shot well in the first half.

"We had really good defense on him, but ... the kid played really well and shot well in the first half," he said, adding later, "He was hitting some amazing shots."

That player, Lewis indicated, cooled off in the second half while the Pirates continued to pull away, leaving them with the 72-38 win.

Additional quarter-by-quarter details were not available by press time Wednesday.

Blake Laner put up 22 points in the game to lead the Pirates in scoring. He also had 10 rebounds, one assist, two steals and two blocks.

Colt Lewis had 11 points, four rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Chase Harper and Kayson Shahan each tallied 10 points in the game. Harper also had two rebounds, two assists and four steals. Shahan also recorded two rebounds, five assists and a steal.

Gunner Dozier had nine points, two rebounds, three assists and a

steal. Aaron Aucoin logged six points, two rebounds and an assist.

Seth Zeigler had two points and two rebounds. Seth Aucoin had two points and six rebounds.

Nathaniel Kinsley and Jaxten Scheil each had one rebound, and Ridge Wilson had two assists. Kinsley also had a steal.

The team made 11 of 22 attempts from the free-throw line and turned the ball over 15 times.

The following day, the Pirates found themselves in a much closer affair against the host Heritage Christian Eagles, which the Pirates went on to win 36-32 in overtime.

Heritage Christian led 9-6 after the first and 18-10 at the half.

Pagosa outscored the Eagles 12-6 in the third and 7-5 in the fourth to push the game into overtime, where they picked up seven points while holding the Eagles to three.

The coach added Pagosa's press was probably the difference in the game, allowing the team to get some steals and easy baskets.

He pointed out the team's only 3-pointer of the night — by Colt Lewis — came in overtime and put the Pirates up by three.

Pagosa then moved into its delay game, Wes Lewis said, where the Eagles fouled and the Pirates made their free throws.

"That kind of propelled us to victory," he said.

The coach indicated the Pirates struggled shooting from the field throughout the game.

"We just shot the ball very, very poorly from the field," he said, adding, "And the longer we went without a perimeter shot, the tighter their defense got on the inside, so it made it extremely hard for our bigs to get anything going inside. We were getting good looks from

the outside, and we had ... good shooters that normally make shots attempting them. It just, for whatever reason, there was a lid on the basket for us."

Not shooting well from the outside, the coach added, made it "pretty tough going."

He also noted the team's defense was good and kept it in the game.

"As bad as our offense was, our defense kept us in the game," he said.

Laner had 10 points, nine rebounds, four steals and three blocks in the game.

Dozier tallied eight points, two rebounds and four steals.

Shahan had seven points, four rebounds and a steal. Aaron Aucoin logged six points, five rebounds and a steal.

Colt Lewis had five points, three rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Seth Aucoin had a rebound and an assist, while Harper recorded a steal.

The team made 13 of 22 free-throw attempts and turned the ball over 15 times.

Tonight, Thursday, Dec. 15, the

team will take on the 3A Salida Spartans at 7:30 p.m. in Salida.

The Spartans are 4-0 on the season.

Wes Lewis noted that the Spartans are a big team that plays a lot of zone defense as well as some trap defense and presses.

"We've got some advantages in spots. They've got some advantages in spots," he said, noting the teams are familiar with each other from last year and club basketball over the summer. "They're a good basketball team and playing really well right now and it's a big challenge for us, but our kids are looking forward to and excited at the opportunity. We're just trying to get better each and every day."

At 7 p.m. Friday, the team will take on the 3A Buena Vista Demons in Buena Vista.

The Demons are 3-2 on the season.

On Wednesday, Dec. 21, the Pirates will welcome the 5A Durango Demons to town for a 5:30 p.m. affair.

The Demons are 2-4 on the season.

randi@pagosasun.com

Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Jacob Miller
Football, wrestling and track

Favorite subject: English

Comments from coach Dan Janowsky: "Senior, Jacob Miller, has gone 6 wins and 1 loss with a runner-up finish in Columbine for the season so far. This is a drastic improvement upon last season and previous seasons. This is due to consistent and focused participation throughout the offseason up to today. His improved performance boosts our team score and influences others to follow. I'm proud to recommend Jacob as a wrestler. He gives us all a good name."

Swim

Continued from A15

A team comprised of Ariel Slead, Leah Blackman, Rollins and Pair finished seventh with a time of 2:42.04 to earn 24 points.

Rose finished seventh in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:39.99 to earn 12 points. Gantt finished eighth with a time of 2:42.06 to earn 11 points. Rollins finished 13th in 3:22.84 to earn four points.

Adams finished sixth in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 3:25.40 to earn 13 points for the team. Karis Blackman finished seventh with a time of 3:26.04 to earn 12 points.

Erne finished second in the 50-yard freestyle in 27.43 seconds — a time that would have qualified her for state had the team been competing in Colorado, with Miller writing, "she easily met the time she needed to qualify and had room to improve that time by focusing and the timing of her breaths."

The performance earned 17 points for the team.

Pair finished 16th in the event with a time of 35.55, earning one point.

Bartz finished third in the 100-

yard butterfly, logging a time of 1:20.39 and earning 16 points. Gantt followed in fourth with a time of 1:21.06 to earn 15 points. Rollins finished eighth in 1:42.53 to earn 11 points.

Rose finished seventh in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 1:08.09 to earn 12 points. Adams took 13th in the event with a time of 1:18.34, earning four points. Karis Blackman finished 16th in 1:21.99, earning one point.

Pagosa had four 200-yard freestyle relay teams earn points at the meet.

The team of Bartz, Gantt, Rose and Erne finished first with a time of 1:59.10 to earn 40 points.

The team of Pair, Karis Blackman, Hedgecock and Adams finished fifth with a time of 2:19.20, earning 28 points.

The team of Gorman, Rollins, Leah Blackman and Slead finished 10th with a time of 2:40.47 to earn 14 points.

The team of Bailee Shallenberger, Bella Gutierrez, Charlie Gutierrez and Gemma Slingerland finished 12th with a time of 3:10.41, earning 10 points.

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.

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Plaintiff(s) ALFRED LOUIS TREJO	DATE FILED: November 18, 2022
v.	
Defendant(s) JONATHAN MARTIN MONTOYA	
△ COURT USE ONLY △	
Case Number: 2022S 15	
Division: 1	Courtroom:
Default Judgment	

The case was called for Small Claims Court Trial. The Plaintiff appeared in person. The Defendant failed to appear. A default judgement entered in favor of the Plaintiff for \$7,234.65. The judgment was augmented by the award of the filing fee of \$55 and the service of process fee of \$45.

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J-F

JUSTIN PATHICK FAY
County Court Judge

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WRESTLING

Pirates take third at Columbine tournament

By Josh Pike
Staff Writer

At the Columbine Invitational in Littleton on Dec. 10, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team placed third with a total of 151 points.

Tournament winner Legacy scored 199 points, while runner-up Legend scored 162 points.

In an email to The SUN, coach Dan Janowsky noted that the tournament included a field of 18 teams and that Pagosa was one of only two 3A teams, with the rest of the participants being 4A or 5A teams.

In an interview with The SUN, Janowsky commented that he was "pleased and encouraged" by the results, adding, "Not satisfied but probably a little higher than most people's expectations for us."

Janowsky highlighted that the team had had two wrestlers triumph in the finals, while two took second place in matches he noted were against strong opponents.

The coach added that the team had five weight classes unfilled due to illness, and had won 23 matches and lost seven in the tournament.

"You could feel it, you could feel the momentum," Janowsky stated. "We got a good look and we learned some lessons. We know where we are."

He added that he is proud of the two wrestlers who won in overtime, noting that their success is a "great indication" for the team.

Anthony Manzanares took third in the 106-pound weight class, going 3-1, and gained 19 points for the team. He won the first championship round with a fall and the quarterfinal with a forfeit by his opponent before being pinned in the semifinal.

Manzanares then triumphed in the third-place match with a fall to secure his placement.

Janowsky stated on Manzanares' victory, "We've been expecting him to kind of break out anytime and it looks like he's starting to move that direction. He's a tough little athlete

and he had a nice day."

Colton Lucero placed first in the 126-pound weight class, going 3-0 and garnering 26 points for the team.

He received a bye in the initial round before pinning his opponents in the quarterfinal and semifinal matches.

Lucero triumphed in the first-place match with a 6-4 sudden-victory win.

Janowsky explained that Lucero is a freshman and that this was his first varsity-level tournament and noted that he had done well with the difficulties that can arise in that level of competition.

"After last weekend ... I'm very anxious to see what we look like against ... a lot of the other regional opponents."
Coach Dan Janowsky

"They're gonna have to take him into account all the way, I think, to the state tournament," Janowsky stated. "He's gonna be a contender."

Luke Tressler, in the 132-pound weight class, also placed first, going 3-0 and gaining 26 points for the team.

He received a bye in the initial round before going on to win the quarterfinal match by a 6-2 decision.

Tressler then pinned both of his opponents in the semifinal and first-place rounds, securing his first-place position with a pin in 56 seconds.

The coach stated that Tressler

was "not challenged all day."

Jacob Miller, in the 144-pound weight class, placed second, going 3-1 and scoring 24 points.

He pinned his initial round, quarterfinal and semifinal opponents before being pinned in one minute 20 seconds in the first-place match.

Janowsky highlighted Miller's performance, noting that this was his best performance.

"He's had his struggles as a young wrestler, but he just keeps getting better and this is his first finals of a good tournament, a big tournament," Janowsky commented. "He wrestled really well to put himself into the finals of the tournament. That's a big deal for him. That's a big deal for us."

Chandler Mazur, in the 150-pound weight class, placed fifth, going 4-1 and earning the team 16 points.

Mazur won the initial round in a major decision before being pinned in the quarterfinal. He then entered the second round of the consolation bracket, pinning his opponents in the second consolation round, the consolation semifinals and the fifth-place match to secure his placement.

Tucker Haines, in the 157-pound weight class, went 1-2 and scored three points for the team, being pinned in the initial round before winning the first consolation round with a pin and being pinned in the second.

At 175 pounds, Heath Fulbright placed third, going 2-1 and earning the team 15 points.

Fulbright received a bye in the initial round before pinning his opponent in the quarterfinals.

He was then defeated in a 3-1 decision in the semifinals before going on to succeed in the third-place match in a 3-1 sudden-victory win.

Janowsky noted that Fulbright had wrestled the No. 2- and No. 3-ranked wrestlers in 5A.

Connor Kelley, in the 190-pound weight class, placed second, going

3-1 and scoring 22 points.

He pinned his opponents in both the initial and quarterfinal rounds before winning in a 10-8 decision in the semifinals.

He was then pinned in the first-place match.

In the 285-pound weight class, Antonio Quesada went 0-2, being defeated in a 2-1 decision in the initial round.

He then received a bye in the first consolation round before being pinned in the second.

Wyatt Hoover also competed in the 144-pound weight class as an unscored wrestler and went 1-2, receiving a bye in the initial round before being pinned in the quarterfinals.

He then won by injury default in the second consolation round before being pinned in the consolation semifinals.

The Pirates will compete next in the Warrior Classic in Grand Junction on Dec. 16 and 17.

Janowsky noted that the Warrior Classic has a reputation for being an "extremely tough" tournament with approximately 40 teams from all divisions and competitors from four to five states.

He added that each bracket often contains multiple wrestlers who had placed at a state tournament.

Janowsky commented that most of the Western Slope teams that the Pirates compete against will also be at the tournament, giving them the chance to assess how they will fare against them.

"It's not always how well we do as a team, but it might be how well we do against the other 3A teams that are entered in the tournament," he commented.

Janowsky explained that the team will be focusing this week on getting to and finishing takedowns and wrestling from the neutral position to prepare for the tournament.

Janowsky concluded, "After last weekend ... I'm very anxious to see what we look like against ... a lot of the other regional opponents."
josh@pagosahun.com

LIVE MUSIC

at the Springs Resort =
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Terry Rickard

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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates fall in close games at Heritage Tournament

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team fell to the Sedgwick County Cougars and Hoehne Farmers at last week's Heritage Tournament hosted by Heritage Christian in Fort Collins.

Pagosa now holds an 0-5 record on the season.

"We played some good opponents in the Heritage tournament,"

coach Sarah Osborn wrote in an email to The SUN. "So far we have shown improvement each game and each week."

The Lady Pirates dropped a back-and-forth affair with the Cougars 40-36 on Friday.

The Cougars led 13-12 at the end of the first quarter, with the teams tied at 21 at halftime. The Cougars bested the Pirates 15-5 in the third quarter to take a 36-26 lead. The Lady Pirates fought back in the

fourth, outscoring the Cougars 10-4, but were unable to overtake the Cougars.

Kylie Ketchum led the team in scoring in the game with 10 points. She also had two rebounds and three assists.

Elizabeth Currier had nine points, four assists and two steals.

Annie O'Donnell put up eight points. She also had five rebounds, an assist and a steal.

■ See Lady A18

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Gennette Erickson
Owner, Hearing Aid Specialist



Cookie contest results in tie for first place

By Susan Halkin
TARA Community Center

On Sunday, Dec. 11, the TARA Community Center held its annual Christmas in Arboles. It was very well attended. Many thanks to all of our vendors who made the day so fun. Two of the vendors ran out of products as the sales were spectacular.

The cookies were especially delicious this year. Thank you to all who participated. Cookie contest winners are as follows:

Two people tied for first place: Tessa Hanna for her Lemon Blueberry Cheesecake Cookies and Eva Johnson for her Nutty Holiday Bars.

Second place went to Alan Tracy for his Holiday Fruit Cookies.

It was a great community event. Arboles is now in the Christmas spirit.

Recipes for these winning cookies are as follows.

Lemon Blueberry Cheesecake Cookies

- (Tied for first place)
1 box lemon cake mix
1/2 cup butter, softened at room temperature
4 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 large egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup white chocolate chips
1 3/4 cup fresh or freeze-dried blueberries

In the bowl of a mixer, mix cake mix, butter, egg, vanilla and cream

cheese. Beat until combined.

Gently stir in white chocolate chips and blueberries until just combined and evenly distributed.

Cover dough and refrigerate for 30 minutes to an hour. Remove from refrigerator and scoop with a small cookie scoop or roll into 1-inch ball-shaped cookies. Place cookie on a silicone mat or parchment-lined baking sheet.

Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. Remove from oven when the cookie is just beginning to turn golden brown on the bottom edges. Let the cookies rest on the baking sheet for 5 minutes to slightly firm up. Remove with spatula and place on a cooling rack to completely cool.

Makes 36 cookies.

Nutty Holiday Bars

- (Tied for first place)
2 cups graham cracker crumbs
6 tablespoons salted butter, melted
1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk, divided
1 cup broken (not crushed) mini pretzel twists, divided
2 cups semi-sweet chocolate baking chips
1/2 cup pecan pieces
1 cup butterscotch baking morsels
1 cup sweetened shredded coconut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix graham cracker crumbs with melted butter and press crust firmly into bottom of a greased 9x13 pan.

Evenly pour 1/2 can sweetened condensed milk over crust.

Mix 1/2 cup pretzel pieces, chocolate chips, pecan pieces, and butterscotch morsels. Pour mixture evenly over sweetened condensed milk.

Pour remaining 1/2 can of sweetened condensed milk overtop; sprinkle with coconut and remaking 1/2 cup of pretzel pieces. Bake 20-30 minutes until edges are golden brown and middle is just set. Remove; cool completely before cutting and serving. Store leftovers in an airtight container. Makes 24 bars.

Holiday Fruit Cookies

- (Second place)
1 cup Crisco
2 cups dark brown sugar
2 eggs
1/2 cup sour milk (add 1 teaspoon vinegar)
3 1/2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups glazed cherries
2 cups chopped dates

Mix all ingredients except cherries and dates until it becomes very thick. Fold in cherries and dates. Chill one hour.

Firm chilled dough into 1 1/2-inch balls and space 1 inch apart on lightly greased cookie sheet.

Bake at 400 degrees for 8-10 minutes until lightly browned.

Makes approximately 6 dozen cookies.

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 409.98 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 56.56 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 59°29'42" 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 53.89 feet; Thence N 8°12'42" 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 68°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°74'02" 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 along the boundary of said Reception number 21706896 on the arc of a non-tangent curve to the right with an arc length of 65.92 feet, and a radius of 510.00 feet, the long chord of which bears N76°10'33"E, a distance of 65.88 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 Custodian: Principal Belice 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 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 Rosebud 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

— \$210.50.

Dec. 7 — Casey Young, improper mountain driving, fines and costs — \$149.50.

Dec. 7 — Michael Braxtrom, speeding 10-19 over, fines and costs — \$225.

Dec. 7 — Harley Orta, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$233.50.

Dec. 7 — William L. Pack, driving under the influence with prior conviction, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 10 days electronic surveillance, 24 months probation updated sentence, fines and costs — \$1,920.50.

Dec. 8 — Joy L. Carter, driver's license-driving without, fines and costs — \$78.50.

Dec. 8 — Terry L. Oneal, driving ability impaired-with prior conviction, 365 days jail suspended imposition, 48 hours community service, 10 days electronic surveillance, 24 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,940.50.

Dec. 8 — Brandy A. Shields, improper mountain driving, fines and costs — \$174.50.

Dec. 9 — Monica F. Fisk, following too closely, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$266.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
No report.

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

Spartans at 6 p.m. Thursday in Salida.

The Spartans are 2-3 on the season.

The team will then take on the 3A Demons at 5:30 p.m. Friday in Buena Vista.

The Demons are 4-0 on the season.

On Wednesday, Dec. 21, the Lady Pirates will welcome the 5A Durango Demons to town for a 4 p.m. matchup. The Demons are 6-1 on the season.

"Looking forward to this week we worked on defense and rotating quicker to closeouts. We also focused on keeping our turn overs down and valuing each offensive possession that we get," Osborn wrote.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
970-264-2100

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: 202.

Dec. 3 — Domestic violence, third-degree assault-simple assault, Colo. 151.

Dec. 5 — Unlawful possession of a controlled substance, second-degree criminal trespass, violation of restraining order, Harry's Court.

Dec. 6 — False imprisonment, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, domestic violence, County Road 700.

Dec. 7 — Dog at large (first offense no injury), Oak Drive/U.S. 160.

Dec. 7 — Violation of restraining order, Veterans Park.

Dec. 8 — Information only, West U.S. 160.

Dec. 8 — Unlawful distribution/manufacturing/dispensing/sale/possession-marijuana sell, West U.S. 160.

Dec. 9 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Dyke Boulevard.

Dec. 9 — Agency assist, Buttermilk Drive.

Dec. 9 — Recovered vehicle, Cloud Cap Avenue.

Dec. 10 — Menacing-intimidation, obstructing peace officer/police animal/fireman, resisting arrest, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, East McCabe Street.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service for week: 144.

Dec. 3 — Warrant arrest, Talisman Drive.

Dec. 3 — Violation of restraining order, Talisman Drive.

Dec. 4 — Criminal mischief, 8th Street.

Dec. 5 — Warrant arrest, Pagosa Street.

Dec. 6 — Violation of restraining order, warrant arrest, Solomon Drive.

Dec. 6 — Criminal mischief, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 8 — Suspended driver's license, expired plates, improper registration, Harman Park Drive.

Dec. 8 — Violation of restraining order, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 9 — Violation of restraining order, warrant arrest, South 7th Street.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court

No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Dec. 7 — Dashon Trevor Lloyd, driving under restraint, fines and costs — \$142.50.

Dec. 7 — Zuzana Birova, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs

Lady

Continued from A17

Karsyn Shahan logged five points, two rebounds, two assists, two steals and two blocks.

Chantelle Caldwell contributed four points, four rebounds, a steal and two blocks.

Cassie Brunson notched three rebounds and an assist.

The team made seven of 14 attempts from the free-throw line and turned the ball over 14 times.

The next day, the Pirates took on the Farmers, this time picking up a 45-39 loss.

The Cougars held a 9-7 lead at the end of the first and 20-17 lead at halftime. The Lady Pirates outscored Hoehne 14-9 in the third quarter to take a 31-29 lead. Unfortunately for the Pirates, the Farmers picked up 14 points in the fourth quarter while limiting the Pirates to eight.

Caldwell led the team in scoring with 21 points in the game. She also had 12 rebounds and two steals.

"Chantelle Caldwell, our senior leader had a double double and she

led us out on the court with her defense, rebounds and on the offensive end," Osborn highlights in the email. Shahan tallied nine points, four rebounds, an assist and a steal.

O'Donnell had seven points, five rebounds and an assist.

Currier had two points, two rebounds, four assists and a steal.

Ketchum and Brunson each logged a rebound and an assist.

The team made 15 of 25 free-throw attempts and turned the ball over 19 times.

"They played hard both games and we cut our turnovers in half. They connected more on the offensive end and played better defense," Osborn wrote. "We came back this week and worked even harder in practice to keep cleaning up the little things that I believe will make us more successful in the future."

This week, the Lady Pirates will be back on the road, this time to take on the 3A Salida Spartans and Buena Vista Demons.

The Lady Pirates will take on the

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.

Darvin 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: ir@hjlegal.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 JOYCE FLEMING
ELINOR M DICKSON
FRANK P DICKSON, JR.
TIMOTHY H KLING
CLARA L KLING
BENNIE 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 Atty. Reg. No.: 51651 Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 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 County 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
Ptarmigan Property Owners Association, Inc.
Plaintiff
v.
Barry 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

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: Patricia Ann Hall Robert O Bunney Barbara K Bunney Kathleen K Semrau Thomas F. Ela, Trustee of the Ela Family Trust Bethy 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: 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 ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN PURSUANT TO THE DECLARATION.
The covenants of said Declaration have been violated as follows: failure to make payments for assessments when the indebtedness was due and owing and the legal holder of the indebtedness has accelerated the same and declared the same immediately fully due and payable. **NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF TIMESHARE INTEREST**

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I will, at 11:00 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 29, 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 STATUTES WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS IS ATTACHED HERETO.

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED. THE LIEN BEING FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. IF YOU BELIEVE THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN §38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN §38-38-103.2, YOU MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL (1-800-222-4444), THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (1-855-411-2372), OR BOTH, BUT THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. The name, address, and business telephone number

of each of the attorneys representing the holder of the evidence of debt are as follows:

Christopher B. Conley, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Ft. Smith, Arkansas 72901 INTENT TO CURE OR REDEEM, as provided by the aforementioned laws, must be directed to or conducted at the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, 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#178806592) Unit Weeks Numbers 26, Unit Number 7205, Building Number 3, Phase I Unpaid Assess

Continued from A18

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 Dr, 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: \$49.18
Judgment Amount: \$4,325.74
JACK W LOGGINS and JANICE F LOGGINS (C#179021506) Unit Weeks Numbers 51, Unit Number 7522, Building Number 5, Phase III
Unpaid Assessments: \$2,668.96
Interest: \$393.78
Late Fees: \$100.00

Attorney's Fees: \$1,000.00
Cost: \$49.18
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 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*.

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 R. 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 Dee Lane a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge-Lane a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge a/k/a Caprice D. Eldridge a/k/a Caprice D. Boyd a/k/a Caprice D. Boyd
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Sarah M. Pizzo, Esq.
Douglas A. Turner, P.C.
Parr 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: 2011c1518
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, PAGOSA HIGHLANDS ESTATES, County of Archuleta, State of Colorado. Also known as street and number as: 2500r 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 13-54-04(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 8-80-103, 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 22-64-120, C.R.S.
- Public employees' retirement benefits (PERA) under Sections 24-51-212 and 24-54-111, C.R.S.
- Social security benefits (OSDI, 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, LAF) 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)(i), 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, C.R.S.
- Certain retirement and pension funds and benefits under Section 13-54-102(2)(c), 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*.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7,
COLORADO
WATER RESUME
(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us.)
TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7
Pursuant to C.R.S. §37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of November 2022, for Archuleta County.

22CW14 Jacob Cammack & Cody Cammack, PO Box 23377, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; Ambitious Pipe Dream Diversion; Archuleta County; In the NW1/4NW1/4, Section 7U, T34N, R35W, NMPM; UTM Coordinates Easting 302641.1, Northing 4120667.7, Zone 13; Stolsteimer Creek; Appropriation date, 8/19/22; Conditional 184.4 gpm, Absolute 40 gpm; Agriculture; Water Use: Pasture (Operate No. 542920); all pleadings and correspondence to: Wayne F. Brown, #2082 and Courtney M. Shephard, #47668 of BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBBER SCHRECK, LLP at 1401 17th Street, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202 Phone: (303) 223-1100 E-mail: wforman@bhfs.com; cshephard@bhfs.com. 2. Claim for Reasonable Diligence: Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows, a. Date of Original Decree: November 30, 2016, Case No. 13CW3032, b. Point of Diversion: The Phillips Ditch headgate located in the NE¼SW¼ of Section 29, Township 37 North, Range 15 East, and 2.537 feet from the South section line and 2.285 feet from the West section line. UTM 13 North, NAD83; X: 331,914 Y: 4,142,583; Mineral County, Colorado; See Figure 1 – a Vicinity Map, c. Source: West Fork of the San Juan River, d. Appropriation Date: November 27, 2013, e. Amount: 0.79 c.f.s., conditional. The maximum and current return flows that may be retained are in Columns 8 and 9 of Tables 2a and 2b, respectively, attached to the original decree. The purpose of the application is for irrigation and freshening of Oxbow Lake from April through November. Uses occur in Oxbow Lake, g. The Phillips Ditch water right was decreed in Case No. CA-165 for irrigation uses. The decree entered in Case No. 13CW3032 quantified and changed that right to allow its use in Bootjack Ranch's plan for augmentation upon the removal of land from irrigation. In the same case, Bootjack Ranch was also decreed the right to divert and divert flows from irrigation underflow from the Phillips Ditch water right, once irrigation ceased. That right, the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows conditional water right, is the subject of this case. Bootjack Ranch has ceased irrigation on and dried up 4.07 acres of the historically irrigated land to construct Oxbow Lake. Table 2b of the 13CW3032 Decree provides the irrigation return flow balance associated with the 4.07 acres of dry up. During the diligence period, Bootjack Ranch has specifically used the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right associated with the 4.07 acres of dry up, 3. Activities During the Diligence Period. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(b), "[t]he measure of reasonable diligence is the steady application of effort to complete the appropriation in a reasonably expedient and efficient manner under all the facts circumstances. When a project or integrated system is comprised of several features, work on one feature of the project or system shall be considered diligent if that reasonable diligence has been shown in the development of water rights for all features of the entire project or system." The above-described right originally decreed in Case No. 13CW3032 is a part of the Bootjack Ranch water system that now provides, and in the future will provide, water for Bootjack Ranch. These rights comprise an integrated system of water rights and structures under C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(b). Since November 2016, Bootjack Ranch has diligently proceeded with its rights, including the activities and expenditures described below, a. Construction & Water System Development Activities. Bootjack Ranch spent more than \$1,000,000 on improvements to its water system including the subject conditional water right; these activities included but were not limited to: i. Upgrading the power supply at Oxbow Lake and installing pumping equipment, flow meters, pipelines, risers, and large capacity sprinkler heads to irrigate the Phillips Ditch irrigated area and Phillips Ditch Broad Enlargement and completing repair work on Oxbow Lake and the Oxbow Augmentation Pond, including replacing discharge pipe, installing totalizing flow meter and valves on the outlet pipe from Oxbow Augmentation Pond, installing a pipeline from the San Juan River to the Oxbow Augmentation Pond, and general maintenance work associated with the inlet and outlet of the Oxbow Lake, b. Engineering & Water Consulting Activities. Bootjack Ranch spent more than \$130,000 in engineering and consulting work to defend and perfect the decreed conditional water right that is the subject of this Application as well as other rights in the system, and to appropriate new water rights for its integrated system of water rights. This work included, but was not limited to: i. Multiple site visits to Bootjack Ranch to document flow rates, irrigated area, and beneficial use of the Phillips Ditch Oxbow Enlargement, Wolf Creek Village Well, Well W5V-1, Well W5V-5, Front Gate Well, Phillips Ditch – Broad Enlargement, Dermody Pump, WB Turner Pumpsites Nos. 1 and 2, and the Brown Spring, ii. Technical support and research to correct the point of diversion for the Phillips Ditch headgate in Case No. 17CW3009, iii. Technical support in perfecting Bootjack Ranch's integrated system of water rights by filing statements of opposition in Case Nos. 17CW3014, 17CW3009, 17CW3041, 21CW3029, and 21CW3014, iv. Technical support for an application in Case No. 22CW3034 for findings of reasonable diligence and to make conditional water rights absolute for certain water rights within the Bootjack Ranch water system, v. Compiling Bootjack Ranch's well diversion records and annual submittal to the Division 7 Office of the Colorado Division of Water Resources, c. Water Counsel Actions. Bootjack Ranch spent more than \$300,000 in legal fees to defend its decreed water rights and to appropriate new water rights for its integrated system of water rights. This work included, but was not limited to: i. The point of diversion for the Phillips Ditch headgate in Case No. 17CW3009, ii. Filing an application in Case No. 22CW3034 for findings of reasonable diligence and to make conditional water rights absolute for certain water rights within the Bootjack Ranch water system, iii. Protecting Bootjack Ranch's integrated system of water rights by filing statements of opposition and participating in Case Nos. 17CW3014, 17CW3030, 17CW3041, 21CW3029, and 21CW3014, 4. Claim for Reasonable Diligence Absolute, a. Date Water Was Applied to Beneficial Use: From July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019, Bootjack Ranch diverted between 4.34 c.f.s. and 8.14 c.f.s. daily at the Phillips Ditch headgate. See Exhibit A – Phillips Ditch Accounting Form – Water Year 2019. Bootjack Ranch allocated the first water diverted to the senior Phillips Ditch irrigation right (decreed amount: 2.35 c.f.s., absolute) and then applied the excess to the junior rights decreed in Case No. 13CW3032: the Phillips Ditch – Oxbow Enlargement (decreed amount: 4.0 c.f.s., absolute, for delivery into Oxbow Lake and the Oxbow Augmentation Pond); and the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows (decreed amount: 0.79 c.f.s., conditional). See id. Column 9 of Table 2b attached to the 13CW3032 Decree which provides that the available monthly return flow rate for the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right associated with the 4.07 acres of dry-up for Oxbow Lake in July is 0.05 c.f.s. Accordingly, Bootjack Ranch placed to beneficial use 0.05 c.f.s. of the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right from the July 2019 diversions at the Phillips Ditch headgate, b. Amount: 0.05 c.f.s. Use: Piscatorial, recreation, and freshening of Oxbow Lake, and continuing the right in full force and effect, c. Granting such other relief as the Court deems just and proper (10 pages including exhibits)

22CW15 Roman Espinosa, 6971 HWY 151, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; Famous Amos; Archuleta County; In the SW1/4SE1/4, Section 25, T34N, R5W, NMPM; UTM Coordinates Easting 292188.5, Northing 4114801.2, Zone 13; Stolsteimer Creek Tributary to Piedra River; Appropriation date, 4/29/22; Conditional 0.92 c.f.s.; Irrigation, stock, fire protection; See application for further details; Application for Conditional Water Rights (Surface) (38 pages including exhibits)

22CW3044 (Prior Case No. 13CW3032) APPLICATION FOR FINDINGS OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE AND TO MAKE PARTIALLY ABSOLUTE. 1. Name, Mailing Address, and Telephone Number of Applicant. Bootjack Ranch, LLC 12500 East Highway 160 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 264-7280 Please see all pleadings and correspondence to: Wayne F. Brown, #2082 and Courtney M. Shephard, #47668 of BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBBER SCHRECK, LLP at 1401 17th Street, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202 Phone: (303) 223-1100 E-mail: wforman@bhfs.com; cshephard@bhfs.com. 2. Claim for Reasonable Diligence: Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows, a. Date of Original Decree: November 30, 2016, Case No. 13CW3032, b. Point of Diversion: The Phillips Ditch headgate located in the NE¼SW¼ of Section 29, Township 37 North, Range 15 East, and 2.537 feet from the South section line and 2.285 feet from the West section line. UTM 13 North, NAD83; X: 331,914 Y: 4,142,583; Mineral County, Colorado; See Figure 1 – a Vicinity Map, c. Source: West Fork of the San Juan River, d. Appropriation Date: November 27, 2013, e. Amount: 0.79 c.f.s., conditional. The maximum and current return flows that may be retained are in Columns 8 and 9 of Tables 2a and 2b, respectively, attached to the original decree. The purpose of the application is for irrigation and freshening of Oxbow Lake from April through November. Uses occur in Oxbow Lake, g. The Phillips Ditch water right was decreed in Case No. CA-165 for irrigation uses. The decree entered in Case No. 13CW3032 quantified and changed that right to allow its use in Bootjack Ranch's plan for augmentation upon the removal of land from irrigation. In the same case, Bootjack Ranch was also decreed the right to divert and divert flows from irrigation underflow from the Phillips Ditch water right, once irrigation ceased. That right, the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows conditional water right, is the subject of this case. Bootjack Ranch has ceased irrigation on and dried up 4.07 acres of the historically irrigated land to construct Oxbow Lake. Table 2b of the 13CW3032 Decree provides the irrigation return flow balance associated with the 4.07 acres of dry up. During the diligence period, Bootjack Ranch has specifically used the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right associated with the 4.07 acres of dry up, 3. Activities During the Diligence Period. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(b), "[t]he measure of reasonable diligence is the steady application of effort to complete the appropriation in a reasonably expedient and efficient manner under all the facts circumstances. When a project or integrated system is comprised of several features, work on one feature of the project or system shall be considered diligent if that reasonable diligence has been shown in the development of water rights for all features of the entire project or system." The above-described right originally decreed in Case No. 13CW3032 is a part of the Bootjack Ranch water system that now provides, and in the future will provide, water for Bootjack Ranch. These rights comprise an integrated system of water rights and structures under C.R.S. § 37-92-301(4)(b). Since November 2016, Bootjack Ranch has diligently proceeded with its rights, including the activities and expenditures described below, a. Construction & Water System Development Activities. Bootjack Ranch spent more than \$1,000,000 on improvements to its water system including the subject conditional water right; these activities included but were not limited to: i. Upgrading the power supply at Oxbow Lake and installing pumping equipment, flow meters, pipelines, risers, and large capacity sprinkler heads to irrigate the Phillips Ditch irrigated area and Phillips Ditch Broad Enlargement and completing repair work on Oxbow Lake and the Oxbow Augmentation Pond, including replacing discharge pipe, installing totalizing flow meter and valves on the outlet pipe from Oxbow Augmentation Pond, installing a pipeline from the San Juan River to the Oxbow Augmentation Pond, and general maintenance work associated with the inlet and outlet of the Oxbow Lake, b. Engineering & Water Consulting Activities. Bootjack Ranch spent more than \$130,000 in engineering and consulting work to defend and perfect the decreed conditional water right that is the subject of this Application as well as other rights in the system, and to appropriate new water rights for its integrated system of water rights. This work included, but was not limited to: i. Multiple site visits to Bootjack Ranch to document flow rates, irrigated area, and beneficial use of the Phillips Ditch Oxbow Enlargement, Wolf Creek Village Well, Well W5V-1, Well W5V-5, Front Gate Well, Phillips Ditch – Broad Enlargement, Dermody Pump, WB Turner Pumpsites Nos. 1 and 2, and the Brown Spring, ii. Technical support and research to correct the point of diversion for the Phillips Ditch headgate in Case No. 17CW3009, iii. Technical support in perfecting Bootjack Ranch's integrated system of water rights by filing statements of opposition in Case Nos. 17CW3014, 17CW3009, 17CW3041, 21CW3029, and 21CW3014, 4. Claim for Reasonable Diligence Absolute, a. Date Water Was Applied to Beneficial Use: From July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019, Bootjack Ranch diverted between 4.34 c.f.s. and 8.14 c.f.s. daily at the Phillips Ditch headgate. See Exhibit A – Phillips Ditch Accounting Form – Water Year 2019. Bootjack Ranch allocated the first water diverted to the senior Phillips Ditch irrigation right (decreed amount: 2.35 c.f.s., absolute) and then applied the excess to the junior rights decreed in Case No. 13CW3032: the Phillips Ditch – Oxbow Enlargement (decreed amount: 4.0 c.f.s., absolute, for delivery into Oxbow Lake and the Oxbow Augmentation Pond); and the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows (decreed amount: 0.79 c.f.s., conditional). See id. Column 9 of Table 2b attached to the 13CW3032 Decree which provides that the available monthly return flow rate for the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right associated with the 4.07 acres of dry-up for Oxbow Lake in July is 0.05 c.f.s. Accordingly, Bootjack Ranch placed to beneficial use 0.05 c.f.s. of the Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows water right from the July 2019 diversions at the Phillips Ditch headgate, b. Amount: 0.05 c.f.s. Use: Piscatorial, recreation, and freshening of Oxbow Lake, and continuing the right in full force and effect, c. Granting such other relief as the Court deems just and proper (10 pages including exhibits)

22CW3044 (Prior Case No. 13CW3032) APPLICATION FOR FINDINGS OF REASONABLE DILIGENCE AND TO MAKE PARTIALLY ABSOLUTE. 1. Name, Mailing Address, and Telephone Number of Applicant. Bootjack Ranch, LLC 12500 East Highway 160 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 264-7280 Please see all pleadings and correspondence to: Wayne F. Brown, #2082 and Courtney M. Shephard, #47668 of BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBBER SCHRECK, LLP at 1401 17th Street, Suite 2200 Denver, CO 80202 Phone: (303) 223-1100 E-mail: wforman@bhfs.com; cshephard@bhfs.com. 2. Claim for Reasonable Diligence: Phillips Ditch Irrigation Return Flows, a. Date of Original Decree: November 30, 2016, Case No. 13CW3032, b. Point of Diversion: The Phillips Ditch headgate located in the NE¼SW¼ of Section 29, Township 37 North, Range 15 East, and 2.537 feet from the South section line and 2.285 feet from the West section line. UTM 13 North, NAD83; X: 331,914 Y: 4,142,583; Mineral County, Colorado; See Figure 1 – a Vicinity Map, c. 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The Pagosa Springs Community Choir presented its Christmas concert Dec. 9-11 at Pagosa Springs High School. The concert celebrated the season with a number of festive tunes, including an a capella portion sung while surrounding the audience. Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon and Randi Pierce



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NMLS# 421822



Member FDIC

Come visit our booth in the Town Park for the Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration on December 17th from 4 to 7:30 p.m.

- Free Drawing for \$100 gift certificate to Goodman's Department Store
- Glow sticks for the kids
- Hot Apple Cider and healthy homemade cookies
- Christmas Trivia Quiz (How well do you know Christmas?)
- Free "10 Secrets to Living 10 Times Better" book \$10 value, First 200 visitors
- Free Hard bound book on the Life of Christ, "The Desire of Ages" This book was acclaimed by the United States Library of Congress in the 1950s as the most sought-after book on the life of Christ. \$20 value, First 50 visitors



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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration

Dec. 17 • 4:30 to 7 p.m. • Downtown Pagosa Springs



Photo courtesy Phil Slusher

December 15, 2022

Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration set for Saturday evening

By Jennifer Green
Visit Pagosa Springs

Join us Dec. 17 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. for the second annual Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration in downtown Pagosa Springs.

Enjoy more than 20 Christmas-themed displays and activities, a hot air balloon glow, live music, free hot chocolate and cider, games, toys and other goodies. And, of course, Santa Claus. Santa will arrive by horse-drawn sleigh at his workshop at the Visitor Center shortly after 4:30 p.m., with opportunities to view his arrival along San Juan Street and the Hot Springs Boulevard bridge.

The route extends along the Riverwalk from Centennial Park to Town Park, crossing Veterans Bridge and down San Juan Street to the Visitor Center. Entry points for the walking route include Town Park, the Visitor Center and Centennial Park. Look for decorated white tents at the key entry points to receive decorative lights, an event map and a scavenger hunt card to win a free ornament.

Attendees are encouraged to bring flashlights. The event will be held regardless of weather.

Segments have been adopted by the following groups, organizations and businesses:

- Knights of Columbus.
- Chimney Rock Interpretive Association.

- Wolf Creek Gun and Bow Association.
- Soul Medicinals Massage.
- Pagosa Springs Medical Center.
- Pagosa Fire Protection District.
- Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership.
- Pagosa Adventure
- The Springs Resort.
- St. Patrick's Choir.
- Buckaroos Horse-Drawn Rides.
- Positive Design Builds.
- Jackson Mountain Ramblers.
- Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce.
- San Juan Outdoor Club.
- Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs.
- Upper San Juan Search and Rescue.
- Natural Grocers.
- Archuleta County Republicans.
- Alpine Medical Specialty Practices.
- Seventh-Day Adventist Church.
- Humane Society of Pagosa Springs.
- Boy Scouts Troop 807.
- Rugby's Rescue House.

This event is a collaboration of the Town of Pagosa Springs and The Pagosa Springs SUN.

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

■ See Celebration on next page

Live Performers

Friday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Saturday

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

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Terry Rickard, 5 p.m.

Wednesday

Alley House Grille lounge: Bob Hemenger, 5:30 p.m.

The Den: Karaoke, 8 p.m.

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Noel Music Group, 5 p.m.

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SUN

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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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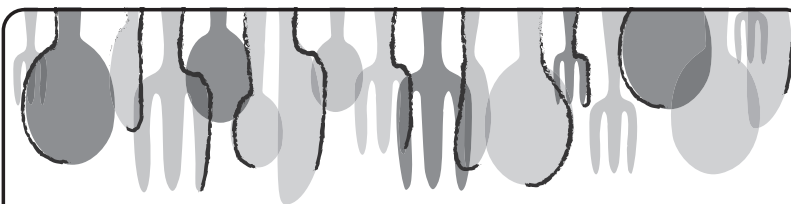


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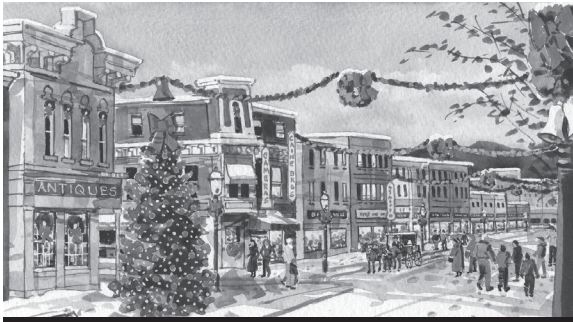
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Christmas in Pagosa

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.

Heralds of Christmas coming this Sunday

By Rick Artis
Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society

The 2022 Heralds of Christmas will be performed this Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m. Join us in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium for an afternoon of joyous holiday music.

This year's event promises to be better than ever. A wide variety of musical numbers, featuring many of Pagosa Springs' favorite performers, will fill the hall. Seasonal favorites combined with less-traditional arrangements promise to delight the entire family.

Heralds of Christmas is presented by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS) in collaboration with Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP). 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. From providing pairs of drumsticks or a series of lessons, to a set of chimes, and many items in between, there are many ways that you can help. Specific donations will go to supply the individual need. General donations will support the missions of both PSIMS and CUP.

Make plans now to join us this Sunday for the Heralds of Christmas.

Celebration

continued from previous page

Road closure alert

The Town of Pagosa Springs would like to alert the community that there will be road closures in downtown Pagosa Springs during the Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration on Dec. 17. Between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Hot Springs Boulevard will be closed to vehicular traffic from Hermosa Street to south of San Juan Street. Additionally, Hermosa Street will be closed from Town Park to Hot Springs Boulevard. Traffic will not be permitted from U.S. 160 onto Hot Springs Boulevard during the event. Any traffic needing to access the businesses south on Hot Springs will need to take an alternative route from Apache Street or Light Plant Road.



Making Your Holidays Merry & Bright

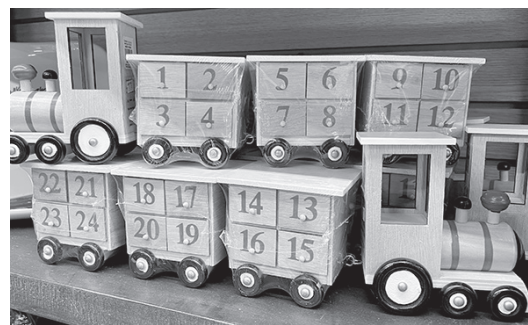


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THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

A twist on a fall favorite

Special to The PREVIEW

Pumpkin pie is a fall favorite, but it's also a perfect pie to serve throughout the holiday season.

There are many different pumpkin pie recipes, even though it's difficult to improve on pumpkin pie which is known for its creamy consistency and warm spices. But pumpkin pie can be even more delicious with the addition of an extra-special ingredient: bacon.

This recipe for "Joe's Incredible Bacon Pumpkin Pie," courtesy of Royal Bacon Society and Allrecipes, uses maple-cured bacon as well as tangy cream cheese to increase the appeal of pumpkin pie.

Joe's Incredible Bacon Pumpkin Pie

Serves 12

- 1/2 cup cubed fresh pumpkin
 - 1 1/2 cups cream cheese, softened
 - 1 cup packed brown sugar
 - 3 eggs
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 cup half and half
 - 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
 - 2 (10-inch) prepared graham cracker pie crusts
 - 16 slices maple-cured bacon
1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
 2. Bring a small pot of salted water to a boil; add the pumpkin and cook until soft enough to easily pierce with a fork, about 10 minutes. Drain.

3. Mash the cooked pumpkin with a potato masher in your favorite large bowl. Mix the cream cheese and brown sugar with the mashed pumpkin. Whisk in the eggs one at a time. Add the vanilla, half and half, cinnamon, ginger, allspice, and cloves; stir until you have a thin batter. The batter should be slightly thinner than pancake batter. Pour the batter into the pie crusts.

4. Place the bacon in a large skillet over medium heat until evenly brown. Trim soft, fatty bits from strips. Press seven pieces of bacon into the batter of each pie with a fork.

5. Bake the pies in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Decrease the heat to 375 F. Top each pie with two pieces of cooked bacon and bake.

Cookies and Cider with Mr and Mrs Claus!
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Cinnamon Crumble pizza!

Holiday season opening Friday at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By Laura Moore
Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" opens on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. and plays most days at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. until Dec. 29. The 7 p.m. show on Dec. 17 is already sold out.

Presented by professional Thingamajig Theatre Company in residence at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, this sweet holiday favorite is perfect for the whole family to enjoy.

"A Charlie Brown Christmas" is a musical stage adaptation of the classic animated TV special featuring Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus and the gang discovering the true meaning of Christmas.

Thingamajig Theatre Company, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that is supported by grant makers and private donors, felt that this season, especially, professional theater experiences should be even more accessible to our beloved community. With tickets for kids for only \$10 and adults for \$20, we hope you will join us as we bring to life this holiday classic.

The show stars professional performers from around the country, two local rising young thespians and a crew of incredible scenic artists, costumers, set designer and build team who will bring the show to life. It is a gift that will warm your heart beyond the less-than-an-hour-long experience and well into the holiday season. We recommend that you come early enough to enjoy the decorations and ambiance that marks

the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts as the top destination in Pagosa for getting in the Christmas mood.

'A Merry Little Christmas Concert'

"A Merry Little Christmas Concert" plays on Dec. 22, 23 and 26 at 7 p.m. It is a beautiful concert for the holiday season featuring the talent vocalist in Thingamajig's winter season including featured performances by Trevor Brown and Samantha Luck, who both starred in the 2022 summer season production of "Guys and Dolls." It will warm the hearts of family members of all ages. Picture you, your family and your friends spending an evening at the exquisitely decorated Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts filling your souls with the magic of the holidays.

Celebrating with joyous comradery of fellow concert goers will be the perfect way to ring in the season. Tickets are \$25 for kids and \$35 for adults.

'A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS'

"A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS" plays Dec. 30 and 31 at 2 p.m and 4 p.m. This whimsical show follows two great friends — the cheerful, popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad — through four fun-filled seasons. Waking from hibernation, Frog and Toad plant gardens, swim, rake leaves, go sledding and learn life lessons along the way. Throughout the year, two best friends celebrate and rejoice in the differences that make



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Kristi Contreary in Thingamajig's 2021 production of "A Miracle on 34th Street Radio Show." Contreary is starring as Lucy in "A Charlie Brown Christmas," as well as being featured as a vocalist in "A Merry Little Christmas Concert" and being part of the production team for "A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS."

them unique and special.

Based on the beloved children's books and performed by the students in the Whatchamawhozits Children's Theatre class, this sweet show is a perfect way to celebrate the new year with your friends and family. Tickets are only \$5 for this charming and funny 35-minute telling of these classic stories.

Schedule and tickets

The calendar can be viewed and tickets can all be purchased online at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling the box office at (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

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---	---

*Special offers end 1/8/23. Frequency cards are good for one year from purchase date. See website for more details and restrictions.

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Thank you!

We would like to thank our community for their support of the Festival of Trees, at the public viewing and voting and at the auction. Due to your generosity, over \$35,000 was raised for 20 nonprofits!

We would like to thank our buyers:

- Bank of Colorado * Marshall & Ashley Currier
- Jann C Pitcher Real Estate * Cabe's Collision & Customs
- Tim Brown Construction * San Juan Vet Hospital
- United Rentals * Claudia Rosenbaum
- Scott Strategic Investments * Lynn Wachtmann
- Forge * Jann Pitcher * Stacey Scapes
- Amy Wilson * Kim Moore * Devo Capital

We also thank Steve Blechschmidt, Chavolos, Michelle Clark, Silver Dollar Liquor & all our volunteers.

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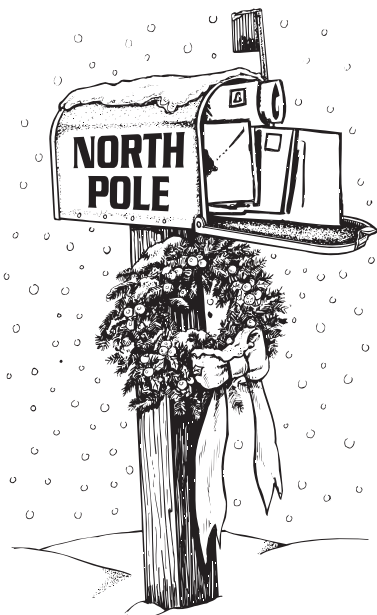


Drop your letters to Santa off at The SUN

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

CHRISTMAS EVE
Candlelight
SERVICE
Saturday, December 24 at 5:00pm

Brass Prelude at 4:30pm

The service will be in person and online at www.pagosabiblechurch.org

PAGOSA BIBLE CHURCH
209 Harman Park Dr. (behind Wells Fargo)



Christmas Services Schedule

Regular Sunday Service, Dec. 18, 8:15 AM

Christmas Cantata Service, Dec. 18, 11 AM

Candlelight and Carols Service, Dec. 24, 6 PM

Christmas Day Service, Dec. 25, 10 AM

Community United Methodist Church • 434 Lewis St.



San Juan Stargazers to hold star party with telescopes on Dec. 22

By Joan Meiritz
San Juan Stargazers

Our monthly meeting in December will be on Thursday, Dec. 22, starting with a social time of coffee, tea and other treats at 5 p.m. and setting up telescopes. Also, please bring your telescopes from home.

We will not be meeting at the church, rather at one of our star party sites. If you need directions, please call (720) 626-9304 and leave a message for a return call. Nonmembers are welcome, but will need to call ahead. As always, please be caring of our members and stay home if you're not feeling 100 percent well. Wear a mask for caution against our new "winter triple threat." Wearing a mask is a great statement of love for yourself and others. It is a small price to pay for your life.

"Meadows West" is where we held our 10th anniversary dinner and where our December meeting will be held. The beauty of having star parties at someone's home is that when we get cold, we can go inside to warm up with tea and hot chocolate and maybe a warm fire. Many of us are not as hardy as we used to be.

If the weather does not allow for telescope use, we will have a great program with a speaker and birthday cake. This fall, Dr. Andy Green, who worked as an astronomer at the Australian National Observatory, joined our club. He has spoken to the club in the past when he was visiting his mom, Nancy Green, a dedicated Chimney Rock Interpretive (CRIA) volunteer of at least 25 years. Green is now living in Pagosa and if we can't use our scopes, he will answer "astronomy questions." He is an exceptional teacher.

One other activity of the night will be to prepare for our James Webb programs to be held on Jan. 12 and Feb. 9, 2023. Mont McAllister will be gathering a list and

pictures of the most recent Webb discoveries. Members can pick a favorite to present to Pagosa in the new year.

There are only a few Space Mysteries Calendars left. We actually sold out our first order, but got more for the many people of Pagosa who purchase calendars every year. The space photos for each month are fabulous, mostly from Hubble. Seriously studying the pictures and information is like having an introduction to astronomy class. The calendars are \$15, which includes a partial club donation. They are a perfect gift to mail to your grandchildren so that when you talk with them, you can give them a mini astronomy lesson and maybe even a quiz.

You can all get more in touch with our amazing universe in a simple and fun way. Call (303) 995-2888 and leave a message with the number of calendars and your name and phone number. Someone will get back to you to make pickup plans. Stargazers will be at the Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration event on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. next to the CRIA booth and heaters. We cannot sell calendars, but people can pick up calendars that they have ordered.

We will be having many star parties this winter. As our club is growing, we now have three homes for winter star parties. They will be identified as "Meadows West," "Meadows East" and "Downtown." The dates are:

- Jan. 20, 2023: Deep-sky viewing at Meadows East.
- Jan. 28, 2023: Moon viewing at Meadows West.
- Feb. 17, 2023: Deep-sky at Meadows West.
- March 17, 2023: Deep-sky at Meadows East.
- March 28, 2023: First Quarter Moon viewing at Meadows West.
- April 14 and 21, 2023: Deep Sky at Meadows East.

Note that there are no star parties at the beginning of the months because each month begins with a full moon. If these dates get clouded out, we will do some impromptu parties. Our goal, besides having fun, is to be prepared for Summer Night Sky Programs at Chimney Rock with telescopes (until our next pandemic).

If you would like to join the San Juan Stargazers, you will also receive Reflector Magazine, which is the publication of the National Astronomical League of which you automatically become a member. The December 2022 Reflector Magazine has been delivered. If you didn't get yours, please contact Joan.

To join both groups and get an excellent astronomy magazine, annual membership is only \$25 per family. This year there is a fabulous special gift for new and renewing members. It will help you become the astronomer you have always dreamed of being. You will love it. You can join the club at any of our events or on our website.

The San Juan Stargazers Club is part of the Astronomical League—celebrating its 75th year of service—which includes over 300 clubs from all over the U.S. including over 20,000 members. Our local group also has a website, www.sanjuanstargazers.org. Check it out for more information and beautiful Hubble and Webb photos. We welcome everyone to learn more about our amazing universe. Hope to see you soon.



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Saturday

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

Southwest Organization for Sustainability nears 20 years

By De Anna Hoyle

Southwest Organization for Sustainability

It started as a tiny seed of an idea in the early 2000s and most likely even before that. A small group of concerned Pagosans came together with the purpose of leaning about ways to make our beloved community a more environmentally sustainable place. As environmental issues came to the forefront in the minds and hearts of many people, this idea seed grew into the Southwest Organization for Sustainability (SOS), a non-profit here in Archuleta County.

With the broad mission — to promote a sustainable community with a primary focus in Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County — the goals of SOS are simple:

- Communicate with and educate the public and elected officials about choices that affect sustainability.
- Undertake and support specific projects that foster sustainability.
- Offer coordination by partnering with a variety of individuals and groups to fulfill community needs.
- Research best practices adopted elsewhere to foster sustainable communities.
- Investigate funding options to support local sustainability efforts.
- Maintain awareness of sustainability efforts in the Four Corners region.

These goals, created nearly 20 years ago, are the foundation of this volunteer-run organization. The growth of continued sustainability efforts in the county are evident within our community. From local food systems to promoting awareness of the precious resources of our planet, the spirit of SOS's mission is alive through the amazing Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (PagosaGreen.org)



Photo courtesy Southwest Organization for Sustainability

The Southwest Organization for Sustainability (SOS) formed in the early 2000s with the goal of helping the community become more environmentally sustainable.

and outstanding work of Healthy Archuleta (FoodCoalition4Archuleta.org), two local entities that have trailblazed sustainability practices.

As the fiduciary entity that holds the Pagosa Farmers Market, and continues to grow its potential through the Pagosa Online Farmers Market (PagosaFarmersMarket.net), SOS (SOSPagosa.org) is vital to the community, its residents and the wider world.

In future articles, we will highlight the ways SOS and its partners have contributed to making our home, the earth, a sustainable garden to live, play and work in — for the future of our children and our children's children. Visit the website to become a sustaining member of this work.

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Humane Society
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www.humanesociety.biz
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Preview Calendar

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

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.

Community Garden Dome Tour and Discussion. 1 p.m., Centennial Park. Community members are invited to join the Pagosa Senior Center and the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership to enjoy a tour of the Community Garden Dome and have a discussion about the community and health promoting benefits of growing local and seasonal food using local renewable energy.

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.

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.

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. 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. Sisson Library. Bring your favorite

■ See Calendar on next page

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Happy Hour 5-7 • \$3.25 draft • \$4.50 well

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Please join us for First Southwest Bank's Holiday Open House at our Pagosa Springs branch.

Friday, December 16 | 249 Navajo Trail Dr.
9:00am-1:00pm | Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



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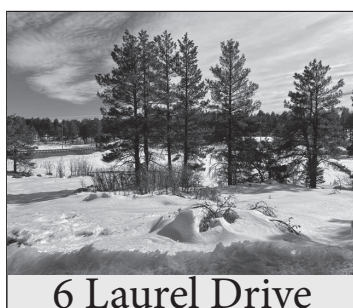
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2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

Sunday, Dec. 18

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Heralds of Christmas. 3 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. A wide selection of holiday music will be performed. Admission is free; donations will be gratefully accepted.

'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).

Monday, Dec. 19

Medicare Mondays. For anyone who needs help navigating Medicare plans, fraud concerns and/or troubleshooting issues that they may be having. By appointment only. Please call our Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext. 4. Someone will return phone messages within 24 hours.

Pickleball. 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. 20

Pagosa Springs Stitches. 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,

■ See Calendar on next page



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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

'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).

Dungeons and Dragons. 3:45-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 4th-12th grades. Join the adventure. Contact the library to register; space is limited. 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.

'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).

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Beginner lessons, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Loaner paddles are available.

Free Play. 10-11 a.m. We've got plenty of fun toys that will be available for this hour of open playtime. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Wrestling. 10 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Durango.

Pagosa Senior Center Christmas Party. Noon-3 p.m., Senior Center. The community is invited to attend a casual and festive Christmas party. Come for lunch and stay for a joyful time together. Local musicians will provide two 45-minute sets of holiday music; we will follow lunch with hot coffee served alongside house-made holiday desserts. We are planning a pseudo snow fight, some shenanigans with Santa Claus and a few free door prizes to jazz up the moments we share together. We invite community members to join in serving our seniors and their families by offering a donation of shelf stable foods or warm clothing this holiday season. Please RSVP via text to (970) 264-2167.

'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).

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Durango.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Durango.

Thursday, Dec. 22

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 hot meals 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.

■ See Calendar on next page

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Friday, December 16
Jackson Mountain Ramblers

Saturday, December 17
Bob Hemenger

Tuesday, December 20
Terry Rickard

Wednesday, December 21
Noel Music Group

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Join us for a ribbon cutting
& grand re-opening celebration

DATE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2022

TIME: 11:00AM TO 2:00PM

WHERE: TBK BANK
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Sun. Open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

'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).

Pagosa Springs Varsity Girls' Basketball. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Durango.

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.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Durango.

'A Merry Little Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. The winter season actors of Thingamajig Theatre Company will showcase their singing and dancing skills. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$20 for kids 12 and under and available at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Friday, Dec. 23

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

Gaming. 3-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

'A Merry Little Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. The winter season actors of Thingamajig Theatre Company will showcase their singing and dancing

skills. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$20 for kids 12 and under and available at www.pagosacenter.org or by calling (970) 731-SHOW (7469).

Saturday, Dec. 24

'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).



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This ad was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of a grant totaling \$911,847 with 100% funded by HRSA. The contents are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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public health**

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health agency for Archuleta
and La Plata counties

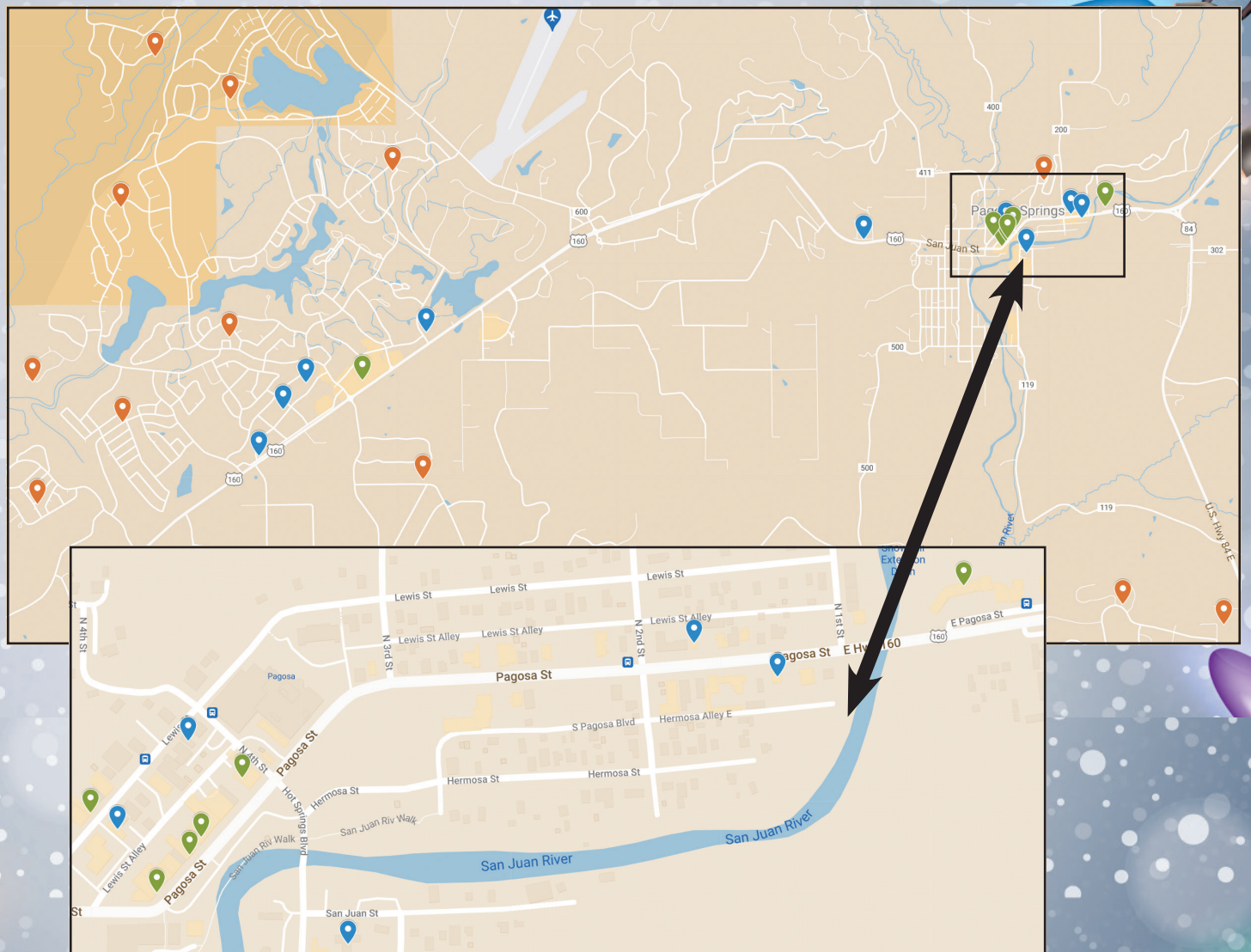
Holiday lights

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 Liz Jamison

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the great horned owl.

In children's books, this bird is often known as the wise old owl and a group of them is known as a wisdom. Some cultural mythologies associate this owl with bad luck and death. Definitely, this bird of the night has captured our imagination.

This large, widespread owl is a master of camouflage, colored in grays and browns with a white throat patch. Large tufts of feathers that look like ears have nothing to do with hearing, but do help the bird's silhouette resemble that of a branch. They have large, yellow eyes whose retinas contain many rod cells to provide excellent night vision. Specialized soft feathers with fringes muffle air sounds and provide silent flight. These adaptations make this bird a fearsome nighttime predator known as the "tiger of the sky."

Strictly carnivorous, it is not a picky eater, consuming small to medium-sized mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, other raptors and nestlings. With a fairly poor sense of smell, it is one of the few species that preys on skunks. Small prey is eaten whole and indigestible parts are regurgitated as hard pellets containing bone, fur, teeth and feathers.

Mated pairs are monogamous and may stay together for life, remaining on the same territory of several hundred acres year after year where they are loyal to favorite feeding spots and roosts. Crows, whose roosts great horneds raid at night, are their sworn enemies and may gather in noisy mobs during the day to harass a sleepy owl until it flies off.

Great horned owls nest as early as January or February and, in early winter, their hoots in the evening, often sung in duet by male and female to claim territory and attract a mate, will give their presence away. This may be the best time of year to locate and appreciate these quiet, secretive birds.

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

OPEN HOUSE: 12/22/22, Noon to 3 pm

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2,964 sqft

16 acres

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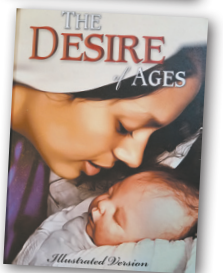
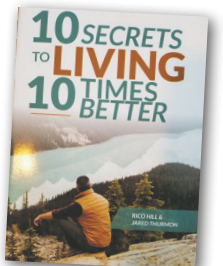



97 B Hopi Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 970-317-4645



Come visit our booth in the Town Park for the Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration on December 17th from 4 to 7:30 p.m.

- Free Drawing for \$100 gift certificate to Goodman's Department Store
- Glow sticks for the kids
- Hot Apple Cider and healthy homemade cookies
- Christmas Trivia Quiz (How well do you know Christmas?)
- Free "10 Secrets to Living 10 Times Better" book \$10 value, First 200 visitors
- Free Hard bound book on the Life of Christ, "The Desire of Ages" *This book was acclaimed by the United States Library of Congress in the 1950s as the most sought-after book on the life of Christ. \$20 value, First 50 visitors*



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Seventh-day Adventist Church

pagosada.org • 40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

SHOP THE SUN CLASSIFIEDS

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hear about The Spirit of the Season

By Joan Ward
Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Please join us on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 10:30 a.m., in person or on Zoom for the message by Michale Demchak on "The Spirit of the Season."

This time of year is considered to be holy by several faiths. Yet, often it can be challenging to experience the holidays on a spiritual level. Commercialism, stress and celebrating a holiday that may not align with our own personal beliefs can leave us feeling spiritually disconnected.

Demchak will discuss some of the challenges, obstacles, ideals and icons of the holidays. He will explore what is truly sacred and meaningful during this time and how we may reconnect personally with the spirit of the season. He will also discuss the winter solstice and

what it means to him. Demchak is a member and service leader for the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Zoom instructions: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89541356518>. Meeting ID: 895 4135 6518. Dial in: (346) 248-7799.

Depending on the current COVID recommendations, please be prepared to wear a well-fitting mask, if deemed necessary, while in the building. Social distancing will be encouraged and, to that end, the maximum capacity of the fellowship has been reduced to 25, a very good reason for arriving a few minutes early.

We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing the mountains. Join us.

New Thought Center to hold Christmas open house

By Shayla McClure
New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

The Sunday service at 11 a.m. on Dec. 18 will be our Christmas open house.

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. 21, 6 p.m.: Solstice celebra-

tion — drumming and meditation circle.

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.

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Browser since 2015
- 5 Word with fine or visual
- 9 Closet wood
- 14 Parade spoiler
- 15 Lively
- 16 Make up for
- 17 Christmas hanging
- 19 Steamy spot
- 20 Slugger in the 2022 World Series
- 21 Get used to
- 23 Harbinger of spring
- 24 Berra of baseball
- 26 One way to be reprehensible
- 28 Type of roof
- 31 Grand Canyon material
- 33 Mileage display
- 35 Stain
- 38 Mishmash
- 39 Emulate Cicero
- 41 Straits of 80's rock
- 42 Spirograph seller, once
- 44 Seagoer's woe
- 46 Independent
- 48 Woolly mama
- 49 Danger for small boats
- 51 "I'm a Honky Tonk Girl" singer
- 53 World Series mo.
- 54 Common thing?
- 56 Billboard listings
- 60 Even if, briefly
- 62 Hamlet, e.g.
- 64 Aquatic nymph
- 65 Burn soother
- 66 Litter cry
- 67 Old West transport
- 68 Easy run
- 69 Matterhorn's chain

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
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20					21			22		23			
			24		25		26			27			
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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		
67							68				69		

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DOWN

- 1 Humorous Bombeck
- 2 Speaker's spot
- 3 Essence
- 4 Diary bit
- 5 Jungle swinger
- 6 Orthodontic device
- 7 Walked over
- 8 Prepares veggies
- 9 Big name in oil
- 10 Airport posting: Abbr.
- 11 Holiday rate, perhaps
- 12 Void
- 13 Rough-and-_____
- 18 Kind of change
- 22 Type of stove
- 25 Sports drink brand
- 27 Dry cell part
- 28 Tackle box item
- 29 Like some threats

- 30 Christmas bloomer
- 32 Movie genre
- 34 "Water Lilies" painter
- 36 Ship's staff
- 37 Roll-call reply
- 40 Ping-Pong surface
- 43 TV series installment
- 45 Not too bright
- 47 Avis offering
- 49 Bank transactions
- 50 Striking success
- 52 "___ Rae" (Sally Field film)
- 55 Round building
- 57 Yuletide tune
- 58 Unappetizing fare
- 59 Uses a Singer
- 61 Old crone
- 63 "Malcolm X" director

Answers to Previous Crossword:

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

Answers: A. jewelry B. karat C. brilliance D. ring

Solve the code to discover words related to jewelry. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 22 = R)

A. 18 2 9 2 12 22 16

Clue: Personal ornaments

B. 17 20 22 20 15

Clue: Measure of purity of gold

C. 19 22 13 12 12 13 20 14 6 2

Clue: Intense brightness of light

D. 22 13 14 10

Clue: Finger jewelry

Subscribe to The SUN

Where do insects and mites go for winter?

By **Robyn Young**
PREVIEW Columnist

Extension Viewpoints

As cold weather moves into the state, insects and mites undergo major changes to survive.

Some species will die out over winter — those that must annually recolonize the state with spring and summer migrations (e.g., aster leafhopper, potato psyllid, black cutworm). Others prepare in several different ways. Caterpillars and beetles tend to burrow into soil or find other protective cover. Aphids produce cold-resistant eggs that are attached to buds and needles. Several species like the protection that buildings and homes provide, producing seasonal indoor nuisance problems.

Regardless, most species that successfully overwinter undergo physiological changes as well. Insects become “cold-hardy” at this time, which involves chemical changes, including the production of antifreeze compounds that helps protect cells from lethal freezing. At this time, most insects are also in a condition known as diapause, a semi-dormant state where reproduction, development and most feeding cease. Diapause persists for months and is only ended when certain environmental triggers are passed. Day length is sometimes used to determine when diapause occurs; a critical exposure to chilling temperatures may also be required to end diapause.

The following is a summary of how many arthropods in the state survive winter:

Butterflies: Most Colorado butterflies spend the winter as pupae, in sheltered corners often several yards from the plants on which the caterpillar stage earlier fed. However, a few manage to tough it out as adult butterflies, notably the mourning cloak, which may even be sometimes seen flying during warm days in winter.

Several butterflies, including the monarch, painted lady and variegated fritillary, show true migration into the state during spring followed by a southern migration in late summer. The monarch overwinters in the butterfly stage in a fairly restricted area in the highlands of Mexico.

Hornworms: Hornworms spend the winter in the pupal stage, in the soil buried several inches deep.

It is thought that some common hornworms, such as the tomato and tobacco hornworms, survive poorly in Colorado and that many summer infestations result from long-distance migrations originating from southern states.

Cutworms: Cutworms typically spend the winter as small caterpillars that resume feeding and growing as young plants sprout in spring. (This is the habit of the army cutworm, the most common cutworm species in Colorado and the larva of the regional “miller moth”.) A few cutworms overwinter as eggs, which hatch in early spring.

A few of the cutworms, such as black cutworm and armyworm, can not survive Colorado winters, at least in parts of the state. Each year, new infestations arise from migrants flying into the state from southern areas.

Ants: Ants are social insects that maintain a colony from year to year. Underground nesting is the norm, although some nest in wood or around homes. Overwintering stages are adults, both workers and fertile queens. With warmer temperatures in late winter, eggs are laid and new ants are produced.

Honeybees: Honeybees are social insects that continuously maintain a colony. Hive numbers decline during fall and winter, but typically several thousand individuals remain within the hive and survive in a tight cluster warmed by their collective metabolism. Almost all honeybee colonies are in maintained hives, although a few wild colonies occur in hollow trees, hollows of walls and other protected sites. Egg laying is suspended in fall and begins to again during late winter.

Yellowjackets/hornets/paper wasps: Yellowjackets (vespula species), hornets (dolichovespula species) and paper wasps (polistes species, primarily) are social insects that abandon the nest at the end of the season and start a new colony each spring. Overwinter-

ing stage is a fertilized queen that hides in protected sites such as under bark, around buildings, and other locations, including crevices and cavities in buildings. In spring, surviving females attempt to individually establish a new colony, a project that is rarely suc-

■ See Viewpoints on next page

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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page
 cessful. Colonies that do become established grow slowly during the early season, when the queen and a few worker wasps are available for colony chores. However, as the season progresses, colonies expand rapidly. At the very end of the season, fertile females (queens) and males are produced. By early fall, the colony is abandoned and all the workers, males and the foundress queen die.

Bumblebees: Although bumblebees also are social insects, they make new colony each year. The only stage that winters are the large, fertilized queens, which hide in protected areas. In spring the queens emerge and try to establish a colony in abandoned rodent or bird nests or in hollows that have insulating material nearby. As the colony is originally produced solely by the efforts of the single queen, the first workers produced are malnourished and small in size. However, as these and later workers are produced to help with colony chores, the colony becomes full-sized in late summer, before it is abandoned.

Sawflies: Most sawflies winter as a full-grown larva (pre-pupa) within a silken cocoon in the soil. Pupation occurs in late winter. One sawfly, known as the bull pine sawfly, remains an active feeding larva through the winter and will feed during warm days.

Leaf beetles: Beetles that feed on leaves (potato beetles, asparagus beetles, elm leaf beetles, flea beetles) overwinter in the adult stage, often in the general vicinity of the plants on which they earlier fed.

Lady beetles: Lady beetles overwinter in the adult stage, typically seeking protected locations (e.g. under clapboards, leaves, bark flaps) in the general vicinity of where they spent the summer. In particularly good sites, they often will winter in clusters. One species that recently established in the state, the multicolored Asian lady beetle, frequently winters in homes.

A few of the lady beetles may migrate long distances seeking winter shelter, including at least two species which fly to the mountains and spend the winter under the snow at elevations typically above 9,000 feet. These beetles often occur in spectacular aggregations which are most commonly observed during fall. The beetles then fly to lower elevations in late spring as snow melts. Mass winter aggregations occur all along the Front Range, but apparently do not occur in western Colorado.

Borers/grubs: Beetles which feed underground or within plants (e.g. borers, grubs, bark beetles) typically spend the winter as larvae, which resume feeding in spring after temperatures warm.

Aphids: Most aphids overwinter as eggs on some tree or shrubs. A typical Colorado aphid life cycle involves feeding on an herbaceous summer host plant followed by return of the aphid to a perennial plant in late summer and early fall. For example, the green peach aphid is a common garden pest in summer, but only survives winters as an egg on various prunus spp.; potato aphid, another common garden habitant in summer, survives as eggs on rosa spp. through the winter.

Some aphids, notably the Russian wheat aphid, overwinter on the plant on which they feed, continuing to feed and develop throughout winter as long as temperatures permit. Other aphids, such as the cotton aphid and greenbug, rarely survive Colorado winters and most found during the summer originate as annual migrants from more southern areas.

Potato psyllid: Potato psyllid overwinters on native plants along the U.S.-Mexico border. Its occurrence in Colorado is based on annual migrations northward from these southern areas.

Whiteflies: Whiteflies are subtropical insects that cannot survive outdoor winter conditions of Colorado. Populations of whiteflies are maintained season-to-season on indoor plants and in greenhouses.

Infested transplants are the source of whitefly populations on garden plants.

Bugs: "True bugs" (hemiptera, suborder heteroptera), such as the squash bug, boxelder bug and various stink bugs, typically spend the winter in the adult stage. Immature nymphs cannot survive the rigors of winter. Surviving insects occur in protected locations, often around the plants on which they earlier fed. Some true bugs (boxelder bug, conifer seed bugs, rough stink bugs) commonly enter homes to seek shelter and are a nuisance pest.

A few plant bugs which feed on trees (honeylocust plant bug, ash plant bug) lay eggs on the tree during the growing season, which hatch in spring.

Earwigs: Earwigs spend the winter in the adult stage. In very early spring the female digs out an egg chamber under a rock or other shelter and eggs are laid. The female tends the eggs and for several weeks cares for the newly hatched nymphs, an unusual behavior among insects.

Grasshoppers: There are a lot of different grasshoppers in Colorado (60+ species), and the ways they make it through the winter also vary. However, most of the damaging grasshoppers (certain melanoplus spp., clearwinged grasshopper) overwinter as eggs, in an egg pod inserted into soil. A few species of grasshoppers overwinter as adults or nymphs and may be seen during warm days in midwinter.

■ See Viewpoints on next page

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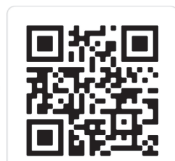


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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page

Mosquitoes: Most Colorado mosquitoes (floodwater types, such as *Aedes* species) spend the winter as eggs that were laid earlier around the edge of receding water. Others may spend the winter as adults (*Culex* species), seeking protected sites such as caves, wall voids, animal burrows, etc. Certain *Culex* are involved in transmission of the West Nile virus.

Flies: Many of the most common flies spend the winter in the adult stage. Often these flies enter buildings, where they may be observed to lazily fly about the room after they emerge from winter shelters. During the winter these flies are in a semi-dormant state known as diapause and do not feed nor reproduce. Increasing day length and temperatures “reawaken” these flies to pursue normal activities in spring. Other flies spend the winter as pupae, in soil. Flies with this habit include the various “fruit flies” such as the apple maggot and western cherry fruit fly.

Green lacewings: Most green lacewings overwinter as pupae, in a silken case, usually attached to trees or other plants. However, at least one species (*Chrysopa nigricornis*), common in some forested areas of the state, winters in the adult stage, often in homes.

Dragonflies/damselflies: Dragonflies overwinter in water as nymphs at the bottom of lakes and ponds. Most damselflies spend the winter as eggs, inserted into shoreline plants. Some dragonflies, including the larger species of the genus *Anax*, migrate thousands of miles and spend winter south of the U.S. border.

Spider mites: Spider mites survive winter in various forms. Perhaps most common are dormant, mature females, which typically turn reddish or orange as they un-

dergo winter diapause. Twospotted spider mite and honeylocust spider mite are examples. Overwintered mites spend the winter in scattered, protected locations around previously infested plants or around buds and bark scales of trees and shrubs.

Other spider mites survive as eggs. For some of the cooler season-adapted species (e.g., spruce spider mite), peak populations of the mites may occur in fall or spring, but extreme cold forces them into more resistant eggs. However, clover mites on lawns appear capable of continuously developing on lawn grasses throughout winter, so long as daily temperatures allow.

Spiders: It is hard to generalize about the overwintering habits of spiders as it can vary greatly. However, most of the orb-weaving spiders and other species that act as “passive hunters” and use a web to ensnare prey winter as eggs that are produced at the end of the growing season. Conversely, many of the more active “hunting spiders,” such as wolf spiders, may winter as nymphs, becoming full-grown in spring.

A few spiders are quite long-lived. Giant wolf spiders may survive two to three years and tarantulas a decade or more. These spend

winter in protected retreats, such as burrows underground or under other hollows. Widow spiders also may sometimes live a second season in a protected location, although they usually die off in fall. Spiders that have moved indoors, are adapted to indoor conditions, and have available food may survive and reproduce year-round.

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.

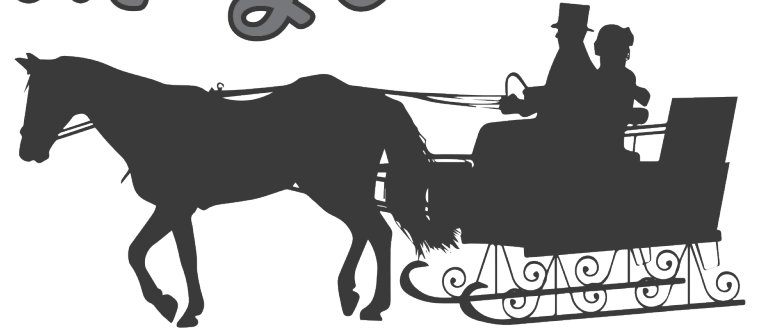
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Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo today and a new Pokemon Club tomorrow

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We hope you will join us for a free all-ages holiday event today, 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 come to another fun free 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 for COVID safety continues — and it's also a healthful option in the cold and flu season. To save your energy and lessen germ exposure to other patrons, we recommend you use our curbside service — or add a name to your account authorizing that person to pick up items for you while you recuperate. Library hours:

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

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.

Gaming tomorrow

Enjoy free all-ages video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 16, from 3 to 4 p.m.

Makerspace on Saturday

Kids, tweens and teens are in-

Library News

vited to a free Makerspace session on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to noon, when we'll provide the materials so you can build, design and create.

Dungeons and Dragons

Next Tuesday, Dec. 20, from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m., join our Dungeons and Dragons game free for teens and young adults. Registration is required because space is limited. Contact the library to join.

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.

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 was 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

■ See Library on next page

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Answer: Robert Irwin

Library

■ continued from previous page gatherings. Next Wednesday, Dec. 21, is free playtime. We have plenty of fun toys for you to enjoy.

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.

Christmas books

“A Christmas Deliverance” by Anne Perry is a holiday mystery set in London. “A Death Valley Christmas” by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is a western holiday story. “Dashing Through the Snowbird” by Donna Andrews is a Meg Langslow mystery.

DVDs

“Thor: Love and Thunder” is a fantasy adventure. “Ron Carter: Finding the Right Notes” is a documentary about the most recorded bassist in history. “Moonage Daydream” is a biography of English singer-songwriter David Bowie. “The Offer” is a 10-episode series about the making of “The Godfather.”

Books on CD

“Dawnlands” by Philippa Gregory is book three in the Fairmile historical fiction series set in England. “The Choice” by Nora Roberts is book three and the conclusion of the Dragon Heart Legacy trilogy. “Going Rogue” by Janet Evanovich

is a Stephanie Plum mystery. “The Perfect Assassin” by James Patterson is a Doc Savage thriller.

Mysteries and thrillers

“Triple Cross” by James Patterson is an Alex Cross mystery. “No Plan B” by Lee Child is a Jack Reacher thriller.

Large print

“All My Sins Remembered” by Rod Miller is set at a roadhouse on an abandoned stagecoach route. “The Atlas Paradox” by Olivie Blake is book two in the Atlas series featuring the society of Alexandrians. “The Kingdom of Savannah” by George Dawes Green is a murder mystery set in Savannah. “It Starts with Us” by Colleen Hoover is a romance. “Thief of Fate” by Jude Deveraux and Tara Sheets is a mystery romance. “Going Rogue” by Janet Evanovich is a Stephanie Plum mystery. “Next in Line” by Jeffrey Archer is the latest in the William Warwick series.

Other novels

“Everything the Light Touches” by Janice Pariat interweaves four unique journeys across continents and centuries. “Holmes Coming” by Kenneth Johnson reunites Sherlock Holmes and Watson in a 21st century environment. “Somebody, Maybe” by Onyi Nwabineli is about a young woman’s emotional journey after her husband commits suicide on New Year’s Eve.

Nonfiction

“Pickleball is Life” by Erin McHugh, a guide to enjoying the fastest growing sport in North America, includes its history and even recipes for postgame cocktails and treats. “The Anti-Viral Gut” by Dr. Robynne Chutkan is a gut-based approach to mitigating the effects of viruses like COVID using new research.

Donations

Many thanks to Jill Wood and to Susan and Terry Arlington for their generous monetary donations. We also are grateful to our anonymous donors for their materials donations.

■ See Library on next page

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Pagosa Senior Center joins with Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership to enhance nutrition services

By **Rose Chavez**
PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Senior Center and the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) are joining forces, along with a number of other local organizations, to support enhanced nutrition services for our senior community and their families by growing fresh food in the Community Garden Dome (CGD) in downtown Pagosa Springs.

The complementary nature of this collaboration allows these organizations to deepen our impact and reach in the Archuleta community by growing healthy food and self-reliance through social and educational opportunities about sustainable agricultural practices using local renewable energy. Food grown in the CGD is donated where each group specifies or is eaten by participants.

The GGP will debut new signs on its site in Centennial Park in the near future describing the purpose of each dome, including the Community Garden Dome, the Education Dome and the Innovation Dome. These signs are provided in partnership with the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board.

According to the GGP, “Food security is a useful measure of household and individual welfare and, of course, food insecurity occurs within our community. The Community Garden Dome dem-

Senior News

onstrates sustainable food production, provides space for groups to garden year-round and provides food to those who experience food insecurity. The CGD brings together organizations whose goals address these issues. The work in the greenhouse supports their interests in the community and facilitates working together in the same space to foster cooperation and collaboration. The CGD is critical to engaging the community at large in actual growing experiences and to illustrating self-sufficiency.

“A goal of the CGD is to maximize the amount of healthy food distributed to the greater community. This may include families in need, individuals desiring a healthier diet and families, friends and neighbors of participants. Community gardeners work together to manage soil health and insect pests with natural methods. The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership encourages a representative cross-section of Pagosa Springs’ groups to demonstrate these concepts of sustainable food production. The values inherent in

these growing activities go a long way toward bringing participants a greater sense of security. These same values promote food equity, assure food safety, and improve mental, emotional and physical health.”

Community members are invited to join the Senior Center and the GGP Thursday, Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. at the Community Garden Dome, located in Centennial Park just off U.S. 160 and 5th Street. We will enjoy a tour of the Community Garden Dome and will have a discussion about the community and health-promoting benefits of growing local and seasonal food using local renewable energy.

Senior Center Christmas Party Dec. 21

The community is invited to attend a casual and festive Christmas party at the Senior Center on Wednesday, Dec. 21, from noon to 3 p.m.

Come for lunch and stay for a joyful time together. Local musicians will provide two 45-minute sets of holiday music and we will follow lunch with hot coffee served alongside house-made holiday desserts.

Please RSVP via text at (970) 264-2167. We are planning a pseudo snow fight, some shenanigans with Santa Claus and a few free door prizes to jazz up the moments we share together.

We invite community members to join in serving our seniors and their families by offering a dona-

■ See Senior on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

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

“Love doesn’t make the world go ‘round. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.” — Franklin D. Jones (1879–1967), mechanical engineer and author.

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Senior

■ continued from previous page
tion of shelf-stable foods or warm clothing this holiday season.

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To round out our year-end fundraising efforts, Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) and the Senior Center are announcing our "Adopt A Senior" campaign.

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

Stop by the 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 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.

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.

■ See Senior on page 29

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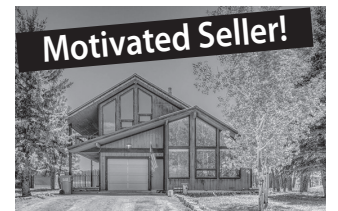
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ARTICULATION
- BAGUETTE
- BANGLE
- BRIOLETTE
- BROOCH
- COLLET
- CRYSTAL
- DESIGN
- DIAMOND
- EARRING
- FACETS
- FILIGREE
- INCLUSION
- MARQUISE
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Holiday Church Events



All events listed in December Church Events Calendar are free of charge. Submit events to editor@pagosasun.com.

Saturday, Dec. 18

Regular Sunday Service. 8:15 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Christmas Cantata Service. 11 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Saturday, Dec. 24

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. 5-6 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Celebrate Christmas with our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, which will include singing Christmas carols, reading the Christmas story, special music and a short message. Nursery will be provided.

Candlelight Service. 5-6 p.m., New Thought Center, 3505 W. U.S. 160. Candlelight service with potluck after. This is in place of our Sunday service.

Candlelight and Carols Service. 6 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Sunday, Dec. 25

Christmas Day Service. 10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Sunday, Jan. 1

Burning Bowl Ceremony Service. 11 a.m., New Thought Center, 3505 W. U.S. 160. With Shayla White Eagle.

Senior

■ continued from page 27

Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Dec. 15 — Beef Frito pie chile, cilantro lime rice, garden salad, fruit, milk and vanilla pudding.

Friday, Dec. 16 — Pork tenderloin with caramelized onions, apples, cranberries, couscous, asparagus, hollandaise sauce, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Dec. 19 — Chicken Dijon, broccoli and cauliflower, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Tuesday, Dec. 20 — Cod fish with steak fries, tartar sauce, garden salad, fruit, milk and chocolate pudding.

Wednesday, Dec. 21 — Salisbury steak with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans with bacon, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Thursday, Dec. 22 — Potato leek soup with crackers, glazed carrots, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Friday, Dec. 23 — Sliced ham

with cherry sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, 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.psseniors.org/>. Donation checks can be written to: Archuleta Seniors Inc. We are located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

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



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During my time here in Pagosa, I have developed a great friendship with many of you, which makes saying goodbye very difficult.

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-Thank you Pagosa, from the bottom of my heart.



Christopher Envani, O.D.
ABBA Eye Care
Pagosa Springs

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Baby it's cold — and dangerous — outside for loved ones with Alzheimer's

By Jim Herlihy
Alzheimer's Association

Winter weather conditions — colder temperatures, snow, ice and early darkness — are potentially dangerous and even life-threatening for the 76,000 Coloradans with Alzheimer's or other dementia.

For their 159,000 unpaid family caregivers, the stress and challenges of keeping loved ones safe during this time can be overwhelming. By preparing in advance, caregivers can anticipate and avoid the risks posed by winter weather.

"People living with Alzheimer's and other dementia can be vulnerable during winter weather because their judgment may be impaired and they may be unable to communicate discomfort," said Meg Donahue, director of Community Engagement for the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado. "It's really important to take extra precautions with these individuals when there is severe winter weather, snow or ice."

To help anticipate the challenges posed by winter weather, the Alzheimer's Association offers these

tips:

- Take advantage of the daylight. Winter months bring decreased sunlight and shorter days. Visual perception can be a challenge for those living with Alzheimer's or other dementias, and can cause increased confusion or disorientation in dark or shadowy environments, both inside and out.

- Prevent wandering. Wandering is one of the most frequent and challenging problems that caregivers face and can be extremely dangerous in colder conditions.

- Shorter days during winter months can also increase the risk of "sundowning." Monitor closely for agitation or restlessness as day transitions into night. The Alzheimer's Association offers these tips to combat sundowning:

- Bundle up. Help the person living with Alzheimer's dress warmly for winter weather conditions by wearing dry, loose-fitting layers and covering exposed skin.

- Buddy up: In an Alzheimer's Association survey, a whopping 84 percent of caregivers said they would like more support in providing care

for someone with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia, especially from their family. It can be hard for caregivers to find time to complete simple tasks outside of the home. Don't hesitate to ask others for help with errands, grocery shopping or snow/ice removal.

- Prevent slips. Balance and mobility can be a challenge for a person living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Assume all surfaces are slick. Assist the person by taking smaller steps and slowing down so they can match gait and speed to a safer level.

- Be prepared. Winter storms can be dangerous. Check weather conditions regularly and have emergency plans in place.

More safety tips can be found at www.alz.org. The Alzheimer's Association 24/7 helpline also provides reliable information and support to all those who need assistance. Call the helpline toll-free anytime, even holidays, at (800) 272-3900.

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Seeds of Learning seeking continued community support

By Danyelle Leentjes
Seeds of Learning

The halls of Seeds of Learning have been transformed into a winter wonderland. Children and families are greeted by snowflakes hanging from the ceiling, snowmen and icicles hanging from the walls, signs leading to the North Pole, Santa's Workshop and the Polar Express, to name a few.

None of this would have been possible without the continued, generous support of our community. It is the donations given to Seeds of Learning that make it possible to offer the highest level of education in early childhood development at a reduced tuition fee for families in our community.

Tuition only covers 40 percent of the operating expenses. Your donation today, no matter how small, can show a child the path to a brighter future.

Seeds has transformed the lives of more than 1,000 children and their families for 25 years. Seeds is the leaders in early childhood education because our program is distinctively different. Here is how:

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- Results you can measure: Seeds students outperform their peers in kindergarten.

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Will you be the one to help at-risk children experience a nurturing world that feels safe? Will you be the person to provide them with the confidence to feel that their future is bright?

When you give to Seeds, you are giving to a reputable organization with more than two decades of experience and that has set the standard in early childhood education in Archuleta County. We need your help to continue the high standard of programming families have come to rely on.

If you are moved to support the little learners at Seeds, you may send a check to: Seeds of Learning, P.O. Box 5831, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or online at GrowingSeeds.org.

Seeds of Learning is a not-for-profit early childhood education center promoting the growth of the "whole child" while instilling the love of learning for diverse young learners in Pagosa Springs.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

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).



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264-2100

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Call Pristine View, the professional window cleaners. Insured. Licensed. Free estimates. Alice (970)444-2602, Jon (970)235-0001. www.pristineviewcleaners.com.

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HOT SPRINGS HEALERS. Healing sessions in the hot springs! Chiropractic/ craniosacral and acupuncture. Serving Pagosa over 27years. Dr. Dean Sanna and Amanda. (970)844-0645.

HELP WANTED

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.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

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.

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.

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.

OFFICE ASSISTANT NEEDED for established construction company. Detail oriented, scopes, scheduling, sales. Please call (970)403-5119 and submit resumes to info@fullertonworks.com.

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED



Archuleta Housing

Archuleta Housing has an immediate opening for a person with maintenance experience. This position involves taking care of small repairs and general maintenance of 65 apartments and common area grounds at 4 sites. Ability to take direction, work as a team or independently is needed. Must have valid driver's license and submit to a background check.

Starting wage \$18.00/Hr.

Please contact our office for an application
office.archhouse@gmail.com
970-398-1860

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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.

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.

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.

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY HELP WANTED ADS — tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NEED 1 OR 2 CARPENTERS to help frame house in Pagosa. Call for more information (970)846-7014.

GENERAL LABORER, general labor, construction and ranch work. Please call (970)264-5000.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT. QUALIFIES FOR A \$1,000 ONE TIME SIGN ON. Archuleta Integrated Healthcare, a Community Health Center operated by Axis Health System in Durango is looking for a Medical Assistant to join our expanding integrated care team. Responsibilities include assisting with patient care and procedures, phone communications and managing patient flow. Experience in a primary care setting and proficiency with electronic health records is preferred. Medical Assistant certified is required. Apply online at <https://secure2.entertimeonline.com/ta/Axishealth.careers?CareersSearch>. Axis Health System offers competitive salary and benefits, and a 401(k) plan. Axis Health System is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.

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
- Competitive pay
- 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.

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.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

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.terrys.ace.com



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

DENTAL HYGIENIST: San Juan Dental is seeking a caring and compassionate dental hygienist to join our team. Please email resume to dreicrsmithdds@aol.com or stop by our wonderful office and meet the team. (970)264-9436.

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!

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Send applications and resumes to:
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Pagosa Springs, CO 81147



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- Robust benefits package
- Sign-on bonus
- Competitive pay
- Flexible shifts
- On-the-job training

To apply:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pagosasprings>

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 dreicrsmithdds@aol.com.

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.

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.

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.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

JIM SMITH REALTY

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Looking for Experienced Real Estate Agents to Join Our Team



We will mentor you into a great agent!

Email Jim@JimSmithRealty.com for more information



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.

Please apply in person Monday-Friday; applications available on www.terrysace.com



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HELP WANTED

BEEHIVE HOMES IS IN NEED of an overnight caregiver, Monday- Thursday, 11p.m.-7a.m. Apply in person or go to indeed.

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.

KITCHEN HELP, MORNING AND afternoon shifts. No experience necessary. Flexible schedule and competitive wages. Apply in person, Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs. EOE.


HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

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.

DEDICATED CLEANERS, UP TO \$17/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

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>.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT BREWER. Opportunity of a lifetime! Will train. Must be 21+ years old. Applications on Facebook, email: info@pagos-abrewing.com, or at Pagosa Brewing. No phone calls. Cheers!

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.

IF YOU WANT TO BE on GOD'S PAYROLL, get your marching orders and provisions at 965 Cloud Cap Avenue.

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.

YARD SALES

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY YARD SALE and FOR SALE AD UPDATES — tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The Pagosa Springs SUN.

GIANT ESTATE SALE for Merrill and Tom Marshall. Friday and Saturday, December 16th and 17th, 9a.m. sharp. Art work, furniture, antiques, statues, yard decor, crystals, rock collections, gemstones, geodes, planting, flower pots, tools, shop cabinets, warehouse shelving, outdoor items, fishing, kitchen items, gorgeous decor, guy stuff, girl stuff, fun stuff, practical stuff and so much more stuff. Hwy. 160 west, left on Aspen Village Drive, left on Alpha, right on West McCabe, left on Walker Court, house #15. Rain, snow or shine. AEHPOS.

MOVING SALE. WILDFLOWER DEVELOPMENT up PIEDRA ROAD. Living room, dining room, office, bedroom furniture. Kitchenware. ATVs, ride-on lawnmower, tools and more. 162 Wild Iris Dr. Friday and Saturday only, 8a.m.-4p.m.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

PERSONALS

NO MAS! DEJA QUE TE AYUDEMOS. 24-horas violencia domestica o/y asalto sexual Linea directa. Confidencial. (970)264-9075.

PETS

9 WEEK OLD AKC Golden Retriever male puppies. \$550. (360)926-4382.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

DOG POOP CLEANUP SERVICES. (970)501-5116.

RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK PUPPIES 2/1/2023. rockymountainridgebacks@pm.me. (970) 264-0634.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

LIVESTOCK

BAREFOOT TRIMMING AND SHOEING. (719)285-3584.

FOR SALE

JANUARY 1: WALMART WILL no longer supply checkout bags. Call Zhenia at (970)731-5098 for unique cotton grocery bags, only \$6.

DRY SEASONED FIREWOOD. Split, ready to burn. \$190. (970)731-2902.

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

FOR SALE

3-POINT REAR BLADE attachment for tractor. Land Pride RV3784, \$1,400 OBO. (970)264-0913.

3-POINT SNOWBLOWER ATTACHMENT for tractor. Land Pride SD 1754, \$1,900 OBO. (970)264-0913.

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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FIREWOOD FOR SALE, split and dry. FULL longbed truckload. Pine, aspen, fir mix. Cut small <16". Price varies. Delivery included. (970)946-4450.

ARIENS ST1236 SNOWBLOWER. Good condition, \$500 OBO. (970)264-9140.

OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970) 749-1500.

FOOD TRUCK DON JOSE selling tamales for Christmas day. Make your orders today. Pork, chicken, beef, veggie, \$25 a dozen. Will deliver Saturday, 12/24 morning. (970)403-6567.

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.

DRY, SEASONED ASPEN FOR SALE. \$275 delivered, \$120/ cord in rounds if you pick up. (970)585-4578.

Wrightnaturalbakery.com. Reduced sugar, same sweetness. Organic, unprocessed, Paleo, unrefined, gluten free ingredients. (970)883-2600, wrightnaturalbakery@gmail.com. Products available at Choke Cherry Tree.

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OWNERS, WE ARE BOOKED UP AND NEED MORE VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES! Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

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COMFY 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH beautifully remodeled and furnished condo on golf course. Water, sewer, trash and snow removal included. 1 year lease preferred, \$1,700/ month. No smoking, no pets. Available now. (970)903-7088.

CALL TEAM PAGOSA REALTY (970)731-8599 for your long term rental needs. pagosaspringsrealty.com.

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).

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ADS — tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The SUN.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

FOR RENT 1 YEAR. NO SMOKING of any kind, must provide a copy of credit report with good history and proof of income. 1 bedroom condo with upstairs loft bedroom. \$1,450 plus utilities in your name. No garage, water included. (970)946-0930.

NEW SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOME. Custom built with views. End unit, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, master bedroom on main floor. 2-car heated garage, A/C, gas fireplace. No pets. Long term rental available 2-23. \$2,850. (707)815-7070.

DUPLEX FOR RENT. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/ dryer, fridge, dishwasher, paved street and paved driveway. 5 minutes to town. \$1,350/ month including water. Call (214)649-5041.

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.

BEDROOM WITH SHARED second living room. \$400/ month. (970)398-0990.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH remodeled mobile home on 1 acre in Aspen Springs. Easy access to highway, 20x20 shop space. \$1,200/ month plus utilities. Available January 1. (970)946-2728.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

1,500 SQ. FT. FOR LEASE. West Village Plaza, W/T/S, Internet and gas included, \$2,500 a month. Retail, office or restaurant possibilities. Please call (970)880-0910 for more information.

OFFICE SPACE DOWNTOWN in the Historic Metropolitan Hotel. 275 SF and \$470 per month. Jacque (970)946-7636.

4 OFFICE SPACES. Freshly remodeled, \$400-\$525. Well suited for spa services, 140-270 sq. ft. Beautiful spacious restrooms. (970)946-3232.

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OFFICE SUITE WITH WAITING ROOM. Centrally located. Includes water, sewer, gas and fiber optic Internet. (970)946-8687.

1,000 SF (25'X40') FLEX Industrial space on Bastille Dr. available January 1. \$1,000/ month. Please call Jessica (415)999-7931.

2,000 SQ. FT. SHOP/ WAREHOUSE. Large overhead door, natural gas heat, office restroom. (970)946-3762, Doug.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

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.

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.

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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.

HOUSES FOR SALE

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.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

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(970) 759-8672

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JIM SMITH REALTY

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.

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY REAL ESTATE ADS — tinyurl.com/d64deel9. The SUN.

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.

HOME FOR SALE. River Forest Drive. 3.1 acres, 3 bedroom, 2-1/4 bath, 3,200 sq. ft., unfinished basement. MLS #166847, asking \$740K. (970)585-9181.

PROPERTY

1.2 ACRES, MOUNTAIN VIEWS, electricity near, No HOA, close to town. \$35,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.2 ACRES FOR SALE on Badger Place in Aspen Springs 2. \$15,000 OBO. Must sell quickly. (970)398-1468.

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PROPERTY

A LITTLE OVER AN ACRE 10 minutes from town. Approved septic system, prefab metal building, 1997 Avion 5th wheel- 38', 2 slideouts. \$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.

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.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blanchoretreat@gmail.com.

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.

RIVERFRONT PROPERTY. Electricity near, flat buildable lot. 1.45 acre, \$289,900. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties LLC a call (970)903-2817.

Sell It
in the classifieds



Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Local Pi Beta Phi sorority alumnae gathered at the home of Carole Howard on Dec. 9 for their annual Christmas angel potluck luncheon. Posing with a tiny fraction of the almost 250 pounds of food they donated to Healthy Archuleta's food distribution center for community food banks are, left to right: Mary Bailly, Lisa Scott, Melissa McDonald, Mary Rothchild, Carole Howard, Joni Rose and Paula Tennant. As well, the ladies donated toiletries to Rise Against Violence, our local social service organization supporting domestic violence victims. The festive holiday event also included an angel gift exchange. Pi Beta Phi, founded in 1867, is the oldest national sorority in the U.S. Today there are 135 collegiate chapters in the U.S. and nearly 300 alumnae clubs around the world.



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