County's land use regulations discussed

Interim planning director suggests clarifications – A11

2020 year in review April through June – A6



Families, teachers relay struggles of learning amid COVID

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

Editor's note: Due to the sensitive nature of the matters discussed at Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, The SUN has opted to not print the names of some of the parents and grandparents who spoke.

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education heard about two sides of a pandemicrelated coin Tuesday: the public health numbers and guidance related to COVID-19 and schools, and the mental toll on students, families and teachers.

During the meeting's public comment period, the board heard from emotional parents, grandparents and teachers who all urged the board to have all students in schools for in-person learning at least four days per week.

The first speaker, who identified herself as a parent and teacher, spoke of seeing students' grades dropping and seeing students losing their desire to learn.

She noted that 59 percent of students in the district are from lowincome families, with online learning being the least-beneficial way of learning for many of those students.

She added that she worried about how far behind students truly are.

Another speaker identified herself as a stay-at-home mother and school volunteer who has seen her freshman need anxiety medicine for the first time ever, another child make statements about not wanting

Photo courtesy Angela Wirth

Medical Assistant Crystal Gillich administers the COVID-19 vaccine to Dennis Mingo during a Pagosa Springs Medical Center vaccine event held at the Ross Aragon Community Center last week.

Vaccine rollout continues locally

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

Vaccine distribution for Archuleta County residents aged 70 and older continues in Archuleta County, with more than 600 additional doses expected to be administered this week through appointments.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) administered more than 348 vaccine doses during a seven-hour event last week, the organization reported.

Additionally, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) Director of Communications Claire Ninde reported that the number of providers enrolled to distribute the vaccine is also increasing, though she noted that not all of the enrolled providers have received vaccine doses to administer.

Those enrolled in Archuleta County currently are PSMC, Pagosa Medical Group (PMG) and City Market, Ninde indicated.

As of Wednesday, vaccine signup for COVID-19 was not available for Pagosa Springs on City Market's web-

See Vaccinations A8

See School A8

Wolf Creek Ski Area keeps up during the pandemic

By Simone Mounsamy Staff Writer

Many locals and travelers alike enjoyed a snowy holiday at the year's end on the slopes of Wolf Creek Ski Area.

"We were over 5,000, which was our self-imposed capacity," said Davey Pitcher, Wolf Creek Ski Area president and CEO.

He went on, "What happened was we got the 30-inch storm and north-



County to receive additional grant for courthouse

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

Archuleta County may be able to add a third courtroom and a com-

ern Colorado did not get any snow. We had reserves of 700 tickets that were unsold through the reservation system. And we thought we'd leave them open for day sales that day. It was surprising to me how many people showed up."

That was Dec. 28, 2020, Pitcher explained, and between Dec. 29, 2020, and Jan. 1, the ski area sold passes to 4,300 people a day, which is where they were cutting off sales.

"We were turning a lot of customers away," Pitcher relayed.

Parking

Pitcher described how the snow, COVID restrictions, and being at a peak sales affected parking.

"Because of the 30 inches, our

See Ski A8

Photo courtesy Sam Bricker, Wolf Creek Ski Area

Excellent conditions at Wolf Creek Ski Area brought people outside to enjoy a snowy holiday.

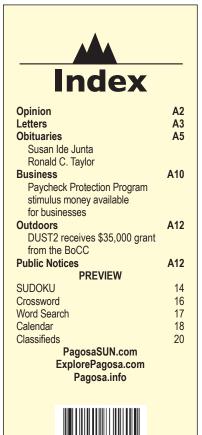




Photo courtesy Jamie Jones

6th Judicial District Court Judge Jeffery Wilson swears Commissioner Ronnie Maez into office for his second term. Maez is Archuleta County's District 2 commissioner.

Photo courtesy Jamie Jones

6th Judicial District Court Judge Jeffery Wilson swears newly elected Commissioner Warren Brown into office. Brown was elected in November 2020 as Archuleta County's District 1 commissioner, replacing Steve Wadley.

County officials sworn into office

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

County commissioners Warren Brown and Ronnie Maez were sworn into office Tuesday, Jan. 12, at a work session held by the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

County Surveyor Ron Sutcliffe was sworn into office, as well. He will be serving a four-year term.

Brown is replacing Steve Wadley as Archuleta County's District 1 commissioner. Wadley served as a county commissioner for two and a half terms over the past nine years.

Maez was reelected as Archuleta County's District 2 commissioner. This is his second term serving as a county commissioner.

See Officials A8

munity room to the new Harman Park courthouse facility currently being constructed.

The new facility is being designed by Reynolds Ash and Associates (RAA) and construction is being done by Nunn Construction.

After previously being denied an additional grant from the state's Underfunded Courthouse Facility Commission (UCFC) in December 2020, the county now believes it will receive a grant of \$327,000 from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), according to County Administrator Scott Wall.

At a work session held on Tuesday, Jan. 12, the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), along with other county officials, discussed possible options for the use of the DOLA grant.

■ See Courthouse A8

Opinion

The Pagosa Springs

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EDITORIAL

'...what you can do for your country.'

We had hoped for positive changes in this new year.

The year 2020 was downright tough for most of us, with more than 1.7 million people worldwide dying with COVID-19; however, the pandemic wasn't the only thing Americans had to deal with throughout the year.

Rioting and looting, killings, violence, destruction of public buildings and private businesses, devastating wildfires, economic collapse, endless election hype and negative political campaigning, along with peaceful and non-peaceful protests are just part of what we witnessed over the year, and this was added to our quarantine and isolation

Time magazine even declared 2020 "The Worst Year Ever."

Unfortunately, the positive changes we had hoped for this year have not yet come to fruition.

We expected some pushback when Congress convened for a joint session on Jan. 6 to ratify the Electoral College vote. We didn't expect five people to die from the events on Capitol Hill that day.

More than a dozen individuals have been charged so far in federal court in the District of Columbia related to crimes committed at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C, on Jan. 6 in what the U.S. Department of Justice referred to as rioting. In addition, approximately 40 individuals have been arrested and charged in Superior Court. Investigations are ongoing into other complaints.

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words should be used to describe the events of Jan. 6.

One PBS report states: "Was it an insurrection? A coup? Should we call it domestic terrorism? Or just a peaceful protest gone awry? As a battle of politics becomes a battle for words to describe what happened in the capital and on Capitol Hill ..."

No matter how you label the events of that day, our nation is bracing as we move toward next week's inauguration.

In his inaugural address 60 years ago on Jan. 20, President John F. Kennedy inspired Americans with his statement: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

We believe it would go a long way toward the betterment of our country if we all seek to understand and tolerate other people's opinions.

It us up to each one of us to be the positive change we are seeking. Peace can begin with each of us.

The American Civil Liberties Union website states: "The right to join with fellow citizens in protest or peaceful assembly is critical to a functioning democracy and at the core of the First Amendment."

One nice thing about living in Pagosa Country is the demonstrations we have witnessed in our community this past year were mostly peaceful and courteous.

We all come from different back-

Americans can't even agree on what grounds. We have been raised in a variety of circumstances. Not everyone's value systems are the same. We believe that we can find common ground and become part of the solution no matter what our differences.

When Kennedy took office in 1961, the world was in the middle of the Cold War.

In his address to the country, Kennedy said, "So let us begin anew - remembering on both sides that civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof. ...

"Let both sides explore what problems unite us instead of belaboring those problems which divide us."

While we may not always agree with one another, we should respect each other's right to have a different opinion from our own. We can even go a step further to seek to understand those differing beliefs.

Words spoken by President Abraham Lincoln at his second inaugural address more than 150 years ago resonate: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, ... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

We must rise above. We must all do better. Let's not take our democracy and freedoms for granted.

It is time we find common ground. Terri Lynn Oldham House

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES Archuleta County Commissioners Ron Maez, Chair 264-8303

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LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago Taken from SUN files of

January 14, 1921

Dr. A.J. Nossaman returned last evening from Durango, where he delivered a paper at a meeting of the San Juan Medical Society Wednesday evening.

Tuesday, January 11th, technically speaking, a complete change was made in the official personnel of Archuleta county, with the exception of the office of county treasurer, Mrs. Jessie Hayden having officially commenced her second term in that office on January first. The retiring members of the board of county commissioners, Fred Catchpole and David Hersch, were relieved by Chas. O. Dunagan and Whitney Newton, Geo. Shahan, the third member, holds over for a period of two years.

The town basketball team triumphed over the High school last evening at the McKinley gym to the tune of 47 to 25.

M.O. Brown returned Saturday from Denver where he delivered two shipments of cattle, one from Tiffany and the other from Ignacio. He reports an improved market.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of January 18, 1946

Supt. M.H. Hays, Robert Plunkett, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Macht accompanied the Pagosa Bucs to the basketball game at Silverton and were the only audience for the game, as the town was quarantined for mumps and the flu.

Norman Kramer of Alamosa is out counting the deer and elk herds in Colorado this week, before setting the 1946 hunting quota. This is the fifth year that flying observation has been used to judge the size of the big game herds in Colorado. Kramer, one of the best mountain fliers in the U.S., flies about 75 feet above the ground, cruising at between 50 and 60 miles an hour. 14 elk ranges and 10 deer ranges will be covered.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Swanemyr and little daughter, of Allison, were Pagosa business visitors Thursday of last week, getting auto licenses at the court house.

50 years ago Taken from SUN files of January 14, 1971 Preliminary figures indicate that the elk population is more than holding its own in this area. An aerial count was made this past week in the same places and manner as in previous years. The State Game, Fish and Parks Department conducted the count. Hal Burdick, biologist for the department, said that the elk were well scattered and seemed to be in good physical shape. There were no large concentrations observed and indications were that animals would wind up the winter in good shape unless some very severe weather conditions develop between now and spring. The climate hasn't exactly been that of the banana belt this past week. The lowest temperature of the winter was recorded last Wednesday a.m. at 37 below. That followed a 32 below the morning before. The 37 below reading was then followed by a 36 below, a 27 below and an 18 below. The below zero weather ended there with readings of zero and 6 above for the next two nights. Daytime maximums didn't result in any heat strokes, either. Last Wednesday the thermometer rose to nine degrees for the day's high. The following day it warmed up, going to 11 degrees.

WHADDYA THINK? Where are your favorite potholes? Poll results (145 votes) 28% 29% Downtown — 28 percent Pagosa Lakes — 42 percent Aspen Springs — 1 percent Other - 29 percent Vote this week online: 1% What is your favorite season in Pagosa Springs?

42%

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1/7	40	11	-	-	-				
1/8	41	9	-	-	-				
1/9	39	11	-	-	-				
1/10	32	10	-	-	-				
1/11	36	4	S	Т	Т				
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LOOKING BACK



From the Feb. 28, 1974, Pagosa Springs SUN. **PAGOSA PIRATES** — The Pagosa Pirate basketball squad will be fighting for a spot in the district tournament this weekend. They are playing in the Basin A league tournament at Ft. Lewis College. Left right, back row, are Coach Lloyd Wright, Pirates La Varta, Branson, Watkins, Rivas, Sanner. Front row, left to right, are: Trefethen, Lynch, Candelaria, Trujillo, and Gurule. The Pirates finished league play in second place this season.



25 years ago Taken from SUN files of January 18, 1996

The dramatic population growth in Archuleta County brings stress to bear on vital systems and institutions stresses that can cripple the abilities of organizations to provide invaluable services to the community. School District 50 Joint is feeling that stress, and members of the school board are beginning to marshal the forces to implement a plan they believe is necessary to deal with the burden imposed by a mushrooming enrollment and the strain it has imposed on limited facilities.

During the past year, school board members have considered ways to deal with overcrowding of the high school facility (following interim solutions studied and undertaken during the past decade to deal with crowding at the district's other buildings), and have unofficially concluded that a new building — to house at least 800 students should be built at the Sports Complex site in South Pagosa. And it should be built soon. At Monday's meeting, information concerning the need for a new facility was reviewed.

Letters

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

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

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

'Rabid mob' Dear Editor:

Today Trump again encouraged and stoked the violence of mobs that assaulted the capital performing insurrection, sedition and destruction of capital buildings (militias..they were part of the mob). Biden demanded that Trump call upon his rabid mob to be peaceful & leave. Trump's video response... "they stole it..be peaceful..go home.. we love you..you're special..great patriots." Meanwhile, the Capital and DC police..well...yea...eventually they finally showed; but were turned out in full riot gear & weapons in advance for Antifa and BLM.

At this point, countless articles have been written trying to explain why anyone would support Trump, or for that matter do so in such a mob rabid fashion refusing to see or recognize all his signs of insanity and destruction of their own democracy. Well, at last I came upon an explanation that makes some sense, mankind has a group default position and it's autocracy. Meaning, when stressed &/or goal less, we revert herd like to strong leaders without concern for institutions, facts, traditions or law & order.

Maybe, the shift of population to the coasts or the loss of factories or the lifelong drift of the Boomers without any substantial involvement in their nation drove their need for a Trump; but that support is a choice of evil & insurrection at the end of their times. The GOP effort to overturn the Presidential election wasn't about a 'rigged' election. It was simply a bid for more campaign money and positioning for Trumps supporters for GOP future political offices. If you sup-



from readers.

Please submit to: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 e-mail:

editor@pagosasun.com

ported it, you were clearly part of this generations herd default. What these GOP destroyers are also missing, there will be a lot fewer boomers in four years.

As a nation, it wasn't that long ago, we were in the exact same national position. Goldwater's (GOP presidential candidate) favorite Senator was McCarthy (GOP fascist). The hysteria that swept the nation then is still with us, example, the two defeated Georgia GOP senate candidates pitched their entire position to their base of white Evangelicals as against the radical left. Another thread of connection, McCarthy's legal atty was the same as Trump's (Roy Cohn).

Today, the Nat'l Association of Manufacturers (Republican linked) demanded Article 25 be enacted. Ben Franklin said it best when our founders concluded forming our government, "it's a republic, if you can keep it."

Dave Blake

'Accountable' Dear Editor:

Wednesday's riot and attack on the Nation's Capital was the result of the election of a racist, fascist, authoritarian, wannabe mob boss and over 3 decades of hate propaganda on right wing media outlets. The rejection of science, truth and Democracy for conspiracy theories, lies and fascism is the hallmark of the current Republican Party. FOX, Newsmax and AON personalities and right wing radio hosts yell and rant daily about imagined offenses by Democrats, progressives and people of color against their audiences. They have convinced their followers that any progress in the country comes at their expense. They stir up anger and hate to roil their followers into a frenzy of ignorance and conspiracy theory madness.

Wednesday's riot and attempted coup was also most recently brought about by Trump and his enabler's lies about the election being stolen and their unpatriotic objection to a peaceful transition of power. Many Republican elected officials, including Colorado CD-3's Boebert, have committed acts of sedition and need to be held accountable. Boebert was even live tweeting the location of Pelosi during the riot. They should at the least be censored or expelled and at the most arrested. These lies and attacks on our Republic and system of democratic electoral process must stop.

The leaders of the so called Proud Boys, QAnon, the Oath Keepers and other racist white nationalist

Dave Butcher Vaccine kudos

Dear Editor:

Kudos to the Pagosa Springs Medical Center for their well organized, professionally managed vaccine clinic at the Community Center. We were notified by phone, given a precise time for the appointments, and told how to download or obtain the necessary forms. When we arrived on Friday, January 8, we were guided through the whole process smoothly. Thanks also to the EMTs who were watching us for any adverse reactions. This is a model that should be imitated all over the country.

We all hope that vaccines continue to arrive so that everyone can get vaccinated soon. Meanwhile, let us all continue to wear our face coverings over our mouths and noses, maintain social distance, and wash our hands frequently.

Lynn R. Frederick

'The end is in sight' Dear Editor:

I was pleasantly surprised to be able to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 so quickly from PSMC. Despite hearing horror stories from elsewhere across the country about no vaccines being received or too many received and wasted, the process here appears to be rapid and seamless. PSMC staff and volunteers function like a well-oiled machine, enabling them to vaccinate dozens of people each hour. I have nothing but praise and appreciation for their organization, commitment, and hard work throughout this pandemic. Angels.

My only complaint is that PSMC does not have enough space to allow for much physical distancing during the vaccination process. I hope locations that do will step up and offer to host vaccination clinics. (The community center, Parrish Hall, PLPOA clubhouse, and large churches come to mind.) This could also benefit community members who struggle with transportation.

For those who are not in one of the highest priority groups, your turn will come. I encourage you to register online so you can be notified (see SUN story in the Jan 7 edition) when it is your turn to receive the vaccine. There is no charge for the vaccine, so cost should never be an impediment.

In case you're wondering about side effects, my husband and I had none other than our arms being a bit sore for a couple of days. Certainly no worse than the annual flu vaccine in terms of side effects.

Finally, please remember to keep wearing masks, keeping your distance, and sanitizing whether or not you've received the vaccine. Immunity takes 2 doses, 3 weeks apart, and some additional time to reach maximum effect. Even then, it's "only" about 95% effective. And, even if you are immune, you might still be able to transmit this terrible virus to someone close to you who is not immune and has not yet had the opportunity to be vaccinated or develop full immunity. So, let's continue to keep our community safe, Pagosa. The end is in sight. even if it's still a few months off. Be patient, diligent, and keep the faith. Nancy Fryer

'Lessons learned' Dear Editor:

The Republican Party and Donald Trump have claimed to be all about law and order. After the events of January 6, 2021, the party , Trump, and his supporters cannot any longer make that claim and be taken seriously. Sad as it is, an event like this was probably the inevitable result of electing a man like Trump to the Presidency. Our country should be grateful to survive his term, if indeed we do. We can hope that there have been lessons learned.

Ron Hardeman Capitol 'riot'

Dear Editor: Today, Jan 7, 2021, I am pondering just what happened at our nation's Capitol. Like most of you, I witnessed a mentally incompetent President incite a riot that swarmed our Capitol with the intention of stopping the Constitutional process of confirming the election of our next President. For more than 6 hours he sat back and did nothing. This group of people, claiming to support him, mounted an insurrection intended to subvert the actions of Congress and the will of the See Letters A4



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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.

organizations are nothing but self centered anarchists, thugs and bullies. Their ideas are so extreme that they must rely on intimidation and violence to further their agenda. We have a small group of the same me, me, me bullies here. They attempt to intimidate local politicians and lately bullied local businesses by marching, maskless, during a pandemic, through their establishments. They are of the same mind set, anarchists who do not support what's best for all of American society, but for their own narrow interests and skewed beliefs.

Amendment 14, section 3 speaks to those engaging in insurrection or rebellion against the US. Congressmen can be removed from office by a 2/3 majority in both Houses. However, I doubt the cowardly Republicans will vote to remove their traitorous members. Hopefully, a renewed Justice Department will hold them legally accountable.

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Continued from A3

majority in a fair and free election. As I write this, there are discussions of invoking the 25th amendment to remove him from office before he can do any further harm.

But he is not solely to blame for the events of yesterday. There are more than 140 Republican members of Congress that have accepted his unfounded and disproven conspiracy theories that the election was somehow stolen or rigged to defeat him. There is zero evidence or proof that there was any election fraud and all claims made by Trump or his Republican allies have been dismissed by all courts having jurisdiction in the matters. Among those standing in Congress to object to the electoral votes of a number of states were two representatives from Colorado, Doug Lamborn and Loren Boebert. Lamborn is a long time member of the House and normally does not create much of a wake. However, Boebert is a newly elected freshman who has zero experience in government, limited knowledge of law or the Constitution. She flaunts her willingness to openly carry a firearm in Washington DC, where open carry is banned. She has said she will wear her gun in Congress where, while not banned, is simply unacceptable for a member of Congress. Ms Boebert signed on to the Republican effort to block the confirmation only a few days after swearing to uphold and defend the Constitution. Yet she feels that she has the maturity and knowledge to understand the decision she has made and only has done this to play to the Right and to those who unconditionally support Donald Trump. This was political theater by a group of Republicans grandstanding for political recognition and Ms. Boebert was right in the middle without a clue why she was there. This kind of attitude and a history of open defiance of the law and the rules of decorum in the US Congress make her unfit to represent the 3rd Congressional District and more so the people of Archuleta County. She has little knowledge of the issues facing her constituents, especially during a pandemic, where she has openly defied the state's health orders and opened her restaurant to open dining despite being ordered to close. She has no interest in working to resolve these issues and many others by working with her colleagues in both parties. It is Loren's way or the Highway. We need to watch her care-

fully. A recall effort may be in order. "One of the great challenges in this world is knowing enough about a subject to think you're right, but not

tem of government we have nobody but ourselves to blame.

Vandalism or violence is never acceptable. There is no justification for attacking the Constitutionally empowered bodies of legislature, no matter how vigorously the American Flag is waved while committing unlawful acts against Capital buildings and elected law makers of the US government.

Domestic terrorist activities must be punished severely according to the laws of the land. In George Washington's day, traitors were executed. A person in a position of authority must conduct him/herself in a demeanor befitting the office to which he has been elected by the people. Any influential person inciting riots and violence by direct word or inference is as guilty as the physical perpetrators and must be called to bear responsibility for his role in the insurrection.

This is not a partisan issue; this is an issue imperative for all Ameri-

Anyone derelict in sworn duties to 'serve and protect' law abiding citizens and elected government officials is guilty of allowing this violence to escalate. The police and other law enforcement officers are agents of the citizen population; our tax dollars pay for their jobs. Corruption is identified by action not taken against malcontents and radicals when and how necessary to keep our democracy safe for all. We cannot allow alarmists, uneducated bullies, or cowards to disrupt our way of life and we must take firm measures to ensure equality and safety for all.

I am not sure that impeachment at this late date is the answer. For the President to resign from the Presidency, distancing himself from terrorist perpetrators, suggesting he does not condone their behavior, might be wise. I state again as I said to radicals in the Northwest 20 years ago, "Unless you have a a peaceful and intelligent alternative to the existing government process, violence will only exacerbate the current problems". The United States is Of the People, By the People, and For the People.

Thank you for allowing me to express my views.

Judith Jubb Letter to Boebert response Dear Editor:

Ms. Sanchez's open letter to Congressional Representative Lauren Boebert needs a response. I too am a resident of Colorado's Third Congressional District, and I feel that someone needs to have Ms Boebert's back. Especially, since more of the Third District's voters supported President Trump than not. Ms Boebert had every right and constitutional duty to object to certification of certain state's electoral college members. The members in question were sent from states where there were sufficient election irregularities to justify question. Ms. Sanchez is wrong in her assertion that the courts and others "verified" the November elections "free and fair". No court (over 70) could bring themselves to actually look at the thousands of allegations of wrongdoing presented in sworn affidavits. No court, or others, investigated, or put anyone under oath for cross examination in a search for truth. All the courts baled on technical grounds. I can only assume that the courts' timidity were based on their opinion that the questions should be settled by legislatures of the people. Therefore, the last recourse for those in this country believing that the election was stolen was an objection to certification by members of the US House of Representatives and Senate - legislative bodies. Would Ms. Sanchez not at least have a debate on the issues? How could Ms. Boebert's agreement to question the validity of these state's delegations be anything other than her duty to the constitution,

which she has sworn to uphold?

I know that the cancelling of ones opponents is in vogue, but it needs to stop. If you cannot accept others acting on their beliefs, principles, and perceived duty then you need to take a deep breath and question your real motives.

Mike Lane

Vaccine Dear Editor:

Letters

I received the Covid vaccine at the Community Center today. I called in advance to receive my appointment through the Pagosa Springs Medical Center. This was incredibly organized and everyone was so helpful. There was no waiting at all and you moved from station to station efficiently. As a community I want to thank the staff at the Medical Center, EMS and any volunteers who volunteered. I'm proud to be a part of this community. Great job all.

'Great reporting'

Great reporting job by Pagosa Sun on proper procedure for registering to receive Vaccine. It really worked. A special hats off to Rhonda Webb and her crew of the PSMC Covid-19 Vaccine Team for setting up and operating a near perfect vaccine inoculation operation at the PS Community Center. We have all heard the horror stories, but we should be proud to know that "Pagosa Gets It Right". Let's stay safe.

Alan L. Powdermaker

COVID vaccine Dear Editor:

20 years after America became a country, the very first vaccine was developed. The vaccine was for smallpox, a disease that has been with humanity for at least 2500 years. Exceptionally contagious and very deadly, world-wide smallpox has killed hundreds of millions of people during our long gruesome association. The survivors of the disease, many hundreds of millions more, were scared for life and could also suffer blindness.

The vaccine for smallpox was developed by Edward Jenner in 1796. Vaccines, their efficacy, safety, manufacture, delivery and contact tracing were all slowly perfected over the last two centuries. In 1977, humanity's skills and concentrated efforts, armed with a vaccine, finally eradicated smallpox from the face of the earth.

In 1800, when the smallpox vaccine was developed, the infant mortality rate in the United States was 46%. Half of all the children born in America did not live to see their 5th birthday. Today our infant mortality rate is 0.57%. Public health measures, including vaccinations, are central reasons for this monumental improvement. Remember the character, Tiny Tim, in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"? That little waif who walked with a crutch was, perhaps, a victim of polio, now all but eradicated by the development and deployment of vaccines. Science is a never-static selfcorrecting multifaceted discipline. Science is a method of seeking the truth, a process where every conclusion since Isaac Newton's revelations are open to reexamination. The whole world is intently watching the results of the COVID vaccine roll-out, there will be no "i"s un-dotted, or "t"s un-crossed. Administer millions of doses and you're guaranteed to see a few bad reactions. Yeah, so what? Some people are allergic to modern medicine's miracle drug, penicillin. What's at stake here? Maybe your life. We've learned pandemics are not a thing of the past. They can burn through a country like wild-fire. Masking, social distancing and the like are just measures to keep us alive until our dose of vaccine arrives. Witnessing the world's scientific community throw it's full weight at this problem has made me proud

to be a human being. We've gotten a look behind the techno-curtain to see just how incredibly much science knows about the inter-workings of life, and down to the minutest of details for virtually every facet of life, fascinating. Vaccines are one of mankind's great inventions, the vast majority of the world's physicians agree, though there will always be antivaxx quacks who don't. With polio and smallpox, the world pooled it's resources and defeated them both.We are very close to eradicating several more. We have done it with vaccines.

Getting vaccinated, in Archuleta County and elsewhere in the world, is the only sure way we can stop CO-VID in it's tracks. So when it comes your turn, get vaccinated and help save our country.

George Rohrbacher

Boebert

States citizen, registered voter in Colorado's Third Congressional District. I write to urge voters to contact Representative Lauren Boebert.

• Ask her to vote to impeach Donald Trump:

• Condemn her seditious encouragement of rioters who stormed the Capitol.

My people have a saying that applies to Representative Boebert. Tanto que peca el que mata la vaca como el que detiene la pata. (The person who holds the legs of the cow is as guilty as the person who kills the cow). I hold her responsible for the insurrection at the Capitol last Wednesday.

I heard Representative Boebert proclaim on the floor of Congress that she supported the people from Colorado who were rallying for the march. These folks were part the group that threatened lives and destroyed property at the Capitol. Even after the riot, Representative Boebert continued to support the Trump lie that the election was rigged. She voted to reject the state certified votes of electoral college members from Arizona and Pennsylvania.

I have worked for voting rights since the 1960's. In 1993, I was lead plaintiff in a voting rights lawsuit that won for Latinos in Colorado the ability to elect a state representative of their choice. We deserve a Congressional representative who has integrity and who will live up to her oath to support the constitution and the laws of the United States.

Please take action. Call Representative Boebert at 202 225-4761.

I am an immigrant; I am proud

to be an adopted American. Citi-

zens born in the USA cannot share

the immigrant's sense of contrast.

Like the founding fathers, we know

without doubt what we do not want

Wish

Dear Editor:

See Letters A5

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Dear Editor: Lassie Olin I am Jennie Sanchez, a United

Dear Editor:

enough about the subject to know you're wrong." — Neil DeGrasse Tyson

Gary Hardin

Boebert: 'Resign now'

Dear Editor:

In live-tweeting information regarding Speaker Pelosi's location during the riot at the U.S. Capitol, Lauren Boebert has shown herself to be not just unqualified to hold office, but actually dangerous to her fellow lawmakers. She refers to the Proud Boys and rioters as her constituents, while relentlessly vilifying all Democrats. January 6th was not "1776," and serving in Congress is not a game. Resign now. Jan Hester

Violence will exacerbate problems

Dear Editor:

If we do not vote we don't have a voice. If we don't like an elected government official or policy, we need to inform law makers with proper respect for the office of authority held. Local, state, and national legislators are all available to hear from their constituents. These officials are our elected representatives. Americans are fortunate to be able to vote. If we do not have a better organized sys-



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Letters

Continued from A4

from our new country. My own list of things gladly left

behind includes: • a country where individual liberty & responsibility are no longer valued or expected.

• a country where patriotism & pride of country no longer exists.

• a country where abortion on demand (as contraception) up to 6-months, is accepted as a woman's health issue

My wish is that our government & citizens should learn from the policies & practices of other developed (?) nations, realizing that the rest of the world looks to the USA as a beacon of freedom & enlightenment.

God Bless America. Michael F. Saunders

'Spirit of goodness' Dear Editor:

Who do we say we are? I am proud and thankful that our local citizens, business folks, medical and law enforcement folks have worked together, all with respect, to preserve the "spirit" of goodness that is our community. We are so very blessed. I wonder what "We the People" have learned from the trauma of this past year. What does it mean when we pledge allegiance to "one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all"? In a nutshell, I believe it is based on personal responsibility to build a

life under the umbrella of freedom guaranteed by our Constitution. Our ancestors worked hard, sacrificed and were successful within the security afforded them by our Constitution, no more, no less. I will be offering, in future Letters, comments from Dr. Chase's book, published in 1870, when times

were not easy. I believe we need to consider them today — advise that moved our nation forward after the trauma of the Civil War.

Soon after WWII, a new phrase was added to our Pledge, "under God ..." which further defines us as a nation - the Greatest Commandment states what it means to live under God: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul and your neighbor as yourself." That commandment was discovered among the ancient writings of the Essene Community prior to the time of Christ and were carried forth throughout the Old and New Testaments in the Holy Bible.

So, that is who we say we are. Let's continue to meet that challenge in our daily lives. Blessings to all.

Patty Tillerson

'Supporting evidence in Trump's favor'

Dear Editor:

A wife arrives home early from a canceled business trip to find a strange car in the driveway. Entering her home she sees a pair of high heels by the couch and a purse not her own. Then two glasses and an empty bottle of wine. Down the hallway lies a crumpled shirt and blouse.

She bursts into her bedroom. A shocked mistress screams, covers her naked body and runs from the room. Her flabbergasted husband doesn't move an inch.

She stares into his eyes and leaves the room disgusted. Distraught and confused, she takes a sedative and sleeps in the guest room.

By morning, her husband has gone to work.

Non-combative by nature, her way is to let things settle. Over the following days her husband keeps quiet and distant, admitting nothing; letting the ball remain in her court.

A week later she confronts him. "How could you?"

"How could I what?" he brazenly replies.

Her manipulative husband had begun the process of Gas-lighting her, never admitting to anything, Not wanting to believe it is the end of her marriage, she starts to doubt what she'd seen with her own eyes.

'Gas-lighting' is clinically called plausible denial." We know it as 'baffle 'em with [expletive]."

Closure in a court of law is to hear either "Guilty" or "Not guilty;" a final statement of fact. To never get a verdict allows injustice to fester, and for time to erode the truth.

I once told a friend there was one chance in a billion he was right. His very human response? "There's still a chance." And so partisans claim, "Biden could have gotten a record # of votes."

And when our media is corruptthe propaganda wing of a political party-to be partisan and disingenuous is to open one's mouth and speak.

All the supporting evidence: wine glasses, soiled sheets, a naked woman...tells the tale. But without a confession the political machine can get away with calling the 'wife' a liar.

This is what just happened in our Presidential election, with all the supporting evidence in Trump's favor. Democrats are hiding their heads in the sand, believing a silent coup against our Republic is better than Trump. The secular wing of America believes "might makes right," as if using rotten concrete to build our nation from here, could

ever end well.

Under penalty of perjury, when a citizen fills out a police report, it's dereliction of duty for the police not to investigate. Yet hundreds of citizens attested to federal election crimes and not one federal agency responded. Yet a false hate crime at NASCAR was pounced on by twelve FBI agents. And twelve well-connected, Democrat lawyers from the politicized Mueller probe illegally deleted evidence on their phones with a yawn from our 'Justice' Department. Give me a break. A people can't be this stupid and remain free. And take notice, this is exactly what is already happening in America: the land that we love. Charles Wenzel

Vaccination

Dear Editor:

My wife and I were recently vaccinated on Friday. I called the hot line on the previous Sunday, got a response back on Tuesday to verify our information, and on Thursday got a call for appointment for the vaccine. The response from the hospital was very quick and everything told to me was exactly how the vaccine went. The hospital people were very organized and very polite. My wife and I want to thank everyone involved in the vaccine process. Thank you.

Scott and Marlene Zeigler



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Susan Ide Junta

Susan Ide Junta passed away peacefully on July 27, 2020, of non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Born March 27, 1938, the

daughter of Helen and Chandler Ide in Berkeley, Calif., she graduated from Berkelev High School,



in 2002 she moved to Santa Fe, N.M., where she enjoyed the easy access to the many cultural offerings available, including the opera, the art galleries, the food and the general energy that Santa Fe is known for. She then relocated to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in order to live closer to her daughter, Kendal, and her grandchildren. In 2012, she moved to Great Barrington, Mass., again to be close to Kendal

of Denver, Colo. She also leaves a niece, Amy Palmer, and nephew, Josh Palmer, both of Silicon Valley.

She was a member of the Junior League of Palo Alto, where she served on the executive committee and was an environmental volunteer, an art docent and author of the training manual for the lay counseling KARA program. She was also a member of the Lenox Garden Club in Lenox, Mass., and worked for the local Food Pantry in Great

She was a lifelong tennis player

up until the very end and was also

involved in both bridge and book

groups, as well as being an avid

organic gardener and a patron of

name to the Leukemia and Lym-

phoma Society (https://www.lls.

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Scott Erickson Specialist

lege and graduated from Pomona College in

1960 with a BA in English literature. In 1988, she received an MA degree in counseling psychology and marriage, family, child counapy practice in Menlo Park, Calif., until 2001. A lifelong Californian,

and her grandchildren.

seling from Santa Clara University. She worked a private psychother-

Ronald C. Taylor

Ronald C. Taylor, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away on Jan. 4 at 2:20 p.m. Ron loved the beauty of Colorado, the charm of Pagosa Springs and the many wonderful people, especially his friends at Pagosa Bible Church.

Ron was born in Englewood, N.J., on May 2, 1935, to the late Robert M. and Irene M. Taylor. Ron is preceded in death by his parents; brother Robert Taylor and his first wife, Sylvia; daughter Jill Bailey; and stepson Sgt. 1st Class James E. Thode. He is survived by his wife, Eve, of 28 years; son Ronald C. Taylor Jr. (Donna); grandchildren Ryan Taylor and Brittney Gribbons (Steve); stepchild Mary Ann Thode; daughter-in-law Carla Thode; and grandchildren Thomas and Ashley

She leaves three children: Ben-

Thode.

jamin Chandler Junta, of Hermosa Beach, Calif.; Kendal Junta McTeigue, of Great Barrington, Mass.; and David Ide Junta (Yee-Ann Cho), of Denver, Colo.; and five granddaughters: Emma Catherine McTeigue, Rebecca Isabel McTeigue, of Great Barrington, Mass.; Anjali Mei Junta, Matreva Ling Junta and Kalani Ming Junta,

Ron was educated in the Tenafly,

N.J., public schools, and the Miami

University (BS) in Oxford, Ohio,

Montclair State College (MA) in

Upper Montclair, N.J., and the

University of Arizona (MST), in

Tucson, Ariz. Ron was a mathemat-

ics teacher at Fair Lawn Senior High

School in New jersey and Catalina

High School, Sahuaro High School,

Palo Verde Christian High School

and Pima Community College, all

in Tucson, Ariz. He was a research

specialist for NASA in astronomy

at the University of Arizona for 22

years. After taking an early retire-

ment from teaching and research,

Ron received a calling to the min-

istry, was ordained and served on

pastoral staff of Christ Community

org/). Church in Tucson. Ron and his wife, Eve, moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 2000, where he served as associate pastor of Pagosa Bible Church until mid-summer of 2003,

served as a church elder. On Oct. 4, 1971, Ron accepted the free gift of salvation from God by receiving Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. He is now experiencing that which was promised before the foundation of the world. Praise be to God.

at which time he retired and then

Memorial services will be held at a later date at Pagosa Bible Church with Pastor Dave Stene officiating. Ron was a man of deep faith and impeccable integrity. He was a devoted, loving husband and father, and a loyal friend to many.

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Goals & Accomplishments Town of Pagosa Springs

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year.

Their answers will be printed in The SUN over the coming weeks. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Don Volger, Pagosa Springs Mayor



Thanks again for letting me share. Every year I am more aware that I can't answer these as if I, alone, accomplished anything, especially in 2020.

What were your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

Much was accomplished in 2020, but obviously, much was unanticipated. I can't fully express my appreciation to those who worked tirelessly to adapt, and respond, to the significant challenges we all faced.

The town council held numerous special meetings to address the unanticipated issues as they surfaced. Staff provided an abundance of relevant information and presented various options for our consideration. We had excellent, thought-provoking discussions, and listened to insightful comments from many

members of our community. Some decisions were extremely difficult because few resulted in overwhelming support from a divided public. However, after careful deliberation, decisions were made in the best interest of the community. That was a major accomplishment under extremely challenging circumstances.

Even though we decided not to pursue some of the projects we planned, we addressed our highest priorities.

Overall, we provided essential services in spite of the additional workload required by our responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

What are your three top goals for 2021?

I want to meet with other community leaders to review responses to the pandemic and answer the

questions, "What have we learned?", and "What do we need to change?" It's still a goal to encourage local government leaders to work more closely together for the benefit of the entire community, and I will continue to encourage citizens to be informed about, and hopefully more engaged in, local government.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

As stated last year, I will do my best to work well with others, chair efficient and productive meetings, and establish and maintain trust relationships. Together with the rest of the town council, we will continue to provide support and guidance for our incredible staff and dedicated volunteers.

Andrea Phillips, Pagosa Springs Town Manager



What were your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

First, as we all know, 2020 was a challenging year with a lot of uncertainty. The community has been strong throughout and really pitched in for each other. Some planned town programs and projects were cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Budgeting and financial forecasting was a challenge, especially early on in the pandemic. However, town staff did a great job weathering the storm with constantly evolving information from the state and federal governments. This added an extra layer of work onto everyone's busy plates. Staff was flexible and pitched in where needed and Town Council worked hard to stay abreast of regulations as they impacted the community, providing messaging on slowing the spread of the virus. Programs were developed on the fly to quickly disburse funds to individuals, non-profits and businesses in need. Secondly, construction is nearly complete for the new consolidated Town Maintenance Facility on S. 5th St. The project has been in the works for years and once completed, will allow staff to operate out of a clean and modern facility and to store expensive equipment properly, lengthening their life span and ensuring better services. We hope to move in by the end of January. Lastly, the Town continued work on the pavement preservation plan, sealcoating multiple streets and asphalt trail sections of the River Walk, completing mill and overlay sections at S. Pagosa

Blvd. and N. 5th St., as well completing the road connection between Pike and Eagle Dr. As funds are available, we continue to address road maintenance, signage, and drainage issues each year.

What are your three top goals for 2021?

First and foremost, the Town will continue to do what it can to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, while providing support to businesses and organizations. In 2020, over \$400k in CARES funds allocated to the Town went to local businesses, the school district, and non-profits to help with remote learning, food insecurity, and business expenses due to meeting COVID-19 health protocols. Our goal is to keep businesses intact and get through this collectively, working with our partners, getting kids back in school and being able to offer town programs like KIDS (Kickin' it During Summer) Camp, recreation programs, and community events later this year.

Secondly, we are embarking on a revision of our

and design will be completed for the Harman Hill phase of the Town to Pagosa Lakes Trail, with construction planned for 2022. Staff will also be working with consultants on multi modal planning for the East End Gateway (between N. 1st St. and east of the Hwy 84/160 intersection) and planning for future uses at the former sewer lagoon property, "Yamaguchi South." We hope to enhance public engagement in these projects and get our community involved in their successful outcomes.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

I will continue to work with Town Council and our advisory boards to determine the best course of action to work towards these goals above. We utilize an annual Work Plan to track our progress on the various projects and initiatives. Some are long term Council goals that will take years to "solve" such as workforce housing. However, we continue to make progress in these areas where funding, resources and political will align. We have partnerships with several organizations like CDOT, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, the State Historic Fund and others to utilize grant funding and technical expertise to further these goals. As a small community with limited staffing and resources, we often depend on partners and outside funding to help us accomplish our goals on behalf of the community.

Land Use and Development Code. This important part of our municipal code determines how building of all kinds (new construction, reconstruction, signage, etc.) occurs in the community. We will leverage the vision set out in the Comprehensive Plan "Pagosa Springs Forward" (adopted 2018) to guide this process. Finally, we hope to continue work on trail connections and pedestrian connectivity. The Hermosa Street Riverwalk, connecting Town Park to the 1st Street Bridge through Cotton Hole Park, will be constructed this year. Engineering

REVIEW

2020 was an unusual and 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.

Over the next few weeks, The SUN will take a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at April, May and June.

April

• The Archuleta Food Systems Food Equity Coalition was one of several groups in the community to react to the pandemic by focusing its efforts on providing resources for those in need in the community, with the group announcing the emergency shift in early April.

• The slate of candidates for the Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD) Board of Directors election was announced in early April. The candidates were: Kathryn Alfred (incumbent), Robert W. Brobst, Mark H. Ziegler, James C. Pruitt (incumbent) and Matthew A. Mees (incumbent).

• The Archuleta County Treasurer's Office announced in early April it would accept first-half property tax payments, interest free, until April 20 in response to an executive order from Gov. Jared Polis.

Later orders from the governor delayed other payments, such as businesses remitting sales tax to the state.

• On April 1, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) issued a press release mirroring what was surfacing at a global level - recommending covering one's nose and mouth when leaving the home for essential travel to the grocery store, doctor or pharmacy.

"Safely cover your face with a bandanna or homemade cotton face covering, reserving hospital grade masks for health care workers and those who are sick," the press release states.

The press release states that studies indicate that there is no reason to not use a face covering as a precaution, and wearing something over your nose and mouth can provide an additional layer of protection for those who must go out.

• As of April 1, the national pump price for regular gasoline dropped below \$2, to \$1.984, marking the cheapest average in four years.

• At special meetings on April 2, the Pagosa Springs Town Council and Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District approved a number of items aimed at helping local individuals, businesses and nonprofits who had been negatively affected by COVID-19.

• Archuleta County entered the month of April with one confirmed case of COVID-19, but an additional five cases were reported on April 4.

• Despite Polis extending a statewide stay-at-home order through April 26, in early April Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez signed an Eggs-tra Special Eggs-emption for travel into and within Archuleta County authorizing the Easter Bunny "to travel freely into and throughout Archuleta County for the essential service of Egg delivery."

• On April 7, Town of Pagosa Springs voters filled three at-large town council seats with two new members and one returning member.

Shari Pierce earned a seat by garnering the most votes of the five candidates with 215 votes.

Mat deGraaf was re-elected to his seat with 188 votes; Rory Burnett earned the final seat with 139 total votes.

Julian Caler earned 114 votes and Bill Hudson totaled 94 votes.

Two of those seats were previously held by David Schanzenbaker and Tracy Bunning, who were term-limited and unable to run again.

• On April 7, it was revealed Archuleta County staff and officials had less money available to build a new courthouse than originally planned.

At the county commissioners' work session that day, Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton explained that \$650,000 in the county's Justice System Capital Fund, which was intended to be used to build a new courthouse, is being consumed by the county's new jail and remodeling the former home of Norma and Fred Harman III to house the sheriff's office.

"We're over budget on the detention center and the sheriff's office remodel looks to be much more expensive than we thought it would be, and as a result, we're looking at maybe having \$45,000 if we're lucky in the justice system fund,' Walton said.

• In early April, the Daniels Fund announced that Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS) Emma Audrey Happ had earned a place in the Daniels Scholarship Program.

 At a special meeting on April 8, the town council appointed Justin Fay as the town's municipal court judge, taking the place of Clayton Buchner, who had resigned as judge the previous month in order to serve as the town's contract attorney.

• The pandemic didn't stop a surprise birthday party on April 11,

with the family of Moises "Uncle Moe" Martinez celebrating his 84th birthday, with his son and nephew urging relatives and friends to drive by his home and honk their horns for his birthday while following guidelines for social distancing.

• Along with the pandemic came a rise in domestic violence in Archuleta County, with Archuleta County Undersheriff Derek Woodman noting in mid-April there had been an increase in domestic violence calls over the previous month and Rise Above Violence, a local nonprofit dedicated to assisting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, reporting its call volume had increased.

• On April 12, Dr. Amber Reiss-Holt, co-owner of Pagosa Medical Group, left for California to work with patients and gain firsthand knowledge in the fight against COVID-19. She traveled there several more times in the following months.

"There's a lot you can learn by reading and by talking to other physicians, but there's nothing that takes the place of actually treating a patient with the disease," she said before leaving to work on the frontline of the pandemic in San Diego.

• Archuleta County's seventh case of COVID-19 was announced on April 14.

 According to data released in April by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, residents of Archuleta County filed 268 initial unemployment claims for the week ending on March 28.

In 2019, Archuleta County aver-

aged seven initial unemployment claims per week, according to the same data.

• The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education voted at its April 14 regular meeting to continue to pay its staff while the district's normal operations were disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

• During a special meeting of the Pagosa Area Tourism Board on April 16, the board discussed potential budgetary ramifications as a result of the coronavirus.

"Our budget will obviously be significantly affected," Tourism Director Jennie Green said during the meeting. "One thing to keep in mind with the lodging tax budget is, without tourism, there is no money coming in."

 On April 16, Sixth Judicial District Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson awarded attorney Matthew H. Roane more than \$10,000 in attorney fees for his work in obtaining disclosure of an executive session recording from the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

The executive session was regarding the 1033 investigation and was followed by a press release that outlined five directives that each began with "The BoCC will ...," with the judge ruling the executive session likely contained conversations not protected under executive session law.

Steve Zansberg, president of the Board of Directors for the Colorado Freedom of Information Coalition. was not aware of another case See Review A7

Review

Continued from A6

where an attorney representing themselves on a Colorado Open Records Act case was awarded attorney fees.

• An April settlement ended a years-long dispute between the county, the Timber Ridge Home-owners Association and the Timber Ridge Metro District regarding the status of a 1,400-foot section of Bristlecone Drive.

Per that settlement, Bristlecone Drive will remain open to the public.

• The Colorado High School Activities Association announced on April 21 that the spring sports season would not continue, bringing to an end a season that had barely begun.

• The town council held a discussion at its regular meeting on April 23, outlining potential cuts that could happen due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The town anticipated revenue reductions in a variety of areas due to the COVID-19 pandemic and, among other changes, implemented a hiring freeze.

• An explosion and fire in the area of Susan's Place and Crooked Road in Aspen Springs occurred on the evening of April 23, but the cause of the incident was unknown, with no witnesses present at the scene when firefighters arrived.

• An Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) deputy was injured during an incident on April 25, with a suspect reportedly hitting the ACSO deputy in the chest, leading to the deputy's Taser being knocked out of his hands, breaking free of a wrist lock, knocking the deputy's bodycam off, pulling a radio microphone off of the deputy, and hitting the deputy in the face.

• Colorado transitioned to Safer at Home on April 27, but Polis also announced Colorado schools would not reopen to in-person instruction for the remainder of the school year due to the risk of coronavirus.

• The BoCC voted on April 28 to follow Polis' transition to Safer at Home despite the local health department recommending the county adopt stricter guidelines to more slowly reopen businesses.

• Following a strong start to the year, Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) suffered a "significant loss" in revenue in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a report given to the district's board of directors on April 28.

• The major design review sketch for the planned Archuleta County

• Three directors were elected to three-year terms on the USJHSD Board of Directors in a drive-thru election on May 5: Mees, Pruitt and Zeigler.

Following are the unofficial vote totals for the five candidates:

Mees: 302 votes counted. Pruitt: 247 votes counted. Zeigler: 238 votes counted. Alfred: 159 votes counted. Brobst: 156 votes counted.

• At a meeting on May 5, the town council approved Ordinance 932 on second reading for a special election in July pertaining to a potential revision to the town's home rule charter that applies to the newly formed Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority (URA).

The proposed change, which was proposed through a petition signed by residents, would require voter approval prior to the town council or URA using tax-increment financing (TIF) whenever the total TIF revenues are expected to exceed \$1 million over the life of the project.

•At the same meeting, the council waived building permit and plan review fees for the new Archuleta County courthouse, as well as the sheriff's office and dispatch center.

• The Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department announced on May 7 that its summer recreation programs, including youth baseball for kids ages 7 to 12, adult softball and the Kickin' It During Summer (K.I.D.S.) Camp, were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

• On May 8, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors approved lease-purchase financing to purchase the building at 165 N. Pagosa Blvd. for \$568,500, which went on to house the PFPD's administration to provide more room for operations at Station 1.

• Seeds of Learning held a driveby teacher appreciation parade on May 8 in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week. The school exterior was decorated with chalk art, posters and painted windows. All the teachers were present and socially distanced themselves for the parade of cars sporting decorations and posters, and bearing gifts.

• On May 11, Stage I fire restrictions were implemented for all trust lands throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation due to high temperatures, dry fuel conditions and the occurrence of wildland fires.

Archuleta County and the national forests followed suit soon after.

• "The big takeaway from tonight is that there is a lot of uncertainty," ASD Finance Director Mike Hodgson told the district's Board of Education in a May 12 work session on the budget.

• Throughout May, business owners and local governments looked into seeking a variance from the state that would allow some businesses to reopen sooner and with less strict requirements than the state was allowing at the time.

• The Colorado Air National Guard's 140th Wing's F-16 Fighting Falcons flew over Pagosa Springs Medical Center on May 16. The flight was to honor health care facilities and workers in Colorado.

• In May, Archuleta County disseminated the March 2020 sales tax revenue report and, while most categories were up compared to March 2019, Walton noted, "The categories that went down, went down hard ..."

• Archuleta County restaurants were allowed to reopen to inperson dining on May 27.

• Archuleta County's unemployment rate spiked to 16 percent in April from 6.9 percent in March, according to information released by the state in late May.

Archuleta County's unemployment rate in April 2019 was 3.3 percent.

• In late May, several PSHS students received art and theater awards: KC Yeneza, Hannah Rockensock, Megan Foster, Grace Thompson, Jacob Miller, Sydney Mitchell, Mark Holladay, Kayden Kiker, Ethan Mazur and Skylar Sherman.

• Despite the pandemic, the American Legion Post 108 Honor Guard held a pair of shortened ceremonies in honor of Memorial Day, with ceremonies at the Legion and Hilltop Cemetery.

• PSMC lost an estimated \$775,000 in revenue in March and an estimated \$1.2 million in April, Finance Director Chelle Keplinger told the USJHSD Board of Directors on May 26.

• At the same meeting, the board approved moving forward with a new MRI machine for PSMC.

• PSHS honored 75 graduates of the class of 2020 during a drive-in, pre-filmed ceremony May 30.

The class of 2020 garnered more than \$500,000 in scholarships, many of which are renewable, and had 15 students earn academic distinction.

• Following their graduation, seniors who were in PSHS's vocational trades program turned down gifts from Build Pagosa, instead suggesting those resources go toward helping the community.

June

• After being closed since March, Seeds of Learning was able to re• Four small fires were started within the San Juan National Forest's Pagosa Ranger District due to a lightning storm on June 13.

• On June 16, multiple Archuleta County commissioners signaled their support for the county to investigate starting its own health department.

Commissioner Steve Wadley expressed he did not share the views of Alvin Schaaf and Ronnie Maez.

• In June, it was announced Grant Aucoin, a senior at PSHS, would be a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders on June 24-26 — an honors-only program for students who want to go into medicine or medical research.

• The ASD Board of Education and the PPOS Board of Directors passed their respective budgets and appropriations resolutions for the 2020-2021 fiscal year at backto-back meetings on June 18.

A summary of budget changes included within the ASD budget shows that the district estimated a 5.57 percent decrease in per-pupil revenue from the state.

Both budgets also accounted for funding related to coronavirus and preparations for returning to inperson instruction.

• The Hermosa Riverwalk trail construction project was delayed for 2020 following a decision made by the town council at its regular meeting on June 18.

• Multiple local agencies took part in a rope rescue of a Durango man who drove off of Wolf Creek Pass and plunged 700 feet down around mile marker 162 on June 23.

• PSMC continued to fall under budget in several areas in May, according to a report given to the USJHSD Board of Directors on June 23.

"For the month of May we rebounded a little bit," Keplinger told the board in beginning her monthly financial report.

PSMC ended the month of April with a total net income \$65,994. PSMC ended the month of May with a total net income of \$486,204, thanks to stimulus funding related to coronavirus.

• The Sand Creek Fire, started by

See Review A9

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Courthouse was approved by the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission at a regular meeting on April 28, though it was noted a reduced size was possible, with two courtrooms instead of three, due to funding.

• In late April, the town broke ground on its new consolidated maintenance facility on South 5th Street.

• In late April, PSHS senior Taylor Lewis was named the Intermountain League Winter Female Athlete of the Year.

Lewis was part of the 20-4 Lady Pirate basketball team that made it to the Final Four of the state tournament before the tournament was canceled due to COVID-19 concerns.

According to MaxPreps, Lewis averaged 9.9 points per game on the season, as well as 4.8 rebounds per game and 2.2 steals per game.

May

• As of May 1, Archuleta County had eight reported cases of COV-ID-19—the total the county would stay at until late June.

• The Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) Building Corporation closed on the purchase of the building housing PPOS on May 1, ensuring a permanent home for the charter school.

To purchase the building, the PPOS Building Corporation received a direct loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), according to an email from PPOS Business Manager Chenni Hammon.

The USDA loan is at 2.375 percent for 40 years and is for \$2.9 million, she noted, with a purchase price of \$4.4 million. Hodgson explained budget deficits at the state and local level at the meeting, as well as what ASD was looking at doing a deal with decreased revenues.

Hodgson explained that the state's revenue projections were presented that morning, with the Joint Budget Committee projecting a \$3.2 billion deficit and the governor's Office of State Planning and Budget projecting a \$3.4 billion deficit.

"So, even in this uncertainty we don't know how bad the deficit is," he said.

• Tri-County Head Start celebrated graduation with a drivethrough event on May 13 due to COVID-19 restrictions. It was a memorable occasion for 24 graduates who advanced to kindergarten.

• A monthly surcharge to customer's water and wastewater bills was approved by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors at a regular meeting on May 14.

The monthly surcharge for water is 68 cents per equivalent unit (EU) while the wastewater surcharge is 22 cents per EU.

• Camping at Navajo State Park reopened on May 15 with additional health and safety protocols and guidelines in place.

• PAWSD Manager Justin Ramsey indicates that snow water equivalency (SWE) hit 0.0 on May 15, with the median date for SWE to hit 0.0 being June 2.

The SWE is the amount of water contained within the snowpack.

open on June 1.

• On June 1, the state announced the next phase of reopenings under a plan called Safer at Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors.

• Announcement of the cancellation of Fourth of July events began in early June, with the parade and carnival two of the first cancellations.

• In early June, Pagosa Springs Elementary School announced its Parent of the Year recipients, recognizing parents who contribute to the school in ways that go above and beyond: Ashli Stretton, Ashley Currier, Laura Jenkins and Mary Moore.

• Demonstrations that were occurring throughout the nation came to Pagosa Springs in June, with peaceful demonstrations taking place for two days. After walking throughout town, the demonstrations culminated at Town Park with many laying face down on the ground with their hands behind their backs for eight minutes and 46 seconds in homage to George Floyd, the Minneapolis man who died in police custody on Memorial Day.

• The ASD Board of Education heard about and moved forward with items related to the district's newest school, San Juan Mountain School (SJMS), at its regular meeting on June 9.

SJMS is slated to be an alternative high school on the campus of Pagosa Springs High School that would open in the fall.

• The town planning commission approved a recommendation to the town council via a 4-1 vote at a special meeting on June 11 to remove Hudson from the planning commission.



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School

Continued from front

to live and another child, who is an AP student, struggle to find his way academically.

She noted that not every family has the same resources as hers, but are likely also struggling, and expressed concern that perhaps those parents are missing signs in their kids.

She added that students have missed out on many milestones and want to be in school.

She further expressed concern that depression is real and deadly.

Remote learning is good for health department numbers, she expressed, asking, "But at what cost?"

She told the school board there is an opportunity to fix the problem, adding, "You can speak volumes to our children."

Another mother stated she fears depression is "imminent" with her 10-year-old, and her previously motivated high school student doesn't want to finish school.

She noted that everything about senior year has been "ripped away' from students, and added that when she expressed she would fight for them, the response was that no one would listen.

"Please, stand up for our kids," she said, adding, "Please be a voice of reason for our students.'

A father was the next to speak, noting that Tuesday was 318 days of the pandemic and 318 days since COVID became normal life.

He noted that the same stories are echoed through homes from across the nation, citing talking to parents at a nationwide sports camp.

He noted that kids are being asked to carry the same burdens as adults, and, while 2020 didn't bring any new problems, it brought about a combination that hadn't been seen before.

Children, he suggested, don't feel like anyone cares about them and are struggling to determine what their futures hold.

"These children need hope," he said

John Forrest, who noted he has seven grandchildren in the local school system and is a former school board member, offered the board encouragement and explained how the board would refocus itself during his tenure by asking, "Are we doing what's best for the kids?'

Another mother told the board her daughter had had a "suicide scare" while in another school district and, after feeling no support, the family moved to Pagosa Springs, where they've had a wonderful experience.

But, she noted, things changed last year, causing fear they would go backward with the progress.

She noted the social development needs of students in asking the board to return to more in-person learning.

Another grandfather then spoke, asking the school board what power it has as a school board and acknowledging that the board also dislikes the current state of learning due to the pandemic.

School Psychologist Tim Brink spoke next, noting that it is scary having his wife, a teacher, go to school every day and having his daughter go to day care.

He suggested that the school look at additional ways of using outdoor education to get groups of kids outside, volunteering to take groups and noting that kids process information better outside.

Later in speaking, he referenced his time in the military and in the Gulf, noting that there were times personal liberties had to be given up for the greater good, and later suggested teachers should be mandated to wear masks all the time in school buildings.

Katie Lorenzen, a high school teacher, was the last to speak, telling the board that she sees in the classroom what the parents had described to the board, calling it "devastating."

She echoed the sentiment that students are not feeling hope in a lot of areas and told the board that, through an anonymous survey she gives her students, many indicated they are not doing well mentally.

She spoke of trying to stay in contact with a student who she knows has been suicidal.

"I think we need students back at least four days a week," she said, acknowledging that some teachers have health concerns and that the decisions are not easy.

She added that the school district should make every justification to have students back in school, ending with, "I want to be in school."

Board President Bruce Dryburgh thanked the audience members for their comments, noted what they said would be taken into consideration and told them, "Please, come again and bring friends.'

In beginning her superintendent's report to the board, Superintendent Dr. Kym LeBlanc-Esparza thanked those in the audience for speaking, noting families have been graceful, patient, caring and empathetic.

The leadership team, she noted, "has truly agonized" and on Jan. 4 began discussing how to get the high school's students back in schools four days per week, but added there are some things the district has no control over.

ASD's K-8 students returned to four days of in-person learning per week on Jan. 4, with the high school and San Juan Mountain School returning to a hybrid model.

She told the families the district needs to hear from them and is trying to balance perspectives.

COVID was the topic of discussion again later in the meeting, with LeBlanc-Esparza and Pagosa Springs High School Principal Sean O'Donnell indicating the high school is looking at a return to the classroom four days a week on Feb. 1.

The superintendent also outlined

no details are available at this time.

Phase 1 include frontline essential

workers in education, food and ag-

riculture, manufacturing, the U.S.

Postal Service, grocery, human ser-

vices, state government and others.

begin in the spring, includes people

aged 60-69, people 16-59 with cer-

tain health risk factors, and other

essential workers.

Phase 2, which is expected to

The next groups designated in

Vaccinations

Continued from front

site, but both PSMC and PMG announced they will receive doses this week that will be administered through appointments.

Residents age 70 follow health care workers, long-term care residents and staff, and first responders on the state's vaccine distribution plan

"The focus of regional vaccine distribution has been to complete the vaccinations of 1A individuals including high priority healthcare

To make a reservation with PSMC, persons over 70 who live in Archuleta County should visit https://pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org/vaccine to complete and submit registration forms.

The following information was provided by PSMC.

Once the forms are received by PSMC, PSMC will add the eligible person to a master reservation list and thereafter PSMC will email that person an appointment time as doses become available.

Those who are unable to access

the county's current status related to COVID.

She noted that, as of the meeting, there had been 46 cases since Jan. 4 and 72 in the previous 14 days, noting that the target is fewer than 49 (which would equate to a two-week cumulative incidence rate of 350 new cases per 100,000 residents, which falls into the red category on statewide metrics).

She also informed the board that the district continues to offer voluntary serial testing for its staff and will soon be switching to the rapid test used by the NCAA, NFL and others.

She added that the percent of COVID cases among the schools is less than in the community.

School board member Mike Moore asked if the district would have the authority to continue with in-person education even if

fficials

Continued from front

During the work session it was discussed amongst the commissioners that commissioner Alvin Schaaf will serve as chairman of the BoCC. Maez mentioned that he would make a motion at the next regular BoCC meeting on Jan. 19 for Schaaf to be appointed as chairman of the BoCC.

Maez currently serves as chairman, a position in which he has been in over the past two years.

Schaaf is currently serving his first term as a county commissioner, which he was sworn into in January 2019

Maez mentioned that it is usually tradition to have each commissioner serve as chairman for two years.

Courthouse

Continued from front

plaining that he and Commissioner Ronnie Maez have been working on a grant application process with DOLA

According to emails that were presented at the work session between Wall and RAA, the county is looking at four different options for additions to the new courthouse facility. The four options stated are:

(finished): \$323,466. • Build out a community room

• Build a shell for a third court-

room: \$177,620. • Build a shell for a community

An email from RAA states, "The costs will vary somewhat depending

Archuleta County has to go back to Level Red (which suggests hybrid or remote learning for high schools) from the current Level Orange.

The superintendent responded that the liability on the district would go up

"That's the dance we have to do there," she said.

Dryburgh asked what those in the audience could do to help the district keep students in the schools, with LeBlanc-Esparza suggesting advocating for a variance should Archuleta County need to move back to Level Red.

Dryburgh again urged the audience members to continue to work to get their message out and support the school board.

Later in the meeting, student representatives Vinny Carranza and Rachel Smith echoed the sentiments.

In an interview, Brown spoke about how he hopes to serve the

community. "I'm hoping to provide our county with sound decision-making based on the factual information that's available. I'm also looking forward to serving our county

as part of a team, not an individual, so the best collective decisions can be made for the betterment of our county," he said.

Brown also spoke about developing a master plan for the county.

He added, "I'd like to see us have a written plan as a county."

Brown explained that he hopes to develop some specific goals and timelines for the next four years. He went on to say, "We need to do

without voting on a decision. "In my own opinion, I believe it's necessary that we move forward with this and my own personal view on it,

is that I think we need to move on the third courtroom and the commons area," Maez said

In December 2020, the BoCC was hoping to get an additional grant from the UCFC for \$850,000 to be able to complete the additional courtroom and community room, but it was denied for any more funding.

Maez added, "Although it's not finishing the project the way I'd like it to do, but I think this is probably going to take the steps of having that whole building complete in the future.'

Wall explained that more funding from DOLA in March could be a possibility, which could help finish the interior of the third courtroom and community room.

Carranza stated many students are struggling with education and that getting more help with some classes is difficult.

Smith agreed and suggested finding ways to make sure students are getting the resources they need while following safety protocols.

Additional board members expressed their appreciation for the audience members speaking up at the end of the meeting.

Moore noted their comments hit him right in the heart and relayed his own experience with his son.

Board member Dana Hayward also offered thanks to the parents, and board member Tim Taylor suggested the more the district hears from the students, the better, because adults can't know or feel what kids are going through.

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the best job that we can so we can support the growth and infrastructure and that we are able to provide the basic services to the community members. I feel that, more than ever, we as a community are in the position to be the authors of our own future, and we have the ability to make this the kind of county that we the people, the citizens, of this county would like to see."

In an interview, Maez emphasized that he is hoping to continue the work that he has already started.

Maez also commented, "It was a great pleasure to be reelected and as county commissioner, I will continue to serve the community as a whole.'

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He explained that if any of the commissioners are opposed to the additions, he would not move forward in working with Nunn Construction and RAA to have the additions included in the current project.

Weaver clarified that Maez was advocating to shell out the third courtroom and the community room with the additional DOLA grant.

Maez spoke again, saying, "If we can get this dried in, then I see in the future that it gets finished a lot more quickly than it would if we don't take the steps to dry in the third courtroom and the community room."

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf spoke in support of the additions, saying, "I think we'll save a lot of money by doing the concrete and everything right now

Wall addressed the BoCC, ex-

• Build out a third courtroom

(finished): \$153,909.

room: \$106,585.

workers and long-term care facility staff and residents," Ninde wrote in an email Wednesday.

Ninde reported that, as of Monday, all long-term care residents had received the first dose of a vaccine, as well as all staff who wanted them, and some providers in the area have been able to provide vaccinations to those 70 and older.

"We're thrilled to see such high demand and excitement for the vaccine," said Dr. Rhonda Webb, PSMC's CEO. "We wish we could vaccinate everyone, but unfortunately supplies are limited. We're following CDPHE's guidelines, vaccinating those at the highest risk first, and want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding.'

Webb also reiterated that appointments are required to receive the vaccine, writing in an email, "Vaccinations are by appointment only, with each dose reserved for a specific event attendee.'

"We're excited for expanded vaccine distribution to help our communities get back to normal," said Liane Jollon, executive director of SJBPH. "In the meantime, we can't let up on best practices aimed at slowing the spread of the virus, such as wearing masks, social distancing, avoiding indoor gatherings and getting tested if you have symptoms or believe you've been exposed."

I'm 70 or older. How do I get the vaccine?

With more vaccine doses expected to be delivered in the coming weeks, PSMC and PMG are taking information for community members 70 and older who would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

PSMC:

the form online can call PSMC's vaccine line at 507-3995 and leave a message with six pieces of information:

- Full name.
- Date of birth.
- County of residence.
- Phone number.
- Email address.

• Which group applies to you. PSMC will call those on its list to set up vaccine appointments.

People scheduled for vaccination must arrive for their appointment on time. Everyone arriving will be screened for temperature and COVID-19 symptoms, will need to sign a consent, receive a vaccination and be observed for a period of time post-vaccination. The entire process typically takes 30 minutes.

PMG:

Dr. Amber Reiss-Holt, co-owner of PMG, announced that the facility was approved as a provider earlier this week and had put in an order for doses.

On Tuesday, she noted that the facility would receive doses Wednesday morning and is scheduling 70-and-older patients in its office.

She noted Tuesday that the facility will reach out to its patients through phone calls, emails and portal messages to see if they would like the vaccine if they haven't been able to get it yet.

Anyone wishing to schedule with PMG can text 372-0456.

I'm in another group. When will it be my turn?

Vaccine doses continues to be limited.

Reiss-Holt indicated that planning and community outreach is underway for a potential community point of distribution, though

the summer and will include members for the general public aged 16-59.

Phase 3 is expected to begin in

To help collect information for those administering the vaccine as it becomes available, SJBPH has launched a form — available at https://bit.ly/35dzCLw (English) or http://bit.ly/2LvUI0v (Spanish) or through SJBPH's vaccine page, https://sjbpublichealth.org/ covid-19-vaccine/ — for interested individuals to share their contact details to receive notifications when a vaccine becomes available for the phase they qualify for.

SJBPH explained that information provided to SJBPH will only be used to generate notifications of COVID-19 vaccine appointment availability. Email updates will likely come from a range of sources other than SJBPH.

About the vaccines

So far, two COVID-19 vaccines, created by pharmaceutical companies Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use. Both vaccines require two doses, and after the second dose, are around 95 percent effective in protecting against COVID-19, a press release from PSMC explains.

PSMC is currently administering the Pfizer vaccine.

"The FDA has concluded the vaccines do not present a safety concern and clinical trials have not resulted in any serious health complications," the press release states. "Those who have tested positive for COVID and are within the quarantine period, or who are symptomatic should not receive the vaccine. People who have a history of allergic reactions to any component of the Pfizer vaccine should not be vaccinated.'

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on when the work could start. If work could start quickly (within 30 days), the cost impacts could be less.'

Wall stressed the importance of time as construction has already begun on the new facility.

"If you're going to do it, now is the time to do it. Time is of the essence," he said.

Although no official decisions can be made in a work session, County Attorney Todd Weaver clarified that the BoCC can give staff direction

Continued from front

parking lot was probably not as big as it sometimes can be. With the snow

Pitcher continued, "We're challenged in our parking to some degree during our peak times ... We aren't recommending our employees carpool unless they live together."

Pitcher conveyed that more than

Detailing the shuttle bus system,

"The staff is doing great. I can't say enough for the entire staff at Wolf Creek. They're really taking it seriously and they're doing their best to remind people to have their face masks," Pitcher commended.

selling anyone a ticket unless they have their mask and wear it properly. They're reminding them at the time of sale that they must wear them in the bathrooms, and in the base area, and in the lift line."

Pitcher explained that the public

Maez mentioned that DOLA received a budget cut for this year and the UCFC received a budget cut last year, and he expects more budget cuts to be on the way.

Maez added, "We're going to have to reach out for whatever money we can grab."

Wall continued to emphasize the importance of time in this situation.

are in the parking lot. It's a recom-

mendation. A lot of people are doing

it, based on personal preference,"

Pitcher said. "We don't have a way

son learned during the pandemic

that he believes will remain intact

of the badge of honor to show up to

work with a head cold or a flu bug

and work through the sickness and

be the guy that says, 'I'm coming to

work. I'm not going to miss a day; I'm

have the staff been very good about

staying home when sick, but the visi-

seriously about not coming to the ski

area if they are feeling sick," Pitcher

known for being workaholics and

being overzealous to some degree.

And I think our view of not coming

to work when you're not feeling well

has changed ... that's a good thing to

Pitcher reported on the ski area's

He said, "We were the first ski area

takeaway from the year."

Recession-proof

He concluded, "Americans are

tors are doing a good job, too.

Pitcher recounted that not only

"I think they all are taking it very

Pitcher went on to discuss a les-

"For years and years, it was kind

little confusing.

to mandate it."

moving into the future.

here for you," he said.

expressed.

numbers

As of press time Wednesday, Jan. 13, the BoCC was still waiting on a letter from DOLA with the official award amount.

According to Maez, he hopes the BoCC will be voting on what to do with the DOLA grant at its next regular board meeting, scheduled for Jan. 19 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. Login information can be obtained by calling 264-8300.

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to open in the nation and in the has been more or less compliant state of Colorado. We've had a very with restrictions. Mask wearing in the parking lot, however, has been a fortunate cycle. We've been very fortunate in the amount of snow and "The guidance is that you are the timing of the snow. Snow trumps everything it seems." meant to wear a face mask when you

Ski areas tend to go unaffected by economic recessions so long as there's snow, Pitcher explained. During the recession in 2008, 2009 and 2010, Pitcher said the traveling public still came and skied because there were "excellent conditions."

"People want to go out and ski and get out, so our numbers are consistent with what we would have on a good season," he said.

Positive emotion

The public's reaction has gone unchanged since the ski area's preseason, when Pitcher then reported that "people want to ski, and they understand and are willing to work with us.'

As for skiers' more recent reactions, Pitcher said, "The amount of positive emotion and joy the people are expressing while skiing ... even though the base area generally always seems somewhat busy during peak times, the minute they get out on the hill they spread out and they get a chance to forget about all the restrictions and hoot and holler."

He added, "We really, really have gotten a very positive response from our pass holders and our guests about being able to ski. We think it's a good thing for our society."

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removal during those storm cycles,

it sometimes takes us a little time to get it back. So, we had some traffic issues on the highway. It was a little stressful," he said. "The staff dealt with it very well.'

160 employees will ride the buses to work when the ski area is at its current capacity.

have all the windows open. We try to

generally less than 15 minutes, that helps with the guidance, too. And we

do everything we can.'

Pitcher said, "It's at half capacity and you must wear a properly fitted mask. And because the shuttles are

Adapting to restrictions

He added, "Ticket office is not

Town council hears options for limiting speeding on South 5th Street

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Options for providing speed control for South 5th Street were provided to the Pagosa Springs Town Council during a regular meeting on Jan. 5.

Specifically, the stretch of road is south of Apache Street and serves as a main access to Yamaguchi Park, and the east entrance to Pagosa Springs High School, among other things, Public Works Director Martin Schmidt explained.

"This area is a 25-mile-per-hour speed limit. It is now a part of the school zone and that signage has been erected," Schmidt explained.

Town staff was approached as far back as 2018 about speed concerns in the area and, at that time, the side friction of the curb and gutter and chicane were the solutions given for the speed concerns raised by residents, Schmidt noted.

"Because of these reports, we have had an increased interest in that area. We've had the speed trailer there several times. Once in 2018 at least, and it was there at least two weeks this summer," Schmidt said, explaining further that the speed trailer records the speed data for traffic in the area.

According to Schmidt, the speed trailer did not find any evidence of speeding in that area and neither have local law enforcement officers.

Additional signage will be posted when the town maintenance facility project is done in addition to signage that is already in place, Schmidt explained.

"Side friction is that feeling when you're driving, in a construction zone, and they have a whole lot of cones or a whole lot of barricades, you feel squeezed. When you feel squeezed, you have the natural inclination to slow down, and it's one of the best ways to control speed," he said.

Upon reaching out to various stakeholders such as Pagosa Springs Police Department Chief William Rockensock, Archuleta School District Transportation Director Lori Manzanares and Davis Engineering, speed bumps were noted as an acceptable speed control measure, Schmidt explained.

Speed control options

In regard to speed bumps, Schmidt explained that there are no speed bumps on public roads in Pagosa Springs.

"Every speed hump, table or dip is designed for a specific passing speed. So, if you're aiming for someone to maintain a certain speed, you design the speed bump this way and you position them a certain distance a part to maintain speed below a certain amount," he said.

Speed bumps are effective at slowing vehicles, Schmidt explained, adding that eight speed bumps would be needed for this project.

Sound pollution, increased road damage and plowing issues were negatives associated with speed bumps, Schmidt added later.

It would cost about \$1,900 for removable speed bumps, Schmidt described, adding that permanent installation has varying costs that are determined by engineering.

Another option was changing the speed limit on the road, Schmidt explained further, adding that there may be factors within the area that lend themselves to having the speed limit lowered.

A traffic speed study would need to be done in order for the town to lower the speed limit in the area, Schmidt added later.

"The big thing about lowering a speed limit is it only works with enforcement and so you have to ticket people to keep them down that low," he said. "Studies show over and over again that drivers drive the designed speed of the roadway."

Signage would also need to be added to the area to reflect the new speed limit, he added further, noting that it would be about \$200 per sign.

Other signs, such as warning signs and digital speed-sensitive signage, would help enforce the newly set speed limit, Schmidt added, explaining that digital speed signs would be about \$2,500 per sign and would cost more for solar-powered signs.

However, light pollution and diminishing effectiveness are noted negatives for signage of any type, Schmidt explained.

Rumble strips could also be an option to keep drivers in their lane and paying attention to the roadway, Schmidt noted.

"The issue with this is that, again, it creates noise pollution and it's really only effective for lane departure," he said.

The cost of renting a grinder to create the rumble strips is about \$560 per week, agenda documentation outlines.

Adding a curb and gutter and or a sidewalk to the west side of South 5th Street to connect Apache down to the town maintenance facility's pending sidewalk is also an option, he added later.

"This also kind of fits with the council goal of making Pagosa more foot-traffic friendly," Schmidt said. "This does two things, it removes the need of any pedestrian to walk to the east side of 5th Street to the west side of 5th Street to find a sidewalk to utilize. The other thing is, because of the sidewalk going there, curb and gutter would really be required to deal with drainage between the road and the sidewalk."

Sidewalks and curbs and gutters can affect driver speed and remove pedestrians from the road, Schmidt explained.

"The downside is this only really affects that first block of the road. Once you get down by the park past our Pirate Way crosswalk it's kind of a status quo situation," he said.

A price estimate for the project outlines about \$75,000 for a westside sidewalk and drainage and another \$25,000 for curb and gutter, agenda documentation notes.

Recommendation

According to Schmidt, Davis Engineering recommended that additional information be gathered in the area regarding speeding in the area.

"We have residents that are complaining about speeding in the area, but we don't have any information to back up that it's real and not just perceived," Schmidt said.

Davis Engineering recommended that the town use a less-invasive method of gathering data in the area to confirm that there is an issue using tools such as pneumatic or radar traffic systems, Schmidt noted. There would also need to be a determination made if there are unusual conditions that would justify a speed limit reduction, and this would need to be done with increased enforcement and the next step would be a traffic study, he added further.

"If people are going fast, let's figure out exactly how fast they're going and what conditions are in the area," he said.

Increased side friction is also recommended for consideration; however, speed bumps were advised to be avoided for this area, Schmidt noted.

"If we complete the town shop project and complete the road signage that's proposed at the chicane and at the crosswalk, we would then like to gather speed data from one of the less invasive ways of gathering that data," he said. "If we find that there is a speeding issue in that area, we can start to affect some of the possible options that we have presented to council tonight."

Council thoughts

Council member Rory Burnett noted that he believed the origin of the complaint came from parents frequenting Yamaguchi Park with their children in the summer.

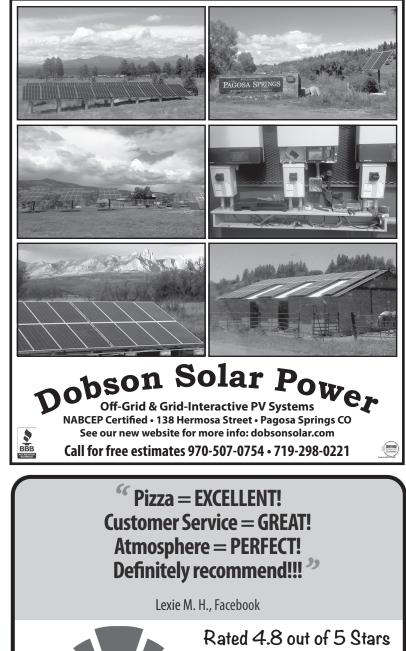
"One option that I was thinking in my head is simply the signs that we have on the highway, for example, that indicate there's a crosswalk, that there's something going on," Burnett said. "Striping the crosswalk there, putting some of the signs in the center of the way to kind give a sense of security for the moms and kids that are there."

Council member Mat deGraaf explained he was in support of getting a device to measure speed in the area.

"What I'm looking for is just to get the best reasonable compliance. We're not going to get 100 percent compliance with whatever speed limit we put there. The best reasonable compliance that's economically feasible," Mayor Don Volger said. "I think \$100,000 in that particular area is a little high."

Following more discussion, council recommended that crosswalk signage and crosswalk advisory signage be implemented at the Apache Street crosswalk and Pirate Way crosswalk.

chris@pagosasun.com





Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change. **Upper San Juan Library District board meeting.** 4 p.m. Zoom

Thursday, Jan. 14

board meeting. 4 p.m. Zoom meeting: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/83398449146, meeting ID: to COVID-19.

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m. See town website for participation informa-

District regular board meeting. 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

Monday, Jan. 18

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 4 p.m. Visit www.sjwcd.org 24 hours prior to the meeting for Zoom information and agenda.

Tuesday, Jan. 19

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information. Pagosa Peak Open School work session. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Zoom meeting. Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meet-

ing. 1:30 p.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

Review

Continued from A7

lightning on June 15 in the Piedra Special Management Area, had grown to 71 acres by June 24.

• On June 29, Archuleta County recorded its ninth positive case of COVID-19 among county residents — the first confirmed positive since April 17.

• Maez and Warren Brown advanced out of the June 30 county commissioner primary election.

• At the end of a lengthy special meeting on June 30 that featured two and a half hours of public comment, the town council made no decision on a mandatory face covering resolution.

Council would consider a resolution that "strongly encourages" face masks at its next meeting in July.

• In late June, it was announced that Archuleta County sales tax collections were up 22 percent in April compared to April 2019.

The gross amount of the April sales tax was \$881,784.23.

833 9844 9146.

Thursday, Jan. 21

Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting. Noon, Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. Subject to cancellation due tion. 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.

RECREATION NEWS

Youth volleyball registration underway

By Darren Lewis SUN Columnist

The Recreation Department is accepting youth volleyball registration for the 9-10 and 11-12 age groups through Feb. 26.

The 9-10 division will be an instructional league held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The 11-12 division will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The cost is \$35.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232.

Youth basketball ages 9-12

The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Jan. 15 for youth basketball

ages 9-12.

There will be two divisions, 9-10 and 11-12. There are only 40 spots available per division.

Early registration is recommended. The cost is \$35 and registration may only be completed at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

Practice will start in January, with games beginning in February.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233.

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Paycheck Protection Program stimulus money available for businesses

By Mary Jo Coulehan Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

The 2021 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Stimulus Program is now available for businesses. The \$284 billion package this time around is again to be used primarily for payroll, rent, utilities and other certain expenses from now until March 31.

Businesses who have not borrowed before are eligible and certain existing PPP borrowers may apply. In this first phase, only certain banking institutions will be eligible to lend: community financial institutions and CDFI lenders. After this week, other lending institutions will be eligible to loan PPP funds.

For the first round of funding,

for PPP funding before and who have fewer than 10 employees and are seeking loans for less than \$250,000 can apply. Nonprofits and 501(c)(6) organizations can also apply. Businesses that also returned all or part of their existing PPP funds or did not receive all of their funds are also eligible to apply during this first round.

Here are a couple of important steps to be organizing now. Schedule an appointment with a certified lender in this first phase, especially if you have not borrowed from this program before. If you cannot get an appointment or want to do business with your regular lending institution until March 31, still, schedule an appointment now.

Pull together the necessary records: payroll, rent or mortgage,

businesses who have not applied utilities, tax and bank records. Then calculate your loan need: Take your annual payroll costs and divide by 12. Then, for most businesses, calculate 2.5 times that need. For restaurants and hotels, you can calculate up to 3.5 times the cost. Businesses also need to determine that they have had a reduction of 25 percent in gross receipts in comparable quarters between 2019 and 2020.

This round of PPP funding also has some more lenient uses of the money. These uses include greater flexibility for seasonal employees - important in our tourism-based community, some operational expenditures, property damage costs, supplier costs and worker protection expenditures. Businesses can also modify their first PPP draw amount.

There is much more detail about this new round of PPP funding available through a few websites: www.sba.gov/ppp, www.treasury. gov/cares or https://oedit.colorado.gov/covid19#ppp. What is important is that you plan now for funding.

If you are "on the fence" or need some assistance with your financials, business plan for the 2021 year, or need someone to speak with about modifying your business model or if you should even stay in business, contact the Small Business Development Center. They have consultants, including local counselors here in Pagosa, who can schedule a confidential time to meet with you. Contact them at www.sbdcfortlewis.org or 903-5424. Start the year off right and with a plan.

Medical center's board approves budget amendment

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

During a six-minute special meeting on Dec. 29, 2020, the Upper San Juan Health Service District (US-JHSD) Board of Directors, which oversees Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), approved a budget amendment largely related to the coronavirus pandemic and stimulus funding.

The budget amendment increased the district's 2020 appropriations for the USJHSD general fund from \$48,188,658 to \$50,612,107.50 "for the purpose of addressing the COVID-19 pandemic," according to the amendment resolution approved at the meeting.

The majority of the amendments,

Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger told the board, relate to lost revenues.

The resolution explains, "in 2020, USJHSD responded to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and as a result had unanticipated expenses for the pandemic response including personal protective equipment, supplies, equipment, staffing, infection control facility renovations as well as unanticipated revenues (all from sources other than property tax revenue) for the pandemic response."

It further notes, "USJHSD had unanticipated expenses and revenues in the amounts described on the attached Schedule 1, incorporated into this Resolution 2020-27, all of which could not reasonably be foreseen or known in November

2019, the time of the Board's adoption of the 2020 budget."

In approving the resolution, the board members expressed their appreciation to the staff.

Per a schedule attached to the resolution, the \$2,423,449.51 in unanticipated revenues for supplemental budget and appropriation are as follows:

• \$1,734,031 from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act, that was used for "Equipment, hazard pay, COVID salary reduction payback, hours spent on screening and replacing sick employees."

• \$452,671.10 from a COVID Relief Fund grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs that was used to create negative-pressure

rooms, telemetry for the Emergency Department and inpatient to monitor oxygen, screening in the vestibule and personal protective equipment (PPE).

• \$28,180 from a Colorado Hospital Association grant that was used for PPE, medical supplies and equipment.

• \$134,148.17 from the PSMC Foundation. The foundation was budgeted to raise \$200,000 in grants and donations in 2020, but raised and transferred \$348,148an amount that included \$47,000 in additional COVID-specific grants. • \$74,419.24 from a Small Hos-

pital Improvement Plan grant that was used for PPE, medical supplies and equipment.

randi@pagosasun.com

PAWSD adopts budget, certifies mill levies

By Simone Mounsamy Staff Writer

At its meeting held on Dec. 10, 2020, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors discussed several points included in its 2021 budget before approving it.

The board began by voting to certify its mill levies. A mill levy of 11.778 was certified for District 1

PAWSD Director of Business Services Aaron Burns gave a summary of changes made since the draft budget was presented.

PAWSD had \$1,111,059 in total revenue for its general fund for 2019, had \$1,094,782 in total 2020 revenue, and proposed \$1,143,197 for 2021 total revenue.

As far as expenditures, in 2019 PAWSD had \$1,088,605 in total expenditures, \$1,115,160 in 2020, and balance was \$963,122.

The budget projects that the end-of-year balance for 2021 will be \$862,652.

In terms of its water enterprise funds, PAWSD planned to spend \$1,246,368 in 2020 on total water treatment and actually spent \$1,201,778. The budget projects that in 2021 it will spend \$1,212,748.

For total water distribution, PAWSD planned to spend

pected to be \$2,636,374, but ended up being \$2,324,183. It projects that expenditures for the wastewater enterprise in 2021 will be \$2,874,099.

The budgetary fund balance for PAWSD's wastewater enterprise at the beginning of 2020 was \$3,110,691 and by the end of 2020 it was \$3,461,858.

"We're ahead in revenue and we're below in expense, exactly









The news reminds us daily of a climbing

death rate attributed to coronavirus. We can debate the figures all we want but that

does not change the fact many loved ones

some were old. Some were in good health

are no longer with us. Some were yo

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit. Yet you do not know what your life

will be like tomorrow. For you are just a vapor that appears for a little while, and then vanishes away.

Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

James 4:13-15

That daily death rate reminds us that we also are mortal. One day death will knock on our door. Knowing that, what should we do?

Living through the last year has reminded us of the value of personal relationships oing others, and the need for a daily walk with God. Let's remember the lesson and build on that this year as long as the Lord gives us life.

that will lead to \$1,514,389 in revenue. For District 2, the board voted to certify a levy of 5.098 mills that will produce \$565,839 in revenue.

\$1,243,667 for the 2021 proposed budget.

Its beginning balance for 2020 was \$983,500 and the end-of-year

Biz Beat

Rio Grande Savings and Loan seeking to change name

Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association will ask its members to approve changing the name of the institution to RG Bank, a Savings and Loan Association at its annual member meeting in February, according to Shon Davis, the association's president.

"Many years ago, a savings and loan operated differently than a bank," said Davis. "Over the years, the rules and regulations have changed and now we can offer products and services that a bank can. We want to send that message, that we can offer products and services you will find at any bank, to our current customers and to the communities we serve."

Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association is headquartered in Monte Vista and has branches in Alamosa and Pagosa Springs. The association is a mutual, meaning there are no stockholders, people who have deposit accounts and loan accounts with the association are members. State rules will require the formal name to be RG Bank, a Savings and Loan Association, but Davis said the shortened RG Bank will be used for marketing purposes.

Donn Vigil is the chair of the Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association Board of Directors and has worked at or been on the board of the association since 1979.

Vigil stressed, "This is strictly a name change for marketing purposes. There is no change in ownership or stock issuance; we will remain a mutual and we will remain

true to our mission of serving our customers and our communities with commitment and pride."

Members of Rio Grande Savings and Loan Association have received or will be receiving their proxy for the annual meeting of members, notifying them of the name change proposal and other business. The annual meeting will be held Feb. 10. Once RG Bank as the name is approved, Davis said customers and the community will begin to notice the changeover on all items including letterhead, loan documents, deposit account statements and signage.

\$1,354,525 for 2020. It actually spent \$946,928 in 2020 and plans to spend \$1,178,166 in 2021.

The total water enterprise expenditures were expected to be \$5,725,406 for 2020 and by the end of the year were actually \$5,033,192.

The water enterprise budgetary fund balance for the beginning of 2020 was \$6,285,577 and the budgetary fund balance for the end of 2020 was \$7,497,054.

In regard to its wastewater enterprise fund, PAWSD budgeted for \$918,856 in total wastewater collection in 2020, but ended up receiving \$694,034 by the end of 2020. It projects to make \$839,393 in wastewater collection for 2021.

It budgeted \$802,080 in total wastewater treatment for 2020, but actually spent \$763,109 for the year. In 2021, PAWSD expects to spend \$953,140 in this area.

Total wastewater enterprise expenditures for 2020 were ex-

where we need to be," Burns said. Highlights

get highlights and projects as part

of his presentation at the meeting,

which include:

See PAWSD A11

and some were not. But now they have been laid to rest. Burns gave a report on the bud-

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Pagosa Fire Protection District responds to structure fire

Pagosa Fire Protection District

On Jan. 6 at approx. 12:27 a.m., an active structure fire was reported on Packet Court. The notification was received through the 911 system managed by Archuleta County Combined Dispatch.

Upon arrival, the first due engine completed a scene size-up, noting a two-story, single-family residence with smoke and flame showing from the roof and chimney area. The first arriving units established an aggressive interior fire attack, limiting the spread of the fire. The fire was contained to the area surrounding the point of origin.

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded with two

engines, two chief cars, one fire marshal vehicle, eight paid staff members and three volunteers. Mutual aid from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Upper Pine Fire Protection District and one Pagosa Springs Medical Center ambulance staged on scene.

The PFPD was on scene for approximately 2.5 hours.

The structure was occupied by four adults at the time of the fire. The occupants credit the residence's smoke detectors in alerting them to the fire early enough for everyone to escape safely.

There were no firefighter or civilian injuries to report. The origin and cause of the fire is under investigation at this time.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Fire Protection District

The occupants of a house fire on Packet Court credit their smoke detectors in alerting them to a fire early enough for everyone to escape safely on Jan. 6. The fire was contained to the area surrounding the point of origin.

The Blotter

Jeffrey R. Wilson

Justin P. Fay

\$127.50

\$103.50

costs - \$199.50.

total fines and costs - \$3,984.50.

Jan. 4 — David J. Redus, speeding

Jan. 6 - Cedric J. Cartrette, speed-

Jan. 6 — Cedric Joseph Cartrette,

obstructing a peace officer, 12 hours

community service, total fines and

tered vehicle, total fines and costs -

Jan. 6 — James H. Jones, unregis-

5-9 over, total fines and costs -

ing 5-9 over, total fines and costs -

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 over week: 164.

Jan. 4 — Domestic violence, thirddegree assault-simple assault, Fireside Street

Jan. 5 - Trespass warning, U.S. 160.

Jan. 6 — Information only, U.S. 160. Jan. 6 - Agency assist, County Road 500.

- Information only, Hidden Jan. 6 Drive.

Jan. 6 - Drove vehicle without insurance, drove vehicle when license canceled, expired license plates, U.S. 160

Jan. 7— Found property, Harman Park Drive.

Jan. 7 - Warrant arrest, Ranger Park Drive.

Jan. 7 - Death investigation, Putter Court.

Jan. 7 – Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.

Jan. 8 - No incident listed, Turner Drive.

Jan. 8 - Third degree assaultsimple assault, domestic violence, Hunter Court.

Jan. 8 - Owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, drove vehicle when license suspended, expired license plates, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Jan. 10 - Cruelty to animalsaggravated, cruelty to animals-neglect/ mistreatment, East Stollsteimer Road. Jan. 10 - Third degree assault-

simple assault, Cardinal Court.

Jan. 10 — Information only, Bradley Place

Pagosa Springs Police Department No report.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge not used, total fines and costs -\$163.50.

Jan. 4 — Fred Allen Manzanares. Jan. 6 - Eleanor Joan Tullock, driving under the influence with threepassed when prohibited, total fines and plus priors, four years probation, 90 costs - \$202.50. Jan. 6 — Hillary Landers, weaving days jail, 56 hours community service,

from traffic lane, total fines and costs Archuleta County Court: Judge \$202.50.

Jan. 6 — Erwin M. King, speeding 20-24 over, total fines and costs · \$346.50.

– Kainoa L. Kelilaa, speeding Jan. 6 · 5-9 over, total fines and costs -\$188.50

Jan. 6 — Joseph D. Febbo, speeding 1-4 over, total fines and costs -\$148.50.

Jan. 6 - Amanda C. Burleson, unsafe U-turn, total fines and costs -\$168.50.

Jan. 7 - Anthony J. Lucero, seat belt not used, total fines and costs \$98.50

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Justin P. Fay No report.



Clarification on the county's land use regulations could be on the way

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

Changes to the current land use regulations for Archuleta County could be on the way.

At an Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) work session held on Jan. 5, Interim Planning Director Pamela Flowers spoke about possible changes that can be made to clear up discrepancies in the current land use have multiple dwelling units on regulations in regard to how many

dwellings are allowed on one parcel of property. Archuleta County first enacted

land use regulations in May of 2006, which included restrictions for the number of dwellings on parcels zoned as agricultural ranching and agricultural estates.

The original land use regulations contained a table noting the minimum lot size for a parcel zoned as agricultural ranching to the property was 35 acres. The

minimum lot size for agricultural estate-zoned parcels to have multiple dwelling units was listed as five acres.

Flowers explained that not long after the initial land use regulations were established in the spring of 2006, in October of 2006, a paragraph in section 2.1.2.5 of the regulations was amended to say any parcel that was at least three acres could have two dwelling units.

"It seems they put that sentence there because the goal was to let people with three acres have two dwellings, but they just kind of overlooked the fact that the table says something that was sort of contradictory to that," Flowers said. She also noted how the table was amended in May 2014 to acknowledge that two dwelling units would be allowed on parcels zoned as agricultural ranching and agricultural estate, but it did not adjust the minimum-lot-size requirements. The table still shows the minimum lot size for two dwelling units on a parcel zoned as agricultural ranching is 35 acres and the minimum lot size for agricultural estate is five acres, which, according to Flowers, is contradictory to what is stated in the paragraph in section 2.1.2.5 of the regulations. Flowers noted that the trend of the amendments made to the regulations show an attempt to allow for people to have more freedom with

their property.

what they want to do" with their





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She added that part of her goal is to "find ways to let [people] do land.

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf commented, "I think it's important ... I want to say yes to people on their own property; that's why people buy property. If it's not rented, it's their property, they can

do whatever they want." Commissioner Ronnie Maez nentioned how some folks, par-

\$191.50. Jan. 6 — Jayde A. Beery, driver's license expired one year or less, total fines and costs - \$60.50. Jan. 6 — Jason P. Webb, seat belt

PAWSD

Continued from A10

• PAWSD added two more fulltime equivalents (FTEs) to its budget.

"There was one in the draft budget ... a total of three that we're going to add in the coming year," Burns said.

These positions' salaries will be covered by cutting back on the overtime hours that current operators have been working.

PAWSD Manager Justin Ramsey said, "There is a push to go to seven-day operations at the water/ wastewater plant."

Adding these two new positions for a total of three new FTEs would even be more efficient for the district, Ramsey explained. The current operators will be relieved, in his opinion, no longer being required to work so many overtime hours

PAWSD will now have 32 FTEs. • PAWSD was able to save on health insurance expenses in 2020.

"We did get some favorable news back from our health insurance broker in that the increase is only going to be 4.1 percent, as opposed to the 15 percent that I'd budgeted for," Burns said.

• "We did have an expense come

along that is related to the Lake Hatcher reservoir. We're going to be partnering with PLPOA to do some algae control," Burns explained.

He continued, "Apparently we haven't been able to beat back that algae, so we're going to do some treatment in the coming year. Our portion of that will come out to be about \$70,000.'

Ramsey added, "This new chemical is guaranteed to last three years, so we shouldn't have to do anything else for the next three years."

Manager notes

Ramsey discussed several other points during the meeting:

• PAWSD had 115 water connections this year, which was about the same as last year, according to Ramsey.

• PAWSD saw higher water usage at its Trails water station due to the Aspen Springs Buttercup Water Depot being shutdown since its well failed in November 2020.

The PAWSD board will meet again today, Jan. 14, via Zoom: meeting ID: 873 2847 1284, password: 762303.

simone@pagosasun.com



ticularly in the Aspen Springs area, oftentimes consolidate multiple lots into one.

Flowers clarified that if the lots consolidated end up being at least three acres in size, then it would qualify to have two dwelling units on the parcel.

Flowers' suggestion is to amend the table in the land use regulations so that it aligns with what is stated in the paragraph explaining that the minimum lot size for any parcel to have two dwellings is three acres.

County Administrator Scott Wall noted that the change can be made with interpretations from Flowers and County Attorney Todd Weaver. The amendment would then be presented to the BoCC for approval.

The next work session is scheduled for Jan. 12 at 9 a.m., while the next BoCC meeting is scheduled for Jan. 19 at 1:30 p.m.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Vegetarian Sandwich Options Alberta Peak — Grilled Eggplant, Roasted Red Peppers, Lettuce, Red Onions, Sharp Provolone

Banded Peak — Cucumbers, Avocado, Tomato, Swiss, Lettuce

Saddle Mountain — Fresh Mozzarella, Tomatoes, Lettuce, and Housemade Pesto

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Outdoors

DUST2 receives \$35,000 grant from the BoCC

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

At the first regular meeting of the year held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Jan. 5, it voted unanimously to approve a \$35,000 grant to Pagosa Springs' local mountain bike and trail crew organization called DUST2, which stands for Developing Urban Single-track Trails and Teams.

DUST2 requested funds from the BoCC to be used for a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis, which could cost as much as \$75,000, according to Annie Sewell, director of trails for DUST2.

Sewell gave a presentation to the BoCC earlier that morning at a work session in which she explained what the money will be used for.

DUST2 is partnering with the Pagosa Ranger District to evaluate the Jackson Mountain road and trail system for the development of a 30-plus mile single-track trail system, with the potential to connect the trails to downtown Pagosa Springs.

The Jackson Mountain area can be accessed by Forest Road 37, approximately 8 miles east of Pagosa Springs off of U.S. 160, or from Snowball Road going north of town.

Sewell noted that the proposed area for the trail system is approximately 20 square miles of national forest land.

She explained that the trails could be used by mountain bikers, horseback riders and anyone on foot.

She explained that the anticipated design of the trail system will be a "stacked loop" system. This system will allow for users to pick from trail difficulties ranging from beginner to advanced.

She explained how this system will also help keep users spread out throughout the area, allowing room for advanced mountain bikers that like to ride fast while still having options for folks that want to take their dog on a short walk.

According to Sewell's presentation, "User created trails potentially impact federally protected interests, and so cannot be authorized trail systems until they are evaluated during a NEPA analysis."

The NEPA analysis will identify the purpose and need for the proposed action, assess the environmental impacts of the proposed action and provide potential alternatives.

Based on what is found in the NEPA analysis, the Pagosa Ranger District will be able to determine if the proposed action will have a significant environmental impact or not, potentially giving the green light for the project.

Sewell also provided some information in regard to economic impact of mountain bike tourism.

She noted how Pagosa Springs is surrounded by multiple mountain bike destinations like Salida. Silverton, Telluride and the Durango area.

According to the 2016 Pinbike Study done by Lee Lau that Sewell cited in her presentation, mountain bike tourists stay three to five days at a location on average and spend approximately \$60 to \$100 a day.

Sewell also spoke about the student athletes that are a part of the DUST2 racing teams.

She noted that on average there are about 35 student athletes every year in Pagosa Springs that are a part of the DUST2 racing teams.

She also explained how Pagosa Springs would be able to host mountain bike racing events that would draw crowds in from all across the state and southwest region.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez spoke in support of the Jackson Mountain trail project, saying, "I think this will be a huge improvement — but not only that, I think it'll be a big draw to Archuleta County as far as tourism attraction, and not only that, but for the residents here, too."

County Administrator Scott Wall noted that although the grant was awarded to DUST2, the money will only be able to be used for the NEPA analysis.

The \$35,000 awarded to DUST2 will come from the county's Con-

servation Trust Fund.

Before voting to approve the grant at the meeting, Commissioner Steve Wadley brought up the concern of the county being able to afford the grant.

He explained that the county gets about \$125,000 from the Conservation Trust Fund and already gives some of that to the town, leaving the county with approximately \$60,000 to spend on projects.

"This is a great use for it but, are we going to tie our hands by spending a big chunk of it at once?" Wadley asked.

Maez then explained how the county is only able to use the Conservation Trust Funds for parks and recreation projects.

"We have a good proposal here in front of us," Maez added.

Wall then brought up how the county could see a return on the investment, with the potential of attracting more tourists to the Pagosa Springs area to use the trails.

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf also commented, "Coming from La Plata County, Durango area and seeing the impact of mountain bikers and trails over there, I think it's a good investment.'

According to documentation attached with DUST2's proposal, with the addition of the \$35,000 grant, along with other funds, the organization now has \$71,138 available for the NEPA analysis.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO Court Address Archuleta County District Court PO Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Case No.: 2020CV030017 Division: MG Ctrm: Plaintiff: PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION Defendants: JACK ALEXANDER; DOROTHY ALEXANDER Attorneys for Plaintiff: Orten Cavanagh & Holmes, LLC Hal R. Kyles, #23891 1445 Market Street, Suite 350 Denver, CO 80202 Phone Number: (720) 221-9780 Matter ID # 1019.558

DISTRICT COURT CIVIL SUMMONS TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file

with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice. This is an action affecting the property described in the Complaint and is a proc personam proceedings. Date: December 16, 2020

ORTEN CAVANAGH & HOLMES, LLC By: /s/Hal R. Kyles Hal R. Kyles, #23891 Plaintiff's Address:

Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association

230 Port Ave Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-9486 This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4, C.R.C.P., as amended. A copy of the Complaint must be served ons. This form should not be used where with this Sum service by publication is desired. Published December 24, 31, 2020, January 7, 14 and

21, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO Court Addres Archuleta County District Court

PO Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Case No.: 2020CV030027 Division: MG

Plaintiff: PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATIO

Defendants: RAW LAND ACQUISTION 59 LTD Attorneys for Plainti Orten Cavanagh & Holmes, LLC Hal R. Kyles, #23891 1445 Market Street, Suite 350 Denver, CO 80202 Phone Number: (720) 221-9780 Matter ID # 1019.0543

DISTRICT COURT CIVIL SUMMONS TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons d Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or othe response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to e your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must ed with the applicable filing fee

hsadmin@humanesociety.biz or 970-264-5549 to mak arrangements to participate. Published January 7 and 14, 2021 in The Springs SUN.

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Archuleta County District Court PO Box 148 46 Eaton Drive, Suite Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 In the Matter of the Petitio Parent(s)/Petitioner(s) Kameron Rian Pedalin

Minor Child: Kameron Rian Pedalino to change the child's name to: Kameron Rian Winkler Attorney or Party Without Attorney (Name and Address) Todd M. Starr #27641 Cunningham Swaim. LLP PO Box 2560 2800 Cornerstone Bldg. B, Ste., 201 (970) 749-0807 tstarr@cunninghamswaim.com Case Number: 2020CV030094 Division Courtroom

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Order of Court Dated December 28, 2020, Public Notice is given that on February 26, 2021 at 1:30 P.M. at the La Plata County Courthouse 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Durango, Colorado a hearing will be held to determine if Kameron Pedaling emancipated for the purposes of having the capacity to file a motion for a change of his last name and such hearing may result in the requested name change being granted. Be further advised that Mr. Kameron Pedalino seeks to change his name from Kameron Pedalino to Kameron Winkle Dated this 5th day of January, 2020. /s/ Todd M Starr Todd M. Starr #27641

Published January 7, 14 and 21, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN

Request for Proposals Archuleta

School District 50 Jt. – E-Rate Category 2 This information has been prepared to assist tho service providers interested on bidding on services funded by the Universal Service Fund and listed on the rm 470 for the 2021-22 funding year. The complete RF and questions and answers about it will be posted weekly on the "Bids/RFP's/RFQ's" option under the "District" tak of the ASD website: www.mypagosaschools.com. It is the responsibility of the Service Provider to remain up to date on questions and answers. All Bids Must include the service providers SPIN. There are 3 categories fo bids, Equipment, Installation, and Cabling and all bids should identify the category of the bid. All bids should be completed no later than February 5, 2021 and submittee tronically to:

Mike Hodgson - mhodgson@pagosa.k12.co.us Published January 7 and 14, 2021 in The Pagos 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 application filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during December 2020, for Archuleta County.

20CW3053 ABCHULETA COUNTY APPLICATION SIMPLE CHANGE IN SURFACE POINT OF DIVERSION. Applicants: Dale Watson and David Watson, 30301 US Hwy 160, Bayfield, CO 81122. Please direct all correspondence to Amy N. Huff, Colorado Wate & Land Law, LLC, 679 E. 2nd Ave, Unit 11B, Durango, CO 81301 (970) 403-1770; amy@waterland-law.com (1) Structure Name: Norman Wright Ditch (a) Prior Decre Water Div. 7 - Case # 97CW44, entered 4/8/1998 (b) Decreed POD: On the left bank of the creek located 1800'West and 2200' North of the SE corner of Section 18, T35N, R5W, NMPM. (c) Source: Little Beave Creek, tributary to Beaver Creek, Pine River Drainage (d) App Date: 5/31/1968 (e) Amt: 1.0 cfs Absolute (f Uses: irrigation of 80 acres. (g) Description of Change Applicants seek to change the point diversion for the Norman Wright Ditch to a point approximately 1422 feel downstream from the decreed point of diversion on Little Beaver Creek. Applicants' use and place of use for the Norman Wright Ditch water right will remain the same There are no intervening water rights or inflows between the originally decreed point and the point sought herein The change meets the requirements for a simple change in surface diversion. (h) New POD: SE ¼ NW ¼ S18 T35N, R5W, 2154' from the North Section line and 2256 from the West Section line, NMPM (2) See Application for additional information. (8 pages including exhibits) THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGOING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWNERS AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OBJEC AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE unti the last day of February 2021, to file with the Water Clerk a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCF (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us; Danene M. Etz, Water Cour ecialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106, Durango, CO 81301: 970-385-6181)



Southwest Nordic Race Series season opener results

By James Dickhoff Pagosa Nordic Club

The Pagosa Nordic Club hosted the season opener event of the Southwest Nordic Ski Race Series last weekend on Saturday, Jan. 9,

at Cloman Park. Racers from Telluride, Durango, the San Luis Valley, Pagosa Springs and elsewhere competed in the 20 km freestyle race, 5 km citizens/ youth race, 1.5 km youth race and Kid K race. Racers were sent out on the course in 10 second intervals for an exciting race-start format.

The competitive 20 km top finishers completed the course in lighting speed: Will Bodewes placed first with a time of 48:08, Logan Moore finished in second place with a time of 48:35 and Brad Neagos finished in third place with a time of 53:39. The 20 km competitors also included the 2019-2020 National CycleCross Champion Caleb Thompson finishing in 54:46 and Mountain Biking Olympian Travis Brown finishing in 54:56.

The 5 km top finishers included: first-place Matthew Young finishing in 13:38, second-place Richard McLean in 23:26 and third place was Pagosa local Rachael Chris-



Photo courtesy Bill Milner

Will Bodewes follows Logan Moore in the 20 km freestyle race of the Southwest Nordic Ski Race Series season opener. Bodewes ended up finishing in first place and Moore in second place.

tiansen in 24:06.

The 5 km Youth included firstplace Wade Mitchell finishing in 13:34; second-place Lana Bodewes in 17:03 and third-place Dewa Ilg in 17:24.

The 1.5 km Youth finishers included first-place Ilah Mitchel finishing in 13:33 and second-place Alaska Farley in 13:38. Rowen Preston finished the Kid's 3/4 km in 13:10.

The next races of the Southwest Nordic Ski Race Series will be the Telluride Butch Cassidy 15 km race on Feb. 6 and the Durango Pine Needle Langlauf on Feb. 20. Details can be found at PagosaNordic.com.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice. This is an action affecting the property described in the Complaint and is a proceeding in rem as well as an in personam proceedings

Date: December 16, 2020. ORTEN CAVANAGH & HOLMES, LLC By: /s/Hal R. Kyles Hal R. Kyles, #23891 Plaintiff's Address Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Associatior 230 Port Ave

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-9486 This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4, C.R.C.P. as amended. A copy of the Complaint must be served with this Summons. This form should not be used where service by publication is desired Published December 24, 31, 2020, January 7, 14 and 21, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO Court Addres Archuleta County District Court PO Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Case No.: 2020CV030036 Division: MG Ctrm:

Plaintiff: PAGOSA LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATIO

Defendants: CALUM MCNEIL; Attorneys for Plaintiff Orten Cavanagh & Holmes, LLC Hal R. Kyles, #23891 1445 Market Street, Suite 350 Denver, CO 80202 Phone Number: (720) 221-9780 Matter ID # 1019.0598

DISTRICT COURT CIVIL SUMMONS TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court an answer or other response to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upor you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must be accompanied with the applicable filing fee. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice

This is an action affecting the property described in the Complaint and is a proceeding in rem as well as an in personam proceedings. Date: December 16, 2020. ORTEN CAVANAGH & HOLMES, LLC By: /s/Hal R. Kyles Hal R. Kyles, #23891 Plaintiff's Address

Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association 230 Port Ave

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-9486 This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4, C.R.C.P. as amended. A copy of the Complaint must be served with this Summons. This form should not be used where service by publication is desired

Published December 24, 31, 2020, January 7, 14 and 21, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Humane Society of Pagosa Springs Annual Meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on January 20, 2021 at the Humane Society administration office. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect Directors for the upcoming year and to conduct such business, which may come before the meeting. Annual meeting attendance is limited to persons who are current members. You must become a new member in good standing no later than January 1, 2021 or have renewed your existing membership prior to the annual meeting to attend and vote. Due to Covid-19 precautions, attendance for this meeting will be via Zoom only. Please contact the HSPS administration office at

Published: before January 31, 2021 /s/Danene M Etz

Danene M. Etz. Wate Court Specialis Published January 14, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN

Notice of Public Hearing

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 44-3-311(1), notice is hereby given that A Body of Art Gallery, LLC dba ABOA Gallery & Lounge has applied for a Lodging & Entertainment lique license at the premises located at 333 Bastille Drive #B-2 in Pagosa Springs, CO. A public hearing is set by he Board of County Commissioners sitting as the Loca Liquor Authority for 1:30 p.m. on February 16, 2021 ir the Board's me eting room at 398 Lewis Street, Pagos Springs, CO 81147

Published January 14, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Nicholas Christopher Karas, also known Nicholas C. Karas, Nicholas Karas and Nick Karas, Deceased

Case No. 2020PR30048 All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County Colorado on or before , 2021, or the clai may be forever barred. The original of this document is on file at the law

office of Donald Glenn Peterson /s/ Donald Glenn Peterson Donald Glenn Peterson - Attorney for Personal Representative 4100 E. Mississippi Ave.,Suite 410 Denver, CO 80246

Telephone: (303) 758-0999 Published January 14, 21 and 28, 2021 in *The Pagos* Springs SUN.

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR TRANSIT FROM PAGOSA PRINGS TO DURANGO

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS Archuleta County invites qualified firms to submi qualifications/proposals for performing transportation feasibility study for intercity bus services from Pagosa Springs to Durango. Sealed proposals will be accepted at the Administration Building, 398 Lewis Street, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs 81147 until February 5, 2021 at 3pm. For more information, please email the Transportation Officer at Ivanoni@archuletacounty.ord or view online at www.archuletacounty.org/bids.aspx. Published January 14 and 21, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Snowpack levels decrease across Colorado

By Simone Mounsamy Staff Writer

All basins in the state continue to decrease in snowpack totals, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins sit at 68 percent of median this week, compared to 72 percent of median last week.

A 5.94 percent decrease was reported for the Wolf Creek summit, with totals going from 101 percent of median to 95 percent of median this week.

A reported 15.9 inches of snow water equivalent was posted at Wolf Creek Summit as of 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

The Upper Rio Grande Basin has a snowpack total of 95 percent of median this week. Last week it was 102 percent of median.

At the Arkansas River Basin, totals were 100 percent of median last week and are 93 percent of median this week.

At the Yampa and White River basins, snowpack totals went from 82 percent of median this time last week to 72 percent of median this week.

The Laramie and North Platte River basins were 82 percent of median last week, whereas they are 71 percent of median this week.

The South Platte River Basin's

snowpack total is 77 percent of median this week. Last week, it was 82 percent of median.

Snowpack totals at the Upper Colorado River Basin were 76 percent of median this time last week. This week they are 70 percent of median.

The Gunnison River Basin was 73 percent of median last week. This week, it is 67 percent of median.

According to a local forecast from the National Weather Service, there is no snow expected either in Pagosa Springs or on Wolf Creek Pass through Sunday.

Lake levels

From Jan. 1 through Jan. 7, total water production was listed at 12.09 million gallons, according to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey.

The Snowball water treatment plant produced 3.53 million gallons in that time frame, the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 8.56 million gallons and the San Juan water treatment plant contributed nothing, according to Ramsey's press release.

In that same time period last year, water production was listed at 10.97 million gallons.

From Dec. 25 to Dec. 31, 2020, water production was listed at 12.23 million gallons.

This week. Hatcher Lake is 41 inches from full. Last week, it was 43 inches from full.

Stevens Lake dropped from being 61 inches from full to being 62 inches from full this week.

Lake Pagosa, Lake Forest, and Village Lake all remained at their levels of 14 inches from full, 3 inches from full, and 9 inches from full, respectively, for yet another week. Total diversion flows have stayed

at 5 cubic feet per second (cfs), with the West Fork still adding 3 cfs and the Four Mile adding another 2 cfs.

River report

As of Wednesday, the San Juan River had a reported flow of 37.9 cfs, which falls below the 57 cfs average for Jan. 13, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

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cfs. The lowest flow total came in 1946, when the San Juan River had a flow of 26 cfs. simone@pagosasun.com Your source for

The highest reported flow total

for Jan. 13, based on 85 water years

of record, came in 1987, when the

San Juan had a reported flow of 114

community

news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100

More COVID testing coming to Archuleta County

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

COVID-19 testing is slated to return to the Archuleta County Fairgrounds this week.

A free COVID-19 testing site is opening at the Archuleta County Fairgrounds, located at 344 U.S. 84, in partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado.

Testing will be available on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 14 and 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Testing will also be available Wednesday, Jan. 20, and Friday, Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. After that, beginning the week of Jan. 24, the

test site will be open, again from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can register for your free test by going to

www.covidcheckcolorado.org and selecting "Get My Test."

According to a COVIDCheck Colorado flier, "COVIDCheck Colorado uses a highly sensitive and reliable nasal mid-turbinate swab PCR test that is administered by licensed medical professionals. Please arrive wearing a mask."

Testing also continues to be available at a number of local health care facilities, including:

 Archuleta Integrated Healthcare: 264-2104. • Pagosa Medical Group (including rapid

testing if deemed appropriate by a provider): 372-0456.

• Pagosa Springs Medical Center: 731-3700. The facility offers testing for symptomatic patients through its clinic and offers testing to asymptomatic individuals who may have been exposed through drive-through testing to the right rear of the medical center. The drive-thru testing is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day but Sunday.

The state also announced this week that Colorado is one of three states with early access to the home-use BinaxNOW program, which it announced will be used for a new at-home testing program for teachers, staff and selected to Level Red," Ninde explained. "It is likely that

students at participating schools, including Archuleta School District schools.

The program is intended to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools by allowing symptomatic and exposed individuals to get tested quickly and easily, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CD-PHE) explained.

COVID in Archuleta County

Since moving to Level Orange: High Risk from Level Red: Severe Risk on Jan. 4, Archuleta County has tallied 44 new lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 among permanent residents.

As of Wednesday, the cumulative number of lab-confirmed cases since March 2020 was 552, and the total number of cases among nonpermanent residents since June 2020 was 117, according to San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) data.

SJBPH reported no active outbreaks and no deaths among cases in Archuleta County as of Wednesday.

However, the state's COVID dial dashboard lists Archuleta County's two-week cumulative incidence rate as 571.3 new cases per 100,000 residents, landing the county in the red category again this week for that metric.

"SJBPH is monitoring the incidence rate (as well as hospitalization and positivity rates) over the two week period from when the county moved into Orange on January 4th," an email from SJBPH Director of Communications Claire Ninde states.

Ninde explained that current state public health orders call for a consultation between SJBPH and the CDPHE if Archuleta County remains above 350/100,000 threshold for the period of 14 days (through Jan. 18).

"The product of that consultation could be targeted intervention measures, a county mitigation plan, or moving Archuleta County

several counties will reach fourteen days of high incidence rates all on the same day because the Governor moved them all to Level Orange on the same day, so this process could change.

For more information on the COVID dial, visit covid19.colorado.gov.

COVID-19 symptoms

The state suggests that people with symptoms should always get tested immediately. Symptoms include:

• Fever or chills.

- Cough.
- · Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Steps to slow the spread

Public health officials urge the continued practice of precautions:

• Staying at home as much as possible, especially when feeling unwell for any reason.

· Avoiding social gatherings with more than one household, especially indoors.

· Encouraging employees to work from home whenever possible.

· Practicing physical distancing (staying at least 6 feet away from another person).

• Wearing face coverings when in public, as required.

 Practicing good hygiene (washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc.).

 Getting tested if you have symptoms or believe you've been exposed through a known contact or community interaction. randi@pagosasun.com

121st Christmas Bird Count tallies 4,746 birds, 67 species

By Jean Zirnhelt and Keith Bruno Weminuche Audubon Society

Clear blue skies and a balmy 15 degrees set the tone as people ventured out on Dec. 19, 2020, to participate in the Christmas Bird Count this year in Pagosa Springs.

This is the 121st consecutive year of Audubon's winter bird census held annually between Dec. 14 and Jan. 5 in the western hemisphere. Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies have come together to organize the count in Pagosa Springs for the last 10 of these years.

The first official count in Pagosa Springs was conducted by 49 observers. Some of those participating in the first local count have been out for every one since then. This year, over 70 enthusiastic people contributed to the count in Archuleta County. We walked, cross-country skied or snowshoed 52 miles, drove over 282 miles and

cle established for the first count. Weather plays a part in determining year-to-year variations in the species that we find. In particular here, the amount of open water on area lakes is a limiting factor for waterfowl species. That said, we tallied 67 species on count day totaling 4,746 birds observed.

Some of the exciting viewings of the day involved a prairie falcon in the Meadows district, a few ferruginous hawks south and east of Pagosa Springs, some handsome hooded mergansers on the lakes and some unique shorebirds and rails along the San Juan Riverwalk. To boot, four other unique species were observed during the count week (includes three days before and after the count date). Of these species, two unlikely suspects geographically were detected: a white-winged dove and a vellow-bellied sapsucker, both confirmed on eBird. Data generated by this long-term citizen science project shows trends in bird populations and is an important part of climate

terations to our normal protocols. Folks avoided carpooling and largely birded with those from their household. And, as people were more split up, we found that our zones were perhaps even better surveyed by more eyes in the sky, on the ground and at feeders. Go figure? We detected five more species on count day than in 2019 and over 1,500 more total birds.

We missed our wrap-up chili dinner with the opportunity to share each other's company and compile our findings. We have to settle for a virtual get-together which will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m. The link to join the meeting will be posted on the Events listing of our website, www. weminucheaudubon.org. Findings from our count are being entered into the National Audubon Society database and a copy of the report will be posted on our website.

The Christmas Bird Count is only one of the fun bird surveys

Backyard Bird Count in February. This spring, we anticipate joining the expansion of a Durango-area survey of American dipper nests here on the San Juan. The Weminuche chapter has its own Bird Monitoring Project survey of birds in the National Forest conducted from late May through early July.

We welcome participation in any of our events from all interested parties. Information may be found on our website or by emailing us at weminuche.audubon@ gmail.com.

Pagosa Springs Elementary School Scholar of the Week









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of COVID-19 warranted some al-

counted birds at feeders at home, science research. all within the 15-mile diameter cir-

that chapter members participate As one would imagine, this year in. Next up is the worldwide Great

Council approves policy to ensure and enhance fiscal stability of the town

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

A policy to enhance the Town of Pagosa Springs' fiscal stability was approved by the town council at a meeting on Tuesday.

According to Town Manager Andrea Phillips, this resolution is approved by town council every year at the first meeting of the year.

The fiscal policy was first implemented in 2009 as a way to monitor the town's revenues on a monthly basis and report fluctuations from the previous year's revenues to the town council, Phillips described.

"I think, very rightly so, the council at that time recognized the importance of tracking our sales tax," Phillips said. "Our sales tax is what we live and die on here in the town. We have very little property tax, and outside of grants, there's not a whole lot of other revenues coming in. So it's very important for us to be tracking our sales tax revenues on a regular basis."

According to Phillips, the policy allows the town to increase or decrease its expenditures depending on sales tax revenues.

"We are receiving 80 percent of our projected general fund revenues in 2021 from sales tax and 76 percent of our revenues in the

capital fund," she said. The town is required to track and report sales tax to town council on a monthly basis and look at its current year trends and track the prior

months of the year, she explained. "We also look at an average of the prior two years for that same month and compare that average to our current month and determine whether changes are needed," Phillips said.

According to agenda documentation, Philips has the authority to implement a 7 percent reduction in sales tax-related expenditures in the event that sales tax revenues fall more than 5 percent below the average revenues collected for the same period in the previous two fiscal years.

Additionally, Phillips also needs to see the percentage of sales tax revenues collected in the previous month or two months fall 5 percent

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below the average revenues collected for the same periods in the preceding two fiscal years, agenda documentation notes.

Agenda documentation further notes that this policy helps the town be fiscally responsible in a predictable way when sales tax revenues are trending downward.

"Adopting the resolution reduces the chances of the Town experiencing negative cash flows due to strict monitoring and resulting actions in the event of a consistent decrease in sales tax revenues,' agenda documentation states.

chris@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Donna Hudson

Everett Glover is an excellent student who always does his best in class. He was exceptional in his remote work and always participated in Pagosa Springs Elementary School class Zoom meetings. He has made wonderful growth in his first year of school.



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THE RILEY REPORT — JANUARY 2021 —

Hello from Pagosa Country!

This year, "Happy New Year" is an understatement. We have never been so ready for the new year than right now. Good riddance to 2020!

That being said, there are always positives that come out of negatives, and the turmoil of 2020 is no different. Here are just a few positives: we have much greater appreciation for our doctors, nurses, and first responders. We are a more hygienic society than we used to be. My hands are the cleanest they have ever been! I haven't caught a cold for as long as I can remember. So far, the flu season has been mild. In the Southern Hemisphere, where the seasons are opposite and the flu season has already passed, influenza cases were down 98% in 2020.

Interest rates for home mortgages are as low as they have ever been. A year ago, the average rate on a new 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 3.66%. Today it is down to 2.72% If we apply those rates to a new home purchase of \$400,000 with a 20% down payment, the result is a savings of \$165 on each monthly payment. Over the life of the loan, that's \$59,400.

Many of us have saved a lot of money this year on everything from travel to restaurants to shopping.

We're not spending money because there is no place to go. The equity in our homes has gone way up.

The median sale price for homes in Pagosa is up 11% this year due to a shortage of inventory. Condo prices are up 9%. The stock market is at record highs. The S&P 500 stock index finished the year up 16% after recovering from a pandemic-induced crash in March.

Wolf Creek Ski Area has lots of snow, which will help out our local drought situation and put smiles on the faces of all the

skiers. Wolf Creek is reporting 77" at the summit and 66" midway. Other areas in our part of the state are not doing quite as well, and snowpack is currently at 70% of median for this time of year.

Local tax revenues were way up this year. Our local economy is still generally very strong, though the COVID restrictions have been hard on certain restaurants and businesses. Many of our local businesses have shown great resiliency and imagination in adapting to the changing regulations.

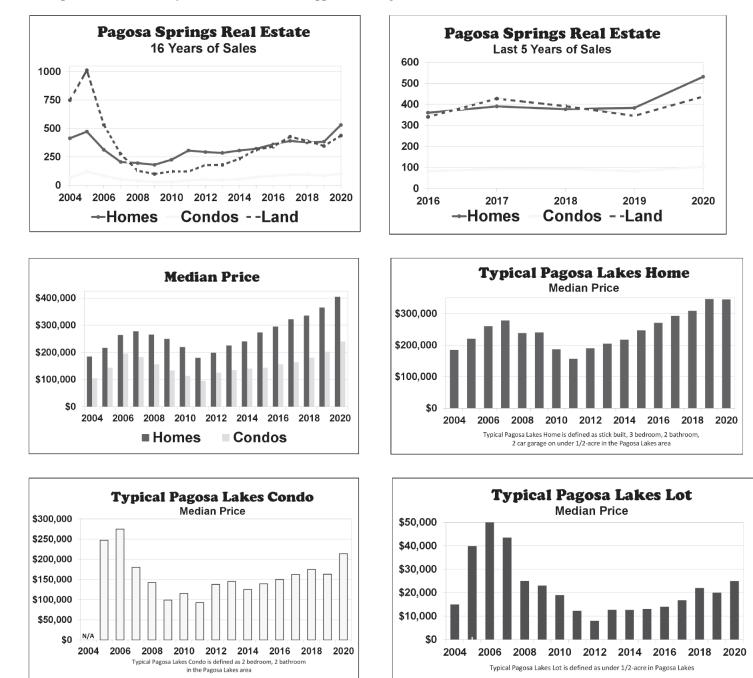
Last but not least, we have the vaccine, which is the light at the end of the tunnel.

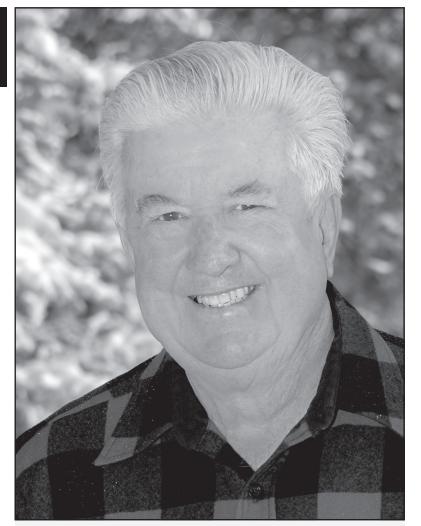
Now for the latest real estate news. 2020 in Pagosa Springs was the busiest year ever. I'm starting my 31st year in the business, and it's been a whirlwind of activity. Through August of this year, sales were still down compared to last year. On September 1st, sales were up 1% for the year. After an extremely busy fall, we ended the year up 32%.

Home sales ended up 39% and inventory was down 55%. Condo sales were up 26% and inventory down 85%. Currently, there are only four condos or townhomes left on the market. That is not a misprint! It is hard to fathom that number. Land sales were up 27% and inventory was down 28%.

Overall real estate sales ended the year at 1,087 total sales. The last time we sold over a thousand properties was back in 2005. You may recall that 2005 was the peak of the vacant land boom, when National Recreational Properties, Inc. bought up all the inventory they could get their hands on, and then quickly flipped the properties. Back in 2005, vacant land represented 63% of all sales. Today it is down to 41%.

These charts provide even more information about what happened in Pagosa in 2020:*





Lee Riley

Contact me today for all your real estate needs (970) 946-3856 LeeRiley@ISellPagosa.com

*Data collected from the CREN MLS system on 1/3/2021. As more sales are recorded, data may change slightly. Stats are intended to show trends in the area; they include activity for all area agents, not just Lee Riley. All information provided is deemed reliable, but is not guaranteed and should be independently verified.

So, what should we expect in 2021? Most likely, sales will be down this year due to lack of inventory.

Prices will continue to rise due to supply and demand. Hopefully, lumber costs will start to go down once the lumber yards and producers get back up to speed. If you are a potential seller and want to cash in, this may motivate you to sell while the market is hot. Hopefully, we will get the virus under control

soon. Hopefully, politics will mellow out and we'll start working together instead of against each other. My two biggest wishes for 2021 are to get vaccinated so I can travel again, and that our country mends its wounds so that once again we can be the United States of America.

> Sincerely, Lee Riley

If you'd like to receive my monthly newsletter via email, send your email address to LeeRiley@ISellPagosa.com

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DICEVIEW Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

Solar array around domes in Centennial Park will help produce production



PREVIEW photo/Clayton Chaney

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership expands mission

By Al Pfister

Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership

2020 presented numerous challenges for all of us, among those challenges was a significant increase in the need for supplemental food supplies for many within our community.

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) was able to further our mission via the addition of a solar array around our domes in Centennial Park to enable us to work with other organizations within the community to meet that need.

Through a very generous grant from La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) and the efforts of others, a 5.36 kw solar photovoltaic system was installed at the GGP site/ Pagosa's Renewable Energy Campus/Centennial Park late this past fall. The electricity generated by the solar array will supplement the geothermal energy derived from Pagosa's local hot spring via the town's geothermal network to further facilitate a more intensive year-round growing in our domes. All this is combining to assist us in accomplishing our mission of "educating the community in sustainable agricultural practices by producing food year-round using local renewable energy."

The GGP received a \$13,000 grant through LPEA's Renewable Energy Credit Program that we matched via the charitable donations received from our numerous members and sponsors. Those combined monies were used to purchase materials and supplement

the labor and donations of time by businesses that resulted in the installation of the array.

This supplemental renewable energy source will reduce our electric costs as we increase our production of produce for the local community through more intensive growing practices. This reduction in our electrical costs comes at a very critical time. Through a grant from the Food Coalition and via a donation from Archuleta County, we have obtained 30 grow lights to increase our production for other partners that have teamed with the Food Coalition to provide food to those in need during the COVID-19 crisis. We have used the additional financial resources from the Food Coalition and hired an additional intensive gardening specialist to take on the challenge of growing additional food that will be provided to those in need by other Food Coalition partners.

While we are limiting the number of people in the domes at any one time (with no visitors) or having any classes from the local schools due to COVID-19 concerns, our incredible volunteers continue to assist our intensive gardeners to grow in these tough times. As such, we invite you to take a peek through the windows to see what we are growing in the middle of winter with renewable energy. Or, as a special treat, come by in the early morning hours or just after dusk (depending on when we can get the plants extra growing light at the lowest rate) and see the domes glowing purple and growing aplenty.

Frozen Foot Fiesta events announced

By Shane Lucero Frozen Foot Fiesta

The Frozen Foot Fiesta is a series of winter events Feb. 6 and 7 designed to bring winter fun to Pagosa Country for locals and visitors to participate and enjoy. The events include: cross-country skiing, 5k run, snow volleyball, bonfire and fat tire bike race. Grab your friends and family to participate in any or all the events.

All events will adhere to COVID regulations.

Learn-to-ski clinic: Feb 6, 10 a.m.

Be checked in and ready to ski by 9:45 a.m., with class starting at 10 a.m.

These great introductory clinics are held throughout the season. Skate ski and classic cross-country

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ski basics will be shared by some of Pagosa Springs' best skiers, all free of charge. Donations and Pagosa Nordic Club membership are strongly encouraged to help offset expenses with conducting the clinics and trail grooming.

A great clinic for never-evers, beginners and intermediates. Learn how to make these outdoor winter activities even more enjoyable. Bring your ski gear: skate skis or classic kick and glide.

Located at Cloman Park on Cloman Boulevard.

For more information, go to www.pagosanordic.com.

Frozen Foot 5k Race: Feb. 6, 10 a.m.

Start and finish the 5k race at The Springs Resort, 323 Hot Springs Blvd.

Register at: www.frozenfoot5k.

PREVIEW is a publication of The Pagosa Springs Publisher/Editor The Pagosa Springs Reporters

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Volleyball: Feb. 6, 2 p.m.

Get your snow gear on and get ready for snow volleyball. Dress to jump, dive and run. Teams of 4. The cost is \$10/player. Register at event site, The Springs Resort, 323 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Nordic Club Social Ski: Feb. 6, 5 p.m.

Enjoy a social cross-country ski in the heart of downtown and then head over to the Cabin Fever Bonfire at 302 Hot Springs Blvd.

Cabin Fever Bonfire:

Feb. 6, 5 p.m.

Dress warmly and come fight off the winter blues with a huge bonfire. Fire starts at 5 p.m., 323 See Fiesta on next page

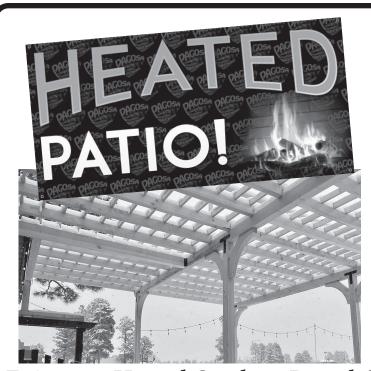
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The camouflaged pole

We stopped, started and swerved all over the road in 2020. The year was like driving an old Ford Edsel. Unforgettable, but still an Edsel.

Should we leave the old jalopy jacked up in the bone yard? After all, who wants to look back from the rearview mirror at the year that was?

It's time to set our sights forward as we look to new adventures. But, even an ol' motor deserves its next run, one that begins with a warmup if nothing less.

Mine will likely corner around special projects and friendships. After that, it will be time to rev things back up again? And therein lies the problem.

I'm sure that I'm not the only one who found an escape from what use to be my norm. I don't even want to think about how many times I popped the clutch, then sputtered to a stop in the name of, "Its where we are today."

The word momentum comes to mind. Or, better said, lack of momentum. Do I have the fuel to throttle things up? Do I even want to? How far am I willing to go to be challenged by new ideas or projects?

This week's short track was a circular run around the hallway coat rack. After pulling down five camouflage jackets and 12 baseball hats, I said to my Sweet Al, "Choose two jackets and a couple hats. I'm getting rid of the rest."

You would have thought that I was asking him to choose between his favorite vintage and classic model. He tried on every coat and hat and had a story for each. The day was filled with more drama than a day at an auction.

I didn't budge. It was time to let go. I told him, "I'm letting you off easy. If I went through your hunting closet, I could probably find 10 more coats for you to get rid of."

He gave me one jacket and told me to find it a good home. No sooner had he said that when our son swooped in, grabbed it and said, "I'm putting it on the pole."

"The pole. What's that?"

"Downtown by the stoplight. There's a fence where people put scarfs for those in need."

"Do people know it's there for them?Will they take something you



Continued from previous page Hot Springs Blvd.

The Frozen Foot Fat Tire Race: Feb. 7, 10 a.m.

A race on a 4.5-mile and 10-mile snow-covered trail, Forest Service Road 725. To register, visit www. Dustx2.com.

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leave behind?"

"Yes, of course. Besides, someone will get mileage out of it."

The whole idea about the fence

post and passing things forward intrigued me. Is there anything that I have that others may need? Or, will I just immortalize a classic to a point where it has lost all redeeming value?

Today, I wonder how many Ford Edsels will see their fate as a bucket of rust before their beauty can be appreciated by someone who will know what to do with it. It is easy to

See Lane on next page





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Sharing a gift of words

By Allyn Schuyler PREVIEW Columnist

Opening mail for my husband at our business the other day, I unfolded a small piece of paper from a customer with their check.

"You were worth every penny refreshing," our client wrote. "Thanks."

I smiled and tacked the Post-it to the bulletin board after I took a photo and texted it to my husband. I knew that little note would make his day.

As a writer, I deal with words on a daily basis. I'm always reading or writing something. Words are important to me and I struggle to choose just the right ones. I like to stumble across interesting new ones. My favorite literary writers keep me busy looking up the definitions of obscure ones.

I cannot bear to skim over a word I'm not sure about. I constantly apologize to my Hebrew teacher for being on my phone, but by now she knows it's because I look up definitions to make sure I understand the meaning of the text. I love the sound of those that roll off the tongue somnambulism, halcyon and pastiche are some of my recent favorites.

A while ago, I decided to give my three little sisters a gift of words on their birthdays. When their special day approached, I took a few nights



to remember our lives together. I reached as far back as I could to recall memories from every stage - early childhood when my parents tried again and again for a boy and kept getting girls. Teenage years when we shared bedrooms and clothes.

As I remembered difficult times, I apologized. When I recalled instances I was grateful, I spelled out my appreciation.

The celebratory letters took on a tone of love and respect for the experiences we shared. I cherished each remembrance I gathered and realized from the return emails they were just as precious to receive.

Those notes gave me an opportunity to apologize when necessary, like the time when I lost my temper and behaved despicably - something hard to even think about and certainly something I'd never spoken of. And, yet, I needed to bare my soul and ask for forgiveness, which I humbly received. Finally, I was free from many burdens of regret.

Another note gave me a chance to thank my younger sibling who allowed me to crawl into her twin bed

during the time I suffered terrible night terrors. No one ever knew that happened because, once again, we never spoke about it and she never outed or embarrassed me. It did my heart good to recognize her for her kindness in my hour of need.

I also had the pleasure of telling them all the things I liked about them. They all know I care, but I got the chance to say things like, "I was so proud of you when ..." or "I always admired you for ...'

Then came the grown-up memories like when they supported me in times of adult crisis ... death of a child, life-threatening illness, etc. Those things we all experience given enough time in this world. Times when their support had been invaluable.

These birthday wishes didn't cost me much, only a few minutes and quite a few more tears. Every time I sat down to write, the recollections came flooding back and I knew immediately which ones to include. When I finished, I felt like my gift was something very significant — a priceless treasure that might have been lost.

I don't imagine I will ever send my sisters another note quite like these — I think I exhausted my material. But there's always my friends who mean so much to me, or my mother. Unfortunately, I never got to give my father his letter. I did compose it after he passed, as a eulogy, but was too emotional to be able to deliver it during his funeral.

A

I know he would have loved my words and the sentiment they held. What a shame I missed the opportunity.



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continued from previous page

throw things away when we believe them to have no value. How often do we seize an opportunity to pass along things of potential worth just because we can? And here I worry about find-

ing my momentum, when others

are struggling to just make it to a

Readers' comments

nearby fence.

Send your comments to betty@ bettyslade.com.

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit? Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. For you are just

a vapor that appears for a little while, and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."



The news reminds us daily of a climbing

death rate attributed to coronavirus. We can debate the figures all we want but that

does not change the fact many loved ones are no longer with us. Some were young, some were old. Some were in good health and some were not. But now they have

Join US ... Sunday

been laid to rest.

James 4:13-15 That daily death rate reminds us that we also are mortal. One day death will knock on our door. Knowing that, what should

we do? Living through the last year has reminded us of the value of personal relationships, helping others, and the need for a daily walk with God. Let's remember the lesson and build on that this year as long as the Lord gives us life.

AM Worship 10:30 a.m.

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Final brushstroke: The best way to find our momentum is not to look at how fast we can go, but to do what we can so that others can know how far they can go.

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Are you bored? Try our free online learning resources

By Carole Howard PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Do you have cabin fever? What better time than now to take advantage of our many free online learning resources that can be accessed from your home with your library card. Here are some examples:

Academic Search Premier is a collection of full-text articles and journals offering information in nearly every area of academic study. AutoMate provides repair information on 34,000 U.S. and imported vehicles. Britannica for Kids has research materials for elementary, middle and high school students. Business Source Premier provides access to more than 1,000 business publications. Consumer Health Complete contains consumer-oriented health content.

Driving Tests includes practice tests for car, motorcycle and commercial driver's licenses. Funk and Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia has thousands of entries. GreenFile covers all aspects of human impact on the environment. History Reference Center offers thousands of historical documents and maps. Legal Information Reference Center helps you address a wide range of legal issues.

MasterFile Premier gives you access to 1,750 periodicals including Consumer Reports. Middle Search Plus gives middle school kids access to biographies, historical essays, popular magazines and more. MyHeritage helps you create your family tree and discover your family history. Newspaper Sources gives you access to a multitude of newspapers, as well as TV and radio news transcripts. Science Reference Center contains hundreds of science publications. Small Engine Repair Reference Center covers every type of engine.

Transparent Language Learn-



ing offers nearly 100 languages to learn. TumbleBook Library has books, e-books and videos for children in English and Spanish. Universal Class has intellectually stimulating courses for people interested in the lifelong pursuit of knowledge.

To see them all, go to our website, pagosalibrary.org, and select the gray tab towards the top of the page that says "Online Resources."

New free literacy program for babies

An exciting new free Coloradobased literacy program that helps families and caregivers build their babies' vocabulary started in Archuleta County on Jan. 11, thanks to a partnership involving your library, AmeriCorps and the San Juan BOCES.

You need to sign up for this special program, called LENA, in order to be enrolled in the workshops that will provide you with personalized information and ideas to help your child. Please contact Michelle Salmeron-Ramierez at 585-4293 or michelle@unitedway-swco.org. The program is available in English and Spanish. It was created for babies from newborn to age 3 and will help you use talking to build your child's brain.

Library closure

Your library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18, for the Martin Luther King holiday.

Library foundation

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation to help support the services and programs provided by your Ruby Sisson Library. Mail checks to P.O. Box 2045, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or call Cindi Galabota at 264-2209. Thank you.

Library operations update

Since our county has dropped to COVID Level Orange, we now can See Library on next page



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Library

continued from previous page

allow 30 patrons in the library at a time, up from 15 under Level Red. Other than that, in an abundance of caution, our other safety protocols will remain in place.

Your library staff has been split into separate smaller workgroups in an attempt to lower exposure and keep the library open should somebody test positive. Because of this, you may notice that, occasionally, service is a little slower than usual.

Here is the current status:

• We remain open on Thursdays from 1 to 7 p.m., with 1 to 2 p.m. reserved for seniors and higherrisk populations.

• Other hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for seniors and higher-risk populations. Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays: closed.

• We are accepting meeting room reservations only for individuals or members of the same household, with library programs having first dibs on the rooms. You can schedule only so far out, usually two weeks to a month, depending on where we are in the month.

• Hand sanitizers are available and there will be frequent cleanings inside the building throughout the day. Please practice social distancing and wear facial coverings while you are in the building. If you don't have a mask, we are happy to give one to you.

• Nine computers are available. In most cases, usage will be allowed for three hours per day. Staff will clean and disinfect the computers between uses.

• One early literacy computer is available for youngsters Monday through Saturday.

• Curbside service continues Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. except for Thursdays, when it's from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Phone 264-2209 when you are in the parking lot so staff can bring the items out for you. If you put a hold on something, please wait for your usual alert (email, phone call or text) before coming to pick it up.

• You can drop your returns of books. CDs and DVDs in the drop box at City Market, as well as in the drop box at the library. No donations in the City Market box, please.

• Notary service is available on a very limited basis. Please call for an appointment. The cost is \$5 per notary.

• You can place holds on items from other libraries. They are in different stages of opening, so items may take longer than usual.

• We're happy to provide tech help in person or over the phone for our online resources.

Special note

"We want people to always

feel welcome in the library and to experience a very friendly vibe when they visit," said MegWempe, library director. "But we need to remind everyone that, similar to other public indoor spaces in Colorado, we must follow the executive order that requires people ages 11 or older to wear a covering over their noses and mouths when entering or moving within any public indoor space. If you are unable or unwilling to wear a mask, we are pleased to assist you outside the building through our curbside service.'

Teen book club

The free tween book club has morphed to a teen book club for sixth through 12th grades due to the age of the interested parties. Join us for a lively discussion next Tuesday, Jan. 19, from 4 to 5 p.m. on Zoom about this month's book, "Slay," by Brittany Morris. Stop by the library to pick up a copy. To join the session and help us decide what to read next, please go to https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/82245964216.

Adult DIY on Facebook

Beginning tomorrow, Jan. 15, your library will provide the common household ingredients needed to make your own liquid laundry soap. Take-and-make ingredients will be available while supplies last. Then, join us on Facebook from 2 to 3 p.m. to view an easy tutorial from Brad on how to combine to make a gallon of laundry soap that can be used for 64 loads of laundry.

Calling all teens

If you enjoy reading books, learning new skills and helping your community, we hope sixththrough 12th-graders will sign up to volunteer at your library. You'll be invited to write book reviews, make artwork for the teen area, help plan new programs, judge our pumpkin-decorating contest, prepare crafts for kids' programs and help keep the library organized. Please stop by the library or apply online.

Knitting takeaways

You can pick up free knitting takeaways at the library entrance during open hours to take for your in-home enjoyment. We'll have patterns, craft ideas, instructions and some limited supplies available.

New writing challenge

On Jan. 4, we posted a new writing challenge on the library's Facebook page. We hope you will challenge your creativity by participating. This is a free all-ages activity.

After-school program

In response to COVID, we have revamped our free after-school program into STEAM enrichment kits, STEAM standing for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, for ages 5 and up. Registration is required at 264-2209. Pick up your kit and then bring your completed projects back to the library to be displayed in the last week of the month.

DIY craft takeaway for kids

Drop by your library for free DIY craft takeaways for youngsters age See Library on next page

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Library

continued from previous page 10 and older during open hours. Pick up a packet outside the library.

In-person gaming

In-person gaming is suspended due to COVID safety concerns.

Storywalk for kids

Weather permitting, every other Thursday Josie posts signs outside the library that follow the sidewalk up toward the elementary school detailing a new free Storywalk for kids. The Jan. 14-27 theme is family traditions. After you finish the walk, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library.

Tech Time

Make a 15- to 30-minute appointment for one of three free in-person slots available noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Brad will help one person (or one couple) at a time resolve issues with your computer, smartphone, tablet and other electronic devices.

FSL

Free in-person classes take place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. by appointment. Please register so we can keep it to a small group in our limited open spaces. No walk-ins, please.

Dungeons and Dragons

Join us Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. for Dungeons and Dragons free for teens and young adults on Google Meet. Contact claire@ pagosalibrary.org to learn how to join. If you don't have Internet access, contact us anyway - we may be able to accommodate you in the library.

Children's programs on Facebook

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m., join us on the library's Facebook page for free children's programs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so you can interact with Josie. Saturday's Discovery Times - with games, art ideas, science

experiments, history and more are prerecorded.

Adult education

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) accelerated GED course takes place in person where Mark helps with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Contact the library and Mark will work with you to schedule a date and time to meet.

Activities calendars

To be sure you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your family at your library, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. There are two versions — youth and adults.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"Whispers of the Dead" by Spencer Kope features FBI agent and elite tracker "Steps" Craig. "No. 17" by J. Jefferson Farjeon investigates a murder after the corpse disappears. "Shadows of the Dead" by Spencer Kope is an FBI Special Tracking Unit mystery.

Other novels

"The Berlin Girl" by Mandy Robotham is a historical novel set in pre-war Berlin. "A Girl Returned" by Donatella Di Peitrantonio begins when a 13-year-old girl is sent away from the only family she has known.

Nonfiction

'Startup 101" by Erick Walk describes how to build a successful business with crowdfunding. "Aromatherapy" in Iside Sarmiento is a guide to using essential oils in everyday life. "One Decision" by Mike Bayer is a life coach's path to your best self.

Downloadable e-books and audiobooks

We have a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audio books for patrons of all ages — children, tweens, teens and adults - in

cloudLibrary. The items in cloud-Library are purchased separately from physical items, so the books available are different — and it continues to use the consortium's contributions, not just those that we bought. That is why you need to select AspenCat Union Catalog when setting up cloudLibrary for use. Please email or phone us at 264-2209 if you need our help setting up this service on your device.

Donations

For their generous monetary donations we thank Robyn Schulze as well as Sherry Spears in honor of Carole Shaw. Please put your material donations into the drop box at the library — not at City Market, which is reserved for returns. Donations undergo the same rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns.

Quotable quote

"A diamond is a chunk of coal that did well under pressure." ----Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs and to reserve books, e-books, CDs and DVDs from the comfort of your home - please visit our website at pagosalibrary.org.

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VITA tax preparation plans announced

By Cheryl Wilkinson PREVIEW Columnist

Due to COVID-19, the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will not be coming to Pagosa Springs to prepare federal and state income tax returns this year. VITA will be preparing 2020 tax returns at no charge as part of the VITA program in Durango. Please register at: DurangoVITA. org. The gross income limit this tax season is \$54,000.

COVID-19 vaccine

Pagosa Springs Medical Center is distributing the COVID-19 vaccine.

Please call the Pagosa Springs Vaccination Reservation hotline



at 507-3995 or check the website at http://pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org/vaccine.

Take-out meals continue at Senior Center

In order to continue providing meals, the Pagosa Springs Senior Center is offering take-out hot meals and a salad with a drive-up option under the portico at the Ross Aragon Community Center. These meals will be available Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is a \$4 suggested donation for lunch for those age 60 and better. If you need to have your meal delivered, please call 264-2167 to see if this option is available in your area.

The cost per meal for the public age 59 and under is \$8.50. The meals include a salad, hot meal, drink and dessert or bread.

Please call 264-2167 to make a reservation for pickup. We are also continuing our Meals on Wheels program.

There will be no games, classes or presentations during this time. The staff will be available by phone. If you need to speak to a staff member, please call 264-2167.

The Community Café menu

Thursday, Jan. 14 — Frittata, sweet potato ham hash, milk, salad and French toast casserole.

Friday, Jan. 15 — Chicken and dumplings, roasted carrots, milk, salad and caramel apple cake.

Monday, Jan. 18 — Closed for the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.

Tuesday, Jan. 19—Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato basil soup, milk, salad and Greek baklava.

Wednesday, Jan. 20 — Chicken supreme on mashed parsnips, sweet potatoes, milk, salad and cranberry orange cake.

Thursday, Jan. 21 — Gumbo, rice, milk, salad and bread pudding.



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UUs to remember Martin Luther King Jr.

By Pauline Benetti

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship continues virtual service on the first and third Sundays of the month. The fellowship has become quite adept at providing virtual continuity for members and friends in a variety of ways. Continuity comes through abbreviated services, coffee talks and small group meetings all in virtual community.

The service of Jan. 17 will be led by lay leader Pauline Benetti and will pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. in anticipation of Monday, Jan. 18, the holiday in his honor. We will acknowledge King through a sermon delivered 11 years ago by the Rev. William Sinkford, currently senior minister of First Unitarian Portland and formerly president of the UUA, in which he celebrates King's famous message delivered in his "Beyond Vietnam" sermon at the Riverside in New York City in April 1967, a message that rings as true today as it did then.

Please join us through Zoom. Zoom meeting: https://us02web. zoom.us/j/88284380641?pwd=Zn AycGppOUdZTVIJMIRYVGV6OVd Qdz09, telephone: (346) 248 7799, meeting ID: 882 8438 0641, password: 059944.

Our fellowship offers each individual support in our unique spiritual path and an opportunity to participate in positive social and environmental action. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

Religious Exploration (RE) classes have been temporarily canceled due to COVID-19. For more information about RE or the fellowship, call 731-7900 or email info@pagosauu.org.

<image>

Backyard poultry a growing trend

By Robin Young PREVIEW Columnist

Backyard poultry and smallscale livestock agriculture are a growing trend in the U.S., even in large cities such as Seattle, Portland, Denver and San Francisco.

Residents raising backyard poultry and livestock do so for a variety of reasons, such as access to locally sourced food, companionship and sustainability. But how often do these owners seek veterinary care in these urban and peri-urban areas (UPAs)?

A Western Regional team of collaborators, including Colorado State University (CSU) and UC Davis researchers, conducted a survey of veterinary practitioners to better assess their engagement with owners of these animals. They received responses from 880 veterinarians in California, Colorado, Washington and Oregon. Most respondents reported working in companion animal only or companion animalpredominant practices. Although most of the veterinarians perceived an increase in backyard poultry and livestock in their practice areas, few were actively treating such animals primarily because of a lack of facilities, interest or experience.

Their findings, published in the July 15, 2020, issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, indicate an increasing demand for veterinary services for poultry and livestock in peri-urban areas and a need for ongoing continuing education of practitioners, as well as the animal owners.

"This segment of agriculture has been largely overlooked by the veterinary community in North America," said Dr. Alda Pires, University of California cooperative extension specialist in the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and co-principal investigator in the study. "Due to the potential for public health issues and the spread of zoonotic disease, veterinary professionals need increased training and better awareness of the health and welfare of these animals."

Dr. Ragan Adams, veterinary extension specialist at CSU and a co-principal investigator emphasized that the animal owners also need better awareness of the importance of regular veterinary care and a willingness to pay for that medical expertise.

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"Many of these owners are unfamiliar with the responsibilities and challenges of owning poultry and/or livestock," Adams said. "County Extension personnel can teach the new animal owners as they have taught youth in 4-H programs for more than 100 years. With enhanced knowledge about animal husbandry, the new owners will understand the importance of seeking veterinary services when their animals show signs of illness."

Disease spread from these periurban areas can spell disaster for other animals. For example, the 2015 outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza, traced to backyard poultry flocks, had severe economic and trade consequences for the commercial poultry industry. Recent outbreaks of virulent Newcastle disease in California also posed significant threats to commercial poultry flocks and the agricultural economy.

"The health and welfare of animals in UPAs are of concern because their owners often lack the knowledge or expertise regarding safe handling and animal husbandry," said Dr. Dale Moore, Washington State University Veterinary Medicine Extension specialist and co-investigator.

"A previous survey found that the owners want more access to livestock and poultry medicine. This follow-up survey highlights the need for veterinarians, along with extension specialists, to work with small-scale poultry owners to improve biosecurity measures, better detect disease and mitigate potential future outbreaks."

The original study ideas for these surveys came from Washington State University Veterinary Medicine Extension (Drs. Moore and Amos Peterson) as part of Peterson's Master's thesis project. The project was then extended to Veterinary Medicine Extension in California (Drs. Pires, Jerome Baron and Beatriz Martinez-Lopez), and at CSU (Adams). Extension educators at Oregon State University and the Oregon Veterinary

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Medical Association helped with contacts in their states.

The increase in popularity of backyard and peri-urban agriculture provides both challenges and opportunities for veterinarians. Providing veterinary service to owners of backyard poultry and See Viewpoints on next page

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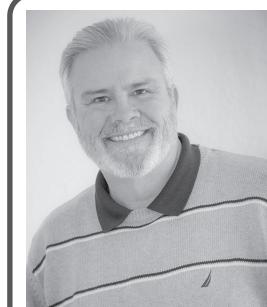
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Finding the right clothing

By Daris Howard Special to The PREVIEW

Judy was really sick, and she didn't get better. Finally, her husband, Kent, decided she needed to go to the hospital.

'Let's wait until morning," Judy said. "I'm sure I'll be better by then."

But at four in the morning, Judy woke Kent. "We'd better go now.'

Some time after they got to the emergency room, the word came back, Judy had COVID. She had lots of blood clots in her lungs, and her heart was failing. She was so bad that they decided they needed to transfer her to a larger regional medical center. Kent was told he would not be allowed into the hospital's ICU wing, but they would keep him informed of her condition.

Within a day, her health had deteriorated to the point that the doctor told Kent to call the family together, because Judy would not last very long. When word got around our little community, everyone started to pray for Judy. She was not expected to make it through the night. However, she not only made it through the night, but the next morning her condition had improved slightly.

As prayers continued over the next few days, Judy continued to get better. Soon she was moved out of intensive care to another floor of the hospital. Kent finally got word that he would be allowed to visit her. It was a joyous reunion. A couple of days later, she was moved again, and shortly thereafter, she was told she could go home.

Kent was already on his way to visit Judy and got the word after he arrived. He was excited to have her come home. But he hadn't

Blood drive set for Jan. 26

By Diane Levison Special to The PREVIEW

There will be a blood drive at Centerpoint Church Tuesday, Jan. 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There are eight appointments available still, but walk-ins are always welcome up until 2:45 p.m. Also, there are always a few people who need to cancel at the last minute due to illness, etc.

Appointments are highly recommended and masks are required. Email dianeunheard@ gmail.com or call Diane Levison at (602) 770-6565 to sign up; the sponsor code is centerchurch.

Eat a good meal, drink plenty of water and bring a picture ID.

All successful donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies.

Centerpoint Church is located at 2750 Cornerstone Drive.

known soon enough to bring her any clothes. Her original ones had been left at the first hospital. She had nothing to wear and was not about to go out in an "I See You" hospital gown.

"Kent," she said, "go to Walmart and get me something I can wear home.

"What should I get?" he asked. "Just a simple muumuu would be good," she replied.

When Kent got to the store, he asked a young teenage clerk where he would find a muumuu.

"I don't think we carry those," she replied.

Kent called Judy and asked her what he should do.

"I'm sure they carry them," she said. "But you need to ask a woman who's over 50. Any female younger than that, or a man, probably wouldn't know what one is.

Kent found an older clerk, and she told him they did, indeed, carry muumuus. She then directed a teenage girl to show him where they were. Since Kent wasn't sure what a muumuu was, and because the girl was young, he was concerned that the items she showed him might not be right. He debated whether or not to buy one. Then he

Viewpoints continued from previous page

livestock, who often view their animals as pets rather than production animals, requires a different approach and some different skills than providing veterinary service to owners of conventional or commercial livestock operations.

Study authors suggest a new model of practice might be envisioned for urban and peri-urban poultry and livestock clientele to ensure the health and welfare of their animals, and to safeguard public health. Specific opportunities for the veterinary profession are to identify local or regional veterinary service needs for these owners, become equipped to address exotic or zoonotic disease detection and husbandry questions, and provide medical care as well as food safety advice.

saw the Halloween clearance aisle.

In it he found a cute, adult, fulllength bunny costume. It even had ears and everything. And to clinch the deal, it was on sale for 75 percent off since Halloween had been the previous week.

When he brought the bunny costume to the hospital, Judy probably wondered if people would question her sanity if she left the hospital in it. But she wanted to go home, so she donned the suit. There were more than a few smiles as she left. She was probably the first person ever released from the hospital dressed as a bunny.

Kent told this story and a few others. I asked if I could share them with my readers.

"Sure," he said. "If you feel people would like them, go ahead."

I wrote some notes and then went to my wife with a question. "Honey, what is this muumuu thing that Judy wanted Kent to buy for her?"

She looked at my notes and laughed. "A muumuu is just a type of dress that hangs from the shoulders. But I think you might offend some women if you spell it moo moo."

I'm obviously not a woman over 50.

CSU Extension office closed

The CSU Extension office will be closed until further notice. Please call to make an appointment, 264-5931

Visit us on the Web at https:// archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/ or like us on Facebook and get more information: https://www. facebook.com/CSUARCHCTY.

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 246-5931 to register.







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The many disguises of Satan

By Jan Davis Special to The PREVIEW

1 Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour."

Satan can appear like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, entering by force and bringing chaos to our home. We no longer feel safe; our place of peace and refuge has been replaced with fear. But generally he appears as a wolf in sheep's clothing. If he revealed his true character, he would be easier to identify.

Matthew 7:15: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Everyone has heard the story of the three bears and how Goldilocks came in and wreaked havoc on their little home. She ate their food, sat in their furniture and snuggled in for a nice, long nap.

Satan shows up the same way, unannounced and uninvited, a wolf in sheep's clothing. He joins us around our dinner table, cozies up to us on the couch and before we know it he is sleeping in our bed. How did it happen? We left our front door wide open and he freely walked in, making himself at home.

He subtly works his way into our conversations and relationships, breeding jealousy and contempt. He manipulates his way into our hearts and we become disengaged and uninterested in the lives of our family. We become self-centered and no longer function together as a body. We become focused on our personal needs and wants, sacrific-



ing our family to fulfill our own goals.

The dining room table is empty. With the convenience of fast food the kids are allowed to migrate to their rooms to play video games, Dad reclines in his easy chair to watch a game, and Mom is in the kitchen talking on the phone to her new best friend from work. He at least acts interested in her problems. If we come together as a family it's to watch violence, sex and deception on the television. Our reality becomes entwined with fiction. We go to bed at the end of another empty day without acknowledging God once. We shut ourselves out from spouse and family, withdrawing into a shell of hopelessness, only to wake up the next morning to repeat the previous day.

How do we keep Satan from entering into our homes and destroying our families? There is an old saying; A family that prays together stays together. Families used to gather around the table after chores and homework were finished for a devotion and prayer. This signaled the end of another day; the children prepared for bed and the parents looked forward to a few moments together.

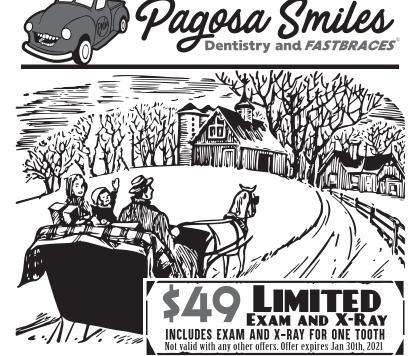
If we want Satan to remain outside, then we should invite Jesus into our homes. He must become first in our lives and in our home, the unseen guest at every meal and a participant in every conversation.

As parents, we are to be living examples of God's goodness and faithfulness to our children. They should see Christ displayed in our relationship with each other as we demonstrate his love, patience and understanding to our spouse. With Christ as the center of our conversations, we discuss their day and address their concerns and fears. Sharing the Word of God, we encourage them in their personal relationship with Christ; through prayer their peace is restored and all is right in their world.

Satan cannot live where Christ resides. Where Christ abides there is love, joy, peace and hope. With his shed blood spread over the doorposts of our hearts and homes we find safety and shelter. Regardless of the many disguises Satan uses to get his foot in the door, he will fail when Christ is the center of our homes.

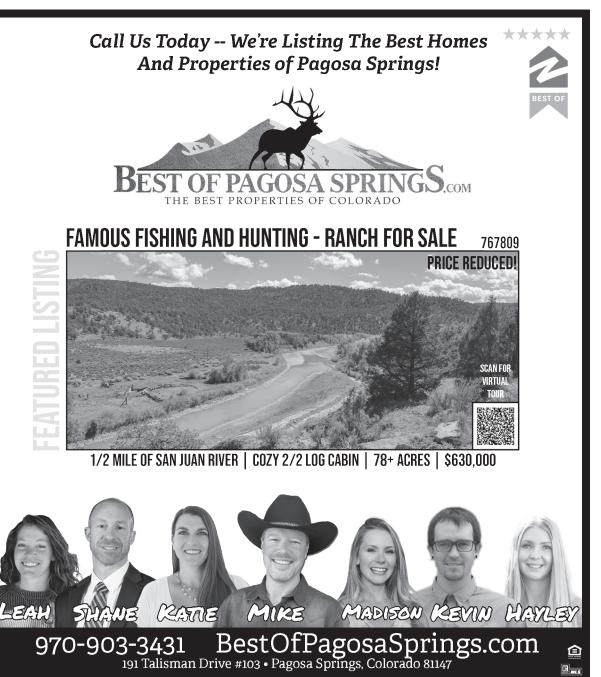
I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

Submissions for "A Matter of Faith" can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



★★★★ IF I COULD GIVE 10 STARS I WOULD... THANK YOU TO DR. RUTHERFORD AND TO ALL THE STAFF. YOU ALL HELPED GIVE ME MY SMILE BACK! I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOU ALL! *Lindsey W. 12/20*







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New Thought topic: 'Choose Health and Wellness'

By Lisa Burnson New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

"Disease is energy with a frequency that is inhabiting your body that is not in harmony with the frequency at which your body was created in association with God. It's just an incompatible frequency that's all it is." — Dr. Wayne Dyer.

All are welcome to join the New Thought Center for Inspirational Living this Sunday, Jan. 17, at 10:30 a.m. for our presentation, "Choose Health and Wellness — Not Wealth and Hell-ness." Our speaker will be Dr. Scott Vander Wall, D.C.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing.

We will have spirited live music.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. (weather permitting). All are welcome.

Band practice is every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join our band. Please text Bruce at 507-0739 to join or for band information.

Saturday, Jan. 23, "I Am Mapping" Vision Board Playshop, 10 a.m. Please call 309-6067 to register.

Science of Mind Class. Dates to

be determined.

Library

The New Thought Center has a large library of inspirational and spiritual books. To borrow or donate a book, please come to the New Thought Center prior to Sunday service or Meditation Circle.

About us

The New Thought Center promotes living a spiritually centered life, and promotes the philosophies of Centers for Spiritual Living and Agape Centers. New Thought honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine.

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

New Thought events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of Best Western Lodge (elevator available).

Request prayer treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling 309-6067. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought) or YouTube (Pagosa New Thought Channel).



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Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Advanced

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!

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Sunday devotionals offered by the Baha'i Faith

By Paulette Heber

Baha'i Community of Archuleta County

The Baha'i Community of Archuleta County hosts weekly devotionals every Sunday morning from 10 to 10:30 via Zoom. All are welcome.

Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/ 884668836?pwd=bkdEeVlaSWN0 bFRMdFhidXpzWjV5Zz09, call-in number: (669) 900-6833, meeting ID: 884 668 836.

A weekly theme is reflected in the prayers, music, poetry and selections from world religions and various sources. All are encouraged to contribute inspirational pieces. This Sunday, Jan. 17, our theme is humility.

"Humility exalteth man to the heaven of glory and power ..." — Baha'u'llah.

The Baha'i Faith is a world religion whose purpose is to unite all people of the world in one universal cause, one common faith.

To learn more about the Baha'i Faith, please visit the official international website of the Baha'i Faith at www.bahai.org. Our local contact is archuletabahais@gmail.com.

Quilt Guild to meet Jan. 16

By Suzanne Shideler Pagosa Piecemaker Quilt Guild

The Pagosa Piecemaker Quilt Guild will hold its monthly business meeting on Jan. 16 at 10 a.m. at Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Please park behind the church for closer access to the fellowship hall.

There are many beginningof-the-year business matters to attend to. Be sure to bring your show and tell. Plan on practicing safety measures against COVID-19 and skip this meeting if you've been traveling or had company. Thank you.

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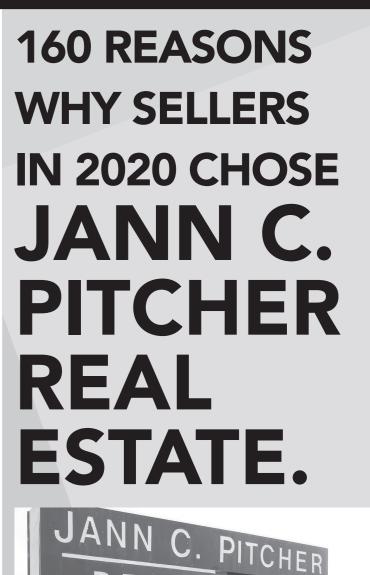
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Logging railroads during Pagosa Country's pioneer days had some tough times, as displayed here. This train rolled over on the old route on today's U.S. 84 just north of the turnoff to the Upper Blanco Basin.

The Basketmakers and the Great Basin

We've been writing about our neighbors, the Jicarilla Apaches, who were greatly affected by events happening around them in the late 1600s. Jicarilla is said to mean Basketmakers, which the Jicarilla were and still are.

At that time, Comanche Indians began moving from the Great Basin into the Apache homelands in northeastern New Mexico. At the same time, French traders operating from the upper Mississippi River established contact with the Plains Indians. The Comanches acquired guns from the French, while the Spanish prohibited the Apaches from getting guns. As a result, the better-armed Comanches were able to drive the Apaches close to the mountains and foothills of eastern New Mexico by the middle 1700s.

The Faraon Apaches of southcentral New Mexico raided Spanish and Pueblo Indian settlements of northeastern New Mexico and hit the Jicarilla hard. The Jicarilla bolstered their defensive abilities by striking a pact with the Spanish for help.

A sort of uneasy peace prevailed for the Jicarilla until the Mexican government, between 1821 and 1846, awarded eight private land grants and five town grants from Jicarilla lands. For the Jicarilla, this meant dispossession from sacred lands. Dispossessed, they began to raid more frequently and ultimately clashed with the U.S. Army.

When the Americans arrived in 1846 and took possession of New Mexico, the Jicarilla were divided into two bands. One band, the Olleros, lived primarily along the upper Rio Grande River and its tributaries: the Ojo Caliente River



and the Chama River north and east of Abiquiu. In the summer, they migrated north past Tierra Amarilla's mountains to the mountains of southern Colorado, mostly in the foothills on the eastern side of the San Juan Mountains.

The second band of Jicarilla's, the Llaneros, lived mainly in Mora and San Miguel counties of New Mexico and along the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. They hunted mostly on the Great Plains.

After occupying New Mexico, the general attitude of the U.S. troops and civilians was one of hostility and contempt for the Indians, especially the Apache. Intimidation by a display of military strength was thought the best way to control Indians in those frontier times.

COVID-19 Vaccines For 70 Years of Age And Older

If you have a residence in the zip code 81147, visit PSMC's website at pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org/vaccine to make your reservation request. You will be contacted when vaccine becomes available.

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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Byron Greco

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the American tree sparrow

Behavior, location and time of year all come into play when identifying similar-looking sparrow species. The American tree sparrow is one of our winter birds. In appearance, it shares the rufous cap and unstreaked underparts of the chipping sparrow, but these two species are rarely seen here at the same time of year.

In addition to its reddish cap, identifying traits of the American tree sparrow include a reddish stripe behind the eye, a dark central spot on its gray chest, long tail, two white wing bars and a two-toned bill, dark on top and light on the bottom.

Despite their name, these sparrows are not usually associated with trees. They forage on the ground, often in small flocks during winter. In semi-open shrubby habitat, they scratch the ground, hop up on weeds and beat the seedheads of grasses with their wings to release the seeds. To survive, they need to consume an amount equal to 30 percent of their weight each day.

Long-distance migrants, most of their breeding range is in scrubby areas north of the tree line on the Arctic tundra. They typically nest on the ground, not in trees. Even in winter, most of the population occurs in northern states and southern Canada. We are close to the edge of their southern range.

Breeding so far north, where insects are in abundance in summer and human disturbance is minimal, has been a good survival strategy for these birds.

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



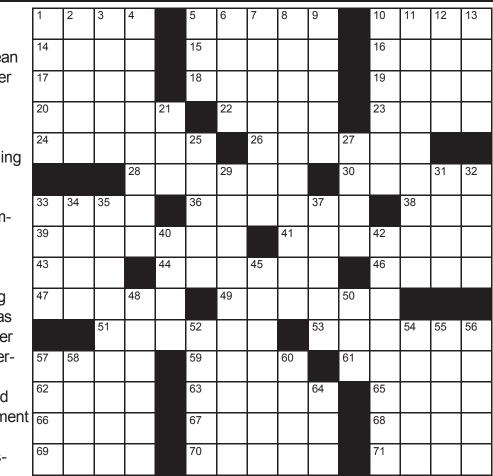
The Weekly Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Delhi wrap 5 Chocolate bean
- **10** Original sinner
- 14 Dressed
- 15 Put on
- (pretend) **16** Kelly of morning
- ΤV 17 Amble
- 18 Raguel of film-
- dom
- 19 At any time
- 20 Coming up
- 22 Bit of cunning
- 23 Run out of gas
- 24 Croquet striker
- 26 Certain deliveries
- 28 Footnote word
- **30** Indian condiment
- 33 Back talk
- 36 Nissan crossover
- 38 Hospital unit
- 39 Take a dive
- 41 Ready for the junkyard
- 43 Belief
- 44 William Tell, e.g.
- 46 Microscope part
- 47 Wanderer
 - 49 Inexpensive lodging
 - 51 Writers' reps
- 53 Took advice
- 57 Poker stake
- 59 Kind of surgery
- 61 Swedish currency
- 62 Cut of meat
- 63 Kidney-related
- 65 Stuff to the gills
- 66 Well-behaved
- 67 Pugilist Pacquiao
- 68 Hosierv hue
- **69** Writer Quindlen
- 70 Investment
- **71** Indian tree

DOWN

- 1 "Get lost!"
- 2 Kapolei greeting



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- 4 Desire for perfection
- 5 Crow's call
- 6 From the begin-
- ning

3 Tangle

- 9 Catchall cate-
- 10 "Chain of Fools"
- singer
- **11** Separable
- 12 Impersonator
- **13** Stable parent?
- 21 Cotillion V.I.P.
- 25 Kitchen gadget 27 Pony's gait
- 29 Pay-for-yourself
- date
- 31 Many a Bieber
 - fan
 - 32 Uses an abacus
 - 33 Washer cycle
 - 34 Moreover
 - 35 Lawyer's last
 - words

37 Civil War side 40 Fictitious, with "up" 42 Dust or pollen, e.g. 45 Shout of praise 48 To-do list 50 Comics cry 52 Societal stand-

ards

54 Gabbana's partner

by Margie E. Burke

- 55 Accustom: Var.
- 56 Piece of
 - information
- 57 Sea lettuce
- 58 "High" time
- 60 Tall and lean 64 Caustic stuff

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:



Subscribe to The SUN

- 7 Bullet
- measurement
- 8 Adapts
- gory

Thursday, January 14, 2021 - The Pagosa Springs SUN - PREVIEW - Page 17

GIFT GIVING WORD SEARCH

Y	U	С	Χ	Ζ	G	Ε	R	Ε	Ρ	Α	Ρ	G	Ν	Ι	Ρ	Ρ	Α	R	W
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C	Ρ	Ζ	С	S	Ζ	Ρ	Ρ	Т	R	Т	U	Ι	F	Ι	S	Ι	В	D	E
R	0	Ι	U	L	F	R	Α	G	F	0	Χ	Ν	W	Α	0	Α	L	Н	F
H	Μ	0	Е	0	G	Ι	S	R	Χ	R	W	L	D	Т	G	G	Α	Н	W
R	Μ	Α	Ι	С	Ν	Ζ	Ι	L	Μ	Ε	W	S	G	Ε	Ε	Ν	С	В	Μ
K	S	Κ	Υ	0	Ε	Ε	Т	Α	R	0	С	Ε	D	R	Υ	Ι	Ι	U	W
Y	Ν	R	Κ	F	Ν	R	Е	R	В	0	Χ	0	D	С	С	Ρ	Ρ	D	0
G	0	Κ	Н	D	Н	Т	S	Ι	L	Ρ	S	F	Ν	Ι	G	Ρ	Ζ	G	С
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WORDS

BAG BOX BUDGET CONSIDERATE COWORKER DECORATE FAMILY FRIENDS GIFT GREETING HOLIDAYS **IDEA** LIST PRIZE PURCHASE RECEIPT RECIPIENT RETAIL RIBBONS SHOPPING **STORE** TISSUE **UNWRAP**





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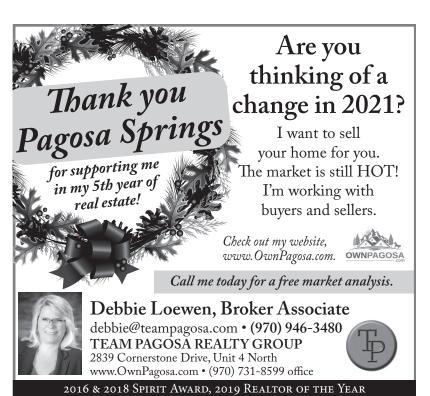
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BJ Jones and Lars Schneider, owners, have spent a combined total of over 43 years in Pagosa Springs.

As long-time locals, we operate with small-town hospitality without the "Pagosa-time mentality." Your time is as valuable as ours, so we operate with punctuality.

Property Brothers is here to service you and your family through providing quality in our work, and being timely and efficient.

In our property management division, we strive to offer peace of mind to you as you leave your home in our care for the seasons you can't be here.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 14

- Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the CO-VID-19 threat. Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.
- Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.
- English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.
- **Chimney Rock Interpretive Asso**ciation Virtual Lecture Series. 7 p.m. Zoom. Join us as Erika Ellingson discusses "Moon Watchers: Did ancient sky observers track the long and subtle cycle of the lunar standstill?" Space is limited to first-come, first served. To join this presentation, you will need the Zoom link and meeting ID located at www.chimneyrockco. org/lecture. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.
- **Principles Before Personalities** Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Friday, Jan. 15

- HER Story. A women's group providing a safe, supportive space to grow and heal as you share your story. An opportunity to meet other women in your community in a peer-supported group focused on healing from trauma, abuse or violence. In-person meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19. If you are interested in a virtual option, email us at contactus@ riseaboveviolence.org.
- Take and Make DIY. 2-3 p.m. Facebook. We will provide the common household ingredients needed to make your own liquid laundry soap. Join us as Brad shows how to combine the ingredients and finish with a gallon of laundry soap that can be used for 64 loads. Take-and-make ingredient kits will be available while supplies last. Water not included. Call 264-2209 for more information.

The Good News Club. 2-4 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman

Park Drive. A program for children in K-6th grade. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Jan. 16

- Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 10 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Please park behind the church for closer access to the fellowship hall. There are many beginning-of-the-year business matters to attend to. Be sure to bring your show and tell. Plan on practicing safety measures against COVID-19 and skip this meeting if you've been traveling or had company.
- Discovery Time. 2:30 p.m. Facebook. For all ages. New videos are posted to Facebook each Saturday. View to explore new games, art ideas, science experiments, history, activities, and more. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tuesday, Jan. 19

- Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details.
- Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.
- Teen Book Club. 4-5 p.m. Zoom. 6th-12th grades. Join us for a lively discussion about this month's book, "Slay," by Brittany Morris. Stop by the library to pick up a copy. To join the session, go to https://us02web. zoom.uz/j/82245964216. Call 264-2209 for more information.
- English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.
- Community in Conversation. 6-7:30 p.m., Zoom. Join us for a Zoom discussion group on topics of importance to our town. Herb Grover will lead a discussion on environmental stewardship. If you'd like to attend, send your email address to sarah.riehm@gmail.com to receive the Zoom invitation. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- **Principles Before Personalities** Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park

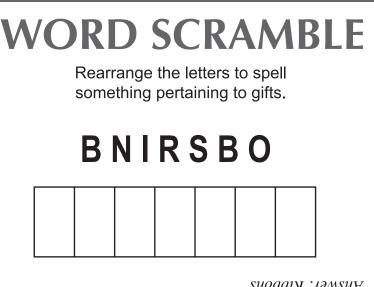
Drive. A program for children ages 3-5. Includes Bible time, songs, crafts, games and more. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

- Family Storytime. 10 a.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m., you can interact with Josie. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.
- Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.
- Dungeons and Dragons. 4-6 p.m. Teens and young adults. Join us on Google Meet for our ongoing
- See Calendar on next page

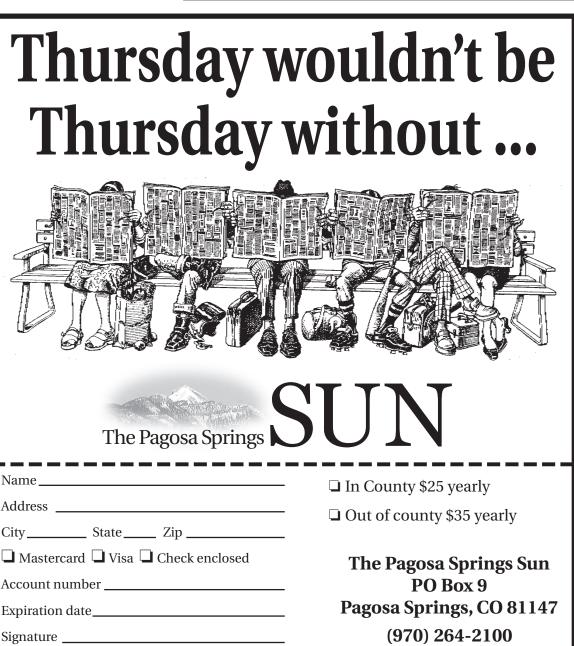


All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The tollfree number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



snoddiA : YswenA



Preview Calendar

continued from previous page game. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

Thursday, Jan. 21

- Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.
- **Tech Time by Appointment.** Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.
- English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.
- Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Friday, Jan. 22

- HER Story. A women's group providing a safe, supportive space to grow and heal as you share your story. An opportunity to meet other women in your community in a peer-supported group focused on healing from trauma, abuse or violence. In-person meetings have been postponed due to COVID-19. If you are interested in a virtual option, email us at contactus@ riseaboveviolence.org.
- Literary Ladies Book Club. 10:15 a.m.-noon. Zoom. The book club will be discussing "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng. Copies are available. The Zoom meeting ID is 838 1714 5986 and the passcode is 81147. Call 264-2209 for more information.
- The Good News Club. 2-4 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children in K-6th grade. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more

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information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Jan. 23

- **Discovery Time.** 2:30 p.m. Facebook. For all ages. New videos are posted to Facebook each Saturday. View to explore new games, art ideas, science experiments, history, activities and more. Call 264-2209 for more information.
- **LEGO Challenge.** 10 a.m. Facebook. Break out your LEGO bricks and join the challenge. A new challenge will be presented each month. See the specifications and see what you can create. No LEGOs? No problem. Stop by and pick up a grab bag that will help you complete the challenge. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

- Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details. Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Center-
- Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Masks are required. Appointments highly recommended. Eat a good meal, drink plenty of water and bring a picture ID. Email dianeunheard@gmail.com or call Diane Levison at (602) 770-6565 to sign up. Sponsor code: centerchurch. All successful donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies.
- Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call

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264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

- English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.
- **Community in Conversation.** 6-7:30 p.m., Zoom. Join us for a Zoom discussion group on topics of importance to our town. Herb Grover will lead a discussion on environmental stewardship. If you'd like to attend, send your email address to sarah.riehm@gmail.com to receive the Zoom invitation. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004. Submit your calendar items to editor@ pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by

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HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Pre-Service Supervisor. The Pre-Service Supervisor is to provide timely review of admissions to observation and inpatient for prior authorization and ensure the requests meet Milliman Care Criteria; in conducting the reviews, the employee must apply his/her clinical education to evaluate and make independent judgments. In addition, this position ensures that payers that do not require prior authorization also meet Milliman Care Criteria, evaluates best course of action, and makes decisions following evaluation of options. This position provides feedback to the providers on the status of patients in observation and inpatient. The Pre-Service Supervisor will promote the quality and cost effectiveness of patient care using clinical acumen. Additionally, the Pre-Service Supervisor will prepare documentation, perform audits of patient records, and assist management as needed. This position will also direct. supervise, and coordinate daily activities for Radiology scheduling, Insurance Verification, outpatient pre-certification (Radiology, Echo, and Holter Monitor), and Financial Counseling. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter. org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

HILLSIDE INN IS LOOKING for a team player to join our housekeeping staff. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Please send your resume to hillsideinnpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

RETAIL LIQUOR STORE needs reliable, dependable sales clerk. Raise after training. Some lifting required. Must have good attendance record. PU app at PLAZA LIQUOR downtown.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

WANTED FRONT DESK and housekeeping. Pay depends on experience. No phone calls, please. Apply in person only, 191 E. Pagosa Street.

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

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Medical Technologist. The Tech performs technical analytical procedures requiring knowledge and techniques in areas such as hematology, chemistry, special chemistry, microbiology, blood bank, serology, urinalysis, coagulation and phlebotomy as ordered by the physicians. Performs routine maintenance and troubleshooting for laboratory instrumentation. Performs, records and participates in evaluation of Quality Control for tests conducted. Must have at least an Associate's degree in Laboratory Sciences with Medical Technologist certification. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center s an EEO employer.

HELP WANTED

PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING a yard associate/ driver. Lumber experience is a plus. Duties include 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 and dental insurance for full time employees. Please apply in person or contact Darrin at (970)731-4111.

CABE'S COLLISION & CUSTOMS LLC is hiring automotive refinisher/ painter. Must have experience, attention to detail, strong work ethic. Pay depending on experience. Call to set up interview (970)731-4600.

CLEANERS, UP TO \$15/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

FULL-TIME DRIVER NEEDED. Must have Class B CDL with hazmat endorsement as well as current health card, be able to pass random drug and alcohol screenings, willing to work some overtime, altering weekends and on call shifts during winter. Basic computer skills are preferred. Čall 264-5823 for an application or pick one up in person at 1040 E. Hwy. 160.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Patient Screener. This position will be responsible to greet and acknowledge all patients, family members, and visitors of Pagosa Springs Medical Center in a friendly, professional, courteous, and helpful manner. The screener will screen all patients, guests and visitors before entry. Clinical experience preferred but not mandatory. This position is four ten-hour shifts per week. Applications may be picked up at PSMC registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

THE ARCHULETA COUNTY SHERIFF'S Office is looking for a part-time Food Service Assistant. This opportunity works up to 29 hours per week, including evenings, weekends and holidays. Starting pay \$16.48 per hour. Visit our website ArchuletaCounty.org for more information and to apply online.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a CNA. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

TRANSPORTATION/ TOUR OPERATOR SEEKING a computer savvy team person. Must be able to multitask and handle a fast paced position. Some benefits available. Apply in person. 3505 Hwy. 160 in the lobby of the Best Western at WJP/PRO. Drivers wanted: \$13/hour to start plus tips. Clean driving record and must be able to pass a drug test.

MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM is a fast growing, successful Pizza Brand. Are you looking for a career opportunity and not just a job? We are looking for full- and part-time people. Amazing opportunity for career progression. Wonderful teams- ain't no Family like a Pizza Family. Apply in person at 175 Pagosa Street. Pagosa Springs, CO.

MASSAGE THERAPIST WANTED at Overlook Hot Springs. Minimum pay- \$37.50/ hour, tips-17-18%. Full-time, part-time or on call positions available. Apply in person.

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING:

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware is accepting applications for a full time accounting clerk.

Job duties include all Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable responsibilities so an accounting background is highly desirable. Proficient computer skills and excellent people skills are a must. The ideal candidate is detail oriented, dependable, and eager to learn. Apply at Terry's Ace at 525 Navajo Trail Drive.



FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Compliance Coordinator. This position provides administrative support to the Director of Clinical Value and to the departments that make up the clinical value suite (Compliance, Quality, Regulatory Reporting and Information Technology). Responsible for administrative management of the occurrence reporting system and the policy management system. Administers the Contract Management Process. Maintains documentation of Quality and Performance Improvement committees. Assists with daily tasks. projects, and initiatives for the organization that may vary from day to day. Must be able to adapt to a rapidly changing environment and assist, as directed, in various duties throughout the organization. Organized, efficient and functions independently when required. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is accepting applications for Float Support Staff. This position provides support to multiple departments; clinical or nonclinical where needed. Must be able to adapt to a rapidly changing environment and assist, as directed, in various duties throughout the organization. Must be flexible and able to work different shifts. Successful candidates must be able to work independently with very little supervision, professional, reliable, and possess excellent communication skills both oral and written. Applications may be picked up at the human resources office, or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes may be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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., Padosa

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS WINE AND LIQUOR hiring part-time clerk. Nights and weekends required. Apply at store. (970)731-5039.

PEAK DELI SEEKING SAFE and serious line/ prep cook for full-time work. Must be a multi-tasker. No calls. Stop by for application.

HELP WANTED



Archuleta Housing is looking for an experienced Office Assistant with the following skills:

- Administrative experience; Computer knowledge including
- OuickBooks & Microsoft Office: Customer service skills;
- Background check required.
- This is a Part-Time position starting at \$15/hour.

Please email resume and cover letter to Nicole Holt at: Nicole. ArchHouse@gmail.com

EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION HELP **NEEDED.** Reliable transportation required. Excellent pay based on experience . Please call (970)403 5119.

USE YOUR CAREGIVING TALENTS to help others stay in their home. Training and flexible schedule. LifeCare (970)516-1234

POWDER PORTRAITS IS CURRENTLY seeking outgoing sales oriented individuals to train as ski photographers. No experience necessary. Weekend and holiday periods included. Ski pass, \$15- \$20/ hour including commission, travel reimbursement. Applicants must know how to ski or snowboard and own appropriate ski or ride equipment. Call (970)880-0180.

THE 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Probation Department is accepting applications for a Fulltime Probation Officer at the Pagosa Springs location. Application period ends on 1/15/2021. For job description and application submission, please go to the state's website at www.courts. state.co.us

KIP'S GRILL AND CANTINA is looking for hard working, responsible and fun people to join our kitchen staff. Experience preferred. Apply in person.

THE DEL NORTE JR/SR HIGH School is seeking a qualified Secondary Social Studies Teacher. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher and possess or be able to obtain a Colorado Teaching License with a Secondary Social Studies endorsement. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Aaron Horrocks at ahorrocks@urtigers.co or contact Aaron at (719)657-4020. Applications can be accessed online at www.urtigers.co.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. We need a part-time dishwasher. Beginning pay is \$14/ hour then a raise after 45 days. Please see Chef Travis Wednesday-Sunday after 1p.m. We are looking for Line Cooks full time, starting pay \$15/ hour. Please see Chef Travis Wednesday- Sunday after 1p.m.

NOW HIRING FOR GENERAL laborers. No experience necessary. Se habla espanol. (918)633-7216

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking to hire an Administrative Assistant to work in the Public Works Department. Information on the position description. application and deadline can be found on the Town's website at www.pagosasprings.co.gov.

HELP WANTED

JOURNEYMEN MASONS, TENDERS, MA-SON Laborers needed for Pagosa Springs project starting in February. Call Trig Masonry (970)385-4404.

PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE- P/T position. No experience necessary. Competitive pay/ benefits. Energetic. Dependable, multi-tasker a must. Submit resumes to Rocky Mountain PT, 35 Mary Fisher Cir.

PETS

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

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD. DRY AND SEASONED and split. Ready to burn. Free delivery, \$175. (970)731-2902

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-**OWNERS.** Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235. TERESA FOSTER DBA BRIGHT Earth Jewelry. Offering customized gold and silver jewelry. Ring sizing, jewelry repair and restoration. Pagosa Springs. Call (620)339-5726.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$220/ cord. Delivered. Pine, spruce, aspen mix. Also have bundles for \$10. (970)661-3888.

SOUTHWEST STYLE SOFA, GAME table, trash compactor, unique king size headboard, antique sewing machine in cabinet. Call for pictures (970)731-3074

HOUSE FULL OF EXQUISITE FURNISH-INGS. Antique furniture, crystal lamps, tapestry, dining sets, carved sitting chairs, antique glass bookcase, end tables, bedside tables, matching sofa table, coffee table and lamp tables, vanity stools, mirrors, 6-piece bedroom set with 2 bookmatched flame mahogany armoires, French Cheval mirror, real Persian rugs, office furniture, Stressless leather recliner. Plus many other lovely hard to find offerings, 731-3597

NEED FIREWOOD? CALL FIRE&ICE! Get 1 cord split and delivered for \$225 or a HUGE dump truck load for \$400. Pine mix. Contact Dan at (970)582-0006

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle, Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

FORMAL BREAKFRONT CHINA CABINET with scalloped dining table with two leaves. 8 beautifully upholstered chairs. Intricate floral carvings. High end for fine home. \$5,500. 731-3597

USED BOWFLEX MOTIVATOR II, unused condition, \$300. Horizon Fitness Elite 5.1T treadmill, \$250, unused condition. (512)618-2933

ASPEN, PINE, SPRUCE, FIR mix firewood. Split and delivered. \$200 per cord. (970)317-3837.

2 PRISTINE/ LUXURIOUS QUEEN Beautvrest "Black" mattresses, remote control motion adjustable bases. Cost 3.5K each. Sell \$975 each. 731-3597.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

264-2100



BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Newly remodeled 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. (970)946-4773.

BRIGHT OFFICE FOR RENT downtown, upstairs in the Heritage Building. \$300/ month includes utilities, WiFi, conference room and shared kitchen. 946-2728.

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.

PagosaSUN.com

READY TO BUILD. APPROXIMATELY 1/4 acre flat mountain view lot on Morro Circle. Just 5 minutes from Hatcher Lake, with all utilities easily available. \$25,000. Call Wayne (970)946-3720.



Photo courtesy Becky Jacobson

Archuleta County 4-H hosted a food drive drive-by on Dec. 19, 2020, and collected more than 1,000 items for the local food pantries. With the help of the Grinch and Santa, this was the program's most successful food drive yet. The program thanks the community for its generosity.

Simple ways to improve a kitchen pantry

Special to The PREVIEW

People have been spending more time at home in 2020 than in years past, and certain projects around the house have become a priority. One home improvement idea that serves the double benefit of creating organization and making cooking at home more efficient is to reimagine the kitchen pantry.

A pantry is a room or closet where food, beverages and linens or dishes are stored. Pantries can be highly useful spaces that provide ancillary storage in kitchens. Many modern homes are equipped with pantries, but older homes may require some modification to create more useful pantries. Whether starting from scratch or modifying an existing pantry, these tips can help projects go more smoothly.

• Maximize vertical storage. Utilizing vertical areas can help increase storage capacity. Build in extra nooks by investing in undershelf storage baskets. These baskets can instantly create designated areas for different types of ingredients. Homeowners also can look for ways to use the inside of cabinet doors or add extra shelves on walls or in eaves.

• Consider your needs. Figure out which items you would like to store in the pantry and then shop for corresponding storage systems. For example, storage solutions may feature wine bottle racks, baskets for potatoes and other produce, shelving for small appliances, and even pull-out racks for baking pans or cutting boards.

• Use clear storage. Put ingredients in clear, airtight containers of similar dimensions so that you can easily find items you need. Transfer

bulky items, like cereals and baking supplies, to storage containers for uniformity.

• Store bulk items elsewhere. Bulk shopping can be cost-efficient, but bulk items can quickly eat up real estate in the pantry. Designate another area for nonperishable bulk products, like paper goods or canned items, such as in a garage or utility room.

• Pull-out drawers are convenient. Pull-out drawers can reduce the need to seek and reach for items. These drawers conveniently roll out so items in the back can be accessed without disturbing foods in the front. Drawers can be custom built for any pantry space.

• Make it accessible. Think about who will be taking items from the pantry. Put children's snacks on the bottom pantry shelf where they can reach them, and then organize other shelves for adults in the home.

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O. f

Applications Accepted Nov. 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021 Department of Human Services

To see if you gualify (see chart) or call 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435) Online: Colorado.gov/CDHS/LEAP or Coloradopeak.secure.force.com

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MONTHLY GROSS INCOME (60% OF STATE MEDIAN INCOME)
1	^{\$} 2,619
2	^{\$} 3,425
3	^{\$} 4,231
4	^{\$} 5,038
5	^{\$} 5,844
6	^{\$} 6,650
7	^{\$} 6,801
8	^{\$} 6,952
For each additional person over 8	add ^{\$} 151

For application assistance call 970-264-8513. If you or your organization is interested in hosting an outreach event call 970-264-8510.

