PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Local **COVID** testing availability changes

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The availability of testing for asymptomatic individuals in Archuleta County has changed due to the state's move away from using Curative oral swabs for asymptomatic testing, which Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) previously used for its drive-through testing.

Earlier this month, the Food and Drug Administration issued a safety alert about the potential risk of falsenegative results for the tests.

"As of Friday afternoon, the state elected to ... not accept the Curative testing," said PSMC CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb to the Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors Tuesday evening, noting that PSMC is working to determine how much additional testing is needed outside

■ See COVID A8



Photos courtesy Kendra Bridges Pagosa Springs Elementary School fourth-graders learn to cross-country ski with Lindsey Kurt-Mason. Pictured here is Janae Ash's class.

County looks at increasing short-term rental fees

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

Owners of short-term rental (STR) properties in Archuleta County may see an increase to their annual fees, and some may see an increase in their property taxes.

At a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday, Jan. 26, the BoCC heard from Director of Development Services Pamela

According to Flowers, there are currently 583 active STRs in Archuleta County. Of those active STRs, 486 of them are permitted.

The county defines an STR as any rental booking that does not exceed

According to Flowers, there are three different categories of STR

■ See Rental A8

Two snowmobilers stranded overnight on Wolf Creek Pass



Photo courtesy The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management set up rescue operations at Fall Creek Road Sunday after a father and son became stranded near Treasure Mountain on Wolf Creek Pass.

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

On Sunday, Jan. 24, two snowmobilers, a father and son, were stranded overnight near Treasure Mountain on Wolf Creek Pass.

According to Archuleta County Director of Emergency Operations Mike Le Roux, the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center received a call at approximately 5:10 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 24, for two snowmobilers who had become stranded in the Fall Creek drainage area on the southeast side of Treasure Mountain.

The party became "immobilized due to conditions," Le Roux said.

He explained that the party had parked

their vehicle at the parking area at the top of Wolf Creek Pass on U.S. 160. He went on to note that the party had

some navigational issues which led them downhill into the Fall Creek drainage area, where their snowmobiles were unable to climb back uphill or continue downhill and became stuck due to the amount of snow held in the drainage.

The dispatch center was able to contact the snowmobilers directly and obtain the coordinate points for their location.

Le Roux explained that the stranded party was able to provide their coordinate points by referencing the map application on a smartphone.

The coordinates plotted the snowmobilers at the top end of the Fall Creek drainage, according to Le Roux.

He went on to explain that a crew from Upper San Juan Search and Rescue and a crew from the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office's emergency operations were mobilized

and made their way to a turnout near mile marker 163 on U.S. 160, close to Forest Service Road 039, also known as Fall Creek Road.

Le Roux then needed to coordinate with Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and Colorado State Patrol (CSP) through the Montrose Interagency Dispatch Center to have CDOT plow the area, as there was nearly 2 feet of snow piled up in the area where search and rescue crew needed to access with their vehicles.

He noted that CDOT was able to show up and plow the area within 15 minutes.

By this time, multiple agencies were on scene including Archuleta County emergency operations, Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, CSP, CDOT and the Mineral County Sheriff's Office.

■ See Stranded A8

Town considers LPEA franchise agreement, 2 percent fee

Bv Chris Mannara

Ordinance 947, approved on first reading by the Pagosa Springs Town Council at a regular meeting on Jan. 21, would establish a franchise agreement with La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) and would also implement a fee that would be used toward burying overhead power lines.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained that the agreement is a utility franchise agreement, adding that this is something that has been in the works for many years.

According to agenda documentation, the town has nonexclusive franchise agreements with every utility that conducts business within the town limits except for LPEA.

Those agreements dictate how certain utilities locate infrastructure and use public property and rights of way, among other things, agenda documentation notes.

Colorado state law requires a

■ See Franchise A8

Town truck stolen, recovered

Bv Clayton Chaney

Staff Writer

An early morning snowy joyride did not last long for the person who stole a Town of Pagosa Springs work truck Tuesday.

On Jan. 26, at approximately 7:30 a.m., the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) was notified that a town parks work truck had been stolen.

According to a press release from the PSPD, the work truck was stolen from the 400 block of San Juan Street. The truck had been left running unattended with the keys still in the vehicle.

The press release goes on to state that PSPD officers located the stolen vehicle traveling along U.S. 84 with a single male occupant driving the

The suspect was later identified as Carl Matthews, 34, of Pagosa

PSPD officers attempted to stop the vehicle, at which point Matthews "refused to stop, and collided with a marked police vehicle causing minor damage," according to the press release.

Shortly after, the stolen vehicle came to a stop near the intersection of U.S. 84 and County Road 119.

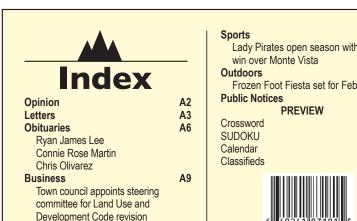
Matthews was then taken into custody, according to the press release.

Matthews was charged with second-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft, first-degree criminal trespassing, theft and driving a vehicle while license revoked as habitual traffic offender.

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22 24



Opinion





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SUN STAFF

Publisher/Editor Terri House, editor@pagosasun.com

Assistant Editor

Randi Pierce, randi@pagosasun.com Reporters

Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com Chris Mannara, chris@pagosasun.com Simone Mounsamy, simone@pagosasun.com

Business Development

and Circulation Manager Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

Business Development

Simone Mounsamy, simone@pagosasun.com Head Pressman Robert Penton

Assistant Pressman Lawrence Castolenia

Mailroom Staff

William Thomas Classified Advertising/Front Office

Missy Phelan, classads@pagosasun.com Shana Young-Gawdun, classads@pagosasun.com

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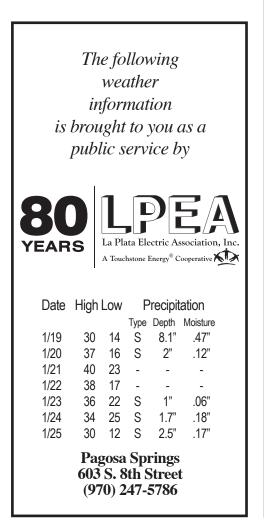
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EDITORIAL

Winter: Adverse conditions create challenges

have brought back memories of the winters that longtime Pagosans experienced back in "the good old days."

There was even enough snow for school administrators to cancel classes for one day, which left many locals saying, "They used to never cancel school when I went to school here.

The town took its regular all-handson-deck approach as crews worked to clear snow. County and Colorado Department of Transportation crews were out well before daylight working to open our roadways.

Avalanche control is now called "winter road maintenance" up on Wolf Creek Pass and it was closed two times in a week to shoot down the avalanches. The ski area reported 51 inches of snow in seven days.

Family, friends and neighbors helped each other remove snow from sidewalks, decks and driveways throughout the community. If you haven't done it already, be sure to find your fire hydrant and shovel it out in case of fire.

There's nothing like discovering that neighbors and friends have already plowed your roadway for you. That's how things come together in Pagosa Country.

Those of us who have lived here for some time are accustomed to these bigger snowstorms, but we don't always stop and think about our snowplow drivers, utility crews and emergency snowiest month of the year.

Poll results (107 votes)

Vote this week online:

What is the worst part

about driving in winter?

www.pagosasun.com

Ski gear — 7 percent

Yoga pants — 54 percent

Bike spandex — 3 percent

Basketball shorts — 36 percent

Storms over the past couple of weeks services personnel who step up to the challenge of opening roadways, restoring services and keeping us safe regardless of the weather or the time of the year.

The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) along with Wolf Creek Ski Area's ski patrol successfully found and rescued two snowmobilers on Wolf Creek Pass. Those snowmobilers spent the night in the storm.

The OEM also assisted in accessing an elderly patient with a medical emergency using a UTV with tracks when the road to the home hadn't been plowed.

We are blessed here in Archuleta County to have the staff, volunteers and equipment needed to help in a variety of weather conditions.

We even saw a fine example of law enforcement ably recovering a stolen town vehicle within a short time of Archuleta County Combined Dispatch announcing details of the theft.

A sincere thank you to everyone for

This week's adverse weather conditions also kept law enforcement and emergency crews responding across the region to numerous accidents. Towing companies were on call to pull unlucky people out of ditches. Multiple cars slid off the road, rolled and even rear-ended road-clearing equipment.

We haven't even made it to the

Is your vehicle ready for winter? Have you made certain you have adequate tread on your tires? Have you checked your antifreeze levels? Do your defroster and rear window defogger work? A flashlight and snow scraper are a must, and snowboots and a blanket should be in your auto, too. You might even consider putting a snow shovel in the car. Some people swear by having kitty litter or sand in their vehicle to give the vehicle traction.

Winter can bring a combination of slush, ice, snow and lower temperatures to our already-shorter daylight hours, creating hazardous driving conditions.

Besides driving too fast for weather conditions, some of the leading causes of fatal roadway crashes are failure to keep in the proper lane or running off the road, driving under the influence, failure to yield the right of way, distracted driving, operating in an erratic or reckless manner, and failure to obey traffic signs and signals.

Wintertime is time to slow down and allow for extra time to get to your destination. Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads.

If you have to be out when the road conditions are less than desirable, we encourage you to slow down and, as always, put your seat belt on.

If you don't have to be out, stay home and keep off the roads. The life you save just might be your own.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Archuleta County Commissioners Steve Wadley 264-8304 Alvin Schaaf

264-8305 Pagosa Springs Town Council Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger ddvolger@gmail.com

Matt DeGuise Madeline Bergon mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov Nicole Pitcher

Mat deGraaf mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov Shari Pierce

spierce@pagosasprings.co.gov Rory Burr rburnett@pagosasprings.co.gov

LOOKING BACK



WHADDYA THINK?

What is the most comfortable

workout clothing?

36%

From the Jan. 24, 1974, Pagosa Springs SUN. IN THE AIR ACTION — A high leap by a Mancos player was graceful, but it didn't stop Pagosa Pirate Trujillo in his drive down the court towards the basket. The action was in a game between Pagosa Springs and Mancos last Friday night on the Pagosa floor. The Mancos team is leading in the league this year.

BOBBOZO'S WEATHER OR NOT RIGHT-MY FORECAST FOR TODAY DIDN'T QUITE PAN OUT... .. But, you **CAN ALWAYS STAY** HOME AND KEEP WARM... I CAN'T GET HOME - I'M STUCK IN THREE-FOOT OF YOUR PARTLY CLOUDY!

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago Taken from SUN files of

January 28, 1921

Doll Pargin left yesterday for Des Moines, Iowa, to attend a sale of registered cattle for the express purpose of buying a Polled Hereford whiteface bull to add to his increasing herd of fine stock on his Piedra ranch.

Miss Blanche Thayer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Thayer of Debs, was brought to town Tuesday suffering from an attack of acute appendicitis. Wednesday evening she underwent an operation at the Mrs. C.V. Minner home, Dr. R.L. Downing of Bayfield performing the surgery. The patient at last report was getting along as well as could be expected.

Clifford Woolsey of Coyote park has been suffering with appendicitis the past week and will go to Durango shortly for an operation.

An entertainment will be given at the high school building on Friday night, Feb. 11th, to which the public is invited and urged to attend. The purpose is to finish paying for the Edison phonograph, purchased by the school some time ago.

75 years ago Taken from SUN files of

February 1, 1946

Melvin Hazelwood, veteran of the Pacific and CBE theatres of war, advertises the opening of his new jewelry store in the Robertson Shoe Shop, in this week's Sun. Mr. Hazelwood owned and operated such a business here before entering the service, and Pagosa Springs is glad to welcome him home. His previous experience with watch repairing, and his 4 years of army work with precision instruments in the Air Corps combine to assure his customers of efficient service. May continued success be his.

Fred Nossaman will re-open the Standard Service Station here February 15th. He will do auto repair work. Mr. Nossaman has been with the Reclamation Service for several years, and has been living at Mancos. He and Mrs. Nossaman and their little son, Wade, will move to Pagosa Febr. 10th. Mr. Nossaman is well known in this community, having been reared here. He is a son of Mrs. Ida Nossaman of Pagosa Springs, and The Sun bespeaks the business interests of the town in extending a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Nossaman and little son.

50 years ago Taken from SUN files of

January 28, 1971

Several members of the Pagosa Sno-Goers club participated in amateur races at Vallecito last Sunday. Many of them were among the winners in various events. Listed as winners were: Nellie Snow, 1st in powderpuff oval; Briana Jacobson, 2nd in powderpuff oval; Lorna Grove 1st in kids 8-12 age drag; Dick Snow, 2nd in men's oval; Carl Snow, 3rd in men's oval; and Lloyd Grove, 3rd in the cross country race.

Terry Alley has been issued a contract to teach in the local schools. He is one of the ever-increasing number of former graduates who are teaching in the local school system. Mr. Alley was a star athlete while attending the local schools. He was also active in scholastic activities. After graduating from Pagosa High, Mr. Alley attended Ft. Lewis College in Durango and obtained his degree from there. He is married, has one daughter, and the family is now residing in Pagosa Springs.

25 years ago Taken from SUN files of

February 1, 1996

A capacity crowd filled the county commissioners meeting room Saturday morning and visited with Sen. Ben Alexander on a variety of topics. Most of the almost two-hour sessions focused on matters related to public education. Alexander said a bill under consideration would allow juvenile courts to notify school administrators about students whose court records indicate the youth has violent tendencies. The bill allows for such information to be forwarded to subsequent schools should the student transfer to another school.

Superintendent Terry Alley asked Alexander to give a close look at a bill that reportedly lists specific functions that boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) programs "shall" provide the school districts they serve. Stating that the needs of Archuleta County schools and other schools served by the San Juan Basin BOCES program differ from the needs of school districts in other parts of the state, Alley asked if the wording could be changed to "may provide" rather than shall.



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

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

'Make life better'

Intelligence is between the ears; intelligence is not a skin color. Take 100 people and about 5 of those people will be crazy. Yet, just sane enough to convince most of others to bring out their crazy side. Jim Jones is good example. Jones was just sane enough to convince hundreds of people to drink Cool aid laced with cyanide and commit suicide and have their children drink too. Don't bring out your crazy side. Be a leader; not a follower. Make life better.

Ron Alexander

'Blood on their blades'

Dear Editor:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service -Migratory Bird Program estimates that between 140,000 and 500,000 birds die each year due to windmill turbine collisions. The U.S. Energy Information Administration states that windmill turbines last about 20 to 25 years, while some only 14 years before becoming defunct. Active ones produce energy only when the wind is blowing. What is left when they stop working is an eyesore of a giant tombstone depicting a killing field where thousands of birds have died. These so called "clean energy" wind machines have blood on their blades. Is that what some of you want? Pass it on.

Paula Bain

Three strikes and you are in

The 73rd Colorado General Assembly is in session. Well maybe, on Jan. 13, a 10 a.m. session was called to order, roll call was taken, the usual opening day speeches from the majority and minority leaders and bills were introduced. It sounded like an opening day. The audio was normal, but perhaps a little muffled, visual was different. Members wore masks, a little more separation and, of course, plastic shields between desks.

Opening day was far more like a special session rather than the be-



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All letters must:

be 500 words or less be signed by the author, unless

include the author's phone

number and address be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday), email

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

submissions are preferred

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

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

prior to the election.

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

ginning of the 120-day normal session. The object was to start session as required by the Constitution, pass the half dozen or so bills then recess to Feb. 16 or a date to be determined. A bill dealing with financial relief for small businesses, allowing political parties to meet remotely and legislative procedures during a disaster were the bulk of the time.

Spirited debates on Joint Rule 44 was the only contested discussion. With one party control of both chambers, minority members felt left out in the process. This significant rule was done without any input from the minority party. In my 10 years in the General Assembly, I have never heard of such. The minority party only had about 36 hours prior to introduction, as to what the changes are in the rules. We have operated under temporary rules in all the time I have been in the General Assembly. I have been told that this may have been happening since the 1980s. This was a prime example of the moving of the goal posts. I would hope this never happens again. Minority party, whether Republican or Democrat should be at the table. I understand that the minority gets its say and the majority gets its way. At least the minority is on the record. Rule 44 passed on a party line vote. This was not a good tone to set for a new session. I hope lesson learned and the General Assembly can do the peoples business and refrain from party politics.

The hard luck bill of the 72nd General Assembly was finally resolved. As you recall the second half of the 72nd General Assembly was an abbreviated session, just as the beginning of the 73rd. A sunset bill in regards the licensure of Occupational Therapists was introduced in the previous session. This was the beginning of three strikes. From drafting, introduction and final passage, a lot of time had passed. Problem was the bill had a petition clause rather than a safety clause. A safety clause bill becomes law on the signature of the governor. A petition clause gives 90 days for the general public to petition it to go to the ballot before it becomes law. If no petition is filed, it becomes law on the 90th day. Problem was the election was too close to allow the 90 days for the public to exercise this right. Legal services said that is probably OK, but the revisor of statutes said no it is not. I will not be going into statute.

On Nov. 30, the governor called us back to special session to deal with COVID-19 issues. The occupational therapists was again introduced Sorry, the Senate Finance Committee kills the bill because it does not meet the requirements of the call of the governor. Low and behold on the third try, the Occupational Therapists Act passes, is signed by the governor. Folks, you just can't make this up. Government at its best.

On the opening day, I found a black mask on my desk with the insignia of the state capitol. I chose to wear it upside down. A ship at sea when in distress flies the flag up-side down. I am writing this article on the day of a new administration. Our state and our nation are in distress. A house divided cannot stand. We are the United States of America, not the Divided States of America. We have allowed the divisive factors from both political parties to nearly destroyed the Greatest Nation in the World. We are better than that.

Sen. Don Coram Post office trash

Dear Editor: Opening mail at the post office is one thing. Leaving your trash on the counter is disgusting. We need to grow up.

Phyl Daleske

'Make a small sacrifice'

Dear Editor:

High School, I was astonished by the camaraderie amongst the student body. How almost every girl in school would engage with one of our special talents students who would start up each conversation with "Nice shoes." Or when a nerdier, fringe student sang a rendition of "Hallelujah" at the talent show, and the auditorium was aglow as a cellphone waved in the hand of every audience member. In over a decade of teaching here, I have been witness to countless moments of students supporting, uplifting, and loving one another. The youth in our community inspire me everyday, and we all can learn much from them. Together we have taught (and raised) the children of this community to be kind, to solve problems, to help each other. Why can't we now teach them about

railroad, guided fly fishing and eat-

ing in local restaurants. We hosted

family and friends. I don't know

how many times I climbed Treasure

Falls and went up Chimney Rock.

I would guess we spent between

\$5,000 and \$8,000 (including the

in October 2017, we even made use

of the Pagosa Springs Medical Cen-

ter, where the highly competent

doctors and nurses attended to my

2020 because of the pandemic,

and given the situation now, I don't

District is now represented by a

radical Republican, who spoke

for sedition on the House floor on

Wednesday, Jan. 13. As long Lauren

Boebert represents your area in

Congress, we'll spend our tourist

'Be truthful and

I found it ironic to read Peg Ellis's

statement, "Facts are not up for

debate, that's why they're facts."

(Letters, January 21, 2021) This is

after a letter presenting opinions

and hearsay unsubstantiated by

any evidence as "facts." There are

hundreds of videos showing the

insurrectionists storming the Capi-

tol building, giving a broad picture

of all areas inside and outside of

the building. Credible sources, in-

cluding the FBI, have determined

that these so called "patriots" were

overwhelmingly supporters of

President Trump, not Antifa plants,

as Ms. Ellis incorrectly states. Sadly,

unless Fox and other networks and

many of our elected officials stop

promoting lies, people will con-

tinue to fall prey to misinformation.

I do not "hate this nation," but I'm

dismayed by the name calling and

blaming that divides us. Let's try

harder to be truthful and respectful,

I never imagined or dreamed

when I moved to Pagosa 20 years

ago what an impact a small moun-

tain community would have on

my life. I drove away from Pagosa

in late October, leaving behind a

place and a people and a piece of

my heart. I found magic and pas-

sion and love through my work

with theater, and music and dance.

I developed deep and long-lasting

friendships and relationships with

Pagosa folks of all ages that I will

take with me on my next adven-

ture. I was able to share and enjoy

the place, the performing arts and

everything in between with my son

Jesse during his high school, college

and beyond years. I was given the

gift of a beautiful stage where over

■ See Letters A5

Jan Hester

even when we disagree.

'Break a leg'

Terry Ganey

Columbia, Mo.

know if we'll ever return.

dollars elsewhere.

respectful'

Dear Editor:

We missed coming out there in

Colorado's 3rd Congressional

wife during a gall bladder attack.

Once when we were out there,

house rental.)

For nearly a full school year we have switched between remote learning, hybrid learning, and in-person learning, sometimes changing in the course of a day. This has been difficult for students, their families, and for teachers alike. We hear that "schools need to return to full-time instruction." Every teacher wants that. Some say, "students aren't successful in online learning;" "their mental health is suffering." Many in our student population depend on the meals, the safety, and the routine that schools provide. All of these are valid points upon which everyone agrees. We want these things for our children, but we want them at the expense of the health and safety of our educators.

sacrifice, about resilience?

Our community wants us to teach their children, providing a stability that has been hard to find in the last year. Teachers want to teach -- this is a calling for so many of us; I truly believe that the education and ultimate success of this next generation will make or break the world in which we live. Our community expects teachers and staff to take the recommended precautions in order to teach safely through this pandemic. Unfortunately, the burden of protecting ourselves has fallen solely on educators when we are only a small population of town. The fact is that many members of our community do not practice the safety guidelines (outlined by our own SJBH) outside of school hours. This unwillingness to do what's best for our community jeopardizes the health and safety of all and disrupts the education of our students, eventually stopping in-person learning once again.

From spending our own money on classroom supplies, to wearing N95 masks eight hours a day, to even becoming a human shield, teachers have always been willing to make sacrifices. It's for the good of our youth, our future. Is it really too much to ask that our community make a small sacrifice for us? Let's pledge to wear our masks in public, social distance whenever possible, and refrain from gatherings. And let's -- all of us -- model that sacrifice, that resiliency for the young people of Pagosa Springs.

This pandemic seems like a marathon, but we can see the finish line in the distance. Let's cross it together, having supported each other with empathy and compassion. It's what our students would

Darcy DeGuise

'We won't be back'

Dear Editor:

After several years of vacationing in Southwestern Colorado, I'm writing to inform you we won't be back anytime soon. We rented a house in Pagosa Springs during the entire month of July 2019, and took part in all the touristy things--the springs, whitewater rafting on two different streams, zip lining in Durango, playing golf, the old time

When I started at Pagosa Springs





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"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."

That daily death rate reminds us that we

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 been laid to rest.

also are mortal. One day death will knock on our door. Knowing that, what should 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.

Ioin us ... Sunday

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Letters

■ Continued from A4

thousands of hours and many years I was able to create, sing, dance and perform over a hundred plays and musicals through both the Performing Arts Department at PSHS and our beloved Community Theater Curtains Up Pagosa. I was able to live among mountains and rivers, sunshine and blue skies, gorgeous light and most importantly surrounded by a community of people who made me feel safe and loved and that I had the honor and privilege of walking with for a while. Adios, Shalom, Aloha, Peace, Break a Leg. May the force be with you.

Much love, Dale Johnson

Due diligence

Dear Editor:

Let's consider honestly asking ourselves - How many of us are willing to independently search for documentation, either confirming truth in reporting, or revealing the "spin" embedded in headline news we read and hear? It appears that perhaps a majority are soaking in similar media platforms, enshrining them as truth tellers.

If we want unity and integrity, would we consider checking out at least one of numerous reports, revealing who actually stormed the typically, most protected, impenetrable Capitol?

One such article - link is in-

https://www.theepochtimes. com/black-lives-matter-activistwho-stormed-capitol-on-jan-6-arrested-charged_3657333. html?utm_source=share-btncopylink&st=kNXaqTJfkCp_Tl-KxvNRGKi8Zv8VUmw9p7RQ42awM_zMk8kGKpxv8sjo7D0SoSQTdBK6t1LA0Jb3xwrABHRHk-OgH2XJb7LOBXDc

Unfortunately, we may be content with justifying convenient half truths in the comfort of our armchairs, simply because it fits our particular ideology, without willingness to actually do our own due diligence.

> Joan Kelley Gardner, Kan.

Irrational letters

Dear Editor:

By Chris Mannara

The Pagosa Area Water and Sani-

tation District (PAWSD) approved

changes to non-rate revenues and

set the schedule of fees and charges

tation, most of the non-rate rev-

enues are related to changes

that have been made to service

include changes to water and

wastewater connections, which,

according to agenda documenta-

tion, vary annually depending

upon quotes received for appli-

cable equipment inside the meter

pit, inside the pit, and the cost of

were recalculated according to a

prescribed formula, with water

equity buy-in fees decreasing by

\$106 and wastewater equity buy-in

fees going down by \$102 as a result

of "no major additions to assets and

uity buy-in fees will go from \$5,044

to \$4,938 per equivalent unit (EU).

Wastewater equity buy-in fees will

The affordable housing water

surcharge will increase from

\$0.68 to \$0.69 and the standard

go from \$3,897 to \$3,795 per EU.

Additional changes

Within the changes, water eq-

Additionally, equity buy-in fees

the radio read equipment.

ongoing depreciation."

Changes that are highlighted

According to agenda documen-

for 2021 at a meeting on Jan. 14.

Staff Writer

charges.

I am constantly amazed at the letters to the editor from people in our area that are almost irrationally screaming out ad hominem attacks with zero evidence to support it. Seems like this must be cathartic for those with low information sources, and are swallowed up by fake news sources who have them well in control. The various groups interested in law and truth in Pagosa and surrounds have repeatedly offered these purveyors of pablum regurgitated from their fake news masters to actually come together and provide the

but over the last 15 years, none of them have been willing to do this in a public forum. Wonder why. The Jan. 14th issue of the Sun had a nonstop barrage of rants, that are provably wrong, and based purely on emotions and hearsay, which is not evidence of any kind. Those of us who are swayed by emotions are easy targets of fake news. Proving all things takes some actual intellectual effort, and wanting to do so takes character that is lacking in many Americans these days. Anyone who would support stealing an election (ah... haven't proven that to yourself yet, have you...or do you support it?) is on a slippery slope and trying to grab as many of us around them as they can to try to support their own position. Does it seem fair to you that letters like those in the Jan 14th Sun are printed but letters from others with a different position are routinely discarded? We can prove that, too. Fearing the truth being told, or even fearing hearing or seeking the truth, is a sure sign of weakness in our society. What part of open and honest dialog are the control matrix dwellers afraid of? Truth only hurts nefarious agendas and those behind them. Already the World Health Organization has backtracked on its advice on the PCR testing and how it was inadequately applied, and how it provided countless false positives supporting the lock downs and instilling fear where it was unwarranted... just after our election fiasco, by the way. A miracle, I'm sure. Misinformation hurts us all. Suppressing discussion is detrimental to every fabric of our Republic. The truth is being exposed, but that doesn't seem to matter to those with financial incentives to maintain fear for money or control over others. Wonder what people will think when they soon learn about it all and those responsible for the lies? Fake news blocks truth. Fake news expects people to believe what they say without proving things. The matrix of fake news has brainwashed far too many of us over the last 60 years, but many are waking up and freeing themselves from the lie slavery they find themselves in. Now, I wonder if this will get published, because, after all, it counters the agenda to continue oppressing people across America, and some don't want it to be seen

evidence... real data on their rants,

Jeff Maehr

Editor's note: According to Politifact, operated by the Poynter Institute, the World Health Organization did not admit it supported testing that resulted in a large number of false positives, but instead issued a notice that "cautions lab technicians that positive results should

or considered by others. Time to

wake up, people.

PAWSD sets fee schedule

\$1,550.

and approves changes

for non-rate revenues

be interpreted with care and in the context of other information, such as clinical observation and patient history, to reduce the risk of false positives."

Self-promotion

Dear Editor:

One of the things astute observers of the 45th president have not failed to notice is his selfpromotion. In the questionable ethics of the twenty-first century, this is taken to be a good thing. It is thought to be necessary in order to beat out the competition.

But we seem to have lost sight of the fact that throughout history self-promotion has not been thought of as a good thing, not even for business people and politicians.

Donald Trump says he is the most popular president in history, and that he has been the best friend to black people since Abraham Lincoln, for example. Everything he does is great, and everything the other guy does is terrible. In the vernacular language of 20thcentury America, this is called tooting your own horn.

Nearly 500 years ago, Shakespeare gave us the rendition of this tune in his day, "The lady doth protest too much." Long before that, the carpenter from Nazareth remarked that "If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true."

"I'm innocent" doesn't play well in court against all the evidence to the contrary. That is why the court requires witnesses to speak up.

A truly good human being allows his reputation to be established out of someone else's mouth. Kimball Shinkoskey Woods Cross, Utah

'Strange letter'

Dear Editor:

What a strange letter by Charles Wenzel published in the Pagosa Sun 1/21/2021.

In it he writes "Our justice system is meant to bring the truth to light. Using tried and tested rules of evidence an unbiased judge allows both sides to bring to light their evidence". He then goes on to make astonishing claims of corruption and election fraud by the Democratic party, without offering a single word of supporting evidence. With

reference to a statement at the beginning of his letter, obviously for Mr. Wenzel "right" really is a matter of opinion disconnected from reality, and driving with your eyes closed does work.

Anthony Steventon

High school seniors

Dear Editor:

Yes, here we are, "into" a new year with hopes for better times. Gee, how time flies, especially for high school seniors. Mercy. Soon you will graduate and then what? As you move forward, don't forget to "love your neighbors as yourselves". As true Americans, your neighbors are your law-abiding, patriotic citizens. As you live to learn, keep before you that all learning must challenge one to seek the truth in all things. That is a requirement for a worthy life.

Seniors, your high school diploma is a "start", but learning will continue at every step towards your future, whether you choose a "road" that requires a college degree, or a different "road" where learning is "hands on". Regardless, as you move through life, be sure that you carry with you the need to always learn more, no matter your way of life, learn all you can about whatever you are doing, recognizing always that there is much more to be learned—that is the road to successful living.

Many college students believe that the diploma they are earning will have a "prize" job waiting for them, but what they fail to recognize is that they only have learned the basics needed, that they still have much to learn and need to humble themselves, accept an entry job and continue learning. That is what successful people do.

So, over the coming months, give serious thought to the road you will travel, whether it be college or "hands on", be ready to "live to learn" while seeking the truth in all things. Wisdom comes only from experiencing what is in those textbooks. My mother's favorite comment regarding "doing": "There's more than one way to skin a cat." Yeah, she lived to learn.

Spread love around. Patty Tillerson

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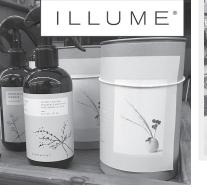
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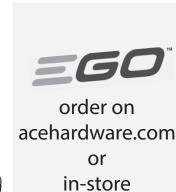


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water system capital investment fee will increase from \$1,079 per EU to \$1,111 per EU. Additionally, the water model data use fee will go from \$62 per EU to \$62.25, with the max increasing from \$6,200 to \$6,225.

three-quarter inch meter will go

from \$1,475 per connection to

ment fee will increase from \$4,898

per EU to \$5,045 per EU. The waste-

The water system capital invest-

For raw water charges, the annual rate will increase from \$145 per EU to \$154 per EU.

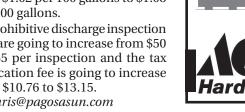
According to the proposed changes, PAWSD, within its own discretion, may allow the residential use of stored raw water to irrigate property that is adjacent to the water source.

PAWSD may also allow water tanker use of stored raw water for construction purposes at a new rate of \$6.14 per 1,000 gallons. This is an increase from the previous rate of \$5.79 per 1,000 gallons.

Additional changes include an increase in potable water fill station and treated water tanker charges from \$1.02 per 100 gallons to \$1.08 per 100 gallons.

Prohibitive discharge inspection fees are going to increase from \$50 to \$55 per inspection and the tax replication fee is going to increase from \$10.76 to \$13.15.

chris@pagosasun.com



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 last few weeks, The SUN has taken a look back at some of those events, selected by SUN staff writers. This week, we look back at October, November and December.

October

• Archuleta School District (ASD) returned to in-person learning four days per week in its legacy schools in October, with kindergarten through sixth grade returning Oct. 5 and most seventh-through 12thgraders returning Oct. 19.

 After about four years being housed in a relatively small office space near the airport, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) got a new home in early October: the former residence of Norma and Fred Harman III.

"We're super excited and it's a great opportunity for us to finally settle in and have a place to call home," Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez said.

• Archuleta County saw an uptick in registered voters ahead of the Nov. 3 election, with Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta explaining that, as of early October, when ballots were mailed, Archuleta County had about 10,200 registered voters, up from about 9,600 for June's presidential primary.

• Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) senior Megan Greenly wrapped up the regular season in big fashion on Oct. 3, finishing first at Mancos' Chicken Creek Challenge.

Greenly was one of several Pirate harriers to finish the regular season strong, with multiple Pirates logging personal records (PRs) and some of their best times of the

• Pagosa's Paul Hughes marked several accomplishments when he crossed the finish line of the Long View Marathon in Loveland on Oct. 4. At two hours, 55 minutes and 44

seconds, Hughes' time landed him eighth overall at the marathon that went from Fort Collins to Loveland, among competitors that were, in some cases, decades younger.

The 63-year-old also finished first in the 60-69 division and broke the previous Colorado marathon record for the division, 2:58:21, which he set in 2018, and it also landed him atop the 60-64 category of the 2020 Virgin Money London Marathon.

• The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and Pagosa Springs Town Council each approved the expenditure of additional funding from the Coronavirus Relief Fund at their respective meetings Oct. 6, with that funding slated to help the medical center and San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH), among others.

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Archuleta County received an allocation of \$1.2 million based on population and the town and county entered into an intergovernmental agreement to evenly split that amount.

"The purpose of these funds is to help our stakeholders in our community, our businesses and our nonprofits that are struggling to respond to COVID, as well as some of the impacts related to COVID, like making changes to their business operations to comply with the public health orders," Town Manager Andrea Phillips told the town council.

• Following the tabling of the adoption of a purchasing policy for the Town of Pagosa Springs at a meeting on Sept. 17, the town council formally approved an ordinance on second reading adopting the policy at a regular meeting on Oct. 6.

The policy touches upon things such as procurement and unbudgeted expenditures.

• At the same meeting, the town council approved an ordinance amending the Town of Pagosa Springs' Land Use and Development Code regarding outdoor commercial establishments.

Prior to the vote, temporary use permit regulations allowed for a temporary business, defined as someone who is operating out of a nonpermanent structure, six calendar months per year, while the new regulations allow for more options.

• PSHS senior Taylor Cotts wrapped up his second appearance at the 3A boys' golf state tournament on Oct. 6 by tying for 56th out

of the classification's top 84 golfers. Cotts shot an 89 on the par-71 course on Oct. 5, which he followed with an 84 on Oct. 6.

• The PSHS Pirate cross-country teams advanced one harrier, senior Gabe Heraty, on to state in October, though the teams finished the season strong at the regional competition, with every Pirate runner either setting a PR or logging their best time of the season.

"I honestly think both teams did great. We had 8 out of 12 runners earn a personal record and the other 4 runners who didn't earn a PR earned a season best time. Every single person ran their best possible race, and that is all we can ask for at the end of the season," coach Rachael Christiansen wrote in an email to The SUN.

Heraty set a PR of 16 minutes, 49 seconds at the regional meet in Durango, finishing third and earning a spot among the 100 3A runners at the state competition.

• On Oct. 10, the Pirate football team opened the season by traveling to Granby to take on the Middle Park Panthers. The Pirates showed up ready to play, beating the Panthers 44-0.

• Like many districts around the state, ASD found itself grappling with declining enrollment figures and the anticipated drop in state funding that comes with the lower student count at the beginning of the school year.

ASD's enrollment and funding information was presented as part of a state-of-the-district report at the Oct. 13 Board of Education meeting, with the district reporting a decline of 128 students.

ASD had "roughly" 1,653 students as of Oct. 1, the state's official count day, the BOE was told.

• In October, the August sales tax revenue data was released, showing that local revenue was up 22.4 percent over August of 2019.

• In mid-October, U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet of Colorado made a stop at Pagosa Springs' Reservoir Hill Park, where he met with representatives of the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership and

heard their plans for funds received through a Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program.

• At its Oct. 13 work session and meeting, the ASD Board of Education discussed and considered two new education buildings slated to be built near PSHS—the career and technical education (CTE) building and a building to house the San Juan Mountain School (SJMS, the district's new alternative high school).

Throughout the course of the evening, the board chose a site near PSHS on South 8th Street for the CTE building and opted to postpone foundation and other site work at the adjacent SJMS site due to increased costs and look into expanding the site to potentially expand SJMS.

• On Oct. 15, Town Clerk April Hessman was named the Colorado Municipal Clerks Association's Clerk of the Year.

• The Pirate football team took on the Alamosa Mean Moose to begin the season's conference play on Oct. 15, with the Pirates winning the game, which also served as their home opener, 46-6.

· Heraty finished off his high school cross-country career with a ninth-place finish at the Oct. 17 state meet in Colorado Springs.

Heraty logged a time of 16 minutes, 58.8 seconds — 51 seconds off the 3A state title time.

"I would say he ran a perfect race," the coach said.

• At the regular meeting of the BoCC held on Oct. 20, the board voted to approve the release of \$4 million of strategic reserve funds in order to ensure sufficient funding for the new justice system court facility set to be located at Harman Park.

• The San Juan River hit a record low flow rate in October. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the San Juan River was flowing at a rate of 24.4 cubic feet per second (cfs) as of 11 a.m. on Oct. 21.

Based on 84 years of water records, that was a record low flow rate for that date. The previous record low flow rate recorded for that date was in 1957 at 25 cfs. The average flow rate for the date is 156 cfs.

 The results of a best-use analysis and a plan for public engagement for land south of Yamaguchi Park was presented to town council at a regular meeting on Oct. 22.

"The site from a geotechnical ■ See Review A7

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Obituaries

Ryan James Lee

Nov. 28, 1984-Nov. 24, 2020 Ryan James Lee, of Boulder, Colo., was born Nov. 28, 1984, and passed away at Seattle Grace Hospital in Washington on Nov. 24, 2020. He was a longtime Pagosa resident, one day shy of moving back to be with his newly wedded wife, Tiffany Lee, and family to start their new married life. They were together 10 years off and on, and married Aug. 19, 2019. They were off on their adventure of life.

He loved the outdoors, the river stepdad, son, uncle to many. His

and loved to travel and was never in one place for very long. Our Jepsy was loved by many and

> was always trying to make you laugh and telling you

your beautiful smile. He was a husband, brother,

outgoing charm radiated rooms with his amazing laugh. And how he could dance like no other. His love for kids and dogs was untouchable, his heart was bigger than no other and even he didn't know how to handle it.

The funeral will be live streamed at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 30, at www.pagosabiblechurch.org/live. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Jan. 30, at the Pagosa Bar with friends and family at 3:30 p.m.

Connie Rose Martin

March 27, 1948-Jan.17 Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and friend left this earth too soon due to COVID-19.

Connie grew up in Michigan and ended up in the Southwest. She was a successful artist in Santa Fe, N.M., and has one of her pieces featured in the Smithsonian.

Connie lived in Pagosa Springs, Colo., for the past 17 years with

her husband, Randy, and beloved dogs. Connie was full of life, had a fantastic sense of humor, loved to fish, always looked for the good in

people and loved animals, and

never passed up a great garage sale. She is proceeded in death by her mother, Rosemary; father, Larry;

and brother, Kevin. She is survived by her husband, Randy; her son, Shane, and family; and daughter Donyelle and family.

She has requested no funeral. There will be a life celebration when things are safer from this horrible pandemic.

Chris Olivarez

Chris Olivarez passed away on field, who had Jan. 20 at Pagosa Springs Medical Center, after a long illness, at age 69.

Well known for over 20 years in Pagosa as the radio voice of Pirate Sports, his radio show "jazz, blues etcetera," "TRADIO," news, everything, whatever, whenever, on KPAG and later, KWUF radio, Chris was an integral member of our community.

Named the recipient of the Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce "citizen of the year" award for his (over) 20 years of covering Pirate Sports from every corner of Colorado, no matter how remote or what the weather, Chris was a walking, talking encyclopedia of boys and girls teams from years past — he loved the teams, the kids (many parents now) and the tradition. Who caught the touchdown pass vs. Cortez, who hit the winning basket in the game against Bay-

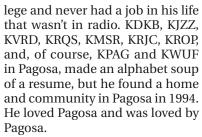
the wickedest serve on 2010's volleyball team — Chris absolutely knew.

He was a lifelong aficio-

nado of jazz and blues music. And this writer confidently alleges that no one anywhere ever knew more about the history and the importance of the music forms that were the growing ground of modern rock and pop.

When a traveler driving through Pagosa on Highway 160 was scanning the FM band on his car radio, he or she may have been surprised to hear B.B. King or John Coltrane firing off on 106.3 or 106.1.

Chris was born in 1951 in Phoenix, Ariz., earned a degree in broadcasting technology at Phoenix Col-



In his honor and memory, love those around you, love where you are, and do what you can to help young people grow and become strong.

Contributions to the Pagosa Springs Humane Society or the Pirate Boosters in Chris' memory will of course be appreciated. Chris was an organ and tissue donor, and two people will receive his corneas and may well regain sight. Please consider becoming a donor yourself.

No services are planned at this time, per his request, but things change and we'll let you know.

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ONE BIG HAPPY LITTLE BANK

Review.

■ Continued from A6

and a floodplain issue is bringing us to a conclusion that this 26 and a half acres should be developed for additional outdoor recreational uses," Principal Peter Elzi from THK Associates said, adding that enhanced access to the river could be incorporated.

- As the November election neared, several reported campaign signs being stolen from yards.
- The Pirate football team moved to 3-0 on Oct. 23 after defeating the Bayfield Wolverines 42-14 in Bayfield.
- In late October, Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) formally announced a three-year capital campaign for building renovations and programming needs.
- In October, academic achievement data was presented to the ASD Board of Education and the PPOS Board of Directors, giving the boards a look at how distance learning due to COVID-19 may have impacted district students.

Assistant Superintendent Laura Mijares pointed out that the legacy school students did better in reading, which could be because reading lent itself to distance learning more than math.

"So it really does reflect the CO-VID spring," ASD board member Bob Lynch said of the scores.

PPOS Board President Ursala Hudson noted that it looked like PPOS was doing great in light of the pandemic.

- In late October, it was announced that Heraty and fellow cross-country runner Nell Taylor earned all-conference honors for their performances over the course of the fall season.
- Wolf Creek Ski Area kicked off the season on Oct. 28.

As of its opening day, Wolf Creek was the only ski area in the U.S. to be open, according to OnTheSnow.

- Fire restrictions on the San Juan National Forest were rescinded at 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 28.
- The No. 5 Pirate football team remained undefeated at the end of October, defeating the No. 5 Lamar Savages 22-8.

November

• In late October and early November, public health officials asked residents to remain vigilant in the fight against COVID-19 as cases ticked upward and the holiday season approached, with local and state public health officials stating that modeling predicted approximately one in every 219 Coloradans was contagious with COVID-19.

As of noon on Nov. 4, Archuleta County was listed as having 71 cumulative resident cases and 61 total nonresident cases.

• At its meeting on Nov. 2, the BoCC approved a settlement agreement regarding the county's lawsuit with Walmart Inc. which began over a year before.

According to Archuleta County
Attorney Todd Weaver, every county in Colorado with a Walmart or
Sam's Club was sued by the corporation in regard to the county's
evaluation of the companies' business property.

As part of the settlement, Archuleta County issued a refund to Walmart in the amount of \$4,170.50.

- At the same meeting, the BoCC held public hearings for four new broadband and cell towers to be installed throughout the county by Visionary Broadband, ultimately approving all four.
- The country didn't yet know who would serve as president beginning in January 2021, but Archuleta County voters learned Nov. 3 that Warren Brown and Ronnie Maez would help lead the county for the next four years as commissioners, with Brown elected for the first time and Maez elected to a second term.
- In early November, Archuleta County lifted its fire restrictions, which had been in place since Aug. 20.
- In November, Pirate golfers Cotts and Dylan Manzanares garnered all-conference honors for their work on the season.
- Around the same time, Heraty was named to the 3A all-state team for cross-country following his ninth-place finish at the state meet.
- On Nov. 6, the bomb squad from Farmington, N.M., was in Pagosa Springs to assist the ACSO with the recovery, transportation and testing of explosives that had been discovered during the execution of a search warrant of a residence on USFS 842.

Items seized included six weap-

ons and four explosive devices.

• On Nov. 6, the Pirate football

team played its last regular season game of the season and defeated the La Junta Tigers 35-13.

The Pirates finished the regular season with an overall record of 5-0 and a league record of 4-0, making them the champions of the 2A Southwestern League.

• While COVID-19 concerns led to the cancellation of the middle school's annual Veterans Day breakfast, the American Legion, Archuleta County Veterans for Veterans and the Veterans Memorial Park Board of Directors worked together to present the community's annual Veterans Day ceremony at the park on Nov. 11.

• On Nov. 13, Archuleta County moved back a level on the state's COVID dial framework, from Level Blue: Caution to Level Yellow: Safer at Home — a move to help the community avoid a spike in COVID-19 cases like as being seen in neighboring communities, as well as across the state and much of the nation.

When the decision was made to move back on the dial, officials noted Archuleta County was an anomaly, standing as the only county with any sizable population that had a low transmission rate.

As of noon on Nov. 11, Archuleta County had a cumulative total of 84 resident cases.

• In November, it was announced that recent PSHS graduate Alexandria Ashbaugh had been awarded the Venturing Summit Award.

Venturing is a high-adventure character development and leadership program through the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women ages 14-21.

The Summit Award represents Venturing's highest honor.

• During a meeting on Nov. 16, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors approved the deactivation of a loan the district currently has with the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

According to SJWCD President Al Pfister, the reasoning behind the decision is the state budget situation.

"The state was asking us whether we wanted to deactivate our existing loan of \$1.9 plus million that we had applied for and had been approved contingent upon us getting a mill levy approved to pay for that," Pfister explained during the meeting, noting it had been three years since the loan was approved.

• At its Nov. 17 meeting, the Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors, which oversees Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC), voted unanimously to approve hazard pay for the medical center's employees.

The funding for the hazard pay comes from PSMC's portion of the CARES Act and is an allowable use of the funding, according to the resolution approved by the board.

"Hazard pay is fitting for medical center employees who have shouldered additional burdens due to the COVID-19 pandemic," the resolution states, continuing, "PSMC staff have all endured substantial workload, high stress and additional risks in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic."

- Town council awarded the project of rewriting the town's Land Use and Development Code to Logan and Simpson following a decision made at a regular meeting on Nov. 19.
- On Nov. 21, the Pirate football team fell to the Eaton Reds in the first round of the state's 2A division playoffs. The Reds defeated the Pirates 41-7.
- In November, the ACSO began housing inmates in its new detention facility.

Archuleta County had not had a fully operational jail since April of 2015, when the old detention center flooded. The county had had a few temporary holding cells since then, but had not been able to house any sentenced inmates in more than five years.

- On Nov. 23, Archuleta County officially landed in Level Orange: High Risk on the state's COVID dial due to the increased prevalence of COVID-19 in the community.
- The student leaders of Youth-Rise hosted a "Fall Into Mindfulness" walk at Yamaguchi Park on Nov. 28. The purpose of the event was to give the community strategies for staying mindful and positive amid uncertain times.
- In late November, ASD was awarded \$363,000 through the state's Response, Innovation, and Student Equity Fund.

The collaborative ASD is a part of (which includes Fort Lewis College, Pueblo Community College

and five southwest Colorado school districts) was awarded \$3,607,096 "to pool resources and build strong

"to pool resources and build strong secondary pathways for students in the build trades and environmental science," according to a press release from the governor's office.

• At a special meeting held Nov. 30, the BoCC voted to approve an award of \$50,000 in CARES Act funding to the Archuleta County Food Systems/Food Equity Coali-

December

- During the week of Dec. 1, PSHS Speech and Debate Team's debaters triumphed virtually over Alamosa, with Anneka Slead placing first, Carter Kasson second and David Morehouse third.
- In early December, it was announced that September's sales tax revenues were 37 percent higher than 2019, with the year's revenues up 21.25 percent.
- Also in early December, it was announced that Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Colorado Department of Transportation had partnered with the Southern Ute Indian tribe and several other organizations to construct a new wildlife mitigation project in southwest Colorado, with the project slated to begin in spring of 2021.

The project will construct several features on U.S. 160 between Pagosa Springs and Durango that will promote safer travel for motorists, enhance safer movement of wildlife and reduce animal-vehicle collisions along the section of highway.

• On Dec. 6, Archuleta County moved into Level Red: Severe Risk on the state's COVID dial.

As of Dec. 9, SJBPH reported 371 cumulative cases among Archuleta County residents since late March, and 75 cases among Archuleta County nonresidents since June 1.

From Dec. 2 to Dec. 9, 95 cases were reported among Archuleta County residents.

- In light of rising COVID-19 cases across the state, the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) announced on Dec. 7 that the start of Season B had been delayed.
- On Dec. 8, the ASD Board of Education added two student representatives Vinicio Carranza, Rachel Smith to its board as nonvoting members.

On Nov. 10, the BOE interviewed five applicants interested in serving as student representatives.

- At the same meeting, the Board of Education heard a request from local educators to require masks for all students, regardless of age.
- The board also heard at the meeting that ASD had paid off the bond on PSHS the previous week.
- On Dec. 8, it was announced that 13 Pirate football players garnered league awards for the state's 2A Southwest League.

Eight players were announced as part of the all-conference first team: Mitch Lewis, Aidan O'Donnell, Dylan Tressler, Wil Aucoin, Evan Raymond, Grant Aucoin, Caleb Laverty and Aaron Aucoin.

Five Pirates were given honorable mentions: EJ Monterroso, Skyler Hill, Nolan Kay, Trevor Moore and Kaden McKee.

Tressler was named the Running Back of the Year for the league. Grant Aucoin and Lewis were both named Linebacker of the Year for the league. Lewis was also named the Defensive Special Teams Player of the Year, and coach Nathan Morales was named the Coach of the Year.

- On Dec. 8, architects revealed their final master plan for the Ruby M. Sisson library expansion.
- At approximately 12:44 a.m. on Dec. 12, the ACSO, along with the Colorado State Patrol, responded to a call for a car crash on Fireside Street.

According to ACSO, the vehicle slid off the side of the road and struck the wall of a residence, causing a gas leak at the residence.

- Archuleta County commissioners, staff and area judges gathered at the site of the new Harman Park justice facility for the project's groundbreaking event on Dec. 15.
- The first doses of COVID-19 vaccine arrived in Colorado Dec. 14. On Dec. 16, PSMC Chief of Staff Dr. Ralph Battels and fellow Emergency Room physician Dr. Michelle Flemmings became the first in Archuleta County to receive a dose of the vaccine.
- In mid-December, Lewis and Tressler were honored for their work on the gridiron by being invited to play in the 2021 Colorado High School Coaches Association's all-state football game.

• On Dec. 16, CHSAA announced rosters for its all-state football

teams, which included six Pirates: Raymond, Lewis, Tressler, Grant Aucoin, Wil Aucoin and O'Donnell.

• On Dec. 17, the ACSO responded to a call on County Road 975 with a report of two dogs being shot for no apparent reason, with one being killed and the other making a recovery.

- As part of setting its fee schedule for 2021, the town council voted to double the renewal fee for vacation rentals and to increase the application fee at a meeting on Dec. 17.
- Following a lengthy discussion that featured numerous public comments from local citizens, the town council voted at the same meeting to let the local disaster declaration order expire at the end of the year.
- At the same meeting, the council decided Clayton Buchner would now serve as the Town of Pagosa Springs' municipal court prosecutor, in addition to being the town's attorney.
- On the morning of Dec. 24, the Colorado State Patrol and the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded to a call for a semi that rolled over while traveling down Wolf Creek Pass. No injuries were reported.
- In December, it was announced that Archuleta County's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was at 5.8 percent for the month of November, with 398 individuals unemployed. The previous year, the county's not-seasonally-adjusted-unemployment rate for November was 2.6 percent.
- In late December, an outbreak was reported at Pine Ridge Extended Care Center, with several staff members testing positive.

No residents were reported as testing positive.

- As of late December, the number of influenza cases remained lower than normal, according to federal, state and local health agencies.
- Winter weather led to some poor road conditions and a jack-knifed semi that shut down U.S. 160 for multiple hours on Dec. 28.
- On Dec. 29, the PFPD dealt with the literal version of how many view 2020: a dumpster fire.

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Stranded

■ Continued from front

"Conditions were unfavorable .. it was almost a total whiteout," Le Roux said.

He added that it was snowing as much as an inch and hour at times and the depth of snow was up to the waist or even chest in certain areas.

According to Le Roux, at approximately 8 p.m. an initial team of three was deployed on snowmobiles to attempt to make contact with the stranded party and assess

the situation before sending out any additional resources. Another crew of three was deployed also on snowmobiles shortly after in an attempt to make a packed trail along Fall Creek Road.

He mentioned that the crews considered using an ATV equipped with snow tracks to transport the stranded snowmobilers out to safety, but due to the depth of the snow they were only able to use snowmobiles to contact the stranded party.

Le Roux noted that search and rescue crews had contact with the stranded party throughout the evening and directed them to stay in the same location since they had good cell reception and crews knew their location.

He went on to explain that the snowmobile crews went approximately 5 miles in on Fall Creek Road where they set up at the base of the Fall Creek drainage.

According to Le Roux, two rescuers were deployed into the field with skis and skins in attempt to hike up the drainage and make contact with the stranded party. However, the two rescuers were called back shortly after due to conditions.

Le Roux explained that with the worsening conditions, the decision was made to bring the crews out of the field at risk of endangering rescuers.

"We were operating at night in a blizzard in conditions that were less than favorable," said Le Roux.

He also noted that the call to pull all resources out of the field occurred at approximately 11 p.m.

Le Roux emphasized that the volume of snow in the drainage area posed many dangers, including a high risk of an avalanche.

He explained that communication with the stranded party continued. He noted the stranded party was able to make a fire and were given instruction on how to build a snow shelter in order to stay warm and dry. Both snowmobilers were in stable condition, with the

son having only a minor lower leg injury and abdominal pain.

Le Roux went on to mention that the hope was the weather would improve and that operating with any sort of daylight would be safer.

He explained that the decision was made to reconvene crews at 6 a.m. the next morning at the same location.

He explained that Wolf Creek Ski Area CEO and President Davey Pitcher was notified of the situation and a team of three ski patrollers was deployed from Wolf Creek Ski Area at approximately 7:30 a.m.

At the same time, a crew of rescuers was deployed on snowmobiles along the same route as the night before. The ski patrollers approached from the top of the drainage while the crew deployed on snowmobiles hiked up from the bottom of the drainage.

According to Le Roux, both crews arrived at the party's location at approximately the same time, from which point crews were able to hike down with both members

of the party to the bottom of the drainage, where they were then transported back to the turnout location on U.S. 160 and Fall Creek Road to a waiting Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) ambu-

Le Roux indicated that crews arrived back at the ambulance with the both members of the stranded party at approximately noon.

Both members of the party were transported to PSMC.

He noted that crews did not notice any signs of serious hypothermia or frostbite on either snowmobiler.

The rescue crews were unable to recover the stranded snowmobiles as they were left in the location in which rescuers contacted the stranded party.

Le Roux praised the multiple agencies working together on the mission and noted how important it was that CDOT was able to keep the turnout area plowed for base operations.

clayton@pagosasun.com

of the test site at the Archuleta Fairgrounds. "We're trying to turn our focus to vaccinating people the best

The free COVID-19 testing site at the fairgrounds, located at 344 U.S. 84, continues to be operated in partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado.

The testing takes place under the all-weather Hughes Pavilion, with the site open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 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.

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) encourages residents to get tested if they are symptomatic, think they've been exposed, or work in a high-contact position.

Archuleta County COVID numbers

As of Wednesday, Archuleta County had 603 cumulative cases among Archuleta County residents since March, and three new active outbreaks were listed on SJBPH's data dashboard.

Vaccine availability remains limited

As of Jan. 25, SJBPH reported that 6,351 vaccines have been admin-Archuleta and La Plata counties, meaning that less than 10 percent of the residents in both counties have been vaccinated.

"Therefore, many individuals remain susceptible to infection," a press release from the organization states. "Even if someone has been vaccinated or has recovered from COVID-19, it is still possible that they may become infected and spread the virus to others. Given these factors, SJBPH is urging everyone to continue to practice proven public health precautions until everyone can be vaccinated."

On Tuesday, Webb stated that PSMC had administered 1,952 doses as of Jan. 25, with 291 people receiving both their first and second doses

of the vaccine.

Archuleta County has three announced vaccine providers: Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Pagosa Medical Group and City Market.

"We are so grateful vaccines are being administered to our most vulnerable community members," said Liane Jollon, SJBPH executive director. "However, vaccines don't mean we can quickly return to normal. The pandemic is still dangerous, and lives are at stake. As we wait our turn to get vaccinated, testing and public health precautions are critical to save lives, help our businesses stay open, and get schools back to in-person learning."

SJBPH also suggests that people who have been vaccinated should follow quarantine guidance if they develop COVID-19 symptoms after getting the vaccine because it can take a few weeks to build immunity after vaccination. That means a person could be infected just before or just after vaccination.

If an individual has COVID-19 symptoms after getting the vaccine, or at any time, they should contact their health care provider and get tested, the organization explained in a press release.

The agency added that quarantine is not necessary once a person has received both doses of the CO-VID-19 vaccine and two weeks have passed after the second dose. People who live or work in high-risk congregate settings may still be required to quarantine, even if fully vaccinated.

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

PSMC and PMG are taking information for community members 70 and older who would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information on vaccines through City Market, visit https://www.citymarket.com/i/ coronavirus-update/vaccine.

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

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 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.

Thursday wouldn't be Thursday without ...

- 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 CO-VID-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: PMG 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.

State hotline:

Colorado also launched an additional COVID vaccine resource this week: 1-877-COVAX CO (1-877-268-2926).

That line is available Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-10 p.m. and

Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Answers are available in multiple

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

Vaccine doses continue to be limited, and the state has indicated those 70 and older will be vaccinated before distribution moves on to other Phase 1 populations.

The next groups designated in Phase 1 include frontline essential workers in education, food and agriculture, manufacturing, the U.S. Postal Service, grocery, human services, state government and others.

Phase 2, which is expected to begin in the spring, includes people aged 60-69, people 16-59 with certain health risk factors, and other essential workers.

Phase 3 is expected to begin in the summer and will include members for the general public aged 16-59.

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://sibpublichealth.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.

randi@pagosasun.com

■ Continued from front

ownership. These include:

• 322 nonresident, second-home owners (71 percent).

• 112 full-time Pagosa residents (24 percent).

• 22 STR investors (5 percent). Flowers explained that STR investors are categorized as owners with more than one STR property.

"Everyone is short-term renting," she said.

The current STR fee paid by property owners is an annual fee of \$400 for their property in the county.

Flowers' recommendation is to establish an accelerated fee system with fees that increase based on how many STRs a property owner is operating.

The proposed accelerated fee system from Flowers consists of a \$400 annual fee for one STR, a \$500 annual fee per unit for property owners with two STRs and a \$600 annual fee per unit for property owners with three STRs.

The fees would continue to increase by \$100 for each STR property added.

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf spoke in support of the accelerated fee program.

He added, "Personally, I don't think it's high enough."

Schaaf also explained how he sees concerns from both sides, noting that it is difficult to tell people what to do with their property, but at the same time it may not be fair to the community by not having folks pay their fair share of fees and taxes.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez also spoke in support of raising the STR

"I grew up here and I've seen this place change a lot," Maez said.

He mentioned that he believes the accelerated fee system could have higher fees and that the \$400 annual fee for just one STR property could be higher as well. He noted that most STR properties will make that money back within their first weekend of booking.

"Having a home here should be available to everybody, not just the wealthy," Maez said.

Commissioner Warren Brown also spoke in support of raising the

He noted it costs the county to provide services for STR properties and that the county should have fees that adequately cover these costs.

"I think this is a good start," Brown said.

He also mentioned the county could look into restricting the number of STRs in certain areas based on property density.

Flowers also mentioned the county could work with companies like AirBnB and Vrbo to shut down ads for any properties that are in violation or not permitted to operate by the county.

A concerned citizen also spoke at the work session, sharing their story of being kicked out of their rental property to have it turned into a STR.

The citizen mentioned how frustrating it is to know there are 583 STRs in the county and maybe only one or two long-term rentals available at a time, which can cost upwards of \$2,500 a month.

"I hope you guys can figure out

ways to help people like me," the citizen said.

Maez acknowledged that there are multiple citizens in similar situations who are struggling to find affordable long-term rental

Maez also noted that there are some neighborhoods in the county that are exclusively filled with STRs.

"We live in neighborhoods, and with all this happening, we're taking the neighbor out of the hood,' Maez said.

Archuleta County Assessor NatalieWoodruff presented the possibility of finding ways to track ownership of the STR properties. She explained how people operating multiple STRs as a business could be assessed with a 29 percent property tax as opposed to the 7.15 percent residential property tax they currently pay. Woodruff explained that the

county would need to develop some sort of mechanism to track the ownership of the properties in order to determine if the owners are Archuleta County residents or not.

She also explained that legislation within the state would have to change in order to have STR investors assessed with a 29 percent business property tax.

Flowers also spoke about how hotels are struggling to compete with the abundance of STRs in the area and how the new fees and possible restrictions could help balance out the market.

"People are still going to come here. There is so much to do here,' Flowers said.

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Franchise

Continued from front

public utility to enter into a franchise agreement with local governments, and this is also a requirement within the town's home rule charter, Phillips noted.

"This essentially covers the expectations on both sides for how La Plata Electric would utilize town rights of way. It talks about the fact that they would need to restore any disturbed ground, including pavement, back to its original condition," Phillips said.

The terms of the agreement are for 10 years and can be extended beyond that, according to the document.

Under section nine of the contract, it outlines a franchise fee, with Phillips noting that town council has been "split" in the past about imposing a charge.

"Any kind of franchise fee that is implemented here would not be absorbed by La Plata Electric. It would be passed on to the customers in the service boundaries of the town. They have been very forthright about the fact that they would be sharing a notice with all the La Plata Electric customers that this is being imposed," Phillips said.

A franchise fee can be used for burying overhead power lines, subsidizing connection fees for workforce housing or for broadband, Phillips explained.

The fee would be collected by LPEA and passed on to the town, Phillips explained.

"Electrical revenues would be inclusive of the demand charges, the on-peak charges and any kind of charges for service, minus any base charges," she said.

According to Phillips, the city of Durango implemented a 4.67 percent franchise fee.

"Regardless of whether you choose to have a franchise fee, I

believe that we need a franchise agreement to be in compliance with our charter," Phillips said. "I think that we do need an agreement even if the franchise fee is

zero.' Within the franchise agreement, Phillips noted that council should consider adding language for requiring a notification when an emergency situation occurs, such as needing to dig into the ground or work in a right of way on an emergency basis.

"For any kind of nonemergency we would want them to notify us through a right of way permit process," she said.

Council thoughts

Council member Nicole Pitcher explained that she liked the idea of a franchise fee to start a fund to bury power lines but felt like it was a "roundabout way to do another tax on people."

"It seems like an indirect tax; however, I am in favor of a franchise fee specifically dedicated to the burial of power lines. I think a lot of people would get behind that, but I don't know I would go as high as 4 percent, but I am in favor of a franchise fee at this point," council member Mat deGraaf explained.

Identifying something impactful that the franchise fee money could go toward might garner more community support, council member

Madeline Bergon suggested. "I would be more in favor of not having a franchise fee at this point because we do have so many local businesses that have been affected by the pandemic, and local residents for that matter," council member Shari Pierce added. "I would be in favor of reserving the right to add a franchise fee in the future once those types of things have been resolved."

A franchise fee could be the cost of a cup of coffee a month for most residents and businesses, Town Attorney Clay Buchner explained.

"Legally, it's very typical for these franchise agreements to incorporate franchise fees. It's really up to the council to determine what do you think that fair fee would be and how the community will be impacted with the small fee," he said.

wanted to identify the "where and why" for the community to understand what the franchise fee is going toward. Later in the meeting, deGraaf

Bergon later added that she

and Pitcher showed support for a 2 percent franchise fee.

According to Phillips, the language of the ordinance allows the town to change the franchise fee "upon a minimum of 60-days notice, which change shall become effective on Jan. 1 of the following

"For a business who pays commercial energy rates, it's going to be a much higher amount," council member Matt DeGuise said.

Bergon later suggested to approve the first reading of the ordinance for the franchise agreement and revisit the franchise fee topic in six months.

Following more discussion, deGraaf made a motion to enter into the franchise agreement with LPEA and also to impose a 2 percent franchise fee with the entirety of those funds being used to bury overhead power lines within the town limits.

That motion passed via a 6-1 vote with Pierce voting against.

According to Phillips, the ordinance is anticipated to come back to town council for consideration on March 2.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Business

Town council appoints steering committee for Land Use and Development Code revision

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

As part of the ongoing task to update the town's Land Use and Development Code (LUDC), the Pagosa Springs Town Council appointed members to the steering committee for the project at a regular meeting on Jan. 21.

The town recently hired Logan Simpson to take on the role of the consultant team to lead the LUDC update project, and Planning Director James Dickhoff explained that the project would greatly benefit from a steering committee that can work with town staff and the consultants.

A steering committee would allow for the new LUDC to be consistent with the town's for a format with a clear vision for town staff, developers and citizens, according to agenda documentation.

According to agenda documentation, the time commitment for steering committee members would be two to four hours per month with meetings every two to four weeks.

The LUDC revision project is expected to take 12 to 14 months starting in January of 2021 and will incorporate a public engagement process as well, agenda documentation notes.

Currently, there are seven individuals who have expressed interest in participating in the steering committee, Dickhoff noted, adding that staff believes those individuals will be a benefit to the LUDC update process and recommended them 2018 Comprehensive Plan and would provide to be appointed as sterling committee members.

The seven members listed within the agenda documentation include: Brad Ash, Bob Hart, Al Pfister, Barry Knott, Dave Zappone, Jeff Posey, $Gary Williams, Pamela Flowers \ and \ Dan \ Aupperle.$

"It's certainly hard to get a representative from every segment of the community serving on a committee that's actually going to function. If you get too big, it's just not going to function," Dickhoff said, adding that the committee will look to garner members that have some sort of relation to sections of the code.

On a larger scale, the committee will be inviting those who use portions of the code to make sure that they are looking at sections they use on a regular basis as the language is developed, Dickhoff added.

chris@pagosasun.com

Chamber announces new board members, business relief opportunities

By Mary Jo Coulehan Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Three new members have been elected to the Chamber board of directors. The voting has been tallied and all candidates notified of the results.

The three new board members joining the board in 2021 are: Eric Hittle, Marissa Talamante and Tabitha Zappone.

These new board members will serve for a three-year period.

Due to business demands during this unsettling time, we also had an unexpected resignation to the board. This resignation was from Kevin Metzler, owner of Wilderness Journeys. Replacing Metzler for only a one-year term will be former board member Jen Pitcher with Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association.

The rest of the board is made up of the following members: Dr. Katie McCalley, Shelly Cox, Dan Rosenblatt, MegWempe and Mona

Know that these are your representatives to the Chamber board and are available to speak with you concerning any ideas or concerns.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) 2.0

The Chamber will be hosting a PPP 2.0 informational seminar on Monday, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m. The registration for the link can be found on the Chamber website at www. pagosachamber.com. This is a free event for all interested businesses, gig workers or sole proprietors that would like to apply for PPP funds. This current 2.0 round has instructions for first-time applicants and those who have already applied for

If you have questions about this round of funding, if you qualify, what do you do if you applied before, and any other questions, you should attend this seminar. The webinar will last about one hour. Questions can be directed to the Chamber at 264-2360.

Small Business Relief Grant applications due

The Small Business Relief Grant Program, geared specifically to our food industry, gyms and fitness centers and our movie theater, will stop receiving grant applications on Feb. 1. Restaurants, food trucks, caterers, bars, fitness studios and the like are highly encouraged to apply for this money. While it may not be a lot, it is certainly money that could help you with a month or two of rent or mortgage, payroll or other important costs in running your business.

This is also grant money, which means you do not have to pay it back. Businesses with revenues of \$500,000 or less can receive up to \$3,500 in funds; businesses with less than \$1 million to \$500,000 can request up to \$5,000; and businesses between \$2.5 million and \$1 million can request up to

\$7,500. Applications can be found at https://tinyurl.com/y6g9p2wa. The money will be dispersed by mid-February.

Chamber virtual annual meeting Feb. 18

The Chamber has scheduled its annual meeting to be held virtually on Feb. 18 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Guest speakers include Elizabeth Garner, director of the State Demography Office. Garner is one of the most popular speakers in the state with her engaging data information and style. Laura Lewis-Marchino, executive director of Region 9 Economic Development District, will be the other keynote speaker. Lewis-Marchino most recently presented at the annual Southwest Economic Forum.

After the speakers present, the forum will move into four breakout sessions: Broadband, Housing, Workforce and Community Infrastructure. Participants can attend two breakout sessions, as each session will be held twice during the meeting. There will be participants in each of the breakout sessions that will give some background on projects being worked on and a moderator will note your questions and comments.

Registration for the event will take place at the beginning of February. The Chamber annual meeting is free and open to the public; however, you will need to register for the event to access the meeting link. Stay tuned for more information about the break-out sessions and registration.

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County looks at changing Marijuana Impact Fund grant parameters

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

At a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Jan. 19, the BoCC and county staff discussed the possibility of changing the award parameters for the Marijuana Impact Fund in order to allow for individuals to apply for awards, specifically students.

Resolution 2018-28 denotes that the funds "may be used to develop awareness within Archuleta County about Marijuana in general and programs available to help Archuleta County Citizens and children in general make positive lifestyle choices."

County Attorney Todd Weaver clarified that the language used in the resolution is discretionary and it is not mandatory that the BoCC uses the funds to promote lifestyle awareness within Archuleta County. Previous awards have been

granted to the Archuleta School zations only. District, Pagosa Youth Soccer and other youth and school-related entities.

In an interview, Commissioner Ronnie Maez explained that the funds through the program are not expected to grow.

"The funds are limited and they're not growing. They're not going to grow," Maez said.

Maez explained that the funds will not grow because Archuleta County likely will not have any more new marijuana dispensaries opening up within the county with the county's current regulations.

Funds for the program are allocated through permit fees and taxes paid by dispensaries to the county in order to legally operate a marijuana business in unincorporated Archuleta County.

Individuals are currently not allowed to apply for grants through the Marijuana Impact Fund, as awards are to be issued to organi-

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf spoke in support of allowing students to apply for scholarships from the funds to be used to further their educational careers.

Maez pointed out how they would potentially have individual students competing against organizations for the funds.

According to Archuleta County Paralegal Mary Helminski, currently there is approximately \$10,725 in the fund balance.

No awards were given out last

Schaaf mentioned that awards will likely be given out in amounts varying from \$500 to \$1,000.

The BoCC will need to vote on a resolution to amend the award parameters in order to allow for individuals to apply for grants.

As of press time, no date had been set for the BoCC to consider voting on the changes.

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BoCC renews contract for magnesium chloride proximately 527,644 gallons of proposal to charge \$0.78 per gallon

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) unanimously voted to reapprove a contract with the Desert Mountain Corporation.

The Desert Mountain Corporation will "deliver and apply ap-

Magnesium Chloride to various roads in Archuleta County," according to documentation presented in the regular meeting held by the BoCC on Jan. 19.

Archuleta County will pay Desert Mountain Corporation \$411,562.32. This price was determined by Desert Mountain's bid of magnesium chloride. Magnesium chloride is used to

lower the freezing temperature of water and, when applied to roads before a storm, will keep snow and ice from sticking to the pavement.

Magnesium chloride is also used to reduce dust on gravel roads. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Sports

BASKETBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate River Pitcher looks to move the ball during Tuesday's home opener against Monte Vista. The 100th season of winter sports for the Colorado High School Activities Association kicked off in unusual fashion this year: in mostly empty gyms and with masked players.

Lady Pirates open season with win over Monte Vista

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team opened the season with a 64-21 win Tuesday evening over the 2A Monte Vista Lady Pirates.

Coach Charles Rand noted it was good to get the first game out of the way, acknowledging the team's "first-game jitters" and the uncertainty of each game due to COVID.

"The kids ... they all agree that Vista 10-2 in the fourth to log a they didn't play as good as they're capable of playing, but it's the first game and it's good to have it over with," he said.

Pagosa jumped to a 15-10 lead by the end of the first quarter.

The home team then bested its visitors 18-4 in the second quarter

to hold a 33-14 lead at the half. Adelyn Dozier, who put up 15 Pagosa added another 18 points points, including four three-pointin the third while limiting Monte ers. Dozier also had two rebounds, Vista to eight, and outscored Monte

two assists and two steals. Beatrice Carpenter added 11 points, five rebounds, two blocks and an assist.

61-24 win.

ball twice.

Kori Lucero added seven points, three rebounds, an assist and two

The Pirates were led in scoring

Tuesday by Molly Graham, who

logged 17 points. She also pulled

down 15 rebounds, had three as-

sists, blocked twice and stole the

She was followed in scoring by

Keira Torrez logged a pair of 3-pointers, six assists and a steal.

Chantelle Caldwell added five points, including a 3-pointer, as well as a rebound, an assist, a block

The team turned the ball over 16times on the night, and made 10 of 14 attempts from the free-throw

"It's all about what we do, and I just think that we need to make sure that we communicate a lot better with one another," he said.

That communication, he indicated, will be key in the team's transitions.

He also noted that the team needs to work on rebounding.

"We've got to go and get it," he said. "We've got to be willing and able to go and get it."

He noted that, while there were times the team didn't do that during the game, the team will improve.

"I guess what's great about it is we're not peaking right now," Rand said, "so we have a lot of room to improve. And I think we're going The coach also noted that the

team needs to play hard every trip down the court. "As a whole, they did that," Rand

said. "It's only going to get better." Helping the Pirates in the coming weeks, Rand indicated, will be Trista Tully, who is healing from a

torn ACL and MCL.

"She's a huge part of what we do. She's just a hustler," he said. "She's going to make us better coming off the bench."

But, before that happens, the team will delve into league play, with the team's first Intermountain League matchup set for Friday as part of the shortened season.

"Every coach would want more practice time, but it is what it is," Rand said of moving into league play, adding later, "We've just gotta go make the best of a bad situa-

Friday, Pagosa's Lady Pirates will host the Bayfield Wolverines for a 4 p.m. affair.

The game will also serve as the Wolverines' season opener.

"They know us. We know them. It's just who is going to go out and execute and want it," the coach

Then, on Tuesday, the team will head to Alamosa for a 4 p.m. contest against the Mean Moose, who are the No. 13 team in the preseason polls.

Alamosa is 0-1 on the season, having lost to Del Norte Tuesday. randi@pagosasun.com

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SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa's Molly Graham puts up a shot in the first half of the team's 64-21 victory over the Monte Vista Lady Pirates Tuesday. Graham led her team with 17 points in the game.

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Wrestling

No. 1 Pirates to kick off wrestling season Saturday

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team is set to kick off its 2021 season this Saturday, Jan. 30, at Pagosa Springs High

The Pirates will be hosting a trimeet event with the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers and the Centauri Falcons.

Coach Dan Janowsky explained that Montezuma-Cortez partners with Dolores High School in order to fill out rosters.

This year's season will be slightly different due to COVID.

Janowsky noted the season is only about half as long as a normal season. Also, no spectators will be allowed inside the gyms.

Additionally, for this weekend's match, only two teams will be allowed inside the building at once.

Up to four teams can compete on the same day at the same location, but only two teams are allowed in the gym at one time, he noted. After each meet, the mats and gym will be cleaned and sanitized before the next meet.

Janowsky explained that the team is still going through the process of determining each competitors' "lowest minimum weight" and due to this, the Pirates may not have their strongest lineup ready,

which Janowsky hopes to have competitors for each weight class. for the regional and state tourna-

He mentioned it is typical for the first few weeks of the season to have kids settle into their desired weight class.

"I believe its going to be a good lineup. Ultimately, I don't know if it'll be our best lineup," Janowsky said.

He also explained that season matches will be limited to duals only, as no regular-season tournaments will be allowed due to

Weather conditions and quarantine restrictions have impacted the Pirates' practice schedule, as

Janowsky noted that they've only been able to practice a few times up to this point.

"We have a veteran team. They know how to get themselves ready, and it's on them and I'm confident that they embrace that situation," Janowsky said.

According to preseason rankings released by CHSAAnow.org, the Pirates are ranked first in the state's 3A division.

Janowsky mentioned that there are approximately 40 kids that are a part of this year's squad, adding that it may be difficult to get every kid matches throughout the season as their opponents may not have

He also noted that there are eight returning seniors on this year's squad, six of whom previously placed in the state tournament.

Among them will be senior Cameron Lucero, two-time state champion, who will be chasing a third title this year in the 160-pound weight class.

Senior Brae Bergdolt, who placed third at last year's state tournament, will be competing in the 150-pound weight class.

Senior Trevor Torrez is returning after suffering injuries last year to compete in the 120-pound weight

"I think our kids have held it together. I think our senior leadership has stayed focused," Janowsky

According to Janowsky, the anticipated lineup for this weekend's matches is as follows:

106: Open.

113: Luke Tressler.

120: Open. 126: Erik Wyman.

132: Torrez. 138: Tommy Barker.

145: Dylan Tressler and EJ Monterroso.

Kayson Shahan put up five

Wyatt Zeigler had three points

points, pulled down three re-

and seven rebounds, and Dylan

Manzanares notched a pair of

"I was extremely

pleased with our

defense," Coach

Wes Lewis said. "I

told the kids that I

thought our defense

surpassed ... my

hopes going into the

game."

The team made 12 of 19 free-

"We weren't bad offensively, but

throw attempts in the game and

we weren't necessary good offen-

sively," the coach said, adding the

team made some mental mistakes,

had some miscommunications, didn't shoot the ball well from the

But, the coach noted, the team

field and had some turnovers.

notched three turnovers.

bounds and had one block.

152: Bergdolt.

160: Lucero.

170: Grant Aucoin. 182: Trevor Moore.

195: Wil Aucoin.

220: Kaden McKee. 285: Skyler Hill.

The first match is set to start at 10 a.m. in the high school gym on

For those interested in viewing the matches, a live stream will be available through a subscription to NHFSnetwork.com.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of Wednesday, Jan. 27, but is subject to change.

On Feb. 5, the Pirates will face Monte Vista at home at 5 p.m.

On Feb. 6, the Pirates will face off against Lamar at Alamosa High School at 9 a.m. The Pirates will also face off against Alamosa on Feb. 6, at 10 a.m., and against Florence at noon.

On Feb. 13, the Pirates will face Montrose at 9 a.m. The Pirates will also face off against Fruita Monument at noon, and against Durango at 2 p.m. the same day. All matches will be at Durango High School.

On Feb. 19, the Pirates will host Bayfield High School at 5 p.m.

The 3A West Regional tournament is scheduled for March 5 at 1 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School and March 6 at Pagosa Springs High School at 8 a.m.

The state tournament is scheduled for March 12 and 13.

clayton@pagosasun.com

had younger players without much

season goes on, I really do," he said,

noting that it was also the team's

first game with him as a coach

and the team didn't have summer

leagues to help get used to each

Vista a good team and noted the

athletic abilities of the team's

Friday, Pagosa will host the Bay-

"I guess I'm glad we had a game

field Wolverines for a 6 p.m. affair

that will also serve as Bayfield's first

before our league game with Bay-

field," Wes Lewis said. "It was kind

of nice to get through some things,

you know, work through some

Wes Lewis indicated that he

doesn't know a lot about Bayfield

other than how they played de-

fense last year and that the Wol-

verines have a senior-heavy team

Then, on Tuesday, the team will

head to Alamosa for a 6 p.m. con-

test against the Mean Moose, who

are the No. 12 team in the pre-

season after defeating Del Norte

randi@pagosasun.com

The Mean Moose are 1-0 on the

Wes Lewis also called Monte

"I think that'll get better as the

varsity experience step up.

other and plays.

game of the season.

guards.

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BASKETBALL

Pirates drop close season opener, host Bayfield Friday

points.

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

in Monte Vista.

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team opened the season with a narrow 43-41 loss to the 2A Monte Vista Pirates Tuesday

Coach Wes Lewis noted he was pleased with the team's defense in the back-and-forth affair.

"I was extremely pleased with our defense," he said. "I told the kids that I thought our defense surpassed ... my hopes going into the game. So, you know, I said we can really build off of that and if we can continue to defend like that, I think we're gonna have a chance to win some games."

Pagosa outscored Monte Vista 7-4 in the game's opening quarter, but scored only four in the second quarter, compared to Monte Vista's

Lewis noted that after building an early lead the Pirates got into some foul trouble and he pulled Mitch Lewis out the second quar-

"In hindsight, maybe I shouldn't have, or maybe I shouldn't have for so long," he said, noting that hurt the team.

Monte Vista again outscored Pagosa in the third, 14-10, leaving Pagosa down 32-21 heading into a steal. the final quarter.

Pagosa put up 20 points in the fourth while limiting Monte Vista to 11, but it was not enough to overcome their hosts, and Pagosa's Pirates returned home with the 43-41 loss

"It was kind of a back-and-forth game that second half. We kept getting it to four to six and then they'd pull away, but our kids never quit. They never quit fighting. They never quit working, and we had some kids make some plays," he said.

With 5.6 seconds left, the Pirates were at the free-throw line with a chance to tie the game, he pointed

"I was just proud of the effort. They didn't quit," he said. "One of the things I wrote on the pregame board was to compete, and I really felt like they did that."

The coach added that there's a lot to build off of.

Mitch Lewis led his team with 13 points in the game. He also logged five rebounds, three assists, a block and a steal.

Aidan O'Donnell followed with 10 points, which he complemented with nine rebounds, an assist, a block and five steals.

Gunner Dozier tallied eight points, a rebound, an assist and

RECREATION NEWS

Register now for youth volleyball

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 in-

structional league held on Tuesday

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

and Thursday evenings.

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

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Outdoors





Photos courtesy Shane Lucero

Designed to bring winter fun for locals and visitors on Feb. 6, the Frozen Foot Fiesta will include cross-country skiing, a 5k run, snow volleyball, a bonfire and a fat tire bike race.

Frozen Foot Fiesta set for Feb. 6

By Shane Lucero Frozen Foot Fiesta

The Frozen Foot Fiesta is a series of winter events on Feb. 6 designed to bring winter fun to Pagosa Country for locals and visitors to participate and enjoy.

Most of the event will be held downtown Pagosa Springs between The Springs Resort and the Ross Aragon Community Center. 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.

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Frozen Foot Snow Volleyball

Winter Games support fitness for students

This fundraiser was conceived to engage in-person and distance students while encouraging all students to get out and enjoy the beauty of Pagosa Country. We believe that staying connected is essential to cultivating our culture in this time of social distancing and want to make sure every student can participate in

By Alison Beach students can accumulate Winter earn a medal, too. Pagosa Peak Open School Fitness Minutes at school, at home or out in Pagosa Country. Activi-Pagosa Peak Open School

(PPOS) students are competing in the school's third annual fitness challenge fundraiser called PPOS Winter Games. This virtual fundraiser combines

donations through an online fundraising website (Get Movin Fund Hub) and outdoor winter activities that count toward Winter Fitness Minutes. Donations sponsor the student's winter fitness activities.

From Jan. 25 to Feb. 5, PPOS

ties can include skiing, sledding, snow sculpting, snowboarding, horseback riding, winter versions of games like soccer, capture the flag, ice skating, etc. There are so many fun activities PPOS students can engage in.

The student who accumulates the most Winter Fitness Minutes during the PPOS Winter Games will get their name engraved on a handmade perpetual plaque that will hang in the school. They will

the PPOS Winter Games.

Funds raised from the PPOS Winter Games will go toward the school's Capital Campaign for building improvements and renovations.

Town council discusses funding preferences for Hermosa Riverwalk trail project

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Another step was completed for the Hermosa Riverwalk trail project as the Pagosa Springs Town Council provided direction to town staff on a local bidder and sourcing preference at a meeting on Jan. 21.

According to agenda documentation, Davis Engineering is the design and engineering consultant

on the project. "We did quite a public engagement process and there was not a lot of interest in having a road going through the Cotton Hole Park to connect the end of Hermosa Street with Hermosa Alley, but there was still some concern about vehicles being able to drop off tubers and also emergency vehicles being able to turn around," she said. "So, we're doing a very small lollipop

turnaround at the end." The town's purchasing policy allows bids that are up to 10 percent more to still be considered if the bidder is located within Archuleta County, with Phillips noting that the project itself is \$870,000.

"That's quite a bit of an advantage for local bidders," she said. "We are concerned about that limiting the potential bidders that we might get here, so we're looking to lowering that percentage to something similar to what we did for the Town Park project and maybe making it more like 2 percent."

Mike Davis of Davis Engineering noted that he had received some feedback from out-of-town bidders on other projects that felt the 10 percent local preference was too much and made it "not worth it" to bid on other projects.

"I think whatever we can do makes sense to incentivize the work locally, but still getting a competitive bid process. I wouldn't want to see local contractors bid this because out of towners feel like

they're already out-priced," council member Matt DeGuise said.

DeGuise later added he felt like 2 percent sounded reasonable for a local preference.

"I would agree that the 1 to 2 percent, somewhere in that range, is probably fine. I think that will keep the local bidders honest and not have them artificially inflate

their prices knowing they got some extra wiggle room in there," Davis said.

The town could also have a minimum percentage on supplies and source some of the materials locally, Phillips suggested.

"We discussed whether it was worth making a recommendation. ■ See Riverwalk A13

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BoCC discusses possibility of providing tax incentives for first-time home builders

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

First-time home builders in Archuleta County may be able to get their county property taxes

At a work session held on Jan. 19, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard from County Administrator Scott Wall in regard to developing a property tax incentive program for first-time home builders in Archuleta County.

According to Wall's presentation, the county is looking at providing incentives for properties that are valued up to \$300,000.

Wall highlighted that the main objective of this plan is to provide incentives for owner-occupied houses.

"We're trying to help people, working folks, buy their first house or move to a better home," he said.

According to the proposed program, first-time home builders of a property under \$300,000 would have their county property taxes waived for five years.

Wall also clarified that home

builders would still have to pay other property taxes to other entities in the county like the Upper San Juan Health District, the Pagosa Fire Protection District, Archuleta School District and a few others.

According to documents, home builders with a \$300,000 home in the Pagosa Lakes area with total mill levy of 68.669 would save approximately \$1,449.04 over a fiveyear period.

Home builders of a \$300,000 home in the Arboles area with a total mill levy of 60.047 would save approximately \$1,267.57 over a five-year period.

Also included in the plan is to waive building permit fees.

According to the document, a 3,800-square-foot home building permit fee would cost approximately \$2,113.75.

Wall noted that first-time home builders would be saving this money up front and not over a fiveyear period. County Assessor Natalie Wood-

ruff spoke about a few concerns with the program.

She highlighted how it would be

difficult to determine if these properties are owner-occupied.

"This has been a one of contention with the short-term rentals from the get-go," Woodruff said.

She noted that the county does not have access to a lot of documentation like income tax records to verify the properties as owneroccupied properties.

Woodruff also explained how it is not the responsibility of the assessor's office to prove weather the property is owner-occupied or not.

"Our business is valuation of properties within the county, not policing," she added.

She also explained that if the county is looking at waiving property tax fees, that is something that would need to be discussed with the county treasurer's office.

However, Woodruff did speak in support of the program, noting how \$1,500 can be a lot of money to save for first-time home builders.

"I think it's a great idea if you can administer it properly," she said.

Wall mentioned how he does not believe many people in the county will be eligible for the proposed

"I think we'd be lucky if we got five a year," Wall said.

He also spoke about the concern of this program causing any major accounting disruptions.

He noted that if the county were to have 10 new home builders a year, the county would only be out roughly \$15,000.

"It's not like the county is going to be upside down because we tried to stimulate some owner-occupied housing," Wall said.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez mentioned how this proposed program could help a lot of people that live and work in the county but are struggling to pay rent or can't afford to buy a \$500,000 home.

"I think it's a good thing, if we can implement this, I'd like to see it go through," Maez said.

In an interview, Maez highlighted how "this is still a work in progress.'

Many of the details are still undetermined and the terms like the \$300,000 valuation cap could still be changed, amongst other conditions. clayton@pagosasun.com

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Go to www.archuletacounty.org or contact Mary Helminski at 970-264-8308 for information.

County's illegally divided parcel exemption program may be reactivated

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

Owners of illegally divided parcels (IDPs) in Archuleta County may have another opportunity to make their land legal through the reactivation of the county's IDP exemption program.

At a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Jan. 19, Director of Development Services Pamela Flowers spoke to the BoCC in regard to getting the county's IDP exemption program reactivated.

According to the Archuleta County website, "Any parcel under 35 acres created since 1972 ... must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners through Subdivision Review, or exempted from Review, according to Colorado Statutes CRS \$30-28-101(10)

In 2018, the BoCC approved a would pay through the IDP exemp-

resolution establishing the IDP exemption program, which was put into place for a one-year period for all of 2019. At the end of 2019 the program was approved to be extended until the end of May 2020.

Flowers explained that when the IDP exemption program was put in place, it was estimated that there were about 500 illegally divided parcels within Archuleta County. The county received 205 applications from January 2019 to May 2020, with 196 applications ap-

Flowers explained that, without the IDP exemption program, landowners would have to go through a lengthier process which would involve additional paperwork and separate approval from the Archuleta County Planning Com-

This process is also more costly compared to the fees landowners tion program.

According to documents that Flowers referenced during the work session, the current process in the county's land use regulations to resolve an IDP is through the subdivision exemption process, which can cost up to \$875.

Additionally, to have a parcel approved through the subdivision exemption process could take upward of four months. However, she estimated that

with the IDP exemption program in place, parcels could be approved and made legal within 60-90 days. Landowners would also be look-

ing at lower fees. Flowers' recommendation is to establish a \$450 fee, which would adequately cover the processing

"What we're suggesting is that they go back to using the [IDP exemption program] with just more reasonable fees that really do ac-

count for the labor on our end to put it together," Flowers said.

She went on to explain that a resolution will be brought to the BoCC to reactivate the county's IDP exemption program. Flowers added that within the

resolution the BoCC may denote the planning commission as the approving agency for parcels to be considered legal. Flowers is also hoping to have the land use regulations amended

to include the IDP exemption "There's no reason not to make

it a permanent process," she said. She added that she is hoping this resolution will go to the BoCC sometime in February.

For updates on the IDP exemption program, continue to check The SUN and the Archuleta County website at www.archuletacounty. org to see BoCC meeting agendas. clayton@pagosasun.com

Wolf Creek Ski Area passes 200 inches of snow for the season

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

Pagosa Country received nearly past week.

As of 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 27, Wolf Creek Ski Area reported 51 inches of new snow received over the previous seven days. The recent storms put the ski area at 228 inches of total snowfall received so far this season.

The National Weather Service is forecasting for more snow in the Pagosa Springs area this Friday and early next week.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Water and Climate Center's snowpack report, the Wolf Creek Summit, at

11,000 feet of elevation, had 20.4 from full. inches of snow water equivalent as of 2 p.m. on Jan. 27.

the Ian 27 median for this site

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins were at 79 percent of the Jan. 27 median in terms of snowpack.

Water report

According to a Jan. 25 press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey, the Lake Forest water level dropped 2 inches from last week and is now at 5 inches from full.

Hatcher Lake rose 1 inch from last week's report, bringing the current water level to 37 inches

Stevens Lake water level also rose 1 inch from last week's report. That amount is 102 percent of bringing the current water level to 60 inches from full

Lake Pagosa rose 1 inch from last week's report as well, bringing the current water level to 12 inches from full.

The water level for Village Lake remained the same from last week's report at 8 inches from full. Total diversion flows are listed

at 5 cubic feet per second (cfs). The West Fork diversion flow is listed at 3 cfs and the Four Mile

diversion flow is listed at 2 cfs. Water production from Jan. 15 through Jan. 19 was listed at a total of 11.01 million gallons. The Snowball water plant contributed 3.29 million gallons, while the Hatcher plant contributed 7.72 million gallons.

Last year, total water production was listed at 10.61 million gallons for those dates.

River report

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the San Juan River was

flowing at a rate of 37 cfs in Pagosa Springs as of 2 p.m. on Wednesday,

Based on 85 years of water reords at this site, the average flow rate for this date is 58 cfs.

The highest recorded rate for this date was in 2005 at 152 cfs. The lowest recorded rate was 22 cfs, recorded in 1990.

The Piedra River was flowing at a rate of just under 50 cfs near Arboles as of Monday, Jan. 25. An instantaneous value was unavailable for Jan. 27.

Based on 58 years of water records at this site, the average flow rate for Jan. 27 is 75 cfs.

The highest recorded rate was 287 cfs in 2005. The lowest recorded rate was 18.6 in 2003.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



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Riverwalk

■ Continued from A12

but unfortunately a recommendation to utilize local resources, obviously there's no teeth in it," he said, adding that he would have 25 percent be the minimum. Davis explained the town can

ask the bidder to show diligence in using local resources, but can also revisit the percentage commitment. Council member Mat deGraaf

explained he liked the idea of a 20

percent commitment so as to keep

the most money in the community as possible. "I would be in favor of Mike's sug-

gestion of letting Andrea make a

decision administratively," council member Shari Pierce said, citing how many projects are going on locally this year. "I'm just really concerned about people being able to meet that 20 percent. I would like to just give a little flexibility to staff in that respect."

Following more discussion, Pitcher made a motion to provide a 2 percent local preference in contracting out the Hermosa Riverwalk trail project and a 20 percent source requirement for local materials.

The local resource requirement can be waived administratively should the local resources not be available, Pitcher added.

chris@pagosasun.com

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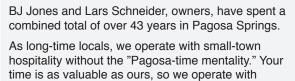
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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office Calls for service over two weeks:

Jan. 11 — Improper registration, North Pagosa Boulevard and U.S. 160. Jan. 12 — Second-degree burglary, Jack Rabbit Road.

Jan. 12 - Agency assist, Jack Rab-

Jan. 12 — All other thefts, fraud by check-other method, U.S. 84.

Jan. 12 - Criminal mischief, domestic violence, violation of restraining

order. Surrey Drive. Jan. 13 - Domestic violence,

Betty's Court. Jan. 14 - Identity theft-uses iden-

tity, Calderwood Place. Jan. 14 — Violation of restraining order, violation of bail bond condition-

misdemeanor, Fireside Street. Jan. 14 — No insurance in possession, speeding 10-19 over prima facie limit, U.S. 84.

Jan. 15 - Criminal mischief, second-degree burglary, theft-from building, Gun Barrel Road.

Jan. 15 - Failed to display valid registration, drove vehicle without insurance, Greenbrier Drive and Pagosa

Jan. 15 — Death investigation, North Lake Avenue.

Jan. 16 - Drove vehicle without insurance, expired license plates, drove vehicle without valid driver's license, Aspen Village Drive.

Jan. 17 — Owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, expired license plates, U.S. 160 and Harman Park Drive.

Jan. 19 — Agency assist, County Road 359.

Jan. 19 — All other thefts, Seminole

Jan. 20 — Agency assist, Country Center Drive.

Jan. 20 — Information only, Village Drive.

Jan. 20 — Violation of bail bondmisdemeanor, violation of restraining order. Fireside Street.

Jan. 20 - Drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, open container in a motor vehicle, Fireside Street.

Jan. 21 — All other thefts, criminal impersonation, Meadow Lark Drive. Jan. 21 — Warrant arrest, Boulder

Drive and U.S. 160.

Jan. 22 - Warrant arrest, Susan's

Jan. 22 - Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks. Gary Place.

Jan. 23 — Violation of restraining order, drove vehicle when license suspended, Great West Avenue.

Jan. 23 — Trespass warning, Seminole Drive

Jan. 23 — Under investigation, no location listed.

Jan. 23 - Agency assist, Navajo

Trail Drive. Jan. 24 - Harassment-insults/ taunts/challenges, false imprisonment,

domestic violence, criminal mischief, County Road 700.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service over two weeks:

290. Jan. 12 - Harassment, East

Pagosa Street. Jan. 12 - Prohibited use of weapon-reckless discharge, discharging firearm, reckless endangerment, South 8th Street

Jan. 13 - Criminal tampering, South 5th Street.

Jan. 14 - First-degree criminal trespass, theft from vehicle, no location listed.

Jan. 16 - Improper registration, owner operated vehicle without liability

insurance, South 9th Street. Jan. 16 — Theft, North 5th Street. Jan. 17 — Warrant arrest, Eaton

Drive. Jan. 17 — Trespass warning, San

Juan Street. Jan. 18 — Abandoned vehicle, South 9th Street.

Jan. 19 — Failure to register as a sex offender, North 5th Street.

Jan. 22 — Criminal mischief, Eaton Drive.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge

Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge

Justin P. Fay

Jan. 13 - Jesse Wilson, careless driving, total fines and costs -

Jan. 14 — Ryan Alexander Versaw, violation of protection order, one year probation, total fines and costs -

Jan. 14 - Fred A. Manzanares, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 48 months probation, 60 days jail, total fines and costs - \$2,727.50.

Jan. 14 — Michael Jonathon Velez, assault, 18 months probation, 10 days jail, total fines and costs - \$1,231.50.

Jan. 14 — Albert Xavier Arizmendi Jr., driving under the influence, 48 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$1,345.50.

Jan. 19 — Colby R. Houlton, obedience to official traffic control device,

total fines and costs — \$137.50. **Pagosa Springs Municipal Court:**

Judge Justin P. Fay Jan. 11 - Cameron Pistillo, careless driving, four points off, total fines

and costs - \$102. Jan. 11 — Juvenile, failed to yield when proceeding from stop sign, three points off, total fines and costs — \$116.

Jan. 11 — Mark Buschardt, changed lanes when unsafe, three points off, total fines and costs — \$146.

Jan. 11 — Sarah Eckrich, following too closely, four points off, total fines and costs - \$146. Jan. 11 — Bailey Logan, following

too closely, four points off, total fines and costs - \$146. Jan. 12 — Ernest Romero, theft, jail

10 days. Jan. 12 - Dennis Martinez, possession or consumption of alcohol in

public place, contempt-failure to appear, jail 10 days. Jan. 12 - Chris Buscaglia, exceeded safe speed for conditions,

three points off, total fines and costs Jan. 19 - Jo Hately, disobeyed official traffic device, four points off,

total fines and costs — \$146 Jan. 19 - Christopher Walden, harassment-strike/shove/kick, 24 months probation, 30 days jail, total

fines and costs - \$1,472.50. Jan. 19 - Whitney Owen Ward, driving under the influence with three or more priors, four years probation, 180 days jail, total fines and costs -

Jan. 20 — Christopher Torivio Walden, violation of protection ordercivil, 24 months probation, 30 days

jail, total fines and costs - \$1,531.50. Jan. 20 — John Guldemann, obedience to official traffic control device,

total fines and costs - \$202.50. Jan. 20 - Mark Anthony Garcia, speeding 10-19 over, total fines and

costs - \$263.50. Jan. 20 — Kesy Curtis, speeding 1-4 over, total fines and costs -

Jan. 20 - James N. Craft, speed-

ing 10-19 over, total fines and costs

Jan. 20 — Cazlin M. Van Cleve, license plates expired-temporary per-

mit, total fines and costs - \$111.50. Jan. 20 - Kelly S. Ford, registration-unregistered vehicle, total fines

and costs — \$126.50. Jan. 20 — Jeffery C. Zachry, loaded

weapon in vehicle, total fines and costs - \$221.50. Jan. 20 - Kelby Ray Schraeder,

loaded weapon in vehicle, total fines and costs - \$221.50. Jan. 20 — Autumn L. Nicely, seat

belt not used, total fines and costs -

Jan. 20 - Curdell Wauneka, reckless endangerment, total fines and costs - \$399.50. Jan. 20 - Curdell Wauneka, reck-

less driving, total fines and costs -\$104.50 Jan. 20 - Joseph S. Sherman,

speeding 5-9 over, total fines and costs - \$127.50.

Jan. 20 — Shawn Edward Shelly, speeding 5-9 over, total fines and costs \$192.50.

Jan. 20 — Erika Medellin Prescott, failed to stop at stop sign, total fines and costs - \$172.50.

Jan. 21 — Octavio Zazueter Sandoval, failed to stop at stop sign, total

fines and costs - \$172.50. Jan. 22 - Robert C. Barker, obedi-

ence to official traffic control device, total fines and costs - \$137.50. Jan. 22 — Jeremy D. Caler, speed-

ing 10-19 over, total fines and costs - \$198.50. Jan. 22 - Michael B. Le, speeding

10-19 over, total fines and costs -\$198.50.

Town planning commission sets meeting schedule for 2021

By Chris Mannara

Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Planning Commission set its regular meeting schedule and times for 2021 at a regular meeting on Tuesday.

Planning commission meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m., which is currently the standard, Planning Director James Dickhoff explained.

Work sessions for the planning commission are set at 4:30 on the same evenings on an as-needed basis, Dickhoff added.

Meetings of the planning commission will be held in the Pagosa Springs Town Council chambers as available; additionally, meetings have been moved to an online platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic, agenda documentation notes.

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Nicholas Christopher Karas, also known as 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 claims

The original of this document is on file at the law office

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 Pagosa

Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE PURSUANT

TO STORAGE LIEN Notice is given that, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Sections 38-21.5-101, et seq. (2015), a public sale will be held on February 5th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at 357 Park Ave, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. A list of the unit where property is stored, address of storage, name of occupant, last known address and a brief description of the contents follows. If no market value or if no bids are received the goods will be otherwise disposed of. #9 -357 Park Ave, Pagosa Springs, Colorado- Teresa Burk, PO Box 1162, Pagosa Springs CO 81147 -Boxes, Clothing, Child Supplies, and other Miscellaneous Items. #18-357 Park Ave, Pagosa Springs, Colorado- Kimberly Reyes, 214 Midiron Ave, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147- Set of Tires, Mattress, Empty boxes, Clothing, Storage totes, Shoes, Furniture, and other Miscellaneous Items. Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in The

Public Advertisement for Modular Installation Notice is hereby given that bids will be received for the installation of a modular school building for the spring of 2021 for the Archuleta School District 50 JT. Deadline for submission of bids is at 9:00 a.m. Friday February 19th, 2021, hand delivered to the Admin Office located at 309 Lewis Street or received at PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 on or before that date. Bids should be broken down into the following categories;

Excavation/ backfill/finish work, retaining wall and concrete foundation/supports and sidewalk/ramps Electrical connection, excavation and installation Plumbing/sewer connection, excavation and installation

Fire system Security system Carpentry (entrance and exit cover) Metal handrail fabrication

Fiber and tech installation Multiple bids may be submitted for partial or all categories however bids may not be combined without a breakdown varded multiple categories, please note that in bid Bids will require an early spring start date and estimated timeline for completion furthermore all work must be completed by the last day of July 2021. All contractors nust be licensed with the town of Pagosa Springs and properly insured.

Todd Stevens at Tstevens@pagosa.k12.co.us for permit bid plans and questions.
Published January 21 and 28, 2021 in *The Pagosa*

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX

LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or ecially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:
Richard J Fearon, as Trustee of the Richard J Fearon

Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014 13409 W COPPERSTONE DR SUN CITY WEST, AZ 85375 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of

Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public TLC CLUB the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOT 358 IN PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE

PLAT THEREOF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO.74884 Account Number: R010088 Schedule Number: 569919419003 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03059

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to TLC CLUB That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the deling property(and special assessment) taxes assessed

against said property for the year 2013 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of Richard J Fearon, as Trustee of the

Richard J Fearon Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014 for That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a

deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to TLC CLUB On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has been redeemed.

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed. Witness my hand this 11th day of January 2021 /s/ Flsa P White Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado

Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX

LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

Richard J Fearon, as Trustee of the Richard J Fearor Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014. 13409 W COPPERSTONE DR

SUN CITY WEST, AZ 85375 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public

tax lien sale to TLC CLUB the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: LOT 348 IN PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971

Schedule Number: 569930103018 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03061 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase herefore to TLC CLUB That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquen

Account Number: R012364

property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed n the name(s) of Richard J Fearon, as Trustee of the Richard J Fearon Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014. for said year 2013. That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December

2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has

made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed. Witness my hand this 13th day of January 2021 /s/ Elsa P White Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in *The*

Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of

Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom

Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public

It May Concern, and more especially to: JEFFREY V. CLARK 15409 W OLD SCHOOL ROAD LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of

TLC CLUB the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: LOTS 339 AND 340. IN CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 4, 1973

Account Number: R004422

Schedule Number: 569525106021

Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03052

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of

purchase therefore to TLC CLUB
That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent

property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in

the name(s) of JEFFREY V. CLARK for said year 2013. That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December

2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property

On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any

time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's

/s/ Elsa P White Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado

Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in The

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX

LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION

Witness my hand this 6th day of January 2021

deed to said property;

Pagosa Springs SUN.

AS RECEPTION NO. 77868.

Schedule Number: 569930102007 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03060 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent

AS RECEPTION NO. 74884 Account Number: R012342

property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of Richard J Fearon, as Trustee of the Richard J Fearon Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014 for said year 2013. That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December 2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to TLC CLUB

On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has

Witness my hand this 19th day of January 2021

Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado Published January 28, February 4 and 11, 2021 in The

PUBLIC HEARING

The Town Council for the Town of Pagosa Springs will be holding a public hearing for a new Beer & Wine liquor license application for Meltdown on Main LTD located at 257 Pagosa Street in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall at 551 Hot Springs Blvd or by Zoom meeting. All people wishing to comment should be present at that meeting o have written comments in the office of the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2021.

deed to said property; **AMOUNT** FLEET-PARTS & SUPPLIES 1.687.36 **EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS** 1.874.45 ACSO-SUPPLIES 143.38 COUNTY LIFE INSURANCE 1,402.87 R&B-ANALYSIS R&B-DISPOSAL 832.50 DHS CONTRACT SVC 3,334.00 DHS P & I RENT FOR CLIENT 450.00 COMMISS-COVID IT FUNDING/DHS-SALARY 61,915.09 COMMISS-4QTR 2020 FUNDING 38,750.00 AT YOUR DISPOSAL AT&T MOBILITY LLC. COUNTY DISPOSAL 892.00 COUNTY CELL PHONES/DATA SERVICE 2,379.84 ATLAS CORPORATE & NOTARY ACSO-NOTARY SEAL S. BROWN BANK OF COLORADO EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS 100.00 BANK OF THE SAN JUANS DISPATCH-LOAN PAYMENT 5,179.96 BEARCOM DISPATCH-NEW FACILITY ANTENNA BI INCORPORATED ACSO-ASP MONITORING BLACK HILLS ENERGY COUNTY GAS **BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR** FLEET-REPAIRS & TOWING CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS COUNTY COPIER CONTRACT SW-COMPACTOR SMM FEE (LEASE) 10.50 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT 101,572.73 IT-EQUIPMENT 1,018.31 COUNTY TELEPHONES 2,264.01 ACSO-MASKS 99.50 CORONER-CORONER ON CALL 100.00 COUNTY HEALTH INSURANCE 146,844.16 COUNTY-1ST AID SUPPLIES 1,651.77 ACSO-PER DIEM 357.50 STATE WITHHOLDING 20,222.00 ACSO-FINE REFUND 111.00 COMMISS-FOOD PANTRY CONTRIB. 50,000.00 DISPATCH-REIMB OFFICE SUPPLIES 13.84 1,477.20 FLEET-SUPPLIES CONTECH ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS R&B-CATTLE GUARDS 7,675.00 COUNTY-AGGREGATE R&B/ACSO ASSESSOR & CLERK-UNIFORMS 2,018.09 1,539.00 R&B-ENGINEERING IT-PC REPLACEMENT 2020 5.024.20 COUNTY DENTAL INSURANCE 4,936.94 R&B COLD MIX VETERANS-BUSINESS CARDS 85.00 TREASURER-PROP POSTINGS (12) 180.00 HR-DRUG TESTING **R&B-SIGN HOLDERS** 571.60 DISPATCH MOVE SVCS & CONSULT 5,875.00 TREASURER-REIMB SUPPLIES 23.68 GIS-ARCGIS THRU 4/21 6,900.00 EMPLOYEE GARNISHMENT FLEET-FUEL 23,717.82 SW-MILEAGE REIMB. 52.90 FOUR STATES TIRE FLEET-TIRES 11,751.06 FREDRICKZINK & ASSOCIATES EMPLOYEE FLEX 5,195.92 SW-PORTA TOILETS 405.00 ACSO-UNIFORMS 580.91 FLEET-SMALL TOOLS & SUPPLIES 301.47 OEM-REIMB COMMAND BUS SUPPLIES 56.30 CORONER-FACILITY USE & CREMATION 1,700.00 HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA ACSO-COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL 4,166.67 INLAND KENWORTH US INC. FLEET-PARTS 3,283.65 INLAND TRUCK PARTS COMPANY FLEET-PARTS 741.73 INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FEDERAL WITHHOLDING 144,377.01 **EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS** ACSO-TOWING (IMPOUND) 100.00 JACCO DISTRIBUTING COMPANY FLEET-SUPPLIES 182.80 CORONER-AUTOPSY ASSISTANT CORONER-CORONER ON CALL 200.00 JONATHON EVERS R&B-CDL PERMIT REIMB. 19.70 JUST CLICK PRINTING, INC. CLERKS ENV. & ASSESS.-MAP PRINTING 313.90 DISPATCH-REIMB, FOR MASKS 29.88 CORONER-CORONER ON CALL 100.00 DHS P&I FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MTGS 1,968.91 ACSO-NOV, INMATE HSG/DHS-SVC 31,427.24 2020 LA PLATA CTY CH REMODEL PMT. & 2QTR 238,083.74 & 3 QTR 2020 DA FEES COUNTY ELECTRIC 6,575.05 DHS OCT 2020 CONTRACT TANF LA PLATA FAMILY CENTERS ADMIN-REIMB BREAKFAST MTG LARRY SCOTT WALL 40.09 LARRY WALTON FINANCE-REIMB. PRINTER INK LAW FIRM OF LISA WARD, LLC. 5,572.80 **CLERKS-ERTB GRANT EXPENSE** 20,000.00 EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS 103.04 **OEM-SHIPPING CONTAINER** 5,200.00 HARMAN HOUSE CONST. ADMIN 2,821.20 EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS MEDICAL AIR SERVICES ASSOC. FLEET-DVM-800 CAMERA SYSTEM MHQ OF NEW MEXICO 13,182.20 MICHAEL F. ARNALL, M.D. CORONER-AUTOPSY FEES 11,700.00 OEM-REIMB. FOR SOFTWARE MIDWEST RADAR & EQUIPMENT ACSO-BADAR INSPECTIONS 560.00 IT-PHONES & CONSULTING 962.00 ACSO-UNIFORMS MOREASH COURT REPORTING ATTY-TRANSCRIPT COPIES 123.00 ADMIN-VIDEO CONF. BUNDLE 2,059.97 2.115.00 MUNIREVS INC. PLANNING-VRBO SYSTEM COUNTY-SIGNAGE 3,264.89 NM HUMAN SERVICES DEPT. **EMPLOYEE GARNISHMENT** CORONER-TOXICOLOGY 420.00 DHS CLIENT DEC MORTGAGE PAYMENT NOBLE PROPERTY HOLDINGS 349.00 FLEET-REPAIRS COURTS-PAYMENT 1 8,900.00 COUNTY OFFICE SUPPLIES OFFICE DEPOT INC. 904.58 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS FLEET-PARTS & SUPPLIES **B&G-PEST CONTROL** 410.48 COUNTY WATER & SEWER 908.90 ADMIN-SNEEZE GUARD 385.00 FLEET-PARTS & SUPPLIES 1,044.30 B&G-FIRE EXTINGUISHERS & SVC. 191.54 DHS PSSF TOW BILL FOR CLIENT 50.00 DHS 4TH QTR. POSTAGE 449.61 PSYCHOLOGICAL RESOURCES HR-PSYCHOLOGICAL EVAL PLIEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACSO-TUITION 8,126.43 DISPATCH-CLEANING & DISINFECT. 1,006.25 COURTHOUSE-DESIGN **B&G-HARMAN HSE. BACKFLOW TEST** 75.00 HR-COBRA MANAGEMENT 75.00 COMMISS-CTY CONTRIB JUL-DEC 66,462.00 DHS CS SUBPOENA TO TESTIFY 72.00 JAIL-FOOD & SUPPLIES 4,911.68 **R&B-CULVERTS** 1,854.88 DHS CW GAS VOUCHERS 500.00 COUNTY OFFICE SUPPLIES DHS TANF CONTRACT OCT 3,295.30 DHS S. UTE TRIBAL CODE BOOKS 150.00 SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCII ZOOM LISC.'S FOR MEETINGS 2,700.00 **CLERK-RENEWAL MAILINGS** 699.91 STROHECKER ASPHALT & PAVING R&B-AGGREGATE 9,356.00 SUTTON AUTOMOTIVE FLEET-REPAIRS 287.16 ACSO-BADGES 1.305.25 SYNERGY CONSTRUCTION CONCEPTS COURTHOUSE-DESIGN & PRE CONST. 1,912.32

VENDOR NAME ADVANCE AUTO PARTS AFLAC AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES AMERICAN UNITED LIFE INS ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES ARCHULETA COUNTY SOLID WASTE ARCHULETA COUNTY VICTIM ARCHULETA HOUSING CORP. ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT ARCHULETA SENIORS, INC.

FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: JEFFREY V. CLARK 15409 W OLD SCHOOL ROAD

LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasure of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: LOTS 286 AND 287 IN CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 4, 1973 AS RECEPTION NO. 77868

Account Number: R004445

Schedule Number: 569525108002 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03053 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to TLC CLUB $\,$ That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent

property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of JEFFREY V. CLARK for said year 2013. That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December 2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a

deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to TLC CLUB On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has been redeemed.

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Witness my hand this 7th day of January 2021 Elsa P White. Treasurer of Archuleta County. Colorado

Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in *The*

Pagosa Springs SUN. NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and

Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to: JEFFREY V. CLARK 15409 W. OLD SCHOOL ROAD

LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to TLC CLUB the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: LOTS 196 AND 197, IN CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 4, 1973 AS RECEPTION NO. 77868. Account Number: R004477 Schedule Number: 569525110007 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03055

therefore to TLC CLUB That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013 That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of JEFFREY V. CLARK for said year 2013. That said TLC CLUB on the 22nd day of December 2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has been redeemed Said property may be redeemed from said sale at a time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my hand this 8th day of January 2021 Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN.*

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom

NATIONAL RECREATIONAL PROPERTIES OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, LLC 9 GOODYEAR, SUITE 200 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 5th day of November 2009, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public

It May Concern, and more especially to:

DAVID G MANDY INVESTMENT TRUST the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: LOTS 244 AND 245 IN CHRIS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE AT PAGOSA UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 4, 1973 AS

RECEPTION NO. 77868

Account Number: R004504 Schedule Number: 569525203013 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2009-0871 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to DAVID G MANDY INVESTMENT TRUST That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquer property(and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2008
That said real estate was taxed or specially a

PROPERTIES OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, LLC for That said DAVID G MANDY INVESTMENT TRUST on the 22nd day of December 2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasure of said County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property

in the name(s) of NATIONAL RECREATIONAL

On the 2nd day of June 2021, unless the same has been redeemed Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed. Witness my hand this 13th day of January 2021

Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado

Published January 21, 28 and February 4, 2021 in The

to DAVID G MANDY INVESTMENT TRUST

Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and

to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or

Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom

It May Concern, and more especially to: Richard J Fearon,as Trustee of the Richard J Fearon Trust U/A/D January 15, 2014 13409 W COPPERSTONE DRIVE SUN CITY WEST, AZ 85375 You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer o Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public

TLC CLUB the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit: Lot 373 IN PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE

PLAT THEROF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Published January 28, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

ARCHULETA COUNTY

CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL CCOERA- EMP RETIREMENT CDW GOVERNMENT LLC. CHARM-TEX INC CIERRA C. CORLEY CIGNA HEALTH CINTAS FIRST AID & SAFETY CODY CIVILETTO COLORADO DEPT. OF REVENUE COLORADO INTERACTIVE, LLC. COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CONNER YOUNG CONSERVANCY OIL CO. OF DGO.

CROSSFIRE, LLC. **CUTEZEE CUSTOM CREATIONS** DAVIS ENGINEERING SERVICE DELL MARKETING L.P. DELTA DENTAL OF COLORADO DESERT MOUNTAIN CORP. DESIGN-A-SIGN DIANE MAUN

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING **ECONO SIGN & BARRICADE** ELK MOUNTAIN TECHNOLOGY **ELSA WHITE ESRI** FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY FIREBIRD FUEL FLORIAN GALLEGOS

G&I SANITATION to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or GALLS, LLC. GRAINGER GREG WYNN HOOD MORTUARY

INTERNATIONAL CITY MGMT. J.R. TOWING INC. JANIS L. SMITH JASON HIBBERT -

KATHERINE HARR KELLY L. ROBERTSON LA PLATA COUNTY DEPT. OF LA PLATA COUNTY SHERIFF LA PLATA COUNTY TREASURER LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOC.

LEDS, LLC. LEGAL SHIELD made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a LET'S STORE IT ME&E ENGINEERING

> MICHAEL LE ROUX MITCHELL & COMPANY, LLC. MONOGRAMS PLUS MOUNTAIN HOME SOUND

NEWMAN TRAFFIC SIGNS NMS LABS NOVUS AUTO GLASS NUNN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

ORKIN, LLC. PAGOSA AREA WATER PAGOSA GLASS PARTS PLUS OF NEW MEXICO PEAK PERFORMANCE FIRE PIEDRA AUTOMOTIVE LLC. PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL

PUROCLEAN OF DURANGO REYNOLDS ASH & ASSOCIATES RIO BLANCO BACKFLOW ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESERVE SAN JUAN BASIN PUBLIC HEALTH SAN MIGUEL COUNTY SHAMROCK FOODS COMPANY

SONOCO PAGOSA SPRINGS SOUTHERN COLORADO COMM. SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE STATE OF COLORADO (IDS)

TERRY'S ACE HARDWARE THE TILE STORE PAGOSA THOMSON REUTERS - WEST

UMB BANK, N.A. VAL'S VIP CLEANING LLC. VALUEWEST, INC. VERIZON WIRELESS VISIONARY COMMUNICATIONS VOGY'S HOUSE MOVING, LLC.

WAGNER EQUIPMENT CO WEAVER CONSULTANTS GROUP WEBER SAND & GRAVEL INC. WESTERN HERITAGE EVENT CTR. WESTERN PAPER DISTRIBUTORS WESTERN SLOPE TRAILER SALES WESTTEL INTERNATIONAL, LLC. WPL TRANSPORTATION HOLDING WELLS FARGO PURCHASE CARD

14,884.56 451.90 1,814.30 1,549.97 2.383.49

SKYLINE STEEL SOURCE OFFICE & TECHNOLOGY

SYMBOLARTS TERRI PEREZ THE LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN THE PONDEROSA LUMBER CO

BUILDING-PERMIT REFUND

COUNTY-ADVERTISING

COUNTY-SUPPLIES

ATTY-SUBSCRIPTION

COUNTY-UNIFORMS & SUPPLIES

OEM-CARPET FOR COMMAND POST

COUNTY SEWER & GEO/DHS-ELECTRIC

OEM-COMMAND POST SUPPLIES

ACSO-SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION

CORONER-CORONER ON CALL

ACSO-PLATFORM SCALE

CLERKS-OCE AGMT

COUNTY CLEANING

B&P-IPAD DATA

SW-CONSULTING

R&B-AGGREGATE

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

ASSESSOR-RE-APPRAISAL

COUNTY INTERNET/INTRANET

CABIN MOVING & SUPPLIES

FLEET-PARTS & SUPPLIES

HUGHES PAVILION SAND

DISPATCH-E911 SOFTWARE

OEM-2020 SNOWMOBILE TRAILER

ACSO-PAPER TOWELS

COMMISS-LEGAL SETTLEMENT

196.00

3,040.53

11,603.55

531.36

947.42

84.07

1.617.91

100.00

463.52

135.00

10,473.33

3,400.00

3,505.40

44,642.17

17,426.44

30,875.00

25,999.00

18,752.18

540.32

52.76

914.00

134.00

2,451.96

TOM STRANG ONYA M. HAMILTON TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS TRINITY SERVICES GROUP UNITED REPROGRAPHIC SUPPLY

FLEET-SHIPPING LDG/FUEL/MEALS/SUPPLIES/EQUIP/MISC WELLS FARGO Published January 28, 2021 in The Pagosa Springs SUN

Multiple agencies respond to transport patient to medical center

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

On Jan. 19, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, (ACSO) Office of Emergency Management responded to a call for an agency assist to transport a patient to Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC).

According to Director of Emergency Operations Mike Le Roux, PSMC EMS responded to a call early in the morning on County Road 700 for an elderly woman who was in need of oxygen.

Le Roux explained that EMS responders were unable to drive the ambulance all the way up the patient's drive way as it had not been plowed from snowfall received the night before.

Le Roux explained that the ACSO's emergency operations has a Polaris Ranger UTV vehicle equipped with snow tracks to help with missions like this.

The UTV is also equipped with a patient bed in the back to trans-

At a meeting on Jan. 14, the

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation

District (PAWSD) Board of Direc-

tors approved the 2021 board

meeting schedule and a resolution

outlining the annual posting for

lar meetings for 2021, public board

meetings for PAWSD will be held at

According to the notice of regu-

By Chris Mannara

Staff Writer

PAWSD approves meeting

posting locations and schedule

port patients.

He explained that EMS responders were able to hike up the patient's driveway, which he estimated being a mile and a half long, and make contact in order to keep the patient stabilized until assistance showed up.

According to Le Roux, he arrived on scene with the UTV at approximately 12:47 p.m.

At this point, crews were able to successfully transport the patient down the driveway with the UTV and then into the ambulance to be transported to PSMC.

Le Roux noted that it was a smooth operation and the patient was in stable condition upon arriving at PSMC.

He also praised the ability of the agencies to work together and utilize each other's resources in order to complete a successful mission.

"Its a good example of agency assist and the relationships we have with EMS," Le Roux said.

the district's offices located at 100

Lyn Ave. on the second Thursday

of each month at 5 p.m., excluding

the PAWSD website will be the dis-

trict's location for posting notice of

regular and special meetings; ad-

ditionally, the district's offices will

be the physical posting place for

meetings when electronic posting

chris@pagosasun.com

Resolution 2021-01 outlines that

July and November.

is not available.

clayton@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management The Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Management assisted with a patient transport operation that involved the use of the county's Polaris Ranger UTV equipped with snow tracks.

On Jan. 12, the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) responded to a call for a firearm being

from the PSPD, the call was received at approximately 6:40 p.m. The press release states, "After

investigation officers found a 27-year-old male Gabriel Lister had recklessly discharged a 9 mm handgun."

the suspect's television and into

the bullet traveled through two additional walls and stopped in the back bedroom of the neighboring

The neighboring duplex was occupied by four juveniles at the time, the press release notes, and there were no injuries reported from the incident.

Lister was charged with prohibdangerment.

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hubbard43@gmail.com or call.

Pagosa Springs (Behind City Market) 970-398-0820

Office Hours by Appointment

Firearm discharged downtown, bullet enters neighboring duplex **By Clayton Chaney** the neighboring duplex, the press Staff Writer release indicates. According to the press release,

discharged on South 8th Street. According to a press release

The bullet had traveled through

ited use of a weapon/reckless discharge, discharge of firearm within city limits and reckless en-



PSES

Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES) administration and staff would like to thank Reynolds, Ash and Associates for their generous donation to PSES families through the holidays. Thank you for being an organization that seeks to lift our community.

Card of Thanks

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Pagosa Springs Town Council work session. 5 p.m. See town website for participation infor-

Tuesday, Feb. 2

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.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30 p.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

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

Thursday, Feb. 4

Dispatch Executive Management Board meeting. 9:30a.m. Zoom meeting: https://us02web. zoom.us/j/7186713647, meeting ID: 718-671-3647.

Town of Pagosa Springs Combined Parks and Recreation **Advisory Board meeting.** 5:30 p.m. See town website for participation information.

Monday, Feb. 8

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors regular meeting. 5 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

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.

Archuleta County Republican Women's meeting. Noon, Boss Hogg's, 157 Navajo Trail Drive.

Town Planning Commission, **Board of Adjustments and** Design Review Board. 5:30 p.m., via Zoom: https://zoom. us/j/91299357590 or dial (346) 248-7799 or (669) 900-6833,

webinar ID: 912 9935 7590.

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

Pagosa Fire Protection District **Board of Directors meeting** and Board of Trustees of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund regular meeting. 6:30 p.m. administration building, 165 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

Yamaguchi South Planning Open House Day 1. Drop in via Zoom or in person between 1 and 8 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., or Zoom: https://zoom. us/j/92266855391, or dial (346) 248-7799 or (669) 900-6833, webinar ID: 922 6685 5391.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular meeting. 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/ i/89609739191?pwd=N2lmVWp XcG8yVHZqeWZsSlJISktIQT09. To access the agenda: www.pagosaspringscdc.org/knowledgebase/cdc-meetings/.

Thursday, Feb. 11

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session with Ute Tribal Council. 11 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

Yamaguchi South Planning Open House Day 2 and wrap-up summary. Drop in via Zoom or in person at the Ross Aragon Community Center between 1 and 7 p.m. with the wrap-up presentation from 7-8 p.m. (both at same location), either Zoom: https://zoom. us/j/95308282141, or dial (669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782, webinar ID: 953 0828 2141.

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

Advertise your business in the guide visitors use.

Pagosa Springs Official Visitor GuideTM **Advertising Deadline: February 26, 2021**

35,000 copies of the award-winning **Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™** will be printed and distributed at Walmart, The Springs Resort, Wyndham, Pagosa Springs Area Visitor Center, The Choke Cherry Tree, many other area establishments, and welcome centers throughout Colorado. The guide will be mailed in one edition of The

Pagosa Springs SUN to subscribers. A digitally enhanced version of the guide will be online at PagosaSUN.com and **ExplorePagosa.com.** When applicable, your ad will be linked to your website. The tourism committee will provide a link to this guide on visitpagosasprings.com.

To ensure that your business is represented in Pagosa Springs' largest and most comprehensive visitor guide, call your Pagosa Springs SUN advertising representative today. (970) 264-2100



457 Lewis Street • (970) 264-2100 www.PagosaSUN.com

K-4 Friday Study Hall 8am-1pm \$25/kid

supervised study hall, art and other activities provided

PagosaArtsInitiative.org

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.

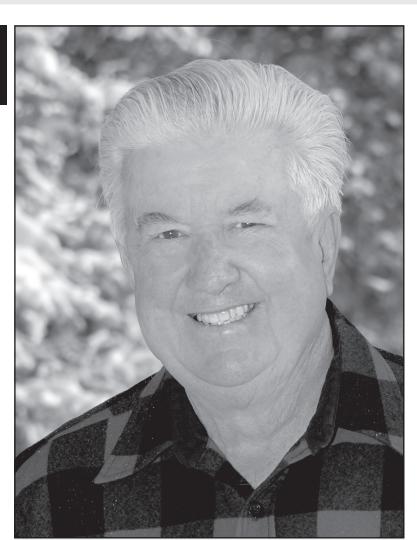
Local tax revenues were way up this year. Our local economy is still generally very strong, though the COVID restrictions have been hard on certain restaurants and businesses. Many of our local businesses have shown great resiliency and imagination in adapting to the changing regulations.

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%.

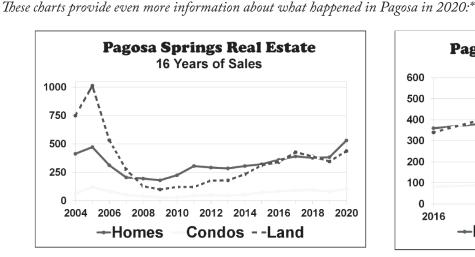
Overall real estate sales ended the year at 1,087 total sales. The last time we sold over a thousand properties was back in 2005. You may recall that 2005 was the peak of the vacant land boom, when National Recreational Properties, Inc. bought up all the inventory they could get their hands on, and then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

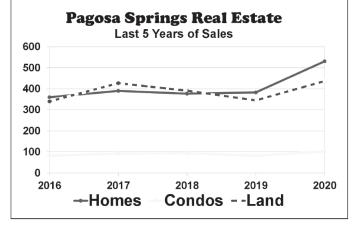


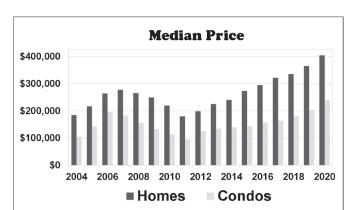
Lee Riley

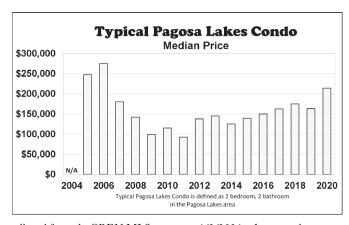
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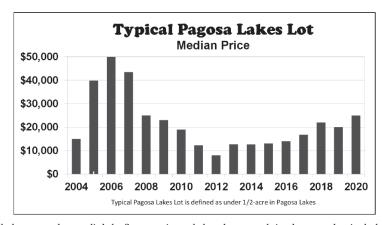
LeeRiley@ISellPagosa.com











*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*

Pagosa Springs Area Realtor of the Year 2001 and 2014

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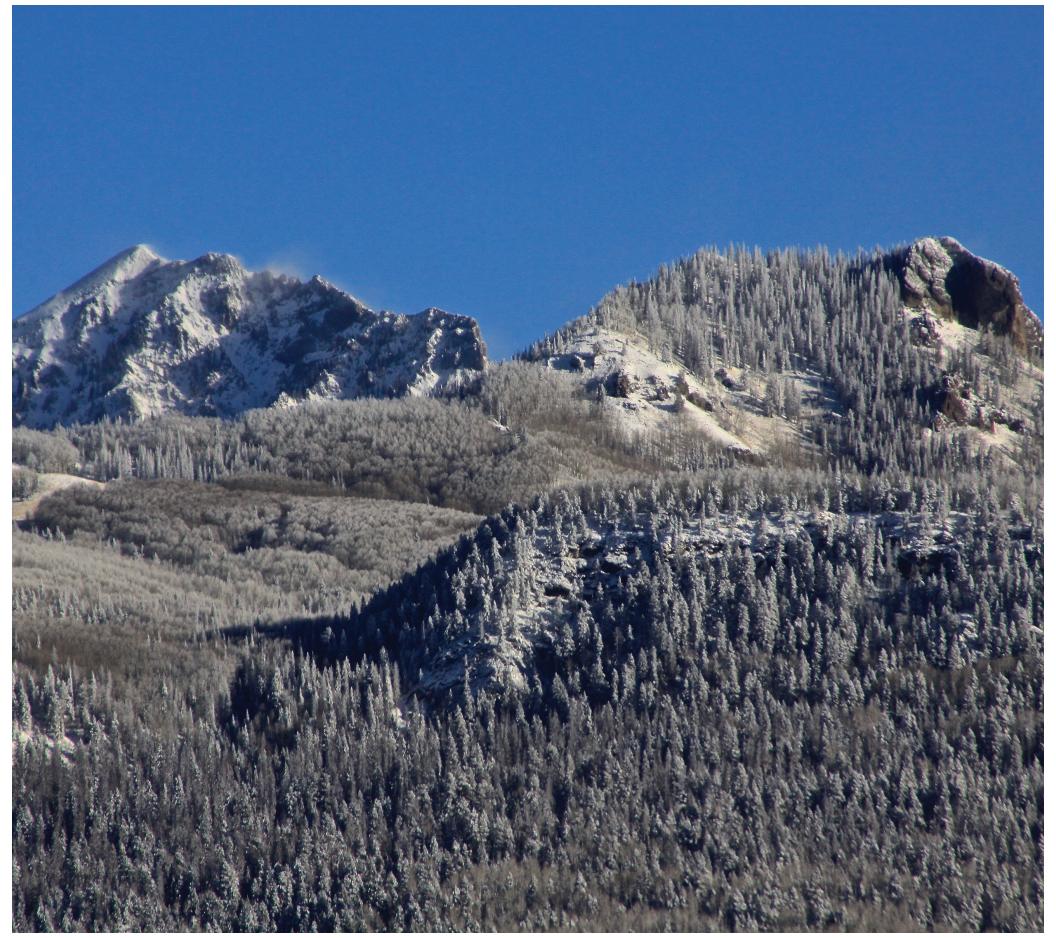
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If you'd like to receive my monthly newsletter via email, send your email address to LeeRiley@ISellPagosa.com

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Life is a page-turner

If life is a book, then God is the author. I trust he knows where this story will take us, whether I do or not. If you take a peek at the last chapter, however, you will come to know that the ending is more beautiful than anything we can imagine. But, as I flip through the pages of yesterday, today and tomorrow, there are certainly some nail-biting chapters written therein.

I have a tendency of reading more between the lines than I should. I've even been known to draw understanding that is vastly different from the dialogue at hand. I don't know why I do what I do, especially when I know that my jumping between words usually leaves me disappointed.

As a writer, one of the first things we learn is that we need to have conflict in order to keep a reader turning the page. Today's book has that and more. In fact, there seems to be an increase of conflict mid-paragraph. I don't think I have ever seen so many on-the-edge-ofmy-seat plot twists.

Our media sources have made this volume of our lives a best seller. We are intrigued by this thriller, shocked by the horror and have been educated, entertained, humored and saddened. And that is just the prologue.

I can't be alone when I say there

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



are days when I just don't want to pick up this book. But as I read, I truly can't put it down.

My son says, "We are living in exciting times. They aren't always great, they aren't always horrible, but everything seems in its perfect place and right on schedule.'

I suppose he is right. We have to keep in mind that God's story is written from a perspective that defies understanding. And to that end, trust the journey and its collective parts to bring us to a perfect conclusion.

David told us in the Psalms that God saw us before he created us. Before we ever opened our eyes the first time, he already knew the very number of our days. We were written as characters of his story, before we even cracked its spine.

There is a phrase that caught my attention from Romans 8:27, TPT: "The Holy Spirit passionately pleads before God for us, in perfect harmony with God's plan and our destiny.

It is safe to say that these crazy times are in perfect harmony with God's plan and His destiny for us. If we understand life as a story, with a beginning, middle and end, we know every page has to be in sequence if we are to make it to the last chapter.

Yes, even a story with conflicts, the likes of what we see around us today, have their perfect purpose.

With that in mind, to trust the direction our story takes us is to accept a belief in the one who wrote it.

How comforting to be able to trust in the words written in the book Jeremiah lived, when he reminded us that God has plans for us, with peace and with a future.

Final brushstroke: You can pick up a book, read the inside flap, then put it down passing judgment on content you have no knowledge of. Or, you can pick up a book and read it cover to cover, with eager anticipation for where the story will lead. Either way, we know that "His will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Embrace the unfolding story that is our daily walk, because this great mystery is no match for the spectacular epilogue that has vet to be read.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@ bettyslade.com.

Register now for the Incredible Years Parenting Class

By Michelle Carpenter

The Incredible Years

The Incredible Years Parenting Class is a free opportunity offered to anyone who wants to build positive relationships with their children, needs more effective discipline or would like new ideas to help their children learn and grow. This class is created for families with children between the ages of 3 and 8 years.

The parenting class will be offered each Wednesday from noon to 1:30 p.m. for 14 weeks, starting Wednesday, Feb. 3, via Zoom.

The Incredible Years Parenting

Class will help strengthen children's social skills, emotional regulation and school readiness skills. You will learn to use praise and incentives to encourage cooperative behavior, learn to use positive discipline (rules, routines and effective limit setting), as well as learn how to best handle misbehaviors.

A local father said, "At first, I was not all that eager to give up my free time for 14 weeks, but, over time, the other class members became such good friends. I realized I wasn't the only parent having the same struggles with my children. I was astounded at the degree of effectiveness from the class. My son

was responding very positively to the techniques I had learned and began implementing at home. This class became a weekly meeting that I looked forward to each week as a positive gathering of friends."

If you have any questions about the class or would like to register, please call Michelle Carpenter at 946-0664 or Lynne Bridges at 264-5513. Call soon as class size is limited.

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Physical address: 457 Lewis Street Mailing address: PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Publisher/Editor

Terri House, editor@pagosasun.com

Assistant Editor

Randi Pierce, randi@pagosasun.com

Reporters

Chris Mannara, chris@pagosasun.com Clayton Chaney, clayton@pagosasun.com Simone Mounsamy, simone@pagosasun.com

Business Development and Circulation Manager Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com

Business Development

Simone Mounsamy, simone@pagosasun.com

Head Pressman

Robert Penton

Assistant Pressman Lawrence Castolenia

Mailroom

William Thomas

Classified Advertising/Front Office

Missy Phelan, classads@pagosasun.com Shana Young-Gawdun, classads@pagosasun.com

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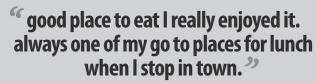


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COVID taking mental toll on American farmers

By Robin Young

PREVIEW Columnist

A strong majority of farmers/ farmworkers say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their mental health and more than half say they are personally experiencing more mental health challenges than they were a year ago, according to a new American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) poll.

The survey of rural adults and farmers/farmworkers explores how the pandemic has affected their mental health personally and in their communities, as well as how attitudes and experiences around mental health have changed in rural and farm communities since AFBF conducted its first rural mental health survey in 2019.

"My takeaway from this survey is that the need for support is real and we must not allow lack of access or a 'too tough to need help' mentality to stand in the way," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "We are stepping up our efforts through our Farm State of Mind campaign, encouraging conversations about stress and mental health and providing free training and resources for farm and ranch families and $rural\ communities.\ The\ pandemic$ added a mountain of stress to an already difficult year for farmers and they need to know that sometimes it's OK not to be OK, that people care, and that there's help and hope."

The results of the new poll clearly demonstrate that the COVID-19 pandemic is having broad-ranging impacts among rural adults and farmers/farmworkers. Key findings

- Two in three farmers/farmworkers (66 percent) say the pandemic has impacted their mental
- Rural adults were split on COV-ID-19's impact. Half of rural adults (53 percent) say the pandemic has impacted their mental health at least some, while 44 percent say it has not impacted their mental health much or at all.
- Younger rural adults were more likely than older rural adults to say the pandemic has impacted their mental health a lot.
- Farmers and farmworkers were 10 percent more likely than rural adults as a whole to have experienced feeling nervous, anxious or on edge during the pandemic (65 percent versus 55 percent).
- The percentage of farmers/ farmworkers who say social isolation impacts farmers' mental health increased 22 percent since April 2019, a significant finding given the long hours many farmers work alone.
- Half of rural adults (52 percent) aged 18-34 say they have thought more about their mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, more than other age groups.

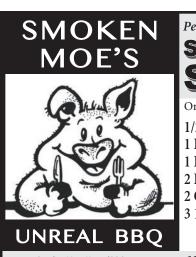
Extension Viewpoints

• Three in five rural adults (61 percent) say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted mental health in rural communities. Farmers/ farmworkers were more likely than rural adults to say COVID-19 has

impacted mental health in rural communities a lot (37 percent versus 22 percent).

The survey of 2,000 rural adults was conducted by Morning Consult in December. It also identified the main obstacles to seeking help or treatment for a mental health condition, the most trusted sources for information about mental health, impressions of the importance of mental health in rural communities and the importance

■ See Viewpoints on next page



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New online Spanish conversation group to start Monday

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Next Monday, Feb. 1, from 4 to 5 p.m., a new online Spanish conversation group will gather on Google Meet to practice skills together. You can access the meeting using the Google Meet app or by visiting meet.google.com/xrv-esre-kav — and feel free to contact Brad at the library if you have questions about using Google Meet. The group's next session will be Feb. 22 from 4 to 5 p.m.

New free literacy program for babies

An exciting new free Coloradobased literacy program that helps families and caregivers build their babies' vocabulary is now underway in Archuleta County, 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 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

Library News

2045, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or call Cindi Galabota at 264-2209. Thank you.

Library operations update

Here is the current status under COVID Level Orange:

- Thirty patrons may be in the building at a time.
- Open Thursdays from 1 to 7 p.m., with 1 to 2 p.m. reserved for seniors and higher-risk 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.
- Accepting meeting room reservations only for individuals or members of the same household, with library programs having first dibs on the rooms.
- 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.
- Ten computers are available. 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 place holds on items from other libraries. They are in different stages of open, 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 Meg Wempe, 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.'

New all-ages writing challenge

On Jan. 25, 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.

■ See Library on next page

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If you would like your student to join Pagosa Peak Open School

https://pagosapeakopenschool.org/enrollment and fill out the

and engage in Project and Place-based education, please go to

Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m. - In-person Open House - Spanish translator available

Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m. - In-person Open House

enrollment interest form.

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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page of reducing stigma surrounding mental health.

If you or someone you know is struggling emotionally or has concerns about their mental health, visit the Farm State of Mind website at farmstateofmind.org, where you can find crisis hotlines; treatment locators; tips for helping someone in emotional pain; ways to start a conversation; and resources for managing stress, anxiety or depression.

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/orlike 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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Library

continued from previous page **New 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. 28 theme is escape to warmer climates via a fanciful ocean story. After you finish the walk, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library.

Knitting takeaways

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.

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 write book reviews, make artwork for the teen area, help plan new programs, judge our pumpkindecorating contest, prepare crafts for kids' programs and help keep the library organized. Please stop by the library or apply online.

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 crafts takeaways for youngsters age 10 and older during open hours. Pick up a packet outside the library.

In-person gaming

Free in-person gaming is suspended due to COVID safety con-

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.

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**

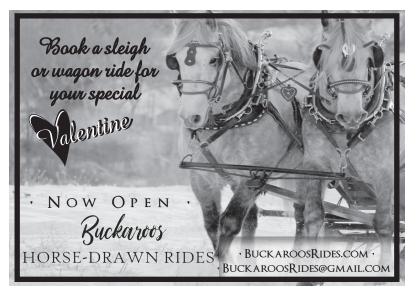
Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m., join us on the library's Facebook page for free children's programs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so you can interact with Josie. Saturday's Discovery Times with games, art ideas, science experiments, history and more are prerecorded.

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.

Nonfiction

"The City of God" by Saint Augustine is a book of Christian philosophy. "The Lupus Solution" by Drs. Tiffany and Brent Caplan is a patient's guide to understanding lupus, avoiding flares and achiev-

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ continued from previous page

ing long-term remission. "A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe" by Michael S. Schneider is an illustrated journey exploring the mathematical principles made visible in flowers, shells, crystals, plants and the human body. "American Baby" by Gabrielle Glaser is the intimate story of a mother and son reunited after being separated by the 1960s adoption system.

Books on CD

Robert B. Parker's "Someone to Watch Over Me" by Ace Atkins is a Spenser mystery. "Our Darkest Night" by Jennifer Robson follows a young Jewish woman who must pose as a Christian farmer's wife to survive the Holocaust. "Better Luck Next Time" by Julia Claiborne Johnson is set in Reno, the divorce capital of the world. "Deadly Cross" by James Patterson is an Alex Cross mystery.

Large print

"Spin" by Patricia Cornwall is book two in the Captain Chase thriller series. "The Mystery of Mrs. Christie" by Marie Benedict focuses on the disappearance of Agatha Christie. "Wrong Alibi" by Christina Dodd is a murder mystery set in Alaska.

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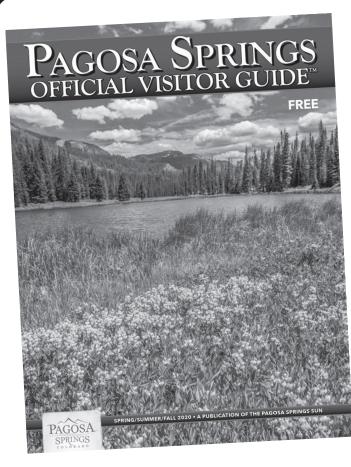
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Quotable quote

"Not enough black women had a seat at the table, so I had to go and chop down that wood and build my own table." — American singer-songwriter Beyoncé.

Website

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Entering Ute Country

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Pagosa's

John M. Motter

Europeans entered North America. Taos was reputed to be a great trading center among the Indians before the first Hispanic set foot in New Mexico.

The eastern stretch of The Old Spanish Trail served as a trade route between the New Mexico settlements and the Utes of Southern Colorado and Utah. Abiquiu was a favored place for Utes to winter.

Annual caravans of Spanish traders, authorized and unauthorized, entered Ute Country. Indian captives, male and female, were sold as slaves to wealthy Mexican dons for a great profit. Often, these slaves had been captured during warfare between tribes and sold to Spanish traders who valued them above furs. A large antelope or deer hide was worth two pesos, a horse worth three pesos. A common soldier earned 15 pesos a month and a common laborer was paid one peso a day. A slave woman was worth eight horses.

Most Indian slaves worked on farms or became house servants. Some worked in Hispanic mines, often as slaves.

The ownership of horses changed many aspects of Ute culture. Mounted, they were able to kill large numbers of bison on the plains and carry the meat and hides home. They could raid enemy villages and retreat in a hurry. They lived in larger groups with



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

This is a pre-1900 photo of three pioneer O'Neal ladies who were part of a family that drove a herd of longhorn steers from Texas to Pagosa Country.

stronger central organization and leadership. Utes were probably the first western Indians to own large numbers of horses.

Except for changes brought on by the acquisition of horses and trade with the Spanish, Ute life remained relatively unchanged until the Mexican/American War of 1846-1848. The Ute was safe and secure in his mountain homeland. Occasional bands of Spanish traders penetrated their mountain fastness. Some of these may have lived with Utes.

For a time shortly after 1820, American and French Canadian fur trappers and traders penetrated Ute Country. The trappers traded with the Utes, lived in Ute villages, married Ute women and trapped beaver in Ute Mountain Country. They did not attempt to claim ownership of the land.

Americans entering New Mexico following the Mexican American War were different. They wanted ownership of the land.



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Improving your resilience

By Cheryl Wilkinson

PREVIEW Columnist

Optimism and resilience seem like two things we're either born with or we're not. But that's not quite the whole picture. Resilience has been studied for decades and is shown to involve adaptability and a willingness to see the world for what it is (Southwick and Charney, 2015). This is as true for people with the most radical post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and phobias as it is for those who have not been as seriously challenged in their lives.

You can tell if you are resilient by your coping strategies. Individuals who consider themselves a victim of their circumstances and dwell on hard challenges rather than workable solutions often turn to unworkable coping strategies, such as substance abuse, domestic abuse, and denial and isolation. People often say that they engage in those behaviors because they feel powerless in the situation. That's a myth. Abuse, denial and isolation are all harnessed power; you can't do any of those things without exercising your power.

On the other hand, individuals who are resilient recognize that life normally brings challenges; however, these folks meet the challenge head on and find workable solutions. These folks know the world is scary, but what they do differently is they determine what parts of the problem they can't change and then seek out ways to use their personal power positively to improve their situation in ways they can manage.

Senior News

Resilient people grab hold of a platform that provides them with alternatives. They:

- Focus on a moral compass that is based on a sense of right and wrong. They think about how they can help others, rather than just how bad their own situation feels.
- Stay a part of community and get social support. If they don't have one, they find a way to connect, often through figuring out how they can help those around them. The community can be large or small — family oriented, religious, practical (like a food bank or animal shelter). The community naturally supports its members very strongly and so the participants feel better, too.
- Learn from positive and negative role models. They see what works for other people they admire and build on beliefs, attitudes and behaviors they find inspiring. Conversely, they take note of role models that they don't want to become.
- Maintain physical fitness or establish a routine to gain it. This has been found to be especially effective for those with PTSD and phobias, and works on a number of levels to improve outlook and overall health.

It turns out resilience and optimism are choices, not personality

types. While the pandemic drags on, we have to find better ways to cope. Take small steps, step away when you get angry, get some exercise — even if that is just walking to the end of your driveway. Get out of yourself and into the world again. Eventually, the world will open back up. In the meantime, find ways to be good to those around you, so you can better adapt and be more successful over the long haul.

You can contact us or learn more about Archuleta Seniors Inc. at our website: http://www.psseniors.org/.

Tax help available

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.

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

■ See Senior on next page

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"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 been laid to rest. That daily death rate reminds us that we also are mortal. One day death will knock on our door. Knowing that, what should

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.

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Dementia is not normal aging

By Kay Kaylor

PREVIEW Columnist

I advocate for residents in skilled nursing and assisted living residences as the regional long-term care ombudsman. I also am a Senior Medicare Patrol and State Health Insurance Assistance Program counselor, all as an employee of San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA). The many aging and care concerns will be addressed here.

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) gave some clear differences between aging memory loss and dementia in a Jan. 19 article (reviewed October 2020) titled "Memory, Forgetfulness and Aging: What's Normal and What's Not?" Mild forgetfulness, normal while aging, might involve learning less quickly than when younger or forgetting to pay a bill occasionally.

More serious forgetfulness makes it harder to do tasks like driving and shopping. Commonly known signs of a problem with memory are getting lost in familiar places and repeating questions. Other signs include confusing time, place and people and having trouble following directions. It is important to note that illnesses such as depression, a urinary tract or other infection, a tumor or certain drugs or combination of drugs can also cause side effects like memory and thinking problems. Anyone with cognitive

Area Agency on Aging

and memory symptoms should be checked by a doctor.

Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) is diagnosed for people with more memory problems than are considered "normal" for their age. People living with this diagnosis do not experience some of the Alzheimer's or other dementia symptoms, such as personality changes. They can carry out everyday activities, but might lose items more often, forget to attend events or appointments, and have more trouble with finding words than others the same age. The NIA suggests that people with MCI to get medical checkups every six to 12 months to evaluate their memory and to learn habits, behaviors and activities that improve or maintain memory and thinking skills.

A dementia diagnosis, on the other hand, is not a normal part of aging and includes loss of cognitive function. It interferes with a person's quality of life and activities.

"People with dementia may also have problems with language skills, visual perception or paying attention. Some people have personality changes," the article states. Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia for people older than age 65, is one of many types of dementias. Examples of symptoms that differ from normal aging include making poor judgments and decisions frequently and problems with timely paying of monthly bills. Other symptoms are losing track of the date or time of year, trouble with conversations and misplacing items frequently and not finding them.

The NIA also warns of unproven treatments, especially if they sound too promising or advertise a "scientific breakthrough." For more information on memory and cognition, call the NIA's Alzheimer's and related Dementias Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center, (800) 438-4380; the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, (800) 352-9424; or the Alzheimer's Association, (800) 272-3900.

SJBAAA offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare; see sjbaaa.org. For further information, please call or text 403-2165 or send an email to kkaylor@sjbaaa.org.





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Senior

■ continued from previous page 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. 28 — Meat loaf on

mashed potatoes, roasted broccoli, milk, salad and peach empanada.

Friday, Jan. 29 — Chicken enchiladas suizas, refried beans, milk, salad and lemon cake.

Monday, Feb. 1 — Loaded baked potato soup, fried apples, milk, salad, and red velvet cake.

Tuesday, Feb. 2 — Alfredo pasta primavera, steamed broccoli, focaccia bread with butter, milk and salad.

Wednesday, Feb. 3 — Braised cod with lemon cream sauce, sautéed kale, milk, salad and chocolate chip cookies.

Thursday, Feb. 4 — Beef tacos with homemade flour tortillas, Mexican rice, charro beans, milk and salad.

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Vitalant and Colorado State Patrol team up for virtual blood drive

Donations of blood often see a sharp decline in the winter months and the COVID-19 epidemic has complicated things further, canceling many blood donation events across our state. But the need for donations is still there. That is why the Colorado State Patrol is teaming up with Vitalant to hold a virtual blood drive throughout February.

But how can you donate blood

It's simple. Sign up to receive an invitation by visiting: https://learn. vitalant.org/LP=148?drive_code=D EN10347&division=MOUNTAIN% 26%region=DEN.

The best part is you get to pick the location and time that works best for you. Using the same email address, you can "schedule now" to book an appointment at any convenient blood donation location.

Remember your photo ID and eat a healthy meal before donating.

By participating this way, the donation is recorded as part of this special Colorado State Patrol drive. Vitalant will test all successful donations for COVID-19 antibodies. A single donation has the ability to save up to three lives.

On behalf of the Colorado State Patrol, we thank you for your willingness to help in this life-saving

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igging in the deep snow

Special to The PREVIEW

In the mountains, there are many very expensive homes that wealthy people call their summer cabins. The snow up there will often reach 10 feet or more in depth.

A friend of mine, David, has a job filling propane tanks around the valley. Quite often, calls will come in from homeowners who are away for the winter to fill propane tanks. If the tanks go empty, the homes' heat will shut off, and the water pipes will freeze and crack.

The problem is that the deep snow often conceals the tanks. Smart homeowners will set a tall flag so the tanks can be found. However, some do not, in which case David has to either rely on a map of the property call the homeowner and rely on the owner's memory.

If the map or the directions are not good, David might dig down the 10-foot depth only to find that the tank isn't there. He then expands the circle, digging wider and wider. Although the homeowner must pay extra for David's time, it can be tiring work.

One day, David came to fill our tank. He looked cold and exhausted.

'So, how has your day been?" I asked.

He sighed wearily. "I'm beat. At the first house I went to, the homeowner said he had a flag on his tank. When I arrived, I could see two small red flags, each sticking up about a foot above the snow."

"Did he have two tanks?" I

"I thought he might," David replied, "but usually the tanks would be side by side with one flag between them. I didn't know what else to do, so I went to one of the flags and started digging. I dug down nearly 10 feet, which took about an hour. Finally, I hit something solid, but it wasn't the tank. It was a four-wheeler someone had forgotten to park in the garage, and it had one of those tall flags that people put on them so they're visible over hills while they're riding.

'I was tired and unhappy, but I went to the other flag and started digging. I dug down to that one and found another stupid fourwheeler. I climbed out of that hole and looked around, and far off by the shop, I saw another flag I hadn't seen previously. I dug down to it and hit a trampoline frame."

"I think I would have called the owner and told him to dig out his own tank," I said.

"I felt like it," David replied, "but he buys thousands of gallons each year, so my boss would have been mad. I called the homeowner three times. He couldn't remember where the tank was, so he guessed. Twice more I dug in the wrong place. Finally, the third time I called him, he suddenly remembered that he had put the trampoline frame over his tanks. The hole I had dug by the shed was where they were. I just had to go down further. I was so mad I could spit, but my spit probably would have just frozen

"I hope your other stops went better," I said.

David shook his head. "I only had time for one more before coming here. For that one, I had a map. I estimated by the map, dug the first hole, and hit a picnic table. It took me three phone calls and three more tries to find the tanks."

'You're a lot more patient than I am," I said. "I obviously couldn't do what I would like because of the freezing pipes, but I know what I would feel like doing.'

"What's that?" he asked.

"I think that after I dug the first hole, I'd want to just haul my propane hose in there, fill the picnic table, and be on my way."





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TARA Center Food Pantry celebrates one-year anniversary

By Susan Gibson TARA Center Food Pantry

The TARA Center Food Pantry announced that January 2021 marks the first anniversary for the new community service.

Susan Halkin, food pantry director, said that the need for the pantry has incrementally increased over the course of the year.

"We have witnessed a steady increase each month of families accessing the pantry. When we went to the COVID protocol, closing the building and utilizing preorder forms and Monday/Saturday pickups, we really thought we might



see usage decline, but that has not been the case," she said.

Halkin stated that part of the increase is from individuals or families impacted financially by COVID, stating that, "people out of work as a direct or indirect result of COVID over recent months have brought more people to TARA to take advantage of our food supply

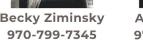
The Pagosa Outreach Center recently asked the TARA Food Pantry to do delivery of food to families in Arboles who have COVID, and Halkin and her associate, Cheri Melichar, have been filling and delivering those orders, locally, in addition to fulfilling orders from regular pantry patrons.

"The Archuleta County Food Coalition has been a regular partner for us, said Halkin. "Food is now available for pick up for Archuleta County food pantries each Friday at the Pagosa Springs Distribution Center. We are grateful for this partnership."

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How to be more efficient with your time

Special to The PREVIEW

A time crunch is no stranger to many adults. Busy professionals balancing work and their personal lives often wish there was more time in the day. Though it might be impossible to create more minutes in the day, adults can take steps to be more efficient with their time. The more efficient people can be with their time, the more that time should begin to feel like their own.

- Audit yourself. It's hard to be more efficient with your time if you're not certain about where you're being inefficient. Audit how you're spending time each day, jotting down everything you do during the day and how much time you spend on each individual task. Audits can be made easier by utilizing time tracking apps on a smartphone, some of which are free. The app need not provide a bunch of bells and whistles (such apps are generally designed to help businesses track employees' production). A simple app that lets you track each activity and the time it takes to perform it is all you need to conduct a successful audit.
- Categorize tasks. Tasks can be categorized so those that are absolutely necessary are never given a lower priority than nonessential tasks. In addition, tasks can be categorized according to how much time each one figures to take. Once tasks have been categorized,

choose distraction-free times of day to perform high-priority, time-consuming tasks. The ability to focus on such tasks free from distraction should cut down on the time it takes to complete them, potentially freeing up more time in your day.

- Don't hesitate to delegate. When categorizing tasks, create a category for tasks that can be delegated. Parents may want to delegate meal prep to children who are old enough to hold their own in the kitchen, while adult partners can divide up household chores so no one person is doing the bulk of the work around the house.
- Turn devices off. Devices are distracting, and various surveys and studies have proven that. Research

from RescueTime, an iOS- and Android-supported app created to monitor phone use, found that people spend an average of three hours and 15 minutes per day on their phones. Adults who are pressed for time may benefit by turning their devices off during the work day and/or when trying to tackle tasks at home. In fact, turning a smartphone or other device off when you don't need it to perform a given task may be the simplest and most effective way to make more efficient use of your time.

Finding a 25th hour in the day may not be possible, but people can try various strategies to make more efficient use of the 24 hours they do have each day.





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Giving a cup of cold water

By Betty Slade PREVIEW Columnist

Recently, I heard the lyrics of a song, "I gave you a cup of cold water, it is all I require of you." Our lives are only cups of cold water given to whomever we meet along our life's journey.

Snow around us fills the river behind our home; we thank God for ample amount of moisture we enjoy.

Jesus tells us his grace falls on the good and evil. His rain falls on open fields for whoever will receive it. Have you ever felt there was a time when you received everything and gave nothing?

It reminded me of a celebration several years ago when the Rio Blanco River Restoration Project had been completed. I just showed up for the celebration while so many, many people gave their blood, sweat and tears. This project had been in operation for over 20 years in order to bring health back to our sick river.

A lot of water has run though our property since the days of that restoration project. Hopefully, this cup of cold water is a token of my heartfelt thank you to the people who worked on this project and gave us good water.

The Rio Blanco River runs by our property, which we have enjoyed as property owners since 1965. Our little river made regional news. It has given many cups of water to the people of Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, California and Mexico.

We were invited to enjoy a banquet, ceremony, picnic and all the preparations for over 200 homeowners living on the Lower Blanco. We learned about this living life, which moves along the banks of our property. It enabled us to meet and renew old lifetime friendships along the Rio Blanco River. This river has brought us together as a community.

The Rio Blanco has a lot of history with all of us who live by her. She has given many cups of water, which we have taken for granted. When we moved here in 1976, we bathed in the river for three months until we could get our well and electricity. We drank from this river when our water was frozen.

The kids made their swimming hole in the belly of the river. Al and our guests have fished from her banks many times. Fishermen tell their fishing stories about how they caught the big one in the Rio Blanco.

At the banquet, several people stood and gave a certain facet of their involvement. I was moved once again by this river that runs along our property line. People, who had the ability to write grants, contact the powers that be, the organizations that came along side

The Writers'
Circle

The Rio Blanco
has a lot of
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by her. She has
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of water, which
we have taken
for granted.

and the Blanco residents, all gave to complete the work.

This river has always been there and we were not aware of its unhealthy condition. Others did; they had the foresight to reclaim our river.

There are many people along our banks of life who have continued to give us a cup of water. We show up and enjoy others' hard work. Many pass by and we take them for granted. We are not sure where they come from or where they are going, but they pass by and

Val Valentine wrote a book about the Blanco, called "A River Once More." He cared enough to document every step and every change our river went through from 1989 to 2010. He writes, "A river can be killed by treating it only as a commodity rather than the habitat of life itself. When we nurture our singing and working rivers, we celebrate the greater community in which we live ... In Colorado as a territory and a state, 'Here is a land where life is written

in Water.'

"I have worked on this river long enough to see the same water pass by perhaps a dozen times. I listen to hear of its stories of the Arizona desert, the aqueducts and salad bowls of field and table in California. I know it is multi-lingual, an international traveler, yet it comes back to me, to all, again and again, from the high country, its sanctuary, a place of rest."

The song goes, "I gave you a cup of water and that is all I require of you." Our river of life comes from the high country, from His sanctuary, and moves in and out of lives as a place of rest and we witness it through the constant moving of His Spirit.

As Valentine writes, "A river can be killed by treating it only as a commodity rather than the habitat of life itself." That goes for all of us. We need to scoop up a cup of fresh moisture from God and give to those who are weary and thirsty in these times.

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Conservative Republican has a personal mission

By Ron Keine

PREVIEW Columnist

I am a lifelong conservative Republican whose faith in the criminal justice system was shattered by my near-death experience with it. I came within nine days of being sent to the gas chamber for a crime I did not commit.

You could say I'm living proof of why people should not trust their government with the death penalty.

My nightmare started in 1974 when three friends and I were falsely accused of sexually mutilating and killing a student at the University of New Mexico. We were all sentenced to death in 1974.

The state had no proof — no weapon, no forensic evidence — just poorly run lie-detector tests on all four of us and an alleged witness. Even when that witness later recanted, the judge refused to grant us a new trial.

It was only after the real killer confessed that we were exonerated and that happened in the nick of time. My execution had been scheduled and the assistant warden had asked what I wanted for my last meal.

How could this happen?

This was an abuse of government power and it happens more often than you might think. In our case, the main witness had been coerced to lie at the trial. Also, the murder weapon — nowhere to be seen during the trial — was later found inside the local sheriff's safe. It had been hidden from the defense and traced to a law enforcement officer who ended up confessing.

Yet our story is not unique. We are among 173 people nationwide to be freed from death sentences because of wrongful conviction.

Although the Trump administration resumed federal executions, there has been a trend of conservative Republicans at the state level rethinking the death penalty. They do so because they believe in limited government, fiscal responsibility and the value of human life.

As Republican state Sen. Owen Hill of Denver put it, "It is against the natural order for one created in the image of God to willfully take the life of another created in the image of God."

There are also powerful financial arguments. The death penalty costs far more money than its alternatives such as life without parole, according to numerous studies in many states over a lot of years. In fact, death penalty trials, and there are always two — one to determine guilt or innocence and one to decide a sentence — have caused some municipalities to almost go bankrupt, while others have been forced to pass tax increases.

The death penalty is just another wasteful, big government program. The 25 states that still have the death penalty — eight of them in

Writers on the Range

It was only after the real killer confessed that we were exonerated and that happened in the nick of time.

the West — are wasting resources that could be used to make communities safer by solving cold cases or providing more tools to law enforcement.

Take Wyoming as one example. Since the state passed its death penalty law in 1977, Wyoming has carried out one execution and today it does not have a single death row inmate. However, the state continues to spend at least \$750,000 each year on a capital defense fund to

train attorneys to handle death penalty cases that rarely ever come to them. It is no wonder that the overwhelmingly Republican Wyoming Legislature came just a few votes shy of repealing the death penalty in 2019, and hopes are high they will finish the job this year.

New Mexico, where I was sentenced to death, repealed the sentence in 2009 and, last year, Colorado ended capital punishment, thanks to three GOP state senators who made the crucial difference. In fact, no state west of Texas has held an execution in more than 10 years, and 2020 was another record low for new death sentences with only six total in all Western states. That's down from a high of 72 death sentences in the West in 1982.

Another encouraging sign of change has just arrived with the filing of a death penalty repeal bill in the U.S. Congress, albeit a Democratic proposal with no GOP sponsors, yet.

As someone who barely survived an encounter with the criminal justice system, I call upon all who share my values to get rid of the death penalty once and for all.

And that last meal? It was going to be macaroni and cheese, just like my mother used to make. After I was released from death row, I sometimes at e mac and cheese three times a day.

Ron Keine is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writerson-therange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He is a member of the board of directors of Witness to Innocence, a small nonprofit working to end the death penalty.



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69 Carpin Cir

\$18,000

166 Red Ryder Cir \$1,050,000

285 Peterson Ridge Ct \$1,000,000





\$940,000

307 & 425 Rifle Pl

404 Monte Vista Dr

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240 & 256 Escobar

85 Dayspring PI \$300,000

2855 N Main Ave

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268 Saddleback Dr

\$89,000

1091 Cactus Dr

258 W Golf Pl

\$25,000

50 Tamarac Ct

\$17,000

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\$587,000



34 Harman Ave

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147 Wildwood Dr., #2

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289 Spence Cabin Ct \$585,000

1435 Loma Linda Dr

\$475,000

182 Luxury Pl

63 Driftwood Dr

\$356,000





244 River Forest Dr

\$575,000

99 Tiffany Pl

\$465,000

389 Blue Heron Cir

\$420,000

1135 Park Ave

\$355,000

THE R

160 Pinon Causeway

\$258,000





173 N 7th St

\$560,000

10 Cobblestone Lane

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107 Lakewood St

\$415,000

493 Stevens Cir

\$350,000

109 Ace Ct #103

\$250,000

509 S 10th St

\$200,000

67 & 107 Stollsteimer Rd

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1084 Bristlecone Dr

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8 Bienvenido Cir

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358 Saddleback Dr

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577 Ginger Cir \$59,900

41 Pebble Cir

\$28,000

679 Squirrel Dr

\$18,000



\$490,000

431 Talisman Dr

\$448,000

431 Talisman Dr #107

\$370,000

475 Lewis St

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109 Ace Ct #104

\$225,000

37 Spruce Cir \$92,000

1338 Antelope Ave \$59,900

668 Carol's Curves

\$28,000

979 Cactus Dr

\$18,000

159 Snow Cir



1124 Roush Dr

\$440,000

431 Talisman Dr #105

\$370,000

40 Trap Ct \$310,000

777 Buttress Ave

170 Paradise Ridge Pl

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S Rockcliff Cir

\$53,000

117 Ute Dr

\$26,000

1201 Cactus Dr

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4 Cobblestone Lane







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270 Hilltop Dr

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532 Old Sawmill Cir

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\$42,500

29 Starlight PI \$22,000

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\$14,900





















240 Falcon Pl

\$22,000

127 Harry's Ct

\$14,000







111 Park Ave



















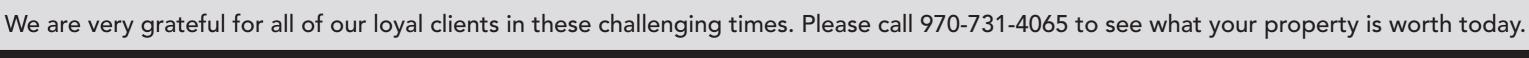
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160 REASONS

WHY SELLERS

IN 2020 CHOSE



New Thought Center to celebrate Membership Sunday

By Lisa Burnson

New Thought Center for Inspirational Living

"The greatest discovery of all time is that one can change his future by changing his attitude." Oprah Winfrey.

All are welcome to join New Thought Center for Inspirational Living this Sunday, Jan. 31, at 10:30 a.m. at our Membership Sunday for our presentation, "Putting Altitude in Your Attitude." We will be reviewing the prosperity teachings of the Rev. Stretton Smith and the Science of Mind philosophies of Dr. Ernest Holmes. Our speaker will be Shayla McClure, first recipient of the Institute for Leadership and Lifelong Learning Award.

This will be our annual Membership Sunday, where we honor all members and welcome new members to join our community. We encourage all to attend and learn of the benefits of joining our community. Participants are welcome to bring a potluck dish.

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. This Wednesday, Feb. 3, we will be viewing the film "The Light Body."

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.

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).

The Pagosa Springs SUN

YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

264-2100

A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z Determine the code to reveal the answer! Solve the code to discover words related to finances. Answers: A. budget B. estate Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 18 = E) A. 6 14 10 18 Clue: Income/expenditure estimate В. 18 20 5 25 5 18 Clue: Money and property C. retirement 18 5 24 4 17 Clue: Cease working D. plan D. 3 22 25 9 Clue: Detailed proposal

The Weekly Crossword

14

17

20

25

37

41

62

65

26

45

54

23

ACROSS

- 1 Carpenter's wedge
- 5 Implied
- **10** Refinery residue
- 14 Tree on Maine's flag
- 15 Domicile
- 16 Anagram of "coat"
- 17 Checked out
- 18 Performer's array
- 20 Moscow or Manila
- 22 Into pieces
- 23 Go sour
- **24** Newbie, of sorts
- 25 Curved sword
- 28 Chows down
- 31 Granola bit
- 32 Dome on a roof
- 35 Largest of the Mariana Islands
- **37** Luau instrument
- **39** Watch closely
- 41 Spruce up
- 42 Lend a hand to
- 44 Con's confines
- 45 Notary's tool
- **47** Borrower's burden
- 49 Nashville NFLer
- 52 Long time (var.)
- **53** Toweling-off spot
- **56** Lookout point
- 59 Constraint
- **61** Like some wires
- **62** It precedes one
- **63** Button material **64** Responsibility
- 65 Close-fitting
- **66** The way things are going
- **67** Nautilus captain

DOWN

- 1 Technical standard, briefly
- 2 Slangy greeting

- **3** Incompetence
- 4 T-shirt size
- **5** Hairy arachnid
- 6 Biblical brother
- **7** Arresting figure?
- 8 Perfect
- 9 To the point
- 10 Fred and Barney's time
- to rest
- 12 Farm division
- 13 Suffix with theater
- 19 Lipstick holder
- 21 Instant
- **24** Quid __ quo
- 25 Like lemons
- 26 Soap units
- 27 Big galoots
- 29 Paint thinner
- 30 Puts away
- 33 Butcher's offering
- 34 Held back
- 36 Base or case closer

- **38** Strong dislike
- 40 Girder material
- 43 Go astray

15

18

42

50

63

66

32

46

38

49

27

51

43

60

- 46 Swing support, maybe
- 48 Deodorant type
- 50 Contaminate
- 51 Rose essence
- **53** Trash collectors?

54 Before long

by Margie E. Burke

29

30

36

58

16

28

40

52

48

64

67

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- 55 Grand, briefly
- **56** Saddle feature
- **57** Reproductive cell
- 58 Baja bread
- **60** Cooler contents

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

Α	С	Ε	D		ഗ	Ρ	L		Т		W	R		Τ
В	0	Α	R		Τ	R	Α	О	Е		Н	_	R	Ш
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D	Α	Т	Α	В	Α	S	Е		М	0	М	Е	Ν	Τ
		В	R	Α	Τ		R	Ш	1	Z	S			
G	Е	Е		В	Α	Τ		Α	Ν	0	1	Z	Н	S
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C R E Ι Ε E E Н Α Α R T S R N 0 V D S X P C 0 S E Т 0 R Y Y 0 C Ε D M W C 0 X C D В F R Ε 0 0 F X C Ι T R U S T T X V V D D Α W Ν L N Т Ι E S N P Н Ι G U F P Ε F Y W Α P R 0 Т Y C C W Α L N T Ε X X C 0 Ι Н T G В D Ε R E Ι Y C Y Ε В R Ι В V Н Ε F C Y P Ι R М Т R R Y Α V F E L U U X R X Ι S S D Ε N Н Ν S В Т S 0 X V 0 A A E Н Ι Т E D Α Α S F R C Ι P Ι W Ι В N C P C U S X Y Ι L C U U N Ε C F Ι 0 R М S U 0 G Ι R В М Ε C Ι C C P M X D G В Т V G S Ι X S Χ Ι D X Α D A P C M 0 A Ι S N W Н 0 D T R Ε D М G P G Т Т Ν T T H

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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Keith Bruno

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the prairie falcon.

Though many folks are perhaps more familiar with the storied plight (associated with pesticides and especially DDT) and recovery of the famed peregrine falcon (migratory here in southwest Colorado), the prairie falcon, a semi-year-round resident to Pagosa Country, is also an awe-inspiring hunter and aerialist. This species, believed to have diverged from ancestors of the peregrine lineage some 3 million to 5 million years ago, has evolved into a more arid lands-adapted falcon. These birds are very comparable in wingspan (40 inches), but typically maintain lesser weights (1-2 pounds) to their darker colored cousins (2-3 pounds), as their diet and lifestyle in the desert west often warrants more work for fewer calories.

As with most raptors, the females are larger on average and can boast a beak-to-tail length of 17-18 inches. As far as plumage goes, these birds are browner overall, especially when viewed from above. Under the wing, these birds have an alternate white and brown pattern with distinctly darker "wingpits." Males and females alike don a definitive brown malar stripe or "mustache" and white eyeline above the brow. As birds mature, their breasts become less white (more darkly streaked with brown) and the skin at the base of their beak and on their legs becomes noticeably more yellow.

During the summer, these birds will largely subsist on ground squirrels and supplement with lizards and insects in open country such as shrublands, grasslands and even alpine tundra (diet shift to pikas). Come winter, these birds shift to preying on rangeland birds such as horned larks and western meadowlarks.

Hunting styles often mimic the lower elevation stalk-and-attack flight methods of their smaller cousins, merlins. Though fast like peregrines, these birds operate with more sustained cruising speeds (45 mph). They don't tend to dive from high elevations in 200-plus mph efforts like peregrines do. In flight, prairie falcons can certainly appear almost torpedo-like in their pursuits. Their wing shape has the iconic narrow profile of all falcons, beats are typically stiff and resolute and the tail is noticeably longer proportionally compared to peregrines. An interesting adaptation, this species has cone-shaped projections in the center of their nostrils which slow down air flow at high speeds, protecting the lungs from damage.

Recognized as more or less stable in population numbers, this species suffers when large-scale agriculture offsets good ground squirrel habitat with heavy irrigation. Nesting disturbance during the breeding season and recurrent wildfire offer challenges, as well. A group participating in the Christmas Bird Count recently was thrilled to witness the eccentricities of prairie falcon hunting on count day.

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

If you or someone you know might be at risk of suicide, there is help.

Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

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EXCAVATION WORK THAT MAKES THE GRADE



SUDOKU

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

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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!

8	9	ϵ	6	лина	2	G		_
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G	6	þ	L	8	9	8	7	woodu
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	· ·	· ·						

:N3WER:

'You're alright on this side, mama ...

By Sharee Grazda

PREVIEW Columnist

What would seem so long ago to my children, if they were to have any recollection at all, was the time we lived in northeast Mississippi and life took an unexpected turn on the road home.

Green, lush, sweetly scented lots of beauty, lots of great food, lots of wonderful people — and lots of deer.

For Christmas, their grandmother had given our three sons wonderful step-in, zip-up, pullup-the-hood bright red snowsuits. How they loved those outfits. And how many times a day did I help little boy feet and legs and hands and arms in and out of them.

One dark evening we were on our way home after a work day for me and babysitting for the boys. All bundled up, they were in their beloved snowsuits and I in my equally-loved camel hair coat with the big fur-lined hood. Winter in the Deep South is very cold.

A few miles from home, on a two-lane road outlined by dark, heavy forests of huge pine trees, I spotted a doe on the side of the road. Glancing in my rearview mirror for trailing traffic, I slowly braked and watched to see what she would do. Darting quickly, she crossed the road in front of us then suddenly and unexpectedly turned and flew into the air as if she wanted to jump the car and get back to the other side.

I remember thinking, "Hold the wheel steady and keep it between the lines."

A terrible crashing noise and splintering glass flying all over the inside of the car brought the realization that she had not cleared us but had landed in the windshield directly in front of me.

The round shape of her lower body was impressed in the glass which had come loose from the frame starting at the rear view mirror, all the way left to the top corner and all the way down to the bottom corner. It fell inward a couple inches, still in one large

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church, then leave when the ser-

mon in English begins to go to

another room for Bible teaching

are welcome.

A Matter of Faith

sheet, though totally shattered and impossible to see through.

A quick check revealed that my son in the front seat and I had flecks of blood on our faces from glancing cuts, but the tiny boys in the back were fine, sitting so low that they

were protected from the flying glass. (Let me say, "Thank you, windshield glass scientists, for creating glass that safely shattered into tidbits rather than life-threatening shards.")

Rolling down my side window, and the front passenger window, I turned to my 5-year-old son and said, "Love, you're gonna have to help me stay on the road until we get home."

Carefully, I drove the final miles home with my head stuck out the window to the refrain of a little boy looking out his window and saying, repeatedly, and reassuringly, "You're alright on this side, mama ... you're alright."

Slowly, but surely, we made it home, where we discovered that all four of us had hair, hoods, even pockets and socks, full of tiny bits of glass.

It seems like just a few chapters back in my memory book, though it has been over 40 years since that event occurred.

Even now, I thank my Heavenly Father as I remember that and many such rescues. My thankfulness is sweetened by the memory of my young son doing his part, being so diligent, so earnest, in helping me "keep it between the lines."

He was the only help I had at the time and he rose to the occasion. No one could have helped me more. Together, we got our family safely home and it was a good feeling. As I tucked him into bed that night, I thanked him and

offered by Centerpoint Church By Forrest Bohlen and discussion in Spanish. We pray together and have periodic times Centerpoint Church

Sunday Hispanic ministry

of fellowship. Centerpoint Church, located In February, we are going to begin

> a study on marriage and the family. For more information, contact Forrest Bohlen at 731-2205.

Come join us.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100

told him what a great help he was to me that day.

Though our outward circumstances are varied, inside our needs are the same. It is essential to our emotional, physical and spiritual well-being that we have companions on the road of life whom we trust to help us stay in the straight and narrow and to get ourselves and our loved ones safely home.

Our need may come suddenly, and our help just as unexpectedly.

A drive home after a day's work suddenly became a life-threatening emergency. My helper that day was a very small boy. He gave all he was capable of giving, and did it earnestly and responsibly. He helped get us home.

Who is helping you keep it between the lines?

Is there someone who can use your help?

"Like apples of gold in a setting of silver is a word aptly spoken."

A favorite proverb, these words bring to mind the treasure we can share by a kind word, a sweet word, an uplifting word, at the right time.

The apostle Paul wrote to his friend Timothy, close enough to be addressed as "my dear son," that we are to be prepared in season and out of season, to correct and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction — and to "keep our heads" in every situation.

Words given honestly and earnestly, "... the fruit of lips that confess the name of Jesus ...," may spur one and all toward love and good deeds — and guide our feet onto the path of peace.

'You're alright on this side, friend ... you're alright."

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2021 Great Decisions International Affairs Discussion Program to be held virtually beginning Feb. 9

Great Decisions International Affairs

The 2021 Great Decisions International Affairs Discussion Program, now in its 20th year, will be held on Zoom for the first time, beginning on Tuesday, Feb. 9, with a moderator-led discussion on the topic of "China's Role in Africa" and continuing, generally, every other week thereafter for eight sessions.

The discussions will begin at 11:45 a.m. and end at 1:15 p.m. Please see the website of the League of Women Voters, LaPlata County, LWVLaPlata.org, for the exact schedule and the link to the Zoom programs.

The eight international affairs discussion subjects are presented to Great Decisions discussion groups annually by the Foreign Policy Association, which prepares a briefing book, a teacher's guide and a video on each of the topics.

Feb. 9: China's Role in Africa: moderator, Mike Todt.

Feb. 23: Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic: moderator, Benjamin Waddell.

March 9: Brexit and the European Union: moderator, Paul DeBell. March 23: Global Supply Chains

and National Security: moderator, Alexander Lemmel.

March 30 Persian Gulf Security Issues: moderator, Curt Johnson.

April 6: The End of Globalization: moderator, Ruth Alminas.

April 20: Struggle Over the Melting Arctic: moderator, Guinn Un-

May 4: The Korean Peninsula: moderator, Holly Vaughn.

More about the topics and moderators

Feb. 9: China's role in Africa: The COVID-19 crisis has put a mas-

economic and political relationship between China and Africa. As Chinese President Xi Jinping's "Belt and Road initiative" expands Chinese power, the response to the spread of COVID-19, as well as African governments' growing debt to China, has seen pushback. What are the growing economic and political issues between China and Africa?

Todt, the facilitator, is semiretired, working on publishing history articles. He has lived in Durango for seven years with his wife Tammy Hoier. He is actively involved in the community with Manna Soup Kitchen, Neighbors in Need Alliance and the Boulevard Neighborhood Association. His hobbies include biking, hiking, kayaking, travel and, most important, history and public policy. Todt loves the opportunities for outdoor activities and the engaged community available there.

Prior to coming to Durango, Todt taught history at West Virginia University, focusing on modern U.S., health care reform and North American (U.S., Canada, Mexico) history. Other employment has included hospital CEO, international management consultant and private practice psychologist. He has a Ph.D. in history from West Virginia University (2011) and a Ph.D. and M.A. in organizational behavior from the University of Chicago.

Feb. 23: Roles of international organizations in a global pandemic: The COVID-19 pandemic has thrust the World Health Organization (WHO) into the limelight. While many of the Trump administration's criticisms of the organization are unfair, WHO's response to the early stages of the pandemic left many experts wanting more

administration, by executive order, has now rejoined WHO. What is WHO's role in responding to international pandemics? What can be done to improve WHO's response to future global health crises?

Waddell, the facilitator, is a first-generation college student who grew up in Colorado and New Mexico. Around the age of 12, he began working on construction sites near Telluride, where he met numerous immigrants from Latin America. Captivated by their astounding efforts to overcome adversity, Waddell chose to study issues related to poverty, inequality and emigration in the Americas.

Waddell holds a Ph.D. in sociology (2013, University of New Mexico), a M.A in Latin American studies (2009, University of New Mexico), and a B.A. in international affairs (2005, CU Boulder). He researches the impact of international migration on human well-being. He has published in Sociology of Development, Latin American Research Review, The Social Science Journal and Rural Sociology. Waddell's work has also appeared in the Huffington Post, The Conversation and Global Americans.

Waddell's primary interest continues to lie in education, which he believes is the heartbeat of humanity. As an educator, Waddell aims to promote equal opportunity structures for all people regardless of the conditions they were born into. His favorite quote comes from Albert Einstein: "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution." Waddell's goal as an educator is to help students imagine a better world.

March 9: Brexit and the European Union: The United Kingdom formally left the European Union at the start of 2021. What does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will take command of Europe now that Angela Merkel will be out of the spotlight?

DeBell, the facilitator, is an assistant professor of political science at Fort Lewis College. His teaching and research interests span political psychology and comparative politics, with particular focus on democratic governance, the psychology of political division and the role of emotions in political behavior. His dissertation analyzed the link between populist outrage and democratic backslid-

■ See Decisions on next page

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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 a.m. 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. 31, our theme is Trust in God."

'Oh, trust in God! For His bounty is everlasting, and in His blessings, for they are superb. Oh! Put your faith in the Almighty, for He faileth not, and His goodness endureth forever!" — Abdu'l-Baha.

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.

Decisions

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ing in Hungary, and his current research revolves around the psychology of democratic citizenship in light of 21st century challenges to self-governance.

DeBell received his doctoral and master's degrees in political science from Ohio State University in 2016 and his undergraduate degrees in government and philosophy from the College of William and Mary in 2006.

March 23: Global supply chains and national security: The shutdown of global supply chains because of the COVID-19 pandemic emphasized the high level of global economic interdependence: What happens when one country is the main source for an item and then can no longer supply the item? Countries suddenly unable to meet the demand for those supplies are faced with growing calls for economic nationalism. What are some of the lasting effects of the pandemic on global supply chains and trade? How could this affect national security?

Lemmel, the facilitator, is a financial professional and certified public accountant with experience as an auditor, analyst and executive at multinational, manufacturing and consumer goods companies. Through this work, Lemmel has

developed a keen understanding of international supply chains, inventory movements, value chains and costing.

March 30: Persian Gulf security issues: The Persian Gulf remains tense as the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran continues. Tensions escalated in early 2020 as the U.S. began to intervene in the Gulf, launching an air strike that killed two Iranian military commanders. What are the historical influences that have led to these tensions? What role, if any, should the United States play? Is using military force a viable foreign policy option for 2021 beyond?

Prior to Johnson's official retirement in 2002, he completed a 35year career in public education as a teacher and administrator at all levels, ranging from elementary through graduate school. Most of the 35 years were spent as a principal in Northbrook, Ill. Since his retirement, he has been a member of the adjunct faculty in the graduate school of education at National-Louis University. Johnson has facilitated meetings, workshops, training sessions, annual meetings and retreats for various groups and nonprofit organizations. Additionally, he continues to serve as an educational consultant and trainer and as a facilitator for public employee contract negotiations specializing in interest-based negotiations.

While enjoying the many benefits of Durango, Johnson and his wife, Marilyn, have been active volunteers at Mesa Verde National Park. They have found meaning and pleasure as Habitat for Humanity volunteers. As well as remaining active at Summit Church, Johnson currently serves on the La Plata Habitat board of directors and several advisory boards. He is finding retirement comes in fits and starts, and phases. The most treasured is the grandparent phase.

April 6: The end of globalization? During the 2020 election season, the merits and drawbacks of globalization were debated by the presidential candidates. With the UK finally leaving the European Union, Trump's America First, protectionist policies have become more prevalent, challenging globalization. What is globalization and how will it be affected by protectionist trade policies? How will the U.S. and the world be affected by such policies? Is globalization really at an end, or in need of a refresh?

Alminas is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at Fort Lewis College,

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 28

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.

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

Friday, Jan. 29

Nate at 507-1004.

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.

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 information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Jan. 30

LEGO Challenge. 10 a.m. Facebook.
■ See Calendar on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice



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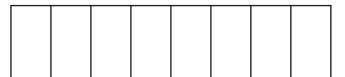
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WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to financial planning.

PENXESSE



Answer: Expenses

Decisions

continued from previous page where she teaches courses such as international politics, armed conflict and its management, global environmental politics, international political economy and Middle Eastern politics. Her research interests include persons displaced by armed conflict, secession, international law, international nongovernmental organizations and post-conflict peace-building processes. She received her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Arizona, an M.A. in religion from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in religious studies from the University of Colorado.

April 20: Fight over the melting Arctic: Donald Trump left many scratching their heads when it was rumored that he was looking to purchase Greenland from Denmark, which shows the changing opinion within the U.S. government toward engagement with the Arctic region. Because of climate change, large sheets of Arctic ice are melting, exposing vast stores of natural gas and oil. With Russia and China already miles ahead with their Arctic strategies, can the U.S. catch up?

Unger grew up as an Army brat and lived in many different places. He graduated from Frankfurt American High School in Frankfurt, Germany. He then attended Rice University in Houston, Texas, graduating with a degree in electrical engineering.

Unger worked for McDonnell Douglas at the NASA Johnson Space Center for two years on the space shuttle design team. He also worked as a computer software developer, computer consultant and small business owner. He and his wife purchased their house in Forest Lakes in January of 2013.

Unger got involved with the Colorado Care Amendment 69 campaign in 2016 and served as the regional coordinator for southwest

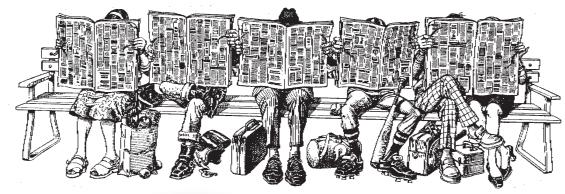
Colorado. He currently serves as co-chair for Healthcare Durango, advocating for universal health care. He served on the board of directors for La Plata Electric Association from 2017 to 2020 and ran (unsuccessfully) for the Colorado State Senate District 6 seat in 2018. He currently serves on the Durango La Plata County Airport Advisory Commission.

May 4: The Korean Peninsula: The Korean Peninsula is facing a defining era. Attempts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in and past U.S. President Trump to repair the rift between North and South Korea have lost momentum, as Pyongyang continues to test long-range missiles for its nuclear weapons program. As U.S.-China relations deteriorate, South Korea may end up in the middle of the two superpowers. What does the future hold for the U.S. relationship with the Republic of Korea?

Vaughn is the senior exercise planner for Summit Training and Exercises LLC. For the last decade, she has created, facilitated and managed training exercise programs based on terrorist scenarios involving radioactive material. Sponsored by the Department of Energy and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, these programs of tabletop exercises are presented to U.S. and foreign civilian and military agencies. She also was the project manager for the National Nuclear Security Administration's counterterrorism exercise program and development team for three years. Retiring from the U.S. Navy in 2004 as a captain, Vaughn also served over 25 years providing direct operational support to military forces worldwide as a career intelligence officer. Her jobs included the director, Joint Military Intelligence Training Center; and commander, Naval Element, Defense Intelligence Agency. She has an M.S. in

national resource strategy from the Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy, and an M.A. in war studies from the Royal Military College of Canada. She also has a certificate in terrorism studies from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

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Preview Calendar

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All ages. 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.

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.

Monday, Feb. 1

Spanish Conversation. 4-5 p.m. Google Meet. Join us virtually to practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. Access the meeting using the Google Meet app or by visiting google.meet.com/xrv-csre-kay. Call Brad at 264-2209 for more information.

Tuesday, Feb. 2

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 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.

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, Feb. 3

T-Shirt Design Contest. For all ages. Help us design T-shirts for this year's Summer Reading Program. The theme for this summer is "Tails and Tales." Pick up a flier or go online to our website for details. The winning T-shirt will be worn by staff during the Summer Reading Program and a limited number will be made avail-

able for purchase. The deadline for submissions is March 8. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Pagosa Peak Open School Virtual
Open House. 4 p.m. Zoom. PPOS
School Director Angela Reali-Crossland will hold a virtual open house.
Prospective families are encouraged to attend the Zoom event. The
meeting ID is 279 704 4027 and the
passcode is 342015. Families can
also email abeach@ppos.co for the

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-6 p.m. Teens and young adults. Join us on Google Meet for our ongoing game. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

Thursday, Feb. 4

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.. Parish

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.

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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, Feb. 5

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.

PALS, GED and College Prep Assistance. Noon-3 p.m. In person, appointment required. Pagosa Adult Learning Services can help you earn your GED, prepare for college entrance exams, prepare for vocational tests and other education requirements. Mark will work with you to develop an achievable plan to complete your goals. Earning your GED is possible at any stage in life, and we can help. Call 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org to schedule an appointment.

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 information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

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PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT FOR MODULAR INSTALLATION. Notice is hereby given that bids will be received for the installation of a modular school building for the spring of 2021 for the Archuleta School District 50 JT. Deadline for submission of bids is at 9a.m. Friday February 19th, 2021, hand delivered to the Admin Office located at 309 Lewis Street or received at PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 on or before that date. Bids should be broken down into the following categories; Excavation/ backfill/finish work, retaining wall and concrete foundation/ supports and sidewalk/ ramps, Electrical connection, Excavation and installation, Plumbing/ sewer connection, excavation and installation, Fire system, Security system, Carpentry (entrance and exit cover), Metal handrail fabrication, Fiber and tech installation. Multiple bids may be submitted for partial or all categories, however, bids may not be combined without a breakdown by these categories. If there is a discount for being awarded multiple categories, please note that in bid. Bids will require an early spring start date and estimated timeline for completion furthermore all work must be completed by the last day of July 2021. All contractors must be licensed with the town of Pagosa Springs and properly insured. Please contact Todd Stevens at Tstevens@pagosa. k12.co.us for permit bid plans and questions.



JESS: I'm Jess, a 2-1/2-year old Boxer mix girl that loves to romp and play! I like dogs my size and would adore a fenced yard. Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



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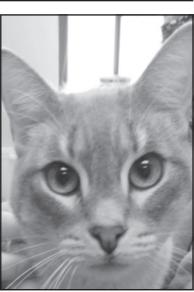


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ADAM: I'm Adam, a 4-month-old brindle mixed breed puppy. I'm an outgoing frisky fellow, so if you have time for basic training and loads of love I'm your boy! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



LUNA: I'm Luna, a beautiful 3-year-old Siamese girl. My mom lost her home and can't find a rental that takes pets, so I need a loving forever home. I am great with other kitties and love being petted. Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEDITATION CIRCLE. 6p.m. every Wednesday at New Thought Center at Best Western, 3505 W. Hwy. 160. 4T Prosperity Classes starting in March. Call (970)309-6067 to enroll.

PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES **GROUP** of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 7p.m. at the Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive (between Boss Hogg's Restaurant and 1st Southwest Bank). Contact Charlotte or Ken at (970)903-9690 or Nate at (970)507-1004.

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous. AA is now meeting every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30p.m. and Sunday at 10a.m. at 315 N. 2nd Street, County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). In accordance with the State, County and San Juan Basin Health, masks must be worn and social distancing observed. Online meetings are Sunday at 10a.m.: Zoom ID 858-319-763, password 754234; and Friday at 7p.m: Zoom ID 899 6048 4578, password 532-306. For meeting schedule and information email aapagosa@gmail.com or call Marcia (970)946-8475, Kathi (970)946-1482 Ranza (970)731-9774, Val (970)946-6086 or (719)792-7974 or central office (970)245-9649 or (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED by someone's drinking? Pagosa Springs Al-Anon Family Group offers support while practicing anonymity. Meets on Tuesdays from 6-7p.m. at new location: Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive (behind Wells Fargo and next to the new law enforcement complex). Have questions? Call or text (303)815-8569. More information and resources, including a list of phone and online meetings, may be found at www.al-anon.org or www.al-anon-co.org.

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SHOWROOM ADMIN/ RECEPTIONIST- We are looking for an individual that has a welcoming demeanor and is able to warmly provide direction. Someone detailed, organized, able to work independently and can multitask. QuickBooks and MS Office literate preferred. Please call Sara (970)946-4673 to apply.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

ARCHULETA COUNTY DEPARTMENT of Human Services is seeking an enthusiastic, energetic and competent individual to join our award winning team providing case management services for children and families! The successful candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Psychology or a related field AND possess strong interpersonal, communication and organizational skills, \$19.41-\$27.18/ hour D.O.E., plus benefits. Please visit our website for a complete job description and to apply online.

PAGOSA LIQUOR HIRING part-time cashier. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. We are looking for Line Cooks full time, starting pay \$15/ hour. Please see Chef Travis Wednesday- Sunday

KIP'S GRILL AND CANTINA is looking for hard working, responsible and fun people to ioin our kitchen staff. Experience preferred. Apply in person.

NOW HIRING FOR A REGISTERED NURSE (HOME HEALTH). Looking for an incredible career in a great place to live? Centura Health is now hiring for a part-time Registered Nurse in Pagosa Springs. Enjoy highly-competitive pay, low-cost comprehensive benefits, generous paid time off and more! Learn more and apply at: https://bit.ly/2KdayNl.

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.

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PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND GREEN-HOUSE PAGOSA are looking for happy, enthusiastic people to join our budding business. We are willing to train the right candidate if you're committed to being a part of this continually growing industry. Please send a copy of your resume to employment@jandjinc.net along with a copy of your Colorado M.E.D. Badge.

PEAK DELI SEEKING SAFE and serious line/ prep cook for full-time work. Must be a multi-tasker. No calls. Stop by for application.

NOW HIRING FOR GENERAL laborers. No experience necessary. Se habla espanol. (918)633-7216.

HELP WANTED

MULTICULTURAL ADVOCATE. Rise Above Violence is hiring a Spanish speaker interested in supporting victims of domestic and sexual violence. We are looking for someone who is good at building relationships, empathetic, and a desire to support our community. No experience necessary, high school diploma required, Spanish speaking required, it is a part-time position. Salary range is \$21,216-\$25,584 dependent on experience at 24 hours a week. Send resumes to christine@riseaboveviolence.org.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS WINE AND LIQUOR hiring part-time clerk. Nights and weekends required. Apply at store. (970)731-5039.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a night shift Med/ Surg Staff Registered Nurse. The RN must administer patient care, across the age continuum, in a safe, efficient and courteous manner in accordance with hospital policies and procedures. Must meet all the requirements and standards set forth in the PSMC Acute Care Registered Nurse job description. Prefer a minimum of 2 years experience as a registered nurse. Active registered nurse licensure in the State of Colorado. Current BLS certification is required, ALCS and PALS are preferred. 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.

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.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Billing Specialist. The Specialist is responsible for billing assigned insurances accurately and timely within Cerner and Revenue Manager. Coordinates the day-to-day functions of the billing team to ensure claims held in scrubber and rejected claims have been resolved and billed. Works with PFS team on achieving metrics for cash collections and AR days and any other departmental goals related to the Revenue Cycle. 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.

USE YOUR CAREGIVING TALENTS to help others stay in their home. Training and flexible schedule. LifeCare (970)516-1234

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

DENTAL ASSISTANT. EXPERIENCE A plus, but not necessary. 3 days a week. Please send resume to mydentalofficechoice@gmail.com.

BUSY RENTAL SHOP LOOKING for self efficient service/yard person. Must have valid DL. Apply in person at 305 Bastille Dr. or email ppine000@centurytel.net.

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.



COLORADO HOME Terry's ACE 525 Navajo Trail Dr.

SPA/ HOT TUB WATER CARE and Maintenance Person wanted. Need clean driving record. Maintain water chemistry, cleaning of spa/ filters/ covers, etc. chemical treatment. and more. Technical repair of heaters, pumps. plumbing, controls, etc. Deliver and replace covers, install accessories, help Spa/ Hot Tub Delivery Crew on deliveries and moving display tubs in and out of showroom. Training is provided. Please call (970)946-4673 for more information or visit us at Homespun Comforts, 301 N Pagosa Blvd, B-6.

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MARKETING ASSISTANT. We are looking for a dependable, innovative person to help us grow our expanding brand as we look for new opportunities and creative ways to edge out the competition. Do you work well with others? Are you a creative thinker? Come work for a great company that continues to grow and thrive in our ever-changing economy. Duties and responsibilities include: Update multiple websites weekly/ monthly; daily/ weekly posts to social media; organize, present and design print and digital advertising for multiple locations; design and order merchandise for multiple locations; update online menu systems daily/ weekly; assist Marketing Director and Owner with various tasks. Must have experience in marketing involving both print and digital mediums. Adobe and MS Office skills required. I.T. experience is a plus but not required. Previous experience in the cannabis industry is preferred but not required. A Colorado M.E.D. Badge is required before you can start work. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

JOURNEYMEN MASONS, TENDERS, MA-SON Laborers needed for Pagosa Springs project starting in February. Call Trig Masonry (970)385-4404

CULTIVATION HELP: Pagosa Therapeutics is looking for entry-level help in our award winning cultivation. Grow helper: This is a full-time posi tion. Responsibilities include cleaning, checking reservoirs, pruning plants, transplanting, etc. This is a physical job. You must be able to work on your feet all day, work on a ladder, and carry equipment up and downstairs. The ideal candidate will be willing to learn, pay attention to details, and have good problem-solving abilities. No experience needed, M-F 8:30a.m.-6p.m. with overtime available. Please email a copy of your resume to employment@jandjinc.net. A M.E.D. Badge is required.

HELP WANTED

Archuleta Housing

Archuleta Housing is looking for an experienced Office Assistant with the following

- Administrative experience:
- · Computer knowledge including QuickBooks & 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

HELP WANTED. COLE'S MEAT Processing. Part and full-time positions available. Stop by 495 Highway 84 or call 264-2426.

CLEANERS, UP TO \$15/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care,

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST NEEDED. Riverwalk Inn is looking for friendly, customer centered people. Great atmosphere, good pay based on experience. Stop by the hotel at 260 E Pagosa St. (noon-3p.m.) or call (970)-507-7118.

EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION HELP NEEDED. Reliable transportation required. Excellent pay based on experience . Please call (970)403 5119.

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.,

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. Call 264-5823 for an application or pick one up in person at 1040 E. Hwy. 160.

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.

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LOST: SMALL CLUTCH TYPE PURSE, tan with dogs on the exterior. If found, please call Ruby at (719)207-0226.

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NEW, NEVER OUT OF THE BAG (paid \$120) glacier chains. #H2219SC cams, LT235/75/ R116, 7.50R15LT, LT215/85/16. Call 731-5098 to leave a message with your best offer.

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2013 SUBARU OUTBACK. 6 speed manual transmission, 111,500 miles, additional snow tires included. Few minor cosmetic imperfections, but otherwise engine has been maintained exceptionally well. \$6,500. (310)245-0555.

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264-2100

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AUTOS

2001 DODGE RAM 2500, with 9.5 ft. stainless snow plow, 200K miles. Will split. Asking \$9,000. (970)946-4067.

1996 FORD RANGER. Dependable 4X4. \$4,900 OBO 731-9808

2013 AUDI TTS AWD Coupe. 22,870 miles, Pearl black, new all weather tires, \$29,500. 4-18" 255/55R Bridgestone "Blizzak" tires on aluminum rims. Like new. \$800 OBO. (970)946-1051, leave message.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR LLC has a 2011 Black International Prostar, VIN#336874 for sale. Please stop by Buckskin towing & Repair at: 1435 E. Hwy. 160 to place a bid on this vehicle. 1435 Highway 160 East, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970)264-2500.

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ROOM FOR RENT with private bath in nice mobile home, \$650/ month, first and last month, (970)903-6094

TWIN CREEK! 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2-car garage, 1,765 SF. \$2,000/ month. No smoking. Dog negotiable. Contact Kennevergreen@msn.com.

LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)459-4411 or sunethaproperties.

UPTOWN LOCATIONS. 1/1 available now, \$1,200 a month, 810 sq. ft. brand new, all eco electric, water and garbage not included, first and last month plus \$1,000 deposit. 2/2 with 1-car garage, granite, available Feb. 1, all new remodel, water, gas, electric, garbage not included, \$1,350 a month, first and last month plus \$1,000 deposit, NO PETS OR SMOKING. Application fee \$80. Call (970)903-3942.

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250 SQ. FT. OFFICE SPACE available.

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LITTLE FARM HOUSE. Four bedroom, one bath, 28 acres, 32 shares irrigation, fruit trees, berry bushes, 1,200 bales of hay a year. Quiet country living, \$525,000. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@ archuletaproperties.com.

1,765 SQ. FT. MANUFACTURED HOME for sale by owner. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, purged. \$198,500. 87 Brook Dr. (970)398-9196.

HOUSES FOR SALE

THREE BEDROOM, BATH AND a half. 1.74 acres, no HOA, zoned multi use. Great fixer-upper or investment property. \$399,000. Possible owner carry in the heart of town. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@archuletaproperties.com.

HOMEOWNERS! IF YOU ARE thinking of selling your house, this is a great time! There are so few houses on the market, every Realtor in the area would visit and highlight your property to their pre-qualified buyers! Please call today and see how I can help get your house sold! Thank you! Robin Pehle, Independent Broker (970)946-0975.

FSBO: 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1,850 sq. ft. built in 2001, with 2-car garage, vaulted ceilings, large kitchen and living area, laundry room with utility sink, Jacuzzi tub, wood burning fireplace as well as HVAC, new A/C unit, landscaped, lots of upgrades. Walking distance from lake, surrounded by walking trails and across the street from National Forest, Located off Lake Forest Circle. asking low at \$225 per sq. ft., \$416,250. Call to see (970)903-0529.

GREAT LAKE HOUSE. Four bedrooms, four baths, seven car garage, 1.6 acres, views of Navajo Lake, RV hook up. Plenty of room for year around home or for a couple of families to vacation at the lake. \$555,000. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@ archuletaproperties.com.

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MINUTES TO TOWN. 35 acres, full equestrian setup, barn, indoor arena, shop, open floor plan home and guest house, senior water rights, private setting, amazing views, ag tax status, all this and more. \$1,895,000. Call listing broker for details Jim Smith Realty, Carol Peterson (480)213-0511.

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PROPERTY

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TREE COVERED OFF THE GRID lot with a flat spot for your camp spot, 4.89 acres, \$52,000. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@archuletaproperties.com.

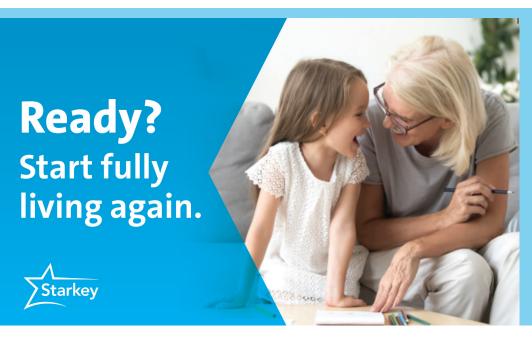
5 ACRES IN ECHO LAKE Estates. Beautiful mountain views, 10 minutes to downtown Pagosa Springs, \$90,000. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@ archuletaproperties.com.

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WILDLIFE COVERED! 79.69 AGRICULTURAL acres with 80 shares of water, 2 ponds and a year-round creek, \$350,000. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@ archuletaproperties.com.

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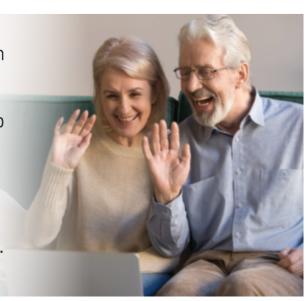
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