



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

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Archuleta County moves to Blue: Caution on dial

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

When the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released its updated COVID-19 dial framework, called the “Dial 2.0,” Archuleta County moved from Level Orange: High Risk to Level Blue: Caution.

That move went into effect Saturday, Feb. 6.

The dial, the CDPHE explains in a press release, is a tool that allows Colorado to balance the ongoing need to contain the COVID-19 virus with the need for localized guidance during the pandemic.

“Dial 2.0 is designed so that counties can swiftly move into more restrictive levels when their numbers go up, and more quickly into recovery when their numbers go down,” said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, CDPHE executive director.

The updated dial did not change most capacities, spacing and ventilation requirements, or public health precautions for the dial’s levels, but changed the boundaries between each level in terms of new cases (adjusted for county population), test positivity and hospitalizations, with

■ See Dial A8

Public open house for ‘Pagosa Springs Plans Forward’ on Feb. 24

Town of Pagosa Springs

The Town of Pagosa Springs has kicked off the Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) update, “Pagosa Springs Plans Forward,” and would like to invite the community to participate in the first public open house on Feb. 24.

The open house will be held in person as well as hosted online through www.MyPagosa.org. The open house will be held at the Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd., from 4 until 7 p.m.

The same information available at the open house will be conveyed visually on MyPagosa.org and through a series of questions and responses for individuals to participate in remotely.

The intent of the LUDC update is to align the LUDC with the Comprehensive Plan to work toward achieving the long-range vision for the community that is included in that plan. The Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2018 and sets a high-level vision, while the LUDC provides the tools and regulations that have direct impact on the look

■ See Town A8



Ice rescue training



Photos courtesy Pagosa Fire Protection District

Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) firefighters spend their Saturday training on different methods of rescuing people who have fallen through the ice. Firefighters used all devices that the PFPD has available for ice rescue including ropes, floating slings, rescue boat and in-water person-to-person rescue.

Emergencies on the ice can occur quickly and unexpectedly in Pagosa County. Training for ice emergencies is important to keep firefighters current with their knowledge and skills for employing the most efficient techniques to assist both people and animals that may find themselves in trouble.

It is important to remember while firefighters train on techniques that allow successful rescues, the only way to completely prevent falling through ice is to stay off it. Ice conditions can change rapidly throughout the day and from day to day, causing unpredictable variations in ice thickness and sturdiness.



Vaccines continue: 49 percent of county’s 65+ population receives first dose

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

According to San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH), 19 percent of Archuleta County’s total population and 49 percent of the county’s 65+ population had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose as of Feb. 8.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) had administered 3,459 doses through Tuesday, according to PSMC Chief Administrative Officer Ann Bruzzese, who pointed out more than 3,200 doses have gone to community members.

As of Feb. 8, vaccination data shows PSMC had administered more doses than any other provider in the SJBPH service area.

Other Archuleta County providers include Pagosa Medical Group, which had administered 232 doses as of Feb. 8; City Market, which had

administered 97 doses; and Walmart, which is enrolled directly with the federal government and is not tracked alongside other area providers.

SJBPH had administered 1,655 vaccines as of Feb. 8.

Across Colorado, nearly 600,000 had received first doses as of Tuesday morning, according to Gov. Jared Polis, with more than 200,000 receiving a second dose so far.

On Monday, educators and child care workers in licensed programs and those 65-69 years of age (called Phase 1B.2) became eligible to receive the vaccine, with plans in place to have locals vaccinated in the coming weeks.

A SJBPH press release explained that vaccine providers, school districts, independent schools and child care facilities in La Plata and Archuleta counties have come together to provide vaccinations to school and child care staff on an acceler-

ated schedule.

“The State of Colorado has recommended providing first dose vaccinations to school staff over the course of the next three weeks; thanks to regional collaboration and sharing of resources, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) expects over 70% of the eligible school and childcare staff in the two counties to be offered their first dose vaccination by Saturday, February 13th,” the press release states. “These individuals will be notified by their employers as to when and where they will receive vaccinations and should not attempt to make appointments as part of the general public.”

That group includes over 1,500 people in La Plata and Archuleta counties, and PSMC and Pagosa Medical Group are slated to help with administration locally, according to SJBPH.

■ See Vaccines A8

Changes in short-term rental fees proposed

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) heard from Director of Development Services Pamela Flowers in regard to new short-term rental (STR) fees at a work session held on Feb. 9.

The current fee that owners of STRs in the county pay is set at a base rate of \$400 annually, regardless of what type of rental property it is or the size of the property.

In previous work sessions, Flowers has discussed with the BoCC about looking into different options for STR fees.

She explained how there are two different types of STRs in the county: owner occupied and non-owner occupied.

Owner occupied STRs are properties in which the owner lives on site

■ See Rental A8

Building fee increases proposed

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Director of Development Services Pamela Flowers has proposed a new fee schedule for building permits in the county.

Flowers described her proposal as “a slight uptick in building permit fees.”

At a work session held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Feb. 9, Flowers presented her proposal on increasing the county’s building fees, specifically for residential buildings.

Currently, the county calculates building fees based off of the square footage of the home. The county currently values homes at \$78.35 per square foot. The county then uses a valuation table to determine the total fees.

Flowers used an example of a 1,500-square-foot home to show how much the building fees would be under the current system.

■ See Building A8

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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2/5	34	6	-	-	-
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2/7	46	7	-	-	-
2/8	45	8	-	-	-

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EDITORIAL

Public meetings should have virtual options

A December meeting of the Hand-forth parish council in England turned to chaos, with the clerk of the council, Jackie Weaver, eventually kicking out the council chair after he was disrespectful.

He wasn't the only one in the meeting who was disrespectful. She kicked out others who followed his lead.

Council chair Brian Tolver ordered Weaver to stop talking and questioned her authority. He failed to respect that at a minimum Weaver had control over the Zoom meeting.

That Zoom meeting has gone viral.

The chaotic Zoom meeting in Hand-forth is just one of thousands of public meetings that have been held since the pandemic began.

We have to say, as confessed public meeting junkies, that we are thankful for the many virtual public meetings that have come about in the past year.

The Zoom platform has provided a "Brady Bunch" display of participants in virtual meetings on computer screens. We cannot imagine not having a platform in which to hold public meetings when we were forced to lockdown our communities to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Zoom has kept friends and family connected throughout the coronavirus pandemic. The platform has also provided a means for business to connect to employees and for clubs and organi-

zations to hold meetings. Teachers and students have also connected using the videoconferencing program.

People have been hired over Zoom and fired over Zoom.

We even played Zoom bingo last Friday night with journalists from all over the United States.

The platform isn't without its glitches. Some of us even experienced the phenomenon of Zoom bombing, where hackers infiltrate a meeting and share offensive content.

When the pandemic hit, local government officials retreated and quickly adapted to virtual meetings, many using the Zoom online format.

Remote participation has opened doors for those interested in local government. Zoom makes it easier to attend public meetings in our pajamas or while we are cooking dinner. Virtual formats allow citizens better opportunities to engage with local government.

Zoom meetings even allow for attendees to break out into smaller groups and come back together again to share what the groups discussed.

The county found ways to stream people in person combined with those at home.

The town also combined formats, providing for people to speak during public comment at home or in person at important meetings.

It has been great to catch glimpses of personal lives of our public officials when children, cats and dogs join in the meetings.

We've heard from homebound citizens who have appreciated the public access afforded by virtual public meetings.

There is no doubt that the Zoom boom has made it easier to keep up with our elected officials and other area organizations.

Just last month, Archuleta School District planned an in-person Board of Education meeting with no virtual access, but a winter storm forced the district to move to a Zoom format with little notice.

With Archuleta County turning blue on the COVID dial, some public entities are returning to in-person meetings and leaving those of us who were engaged in their process from the comfort of home feeling a bit abandoned.

We encourage those public entities to offer both in-person and virtual meetings to keep the public more involved and give us all more opportunities to participate.

Zoom or other virtual formats need to become permanent options for the public to keep engaged.

Please don't Zoom off and leave us without virtual public meetings.

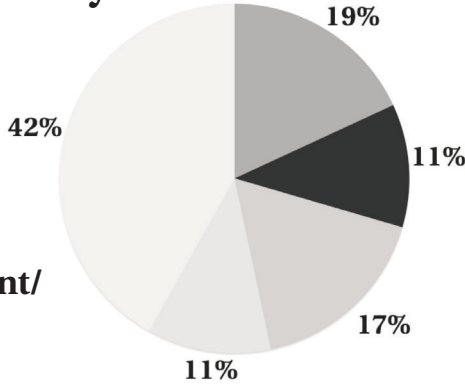
Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

What will you give your Valentine this year?

Poll results (105 votes)

Card — 19 percent
Dinner — 11 percent
Flowers — 17 percent
Candy — 11 percent
Other — 42 percent



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LOOKING BACK



From the Dec. 29, 1983, Pagosa Springs SUN. **BLOWING IT AWAY** — Highway crews on Wolf Creek Pass needed four hours to clear a lane through Tuesday afternoon's avalanche. Wednesday morning this auger was widening the lane to make travel easier for motorists.



LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 11, 1921

The beauty and strength of the sweet pea growth in Pagosa Springs has been noticed by many of our own people and is frequently commented upon by strangers. Has any one decided why? It is now thought by scientists that the heat of the earth and the heat in our hot springs is caused by radium emanation. Few realize that radium is the most powerful many times, of all the elements that have, so far, been discovered. Pure radium is very expensive to produce and disintegrates rather rapidly. It is used in the form of salts of radium and emanations. A piece of pure radium the size of a pea, it is said, if it could be properly controlled, would light the city of London for a year. This gives some idea of its immense power.

The greatest need of the Pagosa schools is a modern school building because the one we have is old, worn out, and as a matter of fact, not safe for boys and girls to be in. If you could have seen what a narrow escape some of the pupils had the other day from plaster falling from the ceiling, you would not question the statement that the building is not safe.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 15, 1946

The Buccaneers, in their 9th league game, met the Mancos Blue-Jays on their home floor Friday night and defeated them by the convincing score of 42-27.

George Yamaguchi will return to work at the Jackisch Drug Store next Monday, having recently received his honorable discharge following a long stretch in the army. George is an efficient pharmacist and his capability and efficiency are well known in this community. He was an employee at this store before entering military service.

Mrs. Gertrude Larson moved Monday from the Metropolitan Hotel, where she had been during the winter, to her ranch near Pagosa Springs.

Glenn Cotton returned home Thursday of last week from the ETO, mighty glad to be out of the army, and home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cotton.

Sgt. Kenneth Hotz came in Thursday of last week from Washington, on two weeks' furlough. He is with his mother, Mrs. Libbie Hotz. He is to report Feb. 19th in Salt Lake City, Utah, and thinks he may be slated for duty in China.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 11, 1971

Rena Goodenberger, a high school student, appeared before the board to ask permission for a student lounge for high school students. Miss Goodenberger told the board that the lounge was needed so that students might have a place, other than the halls and street, to congregate before school and during the noon hour. She said that the student council would supervise the operation of the lounge and gave the board a list of regulations, hours and other matters concerning the lounge. The board agreed to the proposal and left it to the superintendent and principal to work out final details.

Skiing remains excellent at Wolf Creek. Base depth is more than 66 inches, all lifts are operating, and there is plenty of ski snow and skier room.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
February 15, 1996

School District 50 Joint directors completed two policy revisions at their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, then heard reports of progress of the district's quest to prepare for a bond election and construct a new high school. When attention moved to the proposed bond election and plans for a new high school, Superintendent Terry Alley presented information about a bonding company, and about architectural firms and a date for interviews of representatives of those firms. He said committees have been formed that will deal with the process of bringing a bond issue before the public.

The board heard a progress report on the School Within a School project in the elementary school. The project centers on a single classroom at the building with students in grades 3 to 6, and utilizes mandated parent involvement to assist in the individualized education for the youngsters. Teacher Suzette Youngs reported that students in all grade levels in the classroom are well on track to meet the district's math and language arts standards.

Letters

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

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Racism

Dear Editor:

Roughly 400 years ago African slaves were brought to the Americas to serve as chattel labor for White Europeans who were the minority race in America. Even many of our Founding Fathers who wrote the Declaration of Independence & the Constitution/Bill of Rights never gave up their slaves. The offspring of these slaves never made it fully out of white ownership; but the race war that slavery started is coming full circle as white Americans who became the majority after performing genocide on the Indians are slipping from the majority to minority within the next 25 years. Let's follow the 'settlers' false freedom rubric, the Indians were killed so that our fore fathers had the 'freedom' to take the In-

dians land. Slavers even forced a civil war for their own freedom to own mankind; and yes they called it a war to preserve their 'culture & (don't forget) freedom.'

Having lost the civil war the ex-slavers in a Presidential election squabble gained total suppression of Black Americans through 'Jim Crow' laws that resulted in the continuation of systemic racism in all aspects of American Life. Sound familiar, today it's 'Stop-the-Steal,' voter fraud and Gerrymandering by the GOP. The race war heated up in the 1960's with the Civil Rights struggle resulting in Black Americans gaining some rights but still facing all the other aspects of systemic racism.

The two political parties swapped ends on being progressive, with the Southern states going from being Democratic racist demagogues to GOP racist demagogues which also produced 'my freedom' fanatics like Senator Barry Goldwater. Once again freedom never meant 'for all' and this latest generation of 'slavers' twisted version came out "extremism in defense of liberty is not a vice...etc. Read that my freedom is good...yours..I can kill, maim or imprison you just so I can do anything...I want.

So where are we, well lets connect the dots...if Antifa or BLM riots over the lack of their freedom or right to life...dats very very bad and it's OK to kill'em; whereas if GOP Patriots riot and attempt an insurrection in DC...dats very very good but no punishment the poor souls were just upset. Nothin' new... just a more polished cover job on the same old slaver game. If racism is systemic, a 'GOP true believer' can argue any one aspect to show injustice to whites...and be right; however, they're wrong as that piece of the puzzle supports the whole bag of tricks. Said another way, to change a systemic problem it requires a near total change in process and rights while preserving what is possible of what our Founding Fathers actually wrote. Sound uncomfortable, don't forget Archuleta had race/range was between white settlers & Mexican Americans, that is after the Indians were 'quieted' & put on Reservations...nothin' new.

Dave Blake

Marxist

Dear Editor:

Since our elections resulted in turning our government to a hard left/Socialist direction, I thought that perhaps it might be well to remind people of five things Karl Marx wanted to destroy besides personal property.

1. Family – Understanding the nuclear family (husband, wife, children) as a construct of the bourgeoisie (the "rich"), Marx intended to erode the family so that it was no longer the bedrock of every culture, but that the state would serve that purpose. Today, the LGBTQ agenda is doing a very fine job of turning the family into a meaningless term and our culture will pay a severe price for it.

2. Individuality – Marx wrote that individuality was antithetical to the egalitarianism he sought. Today, we see the same sentiment

with the denial of free speech and the adoption of group thought as promoted by our leftist government, the mainstream media, and our universities. No speech or thought that does not toe the mark of socialist thought is to be permitted and if it appears, then it must be labeled as "racist", or "xenophobic", or "bigoted", or an expression of "white supremacy" or "white nationalism", in an attempt to discredit it.

3. Eternal Truths – For Marx there was simply no eternal truth except "class struggle". He wrote, "The ruling class ideas of each age have ever been the ideas of its ruling class [the "rich"]. The ancient religions were overcome by Christianity. Then Christian ideals succumbed in the 18th century to rationalist ideas. Communism does not seek to modify truth, but to overthrow it...But Communism abolishes eternal truths, it abolishes all religion, and all morality." Today modern leftists insist that there is no uniform concept of human sexuality, no unchanging morals, no common understanding of marriage. Everything is up for grabs and religion is the enemy.

4. Nations – Marx envisioned that Communism would end the need for nations and he was the original "globalist". Today's leftists want no national borders, desire citizenship to be meaningless, and wish to grant amnesty to every illegal alien entering our country.

5. The Past – Marx understood tradition as the tool of the bourgeoisie (the "rich"). He wrote, "In bourgeois society, the past dominates the present; in Communist society, the present dominates the past." Today's leftists are tearing down our past statue by statue, taking the names of our founding fathers off of schools in the same fashion that ISIS sought to destroy the history of the lands they controlled. To destroy our past is to commit cultural suicide.

Clearly, what is occurring in this nation is nothing short of a Marxist revolution with Marxist aims, using Marxist means to achieve their ends.

Richard Bolland

Boebert

Dear Editor:

I share Rep. Boebert's concern

about the economic impacts of declining oil and gas jobs and tax revenue in Western Colorado. Market and regulatory pressures continue to mount. We are in the midst of an energy transition, whether we want to be or not. Will we take the lead and shape the economic landscape to suit our interests and abilities, or will we simply react to actions taken by others?

President Biden unveiled a broad regulatory agenda to force reductions in fossil fuel emissions. Conservative leaders have criticized the means chosen by the new administration, but not the goal itself. A warming climate exposes businesses and communities to rising costs and uncertainty. We must act swiftly to address the root cause. We can choose effective actions that are consistent with free enterprise principles.

One example is a Carbon Fee and Dividend policy, which phases in a steadily rising fee on carbon pollution from fossil fuels and returns the revenue to households through equal per-capita monthly dividends. A border adjustment keeps American businesses competitive and increases pressure on our global trading partners to address their own emissions.

The clear and steady market signal lets businesses and communities plan ahead, integrating and innovating the cheapest, cleanest energy solutions for each particular application.

I urge Rep. Boebert to consider Carbon Fee and Dividend policy like the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. It's an actionable plan to reduce carbon pollution without adding to the deficit, growing government, or banning energy development.

Kathy Fackler
Durango

Vacation rentals

Dear Editor:

I recently have been reading a lot of comments about the Vacation Rental business. In my opinion those that do not approve of nightly vacation rentals probably do not work in our restaurants or local businesses here in town. I have been working in the tourism business here since 1987 and have built my career and life around vacation-

See Letters A4

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be signed by the author, unless emailed

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 submissions are preferred

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

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



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Letters

■ Continued from A3

ers coming into our area. Pagosa we are and will be a tourism-based community.

We recently purchased a second home for the intent of nightly rentals. We have saved money for retirement and this is our retirement income. Some choose to invest in stocks others choose to work until they can't work anymore. Some choose to live off the government. We choose to live off vacationers coming to our area for vacation, while supporting local businesses when they are vacationing.

Our first rental was for eight people, they booked eight massages with a local business. They ordered pizza for 8 at a local restaurant and went out for dinner at a local restaurant. They purchased lift tickets and rental equipment for 8 people on two days. They purchased hot springs tickets for all, and this is only the items that I know they spent additional money on.

Tourism brings a lot of money to this area as those of us that have lived here for any length of time. The local residents don't all shop at our local stores a large amount use Amazon or Walmart or other mail order services. The tourism market keeps the economy alive in our town and we want and need the small businesses of Pagosa Springs.

Our small rental business brings more money to our economy than any other investment that we could make. Since we started the process, we have spent a large amount of money employing local residents to fix the house to the point where it can be rented. We have purchased as many furnishings and supplies that we could for this house from local businesses.

We have paid our registration fee with the county to be able to rent our home on a nightly basis. We have only had 8 reservations and have only started this process but we have already contributed \$1420.28 to our community with occupancy taxes. We have and will continue to pay the property tax on the property. We don't have a problem with either of these because they do help our community if the money is spent by our government correctly.

I am not writing this to justify our decision to purchase a nightly rental as we are very excited to continue the business, while contributing to our community. No one should be charge additional fees above what is already being charged currently, I know this country is still a free country for us to do what we want with our property and no restrictions should prevent someone or limit them to choose to bring more vacationer's into Pagosa supporting our community.

Joe and Jacque Fahrion

Nuremberg Code

Dear Editor:

Do the people living within the several states of America have a legitimate lawfully operating government? Has sufficient evidence been gathered and presented that major irregularities occurred during the 2020 federal elections? From the viewpoint of local Archuleta County residents, who presented massive amounts of evidence in county court, and state appeals court of election law violation by local government employees, before and during the 2014 county-wide elections, without a doubt, crimes at the federal level have occurred, and the actual evidence is not being openly, honestly, and publicly addressed by members of the BAR Association, who hold government employee positions.

In fact, members of the Democratic party have seized control of the federal Legislative and Executive branches of government. Does that mean the people of the several states have a legitimate federal government?

Now that Democrats have seized control of the United States corporation, let's take a look at the crimes against humanity they are committing. Article 2 of the Constitution of the United States of America delegates 4 specific powers to the office of the President. Violating the basic human rights of the people in the several states, under some pretended authority is not one of them. Any Executive Order issuing from the office of the President of the United States corporation does not apply to any United States national, but they would apply to all United States corporation employees and contractors.

In 1947, in Nuremberg Germany, American judges held the

"Doctors' Trials" at the end of World War II. To strengthen the hypocritical oath, the Nuremberg Code was created to protect individual human rights and dignity in connection with medical care and development of medicine and its associated practices.

In 2005, the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights was created by UNESCO, further protecting human rights and dignity when it comes to practice of medicine.

Does a nationwide vaccination mandate violate the basic tenants of the hypocritical oath, Nuremberg Code or the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights?

Let's begin a nationwide open, honest, public discussion.

Greg Giehl

Practice patience

Dear Editor:

In reply to Mr.C.Newton of HighlandsRanch,

Executive actions can't create new laws; President Biden is just reversing some policies from predecessor; all Presidents do this. Yes he has written more, but they are mostly for creating task forces, to direct agencies to begin a regulatory process or to explore a policy change; and according to a professor of government "The motto of the Reagan transition team was 'when in doubt, undo.' Also please note, Trump made reversing Obama administration policies a mission of his presidency.

As for jobs in oil and gas, Please read well researched article "Life After Coal" (High Country News), citing asthma, denuded water table and exploitation of the Navajo Nation. Oil and gas have plenty of dangers to health and environment as well.

It is time we plan ahead and start real efforts for sustainable and clean energy. Construction and other jobs with finite resources are temporary and not good for health or environment. As one Diné man says, the sun's energy is boundless; it runs the planet.)

It's obvious you do not like the current administration; but please avoid knee-jerk reactions.

Our Country and our shared Planet face some complex problems, which mean no simple answers nor quick or even 'cheap' solutions.

I would respectfully ask my fellow Americans to practice patience; and instead of complaining and criticizing, use your time to do what you can do personally to make your Town and County a safe and beautiful place to live.

Thank you.

Addie Greer

Disconnect from reality

Dear Editor:

In reading the letters to the editor in the last few editions of the Pagosa Sun, it appears there are many people with a complete disconnect from reality. For example, the numerous fake news rants about riots, such as "hundreds of videos showing Trump supporters doing the rioting... rabid mob... attempted coup..." ad nauseam. I'm a researcher and review fifty videos a week and countless articles on the Democrat (and RINO's) goings-on that are plain to see for anyone wanting truth. The alleged so-called Republican coup lie being blathered about was clear for us all to see in the form of resisting the obvious theft of the election, and now non-president Biden's unconstitutional actions. The very fact that the election results were not lawfully counted, or examined when challenged, and actual evidence being suppressed, speaks volumes as to people's true intent of wanting truth to be known. There's a video of a top forensic expert speaking about the countless numbers of election fraud fake ballots and how they could easily be proven to be a fake... in one second. It is so sad to the vast majority in this area (patriots) that we have so many people willing to spread fake news about alleged facts but providing zero evidence.

Regarding the riots at the Capitol, fake news lied to us about that, too. I, and others from here, were in DC and saw what went down. Capitol Cops (friendly) were stand-

ing outside next to us, and doing nothing. We can provide proof that antifa was at the Capitol prior to most of the people, and that the Capitol Police let antifa in and actually escorted them into the Capitol. I saw many Trump supporters (I was one of them) actually stopping the antifa thugs from doing damage to the building. There's a video of a man looking like antifa moving quickly in the Capitol, being called out by Trump supporters, only to hear him say "We're not here to be antifa," now identified to be special forces carrying out a mission.

Unfortunately, some people read those letters, nod their heads, and believe the misinformation, assuring themselves by that misinformation that they are true Americans and defenders of freedom without actually proving any of it to be true with their own real research. It is time many step up to the plate and give an answer. Once again, we've offered this challenge in the past to people in this area who are misled by fake news, so we (liberty groups) offer all an opportunity to sit down and watch the evidence be presented in a public forum, and then debate what was seen. There are reams of date and original videos available that we will provide in a public forum for all to see. Any takers willing to face facts and truth and debate it all like adults?

Jeff Maehr

Short-term rentals

Dear Editor:

In an article in the 1/28 Sun, the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners discusses raising the annual \$400 fee that is charged to short term rentals (STR). Commissioner Maez says "that most STR properties will make that money back within their first weekend of booking." Oh really. As the owner of an STR, I can definitely say that is not true, as many STRs actually lose money. Most STRs have on-going expenses such as mortgage payments, taxes, utility bills, cable bills, plowing bills, cleaning bills and normal maintenance. These ongoing monthly expenses must be paid even though many STRs are vacant for 6 months. If Commissioner Maez knows of a way the STRs can be profitable from day one, please let us know.

The article then mentions Director of Development Services Pamela Flowers who opined that hotels are struggling to compete with the abundance of STRs in the area and how the new increased fees might help balance the market. By "balancing the market" one would assume she means helping the hotel chains. If this assumption is correct, why would Flowers think the hotel chains would be helped by taxing STRs? Increasing fees on STRs will not help hotels for the following reason: People with families don't go to hotels because they fear being cooped up in a place that requires constant masking to go outside or come inside. They much prefer the freedom of movement provided by STRs.

I would encourage all government entities in Archuleta County to support the STRs that are in the county. Without them, tourist dollars would disappear as would many jobs. Let's not increase fees on the struggling STRs that are the life blood of our tourist industry.

Charles Newton
Highlands Ranch

Preserve democracy

Dear Editor:

Former President Trump's situation bears resemblance to that of Marcius in ancient Rome. Marcius was impeached for inciting the citizenry to insurrection.

However, Marcius' favorable military activity ultimately assured him a decent reputation even after his brush with the law, while Mr. Trump does not have such a redeeming contribution in public service to fall back on. Mr. Trump's situation also resembles some others who surfaced in Rome and Athens near the end of those democracies, according to Plutarch and Aristotle.

Nasica of Rome was impeached for inciting the insurrection that resulted in the killing of Tiberius Gracchus, an admired democratic leader. A group of operatives led by Catiline, who had lost the election to Cicero, conspired to overthrow the consulship of Cicero in 63 B.C. Catiline fled after an impromptu impeachment trial in the Senate. This event is notable for its similarity to Mr. Trump's attempt to unseat Mr. Biden after the recent election.

Is the American Congress too weak to take simple, legal action to hold a tyrant accountable and in the process preserve democracy?

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

A job

Dear Editor:

Dr. Chase's book, published in 1870, is so "forward thinking". I hope my readers enjoy his words that I continue to share. He wrote a chapter addressed to young men and others "out of employment". Maybe this will sound pertinent today.

"How few there are who will hear advice at all; not because it is advice, but from the fact that those who attempt to give it are not qualified; or they endeavor to thrust it upon others at an inappropriate time. A book on paper never gives offense and therefore, is always welcomed with hope that real benefit will be attained, that they may find themselves sufficiently interested to give it careful consideration."

So, Dr. Chase wrote the following advice: "take hold of the first job you can find, for it will not find you. No matter how insignificant it may be, it will be better than longer idleness; and when you are seen doing something for yourselves, by those whose opinions are worth any consideration, will soon offer you more and better jobs; until finally, you will find something which agrees with your taste or inclination for a life business. But remember, that the idle never had good situations offered to them. It is the industrious and persevering who are needed to assist in life's great struggles.

Following his election, President Biden addressed the nation and his comment that grabbed my attention was the following: "A job is not only about money but is about personal dignity that defines who we are". He must have read Dr. Chase's book. I believe, for the most part, our young folks in Pagosa follow that advice — we are proud "of" them as well as "for" them as their lives bring rewards through the years.

Blessings to all.

Patty Tillerson

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Obituary

Julio Cristobal Gallegos 'Chris'

It is with great sadness that the family of Chris Gallegos announce his passing on Feb. 3 at the age of 69 at his home in Pagosa Springs. After a hard-fought battle with cancer, Chris was called home to be with his heavenly Father.



Julio Cristobal Gallegos, Chris, as he was known to many, was a true local to this area. He was born on Nov. 8, 1951, in Lumberton, N.M., to Alfredo and Juanita Gallegos. The family moved to the Pagosa Springs area in 1959, where he grew up and lived his entire life. His contributions to the life of this community are perhaps unknown to many, but significant all the same.

The second child of 14, Chris was well known for his booming voice and his playful banter. "Ornery" was the word often used, and he loved nothing more than to tease his kids, his sisters, family, friends or some unsuspecting newcomer. Underneath his gruff exterior was a spirit of gentleness and generosity. He earned the reputation of being a reliable and loving brother, father and grandfather. The family and the community could depend on him for anything, and so many people did. He wore

the "big brother" and "Patrón" persona well and his passing leaves a void that will be hard to fill.

As a young child, Chris began school in Lumberton, N.M., and later in Pagosa Springs, where he made lasting friendships, enjoyed playing on the basketball team, and where he graduated in 1971.

While still in high school, his father sustained a serious injury while working for a local lumber company and for a time Chris was forced into the position of family breadwinner, as he worked logging timber in his off-school hours. Immediately following graduation, Chris joined the Army National Guard and served his country for 14 years as a medic with the 928th Medic Company.

He married Darlene Espinosa in 1973 and together they had four children: Denessa, Christopher, Marcos and Jeremy. They made their home in Pagosa Springs and Chris worked as a ranch hand. He loved the ranching life and in particular working with horses. He then worked at the San Juan Lumber Company and then the Chimney Rock Coal Mine. When the coal mine closed, Chris went to work for the Town of Pagosa Springs Street Department, eventually becoming supervisor. After 34 years, he retired in 2018 to care for his wife, Darlene.

Throughout his life, Chris loved the outdoors, and he had a special talent for working with and breaking horses. He was amazingly adept

with a lariat, rarely missing. He loved nothing more than taking a pack trip on horseback with friends or family.

His passion was his family. There was nothing his family could ask of him that he didn't give. His sons, Christopher and Jeremy, were his pride and joy. When they brought grandchildren into the family, that love naturally extended down to them.

His generous and kind spirit provided for others outside of the family, as well. Together with his wife, Darlene, they took in many young people who just needed to feel the warmth of family. Countless youths in the community found a home with Chris and Darlene, sometimes for a few days, sometimes for a few years.

Through his job with the Town of Pagosa Springs, Chris was a vital member of the community, helping towns-people and neighbors any way that he could. A "man's man," full of practical knowledge and old school wisdom, he used his gifts to help others. A particular role he adopted was assisting bereaved families with funeral and burial needs.

Chris loved celebrations and worked tirelessly on the ground-work to build Pagosa Springs' Independence Day activities, helping to organize parades, directing traffic and lighting of the annual firework display. He was also in on the ground floor of Pagosa Springs

Spanish Fiesta to celebrate the history and people of our area.

Chris Gallegos lived a life of service, and at the root of his motivation was his love of the Lord, very clearly expressed in his work in the Immaculate Heart of Mary/John Paul II parish. He served on the Parish Council and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Together with his wife, Darlene, he led classes for preparation of baptism, marriage, as well as youth religious education. He helped to sponsor and chaperone youth groups for retreats and to youth conferences in many places, most notably to Rome. He served as the Eucharistic minister within the church and also to the homebound.

Chris is survived by his sons, Christopher and Jeremy Gallegos, and his grandchildren: Alyssa Rivas (Isaiah), Tianna Gallegos, Rheanna Gallegos, Gabriel Gallegos, Angelo Gallegos and Brylin. He had one great granddaughter, Avila Rivas. He is also survived by his siblings, Sarah Gallegos, Lorenzo Gallegos (Jessie), Ernest Gallegos (Mardel), Dorothy Gallegos (Trent), Alfred Gallegos (Tara), Eleanor Gallegos, Stella McFarridge (Harvey), Anna Appenzeller (Tom), Sandra Schultz (Gary), Nyana Janowsky (Dan), David Gallegos (Tina), Leticia Gallegos (Nick) and Anjelica Cardenas (Lorenzo); and countless nephews, nieces, cousins, adopted family members and Godchildren. Chris is also survived by his mother-in-law, Beatrice Espinosa; sisters-in-law Georgia Ortega, Amy Moreno (Jesus); brothers-in-law Henry (Lou Jean), Joseph (Carrie), Dennis (Dhalia), George (Jennifer) and Armando; nieces and nephews.

Chris is predeceased by his wife, Darlene, his children, Denessa and Marcos, and his parents, Alfredo and Juanita Gallegos.

Thank you to all of the many friends who were there for Chris throughout this ordeal, all of you who offered words of comfort or prayer. Thanks to all who encouraged him, whether it be taking him out to lunch, bringing in a meal, going for a drive, visiting or a simple phone call. Your kindnesses

■ See Obituary A6

Mary Beth Hill

Mary Beth Hill, age 85, passed away on Feb. 5 after fighting terminal illness for nearly a year. She was born in Enid, Okla., in 1935 to Everett and Grace Garner, and lived in Enid until her graduation from high school, whereupon she attended OSU and joined the Pi Beta Phi sorority sisterhood with whom she devoted lifelong affiliation and love. She moved to Denver, Colo., in 1972 and worked a lengthy and fulfilling career at State Farm in Broomfield, Colo., for 27 years, where she met her husband, James Hill. They married in 1978 and retired to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 2000. In retirement, she played tennis, contributed actively to Thingamajig Theatre, traveled the world, enjoyed playing bridge, participated in square and line dancing, and cherished spending as much time as possible with family



and friends.

Mary Beth was preceded in death by her parents, brother (Merle), and son (Kevin). She is survived by her husband, James C. Hill; her three remaining children: Kimberly (Bill), Stephanie (Tim) and Brett (Anne); and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom will dearly miss her as matriarch of the family.

For any who knew her, though, her life summed into a paragraph seems inadequate because she was so much more than words can express. She radiated like a ray of sunshine in any room she walked into, bringing with her joy, laughter, smiles and love. She never spoke an unkind word about anyone and strove to be accepting and kind in every situation. From her shoes and perfectly coordinated outfit to her perfectly fixed hair and nails with not a lipstick line out of place, she brought grace, style and cheer to every social affair. Fine dining, a good glass of wine and any excuse to gather with loved ones to eat, drink and be merry were the driving forces of her life because, mostly, Mary Beth

loved people. And people loved her. She was that one-in-a-million soul that touched more lives than she could ever know, brought light to the lives of countless individuals, and genuinely cared about everyone she spoke to and made them feel like they mattered, whether she'd known them for five minutes or forever. It takes courage to live the way she did. May we all take a lesson from her strength and keep her memory alive in the light that we contribute to the world because in the end, we are only the light we leave behind to live on in those we shared it with.

Due to the restrictions of COVID, unfortunately, there will not be a service to honor Mary Beth's life, so we ask that you celebrate her life in your own special way. Her favorite songs were "Wind Beneath My Wings," "Amazing Grace" and "Can I Have This Dance," but she enjoyed listening to all country music and especially Charlie Pride. She loved flowers, too, but with no place to put all such offerings of love and condolence, she asked that you please make a donation to your favorite charity instead.

Visiting Angels of SW Colorado Receives 2021 Best of Home Care® – Leader in Excellence Award



Visiting Angels of SW Colorado announced today that it received the distinguished 2021 Best of Home Care — Leader in Excellence Award from Home Care Pulse, the leading firm in quality assurance for home care. The Leader in Excellence Award is the highest recognition awarded by Home Care Pulse and is given to select home care businesses that consistently rank among the very highest in 10 or more quality metrics. As a Leader in Excellence, Visiting Angels is now ranked among the top 10% of home care providers participating in the nationwide Home Care Pulse Satisfaction Management Program.

This accomplishment demonstrates Visiting Angels' long-term dedication to excellent care and quality improvement. To qualify for this award, 10% of Visiting Angels' clients and caregivers were interviewed each month by Home Care Pulse. Over a 12-month period, Visiting Angels received high client and caregiver satisfaction ratings in areas such as caregiver training, compassion of caregivers, communication, scheduling, client/caregiver compatibility, etc. Using feedback from clients and employees, as well as quality benchmarks from Home Care Pulse, the Visiting Angels management team set goals to reach the highest level of excellence possible.

"We once again are so proud of our agency, and what hard work it has taken everyone on the team to receive this award, for four years in a row. We know that it takes our clients, our caregivers, and our management staff to achieve this. We are humbled and so appreciative of the level of service displayed to others." — M Johnson, COO

The Best of Home Care — Leader in Excellence Award highlights the top-performing home care businesses in the nation. Home Care Pulse believes that by honoring these providers, families looking for in-home care for a loved one will be able to recognize and choose a trusted home care provider.

"At Home Care Pulse, our mission is to help home care businesses create an experience that goes beyond client and caregiver expectations," says Erik Madsen, CEO of Home Care Pulse. "When we see agencies like Visiting Angels that have made an effort to provide outstanding care and employment experiences, we know we're on the right track. Visiting Angels has worked extremely hard to provide high-quality care and employment, and their work hasn't gone unnoticed. This award allows them to provide proof of quality to potential and new clients and caregivers."

To find out more about Visiting Angels commitment to excellence, please visit Visitingangels.com/southwestcolorado or call 970-264-5991.

Visiting Angels of SW Colorado

The agency was founded on core values and principles that focus on excellence and the utmost respect of our clients and caregivers. We believe in higher purpose that compels us to serve others with excellence. We aim to brighten the home and better the health of each client we serve! — Serving the San Luis Valley, Farmington NM, and all of SW Colorado.

About Home Care Pulse

Home Care Pulse is the industry's leading firm in satisfaction research, quality assurance, and caregiver training. On behalf of home care businesses across North America, Home Care Pulse gathers unbiased satisfaction ratings from clients and caregivers and detailed feedback to ensure the best in-home care possible can be provided. Powerful online reports allow businesses to identify needs and take action to reduce increase satisfaction, reduce caregiver turnover, and address client needs. Home Care Pulse combines detailed client/caregiver insights with top-rated caregiver training through In The Know. For more information, please call Home Care Pulse at (877) 307-8573 or visit homecarepulse.com.

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Goals & Accomplishments

Archuleta County Combined Dispatch

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

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

Connie Cook, Dispatch Executive Management Board Chair 2020



What were your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

What a year 2020 has been! Resilience is a value that I have seen in action and in full glory this year. I am honored to have served as the Dispatch Executive Management Board Chair for a second consecutive term in 2020. The Board worked extremely hard this year, despite a mountain of distractions and challenges, to meet head on our objectives and goals for our Emergency Communications and Dispatch services in Archuleta County. We went into 2020 following a very successful 2019, with a substantial amount of work to accomplish to meet the goals and objectives outlined in our strategic plan. I am proud to report that we have accomplished the top three goals I identified in this forum for 2020.

1. On November 3, 2020 our updated IGA went into effect, having been approved and executed by all user agency governing bodies. This was a significant achievement, replacing a ten-year-old agreement. The Board worked diligently to find solutions to meet our community's needs, taking into consideration the current environment and blending that with a long game vision. I feel that this Board has built an agreement that will serve well into the future.

2. In May, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ap-

proved Archuleta County's request for an increase in the local E911 surcharge, bringing us from \$1.25 to \$2.25 per phone line tied to a billing address within the county. In addition, in October, a state pass through charge was approved, and a rate of \$0.10/line set. This pass through charge will go into effect January 1, 2021. All of this additional revenue directly supports Dispatch operating expenses and capital replacement funding, increasing our capacity to appropriately fund emergency communications services.

3. In April, the Executive Management Board approved and executed a lease agreement with the County for physical space to house the Dispatch Center. The move is on schedule to take place mid-January 2021. The new facility, with updated equipment, will greatly improve working conditions and provide a more secure, appropriate space for this critical service. This relocation has been a monumental undertaking and Director Kati Harr has led the charge, ensuring a smooth transition.

What are your three top goals for 2021?

I am excited to hand over the Board Chair reins to Under-sheriff Derek Woodman as we move into 2021. My last project as Board Chair is coordinating a Strategic Planning retreat. Our current 2019-2020 strategic plan was a valuable tool for me during my tenure as Board Chair, and it is important to me

that the Board continues to have a guiding north star to support the continued growth and success of Dispatch. The retreat was initially scheduled for November 2020, and due to the escalating nature of the COVID-19 pandemic in our community, we have postponed this until early 2021 with the intent of allowing the Board team to be fully present, and give them this time to work with their agencies to meet the immediate needs of the community. Our current strategic plan covers 2019-2020, and I will follow through on this project until its completion.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

My action plan to meet the goal of creating the next strategic plan for the Dispatch Executive Management Board:

- Work with our facilitator to re-schedule our retreat session(s) for March 2021, local conditions permitting.
- Engage the Board and work with each to ensure a productive and robust retreat.
- Coordinate with the facilitator to execute the retreat session(s).
- Follow up and coordinate with the facilitator to produce a final Strategic Plan document.
- Present the final Strategic Plan to the Executive Management Board.

Derek Woodman, Dispatch Executive Management Board Chair 2021



What are your three top goals for 2021?

Moving into 2021 certainly the largest goal of the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center will be the move into their new facility. In January, we will relocate into the shared office space with the Sheriff's Office. The move will provide the Dispatch Center with a great space for the operations to take place.

With the move, all new equipment and furnishings will be installed. The old equipment has long since been outside of its life cycle. As with any other technology, the equipment necessary for a modern day Communications Center changes just

as fast as the technology that we use in our everyday lives. For the first time in recent memory, the Dispatch Center will have all new state of the art equipment. This will not only enhance the capabilities and communications with our first responders, it is also a huge benefit for our community. When someone dials 911 there is an expectation that someone will answer the call and then the appropriate agency/agencies will respond to the emergency. That has not always been the case. There has been some challenges with the ageing equipment failing and not being able to be repaired.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

Beginning early January the new furnishings will be installed in the new location. The complete transition for functional operations will take place by mid-month. Our Dispatch Center Director has done a fantastic job in creating a time-line plan for the move and continuity of service. Of course there will be some bumps in the road, so all of the user agencies will need to have patience and be flexible during this transition. Certainly the goal is to have uninterrupted service to our community.

Kati Harr, Emergency Communications Director



Though this year has been incredibly challenging, I am consistently inspired by my amazing staff – they are tireless in their dedication, resilient beyond compare, and always here, always ready to serve their community and first responders. It's an honor to work with and for them and I am looking forward to 2021 and all it will bring!

What were your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

1. The Dispatch Center's greatest accomplishment of 2020 was to work in-house, collaboratively, to increase our cohesion, cooperation, and shared objectives as a team. It was a hard year and we have come out all the stronger for it. As you can imagine, a strong team means more efficient and innovative growth and evolution, which in turn means higher levels of service for our community and user agencies.

2. Our center remained fully operational despite a facility flood in February (which displaced us for an entire week), critically low staffing over 4th of July (annually, the holiday with our highest call-volume), and an ongoing global pandemic (with its constant, exhausting protocol changes.) This ability to stay functional throughout extreme adversity speaks directly to our staff's resilience, flexibility, and capabilities. It also highlights the

embodiment of the County's core value of teamwork amongst multiple County departments, as well as regionally. Dispatch utilized our back-up center multiple times, located at the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Emergency Operations building; we leaned heavily on County IT for assistance at all hours of the day and night when transferring critical systems; we relied on our neighboring Communications Center in Durango to assist during cutovers and relocation.

3. The Dispatch Center continues to formalize policy, protocol, and procedure to ensure competency and consistency during all incidents and calls for service. In 2020, that looked like multiple refreshed Standard Operating Procedures, as well as a new and comprehensive training program for new hires.

What are your three top goals for 2021?

1. Operationally, the focus for 2021 will be on continuing to update and refine our emergency and administrative call-taking procedures.

2. Culturally, the focus for 2021 will be building our shared Vision and Values for the center and working as a team to embody them.

3. Comprehensively, the focus for 2021 will be to pursue local reclassification for our Dispatch staff as first responders. Dispatchers are currently classified as administrative/clerical

workers. In doing so, we will be in the good company of many other jurisdictions around the Country and statewide.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

1. Emergency Medical Dispatch training is scheduled for March (this was delayed in 2020 due to the pandemic), continued enhancement and streamlining of relevant lines of questioning with proper training and standard operating procedures to support performance, as well as a strong emphasis on a continued spirit of service will be the foundations of this objective.

2. We will engage in a collective, team-based approach to identify our shared Vision and Values throughout the year with special attention to constructing a roadmap of tangible actions to support a positive, vibrant work culture.

3. I will work closely with the Dispatch Executive Management Board, our local governing bodies, statewide 911 committees, and regional representatives of national industry leaders such as the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) to research, educate, and pursue this critical and much deserved reclassification for Archuleta County's first line of support during emergencies – our local 911 Dispatchers.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Feb. 11

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session with Southern 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.

Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting and special meeting. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.

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

Tuesday, Feb. 16

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.

Veterans for Veterans meeting. 10 a.m., Tennyson Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive.

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.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

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

Thursday, Feb. 18

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

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

Pagosa Peak Open School work session. 5 p.m. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9656099136?pwd=Z3Job2R1eXl0SE8rRzNpL0FucGpKZz09>, meeting ID: 965 609 9136, passcode: 00001.

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.

Upper San Juan Health Service District regular meeting. 5:30

p.m. Zoom meeting. To join, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85395501309>, meeting ID: 853 9550 1309 or call (346) 248-7799.

Wednesday, Feb. 24

Town Land Use and Development Code Update Open House Kickoff. 3-8 p.m. Drop in via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/94217539202>, or dial (346) 248-7799 or (669) 900-6833, meeting ID 942 1753 9202, or in person at the Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. and Zoom online.

Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosajournal.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.

Obituary

Julio Cristobal Gallegos 'Chris'

Continued from A5
meant so much to him. Thank you, Virginia Zamora, for your care, support and friendship.

It is with deep gratitude that we say thank you to the Pagosa Springs Oncology Department. Chris could not say enough about your kindness, gentleness, fun-loving ways. You all touched his heart in a very special way and helped him to focus on joy and getting well. Thank you to Hospice of Mercy and all the people there who came in and cared for Chris.

A private Recitation of the Rosary will be held at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church on Feb. 12 at 6

p.m. A private Mass of Christian burial will be Feb. 13 at 10:30 a.m. and will be livestreamed on the Web page <http://demo.popejohnpauliichurch.org/>. Due to COVID-19, seating is restricted at both the rosary and the Mass. In lieu of attending the service, the family would be honored if people wishing to pay their respects would park along the route of the procession to the cemetery, which will proceed from Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, down Put Hill to 8th Street and on to the Juanita Cemetery following the Mass.

People wishing to pay their respects can park along the route.

Pagosa Springs Elementary School Scholar of the Week



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Elementary School

Tuff Terrazos is a leader and role model, both academically and socially. He demonstrates great work ethic, growth mindset and positivity in all he does.

Business

Dial level and grant extension good news for area businesses

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

An announcement on Friday, Feb. 5, indicating that Archuleta and La Plata counties would be moving to a lesser dial restriction is great news to many businesses. However, along with the dial change certainly comes some tighter controls making moving between dial restriction colors more possible and a guideline that we will have to be very cognizant of.

Dial 2.0 is the new state-determined metrics which we will be following. Archuleta County has moved into Level Blue, which is a far cry from the Level Orange that we were positioned at. This allows our restaurants to serve at 50 percent capacity, still with 6-foot spacing and appropriate ventilation. Alcohol sales will also be moved back to midnight from 10 p.m.

One of the biggest changes to the change in color level will be indoor events, which certainly came to a screeching halt in 2020. With a maximum capacity of 50 percent, indoor events can accommodate 175 people at Level Blue

and 100 people at Level Yellow. Outdoor events can increase to 250 people in Level Blue and up to 175 in Level Yellow. This is great news, especially for the Chamber, as we hope to get back to our monthly Business After Hours networking events. Of course, with all these events, masking and cleanliness is still encouraged to avoid moving into a higher dial level color.

San Juan Basin Public Health does anticipate both counties to move between dial levels more frequently due to the metric changes. The number of cases per 100,000 people is reduced from the previous guidelines. With the smaller population in Pagosa Springs, a small change in case numbers could certainly move our dial level fairly frequently, unless we see case stability and continued healthy vigilance. Our positivity rate must also remain within a reduced range, also causing potential increased fluctuation in color levels. It will be important for our businesses to know what dial level color we are in and to adhere and conduct business within those guidelines.

As for the anticipated 5-Star program, we are in a holding pat-

tern as there are new restrictions for operating a 5-Star program depending on the level. Since we are in Level Blue, we believe that 70 percent of 70-year-olds must have received at least one vaccination. We are looking for more clarification on this newly approved 5-Star program for Archuleta County. We hope that with continued safety precautions, we will be able to allow our businesses to operate at the maximum level possible.

Small Business Relief Grant extended and minor positive change announced

The Small Business Relief Grant that was being administered by Archuleta County has been extended until Feb. 26. The businesses that can qualify are still the same: food service, including restaurants, bars, food trucks and caterers; gyms; fitness centers; and movie theaters.

To clarify what documentation needs to occur, a business must show a reduction in revenue of 20 percent from 2019 income in any quarter since March 26, 2020. Many

businesses had to close their doors in April and May and so can easily demonstrate a loss in revenue. You do not have to show a loss for the whole of 2020 compared to 2019, only any quarter in 2020 compared to 2019.

We hope that this announcement will encourage more of these industry businesses to file for the grant money available. Because it is a grant, the money extended will not need to be paid back. Businesses with total revenues under \$500,000 will be eligible for \$3,500; businesses between \$500,000 and \$1 million will be eligible to receive \$5,000; and businesses with yearly revenues between \$1 million and \$2.5 million can be eligible for \$7,000.

The form is very easy to fill out. Documentation of the loss during the quarter is required, along with proper state documents such as a certificate of good standing, payment of unemployment taxes if applicable and valid state or liquor license.

Don't miss this extended opportunity to obtain some grant funds to assist your business. Questions can be directed to Mary Helmski at 264-8308 or Mary Jo Coulehan at 264-2360.

A 'tiny' solution: Town council looks at future prospects of tiny home parks

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Tiny home parks and their future and feasibility within the Town of Pagosa Springs was an item of discussion by the Pagosa Springs Town Council during a regular meeting on Feb. 2 evening.

Planning Director James Dickhoff explained that the idea of tiny homes has generated some popularity over the last few years, but the town's Land Use and Development Code does not have adequate language on how to address these structures.

Tiny homes could be considered a "hybrid" of mobile homes and recreational vehicles (RVs), Dickhoff explained, citing that mobile homes are intended for long-term occupancy, while RVs are intended for short-term occupancy.

Tiny homes are structures that are built on and attached to a trailer chassis and are built under the RV code and not the building or residential code, he added.

According to Dickhoff, the International Building Code included an appendix in its 2018 code series that actually considers specific design provision considerations for tiny homes that are built in compliance with either the International Residential or Building code, but not those that are built solely under the RV code.

Additionally, tiny homes are usually built at 399 square feet and under because anything over

that threshold would lead to that structure needing to be approved under the building code.

"We have, over many years, have fended a lot of questions about potentially allowing tiny homes within our community, whether as one-off units as an ADU [accessory dwelling unit] in someone's backyard, for example, or as a tiny home park," Dickhoff said.

According to Dickhoff, town staff believes that flexibility for housing of all types is important.

"We feel that a tiny home park could be considered under a planned development application as reviewed under our town Land Use and Development Code currently," Dickhoff said.

This would create a planned development overlay zoning district over the base zoning district of the property and creates a planned development agreement that would define the specifics of the development that would occur on the property, Dickhoff explained.

The purpose of the overlay is to come to an agreement with the developer in such a way that the town is creating a variance for the tiny homes themselves, Town Attorney Clay Buchner added.

The planned development agreement would run with the property in perpetuity or until a time that a planned development amendment is approved, Dickhoff noted.

According to agenda documen-

tation, inclusions for a tiny home planned development overlay district zoning and planned development agreement application could include things such as, but not limited to: increased buffering and screening between neighboring properties, increased choice of living and housing environments, and various design standards.

"Maybe considering restricting short-term rentals with a focus to provide long-term workforce housing units," Dickhoff said. "Otherwise, the development may be a lodging establishment if it's going to be short-term rentals, for example."

Dickhoff noted that the process for a development application for a planned development application and a major design review application could take anywhere from four to five months.

Utilities for tiny home parks could be accessed through individual meters on each individual site or they could be metered from the park itself, Dickhoff explained later.

Density allowances would vary depending on what district the tiny homes would fall under, Dickhoff explained, citing that under the mixed-use corridor district or mixed-use town center district the density allowance is 16 units per acre.

"If you look at an RV park, you probably don't have a density associated with an RV park. This is kind of a marriage between an RV and a

mobile home park, but if it's meant for long-term occupancy, it may fit under that 16 unit within those two districts," he said. "The planned unit development agreement allows you to defer from that base zoning standard. So, you can apply different zoning on that property based on that overlay district."

The preference for tiny homes is that they are not to be moved on and off the site frequently, Dickhoff added later.

"I'm not seeing a lot of these units move in and out a lot of times. They stay until the tenant is ready to move on to another facility of

■ See Tiny A9

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Vaccines

Continued from front

The effort, the agency noted, should have minimal impact to the availability of appointments for other eligible residents.

"Getting vaccines to educators and support staff helps our schools safely return to in-person learning and child care, with all the educational, social and emotional benefits that provides," said Liane Jollon,

SJBPH executive director. "Community partners have stepped up once again to quickly meet the needs of our community in order to get this vital work done. SJBPH is grateful for the many partners who have joined the evolving emergency response to serve our local communities. That said, while our community has incredible partnerships for rapid vaccine distribution, vaccine supply

remains the greatest limitation."

Vaccinations are also continuing for Phases 1A and 1B.1, which include high- and moderate-risk health care workers, long-term care facility staff and residents, first responders and Coloradans age 70 and older.

Polis stated Tuesday the goal continues to be to have 70 percent of Colorado's over-70 population vac-

inated by the end of February.

He also noted that the White House announced that Colorado's vaccine supply will increase by 9,000 doses per week for the next three weeks.

I'm eligible now. How do I get the vaccine?

Archuleta County has four enrolled vaccine providers: Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Pagosa Medical Group, City Market and Walmart (Walmart is enrolled directly with the federal government).

PSMC and Pagosa Medical Group are taking information for eligible community members who would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information on vaccines through City Market, visit <https://www.citymarket.com/rx/guest/get-vaccinated>.

For more information on vaccines through Walmart, visit <https://www.walmart.com/cp/1228302>.

PSMC:
To make a reservation with PSMC, persons 65 and older and child care workers who live in Archuleta County should visit <https://pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org/vaccine> to complete and submit registration forms.

The following information was provided by PSMC.

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

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

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

Town

Continued from front

The town would like to hear public thoughts on a host of development-related topics to get a better understanding what issues warrant greater detailed discussion

Rental

Continued from front

Flowers also explained the new proposed STR fees for non-owner-occupied properties.

A non-owner-occupied STR is one the owner does not live in. The owner may live on a different property in or outside of Archuleta County.

According to the proposed changes, the base rate for owners of one non-owner-occupied STR would be \$800, with the additional charge of \$100 per bedroom.

Owners of two non-owner-occupied properties would pay a base fee of \$1,200 per property.

The rates would then increase by 50 percent for each additional non-owner-occupied property.

Owners of three non-owner-occupied STRs would pay \$1,800 per property; four properties would pay \$2,700 per property; and five properties would pay \$4,050 per property.

The \$100 per bedroom fee would be added to the base fee for each property.

Commissioner Warren Brown asked how much money it costs the county to process the STR permits.

According to Flowers, it costs the county roughly \$782 to process each STR permit.

She explained this cost is made up of staff hours needed, and equipment and materials needed to process each permit.

She also mentioned during the

Building

Continued from front

A 1,500-square-foot home is valued at \$118,000, which lands in the \$100,001-\$500,000 category on the valuation table. The fees for a home that falls in this category start at \$993.75 for the first \$100,000 of valuation. A cost of \$5.60 is then added for each additional \$1,000 of valuation.

So, the total building fees for a 1,500-square-foot home under the current system comes out to \$1,094.55.

Flowers presented two proposals. The first one included a 10 percent increase in the valuation of the square footage of a home, raising it from \$78.35 to \$86.19 per square foot along with a 10 percent increase in fees for homes that are valued from \$100,001 to \$500,000, raising it from \$993.75 to \$1,093, with \$6 being charged for each additional \$1,000 of valuation.

Flowers provided comparisons of building fees for a 1,500-square-foot home in other Colorado counties.

• Email address.

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

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

Pagosa Medical Group:

Pagosa Medical Group will reach out to its eligible 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.

To get an appointment, text 372-0456 (preferred), call the same number or email info@pagosamedical-group.org.

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 languages.

I'm in another group.

When will it be my turn?

Last week, Polis noted that the state estimates that close to March 5, Phase 1B.3 — frontline workers and Coloradans ages 16-64 with two or more high-risk conditions — will be eligible to receive the vaccine. It's also projected that Coloradans ages 60 and up will be able to start receiving the vaccine around March 5.

Phase 2 of the plan, which is expected to begin in the spring, includes people aged 60-64, 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 of the general public aged 16-59.

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

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

After you've been vaccinated

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.

The agency added that quarantine is not necessary once a person has received both doses of the COVID-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.

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.

randi@pagosusun.com

will still take weeks, if not months, to bring levels down to what the area saw in the late summer and early fall, and things could easily start moving in the wrong direction again.

Dial 2.0 metrics

Given the level of vaccinations occurring and decreasing COVID-19 rates, the range of incidence metrics in Dial 2.0 better reflect a balance between disease suppression and economic activity, according to the CDPHE.

The new metrics for Dial 2.0, per the CDPHE, are as follows:

Counties in Level Green must now have no more than 15 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in one week or a comparable number cases in counties with under 20,000 people.

Counties in Level Blue must now have between 15 and 100 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in one week.

Counties in Level Yellow must now have between 100 and 300 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in one week. The rate of positive tests must be no more than 7.5 percent.

Counties in Level Orange must now have between 300 and 500 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in one week. The rate of positive tests must be no more than 10 percent.

Counties in Level Red will now have more than 501 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in one week. At this level, hospital system capacity is constrained and state assistance is requested for patient transport or staff augmentation.

In counties at Level Purple, statewide hospital capacity risks being breached and crisis standards of care are approaching.

As more and more Coloradans get vaccinated, the CDPHE press release explains the state will revisit the dial and expects to have a draft of Dial 3.0 in the spring. The CDPHE will seek input for this evolution and again for another update this summer.

Differences between Orange and Blue

The major changes between the current Level Orange and Level Blue are:

- Most establishments that were operating at 25 percent capacity are allowed to operate at 50 percent capacity (6-foot spacing requirements still apply).

- Last call for on-premise alcohol sales move from 10 p.m. to midnight.

Testing available

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 and drive-up asymptomatic community testing Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the northwest side of the medical center.

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.

COVID-19 symptoms

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

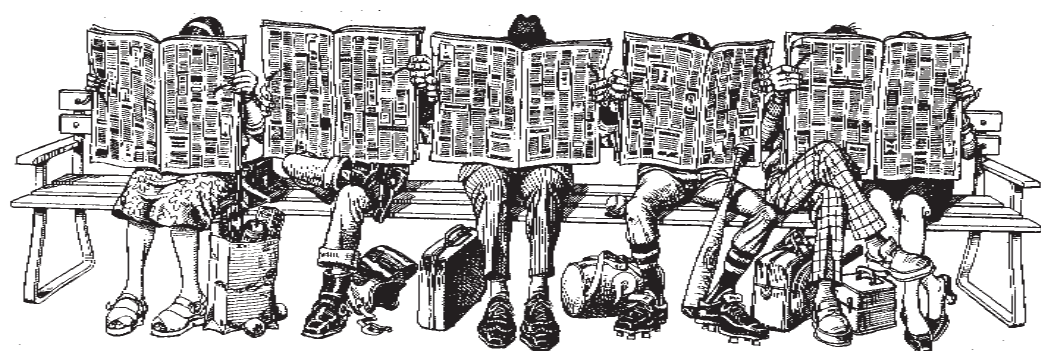
- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Steps to slow the spread

To prevent further spread of disease and to protect vulnerable people, including older adults and those with underlying health conditions (such as those with heart and lung disease, pregnant women, and people with diabetes), SJBPH urges everyone to follow these important public health precautions:

- Wearing face masks.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Avoiding nonessential indoor spaces and gatherings with others not in your household.
- Getting tested if you are symptomatic, think you've been exposed, or if you work in a high-contact position.
- Avoiding unnecessary travel.
- Washing hands well.
- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine as it becomes available.

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Medical center sees decreases in several areas in 2020

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) saw a decrease in business in several categories in 2020, according to a report given at the Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Director's meeting on Jan. 26.

PSMC Finance Director Chelle Keplinger presented the data as part of the December financial presentation.

PSMC totaled 775 patient days in 2020, compared to 1,042 in 2019 and 1,187 in 2018.

"I will tell you that December was our highest patient-day month besides January ... of 2020," Keplinger said.

December had 112 patient days, which she noted "is really a huge number for us."

PSMC CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb noted December was when PSMC began admitting COVID patients, with Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Operating Officer adding that PSMC had 14 COVID patients in December.

"When you look compared to 2018, it's a pretty stark contrast," board chair Greg Schulte pointed out, with Keplinger indicating the trend is being seen across the industry.

"So, it's not just us?" Schulte asked.

"It's not just us," she responded, noting the industry is getting away from in-patient care for everything possible. "This is the industry standard; you're going to see this happen. You're also going to see a conversion from patient days to observation days."

In 2020, PSMC had 381 observation patients, compared to 407 in 2019 and 436 in 2018.

"You see this didn't really fluctuate that much," Keplinger explained, "especially since ... part of the year we really didn't see a lot of in patients."

She noted there were times in

2020 that people were avoiding hospitals.

For 2020, PSMC had 5,976 emergency room visits — down from 6,489 in 2019 and 6,671 in 2018.

Keplinger pointed out that PSMC expected the category to continue to fall with walk-in availability in the clinic, but that the facility is unsure if 2020 represents the new normal or if COVID also affected the number.

Surgeries, however, increased in 2020, with PSMC logging 978, compared to 933 in 2019. In 2018, PSMC had 1,043 surgeries.

That, it was noted, was despite closures due to COVID and the installation of a new HVAC system.

PSMC had 19,858 rural health clinic visits in 2020, down from 23,489 in 2019 and 24,663 in 2018.

"So, this one is obviously kind of disappointing, but again, we had COVID hit, ... and so we don't know how many of those people weren't coming because they just were afraid to come in the building; we know that we had a significant decrease early on of people not coming in," Keplinger said. "We did telemedicine when we could, but we also know that we have connection issues in this town."

She noted telemedicine is not a good venue for PSMC right now.

Webb pointed out that PSMC staff heard from a number of older patients at its vaccination clinics, with those patients expressing they hadn't left their houses since March.

PSMC saw a "big" increase in radiology, with 13,885 studies in 2020, compared to 10,982 in 2019 and 11,324 in 2018.

"We have been trying to figure out exactly why we've seen a big increase in this," Keplinger said.

Keplinger then transitioned into the medical center's financing, noting that, for the month of November, PSMC had a "depressing" loss of \$367,124 in terms of net revenue.

However, PSMC finished the year with a year-to-date net income

of \$2,050,838 — more than 360 percent of the budgeted \$445,640.

That bottom line was helped by \$2,011,559 in grants, 340B, stimulus and tax revenue.

PSMC saw \$5,972,278 in gross revenue for the month — 13.05 percent (\$689,285) above budget and 11.27 percent (\$605,040) above the prior year.

"That was huge for us for December," Keplinger said.

For 2020, the medical center logged gross revenues totaling \$61,835,601, which was more than \$1.5 million below budget, but \$66,344 over the prior year.

"We all know why," Keplinger said of gross revenues being under budget.

Of that, PSMC saw \$3,306,733 in net patient revenue, which was \$55,916 above budget.

For the year, PSMC's net patient revenue totaled \$31,593,246, which fell \$537,970 below budget and \$872,094 below the prior year.

In response to a question, Keplinger clarified that the figure includes only patient revenue and does not include any grants or stimulus funds.

"That's absolutely amazing," board member Jason Cox said.

Expenses for the medical center in December 2020 totaled \$3,306,733, which was \$283,742 over budget and \$419,673 over December 2019.

Keplinger noted there was a big push at the end of the year when PSMC got a second Department of Local Affairs grant, but that PSMC will put in to be reimbursed.

For all of 2020, PSMC's expenses totaled \$36,559,490 — \$125,586 under the year's budget and a little over \$1 million more than the previous year.

Keplinger noted PSMC spent about \$550,000 extra for personal protective equipment and supplies for the year.

Keplinger explained that staff brought in as much Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security

(CARES) Act funding as possible to help the center's bottom line, with December 2020's net income landing at \$1,840,027 — 713.37 percent (\$1,605,804) above the \$226,223 budgeted. The prior year, PSMC was at \$253,649 for the month.

PSMC's gross days in accounts receivable decreased to 42.8 days in December, down from 47.6 the previous month — an accomplishment Keplinger noted.

A benchmark for hospitals across the nation is 35-45 days, she added.

PSMC ended the year with 61.1 days of cash on hand, which she added does not include another \$3.3 million in CARES Act funding, \$3.7 million in Paycheck Protection Program funding (PSMC is in the auditing process prior to being reimbursed) or \$4.2 million in Medicare accelerated payments.

Keplinger also explained PSMC is working with its auditors and is keeping track of COVID-related expenses and employee time spent on things related to COVID.

Following the presentation, board member Dr. Jim Pruitt referenced the district's bond requirements related to cash on hand, with Chief Administrative Officer Ann Bruzese explaining that, due to how cash is calculated for each bond, the district met its requirement.

Keplinger clarified that she only references operating cash in her reports.

Cox noted he is blown away, commenting, "You guys have done a great job."

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Tiny

Continued from A7
some sort," Dickhoff clarified.

Council member Shari Pierce later raised a question on the snow load requirements for the tiny homes, as well as distance requirements for when snow sheds off the structures.

Dickhoff noted that the tiny home snow load threshold would be "much higher" than the 30 pound per square foot for mobile homes and the current code of 65 pounds per square foot.

"I think it's going to be something the building official will want

to take a look at to make sure that, again, if we're permitting long-term occupancy, we're going to have a comfort that it's going to be a safe structure to live in," he said.

Spacing for snow shedding should not be an issue as the units are small and will not shed too much snow, he added later.

Later in the meeting, council member Rory Burnett explained that he supported the criteria for including a tiny home development as long as the developers supported those items.

"I feel like they're very in line

with the things that we want to accomplish in creating very nice environments to live in," he said.

Limiting short-term rentals within a tiny home development is "key" to solving the local housing problem, council member Matt DeGuisse commented.

"I really like the idea of this being as efficient as possible. Obviously with our housing needs continuing to increase at a rapid rate, we want to be able to do this as quickly as possible if we have this option," Mayor Don Volger said.

chris@pagosasun.com

Dems plan reorganization meeting

By John Porco
Archuleta County Democratic Party

The Archuleta County Democratic Party (ACDP) will conduct its biennial reorganization meeting on Saturday, Feb. 13. The meeting will be held virtually using Zoom, starting at 10 a.m.

Colorado Revised Statute 1-3-103(1)(c) requires each county central committee of both parties to meet in the odd-numbered years to organize by selecting a chairperson or co-chairpersons, one or more vice chairpersons, a treasurer, a secretary and any other officers

provided for by the county bylaws.

In addition, participants will select a vacancy committee authorized to fill vacancies in the county central committee and elected offices held by Democrats, as well as delegates to higher-level reorganization meetings.

The meeting is open to the public, but only members of the county central committee are eligible to vote. If you wish to participate, please contact the party chair, Becky Herman, at 903-0788 or becky.herman98@gmail.com no later than Feb. 11 to obtain the Zoom link.

Nominations to any position

will be accepted virtually from the floor. However, the person nominated must have a nominator and a seconder, one of whom must be a central committee member. Any Democrat registered in Archuleta County may run for any office. To facilitate meeting planning, persons interested in running for an office are asked to contact Herman. However, advance notice is not required for nomination.

Participation by all county Democrats is encouraged in these vitally important meetings. This is your chance to influence the course of our party.

Celebrations

Dean's list

More than 400 students were named to Fort Lewis College's Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester. These students took at least 15 credits of gradable hours and achieved a 3.60 or higher grade-point average: Tate Hinger, of Pagosa Springs, majoring in biology secondary education, and Samantha Reed, of Pagosa Springs, majoring in English.

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Outdoors

Chronic wasting disease found in Four Corners area

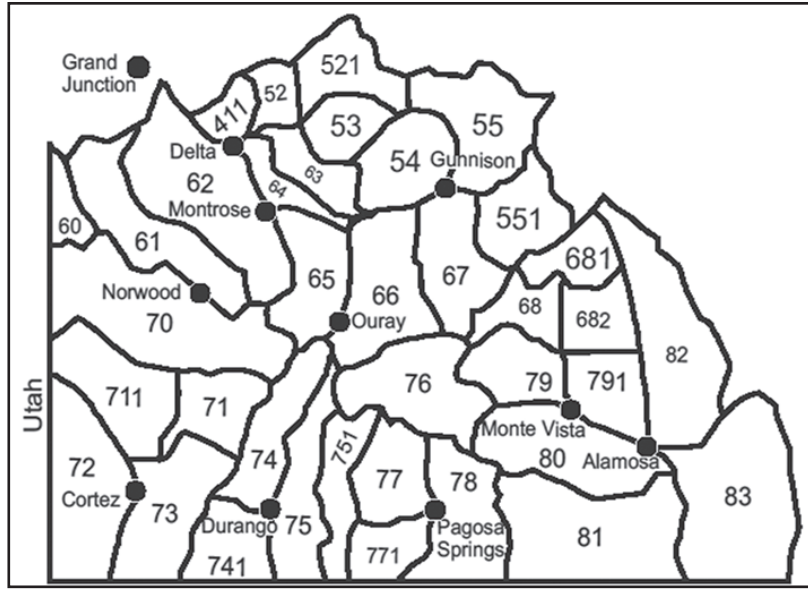
Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) in deer has been found in the Four Corners area and although the prevalence of the disease appears to be low, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) biologists said this week that the disease must be carefully monitored.

CWD is a fatal neurological disease found in deer, elk and moose. During the 2020 deer season in southwest Colorado, CPW authorized mandatory checks for all buck deer harvested by hunters. In the area, roughly from Dove Creek to Wolf Creek Pass, 18 deer of 1,489 checked tested positive.

"On the face of it the prevalence looks low, but CWD is 100 percent fatal and we don't want to see it continue to increase in our herds," said Scott Wait, senior terrestrial biologist for CPW's Southwest Region. "CWD infections are higher in males than females. If we want healthy herds, we need to use reasonable management to keep it in check."

CPW has been monitoring the prevalence of CWD throughout Colorado for more than 20 years. This marks the first time that CWD-infected deer have been found in this location of Colorado, designated as Area 15. All hunters whose deer tested positive have been contacted.



In some areas of the state where a high incidence of CWD is found, CPW will increase the number of licenses available to hunters. Harvesting more animals is a management tool that can help reduce the spread and the number of infected animals. Currently, big game managers in Area 15 are evaluating the CWD results to determine how many licenses will be available during the 2021 deer hunting season.

Big game herds are managed using objectives for population, male-female sex ratio and habitat con-

ditions. In Area 15, where deer are above the herd management objectives, licenses will be adjusted to meet plan parameters. For locations west of Durango, the number of buck licenses will be increased to meet objectives and to reduce CWD infections. East of Durango, the deer herd is within its objective range.

Although there is no proof that humans can contract CWD by eating the meat of an infected animal, CPW and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommend that the meat not be

consumed.

CPW's Area 15 is divided into four herd management areas; those are further divided into game management units (GMUs). Following are the testing totals and prevalence rates for adult male deer tested from each:

- GMUs 70, 71, 711: 13 of 424 deer tested positive, 3 percent. The units, approximately, are located south of Norwood and north of Cortez.

- GMUs 72 and 73: Four of 175 deer tested positive, 2 percent. The units are located immediately east and west of Cortez.

- GMUs 74 and 741: None of the 95 deer tested positive, no CWD detected. The units, generally, are located from Red Mountain Pass south to the New Mexico state line and from the Animas River to the west boundaries of San Juan and La Plata counties.

- GMUs 75, 751, 77, 771 and 78: one of 578 deer tested positive, .1 percent. The units are located east of the Animas River to Wolf Creek Pass.

CPW biologists can't say why there is a higher incidence of infection in GMUs 70, 71, 711; however, more infected deer have been found in the agricultural areas just to the north in the Montrose-Delta area.

CPW will continue to monitor these GMUs into the future and voluntary CWD testing for deer will be available to hunters for the 2021 season for \$25. CPW will require mandatory testing of elk harvested during specific limited rifle seasons this fall. There will be no charge for those tests and hunters who draw tags for those seasons will be informed of testing procedures next summer. CWD has never been found in elk in this area of Colorado.

For more information about CWD, please go to: cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/ResearchCWD.aspx, or contact the Durango wildlife office at 247-0855.

Weminuche Audubon meeting on the nesting habits of the American dipper

By Jean Zirnelt and Stephen Munroe
Weminuche Audubon Society

The regular monthly meeting of the Weminuche Audubon Society will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 6:30 p.m. The focus of our meeting will be a bird that "flies" underwater, the American dipper.

Our presenter for the evening will be Stephen Munroe, chapter member from Durango, who leads a study of the nesting success of these amazing birds on the Animas River. Monroe is a hydro-ecologist who lives in Durango and has been studying springs, streams and rivers in the Four Corners region for more than 25 years.

The American Dipper Project began in 2016, due to the concerns of a group of birdwatchers in Durango about the potential impacts of the 2015 Gold King Mine spill in the Animas River on the American dipper population. The project's

objective is to study the breeding success of American dippers (*Cinclus mexicanus*) on the Animas River and other streams in southwestern Colorado. Each year from 2016 through 2020, citizen science volunteers have surveyed dippers, learning about nesting behavior and success, nest site fidelity and the birds' unique personalities.

In June 2018, a catastrophic wildfire burned portions of the Animas watershed, and subsequent flooding introduced large volumes of sediment to the river, adding another negative impact to American dipper's habitat and food sources.

It is noteworthy that no dipper nesting study had been completed on the Animas River prior to the Gold King Mine spill in August 2015. American dippers have been documented during annual Christmas and spring bird counts; however, no baseline data existed. Additionally, the Animas River has been negatively impacted by heavy metal contamination due to historic min-

ing activities for over a century.

For American dippers to thrive, they need availability of suitable nesting habitat and food (aquatic macroinvertebrates, like larvae of caddis flies, mayflies and stoneflies, as well as small fish, fish eggs and worms). In their natural habitat, dippers build nests of moss, grass, algae or twigs. Preferred nest sites are close to water, safe from predators and often on cliffs from 1 to 10 meters above a flowing river. Dippers also build nests on bridges and other human-made structures. We have observed dippers nesting from mid-March to mid-July, depending primarily on elevation.

This year, with Munroe's guidance, we hope to be able to extend these studies to the San Juan River and tributaries in the Pagosa area. Attend the meeting to find out the protocols of the survey and how to become involved. For the Zoom link to the meeting, view the events tab on our website, www.weminucheaudubon.org.

Citizen scientists gearing up for the Great Backyard Bird Count

By Becky Herman
Audubon Rockies

Join us Feb 12-15 for the annual Great Backyard Bird Count. This citizen science project is a joint effort of three organizations: the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Birds Canada and the National Audubon Society.

Everyone is welcome to participate in this four-day whirlwind of watching, counting and recording birds. Participants can choose to observe birds for the minimum amount of time (15 minutes) on one of the count's four days. Or, you can spend all four days outdoors, recording as you go, on your smartphone. Your choice, but remember that even accounts of limited sightings are valuable to the members of the scientific community, especially when that data is compared to previous years' reports. The data can show the health of a species, or, perhaps, a decline in the species' numbers. They can point out changes in behavior which could signal birds' reactions to climate change. There is so much for the scientific community to learn from your observations.

If you are new to counting birds, try downloading the Merlin ID app on your smartphone. It's an easy-to-use tool to record sightings as you experience them on the fly, so

to speak; no pun intended.

If you have watched birds before and are familiar with eBird, you can use either the mobile option on your phone or eBird on your computer to submit your sightings. Note: You can start entering bird lists at midnight local time on the first day of the count, anywhere in the world. Data entry remains open until March 1, but the information you enter should only be from the four days of the Great Backyard Bird Count. Visit www.birdcount.org/participate/ to get started.

If you have questions or simply want more information, try doing

an online search for "Great Backyard Bird Count." You will find a wealth of information there. Local folks with the Weminuche Audubon Society (weminucheaudubon.org) are also great sources for information. They are happy to field questions and offer advice: Jean Zirnelt (weminuche.audubon@gmail.com) or Keith Bruno (kbruno@audubon.org).

Have a great time, enjoy being outdoors in spite of the pandemic, wear a mask, practice social distancing and, most of all, celebrate the wonderful variety of birds we have here in Colorado.

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1 Corinthians 13 4-8

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Snow in the forecast for this weekend

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The National Weather Service is forecasting for a chance of snow showers mixed with rain to start Friday morning and to continue on and off until next Tuesday, Feb. 16.

According to Joel Gratz, meteorologist for opensnow.com, Wolf Creek Ski Area is forecasted to receive 31 inches of fresh snow over the weekend.

Gratz is predicting Wolf Creek

will receive 22 inches on Sunday alone.

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 22.1 inches of snow water equivalent as of 11 a.m. on Feb. 10.

That amount is 102 percent of the Feb. 10 median for this site.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins were at 79 percent of the Feb. 10 median

in terms of snowpack.

Water report

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Manager Justin Ramsey outlined the current water levels in local lakes in a Feb. 8 press release.

According to the press release, the water level in Lake Forest is at 2 inches from full.

Hatcher Lake rose 2 inches from last week's report, bringing the current water level to 31 inches

from full.

Stevens Lake water level is currently listed at 57 inches from full.

Lake Pagosa remains at 12 inches from full.

The water level for Village Lake is listed at 6 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. 29 through Feb. 4 was listed at a total of 10.35 million gallons. The Snowball water plant contributed 3.16 million gallons, while the Hatcher plant contributed 7.19 million gallons.

Last year, total water production was listed at 9.98 million gallons for those dates.

River report

According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the San Juan River was flowing at a rate of 45.4 cfs in Pagosa Springs as of 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

Based on 85 years of water records at this site, the average flow rate for this date is 61 cfs.

The highest recorded rate for this date was in 2015 at 128 cfs. The lowest recorded rate was 26 cfs, recorded in 1990.

An instantaneous reading was unavailable for the USGS station for the Piedra River near Arboles.

It is noted on the USGS website for this station that the reading of the river flow rate is affected by ice at the station.

Based on 58 years of water records at this site, the average flow rate for Feb. 10 is 81 cfs.

The highest recorded rate was 200 cfs in 2017. The lowest recorded rate was 16.9 in 2003.

clayton@pagosahun.com



Photo courtesy Allen Domingo

Emmanuel Domingo shows off his ice fishing catch at Lake Hatcher recently with his sister, Hope Domingo, in the background.

Ski team to host Wolf Creek Challenge Series races

By Angelica Leslie
Wolf Creek Ski Team

On Sunday, Feb. 7, Wolf Creek Ski Area hosted the Super Bowl Fun Race. These fun races are free and open to skiers and boarders of all ages and abilities with a dual race format.

Sixty racers competed in the event, including six athletes from our very own Wolf Creek Ski Team.

In the Boy's/Men's category, 18-year-old Talon Knapp's time of 33.96 seconds earned him a gold medal in his age category. Corbin Horrocks, 13, earned a time of 29.28 and a gold medal in his category, as well as the second fastest time of the day. Will Mitchell, 13, earned a time of 31.56 and a silver medal in his age category.

In the Girl's/Women's category, Rylie Knapp, 17, earned a time of 34.28 and a silver medal in her age category. Anne Mitchell, 11, earned a time of 33.91 and a silver medal in her category. Isabelle Ratcliff, 10, earned a time of 30.43 and a gold medal in her age

category.

The Wolf Creek Ski Team, made up of 18 young athletes, meets every weekend to practice all mountain skiing and race techniques.

The team also travels to other area ski resorts for races and many on the team are training to go to the NASTAR Nationals at Aspen Snowmass, Colo., in March, COVID permitting.

The Wolf Creek Ski Team is hosting the Wolf Creek Challenge Series — two upcoming races at Wolf Creek: a 40-gate giant slalom race on Feb. 28 and a Super G on April 4.

To register online for the Feb. 28 race, visit: estore.wolfcreek-ski.com/eStore/Default.aspx and click on "Lift Tickets."

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

Canada lynx reintroduction project featured in Forest Specialist Series

By Gregg Goodland
U.S. Forest Service

Would you like to learn about the Canada lynx reintroduction project, a joint effort between the Rio Grande National Forest and Colorado Parks and Wildlife happening right in our extended backyard?

Join wildlife biologist Dale Gomez for an online session on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 5 p.m. Gomez will discuss the previous Canada lynx reintroduction, current monitoring efforts and the

results of a recent study. There will be time for questions and answers following the online presentation.

This event is part of the Rio Grande National Forest's "Specialist Series," a monthly online presentation to share information with our community.

Please visit the Rio Grande National Forest website or Facebook page for more information about this online event. We hope you'll join us to learn more about these intriguing felines.

The forest Web page is: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/riogrande>.

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Goals & Accomplishments Pagosa Fire Protection District

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Randy Larson, Fire Chief, Pagosa Fire Protection District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

What are your three top goals for 2021?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

2020 was a difficult year for all of us. Luckily the Pagosa Fire Protection District was able to continue providing services to the community with little disruptions and was able to accomplish several of our goals for the year. Some of our accomplishments include the acquisition of a new Administrative Building that not only allowed for current and future expansion but also provide a better living environment for our 24/7 Firefighters. We also added a new Administrative Assistant position to our Administrative staff to spread the workload and to provide better oversight of our financial transactions.

PFPD was able to complete a long-range planning session with the help of our Board of Directors including newly elected members Kim Moore and Leroy Lattin. The Board and Staff spent time determining what the future would hold for the District and how we plan on keeping up with the growth of the community and technological advances in fire prevention and fire suppression. Goals were established from a 2-3-year expectation up to 10 years and beyond.

Operationally PFPD made some upgrades to our equipment by purchasing new firefighting nozzles to replace old and outdated equipment on our apparatus. We were able to purchase a new Fire Prevention vehicle from a generous donation that was received in 2020.

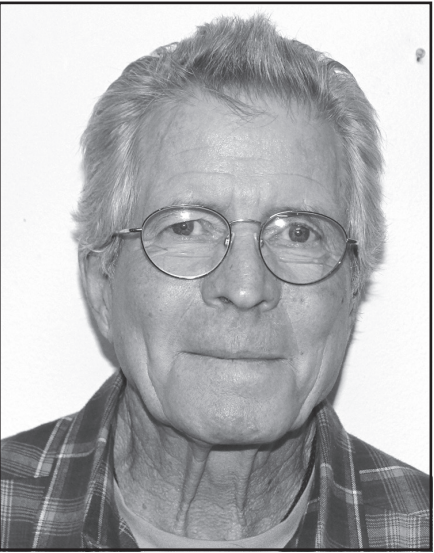
For 2021 PFPD will continue to strive for excellence in all facets of our operations. The Board of Directors has agreed to spend up to \$150,000 from unexpected revenues in 2020 to upgrade our Training Facility. We will be purchasing a modular training system that

will allow for more and better training of our current personnel not only in firefighting operations but also in technical rescue and hazardous materials disciplines. It will enhance our training for new volunteers and provide a place for bringing in outside firefighter trainings to Pagosa Springs.

We have budgeted for new and improved extrication equipment for better patient care at motor vehicle and industrial accidents. These tools will be battery operated allowing us to get into areas that were unavailable to us with hydraulic or corded equipment.

PFPD will continue to strive for excellence in all we do. We will continue with prudent financial policies and transparency in all of our operations. We will continue to seek out alternate funding sources including grants and donations. PFPD will continue to follow our strategic plan and now our long-range plan when deciding on financial expenditures and projecting our growth within the community.

John Thompson, Board Chairman, Pagosa Fire Protection District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2020?

What are your three top goals for 2021?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

In a year that was challenging, PFPD was able to achieve many of the goals that had been set. The year 2020 was successful and turned out to be a productive year for PFPD.

With 2 positions available and 2 self-nominations, the Board appointed Kim Moore and LeRoy Lattin to

fulfill the positions on the board.

Complying with TABOR restrictions associated with long-term financing limitations, the board approved a lease agreement to purchase an Administrative Building. The purchase of the Administrative building allowed the 24/7 Firefighters, located at Station 1 to have more living space and will allow more space for future growth of PFPD.

In order to provide the best fire coverage to the community and support executive decisions, PFPD and the Board of Directors held a long-range planning session. The long-range planning session reviewed the strategic goals. Discussion and setting goals for 2-3 years up to 10 years was accomplished through this session.

The Board of Directors approved upgrading the Training Facility, located at Station 3. We will continue to oversee policy changes, programs and the financial accountability within the fire district. The Board will ensure the Fire District is following all applicable laws and ordinances.

The Board of Directors will primarily focus on the legal duties, requirements and procedures applicable to special districts. We will remain transparent, support decisions made by executive staff, and consistently review, change and modify policies, as needed. This will allow PFPD to provide the best fire service to the community of Archuleta County.

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 week: 167.
- Feb. 1 — Child abuse-knowing and recklessly-non serious bodily injury, information only, Indian Land Road.
- Feb. 1 — Missing property, Packet Court.
- Feb. 1 — Fraud by check-other method, Davis Cup Drive.
- Feb. 2 — Information only, Harman Park Drive.
- Feb. 2 — Domestic violence, Lofty Court.
- Feb. 3 — Under investigation, no location listed.
- Feb. 3 — Gathering identity information by deception, identity theft-intent, Prospect Boulevard.
- Feb. 3 — All other thefts, North Pagosa Boulevard.
- Feb. 3 — Under investigation, no location listed.
- Feb. 4 — Information only, Monks-hood Drive.
- Feb. 5 — Under investigation, no location listed.
- Feb. 5 — Information only, Spar-row Lane.
- Feb. 5 — Drove vehicle without insurance, failed to yield right of way to vehicle upon entering highway, County Road 600 and Eagle Drive.
- Feb. 6 — Under investigation, no location listed.
- Feb. 6 — Agency assist, Solomon Drive.
- Feb. 6 — Second-degree kidnap-ping, Country Center Drive.
- Feb. 6 — No insurance in possession, open container in a motor vehicle, illegal possession or consumption of alcohol by a minor, drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, speeding, U.S. 160.
- Feb. 7 — Warrant arrest, Nutria Circle.
- Feb. 7 — Drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drove vehicle when BAC .08 or more, Back Swing Drive and County Road 600.
- Feb. 8 — Warrant arrest, Tom's Place.

ment

- Calls for service over week: 158.
 - Feb. 3 — Trespass warning, Eagle Drive.
 - Feb. 3 — Violation of restraining order, North 5th Street.
 - Feb. 5 — Assault, Village Drive.
 - Feb. 5 — Consume alcohol on premises during unlawful hours, Eagle Drive.
- 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson**
No report.
- Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**
- Feb. 2 — Thomas McCarthy, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$210.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Amber Lynn West, criminal mischief-under \$300, one year probation, total fines and costs — \$903.50.
 - Feb. 3 — James Carroll Cunningham Jr., speeding 1-4 over, total fines and costs — \$87.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Elizabeth Rose McDonald, license plates expired, registration-fictitious plate, no insurance-owner, total fines and costs — \$755.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Jeremy Theodis Jones, speeding 5-9 over, total fines and costs — \$192.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Anna Zak, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Ana C. Reyes, registration-unregistered vehicle, total fines and costs — \$191.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Elyssa Jelinger, turning improperly, total fines and costs — \$172.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Carl D. Hackney, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Elizabeth F. Budd, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$263.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Rhonda J. Baxstrom, obedience to official traffic control device, total fines and costs — \$202.50.
 - Feb. 3 — Rena T. Aragon, speeding 1-4 over, total fines and costs — \$152.50.
- Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**
No report.

Informative.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100



Photos courtesy Pagosa Springs Police Department

The Pagosa Springs Police Department is asking for the community's assistance in identifying and locating the individual involved in the following crime.

On Feb. 7, around 9:20 p.m., the unknown suspect in these photos went to the electronics department at the Pagosa Springs Walmart. The suspect pried the doors off the phone cabinet and stole a large number of cellphones. The suspect got into a silver four-door sports utility vehicle (possibly a 2011-2013 BMW X5). The vehicle has a luggage rack on the top with a black luggage case and a receiver hitch platform on the rear with two totes.

The phones taken varied from iPhones to Motorola and Samsung. Please contact Detective Boyd Neagle with the Pagosa Springs Police Department with any information, office: 264-4151, ext. 241; cell 398-5203.



Students now eligible to apply for scholarships through Community Marijuana Offset Program

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At a regular meeting on Feb. 2, the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners (BoCC) voted to approve new parameters for awarding grants through the Community Marijuana Offset Program.

Students are now eligible to apply for scholarships through the program to continue their educational careers.

The BoCC voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2021-11, which changed the parameters to allow students, along with local nonprofit organizations, to apply for scholar-

ships and grants through the Community Marijuana Offset Impact Fund.

The resolution states, "Grant award applicants shall be a graduating high school student or an organization providing programs that provide an alternative to marijuana use."

Students seeking a scholarship will be required to submit a 500-word essay pertaining to their future educational plans and positive lifestyle choices they have made.

Under previous Resolution 2018-28, a board was created to review award applications and provide suggestions for the BoCC about which

organizations to grant funds to.

Previous awards have been granted to school-affiliated organizations and other youth groups in the community.

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that a portion of the funds from the program are to be used to help educate the community and promote awareness of healthy lifestyle habits and choices.

The fund comes from application and permit fees from retail marijuana stores in Archuleta County.

According to Weaver, "The board expressed interest in expanding the panel of the available applicants for these funds."

No awards were given out through the program in 2020.

Applications for the funds are still being drafted, according to County Paralegal Mary Helminski.

She indicated that the applications will be available within the next few weeks. There will be separate applications for students and nonprofit organizations.

Helminski noted that the anticipated deadline for applications will be in mid-March.

According to the new resolution, "Grant awards will be limited to no more than \$1,000 per approved application."

clayton@pagosasun.com

Sports

BASKETBALL

No. 6 Lady Pirates move to 5-0

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The No. 6 Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Lady Pirate basketball team improved to 5-0 on the season with a pair of wins over nonleague opponents over the last week.

First up, the Lady Pirates played host to the 2A Sargent Farmers from Monte Vista on Feb. 4, sending the Farmers home with a 44-20 loss.

"Every win is good," coach Charles Rand said following the game.

Pagosa jumped out to a strong lead early in the game, scoring 15 in the first quarter while shutting out Sargent.

"You hold any varsity team to zero, you know, you're doing something really, really well on defense," the coach said.

By halftime, the Pirates had increased that lead, taking a 28-8 score into the third quarter.

"I thought the kids, the first half they played really well, really well," Rand said.

He added when the team is pressing, they're energized, but when the press is removed, they move to cruise control.

"We've just got to be able to still be energized and flying around, even if it's just ... half court defense," he said.

Pagosa again outscored Sargent in the third, 6-5, and the fourth, 10-7.

"We played really well that first half. I was really happy how we executed, offensively and defensively, I was really happy. But, we just gotta put four of those quarters together," Rand said, adding he thought the team did well in the press, anticipating passes and adjusting when Sargent broke the press.

Adelyn Dozier led the Lady Pirates with 11 points, which included a pair of 3-pointers. She also contributed a rebound, an assist and two steals.

Beatrice Carpenter followed with nine points, two rebounds, an assist and three blocks.

Rand highlighted Carpenter's consistent output.

Keira Torrez and Molly Graham each logged six points, with Torrez putting up a pair of 3-pointers. Torrez also had a rebound, an assist and two steals, while Graham also had five rebounds, four assists and a steal.

Chantelle Caldwell added a handful of points to the team's total, as well as a pair of rebounds, an assist, a block and six steals.

Kelby Vigil put up a 3-pointer in the fourth quarter.

River Pitcher and Kori Lucero each added two points to the team's total, with Pitcher also logging two rebounds and two steals. Lucero added two rebounds, six assists, a block and a steal.

Pagosa made three of nine free-throw attempts and turned the ball over 11 times.

"They did some really nice things," Rand said.

Then, the following day, the



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Molly Graham goes up for a defensive rebound during the team's Feb. 4 win over the 2A Sargent Farmers. The Lady Pirates sit at 5-0 on the season.

team traveled to Del Norte to take on the Tigers, who sit as the No. 14 team in 2A girls' basketball.

And, again, Pagosa took the victory, this time with a 41-30 score.

Pagosa led 5-2 at the end of the first and 13-8 at the half.

The Lady Pirates put up 18 points in the third quarter and allowed 10, expanding their lead to 31-18.

The Tigers outscored Pagosa 12-10 in the game's final quarter, but it was not enough, and the Lady Pi-

"I will give the kids credit. ... If you have a weaker-minded team, all those calls would have really disrupt how they was playing, and they did not allow that to happen," coach Charles Rand said.

rates returned home with the win.

"I have to give Del Norte a lot of credit. They played a zone and ... I think that's like the first zone they played this year," Rand said, adding, "They packed it in trying to take away our bigs, and it still didn't work for them."

He added later the Tigers forced the Lady Pirates to beat them from the outside.

Dozier put up 18 points in the game, including tallying five 3-pointers. She complemented the effort with two rebounds and three assists.

Lucero and Caldwell each put

up seven in the game. Lucero, who hit one 3-pointer, also had a rebound and three assists. Caldwell logged three rebounds, an assist and three steals.

Graham added four points, nine rebounds, an assist, a block and a steal.

Torrez put up one 3-pointer, had a rebound and three assists.

Pitcher contributed two points, two assists and a steal.

Carpenter added three rebounds and a block.

Pagosa made two of seven free-throw attempts and had 25 turnovers in the game.

He added that the Lady Pirates didn't play as well as they could have in Del Norte, with 10-15 of the team's turnovers coming on travel calls.

"I will give the kids credit. ... If you have a weaker-minded team, all those calls would have really disrupt how they was playing, and they did not allow that to happen," Rand said.

This week, the Lady Pirates will take on three league competitors.

First, on Friday, the team will host the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers at 4 p.m.

The Panthers are 1-2 on the season.

"We're just getting back to basics," Rand said, noting that the Panthers look to be a young team this year. "Basically, this week here we're trying to fine-tune what we do best."

Then, on Saturday, the Lady Pirates will host the undefeated Centauri Falcons at 4 p.m.

The Falcons are No. 4 in Colorado girls' 3A basketball and are 6-0 on the season.

"They've been my No. 1 this whole time," Rand said of voting in the weekly coaches' poll that helps determine rankings. "So, we have

to play well when we're playing Centauri."

Rand said the Lady Pirates will be looking to limit the Lady Falcons' offensive rebounds.

"They play so hard and they go after offensive rebounds, so we have to sacrifice our bodies to make sure we limit that," he said, "and in turn, we've gotta go rebound the ball and get our offensive rebounds also."

The coach noted it's all about execution when you have two good teams who know each other.

"Bottom line, it's going to be about who's going to execute better," he said.

Because Archuleta County is now in Level Blue on the state's COVID dial, a limited number of spectators will be allowed at the games.

According to information provided by PSHS Athletic Director Marcie Ham, Pagosa will allow fans via a predetermined gate list.

Each home athlete who is suited out for a game, she explained, will be allowed two spectators for that game.

The games will be livestreamed on the district's Facebook pages (Archuleta School District Facebook page for games played at the high school and PSHS Facebook page for games played at the junior high school) for those who are still unable to watch in person.

Ham noted that the number of fans allowed at games will be re-evaluated each week based on Archuleta County's COVID status.

Tuesday, the team will travel to Bayfield for a 5 p.m. matchup with the Wolverines.

Pagosa previously beat Bayfield 59-20 on Jan. 29 in Pagosa.

The Wolverines are 0-4 on the season.

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BASKETBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pirate Mitch Lewis rises above a trio of Sargent defenders in the Pirates' 54-8 win on Feb. 4. The Pirates are 3-2 on the season.

Pirates sail to wins over Sargent, Del Norte

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team picked up a pair of nonleague wins last week, moving the team to a 3-2 overall record.

The Pirates first took on the 2A Sargent Farmers.

Pagosa sent the Farmers back to Monte Vista with a 54-8 loss, with the Pirates not allowing any points in the second half.

"I didn't think we played really good out of the gate," coach Wes Lewis said, noting that he "wasn't really happy with the kids at the end of the first quarter."

He noted it got better from there and explained he challenged the team to take everyone seriously, even if they're better than their opponent, and to continue to work on things.

The Pirates' defense continues to be strong, the coach indicated, adding that it's not perfect, but it's good for where the team is at in the season, especially with the shortened season and hectic schedule the team's had.

"I think we kind of accomplished that in the second, third and fourth, but kind of came out a little bit flat to begin with," Lewis said.

Lewis said the Pirates worked on different zone sets and offenses.

The following day, the team traveled to Del Norte to face the 2A Tigers, with the Pirates returning home with a 38-27 win.

"I think Del Norte's a pretty good team," Lewis said. "They played Alamosa real tough, and, you know, they've got a coach that's experienced, and he's been around a long time, and they run a lot of different stuff. I thought the kids did a really good job of adjusting defensively to the different sets they were running and the different offenses. They ran about three different motion offenses, and then several sets incorporated, and I thought the kids did a pretty good job defensively."

Lewis noted he's talked to the team about seeing offensive numbers go up and the need to capitalize on opportunities, including missed shots and avoiding turnovers that could be turned into points instead.

"I think we could add 10 to 15 points pretty easily to that number if we just do some things right on our end," he said.

The Pirates' defense continues to be strong, the coach indicated, adding that it's not perfect, but it's good for where the team is at in the season, especially with the shortened season and hectic schedule the team's had.

Additional information and official stats from the games were not available as of press time Wednesday.

Lewis said the team continues to work on its stuff.

"It's, at this point, still much more about us than it is our opponents," he said.

This week, the Pirates will face three league foes.

First, on Friday, the team will host the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers at 6 p.m.

The Panthers are 1-4 on the season.

"They shoot the ball a lot from the 3-point line, and, you know, with any team ... if you're taking a lot of 3s and if you're hittin' a pretty good percentage, you know, you've got a chance to be in some ballgames," Lewis said.

Lewis noted that the Panthers were within six points of Centauri at halftime Tuesday, and stayed with the Falcons for 2.5 quarters.

"They play real hard, ... they're pretty fast, they take a lot of 3s, they really attack the basket hard, they try to put it in transition, so ... their record doesn't show it, but Cortez ... has the ability to put some points up and to play good basketball, especially if they're makin' some 3s," he said.

Then, on Saturday, the Pirates will host the Centauri Falcons at 6 p.m.

The undefeated Falcons sit as the No. 5 team in 3A boys' basketball.

"They're an outstanding basketball team," Lewis said. "They're athletic, they're fast, they're strong, they pass the ball extremely well, they see the floor so good, they're really deep — they're just a really good basketball team."

Lewis added the team will need to be locked in defensively against both the Panthers and Falcons, adding the Falcons are "playing some really good basketball right now."

Because Archuleta County is now in Level Blue on the state's COVID dial, a limited number of spectators will be allowed at the games.

According to information provided by PSHS Athletic Director Marcie Ham, Pagosa will allow fans via a predetermined gate list.

Each home athlete who is suited out for a game, she explained, will be allowed two spectators for that

■ See Pirates A15

Public Notices



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 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 373 IN PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74884.

Account Number: R012342
Schedule Number: 569524405021
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03060

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 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 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 19th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published January 28, February 4 and 11, 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:
DELDEV, INC
1133 N. 18TH STREET
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON
6785 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111-1719

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November 2008, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOTS 407, 408 AND 409, PAGOSA TRAILS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74885.

Account Number: R004234
Schedule Number: 569524405021
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2007-00458

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2007

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of DELDEV, INC and DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON for said year 2007.

That said KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED on the 30th 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 KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

On the 16th 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
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 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:
DELDEV, INC
1133 N. 18TH STREET
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON
6785 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111-1719

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November 2008, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOTS 407, 408 AND 409, PAGOSA TRAILS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74885.

Account Number: R004234
Schedule Number: 569524405021
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2007-00458

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2008

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of DELDEV, INC and DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON for said year 2008.

That said KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED on the 30th 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 KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

On the 16th 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 14th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 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:
DELDEV, INC
1133 N. 18TH STREET
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON
6785 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111-1719

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November 2008, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOTS 311, 312, 313, 314, 325, 326, 327 and 328, PAGOSA TRAILS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74885.

Account Number: R004260
Schedule Number: 569524407041
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2007-00460

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2008

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of DELDEV, INC and DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON for said year 2008.

That said KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED on the 30th 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 KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

On the 16th 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 14th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Published February 11, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Deed.
Witness my hand this 13th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 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:
DELDEV, INC
1133 N. 18TH ST
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON
6785 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111-1719

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 15th day of November 2008, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOTS 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 365, 366, 367 and 368, PAGOSA TRAILS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74885.

Account Number: R004251
Schedule Number: 569524406049
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2007-00459

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2007

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of DELDEV, INC and DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON for said year 2007.

That said KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED on the 30th 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 KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

On the 16th 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 14th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 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:
DELDEV, INC
1133 N. 18TH STREET
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501
DELDEV, INC % KIA KOFFRON
6785 EAST ORCHARD ROAD
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111-1719

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LOTS 311, 312, 313, 314, 325, 326, 327 and 328, PAGOSA TRAILS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74885.

Account Number: R004260
Schedule Number: 569524407041
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2007-00460

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

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That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to KUHN FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LIMITED

On the 16th 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 14th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Steven Arthur Smith, Deceased
Case No. 2021 PR 30000

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 May 11, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler
190 Talsman Drive, Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published February 11, 18 and 25, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

INVITATION TO BID

Separate sealed BIDS for the Riverwalk - Town Park to Highway 160 project will be received by the Town of Pagosa Springs at the Office of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. located at 189 South 8th Street, P.O. Box 1208, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147, until 2:00 p.m. local time on **March 4, 2021**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The project consists of constructing approximately 2,100 linear feet of 10 foot wide multi-use trail along Hermosa Street and the San Juan River from the east side of Town Park to U.S. Highway 160, tying into the sidewalk just on the west side of the bridge crossing the San Juan River. The project involves significant curb, gutter, sidewalk, retaining wall, driveway approaches, and underground drainage improvements. The project includes, but is not limited to excavation, embankment, asphalt removal, storm drainage structures, concrete structures, gravel placement, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, asphalt patching

time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.
Witness my hand this 14th day of January 2021
/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published February 4, 11 and 18, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO

Court Address: 48 Eaton Dr., Suite #1, PO Box 148, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Phone Number: 970-264-8160
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Daniel L. Fiedler, #47916
190 Talsman Dr., Suite D-6
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-507-8529
E-mail: daniefiedler@gmail.com

Case Number: 20CV30092
Plaintiff:
PATRICK H. DISNER
v.
Defendants:
ANNETTE WEBB SAARIKOSKI, ARCHULETA COUNTY PUBLIC TRUSTEE,

And All Unknown Persons Who Claim Any Interest In The Subject Matter Of This Action.

SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION)
PLAINTIFF PATRICK H. DISNER TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the Complainant to Quiet Title Pursuant to Rule 105 filed with the Archuleta County District Court in this action, by filing with the Clerk of this Court an Answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the last day of publication. A copy of the Complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

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

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff and in the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 771 IN PAGOSA HIGHLAND ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEROF FILED FOR RECORD FEBRUARY 7, 1972 AS RECEPTION NO. 75409.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of January, 2021.
/s/ Daniel L. Fiedler
Daniel L. Fiedler

First Publication: February 4, 2021
Last Publication: March 4, 2021
Published February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

Published February 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That personal property stored in Alpine Storage, 4664 US 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 in:

UNIT 6 Michelle Gott, UNIT 16, 50, 61 Sharon Wilson, UNIT 44 Whitney Gallegos and UNIT 59 Lonnie Elledge. Will be disposed of if not paid in full including late fees by February 27, 2021 (will only accept CASH or MONEY ORDER)

This enforces the rights of Alpine Storage under the rental agreement.

Executed by: Cathy Dearmon, Manager
Alpine Storage PO Box 422, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published February 11 and 18, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Town of Pagosa Springs is accepting a Request for Proposal for an On-Call Arborist or Tree Care Company to serve on an as needed basis on behalf of the Town of Pagosa Springs. Please visit the town website: www.pagosaparks.gov for details on the proposal.
Published February 11 and 18, 2021 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME

(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us)

TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED

SWIM

Lady Pirates make splash in first meet with third-place finish

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Lady Pirates, in the team's first action of the 2021 season, captured third place out of four teams at the Delta Invitational on Feb. 5.

The Lady Pirates were able to accumulate 249 total points, good enough to best the Delta Panthers, who finished with 115 points. The Durango Demons captured first place with 373 total points, and the Montrose Indians took second place with 270 points.

In the 200-yard medley relay, a Lady Pirate squad that featured Lynelle Bartz, Karis Blackman, Emma Gantt and Molly Bishop took second place of four teams with a final time of two minutes, 19.13 seconds.

Three Lady Pirates cracked the top 10 in the 200-yard freestyle with Evie Rose notching a fourth-place finish with a final time of 2:41.69.

Bishop captured sixth place in that event, while Madeline Metzger and Amelia Laverty took eighth and 10th place, respectively.

Bartz was able to finish in the top three for the 200-yard individual medley, finishing third with a final time of 2:50.57.

Kali Jury and Nika Hinger were the lone Lady Pirates to finish in the top 10 in the 50-yard freestyle. Jury finished with a time of 32.05 seconds, while Hinger clocked in at 36.78 seconds.

Blackman, Laverty and Hinger were all able to crack the top 10 in the 100-yard freestyle, with Blackman taking sixth with a time of 1:20.97, Laverty finishing ninth with a time of 1:30.62 and Hinger finishing 10th with a final time of 1:30.80.

In the 500-yard freestyle, Cheyenne Booth took fifth out of six swimmers with a final time of 8:36.89.

A Lady Pirate 200-yard freestyle relay team took third out of six teams with a final time of 2:05.59. That team featured Rose, Bishop, Jury and Bartz.

Bishop was also able to place fourth out of 13 swimmers in the 100-yard backstroke with a final time of 1:23.98.

The Lady Pirates also saw success in the 100-yard breaststroke, with two swimmers finishing

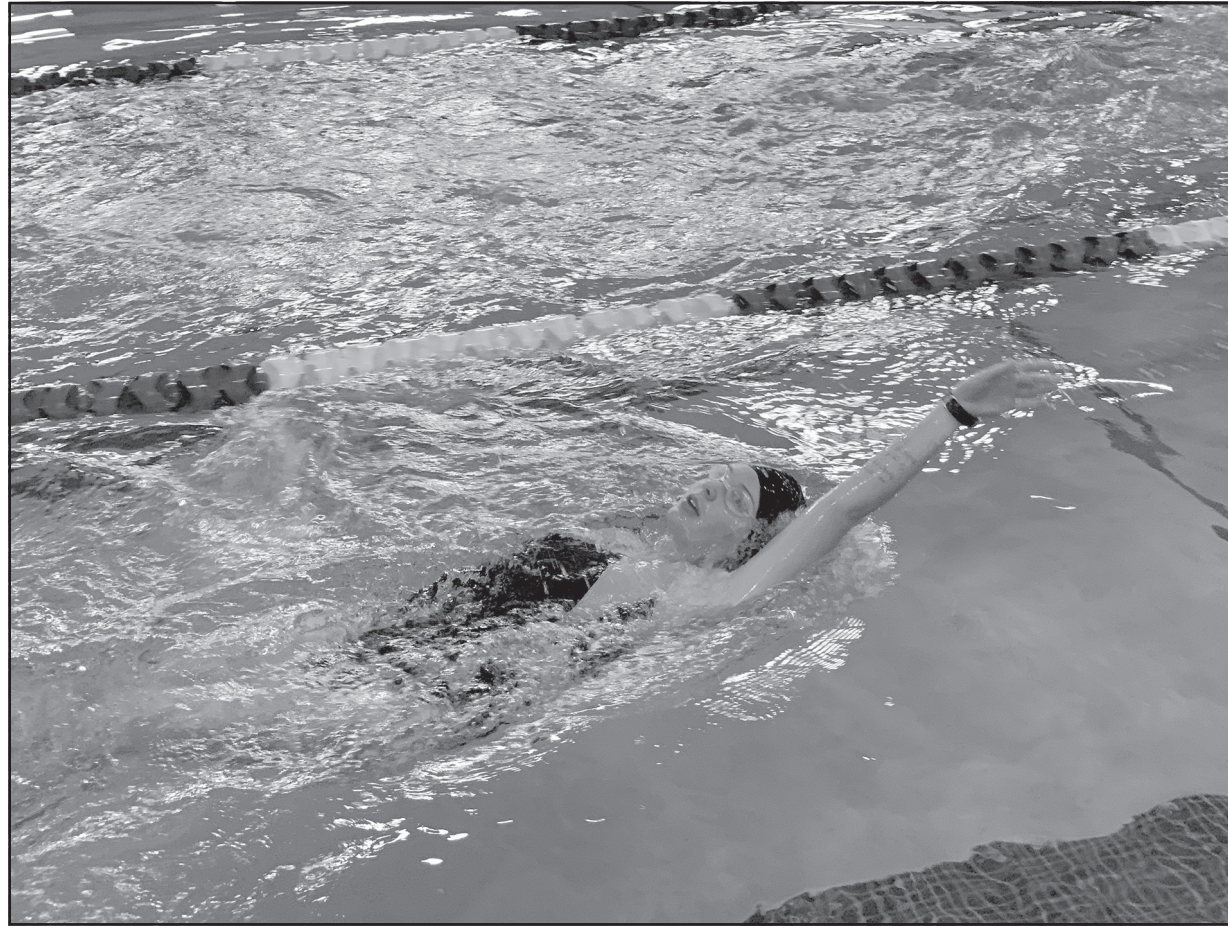


Photo courtesy Heather Miller
Lady Pirate Nell Taylor keeps her head above water during the Delta Invitational on Feb. 5. Pagosa finished third out of four teams at the meet, finishing with a total of 249 points.

within the top five as Bartz and Blackman took third and fourth, respectively, with final times of 1:25.52 and 1:31.24.

"I think overall the ladies swam great! We of course have things to work on but we had many best times and excellent efforts from all," coach Heather Miller wrote in an email to The SUN on Monday.

Miller highlighted the performance of the entire team, from those who experienced their first varsity meet to those who have more experience.

"The overall energy was different at the meet, there was not as much cheering for teammates on the side of the pool or in the stands due to lack of spectators and limited access to the pool deck but we made the most of it and cheered as much as we could," she wrote.

Effort was high from the Lady Pirates, but the team will have to work on its turns for its upcoming meets as well as finishing races strong, Miller noted.

Upcoming meets

Next up for the Lady Pirates will be a duo of meets, with the first one coming in Gunnison on Feb. 19 at 1 p.m.

Along with the Lady Pirates and Gunnison Cowboys, the Demons, Indians and Aspen Skiers will compete at the Gunnison meet.

On Feb. 20 at 1 p.m., the Lady Pirates will travel to Durango to face off against the Demons, Indians and Fruita Monument Wildcats.

Miller noted that the meet in Durango is still set to happen despite being tentatively scheduled.

chris@pagosasun.com



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FOOTBALL



Photo courtesy Stacey Lewis

Mitch Lewis, front row center, poses with his parents, coaches and administrators on Feb. 4 while signing his letter of intent to play football at the University of Northern Colorado.

Pirates

■ Continued from A14
game.

The games will be livestreamed on the district's Facebook pages (Archuleta School District Facebook page for games played at the high school and PSHS Facebook page for games played at the junior high school) for those who are still unable to watch in person.

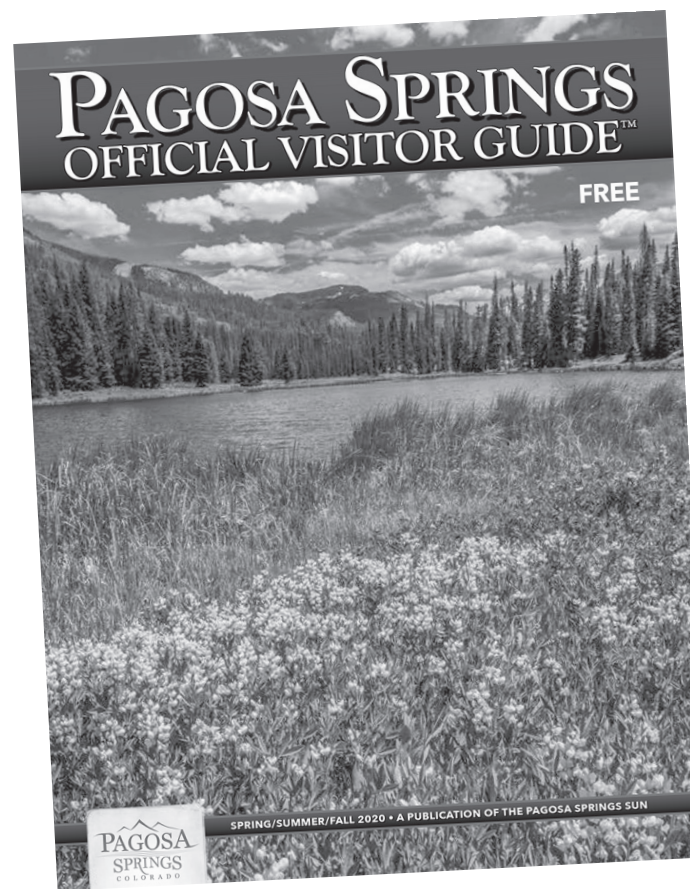
Ham noted that the number of fans allowed at games will be reevaluated each week based on Archuleta County's COVID status.

Tuesday, the team will travel to Bayfield for a 7 p.m. matchup with the Wolverines.

The Wolverines are 2-2, with one loss coming against Pagosa on Jan. 29. Pagosa won 57-41 in that game.

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WRESTLING

Pirates shut out Monte Vista, go undefeated in weekend matches

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Friday, Feb. 5, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team hosted the Monte Vista Pirates.

Pagosa Springs shut out Monte Vista with a team score of 66-0.

"It was a great way to start off the weekend," coach Dan Janowsky said.

Monte Vista's team included one wrestler from Del Norte competing in the 113-pound weight class.

Pagosa Springs earned 30 points from forfeits by Monte Vista, in the 152-, 160-, 170-, 195- and 220-pound weight classes.

Wil Aucoin pinned his opponent in the 182-pound weight class just under three minutes into the match, earning six team points.

Luke Tressler won his match against his opponent from Del Norte in the 113-pound weight class by a 6-0 decision, earning three team points.

Erik Wyman pinned his opponent in the 120-pound weight class, earning six team points.

Trevor Torrez won by a 7-2 decision in the 160-pound weight class, earning three team points.

Tommy Barker pinned his opponent in the 132-pound weight class two minutes and 56 seconds into the match.

EJ Monterroso was able to pin his opponent from Monte Vista just 59 seconds into the match, earning six team points.

Dylan Tressler pinned his opponent in the 145-pound weight class one minute and 59 seconds into the match.

Janowsky commented on Monte Vista's wrestling program, saying, "I got a lot of respect for them."

He noted there are not usually a large number of students who go out for the wrestling team in Monte Vista, which puts them in a "tight spot."

On Feb. 6, Pagosa Springs traveled to Alamosa High School to face off against three more opponents: Lamar, Alamosa and Florence.

Pagosa Springs defeated Lamar with a team score of 42-21.

Lamar scored six points from a Pagosa Springs forfeit in the 106-pound weight class.

Pagosa Springs scored six points from a Lamar forfeit in the 120-pound weight class.

Torrez lost his match and was pinned by his opponent three minutes and five seconds into the match, giving Lamar six points.

Barker pinned his opponent three minutes and 49 seconds into the match, earning Pagosa six points.

Monterroso won his second match of the weekend by a 7-3 decision, earning three points.

Monterroso went 3-0 on the weekend in the 138-pound weight class.

Dylan Tressler lost his match by a 3-1 decision, giving Lamar three points.

Brae Bergdolt won his match in the 152-pound weight class by a 8-2 decision.

Bergdolt was one of six Pagosa Springs Pirates to win all three matches he competed in over the weekend.

Cameron Lucero pinned his opponent in the 160-pound weight class one minute and one second into the match, earning six team points for the Pirates.

Grant Aucoin also went 3-0 on the weekend, defeating his opponents in the 170-pound weight class.

Grant Aucoin pinned his opponent from Lamar two minutes and 18 seconds into the match, earning six team points.

Wil Aucoin was defeated by his opponent in a 7-4 decision, giving Lamar three team points.

Trevor Moore was defeated in the 195-pound weight class by a 3-2 decision, giving Lamar three points.

Skylar Hill was also among the six Pirates to go undefeated on the weekend.

Hill pinned his opponent from Lamar in the 220-pound weight class just 13 seconds into the match, earning six team points.

Kayden McKee also went undefeated on the weekend.

McKee defeated his opponent from Lamar in the 285-pound weight class by a 2-1 decision.

Janowsky praised his squad's dedication so far this season.

"Those kids have put a lot of time into wrestling," he said.

Following the Pirates' match against Lamar, Pagosa Springs then battled against Alamosa, winning with a team score of 48-27.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Wil Aucoin pins his opponent, Jaxon Martinez from Monte Vista, on Friday. Aucoin pinned Martinez two minutes and 59 seconds into the match.

Alamosa earned six points by a Pagosa Springs forfeit in the 106-pound weight class.

Pagosa Springs earned 12 points by Alamosa forfeits in the 145- and 152-pound weight classes.

Luke Tressler was pinned by his opponent 42 seconds into the match, giving Alamosa six points.

Wyman lost to his opponent by a 7-2 decision, giving Alamosa three points.

Torrez was defeated by 5-1 decision, giving Alamosa three points.

Barker was pinned by his opponent three minutes and 44 seconds into the match, giving Alamosa six points.

Monterroso pinned his opponent one minute and 45 seconds into the match, earning six points for Pagosa Springs.

Lucero pinned his opponent one minute and 12 seconds into the match, earning six points.

Grant Aucoin pinned his opponent three minutes and 32 seconds into the match, earning six points.

Wil Aucoin pinned his opponent 25 seconds into the match, earning six points.

Hill pinned his opponent four minutes and 16 seconds into the match, earning six points.

Moore was defeated by his opponent by a 5-4 decision, giving Alamosa three points.

McKee pinned his opponent three minutes and 36 seconds into the match, earning six points.

The last match-up of the weekend was against Florence, which Pagosa Springs won with a team score of 62-12.

Florence earned six points from a Pagosa Springs forfeit in the 106-pound weight class.

Pagosa Springs earned 18 points from Florence forfeits in the 113-, 170- and 220-pound weight classes.

Wyman defeated his opponent by a major decision of 12-1, earning four team points.

Torrez was pinned by his opponent five minutes and 15 seconds into the match, giving up 6 points.

Barker pinned his opponent 3 minutes and 10 seconds into the match, earning 6 points.

Monterroso defeated his third opponent of the day by a technical fall four minutes into the match, earning five team points.

Dylan Tressler defeated his opponent by a 16-10 decision, earning three points.

Bergdolt defeated his third opponent by a major decision of 12-3, earning four points.

Lucero also won his third match of the weekend by pinning his opponent just 45 seconds into the match, earning six points.

Wil Aucoin defeated his opponent by a major decision of 15-3, earning four points.

Moore pinned his opponent three minutes and three seconds into the match, earning 6 points.

McKee won his third match of the weekend by pinning his opponent one minute and 42 seconds into the match, earning six points.

"This was a great weekend for us because of the caliber of teams we were going against," Janowsky said.

He mentioned that he feels the squad improved by facing tougher competition.

Janowsky went on to note the Pirates will be able to get a full week of practice in this week for the first time this season.

According to rankings released by CHSAANow.org on Feb. 5, the



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Trevor Torrez looks to pin his opponent, Nathaniel Juarez from Monte Vista, on Friday. Torrez won the match by a decision of 7-2.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Erik Wyman duels his opponent, DeAngelo Archuleta from Monte Vista, on Friday. Wyman pinned Archuleta three minutes and 37 seconds into the match.

Pagosa Springs Pirates remain No. 1 in the state's 3A division.

The Pirates will be traveling to Durango this Saturday, Feb. 13, for another quad meet.

The Pirates will face off against the Montrose Indians at 9 a.m., the Fruita-Monument Wildcats at noon and the Durango Demons at 2 p.m.

Janowsky noted this weekend's competition will be another good test for the Pirates as all of their opponents are in the state's 4A division.

The quad meet will be available for viewing through a subscription with NFHS Network.

clayton@pagosasun.com

Good luck, Pirates!

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Love is in the air

Adults with disabilities learn
the art of truffles for Valentine's Day



Photo courtesy Joanne Irons

February 11, 2021

Love is in the air: Adults with disabilities learn the art of truffles for Valentine's Day

By Joanne Irons
Aspen House/Aspen Services

Joanne Irons' truffles have been a sought-after staple at many Pagosa Springs fundraisers as well as by family and friends. She makes them in a variety of flavors and all are scrumptious. Just in time for St. Valentine's Day, she has begun transitioning her truffle-making to the Pagosa adults with disabilities community.

She has long believed that these adults have the capability to run their own business in support of Aspen House and Aspen Services. Truffle-making is going to be that business.

This past week, Irons held two training classes at Fro Yo. Fro Yo, on Lewis Street, is associated with Aspen House/Aspen Services, the nonprofit planned house for adults with disabilities and accompanying services. Fro Yo has a functional commercial kitchen with ample space. Irons shared her idea with the Aspen House/Aspen Service Board of Directors and June Landgraf, who runs Fro Yo, and they agreed that Fro Yo would be a perfect fit to try out her concept.

At the training sessions were Zack and Meredith Irons (who have been helping Joanne Irons make truffles for a few years now), Nick Voelker, Jason Reece, Christopher

Brown and Kelly Faber. Together, they were able to turn out over 600 truffles in those two sessions.

Joanne Irons reports that it was exciting discovering which tasks were good fits for each of the participants. She intends to use what she learned to match the various truffle-making tasks with the individuals most suited to those tasks — all in an attempt to help them take over truffle-making as their own not-for-profit business.

You can acquire these truffles in time for St. Valentine's Day in packages of two, six or 12 at Fro Yo. Suggested donations are \$3, \$7.50 and \$15, respectively. We welcome your support.

Rise's Teen Board of Directors raising awareness about dating violence

By John Finefrock
Rise Above Violence

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and Rise Above Violence's Teen Board of Directors is working hard to spread the word about this issue.

As part of the campaign this month, the teen board is offering specific action steps that anyone can do to combat relationship violence in our community.

This week's action step: Know the red flags and call them out.

Some examples of common red flags in relationships include:

- Checking cellphones, emails or social networks without permission.
- Extreme jealousy or insecurity.
- Constant belittling or put-downs.
- Keeping a partner isolated from family or friends.
- Making false accusations.

• Physically inflicting pain or hurt in any way.

• Telling someone what they can and cannot do.

• Repeatedly pressuring someone to have sex.

"It's not something talked about very often," said Charlie, an eighth-grader at Pagosa Springs Middle School and a member of the YouthRise Teen Board of Directors. "So it deserves to be stated and talked about because there are a lot of people that don't know they're in an abusive relationship. They're kind of just missing all the signs."

The YouthRise Teen Board of Directors meets outside of school — both virtually and in-person, on Fridays — and is working toward the goal of ending relationship violence in Pagosa Springs. This month, the teen board is recording weekly YouTube videos about teen dating violence, which can be viewed on the Rise Above Violence

social media channels.

Additionally, the teen board will be posting red garden flags around town parks in the upcoming weeks, with a relationship "red flag" written on each one of them.

For more information about YouthRise programs, offered at no cost, contact Cheryl Bowdrige at cheryl@riseaboveviolence or 946-2576, or John Finefrock at john@riseaboveviolence.org or 403-5461.

Rise Above Violence is a nonprofit organization which promotes the belief that all people have the right to live free from violence. Rise provides 24-hour support and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other forms of violence. All programs and services are free and confidential. Visit riseaboveviolence.org for more information or call the 24-hour hotline at 264-9075 to talk to an advocate today.

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Pagosa Farmers Market announces summer and online markets

By Pauline Benetti
Pagosa Farmers Market

The Pagosa Farmers Market management extends this invitation in February to visit the summer Pagosa Farmers Market without knowing exactly what the future holds for all of us.

We do know that the market will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays June through September and very likely with COVID-19 precautions in place as was the case last year; however, the precautions did not stop our vendors from bringing their products to market nor did it stop our customers from arriving to fill their baskets to take home or to their vacation rental.

And a fine selection they had to choose from — vegetables, fruits, grass-fed beef, pastured pork, chicken, cheeses, milk, eggs, breads, honey, pastries and preserved goods. Our Small Growers Co-op is a unique market feature where backyard growers who sometimes have an excess of one vegetable or another can offer the excess for sale. This is the ideal place to put into practice the excellent advice, “Know your farmer, know your food.”

In addition to accepting cash or debit cards, market vendors accept SNAP Market Bucks for purchase of market food products and SNAP beneficiaries receive Double Up Bucks worth \$20 with their first \$20 SNAP purchase at each market.

Here’s something else we know

for certain about the future: The Pagosa Farmers Market Online will be operational. Work is underway right now, in February, to develop the platform and recruit vendors with a wide range of offerings. We will have growers (vegetables and fruit), producers (eggs, bread, cheese, meat, etc.) and makers (artists and artisans). Some of these

vendors will be at the live market, but others will not. You will want to visit the online market and become acquainted with the full productive vitality of our small community.

Find the summer market at the east end of downtown on the mountain side of the East Side Market. Join us at one or both our venues. You are welcome.

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Brown bag special

Being served from a brown paper bag has taken on new meaning if you've dined out recently. What once stored collectibles or hid a "forty" from view now wets the visual appetite by its mere presence.

Not big enough to house linens or fancy dinnerware, the paper bag has become synonymous with providing immediacy of need. In today's environment, that could be anything from a drive-up burger to five-star fare. Yet, we don't fully know what it is that we appreciate until we consume the contents therein.

Every Sunday night for 10 years, our family has come together to enjoy a weekly event, Sunday night family dinner. If we didn't plan on a time to meet, we might not ever see each other.

Our son cooks city, I cook country. One of our daughters cooks soccer mom, the other, aisle 7. It is amazing how everything comes together and just at the right time. But, it's not the menu that appetizes, but the camaraderie we share as we sit and laugh, and loosen our belts.

A recent table conversation ranged from plowing snow to replacing the hot water heater. Then, as if pulling back the wax paper to reveal the ultimate dessert, our middle daughter made the big announcement. Her and her husband had rented a large RV so we could all go on a summer vacation.

The plan? Thirteen of us will camp our way from the southwest to the pacific northwest. We excitedly called our grandson in Arizona and our eldest daughter and her family in California to share the big reveal.

"We are going to brown bag it as we drive from state to state. It will be a perpetual picnic outing full of fun and surprises."

Everyone was on board except our son, "Precious." He said he would rather walk than be cooped up in a playpen on wheels for two weeks. I thought the idea would be a blast; "Precious" said he thought his head would explode.

I guess he missed the part about

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



If we didn't plan on a time to meet, we might not ever see each other.

visual appetite — seeing the best of the Rockies as we sit cheek to cheek. I am certain we will have a wonderful time. We always do. Sure, the thought of stepping into an RV and losing your independence and privacy can be a little too much in-your-face family. But the memories and stories we will be able to share after the fact are like those hidden brown bag treasures we didn't know we had.

It is probably the mother and grandmother in me. I get excited about having three generations all moving together from one place

to another. And why not? We have done it before.

When our son-in-law retired from the Coast Guard, the whole family went to Virginia to celebrate. We packed up him, one of our daughters and their two children to live life interstate style. Two vehicles, one camper, six weeks and 2,000 miles later, and we'd seen the U.S. from every pit and picture stop from the East Coast to the San Juan Mountains.

We still refer to that trip as the best time ever. Peanut butter and jelly and bologna sandwiches by day, hamburgers and hot dogs by night. The soup du jour wasn't the appeal, but the time spent together as family. After all, what else matters?

Final brushstroke: I can't even count the number of brown bag lunches that I've had in the last year. Some were simple, some were a gourmet feast. All satisfied and nourished and gave meaning to being fulfilled. Isn't that what it's all about? So, we will swap our four walls for those on wheels. The best part of that picnic: experiencing life as it happens, one treasured moment at a time.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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A Sadie Hawkins dance and a decision

By Gregg Heid
PREVIEW Columnist

Connie walked up to me in the parking lot after school. “Gregg, will you go to the Sadie Hawkins dance with me?”

“Yes, I’d love to. When is it?” I knew but wanted to be coy about the situation, plus I was waiting for an invite from Kendra.

“This Friday night. We start with the tubing hill, then go to the high school for the dance.”

“Great, are you going to pick me up in your Jeep?”

“Yes, I’ll be by at 6.”

Later on in the week, Janice stopped me in the hallway at school. “Gregg, Kendra wants to talk to you after school. She says to meet her out back by the tennis courts.”

Now my stomach was all tied in knots. What did she want?

After school, I went out by the courts where Kendra stood alone by the net. I walked up to her, “Janice said you wanted to talk to me.”

“Have you been asked to the Sadie Hawkins dance yet?”

“Not yet.” I looked into her beautiful eyes.

“Then I’m asking, will you go with me?”

“I was hoping you’d ask me, I’d love to go with you. Are you driving?”

“Sure, I’ll pick you up around 6. Be ready and wear lots of warm clothes when I push you off the innertube.”

What have I done? I just lied to the girl of my dreams and now have to make up another lie to get out of my predicament. But it would be worth it. I’m going with Kendra. She’s so exciting and fun to be with.

The next day at school, I saw Connie in front of the girls’ bathroom talking with some of her friends. “Are you going with Del?”

“He couldn’t go. They have a wrestling match that night and will be in Monument.”

“Who ya gonna ask?”

“Tyke, if he’s still available.”

“What about you, Connie?”

“I’m going with Gregg.”

I walked up to her, “Connie, I

The Writers’ Circle

need to talk to you in private.”

“Ooooo, better watch out girl,” teased the other girls.

I took her to the side away from her friends. “Something’s come up and I can’t go to the dance with you.”

“Why not?”

“I’ll be out of town with family. My uncle died last night.”

“I’m so sorry, Gregg. When are you leaving?”

“Tomorrow.”

“Guess I’ll be home alone on Friday.”

Yes, just what I wanted to hear.

“I wish I could go with you. It’s just how things worked out.”

I was pacing the floor and looking out the window when Kendra’s car pulled into our driveway.

“See ya, Mom.”

“Have fun.”

I opened the car door. “Good thing you have on your ski pants cuz you’re going to get dumped.”

“Not before you end up head-first in the powder,” Kendra countered.

“We’ll see about that.”

When we arrived at the hill, couples were already screaming riding down on their tubes and walking back up together. I couldn’t wait to get on the tube with Kendra.

She parked and we grabbed a tube from the lot. As we walked up the hill, a tube came right at us. We jumped out of the way as Brad and Connie sped by on their tube. Connie’s stare cut right through me. My night was ruined.

I still remember that Sadie Hawkins dance like it was last weekend. It was decades ago. I made the wrong decision not to go with the first girl who asked me. My pleasure and joy of being with Kendra could not overcome my guilt and shame. That decision made me realize the importance of telling the truth. It also taught

me empathy. My pleasure did not overcome Connie’s pain.

We are who we are because of the decisions we’ve made thus far in life. We live with those decisions for the rest of our lives. “In everything, therefore treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets” — Matthew 7:12 (NAS).

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Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m. - In-person Open House - Spanish translator available

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The story of Cupid

Special to The PREVIEW

What would Valentine's Day be without images of a golden-tressed boy armed with bow and arrows? The arrows represent feelings of love and desire, and they are aimed and cast at various individuals, causing them to fall deeply in love — or fall out of it.

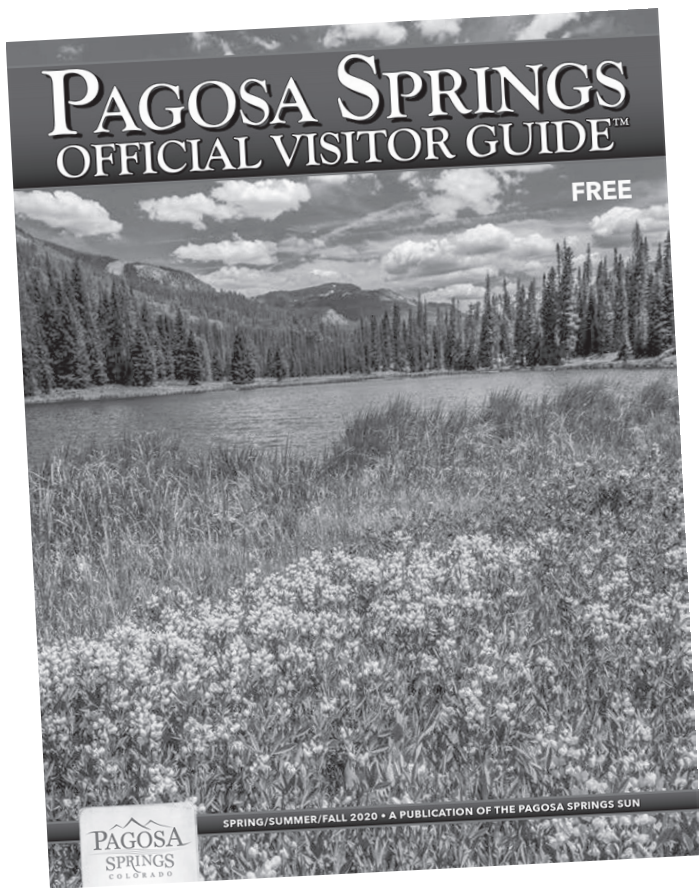
In Roman mythology, the boy is known as Cupid and is the son of Venus, the goddess of love. Portrayed as a cherubic and mischievous toddler, this magical boy was purported to be the matchmaker of gods and mortals alike.

For students of Greek mythology, Cupid represents Eros, the Greek word for "desire." He was the son of Aphrodite, Venus' Hellenistic counterpart, and would play with the hearts of mortals and gods, sometimes leaving mayhem in his wake. In Greek mythology, Eros was more teenager than bubbly baby, and capitalized on his status as a heartthrob rather than the cherubic status of Roman mythology, according to Richard Martin, a Stanford University professor. While Cupid may have been an adorable imp, some historians say Eros had a darker side, going so far as to describe him as calculating and sinister — forcing the wrong people into lovelorn matches.

According to Museum Hack, while Cupid could make people fall in and out of love, he also was once in love himself. In this telling, Cupid is a young man when Venus learns that a mortal girl is born with such great beauty that others start to forget to worship Venus, adoring this girl instead. Upset about the misdirected adoration toward this mortal, Venus asks Cupid to have the girl, Psyche, fall in love with a monster. Cupid agrees, but once he sees Psyche he "accidentally" hits himself with one of his own golden arrows and falls in love with Psyche. The resulting match does not prove easy, and through a series of unfortunate events, Psyche must prove her love to Cupid and accomplish various tasks to win back his heart. Eventually, Psyche does and achieves goddess status.

Cupid has been portrayed both as a young man and child through Renaissance art and beyond. When Valentine's Day became popular in the 18th and 19th centuries, Cupid was linked to Valentine's Day celebrations due to his match-making abilities. His popularity only continued in the early 20th century, when Hallmark began to manufacture Valentine's Day cards featuring Cupid.

Cupid helped push people together in ancient mythology, and he can even be the catalyst for modern-day matchmaking as well.



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T-shirt design contest underway now for artists of all ages

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We'd love your help in designing a T-shirt for this year's Summer Reading Program. The theme will be "Tails and Tales," which ought to stimulate a lot of creative, fun ideas in artistic heads. This is an all-ages contest. All designs must be original.

The winning T-shirt will be worn by staff during the summer, given to the winning designer and a limited number will be made available for purchase. For details and a blank T-shirt template, please pick up a flyer at the library or go online to our website. The deadline for submissions is March 8.

Library closure

Your library will be closed Monday, Feb. 15, in honor of Presidents Day.

Free literacy program for babies

An exciting free Colorado-based 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-Ramirez 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 operations update

Here is the current status:

- 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

Library News

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 aged 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."

Legal clinic tomorrow

The free legal clinic each month is happening by appointment tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 12, from 2 to 3 p.m. The volunteer attorney can phone you directly or you can come into the library and meet via Zoom. To sign up for these calls, send an email titled "Sign-up for Free Legal Clinic," with your first name and phone number, to ruby@

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ **continued from previous page** pagosalibrary.org, or phone or stop by the library. The volunteer attorney's time is limited, so it's first-come, first-served.

LEGO challenge Saturday

Join us on Feb. 13 and 27 at 10 a.m. for a free all-ages LEGO challenge via an image posted on Facebook and the library website. Use your own pieces to create something that will fit the challenge. If you don't have LEGOs, we have a few grab bags available at the library.

New all-ages writing challenge

On Feb. 8, 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.

Spotlight on board books next week

Board books are fun and unique. They are created to be sturdy, attractive learning tools — and often they are both a toy and a book. Learn more by watching a video or joining the all-ages Board Book Reading Challenge next Thursday, Feb. 18, at 4 p.m. on the library's Facebook page.

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 current theme is celebrating Valentine's Day and love of all kinds. 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 sixth-through 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 pumpkin-decorating 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.

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. Starting Feb. 22, Monday will be added to the schedule.

ESL

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) sessions take 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.

Local author

The publisher of local author Carole Howard's new book, "On Deadline: Managing Media Rela-

tions/sixth edition," has donated a copy to your library. Called "a tangible blueprint for tomorrow's communication leaders" by one reviewer, the book covers planning and implementing a media relations program, building relationships with reporters, arranging news conferences and media events, integrating media relations into marketing communication strategy, spokesperson training, crisis management, global media relations, ethics and legal issues, measuring results and becoming a counselor to management.

Books on CD

"Perestroika in Paris" by Jane Smiley features three extraordinary animals and a young boy. "All the Colors of Night" by Jayne Ann Krentz is the second installment of the Fogg Lake mystery series. "The Captive" by Fiona King Foster is an adventure crime story. "Daylight" by David Baldacci features an FBI agent searching for her sister abducted at age 6. "NYPD Red 6" by James Patterson and Marshall Karp features the elite NYPD Red crime-fighting force.

Other novels

"H2N2" by Albert W. Northrop features seven influential men trying to reform the criminal justice system in Maryland.

Large print

"Firestick" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is a western. "Someone to Watch Over Me" by Ace Atkins is a Robert B. Parker Spencer mystery. "Before She Disappeared" by Lisa

■ **See Library on next page**

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Chocolate ganache is simpler to make than you think

Special to The PREVIEW

Chocolate lovers rejoice come Valentine's Day. Come February, it seems everywhere you look there are rich, chocolately treats just waiting to be devoured.

Individuals who fancy themselves adventurous in the kitchen may want to consider homemade chocolate recipes to entice their romantic partners. Ganache, an indulgent chocolate creation, may seem like it requires a master class in chocolate making to create. However, ganache is simpler to create than chocolate lovers may think.

According to the chocolate experts at Coeur de Xocolat, there are various origin stories for ganache. In one such story, French chef Georges Auguste Escoffier, who would become the creator of chocolate truffles, had his apprentice making pastry cream. That apprentice accidentally spilled hot cream into a bowl of expensive chopped chocolate. Escoffier yelled "ganache," a derogatory term meaning "fool," at the apprentice. But when Escoffier grabbed the bowl and began to stir it, he noticed an emulsion started to form and the cream and chocolate created a silky sauce that could be used for coating or glazing. When the

mixture cooled and hardened, it had a paste-like texture that could form balls. Escoffier coated the balls in cocoa powder and noticed they resembled mushroom truffles. Hence, chocolate truffles were born, as was delicious ganache.

Ganache is relatively easy to make. Enjoy this version, courtesy of Martha Stewart kitchens.

Ganache

Makes 1 1/2 cups
8 ounces semisweet or bitter-sweet chocolate
1 cup heavy cream
1/8 teaspoon coarse salt
Coarsely chop the chocolate and place in a heat-proof bowl.

Bring cream just to a boil over medium-high heat. Pour over the chocolate, and add salt. Let stand for 10 minutes (don't stir — doing so will cool the ganache too quickly, making it grainy).

Stir with a whisk until smooth and shiny to break up any pieces and emulsify the cream and chocolate.

Chocolate will often settle on the bottom or sides of the bowl. Scrape the dish with a rubber spatula to incorporate all of it.

To make a whipped filling or frosting with the ganache, let it cool to room temperature, stirring of-

ten, 45 minutes to 1 hour. Beat the ganache with a mixer on medium-high speed until paler and fluffy, 2 to 4 minutes. This will yield about 2 cups. Use it as a filling or spread it over cakes.

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Library

■ continued from previous page
Gradner features a woman who searched for missing people.

Nonfiction

"Humor, Seriously" by Jennifer Aaker and Naomi Bagdonas, teachers at Stanford's Graduate School of Business, documents how humor can be a valuable secret weapon in business and life.

Downloadable e-books and audiobooks

We have a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audio books for all ages — children, tweens, teens and adults — in cloudLibrary. The items in cloudLibrary are purchased separately from physical items, so the books available are different — and it continues to use the consortium's contributions as well as those that we bought. That is why you need to select AspenCat Union Catalog when setting up cloudLibrary for use. Please email or phone us at 264-2209 if you need our help setting up this service on your device.

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For their materials donations, we thank our anonymous donors. Please put your material donations into the drop box at the library

— not at City Market, which is reserved for returns. Donations undergo the same rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns.

Library foundation

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation to help support the services and programs provided by your Ruby Sisson Library. Mail checks to P.O. Box 2045, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or call Cindi Galabota at 264-2209. Thank you.

Quotable quote

"My advice to women who worry about aging is to nurture gratitude for your life. Remember that true beauty comes from within, from the positive qualities of your heart and mind. And most of all, be kind. Kindness is beautiful. Out of that will come happiness." — Tina Turner, singer, songwriter, dancer and actress, known as the queen of rock 'n' roll.

Website

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

Someone to talk to

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

It had been a while since we had foster children. They took the last little boy from our home and returned to his mother. He and his two sisters lost their lives in a fire there. The mother didn't seem to care, while our hearts ached. It was hard to take children again. But then one evening, we got a call from the social worker.

"We have three children who desperately need a home," he said. "Could you take one of them?"

"What about the other two?" my wife, Donna, asked.

"We'll keep looking for homes for them," came the reply. "We can't expect you to take three when you already have eight of your own."

Donna said we would discuss it, and she hung up the phone. She came to me and explained the situation.

"If we take any," I said, "I want to take all three. I don't want them separated."

Donna smiled. "Good. I thought that is what you would say, and I felt the same way."

We had watched our little foster boy struggle not being with his two sisters. They were young and had been placed in homes before he came to us. We had helped him call them almost every night. And even though he was concerned about going back to live with his mother and her boyfriend, he was excited to be with his sisters again. The tragedy that followed, and how much he had missed his sisters, steeled our resolve that if we could do anything

about it, we would try to keep siblings together.

Donna called the social worker, and he was overjoyed. "But are you sure you want all of them?"

She assured him we would be happy to have all three. When he told us he would bring them over the next morning, we knew we had a long night ahead of us. I retrieved bunk beds from storage and set them up. Donna got bedding ready. The boys would share a room, and the girl would be in a room with one of our daughters.

When the social worker brought the children, they were immediately taken in by our children. They were off to show them around the yards, meet our animals and get some food from the garden. Meanwhile, the social worker sat down to discuss challenges.

"Talia is almost 4," he said. "But due to neglect, she has problems speaking. We will need you to take her to a speech therapist twice each week. We thought maybe she should have a couple of weeks to settle in, then we will set the first appointment."

Since I would be at work, that fell to Donna, so they worked out the details. Within the first week, the children had settled into our family routine with chores, homework and the meal schedule. There were challenges, as there always are when trying to integrate people from different backgrounds. But the one thing the children seemed to enjoy was meal times.

They had been used to finding whatever food they could on their own. Donna prepared excellent

meals, and we always insisted on eating dinner together. It was a time for everyone to share about their day. The boys joined in right away. Talia was a little quieter, but within a few days she would express her thoughts and feelings, too, sometimes even telling us imaginative stories.

Eventually, Donna took Talia to her first speech session. When I came home, I asked, "So what do they say is wrong with her speech?" She had a bit of a lisp, but not more than most children.

Donna shrugged. "The speech therapist seemed confused at the report from Social Services and was going to check on it some more."

Donna took Talia to a couple more sessions, and the speech therapist said he was sending the social worker to visit with us. When the social worker arrived, he asked to see Talia. When she came, he asked her how she liked it with us. She told him about her new bed, about her new dolls and lots of things. When she finished, he smiled and sent her back to play. He then said we didn't need to take her to speech therapy anymore.

"So what was her speech therapy supposed to fix?" I asked.

"She had never said a word before she came here," he replied.

We were stunned. She talked as much or more than any of the children. When the social worker asked what we had done, we didn't know what to say.

"We just talked to her," Donna said, "and she responded."

The social worker nodded. "I guess that sometimes all a person needs is to have someone to talk to."

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Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant.



It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own benefit; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong suffered, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; ...

1 Corinthians 13 4-8

Love is often spoken using words. But when I say, "I love you," love is used as a verb. Verbs are action words and love must be put into action. Paul enumerates many actions by which love can be demonstrated. Those actions of love are what Paul prescribed as the solution to a church confronted with many problems.

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The Family Caregiver Alliance thrives

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 Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA), with information on the Internet at caregiver.org, is a non-profit founded in 1977 that supports families and friends who care for adults with chronic disabling health conditions. Links on its website direct viewers to support groups, numerous caregiving stories, newsletters, webinars, videos, and current issues, policy and research. Among the variety of foundations, funds and organizations that assist the alliance is the federal Administration for Community Living, which supports area agencies on aging, senior centers and other entities.

In 2001, the FCA started the National Center on Caregiving, which promotes policies and programs for caregivers, providing information on “caregiving and long-term

Area Agency on Aging

care issues for policy makers, service providers, media, funders and family caregivers throughout the country.” The center publishes a free newsletter by email titled “The Caregiving Policy Digest” that covers state and national legislation and research.

The multiple webinars on the website are organized into topics such as “COVID-19 and Caregiving,” “Legal and Financial,” “Self-Care” and “Veteran Caregiver.” The Caregiver Education link offers dozens of fact and tip sheets, including on health topics and caregiving strategies. To find public

and private resources with detailed information and phone numbers, use the U.S. map to click on a state in the Family Care Navigator. Caregivers seeking help also can call (800) 445-8106.

WellMed grasping tip

Is it difficult for you to wrap your fingers around a pen? Here are a couple suggestions for people who find it hard to hold onto narrow tools. You might try poking a pen through opposite holes in a Wiffle ball and write while holding onto the ball. Or, try wrapping several rubber bands or masking tape around the shaft to make a clump or around a screwdriver handle to enlarge it for grasping.

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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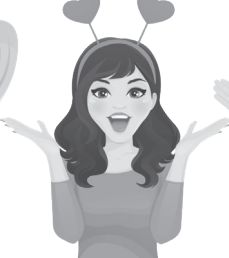
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Feb. 11

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Serving shredded chicken red chili enchiladas and house salad to go at the front doors. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

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.

Pagosa Peak Open School In-Person Open House. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School, 7 Parelli Way.

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. 12

The Great Backyard Bird Count. Everyone is welcome to participate in this four-day whirlwind of watching, counting and recording birds. Participants can choose to observe birds for 15 minutes on one of four days. Or you can spend all four days outdoors, recording on your smartphone. If you are new to counting birds, download the Merlin ID app on your smartphone. It's an easy-to-use tool to record sightings. If you are familiar with eBird, you can use either the mobile option or your computer to submit your sightings. Visit www.birdcount.org/participate to get started. For more information, go to www.weminucheaudubon.org, or contact Jean Zirnelt at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com or Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org.

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.

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m., Via Zoom at the library or by telephone from your home. This is a free legal clinic via computer link for parties who have no attorney. Volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for the legal issues in the areas of family law, civil litigation, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, veteran's benefits and civil protection orders. Call 264-2209 for more information.

The Good News Club. 2-4 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children in K-6th grade. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Feb. 13

The Great Backyard Bird Count. Everyone is welcome to participate in this four-day whirlwind of watching, counting and recording birds. Participants can choose to observe birds for 15 minutes on one of four days. Or you can spend all four days outdoors, recording on your smartphone. If you are new to counting birds, download the Merlin ID app on your smartphone. It's an easy-to-use tool to record sightings. If you are familiar with eBird, you can use either the mobile option or your computer to submit your sightings. Visit www.birdcount.org/participate to get started. For more information, go to www.weminucheaudubon.org, or contact Jean Zirnelt at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com or Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org.

org/participate to get started. For more information, go to www.weminucheaudubon.org, or contact Jean Zirnelt at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com or Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org.

LEGO Challenge. 10 a.m. Facebook. Join us for an all-ages LEGO challenge via an image posted on Facebook and the library website. Use your own pieces to create something that will fit the challenge. If you don't have LEGOs, we will have a few grab bags available. 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.

Sunday, February, 14

The Great Backyard Bird Count. Everyone is welcome to participate in this four-day whirlwind of watching, counting and recording birds. Participants can choose to observe birds for 15 minutes on one of four days. Or you can spend all four days outdoors, recording on your smartphone. If you are new to counting birds, download the Merlin ID app on your smartphone. It's an easy-to-use tool to record sightings. If you are familiar with eBird, you can use either the mobile option or your computer to submit

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Monday, Feb. 15

The Great Backyard Bird Count. Everyone is welcome to participate in this four-day whirlwind of watching, counting and recording birds. Participants can choose to observe birds for 15 minutes on one of four days. Or you can spend all four days outdoors, recording on your smartphone. If you are new to counting birds, download the Merlin ID app on your smartphone. It's an easy-to-use tool to record sightings. If you are familiar with eBird, you can use either the mobile option or your computer to submit your sightings. Visit www.birdcount.org/participate to get started. For more information, go to www.weminucheaudubon.org, or contact Jean Zirnhelt at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com or Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

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. 17

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.

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.

Weminuche Audubon Society: Nesting Habitats of the American Dipper. 6:30 p.m. Zoom. The focus of our meeting will be a bird that "flies" underwater, the American dipper. Our presenter for the evening will be Stephen Munroe. For more information and the Zoom link to the meeting, view the events tab on our website, www.weminucheaudubon.org.

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Should I DIY?: Three questions to determine if it's best to renovate on your own

Special to The PREVIEW

A do-it-yourself mentality has taken hold in millions of households across the globe. Popular television channels like HGTV and DIY Network as well as accessible home improvement content on apps like YouTube have inspired many homeowners to tackle renovation projects around their homes. Taking such initiative is admirable, though it also can prove costly if homeowners end up biting off more than they can chew.

Home improvement videos and television shows have a tendency to oversimplify renovation projects, potentially giving homeowners a false sense of confidence in their DIY abilities. A concerted effort on the part of homeowners to determine if it's best to renovate on their own or hire a professional

should always be the first step of any renovation project. No two homeowners are the same, but the following three questions can help homeowners determine if DIY is their best option.

1. Can I afford to DIY?

Professional home improvement projects are costly for a variety of reasons. Materials can be costly, but so are the tools and labor necessary to do the job right. Homeowners may not have the tools necessary to complete complicated projects. Specialty tools can be expensive to purchase or even rent, and the cost of acquiring such tools should be included in any DIY project cost estimates. Labor also factors heavily into professional projects, and for good reason. Talented contractors have unique skills that have been developed and perfected

over many years. Those skills can ensure projects are completed quickly and correctly. Labor may seem costly, but such costs may ultimately prove to be a bargain compared to the cost of fixing DIY mistakes. Projects that are minor in scope and don't require the use of potentially costly specialty tools may be better suited for weekend warriors than more complicated renovations.

2. Do I have the time?

Homeowners must determine how much time they have to complete a project before deciding to do it themselves. No one wants to spend months staring at an unfinished renovation project. Homeowners who are already pressed for time may not be able to complete projects in a timely fashion, which can make homes less comfortable and even less safe.

3. Can I pull this off?

DIY projects can instill homeowners with a sense of pride in their homes, but it's imperative that homeowners considering the DIY option conduct an honest assessment of their skills. A lack of renovation experience does not necessarily mean a homeowner cannot successfully complete a DIY project. But in such instances, it may be best to start with small, straightforward projects and then gradually move up to bigger, more complicated projects as skills are fine-tuned. And homeowners who have never been at their best with a hammer in hand should not be ashamed to leave the work to the professionals.

adult-diy. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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 more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Feb. 20

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.

■ See Calendar on next page

Preview Calendar

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Thursday, Feb. 18

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Serving fresh vegetable stir-fry over rice to go at the front doors of the Parish Hall. In addition, frozen prepared meals, meat and other staples are available for those in need. Masks and social distancing are required.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.

Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Friday, Feb. 19

Take and Make DIY: Paper Plants. Facebook. These paper plants will brighten any living space. They are fun to make, but they will also last a long time as a quality addition to your home's decor. You will be able to choose from a variety of cactus and other succulents to make. Supplies and instructions will be made available to pick up at the library on Friday, Feb. 19. Video tutorials will be on Facebook and the library's website at <https://pagosalibrary.org/>

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How to choose the right lighting inside your home

Special to The PREVIEW

Lighting in a home serves both practical and aesthetic purposes. It's easy to maneuver around a well-lit home, reducing the risk of slips and falls, and the right lighting can help homeowners create their desired ambiance, which typically changes depending on which room you're in.

When choosing lighting for their homes, homeowners must walk a fine line between appearance and functionality. A fixture in the foyer that instantly impresses visitors likely won't prove as awe-inspiring if it's installed in the living room. When choosing lighting for a home, some general rules about what works in each room can help homeowners make the most informed decision.

Kitchen

Kitchens are often the busiest room in a home, so lighting here can be especially important. A kitchen often benefits, both practically and aesthetically, from different types of lighting. For example, pendant lighting above kitchen islands can make meal preparation easier and safer, but such lighting likely won't work in breakfast nooks and informal dining areas in the kitchen. Recessed lighting works best in such areas. In kitchens with no island, under-cabinet lighting can be used to illuminate countertops and simplify meal preparation.

Formal dining room

Many people enjoy the look of chandeliers in formal dining rooms, and such fixtures can be

installed directly above the dinner table. The interior design experts at Better Homes & Gardens advise hanging chandeliers roughly 33 inches above the table in dining rooms with 8-foot ceilings, adding 3 inches for each additional foot above 8 feet.

Darkened dining areas may be ideal in restaurants, but homeowners may want to split the difference at home and choose dimmable chandeliers for their dining rooms. This allows homeowners to dim the lights for romantic dinners but turn them up for family gatherings with lots of people around the table.

Living room

Adaptability also is important in the living room, where homeowners may host anything from movie nights to book clubs to parties for the big game. It can be a tall order to accommodate such a wide range of activities, and many homeowners come down to deciding between recessed lighting and track lighting. If the living room currently has neither style, homeowners should recognize that it will cost considerably less to install track lighting than recessed lighting.

Better Homes & Gardens notes that flexible track lighting provides ambient, task or accent lighting, and track lights can even be moved to change lighting schemes at any time, making them a budget-friendly option for homeowners whose living rooms are multipurpose spaces. Recessed lighting also works well in living rooms, especially ones with low ceilings. That's because recessed lighting is

installed into the ceiling, meaning it does not take up any visual space in the room. That can help living rooms feel bigger.

Bedroom

The home improvement experts at BobVila.com note that bedroom lighting should provide enough light when getting dressed, but also be able to be toned down as residents prepare for their bedtime routines. Both portable and installed lighting can be used in bedrooms to serve these various functions. Recessed fixtures that dim can ensure there's ample light to get dressed in the morning, but they also can be dimmed at night as residents try to get ready to sleep. Portable nightstand lights can make it easier for couples sharing a bedroom, allowing one person to stay up and read while the other goes to sleep.

Homeowners have many options and many needs when choosing lighting for their homes. A professional consultation with a lighting expert or interior decorator can help homeowners find lights that provide both practical and aesthetic appeal.

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Preview Calendar

continued from previous page

Monday, Feb. 22

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.

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

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.

Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

GET COOKING WORD SEARCH

S	F	P	B	G	L	H	E	D	A	N	H	M	A	O	C	W	N	H	X
J	C	H	P	A	C	J	T	T	U	K	H	B	A	X	Y	J	S	M	H
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G	X	G	R	H	R	G	H	D	G	W	S	D	P	I	B	D	O	W	E
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A tangible valentine

By Jan Davis
PREVIEW Columnist

Valentine's Day is a special day marked on the calendar to celebrate our deepest love for spouse, family and friends. Reservations to favorite restaurant are made weeks in advance and flowers ordered. For some, a short getaway is planned to escape the day-to-day routine and share hopes and dreams for the future. Phone calls, cards and gifts are exchanged with those who live faraway as an extension of a shared love.

Young hearts choose Feb. 14 to pledge their love to each other. Men fall to one knee and place a ring on the hand of their sweetheart. Surrounded by friends and family, couples exchange wedding vows and unite in marriage.

Yet, when and how do we acknowledge and convey our love to God?

We receive Jesus as our Savior and exchange our tattered heart for a new one. On bended knees, we ask him to forgive us of our sins. We declare our love and commitment to the One who gave his life as a substitute for ours.

He fills the emptiness of our hearts with peace and joy. In a relationship with Christ, we find acceptance, appreciation and fulfillment. We surrender our lives to him, as tangible valentines, and

A Matter of Faith

receive the eternal gift of salvation.

The Bible instructs us to love God with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. We worship him as Lord and accept his plan and purpose. We dedicate our lives to service and bring honor and glory to his name.

Our love is unrestrained, not based on earthly rewards but timeless treasures. We exist to serve Jesus. The Holy Spirit activates our spirit and we become God's hands and feet. We provide food for the hungry, clothes for the needy and shelter for the homeless. Because of his unmerited love shown to us, we extend a hand of friendship to others. These gracious acts of kindness become gifts of love to a hurt and lost world.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." — John 3:16 (NIV).

Because of Jesus, we received the greatest gift of love.

I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

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

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Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

New Thought topic: ‘The Heart of Intuition’

By Lisa Burnson
New Thought Center for
Inspirational Living

“Come from the heart, not the head. When in doubt, choose the heart. There is a balance between the head and the heart. When the intuition rings clear and true, loving impulses are favored.” — Brian Weiss.

All are welcome to join the New Thought Center for Inspirational Living this Sunday, Feb. 14, at 10:30 a.m. for our presentation, “The Heart Of Intuition: A Story of Love, Family and Transition.” Our speaker will be Deni Blaisch, RN, LMT.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and

set up for social distancing.

We will have spirited live music.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. (weather permitting). All are welcome.

Band practice is every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join our band. Please text Bruce at 507-0739 to join or for band information.

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).

Sunday devotionals offered by the Baha’i Faith

By Paulette Heber
Baha’i Community of Archuleta County

The Baha’i Community of Archuleta County hosts weekly devotionals every Sunday morning from 10 to 10:30 via Zoom. All are welcome.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/884668836?pwd=bkdEeVlaSWN0bFRMdFhidXpzWjV5Zz0>, 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 in-

spirational pieces. This Sunday, Feb. 14, our theme is trustworthiness.

“Trustworthiness is the greatest portal leading unto the tranquility and security of the people.” — Baha’u’llah.

The Baha’i Faith is a world religion whose purpose is to unite all people of the world in one universal cause, one common faith.

To learn more about the Baha’i Faith, please visit the official international website of the Baha’i Faith at www.bahai.org. Our local contact is archuletabahais@gmail.com.



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Visiting Angels of SW Colorado Receives 2021 Best of Home Care® – Leader in Excellence Award



Visiting Angels of SW Colorado announced today that it received the distinguished 2021 Best of Home Care — Leader in Excellence Award from Home Care Pulse, the leading firm in quality assurance for home care. The Leader in Excellence Award is the highest recognition awarded by Home Care Pulse and is given to select home care businesses that consistently rank among the very highest in 10 or more quality metrics. As a Leader in Excellence, Visiting Angels is now ranked among the top 10% of home care providers participating in the nationwide Home Care Pulse Satisfaction Management Program.

This accomplishment demonstrates Visiting Angel’s long-term dedication to excellent care and quality improvement. To qualify for this award, 10% of Visiting Angels’ clients and caregivers were interviewed each month by Home Care Pulse. Over a 12-month period, Visiting Angels received high client and caregiver satisfaction ratings in areas such as caregiver training, compassion of caregivers, communication, scheduling, client/caregiver compatibility, etc. Using feedback from clients and employees, as well as quality benchmarks from Home Care Pulse, the Visiting Angels management team set goals to reach the highest level of excellence possible.

“We once again are so proud of our agency, and what hard work it has taken everyone on the team to receive this award, for four years in a row. We know that it takes our clients, our caregivers, and our management staff to achieve this. We are humbled and so appreciative of the level of service displayed to others.” — M Johnson, COO

The Best of Home Care — Leader in Excellence Award highlights the top-performing home care businesses in the nation. Home Care Pulse believes that by honoring these providers, families looking for in-home care for a loved one will be able to recognize and choose a trusted home care provider.

“At Home Care Pulse, our mission is to help home care businesses create an experience that goes beyond client and caregiver expectations,” says Erik Madsen, CEO of Home Care Pulse. “When we see agencies like Visiting Angels that have made an effort to provide outstanding care and employment experiences, we know we’re on the right track. Visiting Angels has worked extremely hard to provide high-quality care and employment, and their work hasn’t gone unnoticed. This award allows them to provide proof of quality to potential and new clients and caregivers.”

To find out more about Visiting Angels commitment to excellence, please visit Visitingangels.com/southwestcolorado or call 970-264-5991.

Visiting Angels of SW Colorado

The agency was founded on core values and principles that focus on excellence and the utmost respect of our clients and caregivers. We believe in higher purpose that compels us to serve others with excellence. We aim to brighten the home and better the health of each client we serve! — Serving the San Luis Valley, Farmington NM, and all of SW Colorado.

About Home Care Pulse

Home Care Pulse is the industry’s leading firm in satisfaction research, quality assurance, and caregiver training. On behalf of home care businesses across North America, Home Care Pulse gathers unbiased satisfaction ratings from clients and caregivers and detailed feedback to ensure the best in-home care possible can be provided. Powerful online reports allow businesses to identify needs and take action to reduce increase satisfaction, reduce caregiver turnover, and address client needs. Home Care Pulse combines detailed client/caregiver insights with top-rated caregiver training through In The Know. For more information, please call Home Care Pulse at (877) 307-8573 or visit homecarepulse.com.

Using a pressure cooker

By Terry Schaaf
PREVIEW Columnist

Did you get an electric pressure cooker, a multi cooker or an Instant Pot gifted to you this year or even last year and haven't taken it out of the box yet? Are you unsure of how to use it or a little afraid of the "pressure"? Let me help you begin to use one of my most favorite kitchen gadgets ever. Please read your appliance manual before you begin. Each appliance is a little different, so please remember it is OK to experiment. If something needs to cook longer, you can always pressure it up again.

If you don't know me, I am Terry Schaaf and I am a Food Safety Master Advisor for Colorado State University (CSU). I love to cook, but I am a super busy mom, a rancher's wife and full-time employee, so I often get home from work and need a hot meal on the table in about an hour. However, I'm not a great meal planner, so usually I haven't thawed out anything. I don't stress; I just get my electric pressure cooker out.

One of my favorite food items to cook in the pressure cooker is pinto beans. Pinto beans without the pressure cooker can take hours or even days to cook here, but in the pressure cooker, they take less than an hour. You want to make sure that you keep fresh beans on hand. These are beans that are less than two years old at most. Their age is determined from when they were harvested. If they are much older than that, they will have dried out too much in our dry climate and may not cook correctly.

When using the pressure cooker, it is important to make sure you have enough water to make the steam. Beans take a lot of water to rehydrate and cook. So, put 1 cup of beans to 3 cups of water in your pot. Add salt before you cook. I have found that adding the salt before cooking will require less salt overall. I add a ham hock or bacon at this time, too. Make sure that you are still below the max fill line in your pot.

Sunday Hispanic ministry offered by Centerpoint Church

By Forrest Bohlen
Centerpoint Church

Centerpoint Church, located at 2750 Cornerstone Drive, offers a weekly Bible teaching and discussion group in Spanish every Sunday morning at 10:15 a.m.

All are welcome. We meet together for worship/singing time with the mother church, then leave when the sermon in English begins to go to

Extension Viewpoints

Check to make sure the seal on your lid is on correctly. Place the lid and the weight on at this time and make sure your weight is set to pressure. Set your pot to pressure for 45 minutes. I have found that pots with a bean setting don't go up to 45 minutes, so I use the manual settings. You are welcome to try the bean setting on your pot first. Like I said before, each pot is different. If they are not done when the timer goes off, you can always pressure them up and cook them a little longer.

You will want to keep an eye on the pot to ensure that it seals correctly when it pressures up. After the timer goes off, let the pot do a natural release for at least 10 minutes. Then you can do a quick release; please read your manual on how to do this safely. There will be lots of steam that comes out, so your pot needs to be placed somewhere where the steam won't damage anything above it, like your cabinets. Don't put anything over the pot like a towel; this may cause your pot to warp.

After the pressure has been removed, it is safe to remove the lid. Always open the lid so the steam is directed away from you. Check your beans to see if they are done; if they aren't quite done, just cook them a little more. I suggest first rinsing your lid with cool water to ensure that no food particles have made their way under your seal or in the vents. Check to make sure that there is still plenty of water; if not, add more and place the lid and weight back on the pot and set the manual timer for how much more time you think you may need; I suggest 5-10 minutes. This second pressure up will take a lot less time than the first.

I use my pressure cooker many

times each week. I not only cook beans, I make mashed potatoes in less than 10 minutes or cook a frozen roast and have it on the table in less than two hours. I also have discovered how to hard cook eggs so they peel perfectly. Check back next week for how I hard cook eggs in my electric pressure cooker. If you would like more help with your pressure cooker or have questions about high-altitude cooking, please give us a call.

4-H'ers collecting pet supplies

During the month of February, Colorado Kids and Shady Pine 4-H Club members are teaming up to gather supplies for the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs and Rugby's Rescue. Drop off new or gently used cat or dog items to Tractor Supply or Chow Down. Items can include but are not limited to: food or water dishes, leashes, toys, beds, old blankets and sheets, kennels, crates, brushes, grooming supplies and cleaning supplies.

CSU Extension office closed

The CSU Extension office will be closed until further notice. Please call to make an appointment, 264-5931.

Visit us on the Web at <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/> or like us on Facebook and get more information: <https://www.facebook.com/CSUARCHCTY>.

CPR and first aid classes

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

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!

The Pagosa Springs
SUN

another room for Bible teaching and discussion in Spanish. We pray together and have periodic times of fellowship.

This Sunday, Feb. 14, we are going to begin a study on marriage and the family called "Discovering Your Place in Marriage." This first session is on "Why do marriages fail?" This is free.

For more information, contact Forrest Bohlen at 731-2205. Come join us.

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By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

Here are some of the fun, educational and social opportunities that you can access through our website this month. There are options for both online Zoom and telephone-only events. There is no need to register in advance. Professional caregiver, family caregiver and other up-to-date information is available.

- Active adult exercise options: tai chi, yoga and ballet — 45-minute sessions of seated and standing exercises.
 - Hear about the lives and careers of the Dave Clark Five, an English rock 'n' roll band formed in 1957 famous for hits including "Glad All Over."
 - "Collage Along" guided exercise and create a Valentine's collage.
 - "Fit Feet" barefoot training and fall reduction with a certified instructor.
 - The arts — theater, music, dance and symphonies.
 - Speakers, sermons and inter-faith dialogue.
 - Lectures, courses, book clubs and discussions.
- You can look through the whole

Senior News

month's offerings on our site. You can also browse and register through Mather's website. Mather provides support to ASI that links our community to its resources and the Chautauqua Institution (CHQ), the esteemed arts and education organization. You can sign up for free for Telephone Topics and can try out CHQ for free for 90 days (no need to provide any credit information for that trial period).

You can learn more about The Community Café, take out and Meals on Wheels reservations, and other ASI programs on 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 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.

■ See Senior on next page

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Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 4 through 25, 2021 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

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Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Back in the day, the narrow-gauge railroad had a branch which ran from Pagosa Junction to Pagosa Springs. The town railroad station was on 8th Street as shown in this photo. One of the buildings remains.

Government treaties and the Utes

During Pagosa Country's pioneer days, relations between the invading whites and the Utes followed a precedent repeated frequently across the North American continent: encroachment by the whites, battles and incidents, the Army called in, treaties, land set aside for the Native Americans, more encroachments, more incidents, more Army intervention, more treaties, etc., etc.

First for the Utes was the Calhoun Treaty of 1850 in which the United States promised to protect the Ute Indians if they would cease raiding in northern New Mexico, recognize U.S. government jurisdiction over their lands, adopt the U.S. government's laws and follow the U.S. government's Indian policies.

The provision allowing the U.S. government to enter the reservation violated the Calhoun Treaty. It is doubtful if the Indians understood this treaty's provisions. No reservation boundaries were de-



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

the Utes in the San Juan Mountains. More about treaties in next week's column.

finer, but rations were distributed in Taos as promised in the treaty. The Taos Agency was established to serve all the Southern Utes, but only the Moache visited Taos for rations.

Slowly, the government shifted its agencies northward in an attempt to control all of the various bands of Utes. Abiquiu was made a Capote Ute Agency, but the Moache Utes also picked up rations there.

Goods were also distributed at Maxwell's ranch near Cimmaron and at Conejos in the San Luis Valley. Finally, in 1863, the government developed a treaty policy for all reservations and located all of

Senior

■ continued from previous page

The Community Café menu

Thursday, Feb. 11 — Pork sole, cilantro lime rice, milk, salad and sopapilla with honey.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Crunchy baked catfish with tartar sauce, sauteed broccolini with garlic and butter, cornbread with butter, milk and salad.

Monday, Feb. 15 — Closed for George Washington's birthday.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Chicken and pork sausage gumbo with

white rice, milk, salad and peach cobbler.

Wednesday, Feb. 17 — Spaghetti with marinara sauce, Swiss chard with lemon and pine nuts, focaccia bread with butter, milk and salad.

Thursday, Feb. 18 — Braised beef short ribs with cauliflower mashed, glazed carrots, dinner roll with butter, milk and salad.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

WORD SCRAMBLE

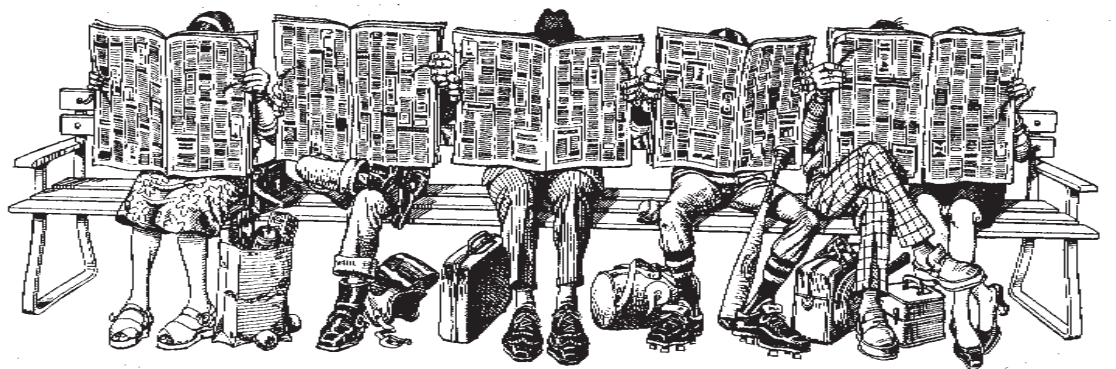
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to slow cooking.

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Answer: Chicken

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San Juan Symphony continues virtual season

Kathy Myrick
San Juan Symphony

During this Essential 35th Season, virtual concerts of the San Juan Symphony have been viewed hundreds of times around the country. We proudly produced two beautiful concert recordings in 2020 that were archived for on-demand viewing, along with many hours of individual videos made by the musicians of our professional regional orchestra.

Website membership options include a \$99 season pass or \$25 weekly access, and currently more than 300 households and 150 students can enjoy access to www.sanjuansymphony.org.

In our next virtual installment, coming up on March 6, at 7:30 p.m., the San Juan Symphony presents “The Joys of Bach and Bologne.” The concert will be recorded in the wonderful acoustics of the Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College; after many months exploring alternate venues, the symphony is thrilled to return to the concert hall for a program of uplifting splendor. The high-definition video and audio recording will be released during a live-streamed event on our website, hosted by music director Thomas Heuser and broadcast from the Rochester Hotel in downtown Durango directly into households everywhere.

The assembled musicians will perform with masks and physical distancing in a reduced ensemble of between 10-15 musicians, in keeping with the organization’s self-imposed safety requirements during the time of COVID.

The symphony is still operating on a concert-by-concert basis, with the fourth and final concert of the season planned for release in mid-May. Details about the season finale will be announced during the upcoming March broadcast.

The program on March 6 includes what is likely the orchestra’s first presentation of music by Joseph Bologne, whose “Second Symphony” will provide an upbeat overture. Also known as the Chevalier de Saint-Georges, Joseph Bologne flourished during the time



Rebecca Ray

of Mozart, but his career has been overlooked for centuries. A virtuoso violinist, composer and a cunning swordsman, Bologne became colonel of the first all-black regiment in Europe during the French Revolution. The complexities of his life story and his experiences overcoming racial discrimination add to our appreciation for his music during a season that has explored a number of black composers.

Another composer receiving her San Juan Symphony debut is Hanna Benn, whose artistic output spans a huge range of genres and styles. As a composer and vocalist, her portfolio includes both pop albums and avant-garde theater projects. Her music is both lyrical and mystical, combining the nuances of medieval chant with the intricate textures of Stravinsky. Benn is highly in demand as a woman composer and composer of color whose voice is incredibly important in the current conversation about inclusivity and diversity in the arts. The symphony will perform Benn’s evocative “Where Springs Not Fail for String Orchestra,” a work from 2015 whose title draws its inspiration from the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins.

Rounding out the program will be the timeless music of Johann Sebastian Bach. The great German composer created countless masterpieces during the Baroque Period and yet his music still contains an astonishing freshness and originality. The symphony will perform his “Concerto for Oboe and Violin in C Minor,” a brilliant work conceived around 1720. The



Lauren Avery Heuser

featured soloists are Rebecca Ray, principal oboist of the San Juan Symphony, and Lauren Avery Heuser, concertmaster of the San Juan Symphony. The two solo parts combine and overlap in fabulous contrapuntal displays, along with a contrasting slow movement of heartfelt lyricism.

Digital access to the San Juan Symphony is available anytime, and purchasing a digital season pass is the single best way to support the symphony in these uncertain times. For complete information, please visit www.sanjuansymphony.org.

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THE SPIRITUAL NATURE OF PROBLEMS ECK Light & Sound Service, go to Meetup.com, find Spiritual Experiences Group of Pagosa Springs, click on the Vimeo link provided on Sunday, February 14, 2021, 10:30a.m. to 12p.m. MST. Free.

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HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM needs LAPTOPS to RECYCLE. Contact Cyndi Figaro at (512)818-7754 or email cfigaro@pagosa.k12.co.us.

ALTERNATIVE NEWS SOURCE: Email documentation@foundationfortruthinlaw.org for document and video links on what is really going on in America.



JABBA: I'm Jabba the Cat, a very sweet fellow who is looking for loyal subjects to adore me. If you want a 10-lb. lap warmer this winter, look no further! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is now accepting Farm to Table bids for our Meal Program. Details on this project and information on how to compose a bid can be found at <https://pagosapeakopenschool.org/meal-program/>. Contact Lexi Bernstein, lberstein@ppos.co with questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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VALENTINE HEARTBEAT DANCE. Saturday, February 13, 7-10p.m. 2 live bands at Best Western, 3505 W. Hwy. 160. Tickets \$20. Silent auction, cash bar. (970)309-6067.

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HELP WANTED

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.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME KITCHEN COOK needed with good culinary skills. Serious inquiries only. Please apply in person with Kevin at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

N. PAGOSA MARATHON (SHELL) gas station hiring for full-time cashier. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND GREENHOUSE 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**.

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.

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/2KdayNI>.

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.

COLORADO ROCK & DIRT is gearing up for the upcoming season. We are hiring for Equipment Operator and Laborer positions. Please send your resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or contact Tracy at (970)759-2074/

SONOCO IS NOW HIRING full or part-time cashier plus store services and maintenance. Requires good customer service and interaction with co-workers. Apply within.

KIP'S GRILL AND CANTINA is looking for hard working, responsible and fun people to join our kitchen staff. Experience preferred. Apply in person.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER will be looking for a Discharge Clerk. The Discharge Clerk performs a variety of clerical tasks related to patient discharge processes. Fills out discharge paperwork this may include use of computer programs and applications, ensuring proper documentation of patient activities, setup follow-up visit if required and collect payments. Performs a variety of tasks. Works under general supervision. A certain degree of creativity and latitude is required. Strong customer service aptitude is required. Applications may be picked up at Pagosa Springs Medical Center or downloaded at 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.

PART-TIME SERVER NEEDED. Must be flexible. Please apply in person with Kevin at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

CLEANERS NEEDED PART TIME, pay is DOE, must have dependable transportation, be reliable, and detailed oriented. Please call (970)560-1892 or email cleanpsco@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

CULTIVATION HELP: Pagosa Therapeutics is looking for entry-level help in our award winning cultivation. Grow helper: This is a full-time position. 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.

PAGOSA LIQUOR HIRING part-time cashier. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME HOUSE/vacation rental cleaning help. Must be reliable, hard working, flexible hours, work weekends and able to drive in the snow. 10-20 hours per week at \$15/ hour. Call Jessica at (330)880-6256.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Current openings are High School Evening Custodian, Elementary School Crossing Guard, Food Service Substitute, Bus Drivers, Substitutes and Custodial Subs. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

CNA CLASS STARTING SOON. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

CLEANERS, UP TO \$15/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

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.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. Looking for Line Cooks, full- and part-time. Hourly based on experience, \$15-\$17 per hour. Come work with Chef Travis. Send Resume to Contact@alleyhousegrille.com. Come see Travis Wednesday- Sunday, 2p.m.-close.

PAGOSA ESCAPE ZONE is looking for a part-time (on call) Game Master to run my 3 themed rooms. This is a super fun side job for \$13 an hour. Applicant MUST have own transportation, be ON TIME, pay attention to detail, maintain a clean and professional appearance, follow COVID safety protocol and have a fun personality. MUST be available to work evenings and weekends. Email resume to: info@pagosaescapezone.com.

HELP WANTED

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS WINE AND LIQUOR hiring part-time clerk. Nights and weekends required. Apply at store. (970)731-5039.

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK is looking for a Teller and Universal Banker. Offering a strong benefit package & career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details & to apply.

FRONT DESK- HEALING WATERS Resort & Spa is looking to add multiple members to its front desk team. Strong customer service skills a must- comfort with computers a plus. Positions may include mornings, days, nights and weekends. Employees receive FREE hot springs admission for you and your immediate family! Download application at www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/ or stop by our office at 317 Hot Springs Blvd. to pick one up.

DEPENDABLE, EXPERIENCED AND MECHANICALLY ORIENTED? This may be the job for you! Do you have mechanical expertise, enjoy troubleshooting and love fresh air? Local business is hiring a manager for 2-3 hours daily and on call. Reliable, self-directed, and pro-active individual will be responsible for daily and weekly equipment checks, refilling of supplies and clean up. After training, be able to service equipment and make needed repairs independently. Mud-Shaver Carwash is hiring, call (970)903-0329 or email info@mudshaver.com. Compensation based on qualifications.

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 SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Radiology Scheduler**. The Radiology Scheduler is responsible for scheduling all radiology, echocardiograms, and holter monitor procedures for Pagosa Springs Medical Center. This position works closely with the Pre-Certification Specialist and Insurance Verification Clerk to ensure fiscal responsibility for the medical center. This is a full-time position with a compensation range of \$14.25-\$16; this full-time position includes paid time off and the opportunity to participate in PSMC's health plan and retirement plan. Applications may be picked up at PSMC's front registration desk, the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

BANK OF COLORADO is hiring for a Teller/ New Accounts. Provides quality customer service. Receives and pays money to bank customers and maintains accurate record keeping of deposits and withdrawals, negotiable instruments, and other bank transactions. Answers phones and assists customers with all bank services. Must be willing to work rotating Saturdays. Full benefits package including health insurance, PTO, and 401K. Apply online at www.bankofcolorado.com.

CAFE COLORADO LOOKING FOR 2 cooks, full time and part time. Call 731-2024 or come by 565 Village Dr.

HELP WANTED

CDL DRIVERS. Drop resume off at 172 Goldmine Dr. (970)585-1021.

CABE'S COLLISION AND CUSTOMS is taking applications for a painter's helper/ shop apprentice. Experience preferred but willing to train a motivated, hard-working individual. Please call to set up an interview (970)731-4600.

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.

SEEDS OF LEARNING is accepting applications for a Fund Development Manager. This position will be responsible for educating our community and donor base regarding the center's mission, value and needs. The FDM will manage relationships with new and existing donors and create opportunities to give through creative media outlets and distinguished fundraising events such as "Dancing with the Pagosa Stars." The position will be 32 hours per week; (4) 8-hour days; \$42,000 per year with \$2,400 insurance stipend. You must reside locally and can work mostly from home. If you are a self-starter with strong communication/organizational skills, a passion for education and aspirations to make a real contribution in a community, we encourage you to contact us and learn more. Seeds of Learning is in Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Contact Lynne Bridges at Seeds of Learning: (970)264-5513 or email Seedsoflearning@growingseeds.org. Must provide resume with experience and/or education.

CONSTRUCTION AND EXCAVATION LABORERS, full time, benefits. Please drop off resume or application at 172 Goldmine Drive. TFI.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Phlebotomist**. The Phlebotomist performs blood collection from patients, some waived standard biological, microbiological and chemical tests in all areas of the medical laboratory. Works under direct technical supervision and performs waived complexity tests in accordance with standards established in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) and/or appropriate agency protocol (COLA). Records and participates in evaluation of Quality Control for tests conducted. Performs all work in accord to the mission, vision and values of Pagosa Springs Medical Center. PSMC's full-time positions include the following benefits: paid time off; health insurance plans with medical, dental and vision; options for Health Savings account (HSA) or Flexible Health Saving account (FSA); and a 401A retirement plan and optional 457 plan. Compensation range for this position is: \$14 to \$17. Applications may be downloaded at www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org or may be picked up at PSMC's front registration desk. Please email applications, resumes or questions to PSMC's HR Director at: mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax 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.

DENTAL ASSISTANT. EXPERIENCE A plus, but not necessary. 3 days a week. King Campbell DDS. Please send resume to mydentalofficechoice@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Patient Registration Clerk**. The Clerk provides administrative support. The clerk will courteously greet all patients in person and on the phone in a timely manner. They are responsible for the accurate and efficient entering of patient information into the Electronic Health Record through the Registration Conversation. They will enter, update or verify patient demographics, insurance and copayments for every encounter. They are responsible for verifying insurance eligibility. They are responsible for collecting and posting insurance copayments and patient payments. This is a part-time position at \$14.25 an hour. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION HELP NEEDED. Reliable transportation required. Excellent pay based on experience. Please call (970)403 5119.

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.

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.

DESIGN A SIGN HIRING. Sign shop experience preferred but not a must. Apply in person Monday-Friday, 57 Majestic Dr. (970)731-3327.

COLORADO ROCK & DIRT EXCAVATION is looking to hire a Class A CDL driver. Please forward your resume to coloradorock08@gmail.com or contact Tracy at (970)759-2074.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

NOW HIRING FOR GENERAL laborers. No experience necessary. Se habla espanol. (918)633-7216.

PART-TIME DENTAL HYGIENIST needed. Work with a great office. Please send resume to King Campbell, DDS. Email mydentalofficechoice@gmail.com.

YARD SALES

STORAGE SALE. WEDDING AND event supplies, dishes, some antiques. Saturday, 13th, 9a.m. Pagosa Springs Mini Storage, #57. Turn onto N. 14th St., off Put Hill, by Precision Granite. Half price at noon.

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264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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I AM LOOKING FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY that would allow me to pay a trespass fee for myself and my grandson to hunt elk with either a muzzleloader or archery equipment for the September 2021 elk season. I'm planning to hunt September 11th-15th. I would also consider paying a hunting guide who would take us on day hunts from our Pagosa Springs apartment rental. (479)459-6255.

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PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

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SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$220/cord. Delivered. Pine, spruce, aspen mix. Also have bundles for \$10. (970)661-3888.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

FOR SALE: KENMORE BLACK refrigerator, \$50. Gas stove/ oven, \$25. Microwave oven, \$15. Dishwasher, \$25. White washer/ dryer, \$50. 3 32x80" bi-fold doors, \$30. 96x120" rug, \$15. Richard (940)825-6422.

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FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Nice dry mix. Split and delivered. Very reasonably priced. (970)317-4933.

BEAUTIFUL BABY CRIB with mattress. Practically new! \$125. Call (970)731-1051 and leave a message.

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ROOM FOR RENT, \$800 includes utilities. Call (970)317-3902.

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CHANCE OF A LIFETIME. Furnished bedroom for rent in a comfortable home. \$600 a month with all utilities included. No smoking or pets. 264-0826.

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PRIME RETAIL AND OFFICE SPACE available next to City Market. 1,150 SF retail and 150 SF 2nd floor office studio space. Contact (970)731-4951.

OFFICE SPACE DOWNTOWN on Main Street. 275 SF. \$430 per month. Utilities and taxes included. Call Jacque at (970)264-4237.

ON SITE RENTALS and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007.

2,000 SQ. FT. SHOP/ INDUSTRIAL space. \$1,800/ month. (970)946-0874.

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE. Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

250 SQ. FT. OFFICE SPACE available. Includes utilities and Internet. \$350/ month. (970)946-0874.

HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

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THRIVING SEASONAL RECREATIONAL RENTAL business for sale. Nets \$100,000 plus in 4 months, June through September. Location available for lease. Possible owner carry option available. 5% buyers agent commission. Email mkbradleytx@gmail.com for details. Asking \$599,000.

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MOBILE HOMES

FOR SALE: COZY HOME in the trees, Aspen Springs 2, 1995 mobile home, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, on 1 acre. Central heat. Purged. Large deck. Utility/ shed/ pump house, cistern. 200 sq. ft. log cabin with electric. \$185,000. Give me a call. Denise (970)946-3034.

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.

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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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.

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READY TO BUILD. APPROXIMATELY 1/4 acre flat mountain view lot on Morro Circle. Just 5 minutes from Hatcher Lake, with all utilities easily available. \$25,000. Call Wayne (970)946-3720.

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.

TREE COVERED BUILDABLE ACRE and a half with utilities available, five minutes from Navajo Lake. \$29,500, possible owner carry. Call Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties (970)903-2817, deb@archuletaproperties.com.

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All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PagosaSUN.com

‘Gun nut’ has a warning

By Brian Sexton
PREVIEW Columnist

When I was a young man growing up in rural Oregon, there was a term for people like me: “gun nut.”

By my 20s, I had a sizable collection of rifles, pistols and shotguns. Some people I knew had a “pre-64” Winchester, a rifle renowned for its quality. Or they had a Browning Auto 5, a beautiful shotgun. A friend had 10 of those in various gauges.

But gun nuts today are a different breed entirely. When they talk about guns, they don’t get into describing graceful lines, tight grain wood or immaculate bluing. At gun stores today what I hear praised is firepower that comes out of black plastic and steel. And these weapons are not for hunting; they’re assault rifles sometimes called “modern sporting guns.” The kind of sport they’re good for is not spelled out.

One of the gun stores I visited recently boasted a back wall lined with assault-style rifles, pistols and defensive shotguns, all black except for a choice few in hot pink “for the ladies.” The staff mostly wore black as well.

Their T-shirts for sale featured some amalgam of the American flag and warnings such as “Don’t tread on me” and an ancient Greek phrase roughly meaning “Come and take them.” Everybody — and I mean staff and other customers — was packing holstered pistols. I felt out of place and time.

In my sleepy Oregon town, sentiments like this don’t stop at a gun store. A trip to the supermarket is not complete without several sightings of men or women packing a pistol on their hip.

It is as if we are living in a fetishized version of the Wild West. Some of these folks probably envision themselves as the white-hat cowboy, a character prepared to defend against marauders.

My town boasts one of the oldest independent newspapers in Oregon, but the readership is a quarter that of the Facebook page for the local police scanner. Every crime committed is conveniently pinged to each follower’s cell, providing a steady feed of this world’s ills. But when we see the world through a lens of fear, it is no wonder that we look at our neighbors with suspicion. Maybe that explains the amazing statistic last year from Axios.com that “an

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estimated 5 million Americans bought their first gun.”

Dana Loesch, the former spokeswoman for the bankrupt National Rifle Association, talked about this free-floating fear: “The government has proven it cannot keep us safe, yet some people want to disarm all of us.”

This new group of men and women who wear guns as political statements apparently no longer experience weapons as tools for hunting or for sport. Even claims of defense are suspect. What type of threat necessitates military firepower? Somehow, guns have become identified as symbolizing freedom, individuality or just plain cantankerousness. It makes me miss the old days when a gun was just a tool — albeit sometimes a beautifully crafted one.

The irony of the modern gun movement is that a take-no-prisoner stance on gun rights might just turn into a groundswell of support for tighter regulations of guns. But when the patriots start to lose gun nuts like me, they teeter on the brink of irrelevance.

Meanwhile, as the FBI cracks down on extremists who like to brag about their weapons on social media, we could be looking at more outbreaks of violence. LaVoy

Finicum, who was killed by the FBI during the Malheur Refuge occupation in Oregon, seems to have become a martyr. Kyle Rittenhouse, the young man charged in the slaying of two civil rights protesters, has even developed a cult-like following.

The so-called patriots of today risk the very rights they’ve pledged to uphold with their lives. I know it’s a far less exciting thing to promote, but what makes America great is getting things done by talking and compromising.

I do not own an AR-15 and, depending on my mood, I can make an argument both for and against further regulations. After all, is my favorite deer rifle any less deadly than the scariest-looking assault weapon?

But on Jan. 6 at the Capitol, as I witnessed some of my countrymen threaten to use their weapons against our government, I found regulations more appealing.

It may be tedious to take part in politics on the level of reading about issues and engaging with people, but so far, that’s what makes America the best place to live. If I had to come up with a T-shirt slogan about a weapon, it wouldn’t be a threat, a warning or a brag. How about: A gun is just a gun.

Brian Sexton is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, a nonprofit opinion service dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He hunts, fishes and writes in rural Oregon.



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