



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 113 — NO. 32, THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021

Firefighter appreciation awards Steve Voorhis named Firefighter of the Year

Pagosa Fire Protection District

Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) members vote annually for their peers to determine who receive recognition. This year, the following firefighters received the honor of being selected by their peers to receive awards:

- Firefighter of the Year — Steve Voorhis.
- Rookie of the Year — Whitney Peterson.
- Officer of the Year — Capt. Marvin Johnson.

Additional recognition is given from the staff to volunteer firefighters for their dedication in specific areas. This year, Sam Prunzman received the Training Award for his dedication to constant learning. Anthony Ferguson received the Public Education Award for his commitment to educating our community.

Special recognition was given to firefighter Steve Voorhis for his 40 years of service with the PFPD. Voorhis is an active member, participating in all aspects of structure fire, wildland fire and training. His knowledge, peer leadership and guidance has helped protect our community in unmeasurable ways.

The PFPD, through its members, is devoted to our community. The pride for the department and its community members shows, not only when a call for assistance goes out, but is a constant, never failing those who need it.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Fire Protection District

Steve Voorhis has been selected as the Pagosa Fire Protection District's Firefighter of the Year by his peers. An active member of the department, Voorhis was acknowledged for his 40 years of service as well as his knowledge, leadership and guidance in protecting our community.

County working to resolve landfill deficiencies identified by state

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Archuleta County's landfill will be undergoing some maintenance in order to be brought back into compliance with state regulations.

At a regular meeting held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on April 6, the board ratified of the chairman's signature on Compliance Order on Consent No. 21-00-00-01 with the

■ See Landfill A8

Fiber cut affects Internet, phone service Causes meeting cancellation

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

An area fiber cut left Pagosa Springs with little connectivity Tuesday.

According to the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office, the cut occurred in Bayfield Tuesday morning.

The cut, the office indicates on its Facebook page, affected Century-Link, Zito, Visionary Internet and downgraded cellphone services.

According to Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center Emergency Communications Director Kati Harr, Archuleta County Combined Dispatch activated its continuity of operations plan to receive 911 calls during the cut, with 911 calls rolled to the Durango/La Plata Emergency Communications Center.

■ See Fiber A9

Town to meet with marijuana license stakeholders

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council will be looking to stakeholders to determine what should be done about marijuana licensing and various contingencies associated with it following a decision at a regular meeting on April 22.

Town council had previously discussed the idea of a possible moratorium on marijuana licensing and cultivation rules during a meeting on April 6.

Currently, the town has a "70/30 rule" in place which requires that a minimum of 70 percent of the prod-

■ See Marijuana A8



Photos courtesy Rugby's Rescue House of Pagosa Springs

Rugby's Rescue House of Pagosa Springs founder Amy Wilson is seeking volunteers help to fundraise and find permanent and foster homes in her quest to save and rehome stray dogs. Below: One of Wilson's rescue dogs with her puppies.

101 and counting: Rugby's Rescue House works to save and rehome stray dogs

By Joe Napolitan
Staff Writer

Since its establishment in 2019, Rugby's Rescue House of Pagosa Springs has been working tirelessly to save and rehome stray dogs from area Native American reservations.

Founder Amy Wilson and her team recently passed a significant milestone in their mission to "rescue, save, and repeat."

"Since I officially started the rescue, we have successfully saved 101 dogs to date. That's transferring 11 dogs to other Colorado rescues and 90 dogs adopted out directly through Rugby's Rescue House," Wilson explained on April 20. "With six to eight foster families, that number could easily double."

Wilson shared that as a new nonprofit amidst a pandemic, she has faced difficulties finding foster homes,

■ See Rescue A8



School-age individuals account for 23 percent of April COVID cases

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On April 16, Archuleta School District had recorded 90 cumulative cases of confirmed COVID-19 cases among its staff and students, according to Superintendent Dr. Kym LeBlanc-Esparza.

By April 28, she noted, that figure had increased to 116.

According to San Juan Basin Pub-

lic Health (SJBPH), in the month of April, 33 cases fell into the 5-18 age range in Archuleta County, meaning 23 percent of the 145 total cases thus far on the month have been school-age children.

As of Tuesday, about 150 high school students were out for either testing positive or quarantining, LeBlanc-Esparza explained, though

■ See COVID A9

County looks at forming health district study group

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) is continuing to explore alternative health district options.

At a work session held on April 27, the BoCC discussed the formation of a study group for a county health district.

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf explained that part of the reason for forming the group is "to see what the ability is of starting our own health district in Archuleta County."

County Administrator Scott Wall explained that applications will be sent to those who express interest in joining the group once it is formally adopted.

Commissioner Ronnie Maez clarified that the formation of the group is strictly for "investigative" purposes.

He added that the county needs to perform its due diligence to "see

if there's something better out there for our citizens."

The BoCC has previously expressed interest in leaving San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH), which has served La Plata and Archuleta counties since 1949, to join the Silver Thread Health District.

The Silver Thread Health District currently serves Hinsdale and Mineral counties.

Now, the BoCC is considering creating its own health district.

In a later interview, Maez explained that all options are still on the table.

He mentioned that SJBPH may increase its fees for the county and that there may be a better option out there.

Maez added that with the formation of this group, the county will hopefully gain sufficient information on which health district option will be in the best interest of the citizens of Archuleta County.

clayton@pagosasun.com

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Letters

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

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

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

'Find the solution'

Dear Editor:
We are residents here in Archuleta county as our family is 5th generation in the area.

We are owners of one short term rental in Archuleta and are proud to help support businesses and tourism in the community. Everyone has rights to opinion's and everyone has rights to choose what to do with their properties. If you choose to purchase a property in PLPOA you choose to follow those rules. If you choose to move to Pagosa then you choose to move to a vacation community. The county is trying to mandate rules that take away from property values and rights that are within the laws of owners.

Pagosa like every other town in America should stop trying to stop progress, vacation rentals are an option that today's vacationers choose. As a vacation professional I know that in today's culture the everyday vacationer sometimes chooses a larger more private place to stay then a hotel. Bottom line is a quality family vacation. Some want hotel room service others want private homes. We personally would avoid any town that did not offer a choice of accommodations.

Understanding like all businesses, there will be short term rentals businesses that are not managed properly, why are those of us following the rules and manage our guests and noise being jeopardized?

The county has increased fees without justifying why? Collect fees from those that don't pay, don't hurt those who follow the rules.

A concern that I have expressed and received no answer is where are all the occupancy fees that our guest are paying? everyone needs information, this effects all regardless of which side of the discussion you are on. Our rental has had 8 stays since December 2020 and have collected and paid to the county \$1111.00. That is a lot of money where is it and how is it being spent?

Pagosa has not been ruined by developers, they have helped our economy.

In 1987 I started working for the developer on the hill known as Fairfield Communities. At that time the county and some residents decided to try to fight the development and said that the development was going to ruin Pagosa Springs... guess what they did not ruin it, it helped.

Subway came to Pagosa it was the first chain restaurant to come to Pagosa Springs, the town said that it was going to ruin Pagosa restaurant business guess what it has not....

Remember Lou and Mary Jo Poma opened the Sears store and the county said Sears was going to ruin Pagosa It did not....

When Walmart was wanting to come in and the county thought it was going to ruin Pagosa and Bob Goodman said let them come I will just stop selling men's underwear.

Hotel owners should take a lesson from Bob, adapt to the current times and be successful.

Some Pagosa government is trying to mandate and discourage growth and success for small business. There is a solution lets work together and find the solution.

Jacque and Joe Fahrion

'Stop fighting one another'

Dear Editor:

I have watched with dismay as our nation seems to be pulling itself apart. I have not been able to comprehend the degree of animosity which can leave relationships severed over political ideology. I have shuddered at the hatred expressed in these pages of the Sun. Until now, I have had no clear lens through which to see. My eyes were opened by an article by Nate Cohn published in the New York Times on April 19 entitled "Why Political Sectarianism Is a Growing Threat to American Democracy." It cites recent polling as well as an article appearing in Science in October by 16 prominent political scientists.

Sectarianism is a term most commonly used to describe religious animosity - think the Sunnis and Shia in Iraq. We don't think of it in the context of American democracy. However, the divide between the parties has moved beyond differences over issues to a more dangerous, personal level. A CBS News poll conducted in January revealed that "More than half of Republicans and more than 40%

of Democrats tend to think of the other party as 'enemies,' rather than 'political opponents.'" And not just enemies, but "alien and immoral" ones. Members of both parties tell pollsters they would not want their child to marry someone of the opposing party. We no longer just disagree; we dislike one another.

America is changing: "Non-Hispanic whites are projected to become the minority sometime in the middle of the century. People with a four-year college degree could become a majority of voters even sooner. Religiosity is declining." "The two parties have not only become more ideologically polarized - they have simultaneously sorted along racial, religious, educational, generational, and geographic lines."

Sectarian conflicts often arise when a minority perceives itself as under the rule of a "hostile, alien rival" which they cannot abide. Battle lines are forming between "white, Christian conservatives and a liberal, multiracial, secular elite." History tells us that, if left unresolved, sectarianism can lead to insurgency, civil war, and even partition. "One-third of Republicans say they would support secession in a recent poll, along with one-fifth of Democrats. One-third of Americans believe that violence could be justified to achieve political objectives."

Friends, where are we going with this? Are we destined to live in gated communities of Republicans and Democrats, walled off from one another like the Israelis and Palestinians? Please remember that words matter. They're not called "fighting words" for nothing. We've recently celebrated Earth Day. Perhaps it is time to stop fighting one another and turn our attention to the planet that sustains us all.

Karen LeCour


2020 election

Dear Editor:

Why is it that we continue to have this unrelenting mantra that our 2020 election was fair and square, safe, secure, blah, blah, blah, yet also continue to have the same people coming unglued when such things as forensic audits of all the ballots in the swing states such as Arizona are pushed? Why were

See Letters A4

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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e-mail:
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All letters must:

be 500 words or less

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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Obituaries

Meryle Jo Mason Backus

Meryle Jo Mason Backus, 67, daughter of Charles William "Bill" Mason and Wanda Louise "Myke" Rusling Mason, embarked on life's last great adventure on March 29 in Mesa, Ariz., after a long and courageous battle with cancer.



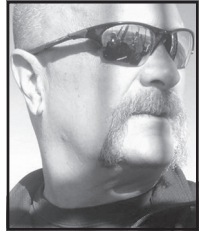
Meryle entered life on March 2, 1954, in Port Arthur, Texas. She was in such a hurry that she gave her parents barely enough time to get to the hospital before she arrived. It was the beginning of a pattern of jumping into life with enthusiasm. She walked at six months, swam soon after, graduated early in 1971 from Friday Harbor High School in Washington state and, at age 17, went to college in Hawaii. While working at Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska, she met the love of her life, James "Jim" Backus, whom she married in 1972. In 1974, they welcomed their first son and over the next 10 years joyfully added five more sons to their family. Her sons grew into men of whom she was very proud and for whom she was very grateful. Meryle and Jim worked together to raise their family, build successful, multistate businesses and a beautiful home in Pagosa Springs, Colo. Meryle was active in her community and her church, sharing her many talents

and providing countless hours of service to help lift the hearts of others. The unconditional love she freely gave to her friends and, especially, her family is an example and a comfort to each of them.

Meryle is survived by her husband of 48 years, Jim Backus; her sons Troy (Emily) Backus, Adam Backus, Jeremy Backus, Trent Backus, Cody (Katie) Backus and Connor (Jen) Backus; her father, Bill Mason; her sisters, Mykel Mason and Johnda (Nick) Smith; nine beloved grandchildren; many brothers and sisters-in law; and nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her mother and brother. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Bradley Norman Clarke

Bradley Norman Clarke was called home to Jesus on April 21 at the age of 63. Brad is preceded in death by his father, Kenneth.



He is survived by his mother, Phyllis; his beloved wife, Lisa; sons Brett and Daniel; daughters Hannah and Rachel; brother Scott; sister Kristine; grandson Chase; and many loved nieces and nephews.

Brad was the most astounding man imaginable. He had an inconceivable sense of humor that captivated everyone he met. He was a man of God, genuine, non-

judgmental, nurturing, caring and supportive. He gave all of himself, his laughter, his love, his strength and commitment to others. His light will forever shine down upon us.

"For God so loved the world, he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." — John 3:16

A memorial of life celebration will be held Sunday, May 2, at the Ross Aragon Community Center from 2 to 6 p.m., 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Elizabeth 'Beth' Darroch Coggins

Elizabeth "Beth" Darroch Coggins, 62, of Prosper, Texas, passed away on April 13, surrounded by family, following a 17-month battle with colon cancer.



Beth was born in Minden, Neb., on Nov. 25, 1958, to the Rev. and Mrs. James P. Darroch. At the time, the Rev. Darroch was serving as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Axtell, Neb.

Beth graduated from Haddon Township High School, Haddon Township, N.J., in 1977. In 1981, Beth earned a BS in home economics education from Hood College in Frederick, Md.

Beth married Lt. Kenneth "KC" Coggins, USN, on July 25, 1987.

The couple was married by the bride's father at Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church in Audubon, N.J., where the Rev. Darroch was the pastor.

After college, Beth worked as a home economics teacher before transitioning to industry as a trainer for an insurance company and a defense contractor. She met her future husband in Athens, Greece, in December 1985 when both were there on business.

Beth was the perfect Navy wife, able to juggle the demands of raising children and managing a household, single-handedly, while her husband was deployed. Over 33 years of marriage, the couple lived in four countries and six states. Beth stayed home until her youngest started school and then substitute taught at her daughters' schools. Once her eldest daughter started college, Beth returned to the classroom on a full-time basis and served as a special education teacher at Griffin Middle School in The Colony, Texas. She returned to substitute teaching, this in time in Prosper, Texas, when her daughters had finished college.

Beth was an active member of many military spouse organizations during Navy, NATO and embassy assignments in the U.S. and Europe. She was a very talented knitter and attended many seminars to constantly sharpen her skills. During overseas assignments, Beth enjoyed acquiring many unique and distinctive decorations and furnishings for the family home.

In 2017, Beth and family purchased... See Obituaries A5

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Letters

Continued from A3

over 70 Democratic attorneys recently sent to Arizona to file a court motion to stop the audit of such a "fair and safe" election? They temporarily accomplished their agenda, but were required to file a million dollar bond to assure that any additional audit costs due to delay would be covered. So, what did they do? They didn't file the bond. Why, with such "safe and secure" election results they so adamantly assure the rest of us having taken place?

You would think that if the Democrats actually believed what they constantly mouth about the integrity of our 2020 elections, that they would bend over backwards to support proving what they scream at the top of their lungs as truth. However, they don't do that. They do just the opposite. Instead of proving their beliefs beyond talk, they are actually attacking anyone who dares to want evidence that our elections were fair and secure, despite their own previous condemnation of voting machine security.

Anyone who actually took any time to research the revealed evidence of the November 3rd and beyond election antics would know full well that there were not just one or two strange events that took place, but dozens, including complete disregard for law, and mathematically impossible data streams proving beyond any doubt at all that foreign computer-rigged election results materialized, (all IP's tracked and identified), with countless Democrats facilitating that fraud.

Of course, no real American wants to believe that something like a stolen election could take place in America, let alone condone and even defend and support such a theft, but unfortunately, we have this in our midst, and many don't seem to care that getting to the bottom of the evidence is of vital importance for this Republic's very survival going forward.

For all those listening to Democrat insistence that the 2020 election was totally fair, secure and truly represented the will of the American

people, I simply lay one challenge at your feet... search for the two following videos titled "Absolute Proof" and "Absolute Interference" by Mike Lindell, and watch them all the way through. Any fair-minded American who loves this country, the truth, and rule of law would not fear examining all the evidence presented, and then make an informed decision rather than attack the very notion that there could be such cheating Americans who would commit such crimes against us all. What if it is true?

If you can watch both of those documentaries and still have no serious reservations about what took place, and you still believe the election was fair and true, then prove the material wrong and convince the rest of us.

Jeff Maehr

Preserve what's left of quality of life

Dear Editor:

In regard to recent Short-Term Rental (STR) proposals, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) decisions seem to be in favor of the all mighty dollar and not about the quality of life for full time residents of Archuleta county. Let that sink in for a moment. (Pause). Residential neighborhoods now have commercial operations in their mist, no neighbors anymore, not a residential home next door but a "public accommodation", a business, with rotating occupants. Where's the neighborhood quality in that? Where's the sense of community in that? Who is my neighbor? That's not the quality of lifestyle most of us desired as we've made Pagosa our home.

So why does it seem the BoCC feels the need to accommodate STR folks who aren't "owner occupied" STR locations? In a sense, you're being pushed and cajoled by a bunch of business folks wanting to make their bucks at the expense of deteriorating our neighborhoods.

Do you really think people will stop coming to Pagosa because they have to stay in a motel verses a rental house? Limit the density of STR's, help the motel business, heck build more motel accommodations, and maybe folks will still visit Pagosa, maybe they'll eat out more at our local restaurants and we can preserve what's left of our neighborhood quality of life.

Richard Ray

'Sincerely hope you will feel our fears'

Dear Editor:

We've lived in Pagosa Springs, on and off, since 1998,

We've lived in single home communities, with and without a gate.

We came for the serenity, the beauty, the small town feeling,

But now, what's happened, STRs are exploding and we're feeling

The noise, the trash, the ignoring of rules,

Is it all about money, are we becoming fools?

And what about the young workers who have their needs and wants?

And supply us with groceries, and entertainment and good restaurants.

Who's more important, locals that live here and try to survive?

Or often non resident investors who have Short term rentals and thrive.

Pagosa is a magical small town with small town hopes and dreams,

The quest for money and profit should not be the goal it would seem.

If we are not careful and don't enforce limits now, we will shortly see,

The end results of desperation, frustration, and near or complete poverty.

We love Pagosa and the way of life we have loved in the past,

But we are seeing it changing, going downhill so fast.

Please, please, please help us maintain our desired residential life,

Please, please, please preserve

our need for lack of strife.

Young people, retirees, old people and visitors who love our town,

Can support motels, restaurants and permanent businesses around.

Please enforce the documented intent to "preserve community character and encourage more equal distribution of vacation rentals throughout our county."

"Vacation Rentals shall not exceed a number equal to 5% percent of the total number of lots."

...The 5 percent rule also applies to condominiums and town-home complexes."

My husband, two service dogs and I live in Whispering Pines and sincerely hope you will feel our fears. We are permanent residents, who value the power of local government, and hope that as citizens our concerns will be heard and given respect.

Jacqui and Russell Widener

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Obituaries

Continued from A4

chased Green Briar Ranch off North Pagosa Boulevard as a second home and family vacation magnet. Beth loved getting away to Pagosa Springs and enjoyed nothing more than knitting in front of the fire and looking at the exquisite view of the San Juans. She especially enjoyed hosting family and friends to Green Briar Ranch, and exposing them to new adventures such as snowmobiling on Wolf Creek Pass or walking along the Piedra River canyon. Beth enjoyed a last trip to Pagosa Springs during the final three weeks of her life.

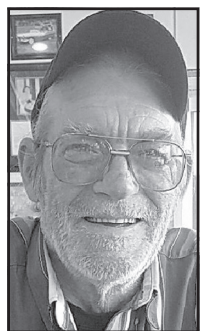
Beth is survived by: husband CDR Kenneth C. Coggins, USN (Ret.), of Prosper, Texas; daughter Kristina and husband Dan Heck, of Colorado Springs; daughter Julie and husband Lt. Tom Dunlap, USN, of Virginia Beach; brother Doug Darroch and wife Tracee, of Shamong, N.J.; brother Greg, of Westlake, Ohio; and sister Alison and husband Rick Schwarz, of Mount Laurel, N.J.

A Celebration of Life service is planned June 26 at 1 p.m. at Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church in Audubon, N.J. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to "Fight Colorectal Cancer" at <https://champions-of-hope.funraise.org/>. In the "Donate to" drop-down menu, select "Research Support." Online condolence messages can be posted to: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/10153781>.

George C. Miller

April 28, 1949-April 25

George C. Miller, 71, longtime resident of Pagosa Springs, passed away suddenly at home surrounded with love of family and friends after unexpected medical conditions, just short of his 72nd birthday.



George was born in Kremmling, Colo., to Harold and Esther Miller. George attended school at West Grand in Kremmling, Colo. George was a part of the bowling team and manager of the basketball team. George was a member of the Boy Scouts that encouraged his love for the outdoors and adventure. He spent his free time modifying bicycles and his passion for motorcycles was born. George, being the avid tinkerer, learned multiple trades including welding, mechanics and logging. After school, he went off to be part of the trucking community alongside Harold and family. George met Lona in 1972, when his brother had a date with Lona but couldn't make it, so asked George to take Lona out and a relationship started and, soon after, their family began. The family moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 1980, with his parents Harold and Esther Miller.

After many years of various jobs, he retired and kept busy paddling around his yard or at the lake. George loved to travel and explore new and "secret" fishing holes.

George is survived by life partner Lona Anderson (Pagosa); daughter Geri Montoya (Mesa, Ariz.); and son Bob Miller (Pagosa); his brother, Wayne (Coleen) Miller (Kremmling, Colo.); sisters Kathy Miller (Woodbridge, Va.) and Lorrie Ahlswede (Colorado Springs, Colo.). He was blessed in life with two granddaughters, Mikkia Miller-Montoya (Colorado) and Miranda (Brian) Welling (Eagle Mountain, Utah). George has been reunited with his parents, Harold and Esther Miller, and various family and friends.

A celebration of George's life is being planned by the family for this summer.

William Marvin Whittington

Sept. 11, 1949-April 23

Bill Whittington, son, husband, father, brother, uncle, mentor, confidant and friend, was born in Lubbock, Texas, as his hometown of Tucumcari, N.M., did not have medical facilities. Bill died in Arizona.



William "Bill" Whittington is survived by his wife of nearly nine years, Tricia Lynn (Lopez); his brother Reginald "Don" and his wife Sheri; as well as his sister-in-law, Lillian. He is further survived by his son, Scott, and daughter-in-law Jennifer, their children, William, Reilly and Hudson; as well as his daughter, Nerissa, and son-in-law, James, their son, Bolden Lee; and his grandchildren, Cristobal, Jay and Paloma; as well as his stepson, David. Bill is survived also by his multiple nieces and nephews that he loved like his own children: Jennifer, Stephanie and Reginald Jr., RD, Dale Jr. and Blake, Michael, LeeAna, and Isaac Lopez. Bill was preceded in death by his youngest brother, Jay Patrick, his younger brother, Dale Lindsey, his father Reginald "R. D." Whittington, his mother, Donna Jean (Lindsey), and his daughter, Keely, as well as his grandson, John Lee Massengale.

Victim of a car theft as a sleeping baby in the vehicle, his parents relocated to Farmington, N.M., to begin car dealerships. Moving to Kona, Hawaii, at 16 and then to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to graduate from high school, Bill and his family began selling motor homes then recreational vehicles with proceeds from the sale of his Ford Mustang when departing Hawaii. The recreational vehicle business grew into the largest dealership in South Florida, with national recognition for Airstream sales. Bill collaborated with Pace Arrow on vehicle designs, including the popular Boulder line. After borrowing a friend's planes to learn to fly in Farmington, N.M., in his youth, Bill continued to see the possibilities of personal aircraft and began an FBO in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla: World Jet, which his older brother Don took over in the '80s. Also in the '80s, Bill purchased a fledgling mobile home retirement community with his close friend, Gary Levitz, and began developing the property into a high-end community for seniors in Orlando, Fla., renaming it Gulfstream Harbor. Bill's younger brother, Dale, took over this project in the '80s as they grew to include apartments, townhomes as well as golf and tennis clubs.

Bill relocated with his former wife and daughters to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 1992 to live on a friend's ranch and work on agricultural endeavors, living out his cowboy dreams. Consulting with his younger brother, Dale, on development and real estate projects, Bill often traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., to assist his son, Scott, and cousin Richard on building rehabilitation of Dale's assets. Bill traveled extensively throughout the southwest, but always felt most at home at what became his daughter's ranch in Pagosa Springs.

In 2004, his daughters purchased The Springs Resort and began a long-term development plan in which they enlisted their father's experience, and God's guidance to create a sustainable plan, including Colorado's first Gold LEED hotel property, in Pagosa Springs.

Bill was an adventurer and loved all things fast, likely inherited from his race car-driving father Reginald "R.D." Whittington. Bill raced motorcycles, planes, cars, razors/UTVs, trucks and the occasional boat. He and his older brother, Don, purchased Road Atlanta as an investment and practice track for their IMSA careers after they partnered with Klaus Ludwig in winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1979. Bill and Don won several air races in Reno, Nev., in the 1970s. Bill, Don and Dale are the only three brothers to start the Indianapolis 500, in 1982. In the early 2000s, he raced motocross with his friends and more recently raced Baja and other Mexican endurance tracks on razors/UTVs.

Bill was saved in the 1980s, a joy to his mother, Donna Jean. Throughout his life, he professed his love of Christ who saved his soul and gave him peace. He was the bearer of Bibles to those in need and those who he knew needed to hear the truth of Christ. Bill supported missionaries, built churches in India, supported Prison Ministries, the Navigators, the Gideons, Samaritan's Purse, hosted church leadership retreats, delivered food and water to the homeless with his wife, Tricia, and countless other works and people dedicated to serving as Christ served. Bill also studied the Bible daily. He sent out messages to friends and family on a regular, if not daily, basis, his last poignant for those who will forever remember him: "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." — Ephesians 6:11 (NKJV).

In lieu of flowers, please feel free to send donations in memoriam to an organization promoting the love of Christ such as Samaritan's Purse, The Gideons or Prison Fellowship.

Roy 'J.R.' Williams

Born Aug. 9, 1922, to a Texas minister/sharecropper and a former one-room teacher, Judson Roy "J.R." Williams was the sixth of eight children.



During the Depression, the family rode in the back of their truck to work in the canneries of California, but eventually returned to rural Donley County, Texas, where he met Margaret Jean Leathers. She fell for him when he sang "Beautiful Dreamer" in a high school quartet. They married in 1943 while he was serving in WWII. He lost two brothers in that war and a third was held for months in a Nazi camp. After his service, he obtained a degree in education. J.R. also received his master's degree and his administrative certificate. He taught high school and college Spanish and was a basketball coach in Colorado, Texas and Arizona. He served as a

principal in Pagosa Springs, Colo., Red Mesa Arizona High School, and taught many history and civics classes. He fervently valued democracy and civil rights. He was drawn to the underdog. As an educator, he sought fairness. Always a keen sports fan, J.R. was known to write letters to the NFL and NBA about his views on referee calls. He owned and operated health food stores in Durango and New Mexico. Quick-witted and charming, he worked at the Mesa Verde Museum, the Colorado Welcome Center, looked after his bird feeders, set lofty goals for his questionable carpentry skills, and talked politics. He lived near Dove Creek, Colo., where he began his teaching career. In his last years, J.R. replaced "thank you" with "bless you." He was a blessing to multitudes of students who benefited from his confidence in the worth of a good education and a strong work ethic. Mr. Williams is survived by his son, Jan, and his daughter, Sharon McAnear. He is also survived by his granddaughter, Jaylyn Richards, and his grandsons, Joshua, Jeremy, Gabriel and Daniel Tate, as well as 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his dear wife, Jean, and his loving son, Jay. He died April 24 at Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango, Colo.; graveside services are pending at the Kline Cemetery.



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Business

County unemployment rate continues to drop

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

According to an April 16 press release from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, the county's unemployment rate for the month of March is listed at 6.1 percent.

This is a slight decline from February's rate of 6.5 percent. The county's unemployment rate for January was 6.8 percent.

Archuleta County's labor force for March was listed at 7,092, with 430 listed as unemployed.

According to the press release, Archuleta County's unemployment rate in March 2020 was 6.2 percent, with a labor force of 6,565 and 407 listed as unemployed.

County-level unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

The state unemployment rate for March 2020 was listed at 5 percent.

According to the press release, the county with the highest unemployment rate for March is Huerfano County at 9.8 percent, followed by Las Animas County

at 8.9 percent, Pueblo County at 8.7 percent, Fremont County at 8.4 percent and Rio Grande at 7.7 percent.

La Plata County's unemployment rate for March is listed at 6.5 percent.

The state's labor force grew by 5,800 in March, bringing the total labor force to 3,188,500.

According to the press release, the state unemployment rate for March was listed at 6.4 percent.

The press release states, "According to the survey of households, Colorado's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was flat in March, matching the revised February rate of 6.4 percent. During the same period, the national unemployment rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point to 6.0 percent."

According to the press release, 6,600 nonfarm payroll jobs were added in March across the state, for a total of 2,672,800 jobs.

Nonfarm payroll jobs measure the number of workers excluding farmers.

Private-sector nonfarm payroll jobs also increased by 5,800, and

800 government jobs were added.

According to the press release, Colorado has gained back 229,600 of the 375,800 nonfarm payroll jobs that were lost between February and April 2020.

This translates into a job recovery rate of 61.1 percent, "which slightly lags the U.S. rate of 62.4 percent," the press release states.

Private-industry sectors with significant job gains in March included:

- Professional and businesses services at about 3,300.
- Trade, transportation and utilities at about 1,300.
- Education and health services at about 1,100.
- Other services at about 1,000.

In regard to significant private-sector job losses in March, the press release indicates about 1,100 jobs were lost in leisure and hospitality.

"Since March 2020, nonfarm payroll jobs have decreased 133,900, with losses totaling 107,800 in the private sector and 26,100 in government," the press release states.

Since March 2020, the largest private-sector job losses included:

• Leisure and hospitality at about 61,900.

• Education and health services at about 10,300.

• Professional and business services at about 7,900.

During that same period, roughly 4,900 jobs were added in trade, transportation and utilities.

Colorado's rate of job loss over the past year is listed at -4.8 percent, while the U.S. rate of job loss is listed at -4.5 percent, according to the press release.

According to the press release, "Over the year, the average work-week for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.4 to 33.0 hours."

Meanwhile, "Average hourly earnings rose from \$31.01 to \$31.30, approximately a dollar and thirty cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$29.96."

For more detailed information and graphs, visit <https://www.colmigateway.com/vosnet/lmi/default.aspx>.

The April Colorado Employment Situation will be released on May 21. clayton@pagosahun.com

Events planned to help clean up community

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

Looking to spring clean at your business? There are several events coming up that will help you achieve that goal. Shred your sensitive documents that are taking up space on Tuesday, May 4, at Shred Day, hosted by Archuleta County 4-H.

On May 4 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the downtown TBK Bank parking lot, you can bring up to three boxes of papers to be shredded. Please try to take out clips and rubber bands. There is no registration needed and each box is \$5.

Get rid of old tax returns, payroll sheets or timecards, bank documents and other sensitive data that you no longer are required

to keep for tax purposes and that are taking up space. This service is open not just to businesses; it is open to the public at large. Clean out your home office or business office, and protect your identity and shred old documents. For more information about shredding documents, contact the Archuleta County Extension office at (970) 264-5931.

The other spring cleaning event will be held Saturday, May 8, and is sponsored by the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County. Community Clean Up Day encourages all to clean up their areas around their business and in the community we live in. This is a good time to get staff together and either work on your area of the community to plant, pick up or spruce up or adopt another area

in town where you can contribute some sweat equity.

Perhaps the groups that have a portion of the highway adopted can get out that day and do their pick up? Perhaps groups can adopt some of the county roads to get out and pick up? Perhaps businesses in a particular section of town could band together and do some planting or painting? Public areas such as information kiosks can also be painted and sections of the river will also be attended to. If you would like to be assigned a duty or area of town, come to Yamaguchi Park at 9 a.m. to start work.

For your reward of contributing to the beautification process of our community, there will be a barbecue and ice cream contest in Yamaguchi Park beginning at 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will be

live music, barbecue and then a judging contest for the best homemade ice cream in honor of homemade ice cream aficionado and founder of Ski and Bow Rack Larry Fisher. Get your ice cream cranks going and bring your best flavor down to the park for the contest. For more information about this event or how you can participate, contact the Visitor Center at (970) 585-1200.

Nonprofit connection

For six weeks, the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is hosting a nonprofit leader collaboration meeting every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the series, "Wake up With Wrinkle," with director Briggen Wrinkle. Leaders from the different sectors can connect with other leaders in southwest Colorado to ask questions, learn recovery techniques, share advice and challenges and just connect with colleagues. The sectors are divided out as follows: The arts and culture, and education sectors already took place at the end of April. However, the animal discussion will take place on May 5, youth discussion on May 19, human services discussion on May 26 and the environment on June 2.

If your nonprofit crosses various sectors, join in the conversation as often as you like. To register for the event, go to the Community Foundation's website at <https://www.swcommunityfoundation.org/nonprofit-networking/>. The Zoom link is available there. As a special bonus, a \$500 "door" prize will be granted to a randomly selected nonprofit agency. Don't miss this opportunity to collaborate and learn from your organizational peers.

New carrier and new routes announced for Durango airport

La Plata County Economic
Development Alliance

Tony Vicari, aviation director for the Durango-La Plata County Airport (DRO) announced last week that Frontier Airlines will be establishing year-round nonstop service between Durango and Las Vegas' McCarran International Airport (LAS), and seasonal nonstop service to Denver International Airport (DEN).

Service to Denver will start June 4 and service to Las Vegas will start June 11.

Flights to Las Vegas will be operated two days per week year-round, with departures on Monday and Friday. Flights to Denver will be operated four days per week during an initial summer

seasonal period, with departures on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The new Frontier service will utilize 150-seat Airbus A319 aircraft.

The added service will provide passengers at DRO with a fifth year-round nonstop destination (six over this summer with previously announced DRO-LAX service) and additional competition on the popular Denver route, opening up more choices, improving access for visitors and having a strong impact on the regional economy as we continue to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Frontier news, coupled with the recent addition of Delta Air Lines service, means that the 2021 summer seat capacity

will exceed 2019 levels. We are emerging from the pandemic with two additional airlines, two additional nonstop destinations, more airline competition, and a fantastic opportunity to jumpstart the post-pandemic economic recovery in our region.

One final important note: The terminal facilities at DRO have not grown despite these recent announcements of added service and will be pressured by the significant increase in available airline capacity. We will need the community's patience, understanding and, most importantly, an early arrival to the airport to ensure that we can successfully manage this influx of air service at DRO.



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Town drafts request for proposal for workforce housing project

By Joe Napolitan
Staff Writer

During the Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting on Thursday, April 22, Town Manager Andrea Phillips presented a draft request for proposal (RFP) for developers for the Eagle Mountain Workforce Housing Project to receive feedback from the council members before publishing it.

The Eagle Mountain Workforce Housing Project is a part of the town's strategic plan to address the affordable housing issues in Pagosa Springs that were outlined in a 2017 housing needs study conducted by Economic and Planning Systems Inc.

"Adding housing stock — particularly rental housing — that is affordable to employees at the wage levels of the jobs being created will be critical to maintaining economic growth in the region," the study states.

The results of an online survey distributed to local employers in 2017 outline how housing issues facing Archuleta County impact local businesses. In total, 51 percent of the employers surveyed consider affordable housing to be one of the more serious problems in the county, and 73 percent report that the availability of suitable housing is impacting their recruitment and retention efforts.

On Thursday, Phillips echoed the conclusions of the study, saying, "Many of our local employers would probably jump, I think, at the chance to reserve a couple of units. I think the town may want to reserve a couple of units in advance because it's become a serious recruitment issue when we're trying

to recruit for certain positions."

The 2017 study reports the area median income (AMI) of Pagosa Springs was \$50,361 in 2015. The 37 percent of households in the county earning between \$35,000 and \$75,000 each year (60-150 percent AMI) would be eligible to live in the workforce housing units included in the Eagle Mountain Workforce Housing Project.

A 2021 seasonal figure published by Zillow reports the typical value of homes in Pagosa Springs at \$351,428, translating to roughly \$19,920 in payments each year for a 30-year mortgage. With any household spending 30 percent of its income on housing each year considered to be "cost-burdened,"

adding purchasing housing in Pagosa Springs would be considered unaffordable for those making \$66,000 annual income (76 percent AMI) or below. This has created an increased demand for long-term rentals for Pagosa Springs' growing workforce.

"The most significant need is for rental inventory, particularly quality rental units affordable to households earning less than 80 percent of AMI," the 2017 study concludes.

According to the study, the average cost of a rental in Pagosa Springs is \$1,235, or \$14,820 each year, which is considered cost-burdened for households below 98 percent AMI. Of the 1,013 housing units existing in Pagosa Springs in 2016, 206 were rented.

It reported that 268 units, either second homes or pending sales, were vacant.

The RFP draft for the Eagle Mountain Workforce Housing Project presents an opportunity for potential developers to assist in the

development of housing units to serve the local workforce in need.

The property currently supports 11 units in adherence to town zoning provisions, but Phillips suggested she hopes the town will grant a density bonus, increasing capacity to 16 units.

"No more than two of the units shall be in the 120 to 150% AMI and at least two units must be in the 60 to 80% AMI range," the proposal states.

Per the RFP, the town is offering several forms of assistance to developers. This includes an offer to provide the half-acre parcel, purchased in the fall of 2020, for a 99-year no-cost land lease.

"The Town would like to see vertical construction commence no later than August 1, 2022 and full completion of the units with Certificate of Occupancy issued by December 31, 2023," states Phillips in the proposal.

Town council member Mat deGraaf indicated he was excited about the town making progress in addressing the issue.

"Congratulations to the all of council for taking the big step and buying the property and saying we're going to really do something impactful and meaningful," he said. "This is what that is, and there are still a lot of unknowns, but I'm really proud of us for moving forward with this and finally making something happen."

One member of the public, Bill Hudson, expressed concerns about the demographics served by the project, stating, "We haven't addressed the dire need ... [of] people who are making 30 and below that are living in their cars, that are

couch surfing, that don't have a secure place to live. I would love to see the town be in the forefront of really looking out for the people who are hurting the most rather than looking out for everybody."

Town council member Rory Burnett stated that housing projects such as the Rose Mountain townhomes are already addressing those needs. The townhomes are a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) project that aims to offer about 34 units to households earning below 60 percent AMI.

"It's more important to get that middle range than the lower range because that lower range is really handled by the feds," Burnett said. "There's lots of money that goes towards that, and I don't think we need to try to solve that piece. Our piece as the town, what we can offer, is a little bit more than that."

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Longtime area resident killed in plane crash

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Longtime Pagosa Springs resident William "Bill" Whittington was reportedly killed in a plane crash in Arizona on April 23.

According to the Associated Press (AP), Navajo County, Ariz., authorities identified the two people killed in a two-engine plane crash as Arizona residents Whittington, 71, of Scottsdale, and

Stephen Kirkby, 48, of Cave Creek.

According to the AP, the plane crashed near Winslow, Ariz.

No information has been released on a possible cause of the crash, according to the AP, and it is being investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Autoweek reports that, according to friend, "Whittington was giving a plane ride to a friend who

had terminal cancer."

According to his obituary, Whittington moved to Pagosa Springs in 1992.

In 2004, Whittington's daughters purchased The Springs Resort and Spa.

His obituary highlights that Whittington, along with his two brothers, are the only three brothers to start the Indianapolis 500, with that occurring in 1982.

randi@pagosasun.com

Town council hears first-quarter financial review

By Joe Napolitan
Staff Writer

"So far so good," reported Town Clerk April Hessman at the Pagosa

Town council approves budget amendment for police department

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

On April 22, the Pagosa Springs Town Council amended the 2021 general fund budget by an amount of \$26,000 to accommodate for recent salary adjustment scenarios for the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD).

During a meeting on April 6, town council approved salary changes for administrative staff, which reflects changes in positions from corporal to sergeant and lieutenant to assistant chief, and for operations staff that utilizes a step program with an increase after every year of service beginning at 25 percent over minimum.

To learn more about the proposed changes for PSPD salaries, see the April 8 issue of The SUN.

Springs Town Council meeting on Thursday, April 22, in regard to the first-quarter financial review.

Hessman reported 98 percent of the total revenue gained includes \$1,160,335 from the general fund, \$1,109,060 from capital improvements, \$352,374 from lodgers' tax and \$237,873 from sanitation.

"At this time, the revenues are estimated to be similar to what was budgeted; however, sales tax receipts for January and February are higher than anticipated," she told the council.

Sales tax revenue in February had increased 29.8 percent compared to the same month in 2020, according to the report. Sales tax receipts in 2020 resulted in \$1.44 million over what was originally budgeted and resulted in a large carryover exceeding estimates. It is anticipated that sales tax revenues will continue to increase with

steady growth.

Hessman went on to list some of the town's expenditures, which included a vacuum truck, fee waivers for Habitat for Humanity sewer connections and the police salary increases that were agreed upon earlier in the meeting.

Projects moving forward, Hessman reported, include the construction of a trail through Cotton Hole Park and the East End multimodal and Yamaguchi South planning. There are also possibilities of paying off some of the larger debt for the town and Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District.

"During our second quarter review, we'll have a better idea of where revenues are coming in and what our carryover is, and we can get a better number and some options for what to do with those extra funds," Hessman said in closing.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care offers natural product lines and cutting-edge treatments

J. Julian Fine Skin Care has opened a new location here in Pagosa Springs.

J. Julian skin care services include eco-friendly face and body treatments, skin consultation, hair removal, makeup applications, as well as a retail line of essential oils, supplements, and cosmetic products.

Joann Julian is a European-trained esthetician. She offers personalized solutions and tailored treatments for her clients. Julian is dedicated to using only premier products and cutting-edge treatments.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care is by appointment only and following COVID-19 protocols. For information and booking of your personalized treatment, please call 602.721.3464.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care is open Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Joann Julian

Neck-skin Tightening Treatment

Julian has partnered with RN Kelly Hannigan of New Neck Now to bring plasma skin regeneration method, PSR3, neck-skin tightening treatment to Pagosa Springs.



Hannigan focuses on neck-skin tightening to eliminate waddles, drapery and goosebump texture. She has done more than 6,000 treatments. She can also help tighten skin on the face, chin jowls and eyelids for a fresh look.

The PSR3 procedure involves pulses of nitrogen-based plasma, which is the ionized gas created when nitrogen is exposed to ultra-high frequency energy. Blasts of this nitrogen-based plasma are delivered to the surface of the skin. "The nitrogen component really nourishes and changes the cells," Hannigan says. "There's a three-fold result as it resurfaces the outer layer of your skin and tightens collagen all the way to the base of your layers."

Hannigan's FDA-approved treatment is one-time only for one hour. The dead skin sheds off the surface on days three and four post treatment, there is zero down time. Go to NewNeckNow.com for further information regarding psr3.

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April 20 | 11am and 6pm

Going Down the Retirement Mountain
May 4 | 11am and 6pm

Savvy Social Security Planning
June 22 | 11am and 6pm

Cyber Security
July 20 | 11am and 6pm

Tax Planning for Boomers
August 24 | 11am and 6pm

Town council approves revised density bonus policy

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A density bonus policy was approved by the Pagosa Springs Town Council during a meeting on April 22.

A draft of the plan was presented to both town council and the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission during a joint work session on March 25, and following some revisions from Town Manager Andrea Phillips, another draft was discussed with the planning commission on April 13, according to agenda documentation.

Following the April 13 meeting, it was recommended that town council implement the policy; however, some planning commission members felt that 33 percent of the units being restricted would be asking too much from the developers, agenda documentation noted.

During the April 22 meeting, Phillips explained this would be a voluntary program and added that the town does not have inclusionary zoning that requires developers to have a certain number of units that are at or below a certain area median income (AMI) for housing.

"For now, this is a voluntary program for developers who think they might want to come forward and request the ability to do additional units on a parcel than would otherwise be allowed within the underlying zoning district or the overlay district," she said. "I initially proposed this as a scaled approach where the lower the AMI that they would be serving, the more of a higher percentage that they might be able to get with the additional units."

Based on feedback, Phillips explained she felt like the sentiments she heard were to simplify the policy and make it more open-ended.

"This has been changed now to allow for up to 50 percent additional units serving 100 percent of area median income or below," she said. "It's written that at least 33 percent of the total number of units in the project, which include the density bonus units, must be rented or sold at that 100 percent AMI or below."

Phillips noted that it is important for the town to develop a framework for the future for developers and decision making. "In the property-restriction period, we're going to try to shoot for the longest period of time that we can restrict the property so we can keep it at AMI affordable for as long as we can. But it really depends on the amount of incentives that they are getting," she said.

Later in the meeting, Phillips noted that it is not necessarily the town's job to make sure that each development pencils out for developers. Council member Rory Burnett added that there would be many scenarios where people would want a density bonus for a variety of reasons.

"I don't want to back us into a corner," he said. "I think our part as the town is, in a lot of ways, to be a good partner. I would disagree with the sentiment that it's not our job to make things pencil. It's our job to be a good partner and to create policies that foster that. I just don't believe that a density bonus policy as a blanket is that."

Burnett noted that he believed that the planning commission's job was to take these sorts of issues on a case-by-case basis.

"If we're making policies that

just cover a blanket of things, I think it's going to do more harm than good in the long-term development of what we're trying to accomplish in the community," he said.

Council member Matt DeGuise explained that without general policies, developers could be left confused on where to start with projects.

"The thing that concerns me is that if we don't have a rational policy basis for the planning commission to entertain something that is not currently allowed in the Land Use and Development Code, and they're asking for something more, how do we do that? I just don't know if we have the ability to do that," Phillips said.

A 50 percent density bonus is "quite significant," Town Attorney Clayton Buchner noted later in the meeting.

"We're talking about allowing 50 percent more units than what is currently allowed in our zoning, and in doing so, we're trying to incentivize developers," he said. "As a starting point, it would be very beneficial to have those left and right limits."

Council member Madeline Beron added that she liked having flexibility within a framework and that a density bonus policy allows for that.

"I just think 5 or 10 percent isn't going to help solve our affordable housing problem. Why should we incentivize developers who are going for market-rate or higher?" DeGuise said.

Either the town gets nothing if the project does not work for developers, or only one to two affordable units, Burnett added.

"There's a very fine line of doing

too much and getting nothing and doing just enough to get maybe a smaller amount," he said.

Council member Shari Pierce raised concerns over the 50 percent additional units portion of the density bonus policy, citing that if a space could become compressed if a developer started a large project that utilized the density bonus policy.

Pierce suggested a tiered system for the density bonus policy, where if a developer proposed 25 units they might only get 40 percent additional.

"I just have a concern about when you put that many people onto a small space, that we've thoughtfully considered how many could fit on that space," she said. "If somebody wants a little bit lower, then maybe we could do a variance to accommodate them if we felt like it was beneficial to us to do it."

Planning Director James Dickhoff noted that developers have informed him that the benefit of such a policy is additional market-rate units.

"I think the 33 percent, which equates to all the additional units, doesn't really work for them because the benefit for them is getting more market-rate units," he said.

Following more discussion amongst town council, town council member Nicole Pitcher made a motion to approve the density bonus policy at 120 percent or below of AMI with at least 25 percent of the total units in a project having to be at 120 percent AMI or below.

That motion passed via a 6-1 vote, with Burnett being the only vote against.

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Births



Steve and Jennifer Wadley are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Winter Faye Wadley, on April 14. She was born at home in Pagosa Springs and weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

The following are the March births with parents from Pagosa Springs as reported by Mercy Regional Medical Center:

Ariella Rose, Leann Phillips-Martin and Mario Martinez, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, 1:02 p.m., March 8.

Haizen Rein, Crystal and Trinity Ross, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, 2:42 a.m., March 24.

Parents are invited to submit photos of their baby and an official announcement to editor@pagosasun.com to be printed in the newspaper.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs Middle School

Although the Pagosa Springs Middle School's football season was short, the Pirates finished undefeated with a 3-0 record.

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Officials searching for missing man

By Joe Napolitan
Staff Writer

Local officials are searching for 30-year-old Dylan Martin, who was reported missing to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) on Thursday, April 15. ACSO Emergency Manager Mike Le Roux reported to The SUN in an email that Martin is presumed to be in the area around the Piedra River valley, where the ACSO conducted a search by air from U.S. 160 to USFS 631 on April 16. Le Roux indicated the man is not a resident of Pagosa Springs. Further searching was delayed until Saturday, April 24, when road conditions allowed access deeper into the valley, he explained. That afternoon, a small search party was deployed to gather information and situational awareness

around the circumstances surrounding the missing male, Le Roux indicated. "On Sunday April 25th at approximately 12:45, information was received from a 3rd party regarding the whereabouts of personal effects belonging to Dylan Martin in the Piedra River valley area," the email states. "A second search team was deployed to the area to gather intel and document the personal effects." Le Roux explained the ACSO is still actively investigating the case. Martin is described as being a 30-year-old, 6-foot-3-inch white male weighing approximately 170 pounds. The ACSO requests that anyone with information that might support the investigation please report it to Archuleta County Combined Dispatch at (970) 731-2160.
joe@pagosasun.com



Dylan Martin

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 three weeks: 593.
April 6 — Warrant arrest, Navajo Court.
April 6 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 6 — First-degree criminal trespass—other intent, domestic violence, North Pagosa Boulevard.
April 6 — Identity theft—uses identity, Convention Place.
April 6 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 6 — Identity theft—uses identity, Grenadier Place.
April 7 — Harassment—strikes/shoves/kicks, Bastille Drive.
April 7 — Vicious dog with injury, Turkey Springs biking trail.
April 7 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 8 — All other thefts, Corral Court.
April 8 — Information only, U.S. 160.
April 8 — Warrant arrest, Turkey Lane.
April 9 — Warrant arrest, Navajo Trail Drive.
April 9 — Found property, Indian Land Road.
April 9 — Speeding 40 mph or more over prima facie limit, Handicap Avenue and County Road 600.
April 10 — Hindering transportation, disorderly conduct—misdemeanor, pedestrian on highway under the influence of intoxicating liquor, U.S. 160.
April 10 — Drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drove vehicle when blood alcohol content 0.10 or more, speeding-mph over not listed, County Road 600 and Aspenglow Boulevard.
April 11 — Criminal mischief, Carpin Circle.
April 11 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.
April 11 — Agency assist, Sunset Trail.
April 12 — Identity theft—uses identity, Buck Drive.
April 13 — Failure to register as a sex offender, Harman Park Drive.
April 14 — First-degree criminal trespass—other intent, menacing—misdemeanor, Butzke Court.
April 14 — Warrant arrest, Sunset Trail.
April 14 — First-degree criminal trespass—other intent, Valley View Drive.
April 15 — Information only, U.S. 160.
April 15 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 16 — Vicious dog with injury, Forest Road 660 and Forest Road 668.
April 16 — Drove vehicle without insurance, failed to display valid registration, drove vehicle when license suspended, Navajo Trail Drive and Hopi Drive.
April 16 — Speeding 5-9 mph over prima

facie limit, driver operated vehicle without insurance, County Road 359 and County Road 542.
April 16 — Pedestrian on highway under the influence of intoxicating liquor, hindering transportation, U.S. 160 and Badger Road.
April 16 — Violation of restraining order, Flintlock Place.
April 17 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 17 — Found property, U.S. 160.
April 17 — Third-degree criminal trespass, Lake Street and Prospect Boulevard.
April 19 — Found property, Harman Park Drive.
April 19 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 20 — Agency assist, Talisman Drive.
April 20 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 22 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, North Pagosa Boulevard and Park Avenue.
April 22 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 22 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 22 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160 and County Road 600.
April 23 — Menacing—felony—aggravated—weapon, domestic violence, obstruction of telephone or telegraph service, Lofty Court.
April 23 — Under investigation, no location listed.
April 23 — Menacing—felony—aggravated—weapon, Navajo Trail Drive.
April 23 — Warrant arrest, Highland Avenue.
April 24 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160.
April 24 — Expired license plates, violation of restraining order, drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, violation of bail bond condition—misdemeanor, U.S. 160.
April 24 — Trespass warning, Echo Lane.
April 25 — Violation of bail bond condition—misdemeanor, violation of restraining order, Bonanza Avenue.
April 25 — Criminal mischief, second-degree burglary, Bastille Drive.
Pagosa Springs Police Department
Calls for service over two weeks: 195.
April 4 — Agency assist, Bermuda Court.
April 7 — Criminal trespass, South 7th Street.
April 8 — Violation of restraining order, South 7th Street.
April 9 — Criminal trespass, South 7th Street.
April 9 — Warrant arrest, U.S. 160.
April 12 — Unauthorized use of finance device, South 9th Street.
April 13 — Warrant arrest, Country Center Drive.
April 15 — Drove vehicle when license canceled, Lewis Street.
April 15 — Assault, San Juan Street.
April 15 — Warrant arrest, San Juan Street.
April 16 — Disorderly conduct, East Pagosa Street.

April 16 — Theft, Pagosa Street.
April 16 — Animal at large, North 7th Street.
6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson
April 19 — William Charles Gittings, marijuana cultivation, total fines and costs — \$1,057.50.
April 19 — Christopher Bo Yarnell, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, 12 years Department of Corrections, total fines and costs — \$4,933.50.
Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
April 7 — Christopher Lombardi, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.
April 7 — Alberto Gonzalez Jr., U-turn unsafely-disobey "U-turn" sign, total fines and costs — \$172.50.
April 7 — Bruce K. Blankenship, passed when prohibited, total fines and costs — \$200.
April 7 — Faraz T. Abbazi, obedience to official traffic control device, total fines and costs — \$200.
April 7 — Louis Talamante, unregistered vehicle, total fines and costs — \$191.50.
April 7 — Carrie S. Skyes, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.
April 7 — Michael David Reiss, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.
April 7 — Sarah M. Porter, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$185.50.
April 7 — Daniel R. Zack, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$210.50.
April 7 — Savannah Braun, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$120.50.
April 8 — Joshua Leigh Soniat-Du-Fassat, harassment—strike/shove/kick, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$922.50.
April 8 — Justin Scott Williams, harassment—strike/shove/kick, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$922.50.
April 8 — Christopher L. Harrell, driving under the influence, 25 days electronic surveillance, 48 hours community service, 24 months probation, total fines and costs — \$2,613.30.
April 8 — Kenneth Davey, violation of civil protection order, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$864.50.
April 8 — Helena Jim, driving while ability impaired, 24 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$929.44.
April 12 — Austin F. Martin, failed to use turn signal, total fines and costs — \$105.
April 14 — Bryan H. Tracey, violation of stage one fire ban, total fines and costs — \$146.
April 16 — Ross Allen Poindexter, disorderly conduct—unreasonable noise, six days jail, total fines and costs — \$186.
April 20 — Frank Ulibarri, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$210.50.
April 21 — Asa James Valentine, driving under the influence, 48 hours community service, one year probation, total fines and

costs — \$1,942.72.
April 21 — Bobby K. Tuller, driving under the influence, 27 days jail, 48 hours community service, eight days electronic surveillance, total fines and costs — \$2,851.50.
April 21 — Shannon Leigh Reisinger, driving under the influence, 48 hours community service, 10 days electronic surveillance, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$2,015.39.
April 21 — Jared T. Carstensen, improper mountain driving, total fines and costs — \$64.50.
April 21 — Casey Francis Onik, speeding 5-9 over, total fines and costs — \$190.
April 21 — Gary Neal Maker, speeding 10-19 over, total fines and costs — \$255.
April 21 — Gabriel M. Lister, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$163.50.
April 21 — Angelo A. Augular, license plates expired, driver's license not in possession, total fines and costs — \$157.50.
April 21 — Lilly D. Buchser, speeding 20-24 over limit, total fines and costs — \$344.50.
April 21 — Christopher J. Foti, license plates expired, total fines and costs — \$120.50.
April 22 — Alexander C. Hayes, harassment—obscene language/gesture, total fines and costs — \$247.50.
April 22 — Shane Martin O'Neil, violation of bail bond conditions—misdemeanor, total fines and costs — \$194.50.
April 22 — Ross Allen Poindexter, obstructing high/passageway, 30 days jail, total fines and costs — \$219.50.
April 22 — Shane O'Neil, harassment—strikes/shoves/kicks, 180 days jail, total fines and costs — \$322.50.
April 22 — Jazzelle Jones, driving under the influence, 24 hours community service, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$1,840.21.

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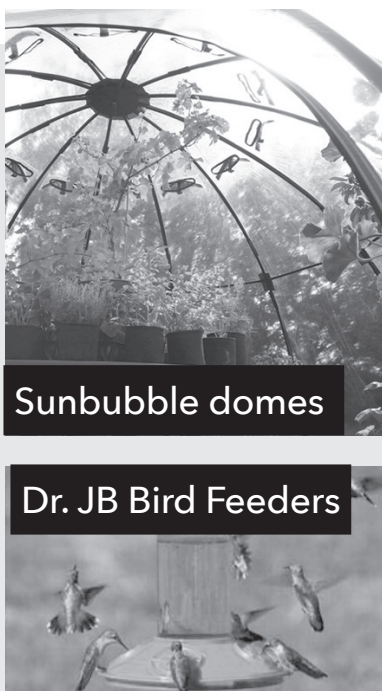


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Sports

VOLLEYBALL

Lady Pirate volleyball qualifies for regionals despite losing season finale to COVID

By **Chris Mannara**
Staff Writer

Despite the fact that positive COVID-19 cases forced the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate volleyball team to miss out on the regular-season finale against the Centauri Falcons on April 24 in Pagosa, the Lady Pirates will compete in regional action on Saturday, May 1.

In an email to The SUN on Monday, coach Caitlin Forrest noted that the team had three positive cases, and potentially more, making it impossible for the team to be able to play its final regular season game against the Falcons.

Forrest described the Lady Pirates as being

“devastated.”

“My heart hurt for the seniors. So little has gone their way, even though they’ve played by all the covid ‘rules.’ To lack closure is hard for any of the athletes, but we all wanted one final game and senior recognition for the seniors,” she wrote.

The final home game typically serves as the team’s night to honor its seniors.

This season was “tricky” for the Lady Pirates, Forrest wrote, with the team finishing the regular season with a 4-8 overall record and an 0-7 record against Intermountain League (IML) foes.

“The IML is stronger than it has ever been as a whole, and our record simply didn’t reflect how

solid of a team we are,” she wrote. “Playing in the spring, having very few fans, wearing masks, and everything else was obviously an obstacle, but one the girls were happy to tackle as they were just thankful to play.”

Regional action

For regional action, the No. 21-seeded Lady Pirates will travel to Lamar for matchups against the No. 4 Lamar Savages (14-0 overall) and the No. 13 Platte Valley Broncos (8-6 overall).

Pagosa will first take on Lamar at 10 a.m. on May 1 and then play the Broncos following that match.

chris@pagosahun.com

BASEBALL

Pirates set to open season at home Tuesday

By **Randi Pierce**
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team is set to hit the diamond next week for its first official action since 2019.

Last year, COVID-19 caused the season to be canceled just as it was set to begin, leaving athletes without a spring sports season.

In 2019, Pagosa went 10-12, including a 5-5 league record, and advanced to the postseason, where they lost in regional competition.

Coach Mike Remlinger indicated Wednesday he hopes the situation won’t repeat itself this year, with several of the team’s athletes already affected by quarantines, though most of those players should be released in time for the season opener Tuesday.

“There’s just a lot of question marks,” Remlinger said of the team this year, outlining that the team

is young, depth is a concern and no one has played baseball in over a year.

But, because the season is beginning later this year, he suggested the team has been able to practice outside more and has made a “ton of progress.”

This season’s squad, he noted, has seven seniors and a couple of juniors, with everyone else being freshmen and sophomores.

The Pirates will look to have Taylor Cotts and Tyler Bowdridge on the mound for league games, Remlinger explained, with several other pitchers available for non-league affairs and in relief.

“We’re going to have to be really good with managing our pitching,” he said, adding that if the team is able to do that, its pitching can be an asset in league games.

League games, he said, will “be our measure of success.”

Remlinger also noted he’s “super optimistic about our offensive side of the game,” with the team making “huge strides” in hitting.

“We really have a chance to have a good offensive team,” he said.

Schedule

The following schedule was accurate as of press time Wednesday, but is subject to change.

The Pirates will begin their season at home Tuesday, May 4, with a 3 p.m. matchup against the 2A Del Norte Tigers.

Then, on May 8, the Pirates will open league play with a double-header against the Centauri Falcons, with games set for 3 and 5 p.m.

On May 14 and 15, the Pirates will take part in the Salida Tournament, with game times and opponents to be determined.

The Pirates will hit the road again on May 22 for a pair of games

in Alamosa against the Lamar Savages at a time to be determined and the Alamosa Mean Moose at 11 a.m.

On May 25, the team will travel to Dove Creek for a 1 p.m. affair with the 1A Bulldogs.

The Pirates will host a double-header against the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on May 29.

Then, on June 1, the team will head to Bayfield for a double-header, with games scheduled for 3 and 5 p.m.

The Pirates will host the Mean Moose for a 2 p.m. matchup on June 8 to close out the regular season.

Then, at 3 p.m. on June 10, the Pirates will hit the road for Durango to take on the 4A Demons in the Foundation Game, which will not count as a regular-season game.

randi@pagosahun.com

Plans

Continued from A12 something different could help solve the problem.

Taylor noted he wouldn’t suggest having the entire board serve on an at-large basis, citing that he’s seen other districts run into problems with that, and added that having two or three seats be at-large could be worthy of discussion.

Taylor then discussed realigning the districts.

Dryburgh noted that, of the sitting board members, he was the last to win a contested election 7.5 years ago.

According to agenda documentation, three members of the board were elected most recently via acclamation because there was no contested election and two were appointed to fill vacancies.

Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett told the board if a change were going to be made this year, it would have to be decided upon by July 15 in order to make the November election.

LeBlanc-Esparza noted that doing a realignment around a census would be good, and suggested a consultant could be brought in to help put together a proposal to

realign districts.

The board opted to further discuss the topic in the future.

Bennett indicated to the board that the county will also be looking at redistricting later this year or next year, suggesting that could be a good time for the school district to look at districts because they would likely be doing a lot of the same work.

Other business

In other business at the meeting: LeBlanc-Esparza noted the district is up 56 students from its October 2020 enrollment count.

In October 2020, the district was down 133 students from the previous year.

LeBlanc-Esparza outlined that the high school is moving forward with planning prom and graduation events.

Conducted a first reading of several policies that fell into the categories of formatting changes and changes suggested by the Colorado Association of School Boards.

All of the policies were approved upon first reading and were adopted.

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Earth Day event

SUN photos/Terri House

Earth Day wouldn't be complete without earthworms, solar car races, and kids' educational and fun activities. Service organizations that make our local and global community healthier and stronger set up booths along the Riverwalk on Saturday with some participants dressing up as their favorite animals and plants, all in an effort to show some love for the Earth.



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Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

April 29, 2021

Sexual assault myths busted

By Ashley Wilson
Rise Above Violence

How do we end sexual violence in Pagosa?

Step one is awareness; the activities and education Rise Above Violence provides to the community start with this idea. Awareness and education shared in our community bring us all up to speed so that we can tackle the issue together as a community.

The second step is local action, which includes sharing the information you know, coming out to events to show a physical solidarity with victims, stepping up in our social circles to call out inappropriate jokes and language, as well as being the voice of victims to our local and state legislators.

Today we are both bringing awareness and being a voice for victims by busting myths about rape and sexual assault. We have all heard many stories about what causes sexual abuse, where it occurs and what type of people are the victims and perpetrators. As more and more victims have been brave enough to come forward with their stories in recent years, our society has been able to learn more about sexual assault and debunk many of the myths most of us were raised to believe. Below are some common misconceptions alongside the facts.

Myth: If she hadn't gotten drunk, she wouldn't have been raped.

Fact: The natural result of getting drunk is a hangover, not a sexual assault. Would we say a homeowner deserved to be burglarized because he or she drank too much, fell asleep and forgot to lock the front door?

Myth: If Sally walks into a bar and has a few alcoholic beverages, she is responsible for what happens to her later that evening because she chose to drink.

Fact: This "assumption of risk" wrongfully places the responsibility of the offender's actions with the victim. Even if a person went voluntarily to someone's residence or room and/or even consented to engage in some sexual activity, it does not serve as a blanket consent for all sexual activity. If a person is unsure about whether the other person is comfortable with an elevated level of sexual activity, the person should stop and ask. When someone says "No" or "Stop," that means stop. If a person is too drunk or high to be awake and alert (e.g., is passed out) that person cannot give consent. Thus, any sexual activity toward a passed out person is, by definition, nonconsensual. Sexual activity forced upon another without consent is sexual assault. In Colorado, that is a felony. Source: Title 18, Colorado Revised Statutes.

Myth: If you are wearing inappropriate or suggestive clothing, you are "asking for it."

Fact: As with alcohol or drug consumption, this myth blames the victim for the perpetrator's behavior. If a resident leaves his or her window open to cool down the home in summer, is he or she asking to be burglarized? To be raped? Not according to the law (or common sense).

Myth: Most sexual assaults are committed by

strangers.

Fact: Most sexual assaults and rapes are committed by someone the victim knows. Among victims aged 18 to 29, two-thirds had a prior relationship with the offender. Among victims under 18, the abuser is almost always a family member or person in a position of trust (babysitter, coach, scout leader, youth minister, etc.). Source: www.law.georgetown.edu.

Myth: It isn't sexual abuse if you are married. Whatever a husband does to his wife is OK.

Fact: It is illegal in Colorado and most other states to sexually abuse your spouse. A marriage does not authorize forced sexual relations anymore than a marriage entitles one spouse to murder the other. Citation: Title 18, Colorado Revised Statutes.

Myth: Only women can be victims of sexual assault.

Fact: Approximately 24.8 percent of men report sexual victimization, which includes completed or attempted forced penetration and sexual coercion. Of those victims, 51.3 percent were under the age of 18 years old and 26 percent were 10 years old and younger. Source: CDC and NSVRC.

Myth: The most dangerous place for children to be sexually abused is by a stranger on the streets.

Fact: Most sexual abuse of children occurs in a residence, typically that of the child or the perpetrator. 84 percent of sexual victimization of children under age 12 occurs in a home. Of sexual abuse reported to law enforcement, 93 percent of children knew the perpetrator: 59 percent were acquaintances, 34 percent were family members, and only 7 percent were strangers of the victim. Source: cachouston.org, RAINN.

All of the services provided through Rise Above Violence are free to victims and survivors. One way to help in our local community is to donate. Your gift provides critical services for healing.

The Push-Up challenge is wrapping up tomorrow and the teams and individuals participating have been working hard all month doing 25 push-ups a day and raising funds. Please consider supporting one of the challengers: www.riseaboveviolence.org/push-up-challenge.

Rise Above Violence is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides 24-hour support and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault or other forms of violence, serving over 300 victims each year. Rise also works to eliminate violence through education for youth and our community. All programs and services are free and confidential, including emergency prevention education and empowerment programs. Visit www.riseaboveviolence.org for more information or call (970) 264-9075 to talk to an advocate today.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
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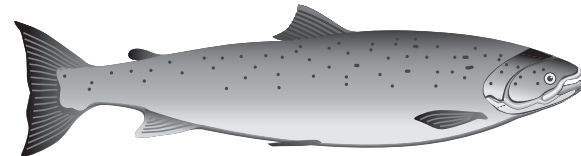
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Photos courtesy Lisa Scott

4-H members volunteered for last weekend's Earth Day celebration as a community service activity. In total, 29 members total volunteered Saturday.



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Help, please: Dos and don'ts of library donations

By **Carole Howard**

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

Every year we receive thousands of new or gently used hardcover books, DVDs and CDs, and these donations are vital to our overall success.

Of the thousands of items that are donated, a small number go into the collection. In 2020, that amounted to 62 items for a value of \$4,366 including books, DVDs and, in a couple of circumstances, magazine subscriptions.

Some of the other donations are sold at the library at greatly discounted prices. Most go to the Friends of the Library book sale, which is a hugely important fundraising event for your library. Without your help, the Friends' sale offerings would be much less attractive to potential buyers — and thus their proceeds smaller for your library. So, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

But, sometimes we have problems with donations that are outdated or in poor condition. These items must be thrown away or recycled, costing us time and money. So, we want to take this opportunity to review the best practices for library donations, hoping this information is helpful to you as well as to us.

1. Please do bring in only clean, gently worn books, CDs and DVDs.

2. Please do not bring in VHS tapes and cassettes, donate magazines older than one year or leave personal items inside of donations.

3. Nonfiction items like memoirs and how-to books in good shape should not be older than five years. Travel and restaurant guides, tax books and anything relating to computers generally should be no more than a year old. Textbooks normally are of no interest to our patrons.

4. Fiction novels should be no older than 10 years.

Library News

5. Please do not deliver donations after hours in the book return slot at the library or the drop box at City Market or by leaving them at our front entrance. Please bring them inside.

6. Please do not bring more than one or two boxes per person, as we do not have much space in our workroom. If you need help getting your boxes inside the building, we are happy to help.

7. What donated materials do the Friends like best for their sale? Their favorites are your favorites. Experience plus your responses to surveys over the years have shown that at the top of your wish lists are mysteries, historical novels,

■ See Library on next page

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Library

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bestsellers, thrillers, classics, contemporary fiction, fantasy and romance. Also popular are Christian fiction, westerns, science fiction, short stories and children's books.

Alfred North Whitehead, an English mathematician and philosopher, once said that "No one achieves success without the help of others." That's certainly true of your library. We are grateful for the generosity of all our donors, but we ask your help in donating only materials that meet the criteria outlined above.

The Friends hope that COVID conditions will allow them to put on their book sale this August, but it is too far away to announce firm plans now.

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 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."

New writing challenge

On May 3, we will post a new writing challenge on the library's Facebook page. We hope you will challenge your creativity by participating in this free all-ages activity.

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 April 22-May 5 featured book is "Swirl by Swirl" by Joyce Sidman. 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.

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 (970) 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 crafts takeaway for kids

Drop by during open hours to pick up free DIY crafts takeaways for youngsters age 10 and older outside the building.

Tech Time — no appointment needed

Free in-person slots are available from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Appointments are no longer required, but we will honor any appointments that were previously made. Brad will help you resolve issues with your computer, smartphone, tablet and other electronic devices.

ESL — no appointment needed

Free in-person classes take place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m. (note the new hours). Appointments are no longer required, but we will honor any appointments that were previously made.

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

Thursdays at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m., join us on the library's Facebook page for free children's programs. Thursday 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 — no appointment needed

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) session takes place in person tomorrow, Friday, April 30, between noon and 3 p.m., where Mark helps with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Appointments are no longer required, but we will honor any appointments that were previously made. On May 6, PALS moves to Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m. There will be no PALS on May 13.

Activities calendars

To be sure you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your family at your library, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. There are two versions — youth and adults.

Nonfiction

"On the House" by John Boehner is a memoir by the former speaker of the House of Representatives. "Cosmic Queries" by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson with physicist

■ See Library on page 8

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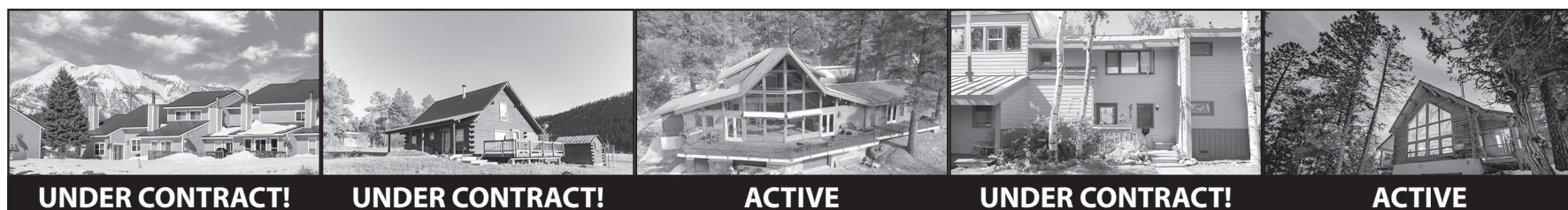
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Library

■ continued from page 6

James Trefil offers new ways to understand the complexities of life and the universe we inhabit. “Crying in H Mart” by Michelle Zauner is a coming-of-age story of a Korean American woman. “Effortless” by Greg McKeown provides actionable advice for handling your most essential activities while avoiding burnout.

Large print

“The Other Emily” by Dean Koontz tells of a man’s new love who may be his long-vanished love. “Miss Julia Happily Ever After” by Ann B. Ross is book 22 in the Miss Julia series. “No Way Out” by Fern Michaels follows a woman recovering after a coma. “Of Women and Salt” by Gabriela Garcia is the story of a Cuban immigrant’s family. “Strongheart” by Jim Fergus is book three in the One Thousand White Women series.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

“The Devil’s Hand” by Jack Carr features Navy Seal James Reece. “What Comes After” by Joanne Tompkins follows a community after two teenage boys die. “When the Stars Go Dark” by Paula McLain tells of a seasoned missing persons detective dealing with a new case reminiscent of her childhood.

Other novels

“The Son of Mr. Suleman” by Eric Jerome Dickey is a story exploring racism, sexual assault, politics, family legacies and more. “Lover Unveiled” by J.R. Ward is the latest in the Black Dagger

Brotherhood paranormal romance series. “The Good Sister” by Sally Hepworth features twin sisters, one hugely resentful of the other. “Malice” by Heather Walter is book one in the Malice series retelling the Sleeping Beauty series.

Books on CD

“Finding Ashley” by Danielle Steel follows two sisters who reunite after a long absence. “A Dark Queen Rises” by Ashok K. Banker is book two in the Burnt Empire fantasy world. “Wyatt Earp” by Matt Braun is the story of this legendary gunfighter. “Her Dark Lies” by J.T. Ellison is a mystery set on the Italian coast. “Later” by Stephen King features a young boy with an ability to see what no one else can. “How Beautiful We Were” by Imbolo Mbue is set in a fictional African village.

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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 (970) 264-2209.

Quotable quote

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.” — Edith Wharton (1862-1937), American novelist, short-story writer and designer.

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.

Sunday devotionals offered by the Baha’i Faith

By Paulette Heber

Baha’i Community of Archuleta County

The Baha’i Community of Archuleta County hosts weekly devotionals every Sunday morning from 10 to 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. All are welcome.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/884668836?pwd=bkdEeVlaSWN0bFRMdFhidXpzWjV5Zz09>, call-in number: (669) 900-6833, meeting ID: 884 668 836

A weekly theme is reflected in the prayers, music, poetry and selections from world religions and various sources. All are encouraged to contribute inspirational pieces. This Sunday, May 2, our theme is “Self Discipline.”

“Strive thine utmost to become godlike, characterized with His attributes, illumined and merciful, that thou mayest be freed from every bond and become attached at heart to the Kingdom of the incomparable Lord. This is heavenly

light.” — Abdu’l-Baha.

The Baha’i Faith is an all-embracing world religion founded on the principle of unity. It recognizes humanity’s spiritual nature and the innate nobility of every human soul. Among the teachings of the Baha’i Faith are the investigation of truth, the oneness of God, the oneness of mankind, justice, universal peace, the conformity between science and divine revelation, the equality of women and men, and the abandonment of racial, religious, worldly and political prejudices. It is in this spirit of community that we cordially invite you to our devotionals.

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. To obtain passcode for our Sunday devotionals, call Paulette Heber at (970) 731-8610 or email at the above email address.

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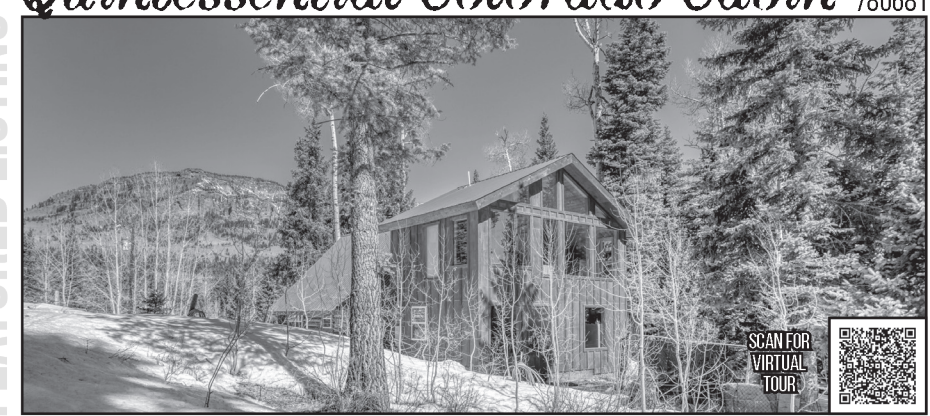
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Falling into the hands of God

The Old Testament tells of King David, his poor judgment and a misstep that had to be brought to justice.

God told David to choose his punishment, “I offer you three things: Seven years of famine upon your land — flee three months before your enemies while they pursue you — or three days of plague in your land.”

David’s answer to God, “I am in great distress. Please let me fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man.” — 2 Samuel 24:13,14 (NKJV).

People are told to fear God and trust man. However, don’t we see the ruthlessness of man every time we turn on the television? Doesn’t God’s mercy overshadow every act that we have come to know from man?

I am reminded of a story about two men named Adam and Bob. They were childhood friends who laughed and played, and grew up together. Both were accepted into Ivy League universities and passed their bar exams.

The day would come when each would look to join firms that would serve their career interest.

Adam excelled by working hard. He was tenacious and shrewd in practice, and quickly became known as the brightest star at his firm. His family seemed to have it all together as well. They attended

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



church and gave when they believed it most beneficial. Even church leaders from the pulpit esteemed the young man.

Bob also worked hard. He toed a legal line and was known for being fair. When possible, he took on pro bono work to help those who couldn’t help themselves. He enjoyed wining and dining his clients. But, the long nights at the office and lunch hour meet-and-greets soon became his demise. Bob developed a drinking problem and his marriage began to suffer.

Soon thereafter, Bob fell on tough times. His career spun out of control, which led to him losing his job. He lost his home and his family abandoned him. The only view he had of his once corner office would be from the street. His bed, a piece of cardboard in an alley.

Unbeknownst to Bob, Adam was having dinner with a friend at a neighborhood restaurant. At the conclusion of their meal, the friends walked down the street, passing by the alley that Bob called home.

As the men walked by, Adam caught a glimpse of a familiar face. With a disdainful cockiness, he said to his friend, “Isn’t that Bob? Look at him. He’s digging through the dumpster.”

Before Bob was out of view, Adam and his friend watched as he pulled a half-eaten steak out of the garbage, leaned down and then fed a stray dog.

“I’ve known Bob all my life. He had the same opportunities that I had. Look at what he has become.”

The friend said to Adam, “Cut Bob some slack. Show him some mercy. I’ve heard he is working at a soup kitchen where he is an advocate for those needing legal help.”

“Mercy?” Adam whirled back, “He doesn’t deserve it.”

Adam’s outrage was deafening, but he was blinded by one gigantic flaw — no mercy. Worse yet, he used his own life as the standard by which he passed judgment.

The view of Bob feeding a dog from his hand was beneath Adam, and overshadowed any relevance or importance that his work had become.

King David knew it was better to stand before God as judge who would show mercy than fall under the condemnation of a man who judges without mercy.

The Bible tells us in Romans 8:33,34, “Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect, it is God who

■ See Lane on next page

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Cyber Security
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August 24 | 11am and 6pm

New Thought topic: ‘What Makes Prayer Effective?’

By Lisa Burnson
New Thought Center for
Inspirational Living

“The mistakes of yesterday can be canceled. God’s creation is always taking place. No matter what the experiences of yesterday may have been, they can be changed.”
— Dr. Ernest Holmes.

All are welcome to join New Thought Center for Inspirational Living this Sunday, May 2, at 10 a.m. for our presentation, “What Makes Prayer Effective?”

Holmes believed that there are five components for prayer to be effective. We will discuss each of these components, and how to use them in prayer.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing.

We will have spirited live music.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is now every Monday at 6 p.m.

Band practice is every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join our

band. Please text Bruce at (970) 507-0739 to join or for band information.

May 28: Honoring veterans, time to be determined.

Please call/text (970) 510-0309 or (970) 309-6067 for information on upcoming events.

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 the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available).

Request prayer treatment or obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 309-6067. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought) or YouTube (Pagosa New Thought Channel).

Lane

■ continued from previous page justifies, ... and Christ who died and rose, stands at the right hand of God and makes intercession for us.”

Final brushstroke: Without regard for where life has taken us, we will all stand in judgment one day. Fortunately, God is not just a

God of justice, but also of mercy. Thankfully, our counsel in the courtroom of heaven is also the one who intercedes for us on earth. His name is Jesus.

Readers’ comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

New vaccine scams try to trick you

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 trained as 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.

Now that the COVID-19 vaccination program is well under way, new types of scams continue to emerge. See earlier columns for other pandemic and Medicare scams.

The tactics of trying to get a person to click on a dangerous electronic link, pay for a “free trial,” receive a “free” gift after paying a shipping or handling fee, and giving out your credit or debit card or bank information remain the same. Scammers may try to trick you to trust them if they have some of your personal information, which can be found on the Internet if you registered to vote or if they pay a small fee for directory information.

One scam involves fake emails or texts from a vaccine producer,

such as Pfizer, asking people to fill out a follow-up survey. None of the vaccine companies are sending out such surveys, but fraudsters can copy company logos and create emails or texts that look legitimate. The survey is tied to offers of a free gift or trial to get personal information.

Another illegal scam targets people who do not have vaccination cards. For example, an eBay seller offered “Authentic CDC Vaccination Record Cards” for about \$10. Buyers received a blank card and no cover pouch. No doubt such promotions will continue since vaccination cards may be required at schools, colleges, workplaces and while traveling. The use of such fake cards also poses risks to others if the carrier did not receive a vaccination and has the virus.

COVID-19 scams can be reported to the Department of Justice.

■ See Aging on next page

Area Agency on Aging

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Wellness is not a ‘New Age’ term

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

Wellness was coined as a collective term in 1961 by physician Halbert Dunn for lifestyles that pursue overall well-being. Well-being is the state of being; wellness is the actions and decisions we made in our daily lives that impact the state of our overall physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, occupational and social lives.

Wellness is an active process. That means we have to choose to be engaged. We know that eating well and physical exercise are important to our well-being. Other ways of boosting our well-being include bathing, reading, making or listening to music, and talking with others.

Caregivers provide the bridge for many of the activities above, including reading out loud or finding out what music that person likes and bringing that into the daily environment. Adults 60 and better who volunteer gain benefits across the board — and live longer and experience an improved sense of well-being. Less pain can be another gain from staying engaged, as is improved immunity, lower levels of depression, less isolation and improved memory.

Check in with yourself and see if there's anything that would make you or someone you love happier. Wellness throughout your life doesn't mean you don't age — it simply means you have greater enjoyment. You can choose the levels of social, intellectual and other engagement that suit you best, in keeping with the changes you experience over time in your abilities (or the abilities of those you love and care for).

You can learn about Archuleta Seniors Inc. programs here in Pagosa Springs, find resources for wellness and aging, and make reservations with The Community Café for take-out and Meals on Wheels at: <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

Meals on Wheels volunteers needed

The Pagosa Springs Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers approximately 3,000 fresh and frozen meals a year. We deliver

Senior News

fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to home-bound Archuleta County residents to help them stay healthy and independent in their own homes.

This program is vitally important because many seniors have little to no access to nutritious meals. They are often too frail or have health complications that prevent them from preparing meals for themselves or from using the Senior Center's Community Café drive-thru meals pick-up site Monday through Friday.

The Senior Center needs volunteer Meals on Wheels Drivers for one day a week (or become part of our substitute driver team). Please join us as part of our driver team and build wonderful relationships with the seniors in our community. Call (970) 264-2167.

VITA tax preparation

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 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 (970) 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 (970) 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 (970) 264-2167.

The Community Café menu

Thursday, April 29 — Pulled-pork sandwich, spaghetti squash with bok choy, milk, salad and lime dessert.

Friday, April 30 — Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, milk, salad and cranberry salad.

Monday, May 3 — Ham, penne pesto pasta, green beans with red peppers, milk, salad and cheesecake.

Tuesday, May 4 — Garlic chicken, sauteed spinach, focaccia bread with butter, milk and salad.

■ See Senior on next page



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Aging

■ continued from previous page
tice's National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at (866) 720-5721 or via its Web complaint form. For any scams, you can call Stop Fraud Colorado at (800) 222-4444. If you think your identity has been stolen or compromised, report it to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, (855) 443-3489 and the Federal Trade Commission at identitytheft.

gov. If you gave your Social Security number to a scammer or think someone else is using it, the Social Security Fraud Hotline is (800) 269-0271.

SJBAAA offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare; see sjbaaa.org. For further information and assistance, call (970) 264-0501 and listen to the recording to select an extension.



New Spring Menu, please make your reservation at OleMiners.com

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Protecting your plants from wild weather this spring

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Spring weather in Colorado can be temperamental; it can sometimes feel like we experience all of the seasons in a single day. This week alone we saw temperatures in the low 30s to highs of 75 degrees, with rain and snow forecasted.

These erratic fluctuations provide challenges for our gardens, but Colorado State University (CSU) Extension has put together some techniques which can help gardeners to extend the growing season and to protect plants against some these drastic weather patterns.

One of the most important factors to consider in vegetable gardening is when to plant your garden and the length of your garden's growing season. If planted too early, some vegetables can encounter challenges with frosts which can kill tender plants. But, if planted too late, crops may not mature by the time fall comes around. By planting the right plants at the right time you can help to cultivate a successful crop.

Hardy cool-season crops can often tolerate minor frosts and thrive in cooler weather conditions which dip as low as 40 degrees F. Some examples are broccoli, spinach and onions.

Warm-season crops are much more sensitive to frost and should not be planted until all danger of frost has past. These plants do better in temperatures ranging from 70-95 degrees. Some examples are tomatoes, peppers and watermelon. A longer list for these plants and more details on this topic can be found in CSU Extension's vegetable planting guide: <https://cmg.extension.colostate.edu/Garden-notes/720.pdf>.

There are a range of techniques which can be used to extend our growing season. These include things such as planting gardens on south-facing slopes, providing windbreaks, mulching and even covering plants when frosts are suspected. Sheets and blankets can be used to trap heat from the soil around young vegetables at night; these coverings should be placed

Extension Viewpoints

low to the ground and secured. In the morning after using sheets, if this fabric has become damp, it should be dried before being used for this purpose again.

More techniques and helpful tricks to extend the growing season can be found on a fact sheet on this topic: <https://cmg.extension.colostate.edu/Gardennotes/722.pdf>.

Frosts and cold snaps are one challenge, but hail can be one of the greatest risks to our gardens. Hoop houses or high tunnels can both extend the growing season and offer protection from hail. Hoops can also provide structures to which tightly woven "hail cloth" can be fastened for added protection; hail cloth can also be placed over tomato cages or other structures available in your garden.

Walls of water and gallon milk cartons (with the bottoms cut off) can be used to protect new seedlings. If you leave the cap off of these cartons, they can even be left over seedlings until the plant outgrows this structure. Your imagination is the limit. Before a hailstorm, cardboard boxes, plastic buckets and even sheets can help prevent some of the most extreme damage from occurring; however, you should never risk personal safety to protect your garden and should only implement these methods if you are able to get out far enough ahead of a storm for it to be safe.

A seven-minute video on hail mitigation and clean-up can be found by following this link to more information provided by CSU Extension staff: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQ9G6S4ODtA>.

A fact sheet on this topic can be found at: <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2017/05/May-27-2017-Hail-mitigation.pdf>.

Sometimes it isn't possible to protect our gardens from a rapidly

developing hailstorm. If you don't find yourself with enough notice that a potential storm is coming or perhaps find yourself away from your garden when this weather occurs, you should know that our plants can recover. They want to grow.

For perennials with foliage intact but stripped, remove flower stalks and cut them back leaving as many intact leaves as possible. Lightly cultivate the soil and apply a light dressing of low-nitrogen fertilizer.

Flowering annuals with no remaining foliage probably won't recover after a hailstorm. Petunias usually survive if there is at least some foliage still on the plant. Clean the plants of ruined foliage and apply a light application of fertilizer to help them recover.

Early vegetable root crops with no remaining foliage will not recover. They need the green leafy foliage to produce energy for the roots to grow. Leafy vegetable crops may recover; replant if you see no signs of new growth after a week or so.

The reality is that Colorado's climate and weather patterns are challenging for gardens. But, CSU Extension is here with specialized knowledge to help you grow successful gardens of abundance.

To get started, check out the Colorado Vegetable Guide: <https://growgive.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/63/2021/01/Colorado-Vegetable-Guide-2.1.pdf>.

For a wealth of information on gardening, I would also highly

■ See Viewpoints on next page



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Senior

■ continued from previous page

Wednesday, May 5 — Pot roast with gravy, mashed potatoes, milk, salad and blueberry cobbler.

Thursday, May 6 — Vegetable soup, leek quiche, boule bread with butter, milk and salad.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to drive through and pick up a meal.

For your convenience, you can

make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on days you know you will always pick up. Please cancel if you cannot attend on your standing reservation days. We want to thank everyone for their support by observing our reservation policy. This helps ensure that everyone with reservations receives a meal and enables us to provide additional and healthier meals.

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How does LLC ownership work?

By **Valerie Rodriguez**
McDonough Law

The limited liability company (LLC) is a popular business structure for new businesses, but what does it really mean to own an LLC?

LLCs provide unique opportunities to customize business ownership to fit the particular needs and circumstances of the owners. Here is what you should know

about LLC ownership.

The basics

The owners of LLCs are often called members. If a single person or a single business entity owns an LLC, it is called a single-member LLC. If multiple people or entities own an LLC, it is called a multi-member LLC. LLCs can have an unlimited number of members.

When ownership is established,

the membership interests are usually expressed in one of two ways:

- By membership units similar to corporate shares.
- By percentage.

The terminology you choose to use for a membership interest should correspond to your vision for the company. For example, if the business is owned primarily by your family, identifying the membership interests by percentages may keep things clear and straightforward. However, if you intend to seek funding from individuals outside of the family, you may find that labeling the ownership interests as membership units facilitates the easy transfer of ownership rights.

Establishing ownership rights

To be an LLC member, some form of contribution is required; however, the contribution need not be cash, which is called a capital contribution. LLC members can also contribute property or services. Additionally, unlike contributions to a corporation, when an LLC member makes a capital contribution, the concomitant ownership rights and distributions can be customized. For example,

■ See LLC on next page

Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page encourage you to check out our "Growing" resources at: <http://growandgivecolorado.org/>.

Upcoming event

May 4, 4-6 p.m., downtown TBK parking lot: Paper-shredding event. All proceeds go toward the Archuleta County 4-H Program. There is a three-box limit. There is a \$5/box suggested donation.

Grow and Give Program

The Grow and Give Program, <https://growgive.extension.colostate.edu/>, lets you learn to grow food and share the harvest locally. When you join, you have access to many resources on how to grow.

Help our local food resources.

Visit online

Visit us on the Web at <https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/> or Like us on Facebook and get more information: <https://www.facebook.com/CSUARCHCTY>.

CPR and first aid classes

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

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From Hobby Gardeners to Full Time Dirtbags

Taking responsibility in school

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Mrs. Ward was known as a strict teacher, and we experienced it firsthand. Of course, her sternness might have been out of necessity. Our eighth-grade social studies class consisted of 54 rambunctious boys and was the last period of the day. As a group, we seemed to oscillate between overly energetic one day to half asleep the next.

Mrs. Ward's class rules stated that if she caught a person doing something wrong or causing trouble, they would be immediately sent to the principal for disciplinary measures. Capital punishment with a big wooden paddle was still considered appropriate in that era. If she set forth a punishment, no questions were asked, and the person was marched off to what we often joked was the torture chamber.

Her rules also said that if someone did something wrong, and she couldn't figure out who it was, then the class must tell her. If no one

would, the entire class would be punished. Though we had been in

My pent-up energy got the best of me and took over my mental reasoning. I started making airplane bomber noises.

class almost an entire year, we had never had a full class punishment.

Nothing ever seemed to get by Mrs. Ward. She had an uncanny ability to always know who the perpetrator was, even when she was writing at the board and had her back to the class.

It was late May, and we were winding up our final studies about Europe when that changed. Mrs. Ward had traveled frequently to Europe and loved that section of the class. Unfortunately for me, with it being May, I was ready to be out of school and working on the farm. It took every ounce of discipline I could muster to sit in that seat for an hour.

Mrs. Ward said we had worked hard that week, so on Friday, she would show us some slides from her trips to Europe. She said we wouldn't have to have any homework for the weekend. That sounded good. But on that Friday,

■ See Responsibility on next page

LLC

■ continued from previous page

if one member were to contribute 40 percent of the capital in an LLC, that member and the other LLC members may still choose to split profits 50-50.

Generally, LLC members are entitled to share in the company's profits and losses, vote regarding key LLC matters, inspect and review the books, and enjoy a host of other rights. These rights stem from default state laws; however, they may be customized through contractual agreements. The contractual agreement that typically governs LLC ownership rights is an operating agreement.

Operating agreements may include the following common customizations:

- Distributing profits and losses in a way that does not match the members' capital contributions.
- Creating different classes of ownership to reflect passive investor rights.
- Mandating member meetings.

Transferring membership interests

Death, incapacity and sale are the primary events that trigger transfers of membership units. However, if you intend to transfer membership units to investors, be sure to evaluate whether your interest is a security under the federal securities law. If you offer your interest to less than 35 investors, your interest likely qualifies for an exemption that allows you to bypass the federal disclosure requirements and even some state securities law.

Management

LLC members can choose to be managed either by the LLC members (a member-managed LLC), or by nonowners or certain members designated as managers (a manager-managed LLC).

When an LLC is managed, it is vital to identify and articulate the decisions for which the members bear responsibility and the decisions the managers must make. If the decision-making authority is not clear, the resulting uncertainty can hinder effective management of the LLC.

Payment

LLC members can pay themselves in several ways, such as:

- Receiving income in the form of distributions of profits at the end of the year,
- Receiving draws, which are periodic payments based on the estimated profits for the year, or
- Receiving periodic payments as employees of the business.

These three methods are not mutually exclusive — a member can take advantage of more than one option. However, members must remember that each option has unique tax consequences. LLC members should account for Social Security and Medicare taxes. When LLC members pay themselves as employees, the LLC is expected to withhold taxes as it would for any other employee. Conversely, when members pay themselves based on their profits, they must pay self-employment taxes. Either way, LLC members must be mindful of the tax consequences of the payment methods they choose.

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Responsibility

■ **continued from previous page**
 the slides seemed to go on forever. I felt like if I had to see one more cathedral, I was going to go crazy.

At that point, she showed us a church that was bombed in World War II and had been beautifully restored. My pent-up energy got the best of me and took over my mental reasoning. I started making airplane bomber noises. Mrs. Ward immediately flipped the lights on.

“Who was making those dreadful noises?” she demanded.

In my defense, I thought they were pretty good, accurate sounds. Still, I knew I was in big trouble. However, no one answered. Lenny mouthed to me, “No one will tell on you.”

“Well then,” Mrs. Ward said, “if no one wants to tell me who it was, you will all be punished. You each have a five-page paper on the destruction of European cathedrals during World War II due next week, and you can spend part of your lunch hours working on it.”

The entire class groaned, but still no one showed any sign of rattling me out. I looked at all my friends, willing to take a punish-

ment to protect me, and I knew I couldn't live with knowing I had let that happen.

I slowly raised my hand. “It was me, Mrs. Ward.”

The look on her face changed from one of anger to one of shock.

“You realize you will be severely punished?” she asked. I nodded, so she said, “Why would you admit it if no one would tell on you?”

“Because it's not fair for everyone to have a punishment that should be mine alone, and if a teacher punishes students, the punishment should at least be fair.”

I didn't mean it as a criticism of her class rules. I was just stating how I felt. I hadn't realized how it had sounded until Lenny drew his hand across his throat as if to say, “You're dead!”

The expression on Mrs. Ward's face was hard to judge. She paused briefly, then said, “Daris, you will stay after class.” She then turned off the lights and continued the presentation.

When class ended, and everyone had gathered their books to leave, Lenny said, “I'll put some flowers on your grave.”

After everyone was gone, Mrs. Ward said, “I've never had anyone admit it was them when I didn't know. And your expression of justice has made me reconsider my methods.”

Instead of sending me to the principal, I had to do the extra papers, but I always felt good that I took the blame that was mine.

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Great Decisions Durango to hold eighth and final discussion for 2021 on Zoom May 4

Great Decisions

On Tuesday, May 4, at 11:45 a.m., Great Decisions Durango's eighth and final discussion for 2021 using Zoom will be “The Korean Peninsula.”

Moderator Holly Vaughn will present background materials and a film by the Foreign Policy Association, and lead participants in a discussion of the issues.

The public is invited to attend this free Zoom discussion. Details and registration information may be found at LWVLaPlata.org. Click on the Great Decisions menu item to find the Zoom link.

More information about Great Decisions and the Foreign Policy Association can be found at <http://www.fpa.org> or at the League of Women Voters of La Plata County website, <http://www.lwvlaplata.org>.



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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the cattle egret.

This is a bird native to Africa which only arrived in North America in the 1940s. Its range has been expanding since and it is now one of the most abundant herons on our continent. After fledging, young birds wander long distances in random directions, contributing to the widespread dispersal of the population.

Across their range, these egrets are named for the large, grazing animals they associate with and in other parts of the world are known as elephant birds and rhinoceros or hippopotamus egrets. Here, they are often found at the feet of cattle or riding on their backs, feeding on the insects attracted to and stirred up by cows as they graze. They will also follow tractors and fly toward smoke to capture the insects fleeing fire.

These egrets often live in drier habitats than other herons. Feeding alone or in large, loose flocks, they eat a wide range of prey including insects, mice, songbirds and their eggs, fish and frogs.

In breeding plumage, this small white heron has golden feathers on its head, back and breast, a short yellow bill and yellow legs. Nonbreeding birds are all white with black legs. Compared to other egrets, it has a relatively short, thick neck and short legs.

Recently, snowy egrets have been seen on the edges of Lake Forest. Elegant egrets are always a treat to see here.

For information on activities, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.



Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;

Hebrews 10:23

We may not get to where we aim, but our hope is always there. Hope is good. It keeps us going even at times against all odds or in the face of despair. We know life without hope is lived in despair.

Our hope is rooted in a God who cannot lie through a sought out, studied, tried, and tested faith.

Each of us has probably faced some despair over the last year. Let us not give up but continue to move forward in hope. If your hope has wavered or you would like to know more about eternal life, join us or give us a call.

Christians also have hope of eternal life. Hope that this life is not the whole show. Hope that there is something on the other side of death.

Join us ... Sunday AM Worship 10:30 a.m.
Pagosa Springs Church of Christ
 277 Lewis Street • 264-2552

The Weekly Crossword

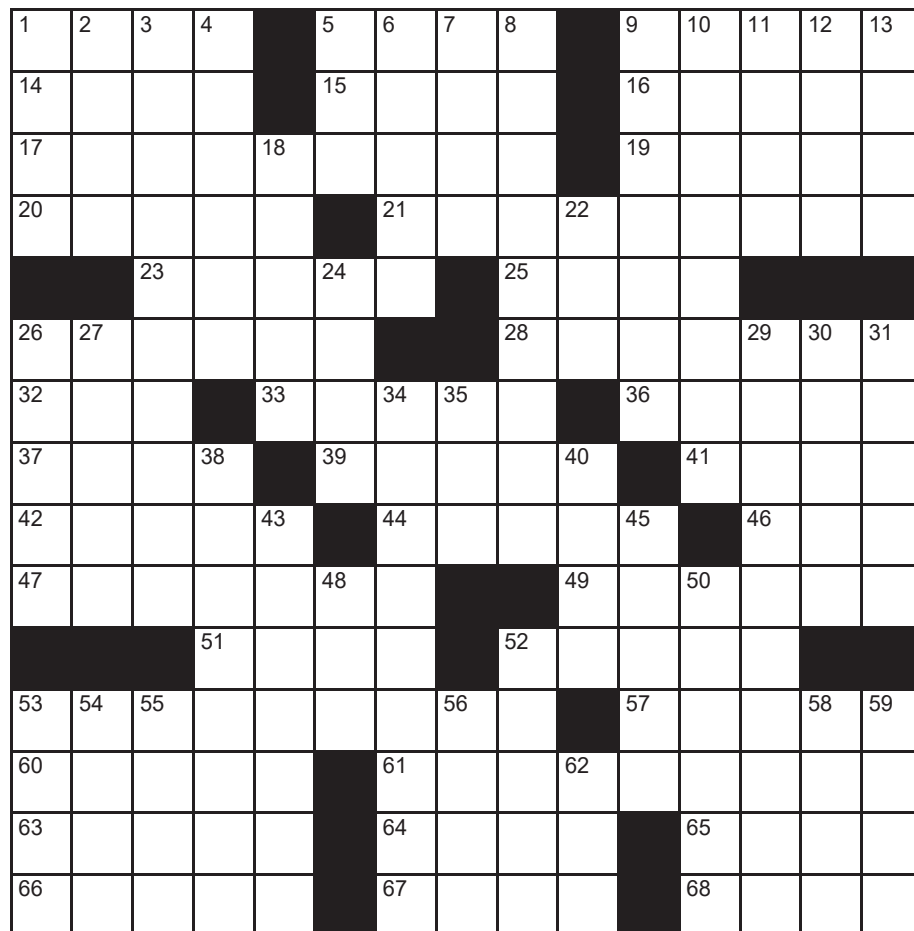
by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Parade entry
- 5 Idina Menzel's "Frozen" role
- 9 Prefix with manage or wave
- 14 Safe, at sea
- 15 It's out on a limb
- 16 Open, as a jacket
- 17 Unwavering
- 19 Far from fresh
- 20 Huge crowd
- 21 Protected
- 23 Certain believer
- 25 Hitchcock film, "___ Window"
- 26 Kitchen cleaner
- 28 Parsley, e.g.
- 32 Fido's foot
- 33 Kind of spray
- 36 "The Divine Comedy" author
- 37 Doohickey
- 39 Big commotions
- 41 Hold on property
- 42 Paparazzi target, briefly
- 44 Yard machine
- 46 Recurrent twitch
- 47 Supersize, say
- 49 Forcible seizure
- 51 Straight, at the bar
- 52 TV, radio, etc.
- 53 Home, to Americans abroad
- 57 Opening words
- 60 Like some tabloid headlines
- 61 Occupation featured in "Six Feet Under"
- 63 Japanese cartoons
- 64 It follows that
- 65 Axis of ___
- 66 Heron, eg.
- 67 Distort, in a way
- 68 Depend (on)

DOWN

- 1 Quite a party



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- 2 High in the Andes
- 3 Useless type
- 4 Make numb
- 5 Little toymaker
- 6 Smallest in degree
- 7 Scout's uniform item
- 8 Lingering light
- 9 Frank topper
- 10 Part of I.R.S.
- 11 Captain of industry
- 12 Anger, with "up"
- 13 Pundit's page
- 18 Lower oneself
- 22 Grassy meadow
- 24 Usher's offering
- 26 Nutmeg, e.g.
- 27 Eucharistic plate
- 29 Tagalong's lack
- 30 Ale holder
- 31 Consequently
- 34 Now and then
- 35 Big deal
- 38 In the ____.. (for now)
- 40 Dried up
- 43 Puppy supplier
- 45 Pie cuts, essentially
- 48 Lots of fun, slangily
- 50 Lobster feature
- 52 Combine
- 53 Picnic dish
- 54 Yellowfin, e.g.
- 55 Like Death Valley
- 56 Unhip sort
- 58 Commuter line
- 59 Nothing but
- 62 Kind of truck

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, April 29

Family Storytime. 10 a.m. Facebook Live. For all ages. Join us for great stories and plenty of reasons to get up and move. Storytime is a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Serving garlic, ginger and honey-glazed pork over rice and salad 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.

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 (970) 264-2209 or email for more information or 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 (970) 903-9690, or Nate at (970) 507-1004.

Friday, April 30

Free Babysitting Class and First Aid/CPR. Limited seating, so register now. Call (970) 264-5931 or go to <https://www.facebook.com/ArchuletaCounty4H> for more information and to sign up.

PALS, GED and College Prep Assistance by Appointment. Noon-3 p.m., Sisson Library. 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 (970) 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, May 1

Free Babysitting Class and First Aid/CPR. Limited seating so register now. Call (970) 264-5931 or go to <https://www.facebook.com/ArchuletaCounty4H> for more information and to sign up.

GriefShare Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A grief support group for those grieving the death of a spouse, parent, child or other family member or friend. The program consists of a video session, discussion and workbook for participants. A warm and safe place. We know it hurts and we want to help. For more information, call (970) 946-9379 or (970) 731-2205.

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 (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Monday, May 3

Writing Challenge. Facebook. For all ages. Calling all writers: challenge your creativity. Challenge details will be posted on the Library's Facebook page. Call (970) 264-2209 for

more information.
Medicare Counseling by Appointment. Are you turning 65 or confused about Medicare? The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers counseling through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. **See Calendar on next page**

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J. Julian Fine Skin Care offers natural product lines and cutting-edge treatments

J. Julian Fine Skin Care has opened a new location here in Pagosa Springs.

J. Julian skin care services include eco-friendly face and body treatments, skin consultation, hair removal, make-up applications, as well as a retail line of essential oils, supplements, and cosmetic products.

Joann Julian is a European-trained esthetician. She offers personalized solutions and tailored treatments for her clients. Julian is dedicated to using only premier products and cutting-edge treatments.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care is by appointment only and following COVID-19 protocols. For information and booking of your personalized treatment, please call 602.721.3464.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care is open Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Joann Julian

Neck-skin Tightening Treatment

Julian has partnered with RN Kelly Hannigan of New Neck Now to bring plasma skin regeneration method, PSR3, neck-skin tightening treatment to Pagosa Springs.



Hannigan focuses on neck-skin tightening to eliminate waddles, drapery and goosebump texture. She has done more than 6,000 treatments. She can also help tighten skin on the face, chin jowls and eyelids for a fresh look.

The PSR3 procedure involves pulses of nitrogen-based plasma, which is the ionized gas created when nitrogen is exposed to ultra-high frequency energy. Blasts of this nitrogen-based plasma are delivered to the surface of the skin. "The nitrogen component really nourishes and changes the cells," Hannigan says. "There's a three-fold result as it resurfaces the outer layer of your skin and tightens collagen all the way to the base of your layers."

Hannigan's FDA-approved treatment is one-time only for one hour. The dead skin sheds off the surface on days three and four post treatment, there is zero down time. Go to NewNeckNow.com for further information regarding psr3.

J. Julian Fine Skin Care will be bringing New Neck Now to Pagosa Springs. To book your appointment, contact Julian at 602.721.3464.

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2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Preview Calendar

continued from previous page
ment. Are you turning 65 or confused about Medicare? The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers counseling through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Kay at (970) 403-2165 or send an email to kkaylor@sjbaaa.org.

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.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-6 p.m. For teens and young adults. Join us on Google Meet for our ongoing game. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

Thursday, May 6

Family Storytime. 10 a.m. Facebook Live. For all ages. Join us for great stories and plenty of reasons to get up and move. Storytime is a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Serving taco salad with salsa and sour cream 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. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the Library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

English as a Second Language. 4-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-6 p.m. and intermediate students are encouraged to attend from 6-8 p.m.

PALS, GED and College Prep Assistance. 5-8 p.m., Sisson Library. 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 (970) 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org for more information.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Associa-

tion Virtual Lecture Series. 7 p.m. Our speaker will be Dr. Michelle I. Turner as she discusses "Chimney Rock as a Landscape of Interaction on the Chacoan Frontier." Space is limited and is first-come, first-serve. To join this zoom presentation, visit www.chimneyrockco.org/lecture.

Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at (970) 903-9690, or Nate at (970) 507-1004.

Friday, May 7

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.

DUST2: High School Girls' After-School Program. 3:30-5:30 p.m., Dakota Springs Trailhead. A program for any girl in the 8th through 12th grade who wants to bike after school. Loaner bikes are available for anyone who does not have one. If you want to participate, you must register and fill out a waiver form, which can be found on the website www.dustx2.org.

Saturday, May 8

LEGO Challenge. 10 a.m. Facebook. Break out your LEGO bricks and join the challenge. A new challenge will be presented each month. Check the specifications to see what you can create. No LEGOs? No problem. Stop by the library to pick up a grab bag that will help you complete the challenge. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

GriefShare Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A grief support group for those grieving the death of a spouse, parent, child or other family member or friend. The program consists of a video session, discussion and workbook for participants. A warm and safe place. We know it hurts and we want to help. For more information, call (970) 946-9379 or (970) 731-2205.

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 (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Monday, May 10

Medicare Counseling by Appointment. Are you turning 65 or confused about Medicare? The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers counseling through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Kay at (970) 403-2165 or send an email

to kkaylor@sjbaaa.org.
Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Line dancing is back. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., advanced at 10:15 a.m. Face masks/face shields are required. For more information, call Beverly at (970) 264-2064.

Tuesday, May 11

Medicare Counseling by Appointment. Are you turning 65 or confused about Medicare? The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers counseling through the State Health Insurance Assistance Program. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call Kay at (970) 403-2165 or send an email to kkaylor@sjbaaa.org.

HER Story. 8:30-9:30 a.m., PMAB + Movement, 140 Country Center Drive, Unit 2. 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 vio-

■ See Calendar on next page

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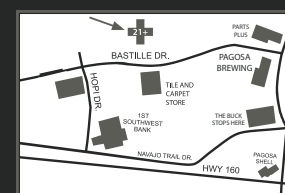
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How to make sure your personal brand appeals to a diverse audience

By Cathy Hayes
News and Experts

With the U.S. population becoming more diverse by the moment, anyone promoting their personal brand will find that their messages need to reflect society's changing demographics and attitudes — or risk that their efforts will fall on deaf ears.

After all, with marketing in general, consumers who don't see themselves reflected in the brands they buy from often feel inclined to take their dollars elsewhere. Just as an example, an Accenture survey found that 29 percent of shoppers say they are likely to switch to a business that values identity and diversity as much as they do.

The same holds true for personal branding, which needs to be inclusive to have the broadest appeal, said Adam Witty, the ForbesBooks co-author of "Authority Marketing: Your Blueprint to Build Thought Leadership That Grows Business, Attracts Opportunity, and Makes Competition Irrelevant."

But embracing inclusivity should be about more than just boosting your personal brand and your bottom line, said Witty.

"Inclusivity should be an imperative because it's the right thing to do," he said.

Witty offered a few suggestions to help make personal-branding efforts more inclusive:

- Review your website's appeal to diversity. Witty suggested asking yourself this question: When someone goes to your website, will

what they find encourage them or dissuade them from reaching out to you?

"Certainly, there's a lot that can go into answering that question, but inclusivity plays a significant role," he said. "If your website has stock or customer images or videos, who do they capture? Will people who visit the site find themselves represented in the visual material you share? If not, it's probably time to reconsider your approach."

- Make sure your language is inclusive. A website is much more than an online brochure, Witty said.

"It's an online-media property that should provide fresh content to inform and entertain your audience," he said. "You could think of it as your own personal newspaper."

But pay close attention to the language you use in that newspaper and make sure it's inclusive.

"Think about who your copy speaks to and who it excludes," Witty said.

Even words like "he" or "she" — which can be easily swapped for "they" — may limit the number of people who feel welcomed or valued by you, he said.

"It's worth double checking that you're not relying on stereotypes, either," Witty said. "For instance, traditional family and gender roles have gone out the window for so many people, and your approach should likely reflect that."

- Talk to your clients or customers. You don't have to just guess about what people need, Witty said.

"The only way to find out if you're truly serving your audience is to do your research," he said. "Don't hesitate to ask them what they want and need, and to inquire again at regular intervals."

Maintain a beginner's mindset. Witty suggested you can work on being more inclusive by adopting a beginner's mindset, an approach that originated in Zen Buddhism where you set aside what you know about a subject and approach it from a fresh perspective.

"When it comes to inclusivity, there is always more to learn," Witty said. "You'll never be finished, no matter how much homework you've done. Stay curious and open, and be willing to adjust when you acquire new information."

But even with the best efforts and best intentions, mistakes can occur.

"If that happens, be ready and willing to take responsibility for the issue and offer up a sincere apology," Witty said. "Then view it as another opportunity to learn and do better next time."



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■ continued from previous page

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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 (970) 799-8387 for more details.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. We are happy to help you resolve your basic technology questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices. We can also provide in-depth assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

English as a Second Language. 4-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second lan-

guage classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-6 p.m. and intermediate students are encouraged to attend from 6-8 p.m.

Community in Conversation. 5:30-7 p.m., Zoom. Join us for a Zoom discussion group on topics of importance to our town. This discussion book will be "Small Town America: Finding Community, Shaping the Future" by Robert Wuthnow. 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 (970) 903-9690, or Nate at (970) 507-1004.

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Pumping up fear along the Colorado River

By George Sibley
PREVIEW Columnist

Some Colorado River tribulations today remind me of a folk story: A young man went to visit his fiancé and found the family trembling and weeping. They pointed to the ceiling, where an ax was embedded in a rafter.

“That could fall,” the father quavered. “It could kill someone!”

Puzzled, the young man climbed onto a chair and pulled the ax out of the rafter. Everyone fell all over themselves thanking him. But he quickly broke off the engagement, concerned that such inanity might be inheritable.

This resembles ongoing dithering over the 1922 Colorado River Compact, a 99-year-old agreement among the seven states through which the Colorado River meanders, on how the consumptive use of the river’s water should be divided to give each state a fair share. The agreement was necessary to get federal participation (money) to build dams to control the erratic river.

The best they were able to do, given the sketchy information they had about each state’s future development and also about the flow of the river, was to divide the river into two “basins” around the natural divide of the Colorado River canyons: Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico in the Upper Basin; and California, Arizona and Nevada in the Lower Basin. Each basin would get to consume 7.5 million acre-feet of the river’s water.

This placed a responsibility on the Upper Basin states to “not cause the flow of the river at Lees Ferry (the measuring point in the canyons) to be depleted” below the Lower Basin’s share.

A generous reading of that lawfully clause in the Compact would say the upper states should just be careful that their water development doesn’t dip into the lower states’ allocation.

A less generous reading would say that if for any reason the flow at Lees Ferry fell below the average of 7.5 million acre feet — whether due to over-appropriation by the upper states or to a natural cause like a 20-year headwaters drought — the lower states would place a call on the upper states, which would have to cut their own uses and send their water downriver, whether they “caused” the shortage or not.

To maintain that flow in a

Writers on the Range

By the drought years of the 1930s, it was already obvious that the 7.5 million-acre feet Compact allocations were unrealistic.

drought, the upper states would bear the full pain of the drought for the whole river.

Guess which interpretation the upper states chose for their own 1948 compact? Never mind that a Compact call led by California for its share of water is nowhere mentioned in the 1922 Compact. The ax was planted in the rafter.

They might better have asked how the 1922 Compact creators themselves envisioned the unknown future. The transcripts of the 27 Compact meetings show that the seven state commissioners and their federal chairman Herbert Hoover were concerned, as late as their 21st meeting, that they did not know enough about the river’s flows to make a permanent equitable division of the waters.

Hoover summarized their concern and their intent: “We make now, for lack of a better word, a temporary equitable division,” leaving the further apportionment of the river’s use “to the hands of those men who may come after us, possessed of a far greater fund of information.” They even included in the Compact (Article VI) instructions for reconvening to consider “claims or controversy ... over the meaning or performance of any of the terms of this compact.”

By the drought years of the 1930s, it was already obvious that the 7.5 million-acre feet Compact allocations were unrealistic. That would have been a logical time for the upper states to pull the ax out of the rafter, before the river was so fully developed.

But they didn’t, and as the Compact began to take on the aura of something carved in stone on a holy mountain, the fear of the “Compact call” gradually descended into expensive paranoia.

The vastly expensive 24 million acre-feet of storage in Powell Reservoir just upstream from Lees Ferry was created there to fulfill the Upper Basin’s self-assumed “delivery obligation,” come hell or low water.

But now, hellish low water has come to Powell and Upper states are developing costly “demand management” programs whereby someone yet unspecified would pay ranchers to fallow fields so their water can be “banked” in Powell against the dreaded “Compact call.”

The seven states are now — finally — initiating negotiations on a more reality-based governance of the Colorado River. Let’s hope they have the good sense to pull that ax out of the rafters before negotiating fair water use under it.

George Sibley is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively discussion about Western issues. He has written extensively about the Colorado River.

Association seeking anyone who served in Army’s 2nd Infantry Division

By Mike Davino
Second (Indianhead) Division Association

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army’s 2nd Infantry Division at any time.

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A gift that is mine forever

By Dan Englund
PREVIEW Columnist

Dennis and I looked across this massive ranch as he pointed out something he wanted me to see and recognize. Something that made this spot where we stood so special.

Beyond this huge valley on a mountainside at least 20 miles away, you don't need binoculars to see it. An anomaly that stands in the forest, made of snow chutes and tree stands. Something that you can see from only this spot.

An enormous geometrical figure made of snow — a shield with an S snaking through it, an identical copy of Superman's logo.

Behind us lie the remains of another cabin from long ago. Could they have also noticed it? Is that why they built on this particular spot of land?

My life as a carpenter here in southwestern Colorado has taken me to some beautiful places. But this one takes the cake.

Creek after creek, drainage after drainage, waterfalls that take your breath away. The headwaters of a great river that flows through this enormous bowl that's filled with giant meadows. All surrounded by massive mountains reaching up to the Continental Divide.

Sixty-thousand acres with a gold mining and logging history that still lingers. Yet most of it sits untouched and wild.

Herd of elk and deer, flocks of turkeys, and bears and mountain lions are only some of the game that claim this their home.

The two of us standing on a brand-new porch, enjoying our moments of male humor, all the while, knowing that we only had so much time left to memorize all of this.

Dennis was going to retire soon and give up managing this place. And I was almost done building things here. Our moments at the Superman Cabin were coming to an end.

This place I call home, this beautiful valley I live in, is a diamond that has somehow escaped the development that has changed Pagosa Springs over the years.

My own home is tucked away on the side of a mountain surrounded by national forest and has the feel of something so much larger — A place that I selfishly protect.

A quiet home where I live alone. My decision to not have television, radio or landline. There is no Internet or Wi-Fi to fog up my mind. My solitude that has become my crutch, while I heal.

My first baby steps to try and

The Writers' Circle

mend a shattered heart have led to a long three-year journey — to understand my soul and find out who I really am.

A simple realization that the only thing I have any control over in this world are my own thoughts, emotions and actions.

I can create my own place in this world and choose to be happy or sad, angry and full of hate, or full of love and gratefulness for all this life has given me. It's my choice and nobody else gets a say.

Out on my porch sits a cot with a pad and a good sleeping bag. It's late November and the nights are freezing. There's a warm bed behind me in the house, but this is where I choose to spend my nights.

It's my choice to sleep outside and let my soul wander to search in the forest while I rest for another day.

My favorites are the clear nights with stars bombarding me and sometimes a moon so pleasing, when she lets me see her. Often, I have to walk around the house and find her to say goodnight before I let myself sleep.

Yes, the mornings arrive, and I wake just before the coldest moment.

This morning, I open my eyes to greet the first snow of the season. I steel myself as I step my bare feet into 4 inches of white powder that has covered me like a blanket. I shake the snow off my bedroll, turn around to accept the cold and look out at all the gifts that God has given me today.

Gazing across a canyon and a valley, I notice it for the first time. On the side of a distant mountain, a figure made of snow.

Not as massive as Superman, but clear as a bell and big enough

that I can't miss it.

A heart with an arrow passing through it.

I stand in awe taking in how perfect it is. How the pine and brush stands have arranged themselves with snowy draws to create something so beautiful.

The arrow has big fletchings and a slightly bent broad head as though it had taken a beating as it pierced through a pulsing heart.

Regretting that I have to get ready and go to work, I step inside to grab my camera. My photograph doesn't do it justice, but it's there and you can see it.

Most of all, deep inside me is my knowledge of a gift that is mine forever — to know that I belong here and remind me every morning to do my best.

We all show our hearts to everyone around us all the time. Sometimes it's good and beautiful, but lately it seems most of the time it's bad.

I'll show my heart to anyone interested in looking. Some see it right away. For others, I have to coax them to look harder into the snow. And others yet, I have to trace it out for them to see it.

Two questions that I ask myself every morning: How can I make a difference in somebody else's life today? How can I make a difference in my life today?

It's mid-April and my heart is still out there every morning, sitting on a northern face that a burning winter sun can't reach.

This morning as I bring my sleeping bag inside to dry out for another night, I think about a cabin with a message, a reminder that we are supermen and capable of so much.

And my home with another, this place that I built with all my love: I have to I take it with me everywhere I go.

And give it away.

This column includes both fiction and non-fiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.

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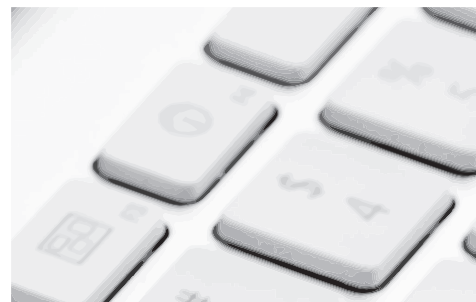
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Full-time preferred, seasonal is available.

Please apply in person!



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

NOW HIRING!

Tour & Raft Guides • Drivers

for touring/transportation company
Weekends • Evenings • Daytime

Full Time Office Help

5 days a week • 11am to 8pm
Paid vacation & IRA match
after 1 year.

Apply in person at

WJP/PRO

in the lobby of the
Pagosa Lodge 3505 W. Hwy. 160



PARTS PLUS

A busy parts distribution center seeks

Driver/ Warehouse Help

8-5 M-F, 8-noon Sat
Contact store manager
Doug
970-731-5995
23 Bastille

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR: Full time, must be proficient with ranch equipment, tractor, backhoe, skid steer. Apply with Pagosa Cattle Company, (970)264-5000 or frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

HOSPITALITY NINJAS! If you know hospitality and quality and are seeking the opportunity to work in a successful community-supportive business, join the team at Pagosa Brewing & Grill. Apply at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. or info@pagosabrewing.com. Cheers!

Business Development & Advertising Specialist

Our multimedia organization has an opening for a business development specialist. Willingness to learn various multimedia platforms and a desire for growth in this position are a must.

We are taking applications for a part-time (up to 30 hours per week) business development position.

Successful applicant will have computer experience, creativity, organizational skills and demonstrate proficiency with spelling and grammar.

Position offers salary, plus commission. Work hours will be split between office and being in the field. Applicant must have reliable transportation.

Following local health department guidelines is required.

Submit your resume to helpwanted@pagosasun.com or drop off at 457 Lewis Street. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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



Rosie's is hiring!

Come join one of the best crews in Pagosa!

Looking for some full-time kitchen help.

Experienced preferred but will train the right person. Pay based on experience. We offer very competitive pay.

Apply in person at
100 Country Center Dr. Suite C.

Or email your resume to
Rosiespagosa@gmail.com

RETAIL LIQUOR STORE needs reliable, dependable sales clerk. Raise after training. Some lifting required. Must have good attendance record. PU app at PLAZA LIQUOR downtown.

THE TILE & CARPET STORE seeks applicants for a full- or part-time customer service/sales position, weekdays 8a.m. to 4:30p.m. No weekends required. Candidates must be friendly, well organized, willing to learn, pay attention to details, have good problem-solving abilities, basic computer knowledge and the ability to lift 50+ lbs. Resume required, please email to: thetilestorepagosa@hotmail.com.

CONSTRUCTION HELP NEEDED. Many different phases of work. Equipment operator/labor needed. Must have driver's license. Please call UCAL, Inc. at (970)946-1169 and leave a message or email at donaldford51@hotmail.com.

FULL TIME- HANDY PERSON/ Repair Person. Please fill out application with Pagosa Cattle Company, 452 Pagosa Street, Ste. 2A, Pagosa Springs, (970)264-5000.

PART TIME, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, Groomer wanted. Must have 1-2 years experience. Please drop off resume at Chow Down, 100 County Center Drive.

EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION HELP NEEDED. Reliable transportation required. Excellent pay based on experience. Please call (970)403 5119.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosa-schools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Current openings are Career and Tech Ed Director and Maintenance Director, Elementary School Crossing Guard, Bus Drivers, and Substitutes for all positions. Opening for 21-22 school year is Elementary Classroom Teacher. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

AREA BEST HEATING AND COOLING is looking for quality full-time experience and apprentice. Contact Kelly (970)946-6314.

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK is looking for a Teller. Are you looking to work for a company with a purpose for the greater good? Do you love cutting edge technology and want to work with a highly driven and fun team? Offering a strong benefit package and career growth opportunities. EOE. For more details and to apply, visit https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/.



\$300 SIGNING BONUS

through September 6, 2021

NOW HIRING!

Guest Room Attendant (Housekeeping)

Bath house Attendant

Pool Grounds Attendant

Hotel Grounds Attendant

Reservationist

Guest Service representative

Front Office Manager

Licensed Massage Therapist

Grill Cook

We offer Competitive Pay & Full Time Benefits:

- Medical, Prescription, and Vision Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Paid Time Off
- Holiday Pay
- 401K with Company Match
- Sick Pay
- Hotel Room Discounts
- Free Soaking Privileges for Associate & Immediate Family

Ideal candidates must have a flexible schedule, including working weekends and holidays.

Applications must be submitted online:

Visit [Indeedjobs.com/the-springs-resort-spa](https://www.indeed.com/the-springs-resort-spa) or email your resume to aalston@pagosahotspings.com

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

FT AQUATIC AND BUILDING Maintenance Supervisor. PLPOA is hiring an Aquatic and Building Maintenance Supervisor for Pagosa Lakes Recreation Center. This position is responsible for overall maintenance of the recreation center and recreation center property. This includes the pool and hot tub, as well as general facility and exercise equipment maintenance and repair. CPR required within 3 months. AFO or CPO certification a plus. Pay range: \$17.71-\$25.42 per hour DOE. Full-time position with excellent benefits. Submit resume to rbuck@plpoa.com Phone (970)731-2051. Position is open until filled. EOE.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

ELEMENTARY TEACHER NEEDED at Del Norte Elementary School. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at (719)657-4030. Applications can be picked up at the District Office or online at [urtigers.co](https://www.urtigers.co).

UTILITY SUPERVISOR. The Town of Pagosa Springs is seeking to hire a Utility Supervisor in the Public Works Department. This position is full time and eligible for benefits. Wages start at \$48,594 annual DOE. Apply online under Job Opportunities on the Town's website at www.pagosaspings.co.gov.

CALLING ALL COOKS! If you enjoy preparing high-quality food and the opportunity to work in a community-supportive business, join us at Pagosa Brewing & Grill. Kitchen Team shares in tips! Apply at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. or info@pagosabrewing.com. Cheers!

LABORERS NEEDED. GOOD PAY, full-time. (970)403-2228.

CDL/ TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. Minimum 1 year experience. Forestry equipment knowledge helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Send resume to PO Box 4490, Pagosa Springs CO 81157 or email: frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com. EOE.

LOCAL GRANITE SHOP looking for fabricators, installers and laborers. Full- and part-time positions are available. Pay based on knowledge/ experience, but also willing to train the right people to learn a great trade! Call Eli (970)946-7132.

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Scott Erickson
Board Certified
Hearing Instrument
Specialist

Did you know

that your **hearing health** has a direct effect
on your **overall health and well-being?**



Tinnitus



Up to 90% of people with tinnitus have some level of noise-induced hearing loss.

Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis can adversely affect the **three tiny bones** in the middle ear, which can lead to hearing loss.

Hypertension

High blood pressure can be an accelerating factor of hearing loss in adults.



Obesity

Higher body mass index (BMI) and larger waist circumference are **associated with increased risk of hearing loss in women.**



Safety/Balance

People with mild hearing loss are **3x more likely** to have a history of falling than people with normal hearing.



Isolation

Untreated hearing loss can contribute to social isolation, anxiety, depression and cognitive decline.

Cognitive Decline

Adults* with hearing loss experience a **30-40% faster decline in cognitive abilities** than their peers with normal hearing.

*75 years and older

Depression



In a recent survey, adults* with untreated hearing loss were **more likely to report depression**, anxiety and paranoia than peers who wore hearing aids.

*50 years and older

Eye Health



Vision helps you identify where a sound is coming from.

Heart Health

A healthy cardiovascular system has a **positive effect** on hearing.

Smoking



Current smokers have a **70% higher risk** of having hearing loss than nonsmokers.

Diabetes



Hearing loss is **twice as common** in people with diabetes as their peers without.



Ototoxicity

Ototoxicity is a common cause of hearing loss.

Over 200 medications, including aspirin, certain antibiotics and some anti-cancer drugs, are known to be ototoxic (which literally means "poisonous to the ears").



Our office is safe and sanitized!

Your health and safety has always been our top priority — which is why we follow CDC guidelines.

We accept:





THIS SCREENING COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!!!

Learn about health risk factors with RightPath Health Screenings' Options:

ABDOMINAL ULTRASOUND SCREENINGS

Liver
Kidney
Gallbladder
Pancreas
Spleen
Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENINGS

Heart Ultrasound
Atrial Fibrillation
Stroke Screening
(Carotid Artery Ultrasound)
Thyroid Ultrasound
Peripheral Arterial Disease
(PAD)

All 11 screenings for only \$200.00!

Blood pressure, pulse, blood oxygen saturation level, and temperature are included FREE with all health screenings. Understanding your medical risk factors is of utmost importance. RightPath's health screenings are thorough & safe and can help you gain awareness of possible health concerns.

Friday, May 7th, 2021
Community United Methodist Church

434 Lewis St., Pagosa Springs

Appointment is Necessary

Call: 800.770.0240

Please wear a mask

More info at: www.rightpathscreenings.org

Like us on Facebook

*RightPath Health Screenings has
been providing options in
preventive health care for 33+ yrs.*

*RightPath Health Screenings
is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
organization.*

*"My first RightPath screening was an amazing experience. Their techs were so totally knowledgeable and professional, friendly and helpful. I learned so much in a short period of time. Now I've had my 2020 screening and I have decided to make this an annual event. It was the same wonderful experience with the same wonderful techs. I'll be back again next year!
Catherine - AZ*

RightPath
HEALTH SCREENINGS
Now you know.

CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENINGS

HEART ULTRASOUND

Screening visualizes the heart valves, measures systolic function, the motility of the left ventricle, ejection fraction and dimensions of the atrium and ventricles.

ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

Atrial Fibrillation is a heart rhythm problem found in almost one in every 150 people causing palpitations, shortness of breath, fatigue and risk of stroke.

STROKE SCREENING

(CAROTID ARTERY ULTRASOUND)

Stroke is the most common cause of long term care admissions in the US. This screening visualizes the level of plaque buildup in the carotid arteries.

THYROID ULTRASOUND

Screening detects cysts, nodules and other abnormalities that may indicate signs of thyroid disease.

PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE

(PAD)

Peripheral Arterial disease (PAD) is a condition where blood circulation is restricted in the legs. It affects over 8 million Americans. This screening detects signs of circulatory problems in the lower extremities.

ABDOMINAL ULTRASOUND SCREENINGS

ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM

Aneurysms form as a result of weakening in the arterial wall. This ultrasound screening detects aneurysms in the aorta which is the largest artery in the body.

LIVER

The screening scans for cysts, nodules, masses and texture/density/size changes in the liver.

KIDNEY

The screening scans for cysts, nodules, masses, stones, fluid and other abnormalities.

GALLBLADDER

The screening scans for stones, sludge, wall thickening and other abnormalities

PANCREAS

The pancreas is an important organ providing essential hormones and digestive enzymes. This screening detects small lesions, abnormalities and other signs of disease.

SPLEEN

The spleen is an essential organ to the immune system and red blood cells. The screening detects any enlargements and other abnormalities.

ALL 11 SCREENINGS FOR ONLY \$200.00

Appointments are required. Please call 602-254-7130 or toll free 800-770-0240. Please wear a two-piece outfit. A minimum 4-hour fast is required with the Abdominal Package. A confidential report is immediately provided.



www.rightpathscreenings.org Like us on Facebook