



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 112 — NO. 15, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2020

Medical center affected by ransomware

No patient information compromised

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC, operated by the Upper San Juan Health Service District) became the second local governmental entity within a month to be forced offline by ransomware.

Archuleta County was hit on Nov. 23, 2019, and PSMC's information technology (IT) services provider, Synoptek, was hit on Christmas Eve.

"It wasn't about us," PSMC CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb clarified last week. "It was against our managed IT services."

"A national information technology (IT) management company used by more than 480 customers was hit with a Sodinokibi ransomware attack during the early hours of December 24, 2019," a PSMC press release states. "The attack impacted many of the IT company's customers, including Pagosa Spring Medical Center, and a large Denver-based radiology group that remotely interprets x-rays and other diagnostic images for PSMC and other healthcare providers in rural Colorado."

The press release explains that hackers used Synoptek's remote management software to "install and execute malicious software that locked portions of the IT company's customer networks."

■ See Ransomware A8



Storm dumps 54 inches of snow at Wolf Creek

Photos courtesy Christi Bode/Wolf Creek Ski Area

Wolf Creek Ski Area welcomed a storm on Christmas Day that left 27 inches of snow followed by another fast and furious storm that dropped significant snowfall. The mountain received 54 inches of snow over seven days. The storms that delivered big snow for Wolf Creek elevated the season-to-date snowfall total to 193 inches.



Sheriff: Staffing levels at new jail will be 'challenging'

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County's \$14.5 million jail is set to open this summer, but the staffing numbers authorized by the county will make operating the facility "challenging," according to Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez.

Last fall, during budget negotiations, the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office requested five additional detention deputies for operating the jail, three kitchen staff and five additional detention deputies for transport, to shuttle inmates between the jail in Pagosa Springs and the Archuleta County courts, which are currently operating out of Durango.

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) authorized zero additional deten-

■ See Jail A8

Drop off Christmas trees for free

By Martin Schmidt
Special to The SUN

This year, the free Christmas tree drop-off for the Town of Pagosa Springs will be in the vacant lot across from the Post Office. Please leave the trees to the south and west of the Bank of the San Juans. Please call 264-4151, ext. 251 with any questions.

Town talks Cotton Hole Park traffic circulation, trail alignment

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

In order to help determine the path of the Riverwalk section slated to run along Hermosa Street and through Cotton Hole Park, the Pagosa Springs Town Council discussed several traffic circulation options for the dead end on Hermosa Street at its meeting on Dec. 19, 2019.

Traffic circulation on Hermosa Street and the alignment of the new trail have been discussed several times in recent months, with the town working toward trail construction in 2020.

In 2018, the town purchased lands to begin acquiring the area known as Cotton's Hole as a formal public town park. This park is located at the east end of Hermosa Street along the river and had historically been used by the public as a park area

and to access the San Juan River. However, the area was predominantly private property.

The town also recently received a State Trails grant to extend the Riverwalk from Town Park heading east along Hermosa Street and through Cotton Hole Park and to U.S. 160 near the 1st Street bridge.

■ See Park A8

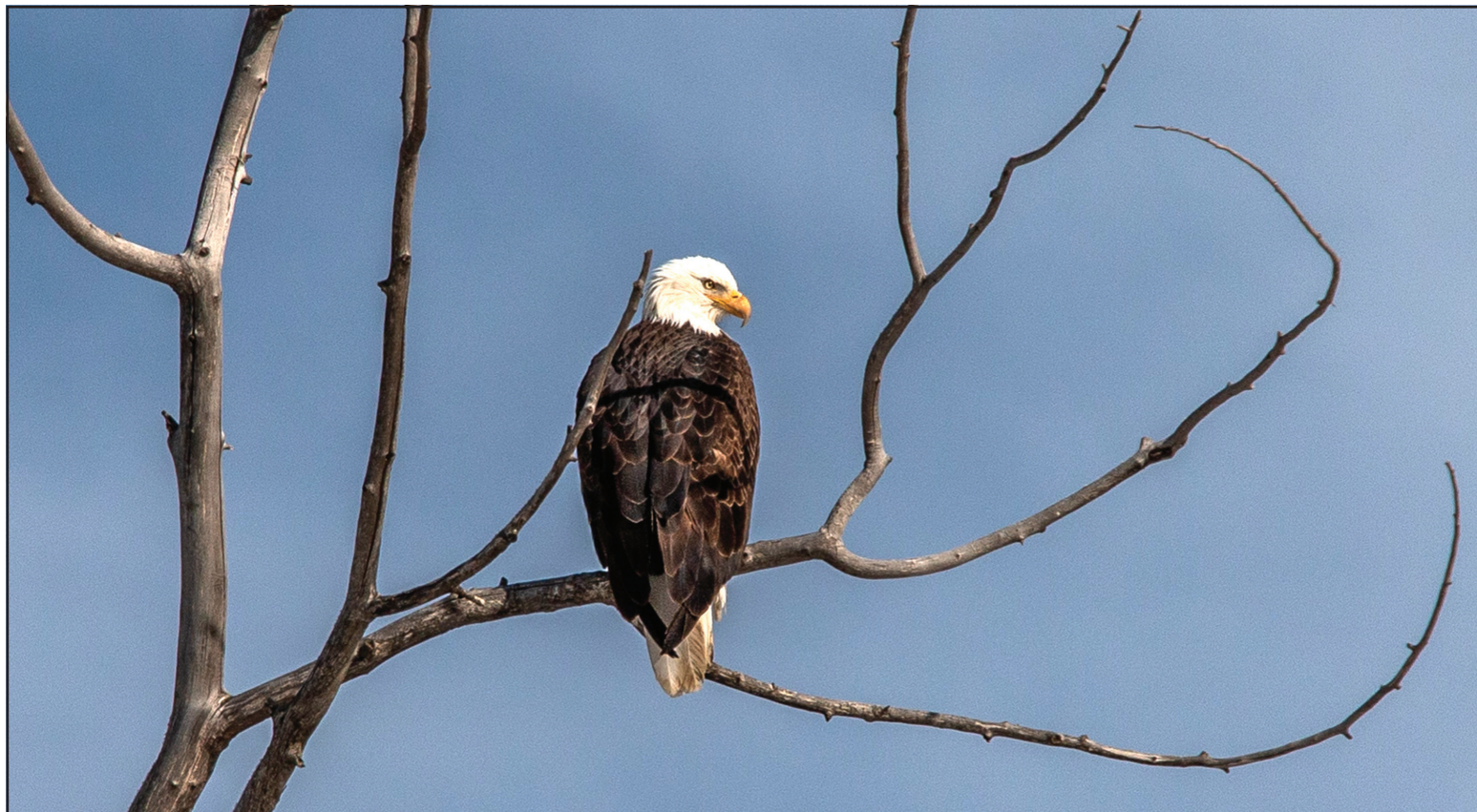


Photo courtesy Steve Merchant

An eagle is perched high in a bare tree facing the San Juan River across from Town Hall recently. The eagle appeared to be engaged in fishing and kept a sharp eye on the photographer.



Photo courtesy Mike Buckingham

The Pagosa Fire Protection District urges citizens to clear out around fire hydrants due to the large amount of snow already received and still expected in the coming months. Firefighters digging out a hydrant during an emergency can delay water supply and significantly hinder a fire attack. This photo was taken last winter.

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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12/25	33	21	S	3.9"	.30"
12/26	33	20	S	2.4"	.23"
12/27	38	24	S	1.7"	.08"
12/28	29	19	S	1.5"	.16"
12/29	20	4	S	2.7"	.09"
12/30	22	-3	S	0.2"	.02"

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EDITORIAL

More ideas from readers for 2020

The new year is upon us, and in the tradition of a fresh start with the fresh year, we asked readers to share their ideas for the changes they want to see in Pagosa Country during 2020.

This is a continuation from last week, where we started out with several people focusing on the need for better roads and better driving.

Leanne Haase Goebel wants, "More neighbors and fewer vacation rentals along with industry that helps us build a year-round economy and not a seasonal tourist-based situation with part-time residents and visitors who have no idea how hard it is to actually live and survive here."

Krissy Gardikis wrote, "I'd like to see more LOCAL businesses thriving. Less vacation rentals (try living next to one, it's not fun)."

Cheto Matthew Chavez wants, "Better internet and cell service."

Rhonda Webb hopes for, "Working together. ... To find solutions to problems."

Judd Campbell wrote, "I would like some sort of animal control law as we only have 1 full time and one part time to help. I don't understand how a county or city operates without a rabies law like most cities. You have to

pay \$20 a year and show your animal is vaccinated then that provides the income to pay for more animal control employees."

Jeremy Brousseau commented, "How about a sledding/tubing hill for the kids since the golf course closed off the spot where all the kids gathered and used to have a great time. And improving the county roads couldn't hurt none either."

Justin Teague replied, "Jeremy Brousseau have you visited the sledding hill at Reservoir Hill? We have had a great time sledding there."

Jenny Lynn Heckmann added, "Ouray has a ski hill with a tow rope. Something like that would be good."

Pamela Roeder wrote, "Would love to see a bowling alley/ indoor skating rink like we did have years ago more Family & kid friendly place & upgrading and improving our county roads but most of all i hope we never lose our small town feel still love the waving between folks passing on the country roads we are all blessed to live in beautiful Pagosa Springs."

Tammy Boen replied, "Pamela Roeder it hasn't felt like small town lately."

Sally Auman suggested, "Have monthly best landscaping and yard

contests to encourage residents near town to spruce up. Get businesses to donate prizes."

Casey Fisher wants, "Maybe going back to the basics. It's nice to have friendly neighbors who help each other. Not having box stores was nice. Having the small town atmosphere, knowing most everyone in town. Growing up here was awesome, moved away, and then back again. We don't need food, clothing, or shopping chains. We need the small town vibe still!"

Shelley Johnson wrote, "Healthy food options, farm to table, wine bar."

Lucinda Morris Tagliareni shared, "Same as my long list last year: Rec center, pickleball courts, healthy restaurant, full service car wash."

Paula Keller-Dorame wrote, "Absolutely nothing...Love my Pagosa the way it is..."

Space doesn't allow for us to print every idea that we received. We'll share more of the ideas submitted in the weeks ahead.

One thing's for certain, we have a lot to look forward to in 2020. Let's all do our part and resolve to get involved to make our community better.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 2, 1920

A.T. Sullenberger has erected a large ice house on one of the vacant lots to the rear of his new building and the same is now being filled by W.C. McComas for the use of his new drug store the coming summer season.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Day, the newlyweds, entertained a number of the young set last evening at their home in the park.

Mr. David Hersch was host last evening to a big New Year's dinner at the Arlington hotel. Covers were laid for twelve. Archie Toner and Harold Chapson, two of the county boys attending Fort Lewis school, spent the holidays with their relatives here.

Earl Parmenter and Teeve Peterson and families partook of a fine Christmas dinner at the U.S. Chambers home. All report a good time.

"Stuff" is getting to be the popular game at Chromo these days. Geo. Young seems to be champion so far, but he has been playing in Pagosa quite a lot this fall.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 5, 1945

Mrs. Kenneth Day is the new secretary at the Production Credit Office, taking up her duties Tuesday morning and replacing Margaret Bramwell, who says she's going to visit her sister, Mrs. Dave Stephens, at Rifle, for a few days.

Miss Minnie Hotz tendered her resignation at the telephone office this week, effective Jan. 15. Betty Lattin will help out until more permanent arrangements are made. Minnie will take a rest before she decides what she will do.

Mrs. David Hersch and Leo Wiley brought Mrs. Marguerite Wiley home Tuesday from the hospital in Del Norte, where she had been receiving treatment for the past week for a severe bronchial condition.

County Commissioners, Dailey Hott and John Stevens and County Clerk, Frank Conner, left Wednesday morning for Denver, where they will attend state conventions of county officials.

Commissioner Charles Pargin was unable to attend the convention, as he couldn't get anyone to feed his stock while he would be gone.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 1, 1970

Snow on Wolf Creek Pass isn't piling up very fast in December but there is still plenty there for fine skiing and snowmobiling. Total snowfall, as recorded at the highway camp by Curtis Strain, shows December with a total fall of 33 inches. This is total fall through December 28 and it is always possible that there can be more although there are no indications of this as we go to press Wednesday.

The snowfall for this part of winter is now slightly below normal. Last year at this date 190 inches had fallen, 141 of that in December. The year before 196 inches fell in December. The lightest snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass during December in the past 15 years was 1963 when only 34 inches fell.

An unusually heavy snowfall in October is the only way that snowfall this year has been near normal for the season. 81 inches fell that month. November's total was 35 inches. This is somewhat below normal. December's is far below normal.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 5, 1995

Town trustees were told Tuesday night of plans by the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department to seek grants to fund improvements to local recreational amenities. Parks and Recreation director Doug Call presented his plans to the trustees, saying he intends to apply for two grants from the newly formed Great Outdoors Colorado program. The first grant will be for \$100,000 and will, if received in whole or part, be used for improvements to the South Pagosa Park to be built on South 8th Street. The \$100,000 Great Outdoors grant would require a 15 percent match from the town.

The second grant Call will seek is for \$30,000, with a required 50 percent town match. Call said the money would, if received, be used to improve the hiking trails the town built on Reservoir Hill. There are currently 6 miles of trails on the hill, with sections of trail at different stages of development.

WHADDYA THINK?

How long will you keep your resolution in the new year?

Poll results (96 votes)

- One week — 6 percent
- One month — 4 percent
- Six months — 1 percent
- All year — 19 percent
- I do not make resolutions — 70 percent

Vote this week online:
What is the worst part about driving in winter?
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264-8304
Alvin Schaaf
264-8305

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LOOKING BACK



From the Dec. 4, 1980, Pagosa Springs SUN. JUNIOR PLAYERS — Members of the Pagosa Pirate girls basketball team from the junior class are, left to right: Audrey Reeves, Georgia Maez, Laura Aldridge, Becky Taylor, JoJo Sorenson and Germaine Gallegos.



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.

'Support my country'

Dear Editor:
Mark Twain wisely said, "Patriotism is supporting your country all the time, and your government when it deserves it". With the current president, I do not believe our government deserves my support, or yours. You may not agree; and that is your right. That is why I support my country.

Ron Hardeman

Wolves: 'Better have the facts'

Dear Editor:
In the Thursday, December 12, 2019 addition of the Pagosa Sun you carried an article entitled "Commissioners may oppose wolf reintroduction". It would appear all those Commissioners present were against wolf introduction, for which I applaud them for their stance. In every state that has had wolves introduced or reintroduced or have had wolves historically, this day and age their game agencies have lost control of their management because of the many well-funded law suits and activist judges now setting on a multitude of benches throughout the land. Without exception, wolves have presented sever management problems for ungulates where ever the two occur together, but we must fight with correct information. County Attorney Todd Weaver stated we needed to use factually accurate information, but then goes on to use as his example

"his" fact that there are no wolves in Minnesota and that they are not killing Moose. The fact is there are approximately 2,423 wolves in Minn. More than Wyoming, Idaho and Montana combined. (1,657) He should ask the Minn. Game and Fish how their Moose are in regards to their wolves. My point: We don't need wolves unless we are willing to give up large numbers of our deer, elk, moose, sheep, etc. And we ourselves better have the facts or it's apt to turn around and hit us in the face.

Craig Hinger

Urban Renewal Authority

Dear Editor:
I wanted to congratulate the Town of Pagosa Springs for approving a Urban Renewal Authority (URA). As an economic development district, Region 9 Economic Development District knows URAs can be a wonderful tool to fund new projects and shape future development in identified areas. Change is always uncomfortable, but the community interest-to-date indicates that this effort will be well vetted, and due diligence provided. Over 50 Colorado communities are taking advantage of this financing option, which brings public and private sector partners together. URAs can:
• Strengthen the economic base and increases property values
• Provide for creative financing without raising taxes
• Facilitate infrastructure and mixed-use projects
• Redevelop targeted areas while maintaining Pagosa Springs unique character
The current communities that have URAs also provide examples that Pagosa Springs and the URA

board can look at. Neighboring Durango is also looking at a URA to revitalize identified areas and facilitate new projects without increasing taxes. We look forward to working with you as this project moves forward.

Laura Lewis Marchino, CECd, executive director, Region 9

'Senseless death'

Dear Editor:
I was reading recently that a 51-year-old Native American grandmother Annette Conquering Bear was running an errand on December 17 when an SUV being driven by Juan Sanchez struck her as she was crossing the street. She was killed and Sanchez fled the scene to avoid arrest. Turns out that Sanchez is in this country illegally, having been deported six times already. That makes him a felon under federal law.

Denver officials insist that if Sanchez posts bond, he will be released and ICE will not be notified. Turning a felon loose on society. Brilliant.

You can bet your bottom dollar that if Sanchez makes his bail, he will be in Mexico before the ink dries on the paperwork. While that solves the problem of Sanchez being in the country illegally, it denies justice to the victims family.

But Denver doesn't care about that.

Officials in Denver think it more important that Sanchez be granted bail than face federal prison and eventual exportation.

What is it with Denver? Illegal aliens are more important that the safety of the general population. Protection felons over the safety of citizens. What kind of insanity is that?

Sanchez should never be in this country, walking free, pro-

tected by Denver city officials.

In my view, those opposing strong border enforcement, including a wall, and enforcing sanctuary city policies share responsibility for this tragic and senseless death.

Barry Smith

Be thankful everyday

Dear Editor:
Well, all the celebrations are done — how are you feeling? Happy New Year, right? I certainly hope so. As I said in my December Letter, it is time for us to celebrate the 12 months of Christmas rather than just 12 days, as the familiar song says.

Well, so here we are — this would be the first month of Christmas, 2020. Let's take a deep breath, be thankful every day, enjoy what is beautiful and believe that as we give to the world, the world will give to us.

I recently heard that Colorado is the fastest growing state in the country. This should not surprise anyone. It seems that everyone wants to live here. Yes, our culture is unique. I think back as to what attracted my husband and me back in 1977. We were tired of "city life", we fell in love with the mountains, there was no stress, folks were hard-working, cared for one another with love. All lived lives of sacrifice, nothing was "handy", they "made do" with what they had and the challenges made them strong. Together, we have built a wonderful community — beginning with much volunteer service, e.g., ambulance, fire, forest, senior center etc.

Yes, since we arrived, our beautiful place has grown from a mere "Village" to a "Mountain Town". Newcomers have adopted "our ways" of compassion, responsibility, and community involvement. So, if you plan to live here, learn "our ways". You will find true happiness — it's about purpose and love. Those who receive help, begin to help others as soon as they are able. Think about it — oh, but do more than that, do it. Yes, when others come with love, we preserve those things that have made us "unique".

Yes, all are loved.

Patty Tillerson

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:

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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 in support of a political candidate or issue will be printed each edition.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.

It's not too late: Health insurance open enrollment continues

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) reminds Colorado residents that Health Insurance Open Enrollment continues through Jan. 15.

Individuals and families can still get insurance through Connect for Health Colorado, as well as financial help to pay for it, until Jan. 15. After that, until next November, enrollment will only be available to people with certain life change events, such as having a child or losing employer-offered insurance. Call SJBPH for details.

SJBPH can provide help to un-

derstand insurance options as well as financial assistance opportunities. Residents are encouraged to call health coverage guide Kevin O'Connor at 335-2021 before Jan. 15 to take advantage of this free public service.

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Obituaries

Gerda Brienven

After battling Parkinson's disease for about six to seven years and related dementia for about three years, Gerda Brienven passed away peacefully on Christmas Eve at her home and is now with her Lord and Creator.



Gerda was born in Mortsel, Belgium, on May 20, 1934, and was the middle of three children,

with her older brother passing away in Lima, Peru, about five years ago and her younger sister still living near Florence, Italy. In her adult life while still living in Belgium, she was a sixth-grade school teacher in an all-girl Catholic school. In 1976, her husband, working for an American oil company, was transferred to the USA and Gerda lived in Pennsylvania near Philadelphia; Redding, Conn.; near Houston, Texas; and she and her husband retired in Pagosa Springs in 2002.

Her remains will be cremated and a celebration of her life will be arranged at a later date, probably late spring or early summer.

William Arthur Craig

William Arthur Craig, known affectionately as Wild Bill by his grandchildren and friends, completed his time on earth on Dec. 19, 2019.



He was an adventurous spirit, enjoying time with others through wrestling, water skiing, scuba diving, hiking, rafting and snow skiing. Born Feb. 21, 1937. He was in the first class to go through all four grades at Northside High School in Atlanta, Ga. He is a graduate of the University of the South, better known as Sewanee. He was in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He helped lead a

BSA troop for teens with learning disabilities and volunteered time with kids at Grant Park. He began his career selling tombstones door to door for the family business. He went on to become a successful commercial mortgage broker in Atlanta, Ga., and in Denver, Colo. He fell in love with snow skiing and moved to the Rocky Mountains to be close to the sport he loved. He retired in Pagosa Springs, Colo., joining the Gray Wolves at Wolf Creek.

He spent his last three years near his sons in Cleveland, Tenn., and Boise, Idaho. He will be missed by friends and family, including his brothers, Gene Craig and Steve Craig; his sons, Ben Craig and Peter Craig; his grandchildren, Casey, Coleman, Michael, Katie and Anna; and his great-grandchild, Koraa.

Sailing adventure presentation to benefit Veterans for Veterans

By Tari Woods
Special to The SUN

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County will be celebrating the new year with a fundraising event on Jan. 11 at the Best Western Lodge at 3505 U.S. 160.

The festivities will begin at 6 p.m. Admission is \$20 and children under 5 are admitted free.

There will be a cash bar and appetizers from around town, with local restaurants donating their "bites." The vets will be hosting Capt. John Barry III, who lives here in Pagosa Springs. He will be sharing his stories with a slide show of his sailing adventure on his vessel the "Avalanche."

He and his crew recently finished his goal of sailing around the world. He passed under the Golden Gate Bridge on Sept. 18, 2019, having covered 2,600 sea miles from Honolulu in 17 days. He will have interesting, funny, dangerous and exciting tales to tell. Hang on to your hats, mates, they just may be blown away.

There will be a live and silent auction. The live auction will feature a round-trip airplane ride from Pagosa to Telluride with lunch for two and another offering of a stay at Purgatory Mountain. The silent auction will also have many fun and must-have items. Support our vets. Wear your red, white and blue. Hope to see you there.

For information, please contact Tari Woods. Call or text 398-0023 or email tarilwoods@aol.com.

PAWSD board approves 2020 budget

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

At a regular meeting on Dec. 12, 2019, the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors approved the district's 2020 budget.

A hearing for the proposed 2020 PAWSD draft budget had previously been held on Oct. 24, 2019.

In an email to The SUN, PAWSD Director of Business Services Aaron Burns noted that the only two changes from the draft budget to the final 2020 budget were an increase of \$30,000 of unspent supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) infrastructure funds from 2019 and an additional \$15,000 was added to each water plant; this accounts for increased regulatory monitoring requirements, according to Burns.

Within the final 2020 budget, PAWSD's General Fund balance is expected to start at \$939,542, a 2 percent decrease from last year;

Republican Women to meet

By Jody Brown
Special to The SUN

Join the Archuleta County Republican Women at Boss Hogg's on Jan. 14 at noon to discuss upcoming 2020 issues with politician Greg Lopez.

Lopez served as the mayor of Parker, Colo., from 1992 to 1996. He ran in the Republican Primary for governor of Colorado in 2018. He will be running again in 2022.



Greg Lopez

PAWSD's ending balance within the 2020 budget is projected at \$871,865, which is a 7 percent decrease from last year's total of \$940,292.

Total revenues for PAWSD are projected to go up 3 percent this year, with the 2020 budget reflecting total revenues of \$1,115,707 — up from last year's total revenue of \$1,081,087.

PAWSD's total expenditures are also expected to increase 7 percent, going from last year's total of \$1,101,840 to \$1,183,384 in 2020.

For its Water Enterprise Fund, PAWSD is expected to see a 7 percent increase in its beginning fund balance, with totals going from \$5,534,767 to \$5,935,717 in 2020 and the ending fund balance total expected to go up 5 percent, from \$5,916,044 to \$6,215,778.

PAWSD's Water Enterprise Fund looks to have an 8 percent increase in regard to total revenues, with revenues totaling \$6,005,467 compared to last year's total of \$5,574,570.

Total expenditures for the Water Enterprise Fund are expected to increase 10 percent, going from \$5,193,293 to \$5,725,406 in 2020.

PAWSD's Wastewater Enterprise Fund will have a 23 percent increase in its beginning fund balance, increasing from \$2,552,203 to \$3,140,125; the ending fund balance for the wastewater fund is expected to increase from \$3,129,565 to \$3,252,712, which is an increase of 4 percent.

PAWSD's total revenues for its wastewater fund are projected to have no change, according to the 2020 budget.

PAWSD's total expenditures for its wastewater fund are projected to increase 22 percent, going from \$2,166,108 to \$2,636,374 in 2020.

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Jan. 2
Pagosa Springs Town Council work session. 6 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Friday, Jan. 3
Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board work session. 11 a.m., Town Hall conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, Jan. 6
Dispatch Executive Management Board regular meeting. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Tuesday, Jan. 7
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting. 1:30 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, com-

missioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 8
Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 4:30 p.m., Town Hall conference room, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Thursday, Jan. 9
Dispatch Executive Management board. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Fire Protection District, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Region 9 Southwest Economic Outlook. noon, Fort Lewis College, Durango.
Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosasun.com with "Public Meeting" in the subject line. The deadline is noon Monday each week prior to publication for that week's issue.

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

Welcome Rhonda McClure!

The management and board of directors of Rio Grande Savings and Loan are happy to announce the appointment of Rhonda McClure to the position of Branch Manager of the Pagosa Springs office.



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2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

2019 was a busy and interesting year in Pagosa County. There was no want for good news, bad news, controversial issues, and no lack of interesting news events to keep SUN readers focused on local events, situations and personalities.

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

JANUARY

Beginning Jan. 5, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) began 24/7 paid staffing for the first time in the department's history.

"We do have people at fire station No. 1, assigned to the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This is a first for Pagosa Springs. It's never been that way before," PFPD Chief Randy Larson said, adding, "I slept much better last weekend knowing there were people at the fire station ready to respond during our snowstorms and at night."

On Jan. 2, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance upon second reading which enforces the Colorado Noxious Weed Act.

The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate boys' basketball team returned to the floor on Jan. 5 against the 2A Sanford Indians, earning a win by a score of 40-38 and pushing its season record to 6-3.

The No. 4 Lady Pirate basketball team started the year with a 45-27 win over the 2A Sanford Indians, improving the team's record to 6-2 on the season.

Like happened in 2018, the La Plata County Jail (LPCJ) experienced overcrowding conditions in early 2019, kicking into place an amended 2018 administrative order issued by Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson that limits who may be booked into the facility.

The "Amended Order Authorizing the Release of Nonviolent Arrestees During LPCJ Overcrowding" takes effect when that jail is "experiencing overcrowding conditions by hosting 200 or more inmates."

Archuleta County has been housing inmates in La Plata County since 2015.

Christa Laos and Bob Lynch both applied for the vacant seat available for the director of District 2 on the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) in early January, with Lynch unanimously chosen to fill the vacancy on Jan. 8.

At the same meeting, the BOE approved the distribution of salary from its mill levy override and also adopted the revised salary schedules for 2018-19.

At its Jan. 8 work session, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) was updated on the progress of the county's short-term rental (STR) permitting program, which began in July 2018.

County staff noted they were "very happy" with the response from the community, noting that since the previous October, the county had received 155 vacation rental applications and approved about 35.

Archuleta County honored the past and welcomed the future on Jan. 8 by honoring outgoing elected officials June Madrid,

Betty Diller and Michael Whiting, and having Wilson swear in the county's recently elected officials: Commissioner Alvin Schaaf, Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta, Treasurer Elsa White, Assessor Natalie Woodruff, Sheriff Richard Valdez, Coroner Brandon Bishop and Surveyor Dean Schultze.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court Judge Clayton Buchner and substitute judge Justin Fay were sworn in on Jan. 8 after unanimous appointments by the Pagosa Springs Town Council.

At the same meeting, the council appointed Gayle Dixon as the town's prosecutor, appointed Whiting to the Pagosa Area Tourism Board and voted to hire Martin Schmidt as the town's new public works director.

Also at its meeting on Jan. 8, the members of the town council received a final Blueprint 2.0 report from Tourism Director Jennie Green.

Pagosa Springs received the Blueprint 2.0: Grow Your Outdoor Recreation Industry initiative through the Colorado Office of Economic Development in June 2018, with the result being the 37-page Pagosa Springs Outdoor Recreation Economic Impact Assessment.

On Jan. 9, the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado opened a satellite office in the Bank of the San Juans building in Pagosa Springs.

On Jan. 9, the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) decided to hold off on approving a request for proposal for its broadband service manager to make further alterations and to wait to secure grant funding.

In a Jan. 9 email to The SUN, Sixth Judicial District Attorney Christian Champagne wrote that he found no evidence of criminal wrongdoing after investigating an elections complaint filed in Nov. 2018 by former sheriff candidate Rob Keating.

Keating alleged that the presence of Madrid, former Archuleta County clerk and recorder, at the polling station "may have had a strong impact on the voting," as she is the mother of Valdez, who ultimately won the election.

"After careful consideration and investigation, it was found that Mr. Keating's complaint and the supporting evidence he presented did not rise to the level of establishing probable cause that a crime had been committed," Champagne wrote.

With wins on Jan. 11 and 12 over Montezuma-Cortez and Centauri, the Lady Pirates became the No. 1 team in Colorado 3A girls' basketball.

On Jan. 14, Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) approved a service agreement that would allow students to be taught the Japanese martial art aikido.

At the end of the Jan. 14 PPOS meeting, board member Buchner announced his resignation from

the board, stating that he had a change in life circumstances and no longer had the time to serve on the board.

At its regular meeting on Jan. 15, the BoCC voted to approve a contract to purchase 4.98 acres at 125 Harman Park Drive for \$45,000 for the purpose of building a detention facility.

Norma Harman explained at the time that the land was essentially a donation to the county, but the \$45,000 purchase price reimburses her for a loan she and her husband made to the Fred Harman Art Museum years ago.

"The problem was many, many years ago my husband and I loaned the museum corporation \$50,000, and I need to have that money," she said, adding, "So, the county is going to pay \$50,000 to the museum account when I donate the land to settle the long-standing debt."

Two adults were stabbed in a Jan. 17 incident in the Aspen Springs area.

When deputies arrived at the scene, a press release explains they found two adults and one juvenile at the house. Both of the adults had been stabbed, and the juvenile was not injured.

Information gathered from the victims indicated that the alleged assailant was a known neighbor, Alex Dimitrijevic, a 40-year-old male, the report indicates.

Dimitrijevic was booked by Archuleta County deputies and is currently being housed in the LPCJ.

The Pirate wrestling team found success in two duals and a tournament, beating Bayfield and Silver City and earning the highest team score at the team's Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational on Jan. 19.

"They're a unique bunch of guys, they bond together," said coach Dan Janowsky of the team. "They go out there and they're strong and they're aggressive and they like wrestling. They're all into it."

On Jan. 21, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors discussed drafting a strategic plan; with that came a discussion on the future of the San Juan Rivers Headwater Project.

At its Jan. 22 meeting, the BoCC considered how to fund the proposed \$13 million, 54-bed jail at 125 Harman Park Drive, including considering a funding method called certificates of participation (COPs).

Maez publicly advocated for COPs as a solution to build the new jail at the Archuleta County Republican Women's lunch meeting on Jan. 8.

"Currently, we're looking into certificate of participation, which means we're going to see about putting our county into debt to build a jail," Maez said, adding, "I would like to see our county move forward and see us move toward a certificate of participation."

Maez received pushback at the luncheon. One participant argued that COPs are "not a very ethical way to go because it's circumventing voters," referencing the two ballot measures voted down to fund the new facility.

Maez agreed, saying, "It is, but we asked twice."

At its Jan. 22 meeting, the board of the Upper San Juan Health Service District voted to engage a financial consultant after the district failed to meet a bond covenant requiring 60 days cash on hand at the end of the 2018 calendar year.

The district ended 2018 with 52.48 days of cash.

The Archuleta County Planning Commission voted to recom-

mend that the county should not adopt new building codes at this time after hearing public testimony at its Jan. 23 meeting.

The Town of Pagosa Springs adopted the 2015 International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC), with amendments, and the planning commission was considering whether or not to recommend that the county do the same.

Some builders had previously advocated that having the town and the county on the same codes would simplify things for builders, but many builders spoke against the county adopting the newer codes.

The planning commission ultimately voted unanimously to recommend no action, to continue with the 2006 IRC and IBC codes, and conduct further research on 2018 International Code Council codes.

It was announced in late January that blood supplies were down to less than half a day for regional hospitals, putting them in critical need.

The BoCC named one finalist for the Archuleta County administrator position at its Jan. 25 meeting.

The lone finalist was L. Scott Wall, who had most recently served as city administrator for Willow Park, Texas, from August 2016 to August 2017.

Dimitrijevic, the suspect in the Jan. 17 stabbing of two adults in the Aspen Springs neighborhood, had his bond raised to \$300,000 at a bond hearing on Jan. 25.

The bond was initially set at \$50,000.

On Jan. 25, Timothy Leo Johnson, of Pagosa Springs, was sentenced after entering a guilty plea to theft in the range of \$2,000-\$5,000 after stealing money from a local pet food and supply store. Johnson was sentenced to two years probation and 200 hours of community service.

The Archuleta County Education Center announced in late January that it had received funding approval for its Early Childhood Education Program from the Trustees of the Buell Foundation (\$225,000), the Gates Family Foundation (\$40,000) and the El Pomar Foundation (\$25,000).

The \$200,000 funding from the town and county in 2018 leveraged rent-free use of a \$345,000 building, \$100,000 in private donations and \$290,000 in grants. The renovation project was 100 percent funded and start-up was funded at 25 percent.

FEBRUARY

Following the Southwest Conference Championship meet on Feb. 1 and Feb. 2, Emma Heidelemaier became the first Lady Pirate

See Review A6

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Review

■ Continued from A5

swimmer to ever qualify for the state tournament, finishing with a time in the 100-yard breaststroke of one minute, 20.44 seconds. It was the team's inaugural season.

- On Feb. 4, a man was partially run over by an Econoline van after slipping on the ice near Lakeside Drive. According to Colorado State Patrol (CSP) Public Information Officer Josh Lewis, a 67-year-old male driver was driving a 2014 Ford Econoline van out of a parking lot when a pedestrian, a 40-year-old male, slipped on the ice and was partially run over.

The pedestrian was transported to the hospital and the driver remained on the scene.

According to Lewis, it did not appear that drugs or alcohol were involved and did not appear that any arrests were made.

- At its regular meeting on Feb. 5, the BoCC unanimously voted to adopt a resolution that proceeds with the construction and financing of a jail.

The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the resolution directing county administration and finance staff to proceed with the construction and financing of a 54-bed detention center located at Harman Park and finance the \$13 million cost of jail construction through COPs.

- At its meeting on Feb. 5, the town council opted to move forward with a grant application that would, if received, help the PPOS Building Corporation purchase the building that currently houses PPOS.

The town would go on to file the grant application for the Community Development Block Grant with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs as the fiscal agent for the building corporation, with any funds received passed through to the entity as a sub-recipient.

- On Feb. 6, around 12:42 a.m., personnel from PFPD responded to a structure fire at the Airport Mobile Home Park on Piedra Road, with the home ultimately deemed "pretty much a total loss."

According to a press release by the PFPD, the fire was on a 1,200-square-foot single-wide trailer with additions added to both sides.

The fire was "under control" within 45 minutes of PFPD arriving at the scene.

- On Feb. 7, a meeting was held to gather community input regarding 27 acres of vacant land located in downtown Pagosa Springs adjacent to The Springs Resort and Spa.

- On Feb. 8, Heidelberg placed 33rd out of 42 swimmers in the 100-yard breaststroke preliminaries with a time of one minute, 20.28 seconds.

- On Feb. 11, PPOS received an update on interested parties and the hiring and vetting process of getting a new school director.

- On Feb. 12, Pagosa Springs Planning Director James Dickhoff made an easement request to the BOE due to the pending reconstruction of the town shop at its current site. The easement would allow the town to build a larger consolidated maintenance facility at the site.

- On Feb. 12, PSHS Principal Sean O'Donnell addressed the history and future of career and technical education programs at PSHS at a BOE meeting.

- Also on Feb. 12, the BOE addressed a request from Don Murphy of Avalon Property Co. in regard to 8 acres of property that the school district owns on Vista Drive about a potential workforce housing project.

- It was announced in mid-February that PSHS senior Paul Farrah received two service academy nominations from Rep. Scott Tipton for the Third Congressional District. Farrah was nominated to both the U.S. Air Force Academy and U.S. Military Academy (West Point).

- Shannon Jones, manager of Archuleta County Combined Dispatch, resigned his position due to family medical issues.

His last day on the job was Feb. 15. Jones started his position in October 2018 and was selected from 25 applicants.

- The Lady Pirates closed out the regular season on Feb. 15 and headed into the Intermountain League (IML) tournament as the No. 1 team in the league, as well as in Colorado 3A girls' basketball.

In wrapping up regular-season play, the Lady Pirates extended their winning streak to 12 games and improved their record to 17-2.

- The No. 23 Pirate boys' basketball team fell to league foe Bayfield in the season closer on Feb. 15, finishing fourth in the IML standings with an overall record of 9-10, which included a 3-7 record in league games.

The team entered the IML tournament as the No. 5 seed.

- Twelve out of 13 Pirate wrestlers qualified for state at the regional tournament on Feb. 16.

Wrestlers had to earn at least a top-four finish in their weight class to advance to the state tournament.

At 145 pounds, Cameron Lucero, who was 42-1 in his matches on the season, seized first place in his weight class, going undefeated at the tournament.

- Despite opposition from local builders, the BoCC voted unanimously to adopt new building codes at its Feb. 19 meeting.

The county voted to adopt the 2015 IBC and IRC, moving the county to the 2015 codes from the 2006.

Citizens who spoke during public comment were mostly against the county's adoption of the new codes.

- The BoCC approved an employment contract on Feb. 19 for Wall to become the new Archuleta County administrator, with that agreement set to start on March 18.

The employment agreement is for an initial three-year term, and will automatically renew unless notice is given to terminate the contract. The contract shows an annual salary of \$124,000.

- During a joint work session on Feb. 21 between the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors and town council, ideas were discussed on how to create affordable housing incentives.

- During the same joint work session on Feb. 21 between the PAWSD and town council, the council raised the idea on the potential merger of districts.

- With a 4-1 vote on Feb. 21, the town council elected to pursue a COP to fund a portion of the town's proposed new maintenance facility.

- Green gave a lodgers' tax update to the town council on Feb. 21, with that data revealing that lodging tax collections came in 12.19 percent higher in 2018 than in 2017.

A total of \$856,778 collected within Archuleta County in 2018, with the year being the 10th consecutive year lodging tax collections increased.

- Lucero capped off a successful 46-1 season with a state championship title in the 145-pound weight class on Feb. 23, going undefeated in the state tournament.

"He wrestled real tough and real disciplined," said Janovsky, adding, "He puts an unbelievable amount of pressure on his opponents from start to finish. He just has a real high pace, and it's in the best way possible, I think, because it's born out of just pure enthusiasm."

- On Feb. 23, the 10th annual Empty Bowls event raised more than \$4,000 for local food banks and food-related efforts.

- The Lady Pirate basketball team logged another IML title on Feb. 25, defeating Alamosa 28-21 in the district championship game and landing as the No. 3 team in the state for the 3A girls' basketball

playoffs.

- Despite falling to the Alamosa Mean Moose in the opening game of the IML tournament, the Pirate boys' basketball team made the state playoffs as the No. 25 team in 3A boys' basketball.

- The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) presented its "Corridor Vision Plan" for U.S. 160 between 10th and 1st streets during a joint town and county work session on Feb. 26.

The vision plan proposes a variety of upgrades to the downtown Pagosa Springs area, though funding has not been secured for the upgrades.

- On Feb. 27, a report was made of an alleged threat at PSHS by a student.

- On Feb. 27, Rio Grande National Forest Supervisor Dan Dallas announced a new decision to provide "reasonable access" to a 288-acre private property parcel adjacent to Wolf Creek Ski Area owned by Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture. The developer plans to construct a year-round resort known as the Village at Wolf Creek.

The access was slated to come in the form of a road easement across National Forest System land.

- On March 1, the No. 25 Pirate

MARCH

boys' basketball team was eliminated in the first round of the state tournament by the No. 8 DSST: Stapleton Knights by a score of 44-32.

- At a work session on March 1, the SJWCD board addressed the idea of hiring a consultant to help with the process of crafting a strategic plan.

- On March 2, the Lady Pirates punched their ticket to their seventh straight Great 8 appearance with victories over Trinidad and Grand Valley March 1 and 2, respectively.

- Charles Ray Stane, 63 at the time, entered a guilty plea to second-degree murder on March 8 for his involvement in a 1988 homicide.

Stane was originally convicted of the charge at a trial in October 2013 and was subsequently sentenced to 46 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections. But, in November 2017, the Colorado Court of Appeals announced that it was reversing the conviction and remanding the case for a new trial. The Colorado Supreme Court declined to take up the case, making the Court of Appeals' mandate official in August 2018. That trial was initially set for January, then for March, with Stane entering the guilty plea on March 8.

According to Deputy District Attorney Alex Lowe, under the plea agreement, Stane was sentenced to 16 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

- Santiago Villalobos, a 21-year-old Pagosa Springs resident, was killed in a crash along U.S. 285 on March 8, according to a press release from the CSP.

The two-vehicle crash, which occurred at about 8:35 a.m., took place approximately 7 miles north of Fairplay, according to the release.

Villalobos was wearing his seat belt, but died on scene.

- To open its regular season, the Lady Pirate soccer team tied with the Buena Vista Demons on March 8 and fell to the Salida Spartans 8-0 on March 9.

- On March 9, a reported sewage leak of about 5,000 gallons occurred at a pump station owned by the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District. The leak was caused by a communication error between two pump stations.

- The PSHS Art Department announced that four students won state-level awards in visual arts at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards on March 9: Marie Wright, Madeline Stewart, Harmony Goss and Celia Taylor.

- The Lady Pirate basketball

team brought its season to a close on March 9 at the state tournament, claiming fourth place out of the 70 3A teams in Colorado. The team finished with a 22-4 record on the season, which included a perfect 10-0 in IML play.

- Drugs, alcohol and excessive speed were considered factors in a March 10 two-vehicle crash on Wolf Creek Pass that resulted in one fatality.

- Report standards, instructional planning and assessment practices were identified as educational focus areas for PPOS via a Colorado School Support Initiative report addressed at a meeting by the board on March 11.

- A local woman was arrested after allegedly kicking a sheriff's deputy in the face and was charged with two counts of assault on a peace officer and one count of third-degree assault after an incident on March 12.

- An update was given to the CDC on March 13 on a potential application for a Department of Regulatory Agencies grant and work being done on broadband towers in Hinsdale and Archuleta counties.

- At a special meeting on March 18, the SJWCD board agreed, in principal, to a professional consulting agreement with volunteer consultant Renee Lewis, the former manager of PAWSD.

- The Lady Pirate soccer team earned its first win of the season against the 2A Ignacio Bobcats on March 19.

- An Archuleta County woman recently pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor theft charge in March after it was discovered she was allegedly faking terminal cancer and accepting donations through multiple GoFundMe accounts.

According to Lowe, Marissa Marchand pleaded guilty to "Theft-between \$750- \$2000 as a class 1 misdemeanor."

As part of the plea, Marchand was slated to be placed on probation for one year, complete 50-100 hours of useful public service and complete other evaluations and treatment.

- Nine Pagosa Springs Middle School students won awards at the 2019 San Juan Basin Regional Science Fair in March: Dennis Kholostov, Jonathan Nasralla, River Johnson, Jaden Tuggle-Reed, Emily Raynolds, Aspen Pitcher, Neena Gutierrez, Bella Gutierrez and Brandt Winther.

- Six Pagosa Springs Destination Imagination teams competed at the regional competition on March 23 in Durango, with five of the teams advancing to state competition.

- The PSHS Pirate baseball team hit the diamond for the first time in 2019 in mid-March at a 12-game tournament in Delta, going 0-3 at the tournament. The following week, the team went 3-0 at the Ignacio tournament to even its record early on the season.

- The Pagosa Springs Planning Commission voted on March 26 to deny an Archuleta County conditional use permit request for a new 23,000-square-foot county detention facility. Instead, that commission directed the county to submit an application to rezone the property at 125 Harman Park Drive.

- After not being able to compete in its first scheduled event on March 14 due to poor field conditions, the Pirate track and field team rambled to third place (boys) and fourth place (girls) finishes at their first meet of the season on March 30.

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Beyond Words International seeking volunteers

By Paula Miller and Casey Crow
Special to The SUN

Beyond Words International (BWI), a locally based nonprofit, is seeking volunteers to join its work of providing humanitarian aid, psychosocial support and healing art programming to survivors of trauma at home and abroad.

A volunteer information session will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Arts Council.

We welcome anyone with an interest to be involved to join us as we share our mission, goals and upcoming projects for 2020. If you are not yet familiar with BWI, which recently celebrated its one-year anniversary, take a moment to read about our work.

Our story

BWI's founder and president, Casey Crow, spent much of the last decade working and studying in refugee camps from Jordan to Kenya to Greece.

While her work helped refugees navigate the complexities of displacement, she noticed a startling lack of programs to help with the severe psychological trauma that comes with being forced from your home. This lack of psychosocial support inspired Crow to merge her education in international development and humanitarian emergencies with her passion for dance and service in the form of an organization that would provide both humanitarian and art healing services for those suffering from extreme trauma.

In September 2018, Crow approached Paula Jo Miller, a former nonprofit consultant and abstract artist, to help her create the organization. Miller agreed and joined the board as secretary and treasurer. Ten weeks later, on Dec. 14, 2018, BWI was born.

Global, national and local reach

BWI's mission is to provide healing arts and humanitarian assistance for trauma survivors around the globe, across the nation and in our local community. With that, our first project was to teach in a Syrian refugee camp in Greece for five weeks. At the camp, our volunteers taught English, math and art heal-



Photo courtesy Casey Crow

Paula Miller and Casey Crow of Beyond Words International (BWI) serving dinner in Matamoros, Mexico, where 2,500 asylum seekers are currently living in a tent city while they await U.S. immigration processing. BWI is seeking volunteers to join its work of providing humanitarian aid, psychosocial support and healing art programming to survivors of trauma at home and abroad. A volunteer information session will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4.

ing activities alongside our partner organization, Happy Caravan.

Crow, a dancer and instructor, broke down cultural barriers and encouraged self-expression through dance. It was absolutely amazing to watch the walls fall away while boys, girls and children from opposing cultures danced together in pure joy. Miller facilitated powerful art-based therapy projects where students were given an outlet to express their feelings in a safe, supportive environment.

In the last two weeks of our stay in the Thermopylae Refugee Camp, Miller worked closely with teens and women, in particular, a woman, "B." University educated, "B" wanted to work on her English skills to help prepare her for the future. Each day, for several hours, "B" shared with Miller her stories

of a wonderful life in Syria that she and her family were forced to leave. She loved her life — running a family business and owning several homes with her husband, an engineer. When the war started in 2011, they fled the violence and brutality to protect their children. They gave up everything. They took nothing with them. For eight years, they have been moved from camp to camp — not allowed to work, and with little hope for a new life. To help her trauma and grief, Miller introduced creative writing and poetry to their daily meetings. The meetings allowed both women to form a strong friendship and gave "B" an outlet to process her experience through the written word.

When we returned from the camp in Greece, we immediately scheduled a trip to Matamoros,

Mexico, where 2,500 asylum seekers are currently living in a tent city while they await U.S. immigration processing. There, we taught school on Sundays, drew and made sidewalk art with the kids, purchased \$2,500 in emergency supplies, and transported and served healthy hot meals to those in the camp every night. After dinner, we walked deep into the camp to hand out warm clothes, bottled water and toys for the kids.

We are currently working with our partner on the ground, Team Brownsville, on a project to support the education program in Matamoros. Crow and BWI volunteer Michael Morgan recently returned from a follow-up trip to begin formulating a plan. Our hope is to support Team Brownsville in establishing a safe space for children and help provide daily English, math and arts programming through a trauma-informed curriculum.

After our initial 10 days in Matamoros, we returned to Pagosa and soon met with local organization, Rise Above Violence, to create a project where we can provide our art healing services to survivors of interpersonal violence in our community. We are thrilled to begin our collaboration with Rise in 2020.

Thank you

We are amazed and humbled by your support during our first year. Because of your generosity, we were able to reach thousands of families stranded and without hope. We want to thank each and everyone of you for your love, kindness and support. We absolutely could not have done our work without you. We are so very grateful.

If you would like to be involved, attend our volunteer information session this Saturday, Jan. 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs Arts Council located at 197 Navajo Trail Drive.

If you'd like to support our future efforts, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. You can do so through our PayPal below, or mail a check to BWI at P.O. Box 5203, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Wishing you and yours a beautiful holiday season and fabulous 2020.

Please donate to BWI: paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3603448.

Recent precipitation helps local lake levels

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

As of Dec. 30, 2019, only one local lake was full out of the five with reported levels, according to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey.

Village Lake has remained full, as was the case two weeks ago.

Lake Hatcher is currently 3 inches from full, or 99.07 percent full, while two weeks ago it was 11 inches from full.

Stevens Lake is 34 inches from

full, or 89.88 percent full this week; two weeks ago it was 36 inches from full.

Lake Pagosa is 2 inches from full this week, or 99.28 percent full this week. Two weeks ago it was 5 inches from full.

Lake Forest is currently 4 inches from full, or 96.97 percent full, when last week it was 8 inches from full.

Total diversion flows remain at 4.5 cubic feet per second (cfs). The West Fork diversion is still contributing 3 cfs and the Four Mile diversion is still adding 1.5 cfs.

From Dec. 20 through Dec. 26, 2019, water production was totaled at 10.91 million gallons, with the Snowball water treatment plant producing 3.78 million gallons and the Hatcher water treatment plant producing 7.13 million gallons.

Last year in the same time period, water production totaled 10.78 million gallons.

From Dec. 6 through Dec. 12, 2019, total water production was listed at 10.40 million gallons.

As of Dec. 30, snow water equivalency (SWE) data was totaled at

15.5 inches, while the SWE median was reported at 13 inches.

The SWE was 119.2 percent of median as of Dec. 30, 2019.

Precipitation was listed at 16.5 inches and the precipitation median was reported at 15.9 inches; therefore, precipitation data was 103.8 percent of median.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Jail

Continued from front
 • One sergeant to provide supervision for jail staff and inmates.
 • A kitchen manager to order food and supervise inmates who help prepare the meals.
 • Two to three detention deputies to run transport (this number can vary considerably), primarily during daylight hours, to drive inmates to Durango for court, drive a juvenile to a juvenile detention facility (the closest one is in Grand Junction) or to pick up inmates from around the region as needed.

Valdez explained that the staffing numbers for the jail authorized by the commissioners are less than ideal for optimal supervision and staffing. According to Valdez, bare minimum staffing numbers for each shift at the jail should include:
 • Three detention deputies, one to station the control room and two to work the jail floor and operate booking as needed.

Woodman noted there will always be a detention deputy in the control room and at least one other deputy on duty within the facility, and noted the deputy in the control room generally cannot leave their post. Woodman also explained why having one full-time kitchen manager isn't enough to provide supervision in the kitchen for the entire week. "What's going to happen when that kitchen manager is off?" asked Woodman, adding, "While our plan is to have inmates aid in the preparation of the food ... You can't just tell the inmates to go in and make dinner. You know, they have to be supervised. There's knives and all that that are back in there, you can't just go, 'Go in and have at it.' There's a safety and security issue." Woodman explained that sentenced inmates deemed "trustees," who meet a certain set of criteria related to their behavior and their charges, can help aid in the preparation of meals.

Woodman reported that kitchen supervision, the lack of detention deputies on the jail floor and lack of deputies for transport are his biggest concerns about staffing at the jail. Valdez explained that in 2015, there were three people on shift at all times at the jail plus a dedicated transport unit of between 2-3 people. Archuleta County's 2015 budget allotted 15 full-time equivalents (FTEs) for detentions and the 2020 budget allots 15.62 FTEs, though Valdez noted that the county court was in the same building as the jail at the time, making transport more expedited for staff on duty, and meals were contracted to be prepared at the hospital's cafeteria. Archuleta County's jail has not been in use since 2015, when flooding during work on the roof caused the facility to close permanently. The Sixth Judicial District and Archuleta County Courts vacated the Archuleta County Courthouse in mid-September of 2017, citing health and safety concerns with the building, and have held court in La Plata County since.

In separate interviews, each commissioner weighed in on the staffing levels for the new jail. "It's not an easy first-blush thing," Wadley said. "We're gonna have growing pains figuring it out." "We've done our best to be just as conservative as we can with the budget and not overcommit," Commissioner Alvin Schaaf said. "There's always the possibility that there's still going to be a little bit that we're gonna have to add to [staffing]." "Look at our budget. We can't spend money we don't have, we can't hire people we can't pay for. That's just the bottom line," said Commissioner Ron Maez. Maez pointed to a tight budget year and the fact that the county will have to pay around \$818,000 per year to pay for the jail as reasons for the pinch in staffing. The current financing terms for the jail — funded through certificates of participation, which is not considered a long-term debt or a violation of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights because the county can opt-out each year — is about \$818,000 annually for 25 years, according to Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton, though the county

has the option to pay it off sooner.

Senate Bill 19-191
 In May, Gov. Jared Polis signed into law Senate Bill 19-191, which requires the chief judge of each judicial district to develop a plan for setting bond for all in-custody defendants within 48 hours of arrest. "The new bill that was passed now requires us to put anybody that's arrested, has the opportunity to bond out, they have to be in front of a judge within 48 hours," Valdez said, adding that transportation staff from the jail may need to transport inmates to Durango on weekends for their bond hearings, further adding to the jail's staffing crunch.

Ransomware

Continued from front
 But, the press release explains, "Due to PSMC's enhanced on-site security and network access protocols, the impact to PSMC was minimal in comparison to many of the IT company's other customers." Webb explained that, from the time PSMC knew it had a vulnerability to the time it was offline was seven minutes. PSMC was alerted to the vulnerability at about 7 a.m. Christmas Eve when an employee logged on to a shared drive and got a strange message. That employee then alerted PSMC's in-house IT employee, who got to work right away.

While offline, PSMC reverted to using paper, and the attack did not affect patient care, Webb noted. "A small number of files at PSMC became temporarily inaccessible during the attack, but PSMC has verified that no data in its network was breached or transmitted out of its system," the press release notes. It adds, "During the incident, PSMC staff defaulted to its computer downtime procedures so that the threat could be safely assessed and the malicious code cleared from the network. PSMC successfully deleted any remnants of the virus, restored files to their original state, and returned to normal system use by the end of the day."

"I'm so proud of our people," Webb said. Webb noted that, right now, this type of cyber crime is focusing on health care organizations. The attacks, she explained, get into the electronic health record system and then lock the medical organization out. "It's already resulted in closure of a couple of rural hospitals in the country because the ransom, they requested like \$5 million in ransom and they weren't able to do that," Webb said. "So this is warfare, essentially ... We've become quite cautious about what we do." randi@pagosasun.com

Trooper Tips: Are you driving impaired?

By Master Trooper Gary Cutler
 Special to The SUN

How often do you ask yourself if you are driving impaired? I know you're asking why you would ask yourself that if you are not drinking, but are you actually impaired and don't realize it? Think of it this way: Have you ever driven when you were tired or just drove while daydreaming? Let's take a look at this idea. The official definition of driving while ability impaired is driving a motor vehicle when a person has consumed alcohol or one or more drugs, or a combination of both alcohol and one or more drugs, that affects the person to the slightest degree so that the person is less able than the person ordinarily would have been, either mentally or physically, or both mentally and physically, to exercise clear judgment, sufficient physical control or due care in the safe operation of a vehicle. So when you drive when you're tired and having trouble keeping your eyes open just because you are trying to make it to your destination, isn't that impairment? Have you ever been driving and found yourself daydreaming? Ever wondered how you drove so far when you came out of your daydream? See? It's becoming a little clearer. Let's go back to part of the above definition: affects the person to the slightest degree so that the person is less able than the person ordinarily would have been, either mentally or physically, or both mentally and physically, to exercise clear judgment, sufficient

physical control or due care in the safe operation of a vehicle. I know that when I am tired, I qualify under the definition of impairment. I am not in a position to be doing actions in which greater concentration is needed. That's especially true when driving. I know that my motor skills are going to be lacking. I may not see things in front of me. It will take me longer to react to situations and I may not make the right choice due to having what I like to call a brain fog from being too tired. When patrolling the roads, I have come across people weaving, driving slowly and going through stop signs all because they were too tired to drive. When I talked with the drivers, all of them had the same attributes of someone that has been drinking. So, I ask you, how many of you would never think about drinking and driving, but have gotten behind the wheel and drove while tired? The outcome can be the same; you won't get a DUI or go to jail, but you may get a ticket or be involved in a crash. So make sure you are awake and aware enough to drive prior to getting behind the wheel. If you are on a trip and start feeling tired, take the time to give yourself a break. Get something to eat, exercise, get some fresh air or, if it's bad enough, get some sleep. The next time you're about to get into your car, stop first and ask yourself if you are too tired to be driving. You owe it to your passengers, as well as the other drivers on the road, not to have a brain fog. As always, safe travels.

Schmidt clarified that council was just looking to choose a plan in order to be able to align the trail, with the roadwork planned for future funds or if the trail project were to come in under budget. In considering the options, the council discussed parking, emergency access, considering options that had not been vetted by the public, if the town should follow its own codes in this instance and more. Discussion on parking centered around the idea of having people park elsewhere and use the Riverwalk to access the park, as well as if that would encourage people to park along Hermosa Street and continue to inconvenience the street's residents. Several council members expressed that they liked the mini cul-de-sac and keeping vehicles out of the footprint of the park, but were uncomfortable with the closeness to structures and that it would not be following code. The council members also discussed the fact that emergency vehicles could access the park and area on an alley and have as much access as is available now if the town were to choose the mini cul-de-sac. Ultimately, they went with a suggestion offered by council member Madeline Bergon early in the conversation — going with an option that provides latitude. Council voted 5-1 for the trail alignment offered with option C since it allows for more flexibility in offering only a traffic circle or a traffic circle and parking. Council member Nicole DeMarco voted against the motion, and Mayor Don Volger recused himself from the discussion and vote due to living on Hermosa Street. randi@pagosasun.com

Park

Continued from front
 The town council last discussed traffic circulation at the new park last fall, with council directing staff to seek additional public comment on the matter. That public comment came in the form of an open house on Nov. 19, 2019. At that public meeting, the majority of respondents, 27, or 64 percent, favored a neighborhood cul-de-sac with a small turnaround at the end of Hermosa Street with no parking and no vehicular access through the park. Ten respondents, or 24 percent, favored the option of a park cul-de-sac that included a turnaround in Cotton Hole Park with eight parking spaces and no vehicular access through the park. Five respondents, or 12 percent, voted for a parkway option that would include a small turnaround at the end of Hermosa Street and a one-way drive through the park with some parallel parking. No one voted for the option of making Hermosa Street a one-way street east of 2nd Street and a one-way drive through the park with parallel parking. Then, at council's last meeting of 2019, Town Manager Andrea Phillips relayed the public's top choices from the public meeting, as well as presenting two new options, giving council four options to consider:
 • Option A: A cul-de-sac with eight parking spots on the south side of a traffic circle.
 • Option B: A cul-de-sac with eight parking spots on the north side of a traffic circle — a new option.
 • Option C: A cul-de-sac with a traffic circle with a mountable curb and no parking spaces — a new option.
 The parks and recreation board, on the other hand, felt parking is important and favored the option with parking to the north of the traffic circle. Phillips also told the council she wanted council to finalize the trail alignment in order to start construction in the spring if possible. Public Works Director Martin

Phillips noted that council was just looking to choose a plan in order to be able to align the trail, with the roadwork planned for future funds or if the trail project were to come in under budget. In considering the options, the council discussed parking, emergency access, considering options that had not been vetted by the public, if the town should follow its own codes in this instance and more. Discussion on parking centered around the idea of having people park elsewhere and use the Riverwalk to access the park, as well as if that would encourage people to park along Hermosa Street and continue to inconvenience the street's residents. Several council members expressed that they liked the mini cul-de-sac and keeping vehicles out of the footprint of the park, but were uncomfortable with the closeness to structures and that it would not be following code. The council members also discussed the fact that emergency vehicles could access the park and area on an alley and have as much access as is available now if the town were to choose the mini cul-de-sac. Ultimately, they went with a suggestion offered by council member Madeline Bergon early in the conversation — going with an option that provides latitude. Council voted 5-1 for the trail alignment offered with option C since it allows for more flexibility in offering only a traffic circle or a traffic circle and parking. Council member Nicole DeMarco voted against the motion, and Mayor Don Volger recused himself from the discussion and vote due to living on Hermosa Street. randi@pagosasun.com

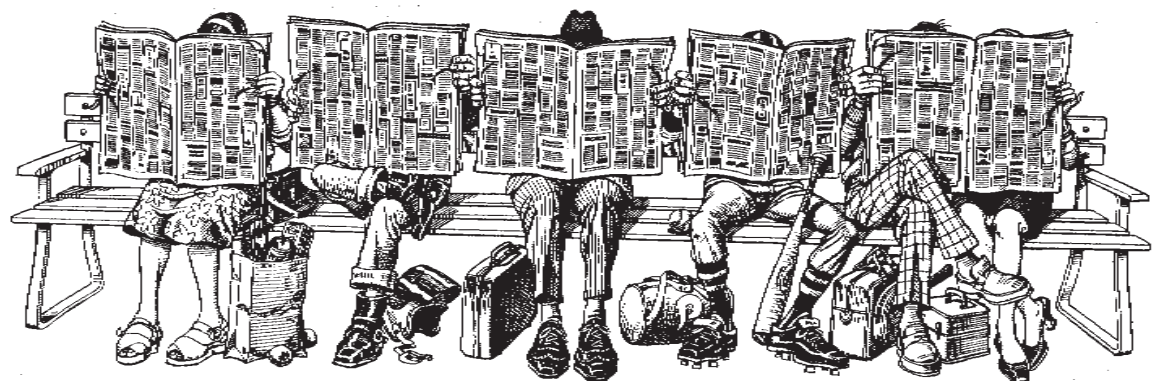
New fund available to injured workers

Special to The SUN
 Workers who have been injured on the job while working for uninsured employers can now apply for financial help through the Colorado Uninsured Employer (CUE) Fund. On Jan. 1, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment's Division of Workers' Compensation began accepting applications to the CUE Fund, which provides financial assistance for individuals hurt on the job while working for employers who do not carry workers' compensation insurance. The fund, administered by an independent board appointed by

the governor, pays medical bills for applicants who are accepted into the program. Previously, Coloradans injured while working for uninsured employers faced costly medical bills and had little ability to recover lost wages. Colorado employers are required to carry workers' compensation insurance for their employees and the state will continue to fine employers who fail to obtain coverage. Money collected from these fines are added to the CUE Fund to assist injured workers. "A healthy workforce is essential to our mission of working together to promote a thriving employment environment with opportunity for

every Coloradan to prosper. The opening of this fund ensures that all workers have an opportunity to receive quality medical care after being hurt on the job," said Joe Barela, executive director of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. For more information and to apply, visit: www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/dwc/colorado-uninsured-employer-fund or call (303) 318-8700. Companies interested in strengthening workplace safety, saving money on premiums and understanding coverage requirements should visit the website at colorado.gov/cdle/dwc or call (303) 318-8700.

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Town contracts with new fireworks vendor

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs' fireworks display could be bigger this year.

The town's public works director, Martin Schmidt, came before the Pagosa Springs Town Council on Dec. 19, 2019, asking the council to consider an agreement with a new fireworks provider.

"The Town of Pagosa Springs has been putting on the fireworks display on the 4th of July for many years," an agenda brief prepared by Schmidt explains. "It is a community event that draws in visitors and has wide support in the community. In 2018 the show had to be cancelled due to fire danger and in 2019 the death of the contractor's pyrotechnic (unrelated to fireworks or the Town) nearly caused the cancellation once again. The efforts and experience of staff were the only reason Pagosa Springs had a show in 2019."

Schmidt explained that the town's fireworks provider opted to not reappear after last year's show, and staff drafted a request for proposal (RFP) that was sent to nine potential suppliers, posted online and advertised.

Only one response was received, he noted.

"It's really competitive, especially if you insist on — we insist on — having our fireworks on July 4, which I think people would lose their mind if we didn't have them on July 4 and had them on July 5 or some other day," Town Manager Andrea Phillips added, explaining some vendors asked if the town would be willing to have the display on another day.

The RFP, Schmidt explained, allowed for companies to submit proposals for either turnkey displays prepared and set off by the company, or for the company to supply the ordinance and have town staff set off the show, similar to 2019 and years prior to 2015.

"We have quite a few staff members with long-term knowledge of shooting off fireworks and the skill to do so," Schmidt said, adding personnel from the Pagosa Fire

Protection District helped in 2019 to help the town meet state code.

The RFP yielded only a proposal for a turnkey display from ACME Pro Pyro.

"ACME Pro Pyro has been in business since the early 1990's and has experience putting on shows for communities in Colorado, Idaho and Utah," Schmidt's agenda brief states, and Schmidt provided more details about the company at the meeting.

Staff worked with the company to modify its proposed show to better suit Pagosa Springs, Schmidt explained.

"This included a preference for larger shells that create a 'bigger' show, and set the Town show apart from 'pirate' shows elsewhere in Town," the agenda brief explains. "Staff also requested less low altitude ordinance to reduce fire concerns, and make the show more visible from all viewing locations."

The proposed show, Schmidt told the council, is a 25-minute show with 730 full-size shots for the main show and 225 full-size shots for the finale.

"The total number of shells is similar to previous shows, but 10 'cakes', a prepackaged multi-shot ordinance, adds 7,778 effects to the finale," the agenda brief explains.

"So it's a significant increase in the number of things exploding for our finale," Schmidt said. "So we like that."

Schmidt told council he was also surprised that ACME offered "sizeable" unsolicited discounts.

"The stated budget for the RFP was \$20,000 and this show proposal includes an unsolicited discount of \$8,380.06, resulting in a cost per shot of \$2.28, and keeping it at the \$20,000 budget," the agenda brief states. "The RFP stipulated that the contract could be reviewed and possibly extended until 2023."

That \$20,000 is split between the town's General Fund and the lodgers' tax fund.

"For what it's worth, I thought last year you guys killed it," council member Mat deGraaf told Schmidt. "Staff did an incredible job on last

year's show."

Phillips echoed the sentiment, explaining that it was about a week before the show that the town's supplier told them they couldn't set off the show and it was only the experience of town staff such as Dennis Ford that the show was able to happen.

"It was one of the better shows I've seen in years past," deGraaf added.

After a brief discussion on a required deposit, the council voted unanimously to approve the contract.

In other business at the meeting, the council:

- Approved a final design for a sign slated to go atop the San Juan River scenic overlook downtown.

- Opted to submit comments in order to reserve the right to stay involved in the proposed Valle Seco Land Exchange, which would see 900 acres go to the U.S. Forest Service in exchange for 472 acres going into private ownership.

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Doug Purcell told the council the land exchange could be one of the most important things he deals with in his career and noted the importance of the 900 acres to deer, elk and other species, with the property currently mapped as a winter concentration area.

Purcell explained he felt it was important for him to approach the council and ask them to enter into the process.

- Offered a resolution in support of the county submitting a request to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission to raise Archuleta County's E-911 surcharge to provide additional funding for Archuleta County Combined Dispatch.

- Approved Ordinance 925, designating 444 Lewis St. as a historic landmark, upon first reading. The second and final reading of the ordinance is set to be considered on Jan. 7.

- Awarded a contract in the amount of \$27,646 to Alan Plummer Associates Inc. to conduct a geothermal utilization and con-

dition assessment for the Town of Pagosa Springs' geothermal system.

That assessment is slated to include things like current conditions and improvement, system capacity, and opportunities for expansion with the town's existing water rights.

- Vacated a portion of the San Juan Alley in block 41, between South 5th Street and McCabe Creek.

The vacation accommodates a proposed 12-cabin lodging establishment development to be located at 151 S. 5th St., with the developers agreeing to put in a travel lane to service the plaza currently served by the alley, allow a cross easement and help put in sidewalk stretching from U.S. 160 to the Riverwalk in Centennial Park.

The alley will no longer connect to South 6th Street once the Colorado Department of Transportation begins its McCabe Creek culvert project.

- Approved a resolution setting the town's fee schedule for 2020.

- Amended the 2019 budget to reflect council decisions made throughout the year.

- Approved a series of resolutions and ordinances relating to the annexation of a 15.83-acre parcel located along Light Plant Road (County Road 119), with the parcel proposed to be split into 10 lots for single-family lots.

Upcoming meetings

This evening, the council will meet in a work session to discuss spending funds set aside for council's strategic initiatives, as well as planning topics for future council work sessions.

Council's next regular meeting is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 7.

Both gatherings will be held in the Town Hall council chambers.

randi@pagosasun.com

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Snowpack at 130 percent of median this week

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

This week, local basins have seen an increase in snowpack totals, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins have a collective snowpack total of 130 percent of median this week. Last week those basins had a snowpack total of 111 percent of median.

At the Upper San Juan Site, a 14 percent increase was recorded, with snowpack levels going from 102 percent of median last week to 116 percent of median this week.

A 21 percent increase was reported for the Wolf Creek summit as totals went from 89 percent of median to 110 percent of median this week.

Snowpack totals could see a small increase, with the National Weather Service (NWS) predicting a 20 percent chance of snow in Pagosa Springs today; the rest of the week, however, is expected to be sunny.

On Wolf Creek Pass, the NWS notes a 30 percent chance of snow today that drops to a 20 percent chance tonight; the rest of the forecast, according to the NWS, is expected to be sunny.

Other snowpack reports

This week the Upper Rio Grande Basin has a snowpack total of 131 percent; last week that basin's total was 114 percent of median.

The Arkansas River Basin saw a 1 percent increase from last week, going from 120 percent of median to 121 percent of median.

At the Yampa and White River basins, a 3 percent decrease was recorded, with snowpack totals going from 116 percent of median to 113 percent of median this week.

The Laramie and North Platte River basins are 109 percent of median this week; last week they were

111 percent of median.

The South Platte River Basin has a snowpack total of 122 percent of median. Last week its total was 128 percent of median.

At the Upper Colorado River Basin, snowpack totals fell 5 percent, going from 114 percent of median to 109 percent of median this week.

The Gunnison River Basin went up 6 percent since last week, going from 104 percent of median to 110 percent of median this week.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Three at-large seats on Town Council will be up for election on April 7.

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7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
For each additional person over 8 add \$137	

The Archuleta County Department of Human Services can provide application assistance. Call 970-264-8511 to reserve a spot. Appointments will be held at the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library, 811 San Juan St., Pagosa Springs, CO. Applications may also be sent directly to Discover My Goodwill at LEAP, PO Box 39200, Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9905.

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Sports

BASKETBALL

Pirates look to continue winning ways at Wolf Creek Classic this weekend

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Returning to their home court on Jan. 3 and 4 for the Wolf Creek Classic, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate basketball team will look to continue its recent hot streak and add two more wins to its record.

On Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m., Pagosa will take on the Eaton Reds (6-1 overall).

Last year at the Wolf Creek Classic, Pagosa defeated Eaton 61-48.

This season, Eaton comes into the Wolf Creek Classic riding a four-game winning streak and with the team's lone loss on the season coming at the hands of the 4A Fort Morgan Mustangs 73-66.

The Reds are currently 2-1 at home this year and 4-0 on the road. The team's leading scorer is Scott Grabel, who is averaging 15 points, three rebounds and two assists.

Eaton currently has four other players who are also averaging at least 11 points per game this season.

Through six games, Pagosa's leading scorer is Mason Snarr, who is currently averaging 13 points; Snarr also averages a team-high nine

rebounds per game and a team-high three steals. Mitch Lewis is also averaging double-digit scoring for Pagosa, averaging 11 points per game to go along with an average of six rebounds and three assists.

Pagosa is currently second in the Intermountain League standings with a 4-2 overall record. The Centauri Falcons are in first place with a perfect 8-0 record.

Eaton is currently third in the Patriot League standings, sitting behind University and Resurrection Christian.

In an email to The SUN on Monday, Pirate coach Randy Sorenson explained that the Reds score a lot of points.

Specifically, the Reds average 69 per game. "They are well balanced and share the basketball. They are also a good rebounding and defensive team and they will turn you over," Sorenson wrote.

Rematch with the Lions

Pagosa will then take on the Colorado Springs Christian dLions (3-2 overall) on Jan. 4 at 6:30 p.m. looking for revenge.

Last season at the Wolf Creek Classic, the

Lions took down the Pirates 55-46.

Caleb Stockton leads Colorado Springs Christian in scoring, averaging 20 points per game while also pulling down four rebounds and dishing out seven assists per game.

Stockton also leads the team in steals with three a game.

Josh Erickson averages 12 points and 12 rebounds for the Lions.

The Lions have some good guards who hurt the Pirates in their matchup last season, Sorenson explained.

In the matchup last season, Stockton finished with 17 points, five rebounds and four assists; Erickson finished with 11 points, four rebounds and two steals.

"They are quick and tough to guard," Sorenson explained. "They have some depth and are able to play quite a few kids. Both teams are well coached and they will both win a lot of games. We are going to have to be really good defensively and we are going to have to limit mistakes and turnovers. We are going to have to work really hard this week to get back into game shape and be ready to play this weekend."

chris@pagosasun.com

CHEER

Cheer team competes at state spirit championships

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School cheer team took part in the state spirit championships last month and brought home a 12th-place finish in the 2A/3A coed cheer competition.

The championships took place Dec. 6 and 7, 2019, at the Denver Coliseum.

Twelve of the 16 Pirates on the team attended the competition, with the event being the first competition for most of the squad.

"There are only three experienced cheerleaders on the team, all three of them are sophomores. The other 13 teammates are all new to the sport and quickly learning and loving to cheer. The majority of the team is composed of all lowerclassmen and only two upperclassmen, both are juniors," coach Emma Casaceli wrote in an email to The SUN.

Many of the cheerleaders, the coach explained, began learning

the basics like jumps, stunting, dances and chants in mid-August.

Then, in November, Casaceli notes, the team started learning the routine for the state spirit championships.

"Since the majority of the team had not competed before, the main takeaway for them is to work harder on their stunting abilities and working to improve their confidence within all aspects of cheering," Casaceli wrote.

The coach also expressed pride in how the team handled itself preparing for and competing at the championships.

"The cheer team did an amazing job competing and an even better job maintaining a positive hard working attitude throughout the entire season. I am beyond proud of them!" Casaceli wrote.

Now, she explained, the team is working on raising the funds to be able to compete at a cheer competition in Greeley on Feb. 8.

randi@pagosasun.com

WRESTLING

Pirate wrestling to face Bayfield Wolverines for first match of new year

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team is set to travel to Bayfield next week to take on the Wolverines for their first dual of the new year.

Coach Dan Janowsky explained that after a little time off, the Pirate wrestlers will get back to practice on Jan. 3 and will work to get back to their fighting weight after what

is usually a holiday season full of a little weight gain.

"When you're coming off of Christmas ... you have to get your weight back. [The wrestlers] do get some extra pounds," Janowsky said. "It's mostly just — You're not as active. It's really, really hard to duplicate the pace of a wrestling practice [during the holidays]."

Janowsky noted that after Christmas, wrestlers get a 2-pound weight allowance, so, for example,

the 152-pound weight class becomes the 154-pound weight class for the rest of the season.

Janowsky has explained in interviews this season that the Pirate lineup has a few holes at different weight classes and some JV wrestlers may get the opportunity to wrestle varsity to fill those spots.

"If they're willing, and I believe they are, we're going to give them a shot and I think they can score for us and as long as they fight we're

happy whether they score or not as long as they represent," Janowsky said. "We've got the leaders and if they can patch some holes and just give us good hard effort, then they're gonna help our team."

Janowsky noted that with the addition of some JV wrestlers, he's hoping to have 13 weight classes filled in the Pirates' lineup.

The Pirates' first match of the new year is on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 6 p.m. at Bayfield High School.




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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates to welcome top teams at Wolf Creek Classic

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

This week's Wolf Creek Classic will pit the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team against more of Colorado 3A girls' basketball's top teams.

The Lady Pirates, who were the No. 2 team in the Dec. 16 rankings, will play host to the No. 5 Eaton Reds and the No. 9 Colorado Springs Christian Lions, meaning the tournament will represent three of last year's top four finishers.

Pagosa faced the reigning state champions, St. Mary's, in December 2019 and lost 50-31. Colorado Springs Christian fell

to St. Mary's in last season's championship game 56-34, and Eaton defeated Pagosa 49-47 in the third-place game.

"Well, we've got two good teams we're going to have to play," coach Wes Lewis said Tuesday. "We're going to have to play well to be successful."

Lewis noted that facing a tough team after the winter break restrictions on practices "is what it is" and is something every team deals with.

The Lady Pirates will kick off their home tournament against the Reds at 5 p.m. Friday and will follow with a game against the Lions Saturday at 5 p.m., with both games set for the high school gym.

Eaton is 6-1 so far this season, while Colorado Springs Christian is 2-2.

The Lady Pirates have no common opponents with Eaton so far this season, but both Pagosa and Colorado Springs Christian have both lost to the Lutheran Lions this season.

Colorado Springs Christian fell to Lutheran by 22 in the 2019 portion of the season, and Pagosa fell to Lutheran by two.

To be successful in its upcoming games, the Lady Pirates have been working on several things, including free throws, passing and running sets, the coach indicated.

Free throws, he noted, are "the el-

ephant in the room," with the Lady Pirates shooting around 50 percent on free throws so far this season.

"It's something that's going to have to get better," he said, indicating that improvement at the free-throw line will help the Lady Pirates stay in games.

The team is also working to clean up late passes and the accuracy of passes, the coach relayed.

"We might start running a few more sets instead of offenses," Lewis added.

The coach noted the team has been able to see some film on their opponents and has an idea of what to expect, but acknowledged, "They may have a different game plan in mind for us when they see us."

The Lady Pirates will see how it goes in the first quarter of the games and make changes as needed as the game progresses.

The games will also help prepare the Lady Pirates for a league schedule that includes multiple matchups with other top-ranked teams: Centauri and Alamosa.

Centauri, the No. 6 team in the Dec. 16 rankings, is 8-0 on the season.

Alamosa, the No. 7 team, is 6-1 on the season.

The league also includes Bayfield (2-2 on the season), Monte Vista (2-4) and Montezuma-Cortez (2-5). randi@pagosajun.com

Vaccinations important in preventing diseases

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) reminds the community that vaccinations are the most effective way to prevent diseases such as measles, hepatitis A, flu and pertussis (whooping cough).

SJBPH has confirmed local cases of flu and one local case of hepatitis A. Three unvaccinated children who are visiting Colorado from another state tested positive for measles after traveling to a country with an ongoing measles outbreak. Additionally, pertussis cases have been reported throughout Colorado in school-aged children.

Colorado has low coverage for MMR (the vaccine that protects against measles), leaving the state vulnerable to an outbreak. Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) school report data shows that only 87 percent of kindergarteners are up to date on MMR vaccine, much below the 95 percent community immunity needed to prevent disease from spreading.

The highest burden of preventable illness occurs in infants and young children. Among children in Colorado who were hospitalized for vaccine-preventable disease, 66.5 percent were 4 years of age or younger.

A vaccine-preventable disease can be introduced into a community by under- or unvaccinated individuals. Thus, all Colorado counties have people who are vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases. Following the appropriate vaccine schedule not only protects yourself, but others in your community.

Vaccines are a safe and effective tool for preventing dangerous diseases. Worldwide, vaccines save 2.5 million children's lives each year. Liane Jollon, executive director of SJBPH said, "We know parents want what's best for their children. Vaccinating is the best way to keep them healthy when they are exposed to these diseases."

We can prevent unnecessary illness and hospitalization, especially for those most vulnerable such as

young children with asthma, cancer or other high-risk health conditions, and older adults. Safe, effective vaccines are the best way to do that. For more information about the safety of vaccines, see www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/index.html.

About hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is a serious, highly contagious liver disease caused by the hepatitis A virus (HAV). HAV is found in the feces (poop) of people with hepatitis A.

Hepatitis A is spread by eating contaminated food or beverages, during sex, or through close contact, like living with an infected person.

Those most at risk for infection include:

- People experiencing substance use issues.
- People experiencing homelessness.
- People incarcerated in city or county jails.
- Men who report having sexual contact with men.

Illness can appear 15-50 days after exposure and people can be sick for several weeks. In some cases, people can die.

For hepatitis A information, symptoms and prevention, see www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepa.

About measles

Measles is a highly contagious virus that lives in the nose and throat mucus of an infected person. It can spread to others through coughing and sneezing. Also, measles virus can live for up to two hours in an airspace where the infected person coughed or sneezed.

If other people breathe the contaminated air or touch the infected surface, then touch their eyes, noses or mouths, they can become infected. Measles is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 90 percent of the people close to that person who are not immune will also become infected.

Infected people can spread measles to others from four days before through four days after the rash appears.

For measles information, symptoms and prevention, see www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/hepa.

rdo.gov/pacific/cdphe/measles.

About flu

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness.

Serious outcomes of flu infection can result in hospitalization or death.

Some people, such as older people, young children and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk of serious flu complications.

There are two main types of influenza (flu) virus: types A and B. The influenza A and B viruses that routinely spread in people (human influenza viruses) are responsible for seasonal flu epidemics each year.

For flu information, symptoms and prevention, see www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm.

About pertussis

Pertussis is a respiratory illness commonly known as whooping cough and is a very contagious bacterial disease.

People with pertussis usually spread the disease to another person by coughing or sneezing or when spending a lot of time near one another. Many babies who get pertussis are infected by older siblings, parents or caregivers who might not even know they have the disease.

Infected people are most contagious up to about two weeks after the cough begins. Antibiotics may shorten the amount of time someone is contagious.

Pertussis is most dangerous for babies. About half of babies younger than 1 year who get the disease need care in the hospital.

While pertussis vaccines are the most effective tool to prevent this disease, no vaccine is 100 percent effective. There is a chance that a fully vaccinated person, of any age, can catch this disease. If you have gotten the pertussis vaccine but still get sick, the infection is usually not as bad.

For pertussis information, symptoms and prevention, see www.cdc.gov/pertussis/index.html.

If you have questions about vaccines or illness symptoms, see your doctor or contact SJBPH at 247-5702.

Public Notices

NCRD
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jdawson@dnevadatalaw.com
mrdouglas@dnevadatalaw.com
Counsel for Lee Turlington, Successor Trustee
DISTRICT COURT
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO

In the Matter of:
THE BAREL 1989 TRUST, u/a/d December 22, 1989,
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (90 DAYS)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the duly appointed and qualified Successor Trustee of The Barel 1989 Trust, u/a/d December 22, 1989, as amended. Marcel Barel, the Trustor of the Trust, died on October 15, 2019. All creditors having claims against Marcel Barel are required to file such claims, with supporting documentation attached, with John E. Dawson, Esq., Dawson & Lordahl PLLC, 8925 W. Post Road, Suite 210, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148, within 30 days after the mailing or 90 days after the first publication of this Notice, whichever is later.
Dated this 17th day of December, 2019.
/s/ Lee Turlington
Lee Turlington
Successor Trustee
SUBMITTED BY
DAWSON & LORDAHL PLLC
/s/ Melissa R. Douglas
John E. Dawson, Esq. (NSB #3392)
Melissa R. Douglas, Esq. (NSB #9545)
8925 West Post Road, Suite 210
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
Telephone: (702) 476-6440; Facsimile: (702) 476-6442
Published December 26, 2019, January 2 and 9, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NCRD
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DISTRICT COURT
ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO

In the Matter of:
THE BAREL 1989 TRUST, u/a/d December 22, 1989,
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (90 DAYS)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned is the duly appointed and qualified Successor Trustee of The Barel 1989 Trust, u/a/d December 22, 1989, as amended. Marcel Barel, the Trustor of the Trust, died on October 15, 2019. All creditors having claims against the Trust Estate are required to file such claims, with supporting documentation attached, with John E. Dawson, Esq., Dawson & Lordahl PLLC, 8925 W. Post Road, Suite 210, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148, within 30 days after the mailing or 90 days after the first publication of this Notice, whichever is later.
Dated this 17th day of December, 2019.
/s/ Lee Turlington
Lee Turlington
Successor Trustee
SUBMITTED BY
DAWSON & LORDAHL PLLC
/s/ Melissa R. Douglas
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Consumers warned about precious metals investment scams

Special to The SUN

The Colorado Division of Securities at the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) is issuing a warning to all Colorado consumers to give close scrutiny to any type of precious metal investment opportunities they may encounter before spending their money.

Some Coloradans are receiving cold calls and have experienced high-pressure sales tactics in which companies seek to leverage particular political ideologies.

"Some precious metals companies will call their targets repeatedly

and try to establish a bond using political fear mongering," noted Colorado Securities Interim Commissioner David Cheval. "After they accomplish this, they attempt to sway their targets to buy their product."

Red flags to look out for include when salespersons from a precious metals investment company suggests that the consumer liquidate their traditional retirement accounts, move to a self-directed IRA (known as a SDIRA) and then buy the metals — all in the space of a few phone calls.

Consumers can protect themselves from falling for a precious

metals scam by demanding a few key items from the salesperson they are communicating with, including asking for their license types and checking their license information, asking how they get paid and ensuring that any oral agreements made be provided in writing before investing.

"The bottom line is, before making these life-changing financial decisions, ask lots of questions, do your homework and contact the Colorado Division of Securities," Cheval said.

To reach the Colorado Division of Securities, call (303) 894-2320.

Happy New Year!

In this fresh new year with all our goals and aspirations, let us not forget that there will be days of struggle and hardship. We need God and His guidance for strength and mooring. In all our resolutions and activities we must not leave God out. Join us for Bible study and worship as we stand fast together spiritually.

Commit your works to the Lord
And your plans will be established.

— Proverbs 16:3

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	PM Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

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LIBRARY NEWS

Fun facts about your library as we start the new year

By Carole Howard
SUN Columnist, and the library staff

Did you know that we have more than 29,000 items in our collection and access to thousands more through our library consortium?

Here are 10 more fun facts about your Ruby Sisson library:

1. In 2019, more than 71,000 people used the library's services.

2. We offer a multitude of free programs for all ages throughout the year. In fact, in 2019, we organized nearly 450 different programs for our patrons and visitors.

3. Our English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are offered every Tuesday at 5 p.m. and every Friday at noon.

4. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep and more.

5. We have 15 computers available for use by patrons and visitors. Our computers were used more than 14,000 times this year.

6. We have two specialty bilingual early learning stations for our youngest patrons and visitors.

7. We offer 34 online resources which can be accessed at any time, 24/7.

8. We are blessed with amazing volunteers who help keep the library running smoothly for you.

9. We provide many business resources including free Wi-Fi, computers, notary public and study carrels plus faxing, scanning and printing.

10. Our amazing library staff are here to help you with all of your library needs.

Save the date for a new after-school club

Starting next Friday, Jan. 10, a new after-school club for first-through fifth-graders will take place from 1:45 to 3:30 p.m. on the second, third and fourth Friday of every month.

Participants will engage in literature-based science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) learning activities and work up to an exhibition on the first Friday following each three-week session. Registration is required by calling us at 264-2209 or dropping by the library.

Avalanche awareness today

Today, Thursday, Jan. 2, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Mark Mueller returns with a free avalanche awareness presentation that might save your life since avalanches are the deadliest natural hazard in Colorado. Mueller is an avalanche forecaster for the Colorado Avalanche Information Center. No registration is required.

Teen advisory board today

Today, Thursday, Jan. 2, the teen advisory board meets from 4 to 5 p.m. Sixth- through 12th-graders are invited to bring your fun and innovative ideas to help us plan teen programs. Share an idea to pick out a free book.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 3, from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session where you can enjoy video gaming on Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with your friends and family.

CRIA starts off 2020 Lecture Series with Northern Chacoan Outliers Project archaeologist

By Nadia Werby
Special to The SUN

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is proud to host a special presentation on Thursday, Jan. 9, by archaeologist Michelle Turner.

The lecture is free of charge and will begin at 7 p.m., following CRIA's social hour at 6 p.m. at The Springs Resort and Spa (Luxury Lodge) located at 165 Hot Springs Blvd.

Turner is the inaugural post-doctoral scholar at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, where she works on the Northern Chacoan Outliers Project. She received her Ph.D. in 2019 from the Department

LGBTQ youth group Monday

A support group to help LGBTQ youth and young adults from age 16 to in their 20s deal with social stigma, bullying, violence, hate crimes and discrimination convenes the first Monday of every month from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Under the leadership of Ana M. Sancho Sama, Ph.D., licensed psychologist, the purpose is to provide a safe and confidential place to share experiences, ask questions and talk about how to cope in this challenging world. If you have questions, her number is 264-1986.

Home-school social hour

Stop by next Tuesday, Jan. 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. for a chance to visit with fellow home-school families, discuss curriculum and learning opportunities and look through resources while the kids participate in crafts and other activities.

Josie, your early literacy librarian, is eager to collect ideas on how to serve home-school families in our community and get your feedback on the value of these sessions.

Tween gaming

Free gaming for those in the fourth through eighth grades is Monday, Jan. 6, from 4 to 5 p.m. Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Teen gaming

Free teen gaming happens on Tuesdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for teens in the sixth through 12th grades. Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Teen role-playing

The free role-playing game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place next Wednesday, Jan. 8, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

ESL classes twice a week

Free ESL classes take place on Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. The classes are led by two highly experienced teachers — Joyce Holdread for the intermediate/advanced group and Ellynn Ragone for beginners. No registration is required.

Las clases son dos veces por semana

Las clases gratuitas de inglés como segundo idioma (ESL) ocurren los martes de 5-7 p.m. y los viernes de 12-2 p.m. Las clases son dirigidas por dos instructoras altamente experimentadas — Joyce Holdread enseña al grupo intermedio/avanzado y Ellen Ragone enseña a los principiantes. No es necesario registrarse.

Adult education

Our free PALS accelerated GED course takes place Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 2 to 7 p.m. Come to your library to get help from Mark with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

Family storytimes

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Saturday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., join us for great stories, fun songs, toddler-friendly crafts

and plenty of reasons to get up and move. Note the new time for Saturdays.

Both storytimes are open to babies, toddlers and youngsters of all ages to make it easier for parents to attend with their children depending on their busy schedules rather than the age of their little ones. These free sessions are an excellent way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

Activities calendars

To be sure you don't miss any of the free activities available to you and your families at your library, we encourage you to pick up a copy of the events calendar each month. There are three versions — kids, tweens/teens and adults. We look forward to seeing you at your library. Se habla español.

How-to and self-help

"How Not to Diet" by Dr. Michael Greger discusses the latest research on the leading causes of — and remedies for — obesity. "The CBD Handbook" contains more than 75 recipes and tips on how to get the most out of your CBD oil of choice. "Beer Hiking Colorado" is a guide to 50 craft breweries and amazing hikes in our state. The revised and expanded second edition of "What To Eat During Cancer Treatment" by Jeanne Besser and Barbara L. Grant with the American Cancer Society offers more than 120 simple recipes to help you cope with eating-related side effects. The revised and updated fourth edition of "Solo Guitar Playing 1" by Frederick M. Noad is a complete course of instruction in the techniques of guitar performance.

Early learning books

"Let's Play" by Jeff A. Johnson and Denita Dinger provides 39 child-led, open-ended play adventures. "The Outdoor Toddler Activity Book" by Krissy Bonning-Gould takes your youngster outside for more than a hundred fun learning activities. "Game On!" by Linda J. Armstrong is a collection of more than 300 screen-free, traditional games and activities with a variety of fun themes. "Do-It-Yourself Early Learning" by Jeff A. and Tasha A. Johnson gives you ideas for easy and fun activities and toys from everyday home center materials.

Other nonfiction

"Free, Melania" by Kate Bennett is the unauthorized biography of the First Lady. "Migrating to Prison" by César Cuauhtémoc and Garcia Hernández documents the increasing use of detention to regulate immigration. "Your Personal Horoscope 2020" by Joseph Polansky is a month-by-month forecast for every sign.

Books on CD

"Double Crossfire" by Anthony J. Tata follows a killing spree aimed at getting a presidential hopeful elected. "The Seven Longest Yards" by Chris and Emily Norton is an inspiring love story and memoir after a quadriplegic walked across his graduation stage with his fiancée by his side.

Large print

"Beating Around the Bush" by M.C. Beaton is an Agatha Raisin mystery.

Other novels

"Under Occupation" by Alan Furst is a spy novel telling of anti-Nazi espionage efforts.

DVDs

"Game of Thrones" is the complete eighth season. "Falling Skies" is the complete first season. Two "Falling Skies" DVDs carry the complete second and third seasons. "Though None Go With Me" stars Cheryl Ladd and is based on the bestselling book about a woman whose faith is tested. "The Natural" is a sports film starring Robert Redford, Robert Duvall, Glenn Close and Kim Basinger. "Big Sonia" is a documentary about a woman who revisits her past as a refugee and witness to genocide. "The Snow Walker" is a tale of survival after a plane crash.

Downloadable e-books

Current New York Times best-seller downloadable e-books are being added regularly to our free 3M Cloud Library. Access them by clicking on the 3M Cloud Library icon on the home page of our website. While there, browse through a multitude of other adult, juvenile and children's books, both bestsellers and classics in many genres.

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Thanks to our donors

For their generous monetary donations, we are grateful to Rick and Lynne Stinchfield, David Bouquet, Rice Reavis and Deb Morton. For books and materials this week, we thank our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

Thought for the new year: "Always have enough time in your life to do something that makes you happy, satisfied, even joyous. That has more of an effect on economic well-being than any other single factor." — Paul Hawken, American environmentalist, entrepreneur, author and activist.

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Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

Letters to the editor: Noon, Tuesday
(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
(50 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

Articles: Noon, Monday
(email to editor@pagosasun.com)

*Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.

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Pagosa Fire Protection District

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

Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Randy Larson, Fire Chief, Pagosa Fire Protection District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2019?

2019 brought many changes to the Pagosa Fire Protection District. The most significant of these changes was the hiring of personnel for full-time 24/7 staffing. Through the application, testing, and interview process we were able to fill all positions from within the ranks of our volunteers. We will continue to recruit and train volunteers with the idea that some of them will move into full-time positions as they come open.

With the addition of the 24/7 staffing model PFPD was able to work closely with the Pagosa Springs Medical Center - Emergency Medical Services to train our firefighters in emergency medical disciplines including Medical First Responder, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), EMT-IV certifications. With this training in place we instituted an Emergency Medical First Responder Program where Firefighter respond with the EMS Paramedics on life threatening medical calls. Since PFPD still has many volunteers and station throughout the area, this provides for a quicker response time and additional personnel on scene to provide medical assistance.

Another accomplishment worth noting is that with

the development of our Apparatus Replacement Plan and increased revenues were able to replace our 1983 TMC Fire Engine with a new Rosenbauer Timberwolf Type-I Fire Apparatus. This new apparatus is designed with the wildland-urban interface as a priority. It is more maneuverable and can get into places that our other structural apparatus cannot. This apparatus will give us the ability to enhance our structural protection capabilities during wildland-urban interface fires as well as be a solid structural firefighting engine.

What are your three top goals for 2020?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

In 2020 PFPD will be doing a volunteer recruitment drive with the goal of recruiting at least 12-15 new members. This will require us to have a Firefighter I Academy which consists of approximately 240 hours of training. We will be doing some focused recruitment in the areas that are low on volunteers but we will accept recruits from anywhere within the Pagosa area.

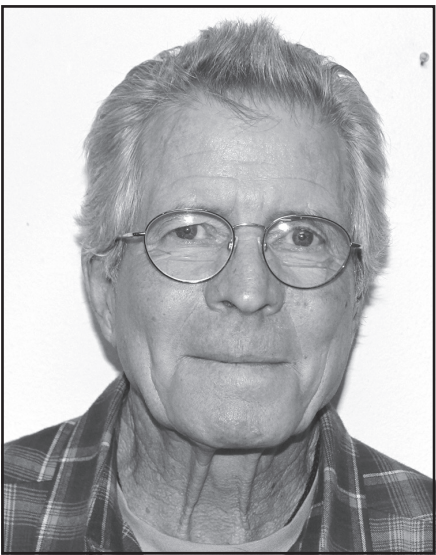
We have also begun the process and evaluation of the possibility of replacing our current Fire Station and Administrative Offices. This is a long-term process

and we are in the beginning stages. It is our hope that we can develop a plan that will be beneficial for the Department within being a financial burden. Several grants and special financing opportunities are available that could bring this project to fruition. PFPD is outgrowing our current facility and a new Station/ Administration would enhance to safety of our resident firefighters as well as allow room for additional growth to keep up with the projections of area growth.

With the growth that the PFPD has seen over the last couple of years we have begun to put a heavier burden on our Administrative Staff. We will be considering ways to decrease the workload in several areas and that could possibly mean the addition of Administrative staff.

PFPD will continue to accomplish these goals by prudent financial management and oversight, following our existing Strategic Plan, and seeking out additional funding through grants and donations. The entire staff of the Pagosa Fire Protection District is committed to bring the best possible services to the Pagosa Community and will continue to strive for improvement and better resources.

John Thompson, Board Chairman, Pagosa Fire Protection District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2019?

The beginning of 2019 was exciting for Pagosa Fire. Vice-Chairman Webb administered the Oath of Office to the graduates of the Fire Academy and to the newly hired firefighters. The firefighters hired were to fulfill PFPD's obligation for district fire coverage 24/7. The response time "out-the-door" time decreased and hopefully this will help lower future Insurance Service Ratings (ISO). PFPD is proud to say the District is now covered 24/7 at Station 1.

With one of our Board members resigning, the Board appointed Kim Moore to fulfill the position as Board

Director until the upcoming 2020 election.

With the development of an Apparatus Replacement Program, the Board approved the purchase of a Type 1, Wildland Urban Interface Apparatus. The new truck was delivered and in service at the start of October.

What are your three top goals for 2020?

First and foremost, the Board of Directors will continue to oversee, direct, and support Chief Larson in developing the policies, programs, and budgets within the fire district. The Board will ensure the District is following all applicable laws and ordinances.

Special Districts will be transitioning from even year to odd year regular elections. The first odd year election

will be held in May 2023. All 4-year terms will be 3-year terms expiring in May 2023. Any term of office expiring in May 2022, but became vacant mid-term, will still be a 2-year term expiring in May 2022. What does this mean for the upcoming 2020 election? The term will be for 3 years instead of 4 years, expiring in 2023.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

By ensuring that PFPD remains transparent, continues to work alongside other Archuleta County agencies and by supporting executive decisions has always, and will continue to be, crucial in providing the best fire coverage to the community of Pagosa Springs.

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

- Calls for service over two weeks: 206.
- Dec. 16 — Information only, Sweet Court and Crooked Road.
- Dec. 16 — Theft of rental property, Bastille Drive.
- Dec. 16 — Unlawful ownership of vicious dog, rabies vaccination required, animals running at large, Meadowlark Drive.
- Dec. 17 — Criminal impersonation, computer crime-misdemeanor, South Pagosa Boulevard.
- Dec. 17 — Warrant arrest, County Road 600.
- Dec. 17 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.
- Dec. 17 — Information only, County Road 600.
- Dec. 18 — All other thefts, aggravated motor vehicle theft, Dyke Boulevard.
- Dec. 19 — Violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, violation of restraining order, County Road 600.
- Dec. 19 — Found property, County Road 500.
- Dec. 19 — Driving under restraint alcohol/drug-related offense, vehicle plates not clearly legible, failed to display valid registration, improper registration, Colo. 151.
- Dec. 21 — Third-degree assault-simple assault, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Navajo Court.
- Dec. 23 — Harassment-calls

repeatedly, domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, third-degree assault-simple assault, harassment-repeated communications invade, Lofty Court.

Dec. 23 — Trespass warning, Village Drive.

Dec. 23 — Warrant arrest, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 23 — Illegal possession or consumption of alcohol by minor, criminal mischief, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct-petty, pedestrian on highway under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

Dec. 24 — Animals, nuisance, North Birdie Court.

Dec. 24 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, failed to display lights when visibility less than 1,000 feet, owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, Meadows Drive.

Dec. 24 — Death by natural causes, Cool Pines Drive.

Dec. 24 — Violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, violation of restraining order, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, County Road 700.

Dec. 24 — Restricted license/no interlock device used, driving under restraint alcohol/drug-related offense, County Road 700.

Dec. 24 — Unlawful ownership of dangerous dog-misdemeanor, Tonto Court.

Dec. 25 — County warrant, County Road 700.

Dec. 26 — Information only, Oak Place.

Dec. 26 — Information only, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 26 — Drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, careless driving, Justins Road.

Dec. 27 — Prohibited use of weap-

ons, criminal mischief, Canyon Circle.

Dec. 27 — Second-degree burglary, theft-from building, Eight Mile Loop.

Dec. 27 — Harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, criminal mischief, Carefree Place.

Dec. 28 — Information only, Mid-iron Avenue.

Dec. 28 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, South 10th Street and U.S. 160.

Dec. 28 — Unlawful ownership of vicious dog, County Road 982.

Dec. 29 — County warrant, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 29 — False reporting to authorities, obstructing governmental operations, drove vehicle when license revoked as habitual offender (misdemeanor), driver failed to yield right of way to emergency vehicle, Aviation Court.

Dec. 29 — Violation of restraining order, County Road 600.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service over two weeks: 231.

Dec. 8 — Criminal trespass, Country Center Drive.

Dec. 11 — Warrant arrest, Eaton Drive.

Dec. 12 — Assault, Navajo Trail Drive.

Dec. 13 — Speeding, operated vehicle without insurance, U.S. 160.

Dec. 13 — Identity theft, South 6th Street.

Dec. 13 — Criminal tampering, failed to yield to pedestrian, U.S. 160.

Dec. 13 — DUI, made U-turn where prohibited, 4th Street.

Dec. 14 — DUI, reckless, hit and run, Great West Avenue.

Dec. 19 — Failed to stop at stop

sign, failed to display turn signal, drove vehicle when safety belt not in use, Alpha Drive.

Dec. 21 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 25 — Operated vehicle without insurance, careless driving, North 6th Street.

Dec. 26 — DUI, U.S. 160.

Dec. 27 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, Lewis Street.

Dec. 27 — Warrant arrest, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 27 — Careless driving, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 27 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Clayton Buchner

Dec. 4 — Jeffrey Shaw, speeding 10-19 mph over limit, fine and costs — \$197.

Dec. 4 — David Grossman, speeding 10-19 mph over limit, fine — \$50.

Dec. 4 — Eugene Tautges, unsafe backing, fine and costs — \$72.

Dec. 4 — Jessica Whomble-Gregory, failed to yield when proceeding from a stop sign, three points, fine and costs — \$116.

Dec. 4 — Robert Engle, failed to yield to oncoming traffic, three points, fine and costs — \$116.

Dec. 4 — Juvenile, failed to yield when entering roadway, three points, fine and costs — \$116.

Dec. 5 — Justin Apodaca, possession drug paraphernalia, contempt/failure to appear, four days jail.

Dec. 18 — Destiney Posey, animal running at large, fine and costs — \$60.

Dec. 18 — Juliet Cardon, speeding 25-39 mph over prima facie limit, three points, fine and costs — \$185.

Dec. 19 — Josephine Leher, animal at large prohibited, fine — \$25.

Dec. 19 — Michael Allen, driver operated vehicle without insurance, failed to stop at stop sign, nine points, fine and costs — \$616.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Dec. 12 — James Eric Luttrell, violation of permit requirements, fines and costs — \$178.

Dec. 16 — Serena M. Tunnell, driver's license-expired one year/less, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$142.50.

Dec. 17 — Erestello L. Lueras, stop sign-fail to stop, improper pass-sign/markers, fines and costs — \$218.50.

Dec. 17 — Sharon R. Book, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.

Dec. 18 — Meadow A. Nicely, driving while ability impaired, 25 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, 12 months probation alcohol evaluation and supervision,

fines and costs — \$903.71.

Dec. 18 — Justin S. Pizzica, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$163.50.

Dec. 18 — Latina M. Pacheco, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$185.50.

Dec. 18 — Berlanda I. Lee, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$263.50.

Dec. 18 — Patricia A. Hollenbeck, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$263.50.

Dec. 18 — Zebulon W. Hansen, fail obey traffic control device, fines and costs — \$202.50.

Dec. 18 — Peter R. Martinez, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$210.50.

Dec. 18 — Cameron D. Hansen, stop lamps-defective, driver's license-not in possession, registration-unregistered vehicle, fines and costs — \$170.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.

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Bald eagle.

Photo courtesy Daryl Saffer

Birds: Counting because it matters

By Keith Bruno
Special to The SUN

Dec. 14, 2019, signaled the initiation of another early winter storm. Thankfully, there was enough of a lull as the storm gathered energy to allow 60 participants from Pagosa Springs to get out around the county in the short daylight hours and log birds.

For the last nine years, area residents have made a point of strategically navigating eight different zones in our 15-mile diameter circle to provide a representation of our winter bird species, effectively contributing to our nation's longest running community science effort and this year's 120th Christmas Bird Count.

Our preliminary findings from this year show that, while we logged 62 bird species (same as last year), overall bird numbers are lower than the past two years. This year, we logged 3,110 total birds. Compare that to 3,466 birds in 2018 and 5,314 birds in 2017, and one can see that we are in a declining pattern for numbers, at least for a short-term comparison. However, there are a few important factors to consider.

First, we had very little open water for this year's count due to a few weeks of sustained cold temperatures and many water bodies had iced over, meaning that several hundred waterfowl had already "flown the coop" southbound. This year was our first without a single Canada goose.

Second, a storm was moving in and many folks noted that birds

appeared to selectively forage when weather was more favorable, often seeking refuge from inclement weather throughout the day. Third, for obvious reasons, it was a difficult day for visibility.

The National Audubon Society (NAS) recorded more than 80,000 volunteer participants in last year's count. That is an important statistic and represents an increasing interest in the health of bird populations. After all, the substantial and shocking (to many) NAS report, "Survival by Degrees: 389 Species on the Brink," was compiled namely with Christmas Bird Count data and definitively illustrates the fact that we urgently need to turn our attention toward healing bird populations. To do so, it means healing the habitat and connectivity that they need to move through the landscape.

So, this year when spring rolls around, consider planting native berry bushes and shrubs, establishing food sources and protection for birds and other pollinators as they navigate a busier world. By doing so, you will make their journey a little easier.

The Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies are grateful for the increasing amount of interest we find each year in folks willing to set time aside to inventory our avian population, knowing full well that the weather can be fickle in mid-December in the southern Rockies. So, thank you to all of the participants of this year's Christmas Bird Count. We could not have done it without you.



Juvenile bald eagle.

Photo courtesy Byron Greco



Male gadwall.

Photo courtesy Charles Martinez



Christmas Bird Count birders.

Photo courtesy Kristine Rubish



Great blue heron.

Photo courtesy Charles Martinez



Black-capped chickadee.

Photo courtesy Kristine Rubish



American kestrel.

Photo courtesy Barry Knott



Mallards.

Photo courtesy Kristine Rubish



Mallards.

Photo courtesy Kristine Rubish

preview

ARTS & LIFE

'A Grand Night for Singing'

Through Jan. 12. • Thursday through Saturday at 7 p.m. • Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

January 2, 2020

'A Grand Night for Singing' running through Jan. 12

By **Bill Hudson**
Special to The PREVIEW

Thingamajig Theatre Company closed a well-attended run of its original holiday music revue, "A Very Perry Christmas," on Christmas Eve, with an appreciative full-house audience singing along with the three dozen holiday songs arranged by musical directors Bob Hemenger and Perry Davis Harper, and performed by Harper; his wife, Amy; their children; and a cast totaling 21 adults and children, with a live five-piece backup band. This marked the first original musical production at Thingamajig to be spearheaded by the Harper family, but hopefully not the last.

Thingamajig's winter 2019-2020 season continues at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts (PSCA) with the five-actor production of "A Grand Night for Singing," another musical revue featuring Perry and Amy Harper, plus actor-vocalists Jesse McFarland, Jessi Miller and Cassidy Giddens, also backed up by a compact live orchestra with Paula Millar on piano, James Kiker on bass, Jean Broderick on cello, Grace Weirsma on woodwinds, and Joanie Knabb on drums and keyboard.

The show opened just before Christmas to a sold-out crowd and continues tonight, Thursday, Jan. 2, running through Jan. 12. Thursday through Saturday shows are at 7 p.m. and Sunday matinees start at 2 p.m.

Composer Richard Rodgers and lyricist Oscar Hammerstein II have been called, by some fans of American musical theater, the greatest writing partnership of the 20th century. They worked as a team from 1943 until 1959, producing some of Broadway's best-known musicals, including "Oklahoma," "Carousel," "South Pacific," "The King and I" and their final collaboration, "The Sound of Music."

Said Thingamajig Artistic Director Tim Moore, "Seeing 'Grand Night' in rehearsal I knew we had something for our audience that was unique and special. But on opening night, I was not prepared for how much this music spoke to our audience. These are the songs and show they grew up with, all wrapped up in

fresh, contemporary arrangements that breathe new life in the classics that built the American theater songbook. 'Grand Night' is absolutely one of my favorite offerings we've produced to date."

The original Broadway production, conceived by Walter Bobbie, opened in 1993 and was nominated for two Tony Awards, for Best Musical and Best Book of a Musical, and the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revue. Like the Broadway original, Thingamajig's "Grand Night" is a revue of selected Rodgers and Hammerstein compositions, including many song favorites from their hit musicals, as well as numbers from their lesser known, but still successful, shows such as "Flower Drum Song" and "State Fair."

Scenic Designer Laura Moore, Lighting Designer Elaine Wong, Costume Designer Adrienne Young and Director Andrew Barratt Lewis have kept everything tastefully simple, staging the action with the orchestra members in the rear and using a minimum of stage pieces and props, letting the music itself shine without any clutter. Although the songs will be familiar, the music takes off from the original versions, specially arranged to incorporate the whole cast, instead of being a series of solos and duets, with complex harmonies and rhythms that make the music fresh and exciting, more than half a century after the original shows appeared on Broadway.

That is to say, the show is all about the music itself.

Thingamajig's 2019-2020 winter season will continue with a readers-theater version of "The Texas Homecoming Revolution of 1995," a hilarious comedy by playwright Jennifer Faletto that was workshopped at Thingamajig Theatre's 2018 Playwright Festival. It takes the audience on a laugh-out-loud visit to the stalls of the girls' restroom in a Texas high school, where all the secrets unfold. "The Texas Homecoming Revolution" opens Jan. 31 and runs through Feb. 9.

Tickets for "A Grand Night for Singing" and "The



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Riff Raff on the Rio: Dustin Burley, 6 p.m.

Saturday

Coyote Moon Bar and Grill: Karaoke with Lisa Saunders, 9 p.m.

Riff Raff downtown: Lucy Barna of Hot Honey, 6 p.m.

Riff Raff on the Rio: Bob Hemenger, 6 p.m.

■ See Theatre on next page

Live Performers



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Ribbon cutting planned for library's new land

By Meg Wempe
Special to The PREVIEW

At 2 p.m. on Jan. 15, your Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library will have a ribbon cutting for our new land, and we hope you will save the date.

The library was gifted the land directly to our west and we want to celebrate this considerable donation with you. The land was donated to us in memory of Margaret Wilson, who was an amazing volunteer who gave her time and energy in the development of the

library.

Lenore Bright, a previous library director, said about Wilson that "this was her library" and that Wilson was excited about what a library could do for the people of the local community. Wilson was instrumental in the growth of the library district and building of the library at its current location on 8th Street and U.S. 160.

On Wednesday, Jan. 15, we will gather shortly on the land for

the ribbon cutting, which will be followed by hot chocolate, homemade treats and fellowship inside the library. If you knew Wilson, we hope that you will share your stories about her to those of us who weren't as fortunate to know her.

If you have any questions, please call Meg at 264-2209 or email her at meg@pagosalibrary.org. We hope you will join us to celebrate this very generous gift on Jan. 15 at 2 p.m.

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Theatre

■ continued from previous page

Texas Homecoming Revolution of 1995" can be purchased on the PSCA website, <https://pagosacenter.org>, or by calling the box office at 731-7469 (SHOW).

Thingamajig Theatre Company is an award-winning professional nonprofit theater in residence within the PSCA. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and around the world to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

The theater was co-founded in 2010 by the Moores, both extraordinary actors and directors in their own right. Their mission is to provide high-quality theater experiences at a low cost to our community, thereby making art accessible as well as providing a major economic driver for Pagosa's tourism industry.



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Take the lid off the vessel we live in

A new year dawns. And, with it, the expectancy of becoming what we want or know we should be.

These days, it seems like it takes more than who I am just to make it. Even when my jar seems to be overflowing do I find the day requires more than I can actually give.

A quote from a book by Messianic Jewish Rabbi Jonathan Cahn captured my attention: “Only by opening yourself up can you come to know that which you don’t already know. And only by becoming an open vessel can you contain that which is greater than yourself.”

I held up my coffee cup and said to my Sweet Al, “This cup holds 8 ounces. How can it hold 64 ounces?” He looked at me as if I was speaking to him in Greek again.

“Is this a trick question? An 8-ounce cup can only hold 8 ounces.”

“No, I am not asking you a trick question.”

We have always taught our children, if you err, err on the side of generous. Keep your heart open, even to those who offend you. Forgive when you don’t think you can. Love when it isn’t in you. Be patient with the person who drives you up a wall.

Maybe we were guiding them to give as a cup that runneth over. Yet I recognize by my own asking of the question to my Sweet Al, “Is that actually possible?”

I hear my name called out each week when I drop off books at Ruby Sisson Library. The librarian from behind the desk usually follows that up by saying something that encourages me about my writing. There is a kindness and generosity

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



Not even the deepest well holds water, so then how can we give beyond that which we have?

that I experience, yet the person speaking probably doesn’t even know what her words mean to me. She is just being who she is. Thoughtful. Yet what I receive is likely far more than what she intended.

Not even the deepest well holds water, so then how can we give beyond that which we have? It starts by opening ourselves up supernaturally. In other words, “take off the lid” and let God flow through.

It begs the question, “Why are people stingy with their compliments when it doesn’t cost anything, yet it can mean more than the value of anything they would

have given?”

I heard it said years ago, “If you’re stingy when you’re poor, you’ll be stingy when you’re rich.” I am not sure if that is entirely true. I have, however, come to a point in my understanding — what I give doesn’t depend on what I have, but who I am.

Cahn continues in his writings, “Your mind and heart are finite. Clay jars. But the truth has no end. God has no end. The Eternal is infinite ... always flowing.”

When we open ourselves up to the life God gives, whether it demands us to love, forgive, pray or just be a friend, there is an abundant flow. Just as with any other blessing, there is not a start or stop. Just a current that envelopes us.

I came from a small town that sat in the eastern shadow of Wolf Creek Pass. In the simplicity of that time, I certainly never saw myself with much to offer. Let alone, I would have never thought that I or anyone else could ever pour out more than we were able to hold. The acceptance of Christ gives profound meaning when I think about where the Bible tells us that we are filled with living water.

Final brushstroke: How easy it is for us to live like a dried-up well that doesn’t have anything to offer. After all, if we don’t have, we can’t give. That is, until we discover that if we take the lid off of whatever vessel we live in, God will fill us. And not just to a topping off point, but overflowing.

Readers’ comments

Send your comment to betty@bettyslade.com.



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Make the year ahead clutter-free

Special to The PREVIEW

Many people feel the dawn of a new year provides an opportunity to clean the slate and begin anew. That notion can be applied in various ways, including around the house.

Cleaning the slate at home may involve reducing clutter around the house. Clutter can gradually overtake a home's interior, turning a once-pristine home into one overwhelmed with nonessential items. Clearing a home of clutter can seem like a monumental task, but the following tips can help homeowners and apartment dwellers make the year ahead clutter-free.

- Scan important documents and save them on a computer. Some documents cannot be discarded, but that does not mean they have to be stored in bulky file cabinets or desk drawers. Scan important documents such as medical receipts or tax returns and save them on your computer where they won't take up any physical space. Purchase an external hard drive as a safety net where you can store backups of important documents in case a computer crashes and cannot be rebooted.

- Thin out DVD and CD libraries. Thanks to streaming services and digital music players, DVDs and compact discs have become somewhat obsolete. Discard or donate DVDs that you can just as easily stream through your television, and convert CDs to digital files that you can play on your computer and MP3 players, ultimately donating the discs and clearing space.

- Purchase furniture that doubles as storage. Storage ottomans and benches can help clear common areas and bedrooms of clutter such as blankets and bed linens that can make rooms feel more claustrophobic. Storage furniture might not get excess items out of the house, but such furnishings can create a more comfortable, welcoming environment.

- Switch to e-statements for bank documents and utility bills. Paper is a big contributor to household clutter.



Opting for e-statements instead of paper statements can help reduce clutter around the house.

ter. That's still the case even though many adults now pay the majority of their bills online. When given the chance to choose between paper or e-statements, opt for the latter so bills and bank statements don't pile up on your desk or throughout your home office. If you still want to keep important bills and bank statements, download them to your computer and keep them in a designated folder on your desktop.

- Adopt an "out with the old, in with the new" mantra. Resolve to discard old items after purchasing new ones or receiving birthday or holiday gifts. Hanging on to old items because they can still

function and serve some utility is a recipe for a cluttered home. Anytime you or a family member brings a new item into your home, make sure the item it's replacing finds its way out the door.

Clearing clutter is a goal for many people at the dawn of a new year. As intimidating as clutter can seem, discarding it is easier than it may appear.



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Traversing Wolf Creek Pass in 1916

Last week's column about the first public crossing of newly built Wolf Creek Pass when it opened during the summer of 1916 ended with the sentence, "Six men held the cables while David drove to level ground." To launch this week's column, our writer begins:

"While they were working, I car-



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Lionel and Ruby Archuleta were the parents of Margaret Daugaard, the lady who operated the La Cantina on Pagosa Street in Pagosa Springs for many years. Daugaard was in the direct line of the Archuleta family who traced their family back to Spain, including Antonio D. Archuleta, for whom the county is named.

ried drinking water in a pint cup from the creek below up that bank for the men, for now it was mid-day in a July sun. It was forty feet to the nearest to stop the car's rolling, had it gone down.

"When the task was nearly completed, I took photographs, then the three of us went on down the two miles, where Marguerite sat waiting all these hours alone — not knowing what had happened to any of us.

"As my family was reunited, and no one was hurt, I began to weaken, and became so shaky I couldn't stop trembling. Kept growing weaker and more frightened as the miles passed until we were within two miles of Pagosa Springs and home. I did as some other women in the past have done — fainted. At the Todd Ranch, they stretched me out on the grass beside the highway, and with water and spirits of ammonia, I was soon revived. I have heard of people being scared to death. This was the next thing to it.

"Even with such experiences. I love our Wolf Creek Pass, with its forty-seven years of memories and happy associations."

And there you have the completion of a memory recorded for posterity by Myrtle Hersch. Since that 1916 crossing of Wolf Creek Pass, an untold number of travelers have crossed what may be Colorado's most notorious and well-known pass. The adventure is certainly something to write home about.

As a sports writer for The Pagosa Springs SUN, I regularly crossed the pass to cover Pagosa Springs Pirate high school sports events with high schools to the east of the Continental Divide. Many a time I wished I was somewhere — anywhere — else. Not only is the iciness a threat, during blizzard conditions it's hard to see where the edge of the highway and a sudden, unforeseen downhill plunge is lurking.

One late afternoon as the sun was setting and I was enjoying the

■ See Past on next page



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

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UU service to look at racial guilt, creating a global community

By **Pauline Benetti**
Special to The PREVIEW

Through the works of Neitzche, Hegel, Frantz Fanon and Robin DiAngelo, this Sunday our speaker, Alexis Bernstein, will dissect how to live with racial guilt and create a global community.

She will discuss the root of guilt and white fragility as well as what people of privilege can do the re-balance the racial scale and create

a community where people are respected for their inherent worth and dignity instead of judged.

Bernstein graduated with a B.A. from College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in Minnesota in 2017 and received her M.F.A. in arts and humanities at the University of Dundee in Scotland in 2019. Bernstein is currently serving Americorps at Pagosa Peak Open School as a food security champion and trying to influence the future

generation of American citizens.

Our fellowship offers each individual support in our unique spiritual path and an opportunity to participate in positive social and environmental action. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

Religious Exploration (RE) classes are held on the third and fourth Sundays and continue through to May. For more information about RE, contact Anna Ramirez at afrancis_@hotmail.com.

Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn right onto Park Avenue and right again into Greenbriar Plaza, then turn left and continue around the complex until you see the Unitarian Universalist sign as it faces the mountains. Join us. For further information about the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, visit pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

Genealogical Society to hear about railroads

By **Carolyn Paschal**
Special to The PREVIEW

The Archuleta County Genealogical Society will meet at 11 a.m. on Jan. 11 at the Community Unit-

ed Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Dean Cox, a fourth-generation native of Pagosa Springs, will present a program on the local historical narrow gauge railroads. Visitors are welcome.

Past

■ continued from previous page
view and the appearance of stars sparkling through the high mountain atmosphere, I rounded a sharp curve in my westward journey upward and, lo and behold, a blizzard completely obliterated my view. All I could see where tiny, twisting snowflakes covering my hood and testing the ability of my windshield wipers to help me see through the window pane, now a pain.

Fortunately, the tunnel appeared and, ignoring the no parking sign, I pulled over the right side of the tunnel where I could look through the western opening and waited for the snow to stop. Finally, daybreak spread across the mountain highway and I could see where high way stopped and wilderness began.

Slowly and carefully, I crept around and down until full daylight resumed dominance over all things

I needed to see and the highway returned to a reasonable amount of levelness. I sure enjoyed that cup of coffee at the café that used to welcome folks on U.S. 160 east of town.

Informative.

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Join Mountain View Friends on Jan. 9

By Tozi Rubin
Special to The PREVIEW

Join the newly formed Mountain View Friends for conversation and informational programs as we usher in a new year.

Formerly known as Mountain View Homemakers, we are excited to welcome everyone for coffee/

tea and breakfast finger foods on Jan. 9.

This will be our organizational meeting, getting to know existing and new members, and planning future monthly events.

We will meet at 10 a.m. at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street on the second Thursday of each month.

This is a great opportunity to share time with friends and enjoy monthly presentations or activities. Some of you may want to go to lunch together afterward.

We have no dues or participation requirements. We just want to be Friends.

Please call Tozi Rubin at 731-3360 with any questions.

New Thought to hear about opening yourself to more

By Lisa Burnson
Special to The PREVIEW

“The source of your supply is immense. It’s all there waiting for you — Just waiting for you to tap into it.” — Tony Bourroughs.

All are welcome to join the New Thought Center for Inspirational Living (NTC) on Sunday, Jan. 5, at 10:30 a.m. for our presentation, “The Source of Your Supply is Immense.” We will resolve to release old ideas and disappointments that do not serve our forward progression, and be inspired to create room for our goals and dreams to come into our lives.

Also on Sunday, Jan. 5, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., we invite all who enjoy writing in the company of others to join our writing group for “Stories To Tell Us.”

We welcome people of all religions, cultures, races and lifestyles to our services, where we celebrate the Science of Mind and positive thinking.

Our community of affirmative-minded people share joy, laughter and awareness of connection to spirit and our ability to co-create a life of infinite possibilities.

We will have spirited live music.

Meditation circle

We invite the public to enjoy our weekly meditation circle each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m., weather permitting.

Upcoming events

Saturday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m.: “Manifestation Magic.”

Jan. 18, Vision Board Workshop, time to be determined.

Please call NTC for more information about these events.

NTC events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Best Western Lodge (elevator available).

About us

NTC is a New Thought center based on fostering living a spiritually centered life and promoting the philosophies of the Centers for Spiritual Living and the Agape Centers. NTC honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine.

We welcome local talent to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Have a hand in making a difference. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

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Legal, tax help coming to Senior Center

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging provides legal services for seniors through the program attorney, Daniel Fiedler. Fiedler will be spending the day at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center on Jan. 23 by appointment.

Following are the legal services Fiedler can assist with:

- Public benefits and utilities shut off.
- Landlord-tenant problems, such as persons being evicted.
- Simple wills, power of attorneys, medical durable power of attorney and living wills.
- Consumer issues such as advocating for persons harassed by debt collectors.
- Emergency limited long-term Care guardianship and domestic problems, such as abuse.

Please come by or call the Senior Center office to schedule an appointment, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. (inside the Ross Aragon Community Center), 264-2167.

Tax preparation help

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will be returning to prepare federal and state income tax returns at no charge.

The 2020 dates are Feb. 22 and March 14, by appointment only. The gross income limit this tax season is \$54,000.

Please call 264-2167 for more information or to make an appointment.

History (Book) Club

Are you interested in reading and talking about history with others? If so, please join us and bring your ideas and experiences as we continue a history discussion group at the Senior Center. The discussions will cover many historical subjects based on the preferences of the group. Please come and bring your friends who might also be interested.

In the fall, the History Group began its study of English history and how it influenced America.

The essence of the discussions concerning England is what America adopted and what it rejected regarding England's form of government and culture.

Facilitated by Jim Van Liere, the group meets the third Wednesday of every month.

Senior News

The next meeting will be Jan. 15 at 1 p.m. in the Community Café dining room in the Senior Center.

Health and wellness

The Senior Center is continuing the pilot program which expands health and wellness services to Archuleta County seniors. The program includes wellness and blood pressure monitoring or allows individual area seniors to discuss two subjects of their choice.

There is no charge for Medicare enrollees. Participant IDs will include Medicare card, photo ID and, if necessary, any supplemental insurances. No Medicaid is accepted at this time. Participants are encouraged to bring a list of their current medications.

The goal of the outreach clinic is to provide care to those who are not able to travel.

The next health and wellness date will be Jan. 13, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Memberships

Senior Discount Club Memberships are now offered Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch. If you are a senior (60 years and older), for only a \$4 suggested donation, you are eligible for a hot meal, drink and a salad prepared by our kitchen staff.

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$8.50 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 2 — Beef Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli casserole, dinner roll with butter, milk and salad bar.

Friday, Jan. 3 — Tilapia taco, refried beans, peach salsa, milk, salad bar and gingersnap/lime dessert.

Monday, Jan. 6 — Pork green chili stew, glazed carrots, roasted beets, Mexican cornbread with butter, milk and salad bar.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 — Hot turkey salad, broccoli with butter, honey/garlic green beans, milk, salad bar and pumpkin pie.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 — Beef meatball sandwich, cream of zucchini soup, sweet potato fries with smoked paprika, milk, salad bar and orange dessert.

Thursday, Jan. 9 — Crunchy baked catfish with tartar sauce, milk, mushrooms with barley and brown rice pilaf, squash medley, cabbage steaks, salad bar and lemon cream pie.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to dine in the Community Café at the Senior Center.

For your convenience, you can make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on days you know you will always attend. Please cancel if you cannot attend on your standing reservation days.



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All about avocados

By Erin Durant and Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Avocados have an ancient, curious history. Native to the tropics of Central America, legend has it that a Mayan princess ate the first avocado and that it held mystical and magical power.

From easy-to-digest baby food to appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert, avocados can be enjoyed in many different ways. They remain popular in modern-day cuisine due to their versatility and nutritional value.

Avocados are a rich fruit with a smooth, creamy texture and a delicate, nutty flavor.

They are grown year-round and are typically pear-shaped. The skin and large seed must be removed before eating, which leaves a fleshy interior ranging in color from shades of yellow to yellow-green.

Avocados contain nearly 20 vitamins and minerals, including vitamin C, vitamin B6, vitamin K, vitamin E, folate, potassium, riboflavin, niacin and magnesium. They are a great source of fiber, which aids in healthy digestion, keeps us feeling full and promotes heart health.

They are also high in monounsaturated fats. These healthy fats are known to improve cholesterol levels, decrease risk of heart disease, aid in controlling blood sugar and provide benefits to your skin, brain and digestive system.

Avocados provide a great opportunity to talk to your kids about healthy fats. Explain the difference between healthy and unhealthy fats. Unhealthy fats are those that mostly come from animal products and processed foods. Healthy fats are those that typically come from plant-based foods, oils and fish. Unhealthy fats increase cholesterol levels and lead to a higher risk of heart disease, whereas healthy fats, like those found in avocados, can improve cholesterol and decrease the risk of heart disease.

Invite your kids to help you prepare an easy snack with avocados. Slice the avocado in half, and have them scoop out the flesh and spread it on toast instead of butter. Alternatively, use mashed avocado on a sandwich instead of mayonnaise. You could also fill the small "bowl" in the middle of the fruit with tuna or chicken salad.

Or, make guacamole, a classic avocado dish that is often associated with Mexican cuisine. Just mash the avocado, mix with a little garlic, onion, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Enjoy as a dip for vegetables, a topping for a main dish or a spread for sandwiches.

Choosing avocados

Ripe avocados are firm but give

Extension Viewpoints

slightly when pressed with a finger. However, because avocados do not ripen on the tree, it is often necessary to buy them before they are ripe and allow them to ripen at home. If you buy a hard, unripe avocado, leave it on your counter for two to five days to let it ripen. To quicken ripening, place avocados in a brown paper bag with an apple.

Ripe avocados can be stored in the refrigerator for up to five days.

Preparing avocados

Follow these tips to make peeling and pitting an avocado easier:

1. Wash the fruit with cool tap water.
2. Cut the avocado in half lengthwise around the pit.
3. Rotate the halves to separate.
4. Use a spoon to gently remove the pit.
5. Peel the fruit, using your fingers or a knife to remove the skin. You can also use a spoon to scoop out the avocado meat.
6. Slice as desired with the flat side down.

Avocados taste best when eaten at room temperature. They can take on a bitter taste when exposed to high heat or prolonged cooking. When using in cooked dishes, add the avocado at the last minute, exposing the fruit to only gentle heat and preserving its delicate, nutty flavor.

Storing avocados

When exposed to air, avocado flesh turns brown. When storing, first sprinkle with lemon juice, lime juice or vinegar, place in an airtight covered container in your refrigerator and eat within two days. Although whole and sliced avocados do not freeze well, you can freeze avocado puree, though it may be slightly watery when thawed. Simply mash the avocado flesh with 2 tablespoons of lime juice and store in an airtight container with 1/2-inch headspace for up to six months in the freezer. Thaw the puree in the refrigerator and use within three days.

Salty chili chocolate avocado mousse (vegan)

- Ingredients:
- 2 medium ripe avocados
 - 1/2 cup cocoa powder
 - 1/4 cup pure maple syrup
 - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
 - 1/4 scant teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
 - pinch of salt

- flaked sea salt for garnish
- Instructions:

1. Puree all of the ingredients except for the flaked salt in a food processor until smooth.
2. Refrigerate to cool.
3. Divide among four to six small serving dishes and top with a sprinkle of sea salt.
4. Keeps for up to two days refrigerated in an airtight container.

Erin Durant is the Gunnison County family and consumer science agent.

Upcoming events

January/February: Support your local 4-H Program by purchasing soup from a 4-H member.

Jan. 18: Cottage Foods Certification, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Extension office. This certification allows certain foods to be produced in home kitchens and be sold directly to the consumer. For more information, please call the office at 264-5931. To register, go to www.eventbrite.com/cottage-foods-pagosa-co-tickets-83416072719 or come into the office to pay. The

■ See Viewpoints on next page

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Jan. 2

Hai Chee. 8-9 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Movement focusing on balance within mind, body and soul. Slowly reduce tension as you feel better, one breath at a time.

A Course in Miracles Study Group. 10-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Call Karen LeCour at 264-0111 for more information.

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Pickleball. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

PALS Adult Education. 2-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Teen Advisory Board. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For youth in the 6th-12th grades. Bring your fun and innovative ideas to help us plan teen programs. Contact the library

at 264-2209 for further information.

Avalanche Awareness. 5-6:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Mark Mueller returns with a free presentation that might save your life, since avalanches are the deadliest natural hazard in Colorado. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Jan. 3

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle exercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

English as a Second Language. Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Gaming. 2:30-3:45 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Pirates Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Eaton High School.

Yoga. 5-6 p.m., Community Center.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Basketball. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Eaton High School.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Jan. 4

Family Storytime: Puzzle It Out. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. We will work our way through a variety of different puzzles and make some of our own. Join us for great stories, fun songs, toddler-friendly crafts 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 264-2209 for more

■ See Calendar on next page

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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page cost is \$40

Feb. 11: The 36th annual Beef Symposium will be held at the Archuleta County Extension office. The cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch. Please call the Extension office at 264-5931 for more information and to register.

Feb. 12: The Agricultural Financial Management Strategies workshop hosted by the CSU Agriculture and Business Management Team will cover topics such as risk management, business planning, enterprise budgeting, record keeping and more. Please go to www.2020fms.eventbrite.com to register or come into the office to

pay. The cost is \$15.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling the Extension office at 264-5931.

We will also attempt to schedule classes on additional dates with five or more registrations. Cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. The type of first aid information provided will vary by the needs of the audience.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page information.

Beyond Words International: Volunteer Information Session. 3-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Arts Council, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. An informational session for those interested in working with our organization. Email beyondwordshint@gmail.com.

Pagosa Pirates Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Colorado Springs Christian School.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Basketball. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Colorado Springs Christian School.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Jan. 5

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Jan. 6

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., advanced at 10:15 a.m. For more information, call Beverly at 264-2064.

Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

Qigong. 10 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Maintain and improve

health, strength and balance.

Time for Tots. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Ages 2-3. This is a new program offering a great time for toddlers to socialize and participate in fun, hands-on activities. Parents or Guardians must be present and involved. We will have singing, music, reading, crafts and plenty of free play. The cost is \$20 for the class. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Tween Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For those in the 4th-8th grade. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
LGBTQ Support Group. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. A support group to help youth and young adults from age 16 to in their 20s under the leadership of Ana M. Sancho Sama, Ph.D., licensed psychologist.

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Chi Energi. 8-9 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. A variety of movements and stretches to create energy for the healing of our mind, body and soul.

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Yoga Fusion Class. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Pickleball. Noon-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Home-school Social Hour. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Stop by for a chance to visit with fellow home-school families, discuss curriculum and learning opportunities and look through resources while the kids participate in crafts and other activities. Josie, your early literacy liberian, is eager to collect ideas on how to serve home-school families in our community. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Alzheimer's Support Group. 2 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church. For more information, call 259-0122.

Time for Tots. 2-3 p.m., Community Center. Ages 2-3. This is a new program offering a great time for

toddlers to socialize and participate in fun, hands-on activities. Parents or Guardians must be present and involved. We will have singing, music, reading, crafts and plenty of free play. The cost is \$20 for the class. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary. 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Xbox 360 Kinect, and snacks. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

English as a Second Language. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children ages 3-5 years old. Includes Bible time, songs, crafts, games and more. For more information or to register, call Frank and Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Yoga Flow Class. 10-11 a.m., Community Center. Please bring a mat and a towel. For more information, call Amy at (609) 204-1998.

Jelly Beans After School Fun Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. All ages welcome. For information, call 903-8104.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
Role-Playing Game. 4-5:30 p.m.,

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
 Sisson Library. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters in our ongoing RPG. This is a recurring program. If you want to be a part of the game but missed the last event, don't worry, you can join in anytime. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

American Legion Post 108. 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St. Veterans group meeting.

The Most Excellent Way. 7 p.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship Church, 1044 Park Ave. The Most Excellent Way offers Bible-based relief from addictions and compulsions, with men and women meeting separately for utmost confidentiality. Call 507-0123 for more information.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Hai Chee. 8-9 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Movement focusing on balance within mind, body and soul. Slowly reduce tension as you feel better, one breath at a time.

Mountain View Friends. 10 a.m., Community United Methodist Church. Formerly known as Mountain View Homemakers, this newly formed group will focus on shared time with friends and a monthly presentation or activity. This will be our organizational meeting, getting to know existing and new members. We will have coffee/tea and breakfast finger foods. Call Tozi Rubin at 731-3360 for more information.

A Course in Miracles Study Group. 10-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Call Karen LeCour at 264-0111 for more information.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. All are invited to enjoy a free hot meal in a welcoming atmosphere. No reservations are required.

Pickleball. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Asso-

ciation Lecture Series. 7 p.m., The Springs Resort and Spa Luxury Lodge. Archeologist Michelle Turner will do a presentation on the Northern Chacoan Outliers Project. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Jan. 10

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle exercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

English as a Second Language. Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

After School Club. 1:45-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 1st-5th grade. Participants will engage in literature based science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) learning activities and work up to an exhibition on the first Friday following each three week session. Registration is required. Call 264-2209 for more information and to register.

After the Bell. 2-3 p.m., Community Center. Ages 9-12. Come to the Community Center gym and have some fun participating in different physical educational games. We will be burning off some energy after a long week of school. The cost is \$20 for all five Fridays involved. Deadline to register is Jan. 8, 2020. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Wrestling: Rocky Mountain Duals. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Yoga. 5-6 p.m., Community Center.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the

Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Pagosa Pirates Boys Varsity Wrestling: Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational. 10 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Meditation and Dharma Discussion. 10 a.m., Pagosa Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, Suite B-15, 70 Greenbriar Drive. All are welcome.

Archuleta County Genealogical Society. 11 a.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Dean Cox, a fourth-generation native of Pagosa Springs, will present a program on the local historical narrow gauge railroads. Visitors are welcome.

Veterans for Veterans Presents Love Around the World. 6 p.m., Best Western Lodge. Capt. John Barry III will give a presentation and share stories from his sailing trip around the world. We will have appetizers, live and silent auctions, a cash bar and fun for all. Tickets are \$20 at the door; children under

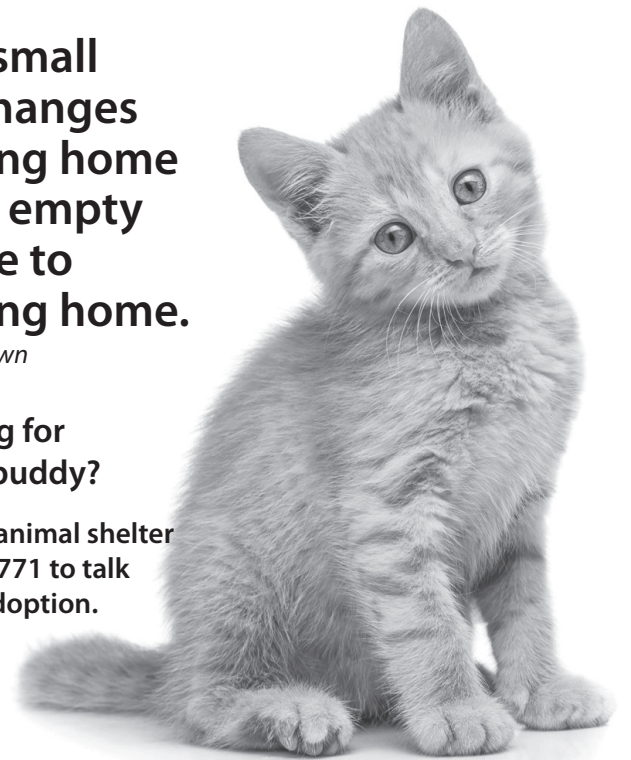
■ See Calendar on next page

One small cat changes coming home to an empty house to coming home.

- Pam Brown

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
 5 are admitted free. Call Tari Woods at 398-0023 for more information.
Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Jan. 12
Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

High Country Squares Dances. 3-5 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Richard Berry calls both Mainstream and Plus. Visitors are always welcome. For information, contact Steve Keil at stevekeil128@gmail.com or 731-0044.

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Jan. 13
Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network. 9-11 a.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship. Writers are invited to hone their craft in fiction, nonfiction and poetry. For more information, email richgammill41@wolfcreekwriters.com or call 731-2040.

Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., ad-

vanced at 10:15 a.m. For more information, call Beverly at 264-2064.
Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

Qigong. 10 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Maintain and improve health, strength and balance.

Time for Tots. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Ages 2-3. This is a new program offering a great time for toddlers to socialize and participate in fun, hands-on activities. Parents or Guardians must be present and involved. We will have singing, music, reading, crafts and plenty of free play. The cost is \$20 for the class. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
CPR Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension Office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasan.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

⊙ * ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☽ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓
 Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to cold weather.
 Each number corresponds to a letter.
 (Hint: 9 = s)

A. 6 13 16 9 14

Clue: Cold covering

B. 10 23 10 23 26 25 9

Clue: Cylindrical ice

C. 9 26 10 23 22

Clue: Slippery

D. 7 8 9 14 4

Clue: Windy

Answers: A. frost B. icicles C. slick D. gussy

CHILLY WEATHER WORD SEARCH

G G U G Z Y R U C R E M R B T I E C E P
 D L L I H C D N I W G O F E Y P W T W F
 Z Y I S N B V G Z F O B M V E F A D B E
 W D O L D O W A R V Z P R B R M C F R U
 H V V M B L I O B L E M A O I R H H E T
 A H G E C N O T N R O G S L Y A Y A C F
 A I A W H N B C A S K T C S D P S G I G
 I U R N W P N T M S B O T K O Z R V K E
 V S Y M U A U V R I N A M T O R H H C D
 O I L S A R R T T E L E H N U R D Y A U
 D G S K E S C E A I T E D I O N E R L T
 D B E I P P S B Z R R N G N S R H E B I
 N B D D B T L A P M C N I V O F M T T T
 W Y K F Z I T W I L I T A W R C E E Y L
 K A O O Z I L A Z Z I T I O U E F M B A
 O E U Z O C U I E D V R N C R G V O M C
 V I A N A G K E T L I T W G Y P S R D P
 N R D P O I R P B Y S A E Z B L H A V R
 D E L A G F D O U T S D C G Y Y G B G T
 P S M W I F R O Z E N K I S N A B Z C V

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AIR MASS
 ALTITUDE
 ARCTIC
 BAROMETER
 BLACK ICE
 BLIZZARD
 CLIMATE
 COLD
 CONDENSATION
 CRYSTALLIZATION
 DEGREE
 FOG
 FREEZING
 FRONT
 FROSTBITE
 FROZEN
 GALE
 HYPOTHERMIA
 MERCURY
 SNOW
 TEMPERATURE
 VISIBILITY
 WINDCHILL
 WINTER

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The bull and the brothers

By Lynn Moffett
Special to The PREVIEW

My dad, a charming man, told stories born from years of living. One memory came from an early age.

He was the third of four brothers whose father, a pastor, died when Dad was 8. His single mom worked hard in the ensuing years to provide food and shelter before and during the depression.

Left to their own devices, the boys proved full of mischief. They played basketball in their parlor, moved Model Ts up on neighbors' porches and the like.

One Friday evening, their mom announced they were going on the first vacation Dad could remember. To those of us living in the 21st century a weekend away might not seem much of an escape from troubles, but to this struggling family, it sounded like heaven.

Visiting their uncle's farm brought a long-forgotten smile to their mom's face. The brothers spent hours hassling chickens, chasing goats and racing through the fields of corn. They played baseball and used the hoop attached to the barn for games of horse and two on two.

Throughout that Saturday, they eyed the prize bull. Dares barked between them, escalating as the day waned.

They chose a time when their uncle left to retrieve his mule from the farm next door. The oldest brother dashed through the pasture and leaped on Black Thunder's back. Unable to find a hold, Thunder catapulted Tom 5

A Matter of Faith

feet straight up. He landed with a thud on the hard-packed earth. The other three laughed until their sides ached. All the while, Tom bragged about getting on board and challenged Bob, next in line, to do better. He suffered the same fate, a sudden flight and the next moment slammed into the dirt. He jumped to his feet and dodged the cloven hooves intent on driving him into the ground. The big black critter wasn't having fun.

Next came Dad, who not only scrambled to the bull's back, but actually rode him. Though full of the euphoria at breaking a rule, he said the bull turned out to be the worst kind of experience. Through the brutal bouncing up and down on that boney spine and fear of jumping off, he held on. Hearing the racket, my grandmother tore out the kitchen door yelling. The animal hated that. He bucked and raced more than before.

Uncle Aaron returned and stood stunned to discover a boy riding his bull. When he shook off the surprise, he trotted through the grassy field to grab and gentle the creature enough to pull Billy off the bristly back.

Dad was the only one who got a tongue lashing. Nobody tattled among those brothers.

Interestingly, he always

laughed and claimed it to be one of the best times in his life. He used the story to point out not only a delightful day at a farm, but the depth of my grandmother's faith and how in the midst of dire times, she managed to teach her boys that a moment of adventure and laughter rolled together trumped all the hardships.

Are you going through a bad time? Is finding a positive moment impossible? My grandmother went through the same thing. Faith is what strengthened her. Without fail, she believed God would see her through the darkness and back into the light, as much as a platitude as that may sound. She held this scripture tight to her heart.

Galatians 6:9: "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." (MSG).

In grandmother's case, doing well consisted of taking care of four rambunctious sons in spite of losing the love of her life. She didn't let her circumstances destroy her or them. She trusted blessing would come. God would never let her down.

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Happy New Year!

In this fresh new year with all our goals and aspirations, let us not forget that there will be days of struggle and hardship. We need God and His guidance for strength and mooring. In all our resolutions and activities we must not leave God out. Join us for Bible study and worship as we stand fast together spiritually.

Commit your works to the Lord
And your plans will be established.

— Proverbs 16:3

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	Time of Services	
Sunday	Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
	AM Worship	10:30 a.m.
	PM Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

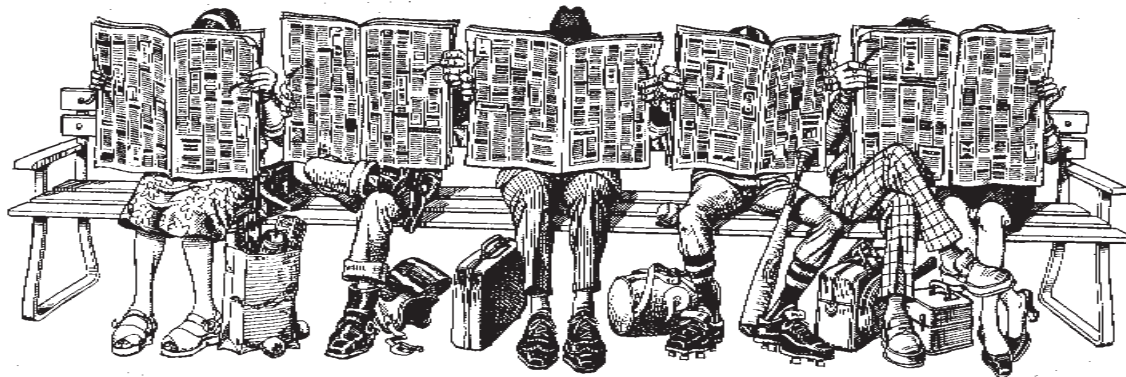
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Taking advantage of a bad hand

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Jack had loved cars since he was young. Now that he was retired, he especially loved the cars from his youth — vintage or antique cars, they were now called.

The biggest and best antique car rally was coming up, and the minute the tickets became available, Jack purchased one. He could hardly wait for the big day. His ticket was going to be his Christmas present to himself. But just before the car show, he slipped and fell, putting him in a wheelchair.

Jack was not about to let that stop him. He had a son who lived in the town where the rally was being held. Jack was sure his son would be willing to take him to the show. He called to find out.

“David, if I can get down to your place, could you get me to the car rally?” Jack asked.

“Sure, Dad,” David replied. “I’d love to go to it with you, but I have to work that day.”

“That’s OK,” Jack replied. “If you can just get me there, I can spend the day, and then you can pick me up after work.”

They worked out all the details. Jack would take the bus down to the town where David lived, arriving the night before the rally. Jack would stay at David’s house, and David would take him to the car rally on his way to work.

Jack checked with the bus line, and they were willing to help him on and off. They would also fold up his wheelchair and put it into the luggage storage area. He was able to get a ride to the bus from a friend

and was soon settled in for the four-hour trip. David was waiting at the bus stop when Jack arrived. David’s wife had a nice meal for them, then Jack retired early. He wanted to be alert for the next day and not miss a second of it.

The next morning, after a robust breakfast, Jack was ready to go to the rally. David helped Jack into his car, and they were off. When they got to the rally, the doors were not yet open, and there was already a line. David helped Jack out of the car and into the wheelchair.

Jack knew David was supposed to be to work at eight. “David, you go to work. I’ll be fine.”

“Don’t you want me to help you at least get into the rally?”

Jack shook his head. “I’m in line. I’ve got my ticket. What could go wrong?”

With one last assurance, David went to work. David worked all day and then came back to get his father. But Jack wasn’t at the exhibit hall. Instead, David found out Jack was across the street at the nursing home. As David helped Jack into his car, he asked how the day went.

“What I want to know is who the idiot is who decided to build a nursing home next to an exhibit hall!” Jack said.

“Why?” David asked.

“When I got to the door and was going to show them my ticket, I couldn’t find it. While I searched for it, someone decided I must have escaped from the nursing home. They wheeled me all the way there before I was able to find my ticket. They still checked with the nursing home manager to make sure I hadn’t escaped before they took me back.”

“But you got back and went to the show all right, didn’t you?” David asked.

“Yes, but there were more than a dozen times during the day that someone thought I escaped. Sometimes they called the nursing home, and a staff member came, and sometimes the person thought they would be helpful and take me back themselves. I swear I spent half of my day trying to straighten things out so I could stay in the exhibit.”

“Is that why you were at the nursing home when I picked you up?” David asked.

“Not totally,” Jack said. “There was one car I really wanted to ride in, so I may have let on to the owner that I’d escaped from the nursing home, hoping he would feel sorry for me and give me a ride back. Even though it was just across the street, I figured he’d lengthen the ride around town, and I was right.”

“You let the car owner think you had come from the nursing home so he’d give you a ride?” David asked in surprise. “Isn’t that sneaky?”

“All I can say,” Jack replied, “is if a man is dealt a bad hand, he should use it to his advantage.”

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Seven ways to start getting organized

Special to The PREVIEW

Becoming more organized is a popular resolution each new year. However, like many resolutions, people's commitment to being more organized tends to wane as February draws near.

Being unorganized can adversely affect productivity, state of mind, motivation and even happiness.

Sixty-seven percent of people surveyed in an Alpha Phi Quarterly study believed they could save up to 30 minutes a day if they were more organized.

And a Huffington Post survey determined worrying a home isn't clean enough or organized enough is the fifth most common stress trigger for Americans.

Getting and staying organized requires commitment. Having some handy tips at the ready to facilitate the process can make things go more smoothly.

1. Determine what organization means to you. Being organized might mean one thing to you and something else entirely to someone else. Some may put form before function. Others may be interested in the aesthetics of a neat-looking space. Once you have a handle on what being organized entails to you, you can get to work.

2. Start with what motivates you most. Perhaps this is a room in the home that has become overrun with clutter. Or maybe it's getting finances organized so you can save for a dream vacation. When you accomplish your biggest goal, the seemingly smaller ones may seem less difficult.

3. Declutter your mind. Think of a busy mind as a computer that has that turning hourglass or spinning color wheel icon when it's stuck on a process. Every application stalls because the computer cannot do everything at once. The same thing can happen in the brain. Sit down and make a to-do list of what's on

your mind. Then start prioritizing tasks. This will do wonders to clear your head.

4. Create deadlines for yourself. An open-ended timeline to get things done may promote procrastination. Deadlines may provide motivation.

5. Avoid distractions. Try to remove as many distractions as possible. When working on a chore, hire a babysitter to look after the children or step away from social media so you can focus on the task at hand. Interruptions only slow you down.

6. Think before you acquire. Once you are organized, you may have challenges fitting new items into the mix. If you're getting ready to purchase something new, carefully consider its usefulness and determine in advance where it will go, and whether or not you have the space.

7. Be accountable to another. Having help getting organized can mean delegating certain tasks or enlisting someone to check in with you to see if you're on target. Embrace this system of checks and balances.

Becoming organized is a process, but once you get the hang of it, it can be easy to stay organized.



The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 It's more, in a saying
- 5 Larger-life link
- 9 Country album?
- 14 One way to run
- 15 Political contest
- 16 Bogus
- 17 iPhone assistant
- 18 From the beginning
- 19 Fruit container
- 20 German-born female tennis champ
- 23 Mixed in with
- 24 Sandpaper grade
- 25 Place to store wheat
- 27 Quid ___ quo
- 30 Military rank
- 32 Mother-daughter event
- 34 Was head of the class?
- 38 Choir part
- 39 Kindergarten break
- 41 Dragon's home
- 42 Navy clerk
- 45 Major tea exporter
- 48 Abundance
- 50 Ruby, for one
- 51 Liked by many
- 54 Cancel out
- 56 Support, in a way
- 57 Never odd or even, e.g.
- 62 Spot for a grill
- 64 Groove in a board
- 65 Opera highlight
- 66 Modify, as a law
- 67 At any point
- 68 Patriot's play, perhaps
- 69 Clothing size
- 70 Steak preference

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22		23			
			24					25		26				
27	28	29		30			31							
32			33					34			35	36	37	
38						39		40			41			
42				43	44		45		46	47				
			48			49					50			
51	52	53						54			55			
56					57		58					59	60	61
62				63		64					65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

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- 71 "If all ___ fails..."
- 33 Using a PC
- 49 Dow dabbler
- 35 Turf occupier
- 51 Vatican-based
- 36 Walk in the woods
- 52 2009 Peace Nobel
- 37 Disney World transport
- 53 One of the Monkees
- 40 Part of ISP
- 55 Hang loosely
- 43 ___-in-one
- 58 Etna emission
- 44 Kind of tide
- 59 Spoken
- 46 Magnetite, for one
- 60 Shoot wide
- 47 ___ to rest
- 61 Facilitate
- 63 Praiseful poem

DOWN

- 1 Glasgow gal
- 2 Shed
- 3 Peeved
- 4 Flat-bottomed rowboat
- 5 New hire, often
- 6 Persistent follower
- 7 Computer brand
- 8 Like Enya's music
- 9 Steelers' grp.
- 10 Creepy crawler
- 11 Pack animal
- 12 Out of bed
- 13 Disreputable
- 21 Pike or perch
- 22 "Animal House" house
- 26 Santa ___, Calif.
- 27 DVR option
- 28 Reign over
- 29 Not taken in by
- 31 Grind, as teeth

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

R	O	S	E		B	O	S	S		S	T	E	I	N		
O	R	A	L		R	O	T	S		P	I	N	T	O		
A	B	L	E		O	P	E	N	H	A	N	D	E	D		
D	I	S	C	L	O	S	E		A	S	S	U	M	E		
S	T	A	T	I	C		P	R	I	M	E	R				
					I	N	H	A	L	E	R		L	A	B	S
A	L	I	V	E		L	E	A	D				N	E	T	
F	U	N	E	R	A	L		M	O	N	O	C	L	E		
A	R	T			S	I	D	E		A	B	E	A	M		
R	E	E	D		T	E	A	R	G	A	S					
					R	E	M	E	D		I	C	I	C	L	E
U	G	L	I	E	R		T	R	A	P	D	O	O	R		
P	R	O	C	E	S	S	I	O	N			I	N	D	O	
T	A	P	E	D			E	M	I	T		A	G	E	D	
O	Y	E	R	S			E	E	L	S		N	O	S	E	

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cold weather.

F T R D I

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Drift

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Mobile Homes

Condos

Timeshares

Houses

Open Houses

Ranches

Property

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY



REV: I'm Rev, a handsome 4-year-old boy who would love to be your hunting buddy. Come and meet me and let's hit the trail together! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



TOTO: I'm Toto, a lovely Tuxedo girl ready for a formal occasion. Dressing up for the holidays? I'd love to share a New Year's toast with you! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRADITIONAL ALANON GROUP: Traditional AlAnon Group meets Mondays, 6p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 315 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD). (Last Friday of the month 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649, aa-westerncolorado.org or aadistrict18.org, or call Ed K. 946-2606 or Val V. 946-6086 or Ellen C. (214)566-5921.

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP winter hours beginning on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 6p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Charlotte (970)903-9690.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETS WEDNESDAYS, 7p.m. at 315 N. 2nd St./CR 200, Snowball Rd. For information contact Woody (970)582-0065 or Carl (970)903-2346.



ODIN: Hi, my name is Odin and sure I have big ears! All the better to hear you with and learn new commands! I'm a young pup looking for an active family with time to spend with me and teach me lots of tricks! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



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PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is accepting bids for snow removal. Must have parking lot clear for parent drop off by 7:30a.m. and student pick up by 3p.m. As well as clear sidewalk entry. Please send bids and letters of inquiry to Chammon@ppos.co or drop off in person at 7 Parelli Way. www.PagosaPeakOpenSchool.org.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR part-time work? Mountain Pizza and Taproom is hiring part-time cooks and cashiers. Apply in person 175 Pagosa Street. Alyssa.

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ARCHULETA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES is accepting applications for the position of Planner I. For job description and wage details, visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit an application and resume to Human Resources, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

LEAD COOKS- Pagosa Brewing seeks kitchen team members. Leadership opportunities available. Applications at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and online- no phone calls.

LINE COOK/ PREP COOK WANTED full time at the PEAK DELI. Bring resume. No calls.

HAVE LOVE AND ROOM in your heart for children? Consider being a foster family or family helper with Human Services. Call 264-2182 for more information.

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ARCHULETA COUNTY DEPARTMENT of Human Services is accepting applications for the Eligibility Technician. For job description and wage details, visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit an application and resume to Human Resources, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED

Are you looking for a NEW career?

If you are a self starter, with the ability to multi-task, The Pagosa Springs SUN has an opportunity for you with our multimedia organization.

We are currently taking applications for a part-time (up to 30 hours per week) advertising customer service position.

Position offers salary, plus commission. Reliable transportation is a must.

If you like getting out in the community, meeting new business owners and developing relationships, this is the perfect job for you.

We offer a fun and challenging, team-oriented work environment.

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.



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FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR wanted. Must be experienced and have a wide variety of skills, needs to pass background check and have a valid driver's license. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT is currently training and hiring SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS. Possibility to work part time or full time (combined with additional duties). You will make a difference in the lives of students. You start with up to a \$600 bonus upon completion of CDL license. You receive "behind the wheel" training. You are an essential part of the team at ASD. For more information, locate the job description on our website, www.mypagosaschools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Or contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

CNA CLASS STARTING SOON. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

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CNAs NEEDED, DAY SHIFT and night shift. Night shift differential. Apply in person. Pine Ridge Extended Care. Under new management.

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HELP WANTED

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Openings for the 2019-20 school year are: High School Computer Science Teacher; Elementary Teacher; Worksite Wellness Instructor; Substitutes for all teaching and support positions. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

PATROL DEPUTY. Archuleta County Sheriff's office is accepting applications for the position of Patrol Deputy. Applicants must be Colorado P.O.S.T certified. For job description and wage details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff's Office application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or fax (970)264-1879 or email to tmccann@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

FULL-TIME BOOKKEEPER. We are seeking a bookkeeper with QuickBooks and payroll experience. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

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

NEW OPENING: ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER? If you are a self starter, with the ability to multi-task, The Pagosa Springs SUN has an opportunity for you with our multimedia organization. We are currently taking applications for a part-time (up to 30 hours per week) advertising customer service position. Position offers salary, plus commission. Reliable transportation is a must. If you like getting out in the community, meeting new business owners and developing relationships, this is the perfect job for you. We offer a fun and challenging, team-oriented work environment. Email your resume to helpwanted@pagosasun.com. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls, please.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a Phlebotomist. The Phlebotomist performs blood collection from patients, receipt of sample drop-off, performs urine drug screen collections, some waived standard biological, microbiological and chemical tests in all areas of the medical laboratory. Works under direct technical supervision and performs waived complexity tests in accordance with standards established in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) and/or appropriate agency protocol (COLA). Records and participates in evaluation of Quality Control for tests conducted. Does inventory control of work area. Experience is required. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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FORMER KFC/ TACO BELL Building- For Sale or Lease. City Market Center. Email for Info (pdf) PropertyTrust@frontier.net. Broker: F. Scott Tonges, Southwest Property Trust, (970)731-4421.

ARBOLES COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 2.54 acres. In the Piedra Park Subdivision with great views of Navajo Lake State Park. \$115,000. Possible owner carry! Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS for sale. Oxygen bar and retail shop. For more information, call (405)274-3955.

ANOTHER PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS is for sale. Successful 15 year old local Pagosa Ice Company is being sold because of personal health reasons. For more information, please call and leave a message at (970)731-8600. Very serious inquiries only.

HOUSES FOR SALE

DESIRABLE LOG HOUSE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, living, dining and kitchen are one great room. Single detached garage, asphalt drive to street, and fenced. (480)235-8435,

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH on 27 acres, \$310,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

3 BEDROOM, 4 BATH HOME. 7-car garage, views of Navajo Lake and the San Juan Mountain Range. \$565,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPENDENT, I work for YOU! 18 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

NICE 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH with a third room for an office. All fenced 2 acres, next to Navajo State Park. \$265,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

CONEJOS RIVER FRONTAGE HOME! 3 bedroom, 3 Bath, 3-car garage in gated subdivision, has access to the Rio Grande National Forest. \$797,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

5 BEDROOM 2 BATH log cabin, 20 acres. Backing to Pagosa Lakes with no HOA. Call Mrs. Archuleta, (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

PROPERTY

SECLUDED 1.50 ACRES. With water tap installed. Close to Navajo Lake State Park. \$60,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

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2260 PIEDRA ROAD. 1/3 acre, \$9,000. Finance available. hoganpagosa@gmail.com.

PROPERTY 5 ACRES with power on the corner and survey has been done. Possible OWNER CARRY! \$52,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

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CONEJOS CANYON RIVER FRONTAGE property in a gated community with awesome views! 3.43 acres. \$125,000. Owner carry possibilities! Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

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Statistics show just how big small business is

Special to The PREVIEW

Small businesses have such a big impact on their communities, and the world at large, that it might be time to reconsider referring to them as “small.”

According to the World Bank, small businesses have a major impact on the world economy, especially in emerging countries. In such nations, small and medium enterprises contribute up to 60 percent of total employment and up to 40 percent of national income. Small businesses figure to frame their economies in emerging countries in the coming decades, and they're already doing so in developed nations, such as the United States and Canada.

The following statistics show just how big small businesses have become.

- The U.S. Small Business Administration notes that small businesses make up 99.7 percent of all employers in the United States. Percentages are similar in Canada, where BDC, a bank devoted exclusively to entrepreneurs, notes that 99.8 percent of businesses employ fewer than 499 workers.

- Hundreds of thousands of new businesses are started each month, with Yahoo! reporting that about 543,000 entrepreneurs open a business in a typical month.

- Small businesses benefit one another, as a 2017 report from the Canadian firm FreshBooks found that 66 percent of small businesses outsource services to other small businesses.

- No business is too small to be a small business. In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics noted that microbusinesses, which are defined as firms that employ between one and nine employees, accounted for 75 percent of all private-sector employers as recently as 2013.

- Small businesses and happiness might be linked. A 2019 survey from Guidant Financial and the online lending marketplace LendingClub found that 78 percent of small business owners rated their level of happiness as an average of eight on a scale of one to 10 (10 being the happiest).

- Female entrepreneurs are on the rise. A 2017 report from American Express found that female entrepreneurship grew by 114 percent between 1997 and 2017.

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 belted kingfisher.

If you have seen the opening fly-fishing scenes of “A River Runs Through It,” then you've likely heard the alarming rattle call of a belted kingfisher. Known to spend their life almost exclusively immediately adjacent to water, these birds thrive on the health of water bodies. They nest in muddy stream banks during breeding season and typically adopt a 1/2-mile stretch of river as their own, once mature. During the recent Christmas Bird Count, birders confirmed at least two individual birds living along our very own San Juan River in the downtown region.

For identification purposes, look for the often-flared punk rock feather crest atop this stocky bird. When seen in silhouette, this field mark can be decisive alone when considering the habitat. These birds don a bill that puts even a woodpecker to shame: long, straight and hefty for effective fish extraction from streams. Females have two bellybands, slate blue and chestnut brown, that divide their otherwise white collar and breast; the males, on the other hand, only have a single blue “necktie” band. Otherwise, these nearly robin-sized birds appear largely solid blue-gray on their back and wings. In undulating flight, one can sometimes discern fine white spotting upon the wings.

These birds feed primarily on fish fry, but will not hesitate to supplement with aquatic insects, crayfish, lizards and even berries, depending on availability. An interesting fact: These birds regurgitate and dispel “pellets” (as owls do) comprised of any fish scales, invertebrate shells and exoskeletons they cannot digest. However, when they are nestlings, they have the proper acidic compounds in their digestive tract to dissolve these solids.

The next time you are wandering by the river, or casting a line in, remember to look up when you hear a constant harsh chattering, as it may be a kingfisher giving you a flyby heading upstream.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminuche-audubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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