



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147 www.PagosaSUN.com VOLUME 112 — NO. 16, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020



Ice rescue training

Photos courtesy Pagosa Fire Protection District
Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) firefighters participate in ice rescue training on Jan. 4. Firefighters conducted drills in Village Lake, off North Pagosa Boulevard, utilizing both ice and open water conditions. Various techniques, including rescue from the ice, rescue from ice shelf, open water rescue and patient interaction, along with rope and shore procedures, were practiced.

The local area produces a great variety of ice conditions. Ice stability fluctuates based on weather conditions (sun, snow on top of ice, wind) and human factors (debris, fishing holes, location to human built features like roadways and docks). This season's weather has led to relatively unstable ice as snow has fallen, compressed and been exposed to a wide range of temperatures on many area lakes and waterways.

PFPD advises everyone to stay clear of potential ice hazards. If an animal or person falls through the ice, do not attempt a rescue. Call 911 immediately for assistance. The most important thing an onlooker can provide is good information. Keep the distressed individual in sight and yell to let them know help is on the way. When rescue personnel arrive on scene, provide detailed information about the location of individual or animal.



Flu season in full swing, more than 200 cases reported locally

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Like much of the country, Colorado is experiencing high levels of influenza-like illness, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and more than 200 people have tested positive at Pagosa Springs medical facilities so far this season.

"Flu activity is high in the U.S.

and expected to continue for weeks," the CDC's website stated Tuesday, with the website also noting, "Seasonal influenza activity in the United States has been elevated for eight weeks and continues to increase."

The CDC's flu forecast for Dec. 30, 2019, indicates that, nationally, flu activity is expected to remain elevated through mid-January.

■ See Flu A8

Public or not? Lawsuit filed, signs removed in Bristlecone Drive dispute

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The saga of Bristlecone Drive continues.

Over the past year, Archuleta County and the Timber Ridge Metro District and Timber Ridge Homeowners Association have disagreed whether a 1,300-foot section of Bristlecone Drive should be open to the public or not.

Last year, the metro district put up private road signs. Then, County Attorney Todd Weaver sent a letter to

the metro district stating the district would no longer receive Highway User Tax Funds to help maintain the road beginning July 1 of this year.

On Dec. 19, 2019, the issue finally made its way into court, with the metro district, represented by attorney Matthew H. Roane, filing a complaint that asks a judge to determine whether the disputed section of road is public or not.

On Jan. 1, the private road signs were reported as stolen to the

■ See Dispute A8

Margie Gurule retires after 41 years with county

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Margie Gurule has retired after 41 years working at Archuleta County.

At the county commissioners' meeting on Jan. 7, Gurule was presented with a certificate of achievement from the county commissioners and a plaque from the Archuleta County Department of Human Services (DHS).

The commissioners' meeting



Margie Gurule

room was filled with families, individuals and county staff to celebrate Gurule's 41 years of service.

Matt Dodson, director of DHS, presented Gurule with her awards.

Gurule began working with the county in April 1978 and her primary role for more than four decades was as an eligibility technician

for DHS, where she routinely helped solve "barriers, hardships [and]

■ See Gurule A8

Town council talks fee waivers, relationship with county

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Requested fee waivers for a planned affordable housing project were the topic of discussion for both the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) board and the Pagosa Springs Town Council Tuesday evening, with only a portion of the requests approved.

The Archuleta County Housing Authority (ACHA) approached the town and PSSGID about waiving capital investment, building and planning fees for the Rose Mountain Townhome project planned on Hot

Springs Boulevard.

The development is slated to include 34 dwelling units of varying sizes that will serve people making 30 to 60 percent of the area median income.

The development is also slated to include a clubhouse facility for the residents, as well as new offices for the Archuleta County Department of Human Services (DHS).

The same seven members constitute both the PSSGID and town council, with the elected officials taking on the request made to the

■ See Town A8

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Opinion

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1/2	31	6	S	T	T
1/3	30	9	S	T	.01"
1/4	38	7	-	-	-
1/5	44	10	-	-	-
1/6	34	8	-	-	-

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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 the last two weeks, where we started out with several people focusing on the need for better roads and better driving, broadband and more.

Jenny Lynn Heckmann wrote, "Still waiting for a recreation center with a rock climbing wall. Pool. Kid splash pads. And perhaps a game room with foosball and air hockey. You know, a place where all ages can play indoors and stay active"

Lacy Capre agreed with Heckmann. Julie Cummings added, "[I'd] also love to see a public Rec center with a pool to swim."

Penny Kipley interjected, "Go to the BOCC and express interest! It would have to go to a vote to get funding."

James Webb added, "I mean the city should have the money to do it, I mean if Durango can we definitely should be able to."

Susan Nossaman added, "Durango voters increased the sales taxes to pay for their rec center. It's a matter of taxpayer money no matter how it's funded. I believe higher taxes are one reason the cost of living is higher in Pagosa."

Jackie Kleckner wants, "Trader Joe's target. Sidewalks. Fixed roads. Recreation center for all ages like Durango that is affordable and Affordable housing and child care."

Autumn Nicely replied, "Jackie Kleck-

ner not sure about target and all that but I'd really love to see better affordable housing for the locals who live here full time and a rec center that is actually warm enough for littles to enjoy!!!"

Greg Robbins wrote, "I'd like to see me living there. Now...to figure out how to make a living there."

Connie McKeithen Prunty wants, "Affordable housing!"

Sean Poore replied, "Connie McKeithen Prunty got to regulate the vacation rentals or that will never happen."

Rosa Moncada would like "rental houses for low-income people."

Salem Jayde added, "How about the texans and Californians stop coming here buying everything and then selling a tin can for a fortune. So us Pagosans can afford to live here."

Suzanne McCarty wants, "We need a Home Depot and national chain restaurants, more clothing retail shopping, better job opportunities and affordable housing for workers."

Greg Pilgrim replied, "That will be the end of the small town atmosphere that everyone loves if you have those here. You can be at Home Depot in about an hour from here."

Kimberley Anne Hunsicker also responded to McCarty, "Yeah. No thanks. Most of us moved here to get away from that. As far as affordable house. That I can agree with."

Carol Deatsch Blair chimed in, "We have almost everything you can get at Home Depot here in town through locally owned businesses."

Theresa SimingtonWeber wrote, "Still

waiting for AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THE WORKING CLASS!!"

Rebekah Kershaw added, "What about an affordable child care program??? Especially in the summers when school is out and parents still have to work."

Michael Taylor wants, "A small trade school, open during evening, and weekend hrs."

Nolan Redman wrote, "SIDE WALKS DOWNTOWN!!! Kids have to walk in the street. Who's responsible if one of the grade, middle or high school kids get hit walking home in the street? There's no room in the road on some streets."

Wendy L. Theys wrote, "Its great they are building a new jail, however I would like to see upgrades for our children at the schools. Our kids and teachers sit in rooms made of concrete blocks, some with no form of air circulation for 8 or more hours. They deserve better, not the inmates."

Julian Grigsby wants, "Better discipline on the buses. ... Stopping drugs and vaping from entering the school system."

Dewayne Burton wrote, "Me living there haha."

We agree with Burton. We are fortunate to live in Pagosa Springs.

Space doesn't allow for us to print every idea that we received. We are thankful for input from our citizens.

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 9, 1920

The Dyke school is now being taught by Mrs. Jack Sullivan, nee Miss Emily Healey, vice Miss Ada Etz, resigned.

Frank L. Edmisten returned Saturday from the San Luis valley, where he purchased a carload of fine registered Daroc-Jersey sows, which he will place on his Arboles ranch. He will sell a limited number to Archuleta county ranchmen who see him at once.

Gustave Krause has completed the regular semi-annual audit of all county books, and reports all records in better shape than ever before, enabling him to finish his work in two days less than at any previous time.

The government, through Supervisor Switzer, of the Rio Grande National forest, has purchased hay in the vicinity of South Fork and is now feeding the large herd of elk driven out of the mountains by the heavy snows.

M.O. Brown loaded out of Tiffany last Friday with several cars of cattle for the Denver market. He returned to Pagosa last evening.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 12, 1945

A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Bramwell on Friday, January 5th, in a Durango hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Willett and little son moved Saturday to their home on Pagosa Street, recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Tex Roberts. The Roberts family moved last Friday to the Kyle ranch, formerly owned by W.E. Clark.

A dance is advertised for Saturday night at the Piedra school house. Music by the Schaeferhoff Orchestra, Bert Cooper and Norman Payson sponsors.

Mrs. Ruth Chavez and Max Vialpando were married Monday evening by the Justice of the Peace in Aztec, N.M. They returned to Pagosa Springs Tuesday. Mrs. Vialpando had been employed by Mrs. Lois Kinser; her husband works at the Belarde mill. They are at home to their friends in South Pagosa.

Dailey Hott, John Stevens, Earl Lattin and Frank Conner returned home Sunday from Denver, where they had attended the conventions for county officials.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 8, 1970

A first of the year meeting this week of the County Commissioners resulted in naming officers of the board, letting of bids, and various other actions.

Harold Schutz was renamed as chairman of the board and Lewis Luchini was re-named vice chairman. James Larsen, local attorney, was appointed as county attorney and Jane Talamante was appointed as clerk to the board as well as bookkeeper for the road and bridge department.

In earlier meetings the low bidder on gasoline and diesel fuel, Conoco, was awarded the contract to supply these items to the county. George Masco was again named as court house janitor and his salary was set at \$160 per month.

Curtis Strain, snowplow boss on Wolf Creek Pass, said this week that his crews were in favor of the type of weather that has prevailed there. Three inches of snow fell last week. This snow fell on January 1 and 2 and that leaves the total snowfall at 33 inches for December with three to date for January.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
January 12, 1995

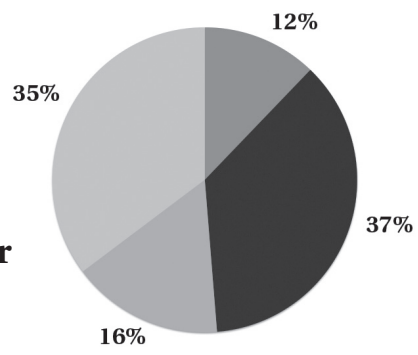
Due to the county commissioners being named defendants in a lawsuit contesting the legalities of a voter-approved proposal to retain and use excess revenues, county residents might receive a minimal tax refund. As the commissioners of Archuleta County, Roger Candelaria, Bob Formwalt and Bill Tallon are now the defendants in a Sixth Judicial District Court case. The case involves the Nov. 8 ballot issue on the county's retention and expenditure of excess revenues collected between 1994 and 1997. Last November, 1152 voters favored the ballot question; 759 voters opposed it. Last week Fitzhugh Havens retained the services of Durango attorney Tom Dugan to challenge the constitutionality of the wording and conditions of the ballot question. Havens is therefore seeking a declaratory judgment against the county and a permanent injunction that would order the commissioners to refrain from carrying out the provisions of last November's ballot question.

WHADDYA THINK?

What is the worst part about driving in winter?

Poll results (155 votes)

- Low visibility — 12 percent
- Slippery roads — 37 percent
- Roads not plowed — 16 percent
- People driving with fishing licenses — 35 percent



Vote this week online:
Would you consider running for elected office?

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LOOKING BACK



From the Dec. 4, 1980, Pagosa Springs SUN. **BUSINESSPERSON** — Brenda Nossaman, FBLA President, presents Mr. Jim Denvir, Attorney-at-Law, a certificate of appreciation from the local FBLA Chapter for being the November Businessperson of the Month.



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.

'No more war for oil'

Dear Editor:
To divert attention from his impeachment, the "Liar in Chief" and reality tv star is threatening to take the US into another war in the Middle East. We were lied into war with Iraq by many of the same Republican, neocon, "chicken hawks" in the Bush Administration that are pushing for war with Iran in Trump's White House. We are now to believe that there is an imminent threat from Iran, while all along it has been this administration's policy to provoke that country. Contrary to FOX talking points, the US under the Trump administration has been weakened in it's position around the world and is being seen as a rogue nation, more dangerous to world peace than even North Korea.

The Republican party is guilty of enabling Trump and has taken lying to a new level. Some republican lawmakers have recently even blamed Iran for 9/11, a lie. Their complicity in Trump's trampling over the Constitution demonstrates a naked desire to remain in power above all else. The Iraq war cost US taxpayers \$trillions and thousands of lives with the numbers still rising, and for what? The fossil fuel industry is what and that

is not in the interest of either the US nor the world, just to Republican corporate masters.

In 2012, Trump constantly said Obama was going to attack Iran to help himself get re-elected.

Never happened, Trump was just projecting what he would do. He is a master of projection, constantly accusing others of doing what he himself is doing. Don't be taken in by the scam. No more war for oil.

Dave Butcher

County budget

Dear Editor:
Your December 26th article, "County approves 2020 budget", notes Commissioner Wadley comment that, "We're appropriating over \$38 million dollars this morning and there not one member of the public other than the newspaper in the room". A reasonable person might ask why the people that are being taxed to pay for all of this don't seem to care enough to participate in how that money is going to be spent?

I can think of several reasons why. The first big one that jumps out is that Archuleta County is looking like a carbon copy of Washington D.C., by budgeting \$38 million in expenses when they can only show \$31 million in revenues. Only through financial trickery and drinking a whole lot of Wall Street Cool Aide can you continue to operate on 19% less money than you actually have. Writing checks for money that you do not have is how common people get put in jail. Politicians do it on a regular basis because they back up their checks using debt paid with future taxation.

Average Americans cannot go to a lending institution and barrow money when they have 19% more in expenses than they have in income. That is a bad investment from the lenders standpoint. When it is a government entity requesting that funding it is a sure bet because the people's pockets will be picked with full government authority to pay back the loan. Commissioner Wadley, along with rest of the BOCC, represent one of those government entities willing to spend money based on debt, they won't personally be responsible for.

Here is a reasonable question that requires an honest answer. On

any given day, how much of hard earned money is being wasted at every level on governance paid for as interest on government debt?

Greg Giehl

'Shark hysteria'

Dear Editor:
As a biology teacher, I once had a 15 year old student who had a circular scar around his upper left arm caused by a non-fatal shark bite. I thought it was the coolest mark I had ever seen on a human body, far more interesting than any tattoo could be. This boy wanted to join the military. He took a phobia test in my class that indicated that he had no fears of anything, because of surviving the shark attack.

Sharks do not like the taste of humans, despite being the top predator in the oceans.

A fine young Canadian, Rob Stewart, produced a documentary "Sharkwater" in 2006. In that film, Stewart said that sharks are caught, definned, and thrown back into the water to starve to death. Shark fins sold at that time for \$200 per pound to make shark fin soup in Asian restaurants. In the film Stewart said that only about five humans per year worldwide are killed by sharks. Yet, according to the National Safety Council, 40,000 Americans were killed in 2018 by automobiles.

The Spielberg movie "Jaws" (1975) helped begin unprecedented shark hysteria, so today 90% of these beautiful predators have been wiped out of the world's oceans. A recent anti-shark film is continuing the exaggerations and lies. It will continue to result in the death of even more.

National Geographic magazine says that there are 375 shark species. Only a dozen of them ever bite humans. Some people including a Rob Stewart have enjoyed swimming with sharks. His film is inspiring. The vast majority of shark bites are non-fatal according to the Florida Museum of Natural History.

Sincerely, John Pentor

Historic anniversary

Dear Editor:
This week, on January the 8th,

See Letters A5

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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.

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Obituaries

John Henry Bodde

John Henry Bodde, born July 16, 1930, passed away peacefully on Dec. 17, 2019, at the age of 87 at his home in Pagosa Springs, Colo.



He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy; one daughter, Doretta (Dennis) Ward, of Colorado; five sons: Matthew Bodde, of California, Vince (Brenda) Bodde, of Michigan, William (Julie) Bodde, of Massachusetts, Tim (Susie) Bodde, of Missouri, George (Peggy) Bodde, of Colorado; three sisters: Mary Katherine (Bill) Duncan, Jerry (Clement) Sullivan, Bea (Joe) Rafanelli; and 10 grandchildren: Sara (Roman) Hechi, Greg Bodde, Ben (Caroline) Bodde, Richard Ward, Jacob Bodde, Max Bodde, Devon Bodde, Samantha Bodde, Henry Bodde and Lucy Bodde. He also leaves behind many beloved nieces, nephews and in-laws. John was preceded in death by parents Henry and Mary Bodde and sister Lillian Bodde.

John was born in Valley Falls, Kan. He became a Navy pilot and graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in business. John retired from his job as a con-

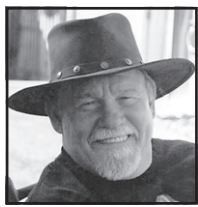
tract manager for a U.S. defense contractor and then spent many happy years on a lake house in Jackson, Mich., that he and Dorothy built. He was an avid runner and loved building and flying remote control planes. John also built and piloted an ultralight aircraft. He and Dorothy fell in love with Pagosa Springs while on a tour of the West and began spending winters in Pagosa because of their love of cross-country skiing. They became full-time residents of Pagosa in 2012. John made valued friendships within the High Country RC Club and spent time every week on the flying field. He also rode his bike daily until his battle with cancer prevented him from doing so. John will always be remembered for his storytelling and sense of humor, traits that continue to live on through his children.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday, Jan. 13, at 11 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary/Pope John Paul II Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., Pagosa Springs, with Father Jim Koenigsfeld officiating. The family will receive friends immediately prior to the Mass, and a private inurnment will occur in the Columbarium Garden at the church following the mass. In lieu of flowers, donations in John's name can be made to Pope John Paul II Church.

Claude Edward Tuller

Sept. 7, 1943-Jan. 3

A gentle giant of a man passed away this last week. Claude was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in December 2018 and fought for as long as he could, better than most and longer than expected. Claude didn't lose the battle — we never knew him to quit a job or give up — rather, his job here was done and he gracefully retired.



To sum up the life of a man in mere words can never fully express the essence of who he was. It does, however, give a glimpse into the heart and spirit of a life well-lived. Claude left a legacy, lessons and humor that will continue to guide and motivate us for years to come. The world will be a little quieter without his sharp wit and snappy jokes. Without a doubt, every time we play one of his favorite games, we'll laugh and remember how he would win most often.

Claude was born in Fresno, Calif., on Sept. 7, 1943, to Norman Earl and Emma (Benzler) Tuller. His parents were divorced when he was 5 and Claude was raised by his mom and stepdad, Jake Martin. Jake was an important influence in Claude's life, as was his oldest brother, Richard. Claude gave credit to these two for being instrumental in developing his moral code by which he lived his life and raised his children.

Claude served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1970 as Air Policeman, SSgt. Upon his honorable discharge, he went to work for the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, where he worked up through the ranks to homicide detective, and finally county coroner. After a distinguished career of 30 years, he retired from the force in 1999. Upon moving to Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 2005, he volunteered with the Colorado Mounted Rangers, and was a seasonal "Fish Cop" (our term) for the PLPOA.

Claude was a good man —

powerful, courageous, honest and one of the humblest people you'd meet. He showed sincere concern for others in his work, took joy and pride in his children and grandchildren, and had a strong sense of morality. He loved the ranch he and his wife, Toni, built in Pagosa, and together they founded Eagle's Nest Youth Ranch on their property to minister to at-risk youth. His gentle demeanor, quick humor and thoughtfulness endeared him to children and parents alike.

Claude was married to Margaret (Peggy) Williams (d. 1995) from 1966-1982 and together they raised four sons. In 1986, Claude married Kathleen (Toni) Hinton and together they raised six children.

Claude was preceded in death by his first son, Jonathon (d. 1994), and siblings (spouses in parenthesis): Shirley, Norma Carlos (George), Richard (Sharon), Leroy (Patricia), Dennis and Gary Martin (Christine). He is survived by his wife, Kathleen (Toni); his children and their spouses: Kevin (Lori), Keith (Christine), Jason, Shane (Ellen), Charlene, Christian, Quanita McCullough (Jordan), Jessie and Bobby. Claude is survived by his grandchildren: Chad (Jennifer), Sophia, Ryan, James, Emma, Theo, Racheal, Desiree, Isabella, Dylan, Kolby, Kyson, Zaina and Jasmine. Claude is also survived by his siblings: Helen, Leona Bellar, Jackie Lindgren (Rick), Marshall (Louise), Steven (Sandy) and Larry (Ruby).

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 12, at Restoration Fellowship Church in Pagosa Springs, Colo.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to someone you know who is fighting cancer.

The family would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many wonderful people who have prayed, encouraged and supported us through this difficult time. There are too many to list — you know who you are and you have shown us the love of God. A special thank you also to the staff at Pagosa Springs Medical Center, Mercy Hospital and the Hospice nurses at Centura Health.

Jacquelyn Mae (Kern) Schick

Jacquelyn Mae (Kern) Schick passed away on Dec. 29, 2019, at the age of 90 at Pine Ridge Extended Care Center surrounded by loved ones.



Jackie was born to George and Ida (Bernad) Kern on May 15, 1929, in Platteville, Colo. She graduated from Keenesburg, Colorado High School and Barnes Business College. She is a fourth-generation Coloradoan. On Oct. 1, 1950, Jackie married Eugene Schick. They moved to Pagosa Springs in February 1955 after buying Sunset Cabins.

Jackie was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene, and her parents, George and Ida Kern.

She is survived by her son, Greg (Dena), of Pagosa Springs; daughter Kathy (Tom, deceased), of Southport, N.C.; grandsons Brad (Erica), of Arvada, Colo.; Matt (Amanda), of Pagosa Springs; great-granddaughters Emma, Clara, Jacquelyn and Macy. She is also survived by two sisters: Georgene Abbott, of Keenesburg, Colo., and Sevela Geilert, of Lakewood, Colo.; seven step-grandchildren; nine step-great-grandchildren; one step-great-great-granddaughter; and various nieces and nephews.

She touched the lives of many as the town clerk of Pagosa Springs for 40 years. She received the Presidential Award for her service to the Town of Pagosa Springs. Jackie was a lifelong member of the Order of the Eastern Star and served as Worthy Matron. She taught Sunday school at the Methodist Church for many years. After retirement in 2003, she volunteered at the Methodist Thrift Store; Pagosa Chamber

of Commerce, where she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award; and the Pagosa Springs Senior Center, where she served as president of the board.

Jackie was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend in both Colorado and North Carolina. She loved her family, life and traveling. She and Gene were proud to say they visited all 50 states. She continued to travel after his death. She was quick to extend hospitality and fed her grandsons' basketball teams many times over the years. She was known for her sweet smile, easy laugh and getting along with everyone. She will be greatly missed.

A Celebration of Life to honor her wonderful life will be held over Memorial Day weekend in May. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory can be made to the Schick Family Scholarship that provides scholarships to Pagosa Springs High School seniors. Contributions can be mailed to Amanda Schick, Box 265, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

The family would like to thank the staff at Pine Ridge for their loving care of Jackie for her last year.

Obituaries

Local obituaries are printed free in The Pagosa Springs SUN and can be submitted to:

PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
e-mail:
editor@pagosasun.com
fax: (970) 264-2103

Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Bonnie 'Birdie' Hoover

Bonnie Langford Hoover, 89, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away peacefully on Jan. 1.

A winner of 14 Pagosa Pines Golf Course Clubhouse championships, she chose New Year's Day to finally join her late husband, Earl Hoover, on the golf course. A 5 p.m. cocktail was surely shared with her late son, Jack Cammack, as well. Bonnie loved to entertain and was known to host elaborate cocktail and dinner parties. She was a gracious hostess, an eager listener, and generous with her time and attention.



She passed her love of all things green and flowering on to her daughter-in-law, Mary Helen Cammack, and granddaughters-in-law, Codye Cammack and Laurel Cammack.

To her son, David Cammack, and grandsons, Jake Cammack, and Dan Cammack, she gave her love of wildlife as well as early morning duck and goose hunts in the freezing cold.

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BoCC establishes location for official county notices, sets meeting dates and county office hours

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) passed a resolution establishing a location for posting official county notices, establishing its meeting dates for 2020 and setting days and operation hours for county offices.

The official posting place for

public notices shall be a link on the county's homepage at www.archuletacounty.org.

Public notices will also be posted at the county administration building at 398 Lewis St. as a supplementary location.

The resolution states that "all other Archuleta County boards, committees, commissions, authorities, or other advisory, policy-making, or rule-making bodies shall transition

from posting physical public notices of their meetings ... on the county website by no later than July 1, 2020."

The resolution states that meetings of the BoCC will be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at 398 Lewis St. except for meetings scheduled for June 9 and Dec. 8.

All county offices located in Archuleta County, except for the

county administration building, will be open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in 2020.

The county administration building will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"The Chair of the Board or the County Administrator is hereby delegated the authority to close all or part of the offices of the County due to storm or other reason," the resolution states.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

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.

Monday, Jan. 13

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners gathering. 8:30 a.m., County Road 500 and Pagosa Junction bridge. Commissioners to inspect County Road 500 erosion site and Pagosa Junction bridge with the county administrator and public works director.

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors work session and regular meeting. 5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, 7 Parelli Way.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

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

Southwestern Water Conservation District board teleconference. 9 a.m. Call (605) 475-5618, 797282#.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation work session. 10 a.m., Visiting Angels conference room, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd, Ste. B10.

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

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board training. 4:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board meeting. 6 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session and regular meeting. 5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting and Board of Trustees of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund regular meeting. 6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Weed Advisory Board meeting. 9:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting. Noon, Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Upper San Juan Library District board meeting. 4 p.m., Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library, 811

San Juan St.

Thursday, Jan. 16

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 4 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Superintendent interviews with dinner to follow at Pagosa Brewing Company.

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

Friday, Jan. 17

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 4 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. Superintendent interviews with dinner to follow at Pagosa Brewing Company.

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.

Letters

Continued from A3

we celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans which ended the War of 1812 with the British. That war was not popular at the time, and has been treated negatively by American historians since, as a conflict that accomplished nothing and was a huge expense in money and men. I think that is an extremely short sighted view, especially now with the advantage of hind sight.

When the Revolutionary War ended, most realized that Britain had received a bloody nose but had not given up on "the colonies" as they still called them. As soon as they could get away from the problems in Europe they would be back. They had no respect for this Country and abused us at every chance. President Madison finally had had enough, and convinced Congress to declare war. It became an economic

disaster, especially for the New England area, where succession was discussed.

The war produced many more defeats than victories for the young country, but there were two American victories that changed the course of history for the United States. The first was the Battle of Lake Erie. In that battle, the young American Navy decisively defeated the British, capturing their entire fleet, including the Commodore. This was the first naval defeat that the British had ever received and remains so to this day. The second defeat was at New Orleans. The British were soundly defeated by a rag tag army, hastily assembled and superbly lead by Andrew Jackson. The British lost more than 1700 troops and these were more than just regulars, they were the cream of their army, including the "Highlanders". The dead included

seventy five officers, and the commanding General. This, compared to fewer than 100 Americans in total. It was the worst defeat of their Army to that date. During the First day of the Battle of the Somme in WWI, many more were killed in total, but for battle deaths to those involved, New Orleans is their worst land defeat.

Our historians have said that the Battle of New Orleans was meaningless, since unknown at the time, the armistice had been signed in Europe and nothing was changed as a result of the Battle. Again, this is very short sighted. Although the Treaty stated that there would be no border changes, the British had previously claimed that the Louisiana Purchase was invalid, because the French did not own it. Had the City fallen, the British intended to keep it, control the Mississippi, and cut the United States off from the lands to the

west. In fact, the commanding General's wife had accompanied him, since he was to be the first Governor of their new Louisiana colony.

Even if the aftermath of those two Battles was lost on our historians, it was not lost on the British. Never again did they challenge us on land or sea. The next President issued the Monroe Doctrine warning European governments that we would no longer tolerate their meddling in the affairs of countries on this side of the Atlantic. That document would have been a joke had it not been for the outcome of the War of 1812, and especially those two Battles. Also as a direct result of the war, we were able to draw the northern line with British Canada just south of the Vancouver B.C. City limits.

So Happy New Year, and Happy Anniversary, America.

Dick Riethmiller

JIM GARRETT

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2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

2019 was a busy and interesting year in Pagosa Country. 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 April, May and June.

APRIL

- On April 1, Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) added Julie Simmons to its board. Simmons replaced former board member Clay Buchner.

- Angela Crossland was selected as PPOS's new school director on April 2; Crossland formally accepted the offer from the school on April 3.

- The Archuleta County commissioners authorized a lease-purchase agreement to finance the new jail facility and declared Archuleta County to be a Second Amendment preservation county at their regular meeting on April 2.

The projected annual lease payment to fund the jail is about \$840,000 for 25 years, according to the Archuleta County Finance Office. If the county takes the full 25 years to pay, the total cost with interest would be about \$21 million.

- A Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) officer was nearly struck by a moving vehicle when directing traffic on April 2 — demonstrating the need for several safety initiatives launched that week by the state.

At around 11 p.m., PSPD Lt. Brooks Brown was directing traffic on U.S. 160 for a vehicle that was being towed when a vehicle approached without moving over or slowing down.

"I turned my head away and let go of my wand thinking I was getting hit. The vehicle hit the wand and somehow missed me," Brown wrote in a statement to The SUN, adding, "I ran back to my vehicle. I activated my siren and caught up to the vehicle... After looking at the vehicle it appears the traffic wand hit the right side of the hood."

- The Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) Pirate baseball team extended its win streak to four games April 2 thanks to a come-from-behind win over the 2A Sargent Farmers in Monte Vista. Pagosa won the contest 15-12 and improved to a 4-3 record on the season.

- At a work session by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board of Directors on April 4, the board discussed the way it calculates equivalent units and whether or not any discounts should be provided to multifamily units.

- The Town of Pagosa Springs heard in early April that the town's grant application for \$1 million toward the town's planned consolidated maintenance facility was successful, with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) funding the town's request.

- A Pagosa Springs juvenile was arrested after allegedly stealing a firearm and shooting another juvenile in the leg while playing a variation of Russian roulette on April 5.

The arrest charges against the suspected shooter included second-degree assault, prohibited use of a weapon, defacing a firearm, possession of a defaced firearm and one count of criminal trespass, according to PSPD Lt. Brooks Brown.

- During a special meeting on April 5, the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) Board of Directors approved revisions to a memorandum of understanding between the town, county and CDC relating to the

ongoing broadband project.

- On April 5, Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) deputies apprehended a Louisiana man on charges of transportation with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity after the man was found traveling with a missing 15-year-old in Pagosa Springs.

An ACSO statement released to The SUN reads that, around 12:30 p.m. on April 5, deputies were advised via dispatch that Cory Shane Disotell, 47, and 15-year-old Do-meanna Spell were believed to be in the general area of Pagosa Springs driving a silver 2003 Honda Civic.

Spell was reported missing in Point Barre, La., on March 28.

- On April 5, early in the morning around 1 a.m., the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) was dispatched to a fire in progress at a two-story home in the Upper Blanco area of Archuleta County.

A neighbor, by chance, had driven by the burning home and called it in to dispatch.

When fire crews arrived, the entire home had "already burnt to the ground" and was still burning according to PFPD Capt. Kelly Robertson.

Robertson reported the home was unoccupied and there were no injuries in the fire.

- At the Destination Imagination state competition held in Denver on April 6, the team Bombulum Draconis qualified to advance to the Global Competition.

Destination Imagination is a creativity competition that challenges students in one of six areas: scientific, fine arts, technical, engineering, improvisational or service outreach.

Team Bombulum Draconis is the dynamic duo of David and Ruthann Morehouse, coached by Kristen and Jesse Morehouse.

Bombulum Draconis placed third in the engineering challenge where they built a structure that not only held as much weight as possible, but also had to have a technical special effect that triggered the sudden appearance of a monster in the story.

- A carbon monoxide leak from a boiler room located within PPOS on April 9 caused the school to be temporarily closed.

- The PSHS Lady Pirate soccer team picked up two wins in five days, defeating the Alamosa Mean Moose in overtime on April 5 by a score of 2-1 and defeating the Bayfield Wolverines 2-0 on April 9. The wins pushed Pagosa's overall record to 3-2-2, which included a 2-0-1 record in league play.

- On April 9, the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) approved a 10 percent enrollment variance for PPOS.

- On April 9, the BOE approved a memorandum of understanding between the district and Build Pagosa Inc. that pertains to the construction of a new career and technical education building.

- The BOE also discussed on April 9 a proposal from Don Murphy of Avalon Property Co. regarding a potential development of an 8-acre portion of property along Vista Boulevard that the district owns.

- On April 9, a fourth addendum was added to ASD Superintendent Linda Reed's salary, her third raise since being promoted to superintendent in March of 2015. The decision increased Reed's salary to \$145,000, an increase of 5.56

percent from her previous salary of \$137,367. The addendum states the raise was retroactively effective as of July 1, 2018.

- At their work session on April 9, the Archuleta County commissioners discussed publicly opposing the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

The compact, signed into law by Gov. Jared Polis in March, puts Colorado with a group of 13 other states who have pledged their presidential electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote.

- The CDC added Chris Smith to the board on April 11. Smith took the place of former CDC vice president Mike Heraty, who was term limited.

- On April 13, Pirate Michael Wedemeyer broke the record for longest triple jump in the history of Bayfield's Wolverine County Stadium.

- PSHS students Sarah Ross and Diana Scott put on the inaugural Mental Health Awareness Walk on April 13, with the event featuring a walk through downtown to draw attention to the cause, informational booths with resources and a speech from Josh Bramble, licensed professional counselor, about his own experiences and the importance of reaching out.

- Archuleta County Sheriff's Deputy Justin Gulliams began his first day as a school resource officer for ASD on April 15.

- PSHS senior Emma Heidelmeier added another athletic distinction to her resume in April: being named the Intermountain League's top winter female athlete.

- At a regular meeting on April 16, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors retained the legal services of legal counsel Jeff Kane for water matters, but left the door open to look for legal representation for other matters.

- At the regular meeting of the county commissioners on April 16, Sheriff Rich Valdez petitioned the commissioners and was granted the ability to eliminate one operations position, reclassify a detention deputy position and use the cost savings to give members of his staff a raise.

According to his staff report on the subject, Valdez requested approval from the commissioners to eliminate an operations lieutenant position and reclassify one detention deputy position; increase Under-sheriff Derek Woodman's salary by \$10,000 to \$75,000 annually; and give a 5 percent raise to the office manager, administrative assistant and records clerk.

- The Pagosa Springs Town Council adopted a town-wide speed limit of 25 mph at its April 18 meeting, though the move did not change any posted speed limits within the town.

- On April 18 and 19, the Lady Pirate soccer team picked up wins against the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers and the Alamosa Mean Moose to remain on top in the Intermountain League standings.

- Thirty-two PSHS Future Business Leaders of America members competed at the State Leadership Conference in Aurora in April. Seven students placed in the top 10: Cameron Lucero, social media campaign; Nate Lewis, Mitch Lewis and Javier Marinelarena, marketing; and KC Yeneza, Cassandra Reyes and Valeria Monterroso, graphic design. The team of Yeneza, Reyes and Monterroso moved on to represent PSHS at the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio in June.

- At a special meeting on April 23, the PPOS board approved a contract with Crossland.
- On April 24, a local dog was found bleeding with a 6- to 8-inch cut on its head less than an hour after a neighbor made a noise complaint about the dog barking.

According to an incident report, around 8 p.m., ACSO Deputy James Hibbert responded to a complaint about a barking dog near the Echo Lake area.

The report explains Hibbert called the person who filed the complaint and explained that he was not able to contact anyone at this time and he would follow up later.

According to the report, the person who filed the complaint "told [Hibbert] he was tired of the dog barking and that if [the sheriff's office] couldn't do anything he would."

Hibbert asked the person what they meant by that, but they did not respond.

- The Board of Directors of La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) announced in late April the selection of Jessica Matlock as the new CEO of the cooperative, filling the position held by the retiring CEO Mike Dreyspring.

- A local group who sued current and former county officials petitioned for their case to be brought to the Colorado Supreme Court in April. The 2016 suit alleged that former county officials illegally prevented the plaintiffs' proposed initiatives from appearing on Archuleta County's 2014 ballot.

The case was initially dismissed in 2016 by Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson of the 6th Judicial District, and he later ruled the plaintiffs would have to pay about \$18,000 in attorney fees to the county. The plaintiffs then appealed the entire case, but because they did not file the appeal on time, the Court of Appeals only considered the plaintiffs' appeal regarding the award of attorney's fees.

- On April 29, Archuleta County Emergency Management personnel rescued a hiker from near the Continental Divide Trail.

MAY

- Valdez was cleared of any wrongdoing from allegations that about \$2.6 million in county property given to the sheriff's department was allegedly unaccounted for.

"As a result of the investigation completed by the CBI (Colorado Bureau of Investigation), the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Richard Valdez, and his staff have been completely cleared of any wrongdoing and the allegation has been deemed to be entirely unfounded. No further action is anticipated and this matter is considered closed," a May 1 press release from 6th Judicial District Attorney Christian Champagne states.

- It was announced in early May that, as part of its Read-A-Thon event, Pagosa Springs Elementary School saw its students read a collective total of 28,207 minutes.

- Results of the board of directors elections for LPEA were announced at the electric cooperative's annual meeting held May 2. In District 1, Archuleta County, with two new candidates running for the seat vacated by retiring Mike Alley, 1,855 members cast votes and Holly Metzler received 1,106 votes, with Michael Whiting receiving 794.

- A \$100,000 Powerball ticket was sold at the Everyday store in Pagosa Springs on May 4.

- The Pirate track and field teams picked up a pair of first-place finishes at their lone home meet of the season on May 4 and broke a school record in the process.

The school record that was broken was in the girls' 800-meter sprint medley, with Jessica Hartley, River Pitcher, Mackenzie Wedemeyer and Emma Heidelmeier running the event in 1 minute, 53.33

■ See Review A7

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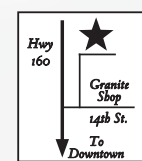
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Review

■ **Continued from A6**
seconds. The record had stood since 2015.

• At its May 7 meeting, the five members of the town council present voted unanimously to approve a parking agreement with a private property owner to use two vacant lots next to the Archuleta County Courthouse as a temporary public parking lot.

• At the same meeting, the council approved entering into a professional services contract with Pagosa Housing Partners (PHP) to work on various initiatives related to affordable and workforce housing.

PHP, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, formulated the "Roadmap to Affordable Housing, 2019-2025" housing action plan under a previous contract with the town. Under the new \$34,720 agreement, PHP was set to work on several initiatives: Room Connect to pair people who need housing with others who have space to rent, researching long-term funding and land banking, collaborative engagement with housing entities, assisting with the development of housing projects, being an advocate for developers, and performing community outreach.

• For the first time since the 2017 season, the No. 32 Lady Pirate soccer team clinched a postseason appearance, taking on the No. 1-seeded Colorado Academy Mustangs on May 8. The Lady Pirates fell to the Mustangs 10-0.

• Jason Cox and Echo IT Consulting were selected to jointly fill the broadband service manager position at a regular board meeting of the CDC on May 8.

• The PPOS Board of Directors approved a contract extension for its new school director, Crossland, at a regular board meeting on May 13.

• During a regular meeting of the BOE on May 14, two district teachers, during public comment, raised questions via a prepared statement on the "lack of transparency" behind Reed's raise in April.

• The Pirate baseball team ended its regular season on May 14, earning the No. 6 seed in Quadrant C of the Colorado 3A baseball playoffs.

• At a regular board meeting on May 16, the PAWSD Board of Directors approved various changes to its rules and regulations. Many of the changes involved adding definitions for things such as availability fees, debt service fund and water service charge.

• The Springs Resort and Spa hosted the second of a series of meetings on May 16 regarding 27 acres of vacant land adjacent to the resort, with the meeting discussing preliminary ideas for the property, including a community square, retail, housing and areas for interaction with the natural environment.

• The state track and field meet on May 16-18 was a good one for the Pirates: Michael Wedemeyer nabbed second in the triple jump and broke the school record in the 400-meter dash, Mackenzie

Wedemeyer broke the school record in the 200-meter dash, and the girls' 800-meter sprint medley team placed fourth while breaking a school record.

Michael Wedemeyer entered the state championship ranked third in the triple jump and finished the event, and his Pirate career, ranked second in Colorado in the 3A division.

• The Pirate baseball team fell out of contention in the first round of postseason play on May 18, drawing its season to a close. The Pirates fell to the Resurrection Christian Cougars 10-0 in post-season play in Bayfield, ending the team's season with a 10-12 overall record, including a 5-5 league mark.

• With a 3-1 vote, an emergency ordinance concerning noise abatement was approved by the four members of the town council present at the council's May 23 meeting. The emergency ordinance, which became effective upon a single reading of the ordinance and its subsequent passage, amended chapter 13 of the town's municipal code and, among other things, implemented maximum permissible decibel levels.

"This is presented as an emergency ordinance tonight," Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained. "Of course, we do want to consider this carefully. We don't take emergency ordinances lightly. Typically, we do two readings of an ordinance, but we do have a need to immediately move forward with a new noise ordinance."

The emergency ordinance came about, according to an agenda brief written by Phillips, after the town's noise ordinance was challenged as being "too vague."

• Town council also adopted the Destination Master Plan, which provides recommendations for local tourism development, at the meeting.

• At the same meeting, the town council members unanimously approved the first reading of an ordinance repealing the town's impact fee program, with the second reading being approved on June 4.

• Saul Hernandez, an Archuleta County man being held in the La Plata County jail, allegedly died by suicide on May 26.

• At its regular meeting on May 28, the county commissioners voted to approve a letter of commitment that pledges \$1.25 million to assist in the development of a commercial building that will house the Department of Human Services (DHS) office within an Archuleta County Housing Authority (ACHA) 34-unit affordable housing complex on Hot Springs Boulevard.

At the time, ACHA was applying for tax-credit financing for the project.

• The Upper San Juan Health Service District Board of Directors, which oversees Pagosa Springs Medical Center, heard a report on May 28 about opportunities to improve the district's cash position.

The report came from Turning Point Healthcare Advisors Inc., a consultant hired after the district failed to meet the cash-on-hand requirements of a 2006/2007 bond.

• On May 29, students from Scott White's eighth-grade class took part in a work day at the Veterans Memorial Park to help construct about 500 feet of a trail along the perimeter of the park.

• After 24 years at the helm of FolkWest, Crista Munro announced in late May she would be leaving her position as executive director of the Four Corners Folk Festival to be the executive director of the Sisters Folk Festival in Sisters, Ore.

Munro and Dan Appenzeller co-founded FolkWest together and produced the very first Four Corners Folk Festival on Reservoir Hill in 1996, and in 2006 Pagosa Folk 'N Bluegrass was added to the FolkWest annual lineup.

• A new complaint filed May 30 with the U.S. District Court for the district of Colorado, among other things, opposes a Feb. 27 record of decision issued by the U.S. Forest Service to provide "reasonable access" to a 288-acre private 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 89-page complaint alleges 14 claims and comes from a coalition of conservation organizations: Rocky Mountain Wild, San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, San Juan Citizens Alliance and Wilderness Workshop.

JUNE

• On June 1, 78 students graduated from PSHS's class of 2019. The class of 2019 received more than \$700,000 in scholarships.

• In a letter to parents on June 2, Reed announced her retirement from ASD at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

• At its meeting on June 3, the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch board continued to discuss possibly funding a new facility, the impending start date of the new dispatch center manager, and upgrading or replacing aging equipment, among other things.

• "The parade is happening," Phillips told the town council at its June 4 meeting.

The council opted to dip into General Fund reserves for an expenditure of up to \$7,500 for trained traffic control to help put on the parade after the Rotary Club announced the previous week it would no longer produce the event due to concerns.

• DHS was honored as a "distinguished performer" among all other human services departments in Colorado and was noted as the top performer in the state for 2018 at the Colorado Counties Inc. conference on June 4.

• Archuleta County finalized

the financing terms for the new jail in early June, with the county receiving better terms that it had anticipated.

According to an email from Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton on June 7, the winning bid was from Baird, Red Bank, N.J., who had a 20-member syndicate behind it, representing banks from across the country.

The principal of the loan is \$14,055,000, with the principal and interest totaling \$19,478,085, according to a report on the financing deal by Ehlers Inc., the county's municipal advisor.

Walton wrote that the winning bid offers an interest rate of 3.0749 percent.

• A mudslide due to snowmelt closed Wolf Creek Pass the night of June 7, but the pass was reopened on June 8 following cleanup work done by the Colorado Department of Transportation.

• On June 9, the San Juan River had a reported streamflow of 4,340 cubic feet per second, leading to a flood advisory being put into place for the town Riverwalk and areas of Archuleta County experiencing minor flooding.

• The U.S. Forest Service rescinded its decision to allow chain saws in the South San Juan and Weminuche wilderness areas on June 10, citing a need to reassess the agency's "overall needs" amid snowpack conditions that were 500 percent to 700 percent of normal as of May 30.

• A local group who sued current and former county officials had its petition for writ of certiorari denied by the Colorado Supreme Court.

"The case is now over," said County Attorney Todd Weaver at the county commissioners' June 11 work session.

A writ of certiorari is an order a higher court issues to review the decisions made in a lower court.

• An intoxicated man firing a rifle on the shoulder of the road forced law enforcement to shut down a portion of U.S. 160 on June 17.

• On June 17, the SJWCD board came to an agreement with Kane that allowed for legal representation only at regular board meetings.

• An accidental rafting incident on June 20 claimed the life of a 43-year-old Indiana woman.

• PPOS, in conjunction with the town, was notified on June 21 that it was awarded the full amount of funds requested from a recent \$600,000 grant request. The grant, a Community Development Block Grant from DOLA, was slated to be put toward the purchase of the Parelli building, which PPOS is currently leasing space in.

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Town

■ Continued from front sanitation district first.

ACHA requested that the sanitation district waive \$31,850 in capital investment fees, which is based upon the development needing seven equivalent units from the PSSGID with or without the inclusion of the DHS building.

Section 4.2.2 of the district's rules and regulations gives the PSSGID board the latitude to grant, by resolution, an exemption for all or part of the capital investment fees on developments that include very low- to moderate-income housing, according to an agenda brief prepared for Tuesday's meeting.

Capital investment fees are tap fees charged on "new developments or changes in use that affect sewer services," the agenda brief explains.

However, because the PSSGID is an enterprise fund subject to the Taxpayer Bill of Rights, the district is required to make up that loss of revenue in one of two ways: through district property tax collections or through payment from the Town of Pagosa Springs' capital or general funds.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips noted that town staff proposed that any waived fees be backfilled from the town's General Fund.

During council discussion on the matter, board member Mat deGraaf called the topic a "tricky one" and noted he was personally not in favor of waiving tap fees.

Later in the meeting, board member Tracy Bunning stated he agreed with deGraaf.

deGraaf then noted that the PSSGID had a rate study not too long ago and costs are adding up for the district.

He explained that, while he wants to help affordable housing, the PSSGID needs to keep its head above

water and giving away free taps was not part of the rate study.

"I understand the tightness of the accounting books for the GID, but I think that, you know, as much as we have been talking about housing and as long as we've been talking about it, steps like this are the chance for us to put our money where our mouth is, so I think we need to waive the fees on this," David Schanzenbaker said.

Schanzenbaker then noted that having DHS added in "seems like a different subject matter" because governmental cooperation may not be justification for waiving the fees.

deGraaf suggested perhaps the town could backfill the PSSGID from the funding set aside for affordable housing.

Council also discussed staff time that would be required and that the PSSGID would not pay for equipment needed to connect to the collection system.

Council also asked questions about the overall cost of the project, what other utilities the developers were seeking waivers from, the county's level assistance in terms of the value of the land and costs of the DHS building, but no developer was present at the time to answer the questions.

Because of that, the PSSGID board ultimately opted to table the matter until a future meeting when more information would be available.

The elected officials then considered fee waivers as the town council, with ACHA.

By that point, ACHA representatives Clifford Lucero and Sarah Ward were in the audience and Phillips had obtained more information to provide to the council. She explained that the residential portion of the development is valued at \$10.3 million and the DHS portion is valued

at \$2.4 million.

The fees ACHA requested the town waive total \$36,014 for the residential portion, Phillips explained.

In response to council questioning, Lucero explained ACHA has approached the town and the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District so far.

He further explained that the county would not be charging any fees for the project to seek waivers for, and noted that the property is valued at at least \$800,000.

As the conversation progressed, Phillips pointed out that the council could also consider if it wanted to waive the fees for the DHS portion of the project, which would be another \$15,790.50.

She noted that the council has approved a couple of ordinances in the past that allow council to waive building and planning fees for low-income housing projects and inter-governmental partnerships.

Mayor Don Volger stated he would like to support both the residential and DHS portions and move forward with putting the town's money where its mouth is.

However, Schanzenbaker again noted his preference for focusing on the housing portion of the development.

"I feel like the town is already contributing a good chunk of money to help in that transfer process," Schanzenbaker said, adding that the county had indicated a portion of the \$100,000 allocation decrease to the town from Road and Bridge was because of the DHS offices.

Schanzenbaker noted they never got a percentage of what that reduction was for DHS, but that the town was led to believe it was a large portion and he felt that was a contribution from the town.

"I agree," Bunning said.

County expressing thanks for courthouse grant

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

At their meeting on Tuesday, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to send a thank you to each member of the Colorado Underfunded Courthouse Facilities Commission, thanking the commission for a \$1.91 million grant for the construction of a new courthouse in the county.

"The grant funding will go a long way in developing a courthouse that will serve the needs of the Courts and the citizens of Archuleta County. We look forward to moving ahead with the design phase and seeking further funding through additional state and/or federal grants," the letter reads.

In an email, County Finance Director Larry Walton explained the current status of financing for the courthouse project.

Walton explained:

- The estimated costs for the courthouse project are between \$5.7 million and \$6.7 million and that the range "reflects the possible impact of adding aggressive 'energy efficiency' features, which increases the likelihood of obtaining the full amount of possible grant funding from DOLA," referencing the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.
- The county has received a \$1.9 million grant from the underfunded commission.

- There is about \$650,000 in the county's Justice System Capital Fund for the project.

- Archuleta County has submitted a grant application to DOLA for about \$415,000 to cover design costs for the courthouse.

- The county has "the intention" of applying for a second round of DOLA funding in which the county "will likely" request \$1 million.

- Based on the numbers above, the county is still short \$1.7 million to \$2.7 million for the project, according to Walton.

Walton wrote that there are a few variables that could affect these numbers, such as making the courthouse design smaller, the county gaining unanticipated revenue and finding additional grant possibilities the county has not yet identified.

Walton did not mention in his email that according to the grant award letter sent to the county from the underfunded courthouse commission, the county must secure all the funding for the project to receive the \$1.9 million award.

The courthouse is expected to be built on Harman Park Drive, on the next lot over from where the county's new jail is being constructed.

Liquor permit

Brian Proffitt, a lawyer representing the Speedway gas station on North Pagosa Boulevard, argued the BoCC should grant a liquor license

for the business.

Colorado statute states that a liquor store must be at least 500 feet from an existing liquor store, and there is a liquor store across the street, less than 500 feet away from the Speedway gas station and store.

Proffitt argued that the Speedway location on North Pagosa Boulevard was "grandfathered in" to be exempt from that law.

"The statute specifically says that if we have a certificate of occupancy for the structure to be used for the fermented malt beverage retailers license premises before Jan. 1, 2019, we're grandfathered from that distance restriction," Proffitt said.

This came as a surprise to the BoCC and the county attorney.

Earlier in the day, Commissioner Steve Wadley told the other commissioners he'd be voting no on the liquor license, as was the recommendation of county staff.

After Proffitt's argument, Wadley changed his tune from what he'd said that morning.

"Mr. Chair, I move to conditionally approve, based on the findings of legality from the county attorney, a retail permitted malt beverage off premises liquor license ..." Wadley said.

The motion passed unanimously. In an email Wednesday, County Attorney Todd Weaver said he had not yet investigated the legality of Proffitt's claims.

"I have a hard time agreeing with that, even though I see the point. I understand the point, but I just have a real hard time agreeing with that and I'm hoping that we could move forward and have a better relationship with the county and I don't know that a decision like this would help improve that relationship," Volger said.

Madeline Bergon questioned if this was a time the town could ask the county for assistance with other things, such as more Conservation Trust funding to help with other projects, to help relieve the town's financial stress if the fees were waived.

Volger noted the resolution could be amended to include only the residential portion and have the council take up the PSSGID and DHS portions at a later date.

"We're trying to move forward as quickly as we can with this project," Lucero responded, stating that, while he understood what the council was trying to do and why, ACHA was seeking to get as much done that night as possible.

He continued, "I understand what you guys are trying to do here, and I truly do, but I think for us, moving forward with this project is huge."

Lucero acknowledged that Bergon's suggestion makes sense, but that in-kind of some sort could be possible down the road, saying, "But I know I'm not on either board at this time, and I will say at this time. So I really think it's important for, if we can, to just move forward with waiving the fees for the whole project

right at this time."

Lucero noted that doing otherwise would start to slow things down, with ACHA hoping to start construction on the project in April.

In response to a question from Schanzenbaker, Lucero explained that the county is putting up about \$2 million to move the project forward, and the county will lease the DHS building from the ACHA for a certain number of years, at which point the county will own that building.

Ward explained that the project's developer is waiving a lot of his fees and that the project received tax-credit financing based on the partnerships with the town and county.

Not receiving the fee waivers would take away from the funding to build the units, she said.

Lucero also indicated that the county needs the space, and the town needs the space currently occupied by DHS in Town Hall.

The mayor later accepted public comment, with Michael Whiting being the sole audience member offering comment.

"I don't envy you in your spot. I've been where you are with the difficult peers to work with and to have to lead," Whiting said. "This is something you guys are going to have to lead on, and it's a hard pill to swallow sometimes, to lead when others won't come with you. And, in this case, the county is fading fast in terms of their leadership in this community and I feel your struggle with that. ... But in this case, the existence

of the LITHC project as it is a result of your leadership. At the time, it was co-leadership with the county. You don't have that luxury now."

Whiting suggested the council "run through the pain" and provide the waivers, suggesting the county will come back around in the future.

The mayor again suggested that the town waive the fees for both portions and that it will help mend bridges between the town and county moving forward.

He noted the county has proven it supports the project just with the property value.

Matt DeGuise expressed his agreement with the mayor and ultimately made a motion to waive the fees for both the residential and DHS portions and to take references to any PSSGID waivers out of the resolution before council.

That motion drew a 3-3 vote from the six council members present (Nicole DeMarco was absent), meaning the motion failed.

Schanzenbaker suggested the DHS fee waiver could be a discussion if the council and county commissioners resumed work sessions, but that he was only comfortable with the residential portion of the waiver, which would be enough to keep the ball rolling on the project.

deGraaf suggested the council revisit the DHS and PSSGID waivers in the future.

Schanzenbaker then offered a new motion for only the residential portion of the waiver, with that motion passing 6-0.

Gurule

■ Continued from front

emotional situations that families find themselves in," Dodson said.

Dodson explained Gurule would help identify financial support for families to pay for food and electricity bills, assisted individuals in understanding their pensions, helped find long-term care for family members and assisted people in navigating what can be a complicated bureaucracy in receiving social services.

"She always did that with their best interest in mind," Dodson said. "And that's a huge undertaking for any person, much less to do it for 41 years."

The certificate of appreciation, signed by the board of county commissioners, states, "Nothing can ever adequately show our appreciation for the hard work and dedication

you have displayed to support the county for over 40 years. On behalf of the staff of Archuleta County thank you for your service and we wish you the best in your retirement. We will all miss you."

Dodson also presented Gurule with a plaque from DHS.

"You will be missed," Dodson said. "I mean that from the bottom of my heart and I know I speak for all of us."

Gurule received a standing ovation when her awards were presented and though she noted she did not have a speech prepared, she did say a few words about her time with the county.

"I had the opportunity to serve individuals in need," began Gurule. "I think you have to have compassion for the people we serve and listen to

what they tell us ... We do try hard to help the people we serve."

In an email to The SUN, Dodson offered further comments about Gurule.

"I have known few in her role to be as dedicated as she has been for over 40 years. It was with a heavy heart that I accepted her retirement letter as she was part of our family here at human services where we lean into one another for support when handling the difficult situations of others that we are presented with. Margie's knowledge and the relationships she built will be missed ... She has earned the respect of many and we all wish her the absolute best as she embarks on her next journey," Dodson wrote.

john@pagosasun.com

Dispute

■ Continued from front

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

David Campbell, president of the Timber Ridge Metro District, reported the theft to dispatch.

During his phone interview with Deputy Hayleigh Brown about the incident, Brown asked Campbell if he knew of anyone who might have taken the signs, according to the incident report filed by the sheriff's office.

Campbell responded yes, and mentioned about a year ago that all the county commissioners, but specifically Ron Maez, told him to remove the signs or the county would, according to the report.

In a phone call Tuesday, Campbell reported he still didn't know who took the signs.

Campbell told The SUN Wednesday morning that he learned it was the county who took the signs.

He noted the metro district has asked for them back but has not yet received them.

The SUN asked County Administrator Scott Wall and County Engineer Bob Perry if the county removed the signs, to which they both replied yes, as the signs were in the public right of way.

In a Wednesday email, Weaver further explained, "The signs were impermissibly placed in the public right-of-way and the County removed the illegal signs."

Campbell reported that the metro district had put at least one private road sign back up on Bristlecone Drive.

Weaver explained on Tuesday the county has until roughly the end of the month to file a response to the complaint filed by the metro district.

Weaver has explained why he thinks Bristlecone Drive should be open to the public multiple times over the past year.

In June, Weaver explained to the county commissioners that the developer of Timber Ridge completed a recorded easement that "basically

said" the subdivision is dedicating a public easement on Bristlecone Drive to the general public until a plat had been recorded on all five phases of the Timber Ridge subdivision. Weaver explained a final plat has never been made for the fifth phase.

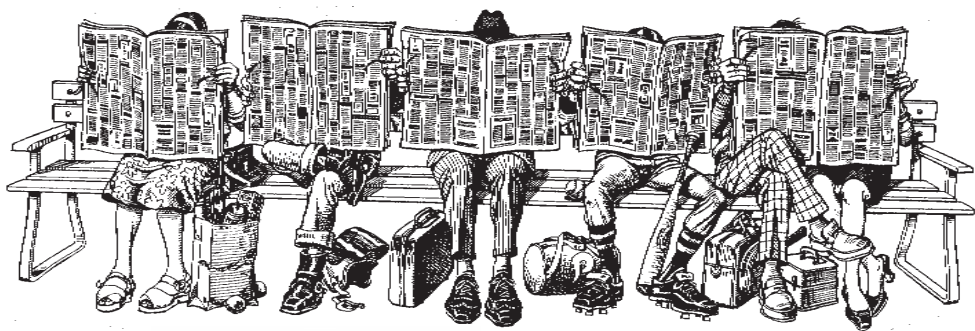
"A plat has never been done," Weaver said. "So, under the law, in my viewpoint, that easement is still in effect and therefore the public has the right of ingress and egress over that section of Bristlecone Drive."

The complaint filed by the metro district states that the disputed 1,300-foot section of Bristlecone Drive is owned by a private entity, has not been dedicated by deed to public use and is not a public road.

A judge will make a declaratory judgment on whether the disputed 1,300-foot section of Bristlecone Drive is public or not in the upcoming months.

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Photos courtesy T Jay Carter

Residents who found themselves downtown near the Town Hall were treated to a special sight on Christmas Eve, with floral-like frost formations dotting the ponds near the Riverwalk.

Snowpack totals drop over week, snow in the forecast through Sunday

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Local basins have seen a 13 percent decrease in snowpack totals over the last week, with the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins sitting at 117 percent of median this week, compared to 130 percent of median last week.

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Upper San Juan site has also seen a drop in its snowpack total, falling from 116 percent of median to 94 percent of median this week.

An 11 percent decrease was reported for the Wolf Creek summit, with totals going from 110 percent of median to 99 percent of median this week.

Despite the decreases seen locally, snowpack totals should see an increase, according to a local forecast from the National Weather Service (NWS).

The NWS notes a 40 percent chance of snow today in Pagosa Springs that will increase to a 50 percent chance by tonight.

A 30 percent chance of snow is expected on Friday, with additional chances for snow showers on Saturday night and Sunday, according to the NWS.

On Wolf Creek Pass, the NWS indicates a 60 percent chance of snow today that drops to 40 percent tomorrow.

The NWS also reports a 20 percent chance of snow on Saturday, which increases to a 40 percent chance on Saturday night through Sunday.

NRCS District Conservationist Jerry Archuleta noted in an interview on Wednesday that even with the decreases seen since last week, snowpack totals are in good shape.

"Looking at the weather for January, it seems like there are a number of storms that are coming our way," he said. "I think with us sitting at 100 percent right now, and storms on the horizon, that we can feel reasonably comfortable with where we're at."

Other snowpack reports

The Upper Rio Grande Basin has a snowpack total of 116 percent of median this week. Last week it was 131 percent of median.

A 2 percent decrease was recorded at the Arkansas River Basin, with totals falling from 121 percent of median to 119 percent of median

this week.

At the Yampa and White River basins, a 4 percent increase was reported, with snowpack totals going from 113 percent of median to 117 percent of median.

The Laramie and North Platte River basins are 112 percent of median this week. Last week they were 109 percent of median.

The South Platte River Basin's snowpack total remains at 122 percent of median.

Snowpack totals fell 2 percent at the Upper Colorado River Basin as snowpack levels are 107 percent of median this week, when last week they were 109 percent of median.

The Gunnison River Basin is 105 percent of median. Last week it was 110 percent of median.

chris@pagosahun.com

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office
Calls for service over week: 148.
Dec. 30 — Death investigation-death investigation, Butte Drive.
Dec. 31 — Under investigation, County Road 600.
Dec. 31 — All other thefts, Yarrow Circle.

Jan. 1 — Cruelty to animals-aggravated, Raccoon Drive.
Jan. 1 — Agency assist, Lewis Alley.
Jan. 1 — Rabies vaccination required, Flicker Lane.
Jan. 2 — Information only, U.S. 160.
Jan. 2 — County warrant, U.S. 160/ Trails Boulevard.
Jan. 3 — Information only, Aspen-glow Boulevard.
Jan. 4 — County warrant, county warrant, Pagosa Street.
Jan. 5 — Information only, Colo. 151.
Jan. 5 — Information only, U.S. 84/

County Road 302.
Jan. 5 — Agency assist, Talisman Drive.

Pagosa Springs Police Department
Calls for service over week: 77.
Dec. 29 — Theft, South 9th Street.
Dec. 30 — Operated vehicle without insurance, North Pagosa Boulevard.
Jan. 1 — Shooting of fireworks prohibited, South 10th Street.
Jan. 1 — Careless driving/drove vehicle without valid driver license, U.S. 160.
Jan. 1 — Reckless driving/vehicular eluding/open container, Lewis Alley.

Jan. 1 — Theft from vehicle, Talisman Drive.
Jan. 3 — Animal running at large, South 5th Street.
Jan. 3 — Identity theft, Loma Street.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson
No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
Dec. 30 — Brianna A. Archuleta, speeding 10-19 over limit, total fines and costs — \$198.50.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Clayton Buchner
No report.

Additional Forest Service roads close for season

By Brandon Caley
Special to The SUN

To protect road surfaces and for public safety, many Forest Service roads are seasonally closed to wheeled motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles operating on snow. The roads are open to nonmotorized uses, including bicycling, hiking and horseback riding.

Roads will remain closed until most of the road surface can withstand traffic without damage.

An open gate does not give permission to damage roads. Damage is defined as: ruts 1 inch deep or deeper on gravel roads, 4 inches deep or deeper on native surface roads. Do not go off roads, except to park adjacent to the road on dry ground.

Following is the road which remains open as of Jan. 6:

- Williams Creek, No. 640 (from gate to lake), open.

For additional information on travel management, road

openings and to pick up a Motor Vehicle Use Map with specific information on Forest access roads, contact the Pagosa Ranger District at 264-2268 or stop by and visit us Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 180 Pagosa St.

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Sports

WRESTLING

Pirate grapplers to host duals, tournament

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School wrestling team is gearing up to host two events this weekend: the Rocky Mountain Duals tomorrow and the Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational on Saturday.

"This is a really fun way to start the new year," said coach Dan Janowsky. "Any rust that you built up over the break, we try to get that off in a hurry."

Janowsky highlighted the Rocky Mountain Wrestling Invitational on Saturday, saying, "It's a real favorite" of teams that come to Pagosa Springs to participate, explaining there will be teams from the Farmington area, the San Luis Valley and a few from the Denver area.

The Pirates have won the invitational two years in a row and Janowsky noted the toughest opponents for the Pirates will be Aztec, Centauri and Bloomfield.

The Pirates' roster has been full of holes at various weight classes all season and Janowsky explained he's looking forward to promoting

some JV wrestlers to fill some of those spots, adding he expects to have 13 weight classes filled in the upcoming weeks.

Janowsky also commented on the evolution of wrestling since his high school and college days, noting that wrestlers used to take drastic measures to make weight back in the day. Strategies that are now restricted and heavily monitored.

"They used to wear plastic sweats to practice," Janowsky said. "You gotta be able to make [weight] in a much healthier way now."

The Pirates will travel to Bayfield today for a dual against the Wolverines, which kicks off at 6 p.m.

The Pirates then return to Pagosa for a pair of events at home, with the Rocky Mountain Duals kicking off tomorrow, Friday Jan. 10, at 5 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School.

The following day, the Rocky Mountain Invitational, deemed the favorite match of the year by Janowsky and his team, starts at 10 a.m.

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates pick of pair of wins at Wolf Creek Classic

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team opened the 2020 portion of its schedule with a pair of wins at the Wolf Creek Classic.

The Lady Pirates are the No. 5 team in Colorado 3A girls' basketball in the Jan. 6 rankings, down from No. 2 in the Dec. 16 rankings.

Pagosa is the No. 9 team in the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI), which helps determine postseason seeding, with the Pirates holding a 5-2 record.

Pagosa opened tournament play Friday evening against the Eaton Reds, who entered the game with a 6-1 record.

The Lady Pirates and Reds were tied at 13 at the end of a back-and-forth first quarter, with the Lady Pirates building a narrow 21-19 lead by halftime.

Pagosa built on that lead in the third by again outscoring Eaton in the quarter, this time 11-9, giving Pagosa a 32-28 lead.

"We went on a nice little run and got up by about 10 in the third and gave up some offensive rebounds. And that's one of the things we talked about between quarters, was we quit rebounding the basketball," coach Wes Lewis described. "I think we've done a pretty good job as a whole on the year on our rebounding, but for that little 2-, 3-minute stretch, we gave up some offensive rebounds and they got some put-backs, some second-chance opportunities, and they capitalized on them and so they kind of cut back into that 10-point lead and it was a 4- to 6-point game, and then we were able to pull away in the fourth."

Pagosa outscored Eaton 23-9 in the fourth quarter to help propel the Lady Pirates to a 55-37 win.

"We had a very sluggish start to the game, for sure. We had 13 turnovers in the first half. ... We were doing pretty good things defensively and we were trying to do



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Lady Pirate Elsa Lindner battles for possession during the first half of Pagosa's 60-19 victory over the Colorado Springs Christian Lions Saturday evening.

the right things offensively. We had some turnovers in transition and we had some turnovers in the half-court stuff, and, you know, most of them were ill-forced," Lewis said.

Pagosa tallied 15 turnovers in the game, including eight in the first quarter.

Lewis noted the team talked during time-outs in the first half, then addressed it "wholeheartedly at halftime and got a lot better in the second half."

Eaton also turned the ball over 15 times.

Taylor Lewis led the team in scoring on the evening with 16 points. She also logged five rebounds, a pair of assists, a steal and a block in the game.

Hailey Griego followed with 11 points, which she complemented with eight rebounds, three assists, two steals and two blocks.

Molly Graham put up nine points, pulled down six rebounds and notched one assist.

Adelyn Dozier added seven points to the team's total (including

two 3-pointers), as well as logging a rebound and a pair of assists.

Teagan Stretton contributed six points (including a 3-pointer), two rebounds, four assists and a steal.

Elsa Lindner logged four points, pulled down eight rebounds, and had two assists and two blocks.

■ See Wins A11



Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Piedra Goss
Swimming



Favorite subject: Biology and AP literature

Comments from coaches H. Miller and D. Deguise: "Piedra joined the swim team with very little experience and has grown leaps and bounds in just a few months. She is an amazing student who has challenged herself every year of school with advanced classes, including every science class she could fit into her schedule. At practice and at meets Piedra

maintains a positive attitude and puts 100% effort into improving her swimming skills. She is a senior to whom all of our swimmers look up, and she is always encouraging and cheering on her teammates. At our last swim meet, she cut 10 seconds off of her time and when one of her teammates could not swim in a relay, she stepped up and swam in her place. She was a beast in the water and an inspiration to her team and her coaches."



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BASKETBALL

Pagosa splits at Wolf Creek Classic, takes on Sanford Saturday

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

To kick off the new year, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' basketball team split in games against the Eaton Reds (8-1 overall) and the Colorado Springs Christian Lions (4-3 overall) at the Wolf Creek Classic on Jan. 3 and Jan. 4.

Eaton

The Pirates started off hot against the Reds on Jan. 3, jumping out to a 21-4 lead at the end of the first quarter, which was extended to 29-13 at halftime, but, ultimately, Pagosa fell 50-41 to Eaton.

A second half that featured Eaton outscoring Pagosa 37-12 contributed to Pagosa's downfall against Eaton.

Three Pirates finished with double-digit scoring against Eaton. Ryan Lewis led the team with 13 points while also adding seven rebounds and a block.

Mason Snarr added 12 points, four rebounds and a block; Mitch Lewis finished with 10 points, 11 rebounds, three assists, two steals and three blocks.

Wyatt Schuchart contributed two points and two rebounds. Kyler Hammer added two points, three rebounds and three assists.

Pagosa connected on seven of 10 free-throw attempts against Eaton, but also turned over the ball 21 times, which is a season high.

The Pirates turned over the ball too many times against Eaton to win, coach Randy Sorenson explained in an email.

Pagosa was also stagnant and impatient on the offensive end of the floor after the first quarter, he added.

Despite losing Snarr to an injury early in the third quarter, Sorenson noted that he believed the Pirates should have been able to finish strong.

"We talked at halftime about how Eaton was averaging seventy points a game and that they would probably make more shots in the second half. Give Eaton a lot of credit for not giving up and fighting back," he wrote.

"It was a very disappointing loss. We need to be more consistent."

Lion tamers

Pagosa was able to bounce back on Jan. 4 against the Lions, winning 57-44 to close out the Wolf Creek Classic.

Pagosa jumped out to an 18-11 lead over the Lions after the first quarter. At the end of the first half, Pagosa held a 30-22 lead.

Colorado Springs Christian made a small run in the third quarter, outscoring Pagosa 14-13.

Pagosa's defense stepped up in the fourth, however, only allowing eight Lion points while scoring 14 themselves to secure the win.

Four Pirates finished the night with double-digit scoring totals, with Mitch Lewis leading the charge with 16 points while also grabbing four rebounds and dishing out six assists.

Aidan O'Donnell added 12 points, five rebounds and a steal; Hammer finished with 12 points, a team-high nine rebounds and two assists.

Ryan Lewis finished with 10 points, eight rebounds, two assists and a block against the Lions.

The Pirates converted seven of 11 free-throw attempts against the Lions, good enough for 73 percent at the free-throw line. The Pirates also finished with 14 turnovers against the Lions.

"We had a great comeback win on Saturday night! Give our kids a lot of credit for coming back and playing well after a tough loss the night before," Sorenson wrote.

Colorado Springs Christian had a good post and guard tandem and was a good team overall, he added later.

"We were more consistent scoring the basketball and our defense was solid after the first three minutes of the game. We were short handed and the kids did a nice job of staying out of foul trouble," he said.

Following the Wolf Creek Classic, Pagosa's record now sits at 5-3 overall.

Through eight games, Pagosa



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Navigating the lane, Pirate Mitch Lewis looks to put up a shot during the second matchup of the Wolf Creek Classic for Pagosa against the Colorado Springs Christian Lions on Jan. 4. Lewis finished the night with a team-high 16 points to go along with four rebounds and six assists. The Pirates got the job done against the Lions as well, earning a 57-44 win to push the team's overall record to 5-3. Pagosa will look to add another win on the road on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. against the 2A Sanford Indians.

currently sits in third place in the Intermountain League standings, behind the Centauri Falcons (9-0 overall) and the Alamosa Mean Moose (4-2 overall).

Sanford

Next up for Pagosa is a road matchup on Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. against the 2A Sanford Indians (3-3 overall).

Last season, Pagosa defeated Sanford on the road by a score of

40-38.

The Indians are always a tough matchup for Pagosa and it will be tough to beat them on their home court, Sorenson noted.

"They are always solid defensively and scrappy. They also do a nice job of being patient offensively and are well coached. They have great tradition," he wrote. "It is a close game every year with them. We will have to play well."

chris@pagosasun.com

SWIM

Lady Pirate swim team to compete in Montrose Invitational

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team will return to the pool on Jan. 10 at 3 p.m. and Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. to compete in the Montrose Invitational.

Pagosa has finished strong in its first four meets this season, finishing second in Salida, fourth in Farmington and competing hard in meets at Durango and Sargent.

Along with Pagosa and Montrose, a number of teams will be competing at the invitational. These teams include Aspen, Delta, Fruita Monument, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction, Gun-

nison, Moffat County and Montezuma-Cortez. So far this season, the Lady Pirates have done great, coach Heather Miller wrote in an email on Tuesday.

The Lady Pirates have improved at every meet and have done a good job at overcoming obstacles when they are met with them, she noted.

In preparation for the Montrose Invitational, Miller explained that the Lady Pirates will be looking to see how their stroke techniques have improved from recent practices.

Some things that have been focused on are making sure all Lady Pirate swimmers are proficient and legal while doing the butterfly and

breaststroke, Miller explained, adding that the team has made some good progress.

Additionally, the Lady Pirates have focused on more of the technical aspects of freestyle technique and getting each swimmer out of their comfort zone, she explained, noting that the team has also been focused on staying healthy.

"In practice we have seen some good time drops so I am looking forward to see how those translate to the meet setting," she wrote. "We are also looking to see who gets out of the comfort zone, we have had some challenging practices and I think we are going to see some of the swimmers really step up and shine."

chris@pagosasun.com

Wins

Continued from A10

Kori Lucero put two on the scoreboard for the Lady Pirates.

The team hit 14, or 67 percent, of its 21 free-throw attempts in the game, with six from Graham and a perfect 5-for-5 stint at the line for Griego.

"I just think Eaton's a quality

opponent," the coach said of the Reds on Saturday. "They didn't play great today against Roaring Fork. They got away with a win, which is, you know, good for us ... when you take RPI into consideration. But I think Eaton's going to win a lot of basketball games this year. That was a pretty good win for us,

a good bounce-back win after the Lutheran loss before break. ... I thought there were times against Eaton we looked really efficient, did some things really well, and that was obviously something we wanted to build off of for today."

That game referenced by the coach was Saturday evening's

matchup with the Colorado Springs Christian Lions, who entered the Classic with a 2-2 record.

Pagosa took a commanding lead early in the game, outscoring Colorado Springs Christian 20-3 in the first quarter and 19-8 in the second quarter to hold a 39-11 lead

■ See Wins A12

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Pagosa Winter Classic to feature pond hockey tournament and more

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A three-on-three pond hockey ice battle will take place on Jan. 11 and 12 at the third annual Pagosa Winter Classic, with Saturday featuring live music, a heated tent, whiskey, craft beer, food and other family activities at the Pagosa Multi Purpose Pavilion (PMP), 550 S. 8th St.

The event will feature two 15-minute periods of three-on-three pond hockey action with a four-game guarantee for each team.

The cost for teams is \$300 and the singles cost \$50, with each team

consisting of three to six players. On both Jan. 11 and 12 games will start at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. will feature the live music, whiskey and craft beer.

PMP Executive Director Brian Collabolletta explained that pond hockey is generally played in a three-on-three format.

"It's a scaled down version of the game," Collabolletta explained, noting that there are no goalies in this version of the game.

Three-on-three hockey is more of a skill-based game, he explained.

"You have to make two passes before you're allowed to score a

goal," he said. "The goals are different. They aren't full-sized 4-by-6 goals."

A pond hockey goal is typically 4 feet wide, 6 inches tall and has two openings on each end, he described.

"It's much more of a passing and skill type of event," he said.

The number of games could go up depending on the number of teams that sign up, he added later.

Teams that claim victory at the tournament will earn a trophy, Collabolletta explained.

To register for the event, interested parties can go to www.eventbrite.com and search "Pagosa

Winter Classic Hockey Tournament"; you can also sign up the day of the event.

"Every year gets a little bigger and better. This year with the help of the town tourism committee we had a small grant that's allowed us to rent a 20-by-40-foot tent that will be heated," Collabolletta said. "More and more teams every year. We've got teams coming from farther away. This year we have a team coming from Santa Fe, which is a first."

More information can be found at skatepagosa.org, by emailing skatepagosa@icloud.org or via phone at 398-2337.

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United Way Day at Wolf Creek Ski Area supports local nonprofits

By Jodi Jahrling
Special to The SUN

Join United Way of Southwest Colorado (UWSWC) at Wolf Creek Ski Area for a fun day of skiing and boarding with discounted full-day lift tickets on Wednesday, Jan. 15, to benefit United Way nonprofit organizations in Archuleta County.

The special day will occur from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Full-day lift tickets will be \$65 for adults, \$41 for seniors and \$34 for kids. Half day starts at 12:30 p.m.

Proceeds to UWSWC are invested locally to meet needs in the areas of education, financial stability and health. A portion of proceeds from each full-day lift ticket sale will be donated to the UWSWC — Archuleta County that helps support:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Colorado.
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- Pagosa Outreach Connection.
- Pagosa Peak Open School.
- Rise Above Violence.

- Seeds of Learning.
- Tri-County Headstart.

"In United Way's 45-plus year history of service to southwest Colorado, we have found that when people join together for the common good things change for the better," said Lynn Urban, president and CEO. "Wolf Creek Ski Area has provided a great opportunity for us to raise funds for Archuleta County that includes a full day of fun for friends and family and perhaps a team building day for businesses."

Call Wolf Creek Ski Area at 264-5639 for more information and to purchase tickets.

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Times get faster in second Fun Race

By Melanie Allen
Special to The SUN

Wolf Creek Ski Area held its second Fun Race of the season on Sunday, Jan. 15. There were 57 racers this time and the fastest time of the day was 26.41 made by, yet again, Buzz Burke, from Pagosa Springs. Burke was the most experienced of the skiers, competing in the 71-plus bracket.

Noah Bellina placed first with a time of 32.86 in the Boys 9-11.

In the Boys 15-17, Tabn Knapp placed first with a time of 36.50.

Michael Schmidt placed third in the Men 21-25 with a time of 36.62.

In the Men 36-40, Chris Pitcher placed first with a time of 27.86.

Luke Thompson placed first in the Men 41-50 with a time of 28.10 and Joe Bush placed second with a time of 29.59.

In Men 51-60, Steve Dayton placed first with a time of 30.62.

In the Men 71-plus, Burke placed first with a time of 26.41

and Greg Johnson placed second with a time of 34.36.

Veda Deitemeyer placed first with a time of 38.57 in the Girls 6-8.

In the Girls 9-11, Isabelle Ratliff placed first with a time of 29.38 and Kenli Bush placed second with a time of 33.72.

In the Girls 12-14, Aybree Hampton placed first with a time of 31.35.

Rylie Rapp placed first with a time of 34.11 in the Girls 15-17 and Jordan Maxwell placed second with a time of 35.48.

In the Women 51-60, Cathy Lemon placed first with a time of 31.39.

Chris Schmidt placed first in the Women 61-70 with a time of 36.89.

The next Fun Race in the series will be held on Jan. 12. The race is open to all ages and abilities levels, and is free with the purchase of a lift ticket. Racers can sign up at the Raven Grill between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m., and the race will be held between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on the Charisma run.

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Classified line ads (Too Late to Classify): 3 p.m., Tuesday

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

Articles: Noon, Monday
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**Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.*

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Wins

Continued from A11

But the Lady Pirates didn't rest on that lead.

"We kind of challenged them at halftime to keep getting better. ... We're a long ways from where we want to be at the end of the year, we're a long ways from the end of our season. There's a lot of things we can get better at," the coach said.

Pagosa changed defenses in the second half, worked on half-court sets and worked on different offensives.

Pagosa bested the Lions 14-1 in the third quarter and tied 7-7 in the fourth to wrap up the 60-19 win.

Lewis acknowledged the Lions have a new look this year and were not at full strength Saturday against the Pirates.

"CS Christian's obviously down from what they have been the last, you know, four years — lost some really good players, lost an outstanding coach in [Mark Engesser], and so they were down a little bit," he said, also pointing out the Lions were "missing one of their better players for this weekend, she's home sick, and that would have certainly helped them. ... I still feel confident we would have won, but they're down a little bit this year and our girls were good in the press, we got some fast-break points, we got up and down the floor a lot. We changed our defenses up and I thought all three defenses were

really good tonight, kinda gave them some fits, didn't even give any open looks."

Wes Lewis highlighted that the Lady Pirates were able to limit the Lions' Corrie Anderson, who averages nine points a game, to only two free throws.

"That's pretty good defense. You know, it was Hailey Griego when we were playing man, had good help defense against her," the coach said, also highlighting good team defense against the Lions' shooter in zone defense. "I'm pretty proud of the kids for that 'cause that kid is a pretty good player."

Stretton led the Lady Pirates in scoring against the Lions with 18 points, which included a trio of 3-pointers. Stretton also had a pair of assists and three steals.

Taylor Lewis followed with another 16 points, as well as five rebounds, an assist, four steals and a block.

Dozier put up nine points in the game, including a 3-pointer, as well as pulling down a rebound, tallying four assists and stealing the ball twice.

Graham contributed seven points, six rebounds and two steals.

Griego added four points to the team's total, and had four rebounds, a pair of assists, a block and seven steals.

Both Lindner and Audrey Martin contributed three points. Lindner also had five rebounds, two assists and a block, and Martin logged a

rebound.

Lucero added a rebound, an assist and a steal; Miah Schoffner had a rebound and two assists; and Trista Tully logged a steal.

"Our guards led us in scoring tonight, and for the year, our guards have been kind of leading us, which is a compliment to our guards and also, you know, we're giving our posts opportunities and we need them to start coming through a little bit for us as well," Wes Lewis noted.

Pagosa was successful 59 percent of the time from the charity stripe, making 10 of 17 attempts.

Pagosa turned the ball over 11 times in the game.

The Lady Pirates will play only one game over the next week, with that game coming at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 11 in Sanford.

There, the Pirates will take on the Sanford Indians, who are the No. 5 team in Colorado's 2A girls' basketball.

Sanford is 3-3 on the season, with one of those losses coming in overtime to undefeated Centauri on Jan. 4. Centauri won 47-43.

"I think a lot of it is just continuing to do what we do and continuing to get better. I mean there's obviously, the big one is our free-throw percentage. I guess it is getting a little bit better and we've extended some of the amount of time and kind of shooting them a little differently than we have been, but so much

of it is mental and we've just got to get over that hump. Against good teams, you know, you need to shoot in the high 60s, low 70s to be successful. And so many of those ... games are going to come down to two or four points and that can all be made up at the free-throw line, so it's something I certainly hope we can get better at as the season goes on."

randi@pagosasun.com

Guide can help with health insurance open enrollment

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) reminds all 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.

SJBPH can provide help to understand 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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Business



Pagosa Innovation Center invites public to meetup

By Royce Gomez-King
Special to The SUN

Pagosa Innovation Center (PIC), a nonprofit founded by Michael Whiting, Gary Hedgecock and Royce King, will be hosting an event on Jan. 14. The community at large is invited to the PIC meetup at Riff Raff on the Rio from 5 to 7 p.m.

Their goal is to transform a downtown building into a place that sparks pride and vitality, and attracts entrepreneurs, visionaries, dreamers and economic developers to create, collaborate, learn, teach and thrive. It will be a home to meet, work, learn and collaborate, in order to better grow and complete our incomplete business and economic development ecosystem. It will be a kind of factory and refinery for turning ideas

and inspiration into local businesses and jobs.

The PIC has received support during the very early stages of its birth. Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation, the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, the governor's office, Startup Colorado, Unchartered, Proximity Space and several others are excited to watch a center open that will fully develop our business ecosystem, scaling businesses, sparking innovation and creating jobs.

The board members of PIC invite the community to be a part of the excitement as a startup ecosystem is created. The goal of this first meetup is to educate the community on what is happening and invite anyone who wants to be a part of it, and provide input into the missing pieces of

the business ecosystem in Pagosa Springs and the surrounding area.

Meetups, business events, open office hours, a business accelerator and more have been discussed by the board as possible future events offered to the community. Jan. 14 will be a night of informal conversation around what is needed. A guest speaker will be casting the vision during a brief presentation. You are invited to come participate, discuss and catch the vision for what is being birthed in Pagosa Springs.

The PIC was chosen by the governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) to receive OEDIT's Coworking 101 technical assistance grant. At the meetup, more details will be shared as this can become the cornerstone for the local business community.

County, medical center decline to pursue joining health insurance co-op

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County will not move forward in joining the Southwest Health Insurance Cooperative, according to County Administrator Scott Wall.

The commissioners were given a phone presentation about joining the cooperative at a work session last month in which representatives involved with the project touted some of the perks of the cooperative, which they explained could reduce insurance premiums by 20 percent and in some cases up to 50 percent.

On the phone with the commissioners was Tamara Drangstveit, CEO of Peak Health Alliance, and Monique DiGiorgio, executive director of Local First, a nonprofit working on the new cooperative.

Drangstveit and DiGiorgio reported that they were trying to raise about \$50,000 in start-up costs from participating entities and then asked the county commissioners to give a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" on if they thought Archuleta County would join the cooperative.

"We are trying to wrap up here quickly and so what I've asked the other counties to do ... was to give a thumbs up or a thumbs down on really engaging in the Southwest Health Alliance," Drangstveit said.

"I don't think we can give you that in a work session," Commissioner Ron Maez said.

"No, they can't make a decision in a work session," County Attorney Todd Weaver said.

Once the commissioners hung up the phone, Commissioner Steve Wadley offered his opinion on the offer.

"I can't see somebody making a presentation on how we need to pay money to save money and they're in a time crunch. Really, we got offered nothing but a chance to pony up," he said. "It's a consulting job that they're asking to do for us that we didn't go out and approach them for."

"Their emergency doesn't make our emergency," Weaver said. Wall confirmed in a phone interview in late December that the commissioners will not move forward in joining the health cooperative.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center CEO Rhonda Webb discussed the

Southwest Health Insurance Cooperative and other health co-ops in an interview last week.

Webb explained representatives from the Southwest Health Insurance Cooperative contacted the medical center and gave staff a short time frame to make a decision on whether or not to join the co-op.

She explained they also first reached out to local businesses instead of dealing with the hospital first.

"They primarily reached out to the businesses first and we took exception to that, that they didn't want to work with the hospital," Webb said.

Webb also noted that some co-

ops reduce costs by sending patients to other cities for services that may be cheaper than in Pagosa Springs.

"I'm certainly not opposed to cooperatives, I'm just not certain this is the one that is, from what I've heard around the state, it's not focused on keeping health care in the community itself," Webb said. "So, if you have a co-op that finds out that you can go to Farmington for an MRI and it costs less, and that's what they recommend, that's not what's right for our community."

Webb confirmed that her staff is researching other cooperatives that could better serve the population of Pagosa Springs.

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WinterFest activities to fit theme of Fire and Ice

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Special to The SUN

WinterFest will be held from Jan. 24-26. The theme for this year's event is Fire and Ice.

We have over 15 hot air balloon pilots contributing to the fire side of the theme.

As for ice, we will again host the Penguin Plunge and heartily support the other "cool" events such as the fat tire bike race, the BB gun biathlon, the Sledz on Rez race and, new this year, the Skis and Saddles Skijoring event. What a weekend it will be.

Start planning now as well to build your sled for the Sledz on Rez race to be held the afternoon of Jan. 25.

If your organization has people plunging in the river for the Penguin Plunge — also to be held on Jan. 25 — plunge forms are online at the Chamber's website, www.pagosachamber.com.

Get your bikes tuned to enter the bike race on Saturday or tune up your cross-country skis for the BB Gun Biathlon.

If you are a skier or horse person and want to learn more about how you can participate in the exciting Skis and Saddles Skijoring event, visit www.skisandsaddles.com. This event will take place on Hot Springs Boulevard in the center of all that is happening downtown that weekend.

Remember that on both Saturday and Sunday mornings, the hot air balloon mass ascension will take place on the west side of town in the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association area near the Rec Center. This time of year, with the snow-capped mountains, there are some stunning photos to be taken.

There is something for everyone over WinterFest weekend. To find out more, visit www.pagosachamber.com.

National Radon Action Month: Workshops and radon test kits offered

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

January is National Radon Action Month, and San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) will hold free radon testing workshops and provide free radon kits to participants.

Approximately half of Colorado homes have radon gas levels that exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's action level. In Colorado, radon is estimated to cause 500 lung cancer deaths each year.

Radon gas has no odor or taste, is not visible and occurs naturally in the soil. Radon enters homes and buildings through small openings. The U.S. surgeon general lists radon exposure as the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States.

The Colorado State Board of Health has declared January as Radon Action Month and state environmental officials hope residents will take the time to test their homes.

"The best protection against radon is to test in your home and January is the ideal time to test because radon is more likely to enter a home and stay there during the

coldest months of the year," said Brian Devine, interim environmental health director for SJBPH.

Radon workshops will be held on the following dates:

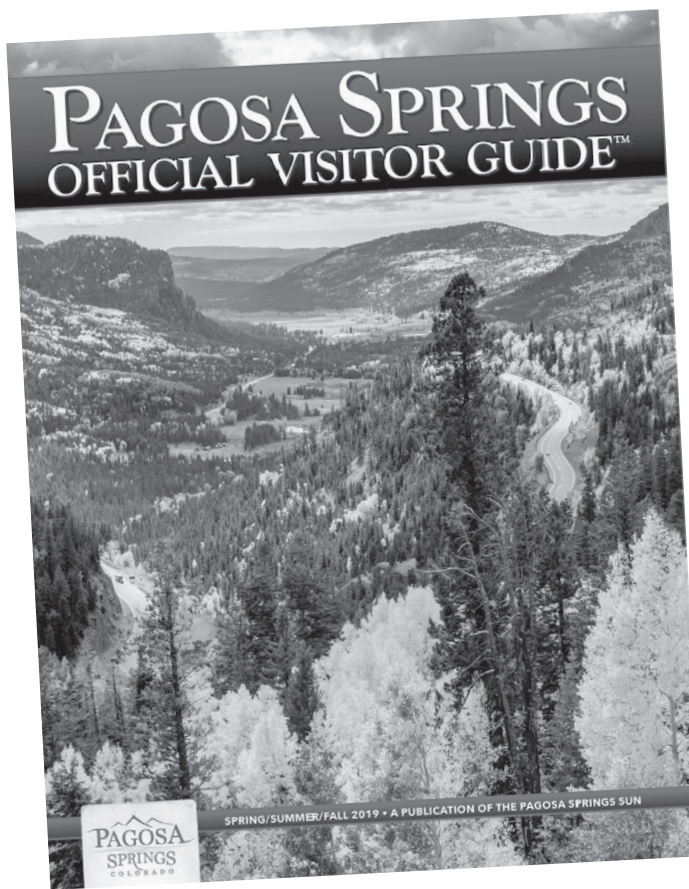
- Jan. 14 at 6 p.m.: Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association, 230 Port Ave., Pagosa Springs. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/86872549133>.

- Jan. 15 at 6 p.m.: San Juan Basin Public Health, 281 Sawyer Drive, Ste. 300, Durango. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/87349178745>.

Additional workshops will be offered in Durango, Bayfield and Pagosa Springs in late January and February; check sjbpublichealth.org/radon for the updated workshop schedule.

Workshop participants will receive as many free short-term radon test kits as they need and the confidence to use them correctly. Preregistration is strongly encouraged; individuals can preregister for a workshop at the Eventbrite links above.

More information can be found at sjbpublichealth.org/radon/ or call 335-2060.



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Goals & Accomplishments

Pagosa Springs Medical Center, USJHSD

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.

Greg Schulte, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Upper San Juan Health Service District



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2019?

I'd first like to say that any accomplishments for the Upper San Juan Health Service District (more commonly known as Pagosa Springs Medical Center) is the result of the wonderful team of folks at the medical center. The Board of Directors is grateful for all their hard work and dedication.

This past year was one of increased stability and refinement of our business practices. Significant accomplishments for 2019 are: Increasing our cash on hand required by our bond covenants, reducing expenses where possible, and increasing the efficiency and accuracy of our billing practices.

Also, in this day of low unemployment and a transitory workforce, we are fortunate to have a very stable employee base, particularly among the medical providers, so that we may provide quality and consistent care with people familiar to the our community.

Finally, I'd like to note we have met all milestones for the State of Colorado's new Hospital

Transformation Program (HTP) and that Pagosa Springs Medical Center is seen as a leader in this effort, representing rural, critical access hospitals. It's hard to understate the amount of change and upheaval in the health care industry and the impact it will have - particularly on rural hospitals and clinics.

What are your three top goals for 2020?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

As noted in our statement last year, we were fortunate to receive a \$911,000 matching grant from the state Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for a new HVAC system for the hospital portion of our campus. We had intended to perform the work in 2019, but due to logistics and timing issues, we had to defer the project to early 2020. At our last meeting, the Board approved the contract to proceed with the project, which expected to start

in February 2020.

Another goal is to continue to improve our business and billing practices so that we may be efficient as possible. Furthermore, as noted earlier, the health care industry is in a state of great change nationwide, but particularly in Colorado. It is change that needs to happen as health care in the United States is broken. We need to stay abreast of the proposed changes and give our input to the policy makers so that we can continue to provide the best and most affordable care for our community.

Last, I feel we need to make additional efforts to educate our community about the services we provide, but also our structure and how we operate. All hospitals and clinics are not the same. We are a community hospital that is a Special District and not comparable to other medical centers. By receiving a mill levy, the community does invest in us and we invest back into the community.

We look forward to 2020 and we offer our best wishes for health and peace in the New Year!

Dr. Rhonda Webb, CEO, Pagosa Springs Medical Center



What are your three biggest accomplishments of 2019?

We have had steady staffing of physicians and advanced practice providers, with no turnover. This can be difficult to do in a rural area. In addition, we added a new service of having a full-time onsite Radiology Specialist, Dr. Jessica Cox, further integrating our services. Dr. Cox is able to work closely with our physicians and advanced practice providers so the appropriate testing is performed, minimizing radiation exposure. In addition, she can perform biopsies in a timely fashion when abnormalities are found.

More hospitals have closed in 2019 than in any previous year. We have been able to grow revenue and reduce expenses, making our young rural health system more financially secure. The healthcare payment model is going to change and PSMC needs to be as sound as possible to

be ready for this change.

We continue to support our award-winning EMS/Ambulance service. The ambulances are now outfitted with state of the art Lucas CPR devices to respond to emergencies in our 1800 square mile service district. Our emergency personnel continue to train the public in CPR, Stop the Bleed, and the use of AED's (Automated External Defibrillators). In addition we are working with the County, Town, and Fire District to further improve first response, including all of our roles in 911 Dispatch.

What are your three top goals for 2020?

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

We plan to update our existing Strategic Plan, preparing us better for the next 2-5 years, and

what lies ahead in healthcare. We want to continue to increase awareness of prevention of disease and wellness of our population, while providing services for those with illness and injury.

The HVAC construction project is also a top priority. We were able to get DOLA grant funding for ½ of the 1.8 million dollars in cost. We will continue to watch other expenses closely so that this much needed equipment upgrade can occur starting in January.

In 2020, we plan to continue the 2019 efforts to make us more financially stable in order to reinvest in our services, equipment, and infrastructure.

As I near the end of the second year as CEO, I remain amazed at the tremendous amount of community support, and grateful for our employees, Board, and those that worked so hard in the past to get PSMC where it is today.

EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

Growing bulbs indoors for winter color

By Sherie Caffey and Robin Young
SUN Columnist

Bulbs are so beautiful and give such a pop of color in the spring. Did you buy bulbs this fall that you never got planted? Or maybe you just want to give a new indoor gardening project a try? If so, you can try forcing your bulbs to bloom indoors. It's fun, will bring some winter color to your home and cure your winter gardening blues. If you don't have bulbs left over from the fall, you can order some from an online retailer or see if a local gardening store has any left over.

Paperwhites are very easy to grow indoors. They don't need to be refrigerated and take only about six weeks to bloom after planting. Place them in a bulb pan with a couple inches of soil, pointy end up. Then cover them to about half way with more soil and water them. You can also do this with no soil and just a pan of water. Place the pan in a cool, dark room until you see growth, and then move them to a room with light. PlantTalk script

No. 1322 has more information on paperwhites.

Amaryllis are very popular around the holiday season and are easy to grow indoors, too. They like a small pot, so choose one that is about an inch taller than your bulb and a couple of inches wider. Plant the bulb so that about half of it is sticking out of the soil. Water it once and then not again until you see it starting to grow. Start watering and fertilizing regularly, and you should have blooms soon. Cut the flower stalk off once the blooms fade and keep watering the leaves if you want to have it again next year. See PlantTalk script No. 1303 for more information on re-blooming your amaryllis.

For other bulbs such as tulips, hyacinths and crocus, you will need to give them a chilling period before they will bloom. Plant the same variety in one pot so they all have the same chilling times. Place a loose layer of soil in the bottom of a pot. For a 6-inch pot, you can usually fit about six tulips, three hyacinths or 15 crocus bulbs. The pointy side of the bulb should be

facing up. Add more soil so that the bulbs are about halfway exposed. Water your bulbs and don't let the soil become dry from here on out.

Now your pots will need to move into a dark, cold place for a while. Try an unheated garage, attic, basement or refrigerator. Don't let them freeze or dry out. Tulips will need to chill for 14-20 weeks, hyacinths for 10-14 weeks and crocus for 14-15 weeks. Bring your pots in after they have chilled and they should bloom within a month. Start them off in a cooler (50-60 degrees Fahrenheit) room at first and then move them a warmer room after a week or so. Read more about forcing bulbs in PlantTalk script No. 1319.

Some bulbs are easy to bloom inside; some take a little more effort. Either way, it will be worth it when you have beautiful blooms in your home during the off-season.

Sherie Caffey is the CSU Extension-Pueblo County Horticulture 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 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.

Local groups tout free and low-cost weatherization programs for homeowners

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Last month, representatives from three area nonprofits came to Pagosa Housing Partners' Community Talk to discuss free to low-cost programs that help residents weatherize their home.

The panel included:

- Molly Morris, program manager for 4CORE.

- Marcy Child, weatherization program director for Housing Resources of Western Colorado (HRWC).
- Lori Hendricksen, executive director for Habitat for Humanity Archuleta County.

Each panel member outlined free and low-cost programs their organizations offer, which include:

- 4CORE offers a free home energy audit, installation of energy efficiency upgrades through its CARE program, which stands for Colorado Affordable Residential Energy Program. This program is available for area residents that are at or below 80 percent of the area median income.

- 4CORE also offers (with no income requirements) affordable energy audits, energy efficiency coaching and can coordinate low-cost financing options for energy upgrades through its EnergySmart program.

- HRWC, in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office, offers energy audits, insulation, furnace replacement, refrigerator replacement, air leak sealing and other services through their weatheriza-

tion program. There are income requirements to qualify for the program.

- Habitat for Humanity Archuleta County offers options for families to construct a new home and qualify for a mortgage. Habitat Archuleta also has a "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" program which coordinates repairs for local homeowners.

Hendricksen explained some examples of repairs include fixing a rotten floor, replacing a broken water heater or doing cosmetic upgrades on the exterior of homes.

Hendricksen also noted the Neighbors Helping Neighbors program relies heavily on volunteers and urged the public to volunteer with the program.

Vickerstaff asked the panel what the most common energy efficiency issues were that the organizations had seen around the region.

"In our program, insulation and air sealing is the most cost-effective thing you can do in a home," Child said.

Morris explained that ensuring that a home is air-sealed from the environment is generally an efficient first step in reducing energy costs.

More information about these programs can be found at the following websites:

- 4CORE, fourcore.org
- HRWC, hrwc.org
- Habitat for Humanity Archuleta County, habitatarchuleta.org

john@pagosasun.com

By Kay Kaylor
SUN Columnist

For San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA), I am not only a part-time long-term care ombudsman, advocating for residents at Pine Ridge, a 24-hour extended care home, and BeeHive, an assisted living residence. I also am an aging and disability resource specialist and Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) and State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselor. Infor-

mation on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

The Southwest Center for Independence (SWCI) in Durango is another nonprofit agency that provides resources for the five counties in this region. Its mission follows: "People with disabilities providing supports and training for the disability and elder communities to live well in southwest Colorado."

The staff offers information, independent living skills training, advocacy, peer counseling and transition

services for people in nursing homes and youth. Based on need, SWCI also has low vision, transportation and employment services.

Recently, the center has held classes and workshops, with a few remaining in January, on Thursday afternoons in the Durango Public Library. The series is titled "Living Your Best Life with Disabilities."

The agency and other sponsors are also planning for the fourth annual ability summit, "Building an Inclusive Community," on March 12,

focusing on barriers to community inclusion. The 60-minute sessions are intended for youth and adults with disabilities, their families and support professionals.

For more information on SWCI, see swindependence.org or call 259-1672 to talk to an independent living specialist.

SJBAAA offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare. For further information, please call me at 264-0501, ext. 1 or send an email to adrc@sjbaaa.org.

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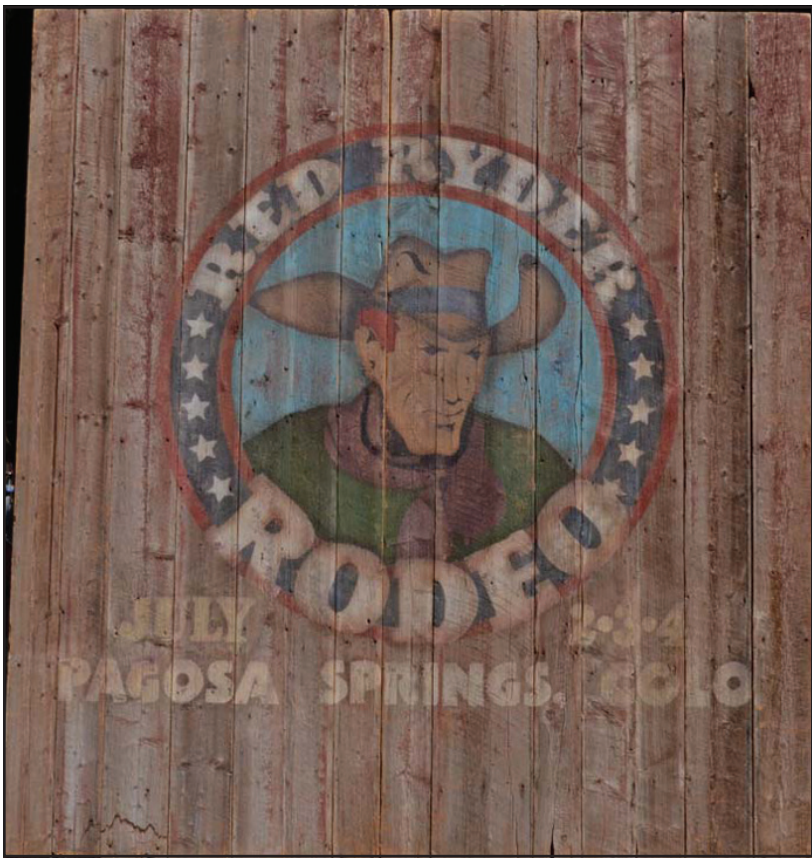


Photo courtesy Don Hale

Do you know where this painting was originally located? It is believed the sign, which is about 8.5 feet square, was painted on the side of a structure in Pagosa Springs. The sign was eventually purchased in Los Angeles in 1975. If you have information or photos of the original location, please email editor@pagosasun.com.



Photos courtesy Renea Smith

The Golden Apple Award winners at Pagosa Springs Elementary School for November are Veronica Mansker and Stacy Lewis. They were chosen by other staff members for going above and beyond in all they do.

Sign up now for Incredible Years Parenting Class

By Michelle Carpenter
Special to The SUN

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

The parenting class will be offered on Monday nights from 5:30 to 8 p.m. for 14 weeks, starting Monday, Jan. 20, at Seeds of Learning. A free dinner will be provided for the entire family and there will be free child care.

The Incredible Years Parenting class will help strengthen children's social skills, emotional regulation and school readiness skills. You will learn to use praise and incentives to encourage cooperative behav-

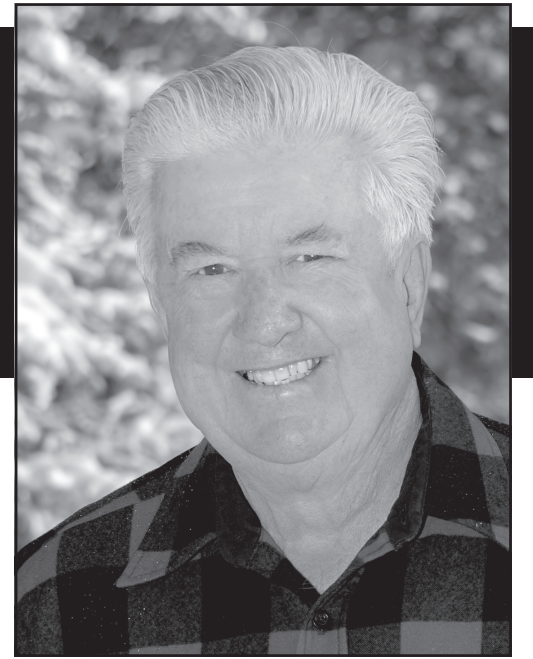
ior, learn to use positive discipline (rules, routines and effective limit setting) as well as learn how to best handle misbehaviors.

A local father said, "At first, I was not all that eager to give up another night of my free time for 14 weeks, but over time, the other class members became such good friends. I realized I wasn't the only parent having the same struggles with my children. I was astounded at the degree of effectiveness from the class. My son was responding very positively to the techniques I had learned and began implementing at home. This class became a weekly meeting that I looked forward to each week as a positive gathering of friends."

If you have any questions about the class or would like to register, please call Michelle Carpenter at 946-0664 or Lynne Bridges at 264-5513. Call soon as class size is limited.

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Hi, My name is Lee Riley and I work for Jann C. Pitcher Real Estate, I am an expert in my field, and I have been helping Pagosa families buy and sell Pagosa real estate for over 30 years. I'd love to work with you!

Here are some comments from a few of my buyers and sellers:

I've bought and sold a fair amount of property over the past 35 years and worked with numerous Realtors in the process. By far, the recent sale of my land holdings south of Pagosa Springs has been my best real estate transaction experience. This sale was handled by Mr. Lee Riley of Jann C. Pitcher Real Estate. **Lee guided me through all the steps**, from property evaluation to final sales contract — without a single hitch. Within days after the property listing, I had multiple offers on the 60-acre parcel. Efficient, pleasant and easy to work with, instant and timely communication along the way, knowledgeable to the finest detail, **Lee has been the "professional" to work with.**

— Tom Katon

Lee was nothing short of fantastic. We've bought lots of houses and this experience far exceeded all of them. **Lee's professionalism and effort is unparalleled.**

— Ken and Carrie Leroux

Randy and I want to thank you for providing us with **good old-fashioned customer service.** Every time we had a question or concern on the sale of our vacation home you provided ease of mind for both of us ... We can see why you're an award winner in your market.

— Randy & Ruth Henkes

Absolutely wonderful and **very professional** from start to finish. **Lee is incredible at his job** and so are the employees there. They are always right on top of everything. Flawless!

— Joseph & Diana Rainer

Lee is an amazing agent who always answers his phone and has a team always available to assist. He makes **your real estate goals a priority.** I definitely felt like my agent had my best interest in mind.

— Stephanie Harley

Lee Riley did a great job in helping us to sell our home. Lee's **action-oriented style, communication skills and willingness to go the extra mile made all the difference.** When we thought we had lost our buyer, Lee found a friendly way to continue the conversation. This ultimately led to a sale with a happy seller and a happy buyer.

— Brian Camastral

Very professional. I knew what to expect ahead of time and was **kept informed at every step of the way.** One of the smoothest closings/sales I've been involved in!

— Yvette Gonzales

We've been involved with two purchases with Lee, and now a sale. His advice was right on target, and he took care of many details that we feel went **above and beyond the call of duty.** We really appreciate his no nonsense, get-it-done approach.

— Rich and Lynne

When I talked with Lee in passing about what I was looking for **he went out of his way to find it.** I needed specific budget and requirements and he met them all. My daughter is so excited to have her own room finally and a puppy! A special thank you to Lee for making this happen at the perfect time and price!

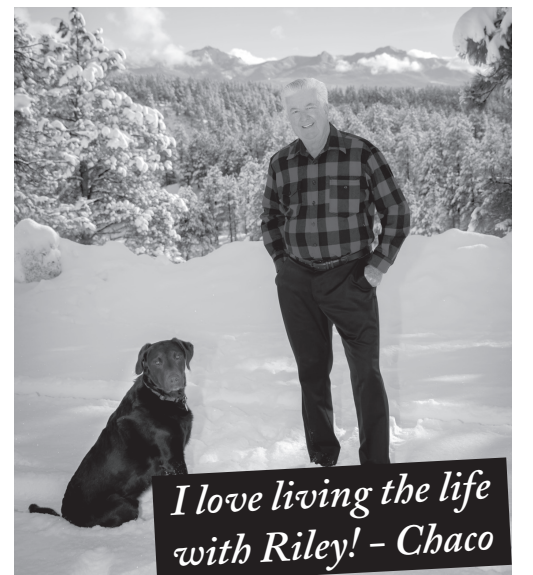
— Darlene Craig

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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Cabin Fever Festival, bonfire

Jan. 18 • 4 p.m. • Along Hot Springs Boulevard



Photo courtesy T Jay Carter

January 9, 2020

Cabin Fever Festival, bonfire set for Jan. 18



Photo courtesy T Jay Carter

This year's Cabin Fever Festival, set for Jan. 18, will feature a bigger bonfire that in its first year, as well as food trucks, libations, music and more. Christmas trees are being accepted at the drop site on Hot Springs Boulevard in advance of the festival.

By Michael Whiting
Special to The PREVIEW

On Jan. 18 at 4 p.m. along Hot Springs Boulevard, will be Pagosa's one and only original bonfire. Year two. Totally free event.

New and improved, there will be a bigger bonfire, multiple food trucks, libations of every sort and good beer. DJ Prophecy is providing the great sound waves.

We have heaters and less mud this year, too.

We are also planning to have disc golf tossing, a fat bike demo and a ski thing.

All proceeds from food, drink and donations go to your local nonprofit bouldering gym.

Bring your retired Christmas tree down with you or before the event.

Hot Springs Boulevard — follow the signs.

Donations are encouraged to support our bouldering gym.

The big burn is coming. Add to the pyre. Don't forget to drop off your Christmas tree at Pagosa's official drop-off site on Hot Springs Boulevard, just south of the Bank of the San Juans. Or, bring it to the fest if you want.

For more information, call 946-2422.



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Coyote Moon Bar and Grill: Karaoke with Lisa Saunders, 9 p.m.
Motel SOCO El Camino Lounge: Mathew Marcus McDaniel, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday
Motel SOCO El Camino Lounge: Robert Kuhn Band, 3 p.m.

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Genealogical Society to hear about Silverton mines

By Carolyn Paschal
Special to The PREVIEW

The history of the many mines around Silverton will be the topic of the presentation by Dean Cox at the Jan. 11 meeting of the Archuleta County Genealogical Society. By necessity, the topic has been changed from railroads around Pagosa Springs, as previously reported, to mines around Silverton.

Dreams of adventure and wealth brought many people to

Silverton in the late 1800s, with the prospect of finding gold and silver in the area. The town exploded in population while thousands of mines erupted around the town. Cox is a fourth-generation native of Pagosa Springs, has residences in both Pagosa and Silverton, and is very knowledgeable about the his-

torical significance of the Silverton area mines.

The meeting will be held on Jan. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Visitors are always welcome.

Please contact April Holthaus at 946-0089 for more information.

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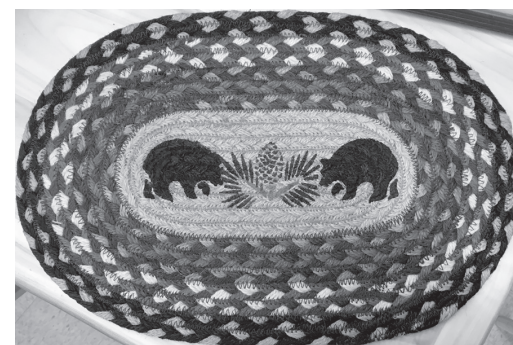
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Photo courtesy Linda Parker

Join the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir on Monday, Jan. 13, at 4:45 p.m. to tie a scarf and “Keep Pagosa Warm.”

Pagosa Springs Girls Choir invites community to ‘Keep Pagosa Warm’

By Linda Parker
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir (PSGC) will again be participating in its annual “Keep Pagosa Warm” event to help those in need stay warm during the cold winter months.

On Monday, Jan. 13, at 4:45 p.m., the members of the Girls Choir will take warm scarves and tie them to the fence located directly across U.S. 160 from Pagosa Springs

Middle School. Each scarf will have a note attached to encourage those who need a warm scarf to take it with them with the girls’ best wishes. The note will read, “I am not lost. If you are cold, take me with you, and I will keep you warm.”

The PSGC is inviting the community to join in this event. Simply bring a warm scarf to the location on Jan. 13 and tie your scarf with the others. Some folks bring hats and gloves or mittens in a plastic bag and tie them to the fence as well.

“This is a great opportunity to teach the girls about giving while helping our brothers and sisters in need,” said PSGC Director Linda Parker. “This community has been so good to the choir and generous in their giving, we want to give back to the community. All our scarves, hats and gloves are taken every year, and we are grateful for the opportunity to help those who need warm them. It’s simple to do and it teaches our girls about supporting their community. We’re hoping that others will join us and

cover the entire fence with warm scarves. We want scarves in good condition, new or gently used. Everyone has clothing that they don’t wear or need any more that can be utilized by others. It’s already been cold this season and nothing feels as good as a warm snuggly scarf when the sun goes down and the temperature starts to dip.”

Please mark Monday, Jan. 13, on your calendar. We’ll see you at the fence directly across from the middle school at 4:45 p.m. and we’ll “Keep Pagosa Warm.”

Pagosa Peak Open School to present ‘Coffeehouse Night’ tonight

By Alison Beach
Special to The PREVIEW

Please join Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) on Jan. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. for the second installment of our “Coffeehouse Night” series.

Each concert will feature local musicians and poets and a selection of coffees, teas, cocoa and baked goods, for your aural and alimentary entertainment. The Jan. 9 Coffeehouse guests will include Chris Haas, Jen Tuggle, Charles Martinez, Keith Bruno and Kyle Siesser, Rain March, Dean Sanna and Alison Beach.

Suggested donation: \$10 individual or \$20 for a family.

All donations and profits from drinks and baked goods will benefit PPOS, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. PPOS is a tuition-free public charter school serving Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

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Sunday Night Unplugged to kick off 11th year on Jan. 19

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

Guest artists Paul Roberts and Jessica Peterson will kick off the 11th year of Sunday Night Unplugged on Sunday evening, Jan. 19, at 5 p.m. (Please note the date change.) Sunday Night Unplugged began in 2009 as an attempt to offer a time and setting for people to reflect, pray and meditate.

“We weren’t entirely sure about the shape of the service when we began, but we thought we would try to design it around the style of the Taizé service, a service begun in France,” said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick’s. “Over the years, it has come into its own. We have tweaked the format here and there over the years, but for the most part, the service of music, meditation, silence, readings and prayers seems to fulfill the need.”

Artists from around the community offer to play for this unique service. They bring not only their musical talent, but their own spiritual gifts to add to the ambiance.

Roberts and Peterson have been regular artists for Sunday Night Unplugged over the years, offering their delicate balance of strings and flute. Roberts is an accomplished musician who owns and plays a wide variety of unusual stringed instruments, flutes and drums. Flutist Peterson is a versatile musician as well, offering her skills not only on the traditional flute, but on Native American flute, Irish flute, ocarina and more. Together, their music brings a beauty and charm that promotes a peaceful listening opportunity.

The decorations add a lovely meditative visual as well. Candles not only bring a soft warmth to the lighting, but also are lit to symbolize individual prayers as participants are moved to do so. The altar is the main focal point and is decorated with beautiful flower arrangements, statues, pottery or even musical instruments, depending on the theme for the service. St. Patrick’s is also known for its beautiful clear glass transept windows that provide a spectacular view of the mountains and the

forest.

“The wonderful thing about Sunday Night Unplugged is that it is non-denominational,” said Neel. “People from all over town, regardless of their religious preferences, find that the service is very ‘user-friendly.’ We do read a Psalm, have a short scripture reading as well as a non-scripture reading, and say prayers, but the majority of the time is spent in silence and

“The wonderful thing about Sunday Night Unplugged is that it is non-denominational,” said Fr. Doug Neel.

listening to beautiful music. It is personal time.”

He added, “I can’t tell you how many people have told me how important this time is for them. It offers a time for reflection, a time to get away from the day-to-day routine, a time to sit and be with God. The fact that the service has continued for 11 years and is still well attended says that there is a need for this in our world. I’m happy we can provide that for our community.”

St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church

is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The public is invited to attend Sunday Night Unplugged free of charge. For more information, call 731-5801.

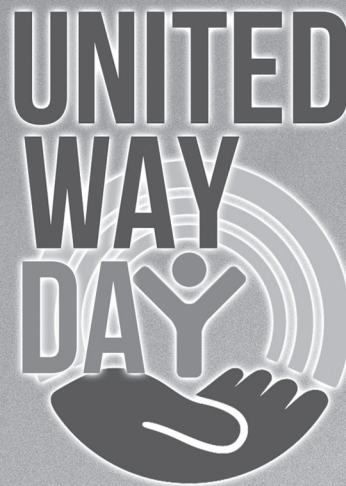
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Unleash your creativity at weekly hand-drumming class

By Paul Roberts
Special to The PREVIEW

Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a free hand-drumming class at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at noon. The purpose of this class is to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to unleash their creativity. No previous experience is necessary. Drums are provided for those who do not have one.

“I regretted that music fell away as I became an adult,” said Pam Guiden. “Years later, after moving to Pagosa, I was surprised to get back to it in a very different way. When my husband and I moved here a year and a half ago, I began looking for ways to get out and learn about the community — to get involved, see new faces and do new things. Reading an article in The SUN about the drumming class, I thought, ‘Well, I’ve never tried this before, but, what the heck, let’s give it a whirl.’ What I discovered was that I really, really enjoyed it.”

She continued: “I was very involved in music as a young child, growing up in Fort Wayne, Ind., and began piano in the first grade, then started French horn in fourth grade. I went pretty far with the French horn, playing in bands and orchestras, the community symphony and a small group ensemble at a university. I did one semester of concert band at Indiana University, but studies as a nursing major took precedence. Later, as I began working as a community health nurse, I did not have enough time to devote to the instrument, although I did get a chance to play with the Kan-



Photo courtesy Paul Roberts

Pam Guiden, who moved to Pagosa Springs about a year and a half ago, began attending the local hand-drumming class as a way to learn more about her new community, and found out she enjoyed delving back into music.

sas community band for a couple of years.”

Working as a community health nurse for 34 years, Guiden’s career path has led to numerous opportunities to use her clinical knowledge and experience to design and implement a wide range of wellness-promoting programs in nonclinical settings in the U.S. and other countries. Working as a public health nurse in schools, she has been impressed by the potential music has to promote learning and growth.

“I had a chance to see how children really respond to music and how you can integrate that in the classroom, and involve different parts of their brain. It makes the day a better day when the teachers include music as an activity.

■ See Creativity on next page

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Thingamajig Theatre Company's Tim Moore setting off on cross-country casting trip

By Carole Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

The phenomenal success of Thingamajig Theatre Company at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts since its opening in April 2011 has depended on many factors, not the least of which is the genius of its co-founders, the husband and wife team of Tim Moore, producing artistic director, and Laura Moore, executive director.

They have an uncanny ability to consistently produce intelligent, entertaining and timely shows with humor, heartache, great storytelling and extraordinary music. But if you ask Tim Moore how to produce a good show, he will say simply, "We need nothing more than great actors telling a story the best way they can."

So, how does Tim Moore find and identify talented actors to come to Pagosa Springs to perform for local audiences and out-of-town visitors?

For starters, he has a unique ability to quickly size up not only an individual actor's skills in the areas of acting, singing and dancing, but also to assess how each one will fit into the various roles in the

upcoming season and meld into a cohesive theatrical team, recognizing that each actor plays parts in four different shows.

Summer 2020 musicals

A look at this summer's musicals and Tim Moore's travel schedule over the next month explains how he builds a successful season and then carefully casts the actors, singers, dancers and designers who bring it to life.

He will be casting the four Broadway hits that will make up the summer 2020 musical season: "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" is a Tony award-winning Victorian melodrama. "Bright Star" is a drama featuring country bluegrass music composed by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell. "Wizard of Oz" is an adaptation by Andrew Lloyd Webber of the classic film. "Godspell," based on the Gospel of Matthew, was nominated for a Tony for best original score.

Tomorrow, he is setting off on a rigorous travel itinerary from Jan. 10 through Feb. 11 that will take him to tried-and-true audition venues as well as some new ones in his search for the best possible

performers for these shows.

Moore's casting venues

As the theater capital of the USA, New York City provides a wealth of recruiting opportunities for Thingamajig. As always, Tim Moore has set up multiple private auditions. He also will audition for the first time at the A1 Conference and at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Manhattan, as well as at Wagner College on Long Island.

Among Thingamajig's distinguished New York City alumni are Dennis Elkins, Melissa Firlit, Craig Dolezel, Philip Eng, Kenny Tran, Robert Rice, David Dines, Rachael Valencich, Bear Manescalchi, Melissa Melendez, Serita Amani Nash, Sheldon Steele III, Shugah Henry, Halley Daigle, Aaron Catano, Bailey

■ See Casting on next page

Creativity

■ continued from previous page

Kids really tend to light up when they participate in making music. They just really blossom with that. I think a lot of children don't have much exposure to music-making at home, but I think it's really important to get that foundation in, as much as you can, in their earlier years, and give them an exposure, an interest, a building block.

"I think we're just at the edge of understanding what a beneficial capacity music can have to promote learning and growth, as a different path to the brain, a different way to engage. I like the idea of making music a cradle to grave opportunity."

She added, "I think Paul's drumming class is an unusual opportunity to have in a relatively small mountain community. Being able to express and create and flow — it kind of wipes your mind clean

and lets you move on, in a way. I'm really impressed to have that freedom, that creative expression. You can't do anything wrong. You have to get out of your head. You have to let your inhibitions down a little bit, relax and play. Also, I think when you have the opportunity to express yourself musically, that sets up a tremendous opportunity for stress reduction.

"It's a shared experience, which is relationship building, a unique opportunity. At least a couple drum circles have sprouted off the Pagosa drumming class, so it's creating a ripple, a wave. I see a lot of potential benefits and applicability for this type of free-form, expressive and creative musical experience."

For more information about the hand-drumming class, call 731-3117. The Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse is located at 230 Port Ave.

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Casting

■ continued from previous page

Claffey, April Lillard, Daniela Delahuerta, Marcus Rocio, Kat Macari, Justin Hofstand, Adam Sowards, Charlie Tingen, Sheldon Steele, Corinne Holland, Corey Price, Jocelyn Lonquist, Helen Regula, Hannah Zilber, Alex Johnson, Abbey Kane, Ian Lah, Audrey Crocker and Robert Lee Poole III.

Another stop will be the Unified Performing Theatre Auditions in Memphis, Tenn. Known as UPTAs, this venue has been a guaranteed source of impressive talent for Thingamajig over the years because every February it brings theater, cruise ship and other artistic recruiters together over four days with close to a thousand professional performers looking for creative work.

NSU provides unique talent

Moore also will travel to Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSU), perhaps the least known and yet best source of huge talent for Thingamajig.

Over the years, 16 brilliant and highly popular NSU actors, directors and choreographers have graced Thingamajig's stage: Ryan Hazelbaker, Taylor Marrs, Alisha Munds, Marion Bienvenu, Pia Wyatt, Tyler Price Robinson, Samantha Rohr, Asher Van Meter, Emily Ricalde, Trevor Brown, Rayshaughn Armant, Rosa Campbell, Jessi Miller, Jesse McFarland, Cassidy Giddens and Andrew Lewis.

"I've been thoroughly impressed with how professional the NSU students, graduates and teachers are," Tim Moore said. "They are serious, prepared and tireless in their execution of performance art — certainly some of the most passionate, well-trained artists in today's market."

Actors enjoy working in Pagosa

"We've grown from very humble beginnings almost 10 years ago to become an invaluable live theater company in this region with a growing national reputation and a supportive patron base that is second to none," Tim Moore said. "The word is out among the auditioning actors that Thingamajig is a great place to work because of the professional environment and the warm welcome they receive from the Friends of the Theatre and other patrons and supporters of Thingamajig."

"Living in the new actors house also is a huge plus, given that it was built especially for them. And Pago-



Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 10, Thingamajig Theatre Company's Tim Moore will set off on a rigorous month-long travel itinerary that will take him to tried-and-true audition venues as well as some new ones in his search for the best performers for the four Broadway hits that will make up the summer 2020 musical season.

sa's spectacular setting and scenery are big selling points as well."

Added Laura Moore: "Even in our wildest dreams we didn't imagine how quickly this amazing community would jump on board with their support and loyalty. It can only get better as we approach our 10th anniversary."

Thingamajig is an award-winning professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and around the world to perform and produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

Shuttle to Wolf Creek!

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Sugar or bitter pill?

“I love this family. Thank you for letting me be a part of it,” said a friend.

“It takes a lot of grace to maintain a family.”

Lynne comes for a visit a couple of times a year. Her favorite time is during the holidays. At our house, that is the time when we all come together. For our friend Lynne, that is the time for her to witness camaraderie, commando style. (When a small fighting force makes quick destructive raids against others.)

Whether someone is throwing a biscuit across the dinner table or bringing up someone’s latest life’s-most-embarrassing moment, mealtime is family time. Something you can relish, lest you avoid it all together.

After we bless the food, we pass around the dry humor followed by a mix of quick wit. The silver plated entrée? Honesty! There is always enough to serve two good helpings, with leftovers.

If you didn’t know better, you would swear there was nothing but a lot of noise on our menu. For Lynne, it’s “Mi Familia! Realness” in every sense: speaking out of turn, no nets and no filters.

Over the years, we have learned how far we can push each other, even when it is just in fun. But be forewarned, spectators are not allowed. If you have a seat at the table, you better bring an appetite. After the amuse-bouche, service begins.

We laugh about everything. There was the time when we were stranded while out of town because someone forgot to book the hotel room. Then there was the time my Sweet Al’s 83-year-old brother said he had to go shopping in Las Vegas, only to find out that he was on a date in Scottsdale.

For dessert, we served up a

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



Somewhere between the clanking of the dishes and the rattling of tongues, I am reminded that not all family gatherings are so sweet.

video call with my daughter and son-in-law in Southern California. And, then we laughed some more.

At one point, Lynne said she wanted to record our dinner conversations because she was so entertained. For this household, it was just another chance to appreciate one another.

Somewhere between the clanking of the dishes and the rattling of tongues, I am reminded that not all family gatherings are so sweet. We have certainly had to stomach our share of rotten apples and sour milk over the years. Who hasn’t? Maybe that is why we laugh so much today.

Our nightcap was served fire-side, the perfect time and place for an afterglow. Lynne reminded me about the purity of truth. If used unmeasured, it can spoil the mix. If we are not mindful, conversations can be painful, like pouring salt in a wound.

In ancient Hebrew society, salt was discovered to be a seasoning, a preservative, even a disinfectant.

Spending time with my family and friends has taught me how important it is not to disguise reality, but to let it enhance me.

What is more pleasant when breaking bread? Serving up a conversation that is flavorful, nonperishable and with healing properties. Or, stirring the hash, which produces nothing more than a tasteless bowl of mush.

Final brushstroke: Walking in grace after experiencing life is wisdom, at least David thought so. He wrote in Psalm 90:12, “Teach us to realize the brevity of life ...” It is, after all, like sweetening your breath after digesting a bitter pill. You don’t have to do it, but it makes moments more palatable.

Readers’ comments

Send your comment to betty@bettyslade.com.



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How did I get here from there?

Quien sabe? That's Spanish for who knows, you know? It is time to make New Year's resolutions, you know, for the year 2020. I wish that number was a description of my eyesight.

As I stare cogitatingly into my computer screen, the question stirring up the cogitation demands



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

to know, how did I get here from there? How did this brown-eyed, 10-pound baby boy born in 1934 midst the dust bowl devastation then called Kansas end up here in Pagosa Springs, Colo.? More than half of my four score and five years have ticked off here in the Colorado Rockies. Even though you and I were launched from different pads, I'll bet you agree we have the same question drifting around in our upper thinking domicile: How did we get here?

An old quotation related to the topic at hand seems to be stowed in the minuscule remnant of my original thinking allotment. The quotation is from "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam," a Persian philosopher whose writings captured the attention of literary buffs throughout the western world many years ago. His best remembered poem, "The Moving Finger," points to the passing of time. One of its many

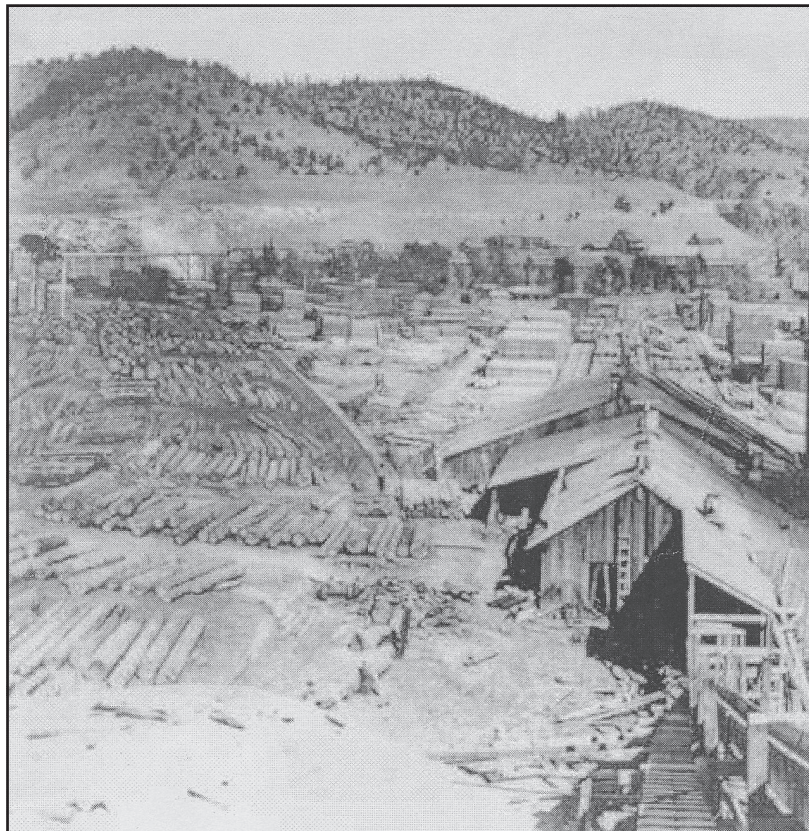


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Lumber was a big part of Pagosa Country's past, as represented in this photo of one of Alexander Sullenburger's mills.

translations reads, "The moving finger (of time) having writ moves on, and neither piety nor wit can change a line of it."

I see that moving finger pointing at my past. It's aimed at a freckled, shirtless and barefoot boy traipsing under the summer sun shining cheerfully down on a myriad of brightly colored wildflowers decorating the forested hills of

■ See Past on next page

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Take charge of your health at April 25 health fair

By Sheree Grazda
Special to The PREVIEW

Happy New Year's greetings, fellow Pagosans. Now that you are starting to fill your 2020 calendar, please be sure to highlight April 25 as the day you, your family and friends take charge of your health at the 40th annual 9Health Fair in Pagosa Springs.

Our event will run from 7 to 11 a.m. at Pagosa Springs High School, 800 S. 8th St.

There will be low-cost blood screenings, as well as free screenings for hearing, vision and spine, and the opportunity to speak one-on-one with several local physicians, nurse practitioners and other health and wellness providers.

Look forward to more articles in The Pagosa

Springs SUN about how you can take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

As always, this event is planned, coordinated and presented to our community by a dedicated group of over 150 medical and nonmedical volunteers, and supported by local businesses and statewide donors.

Would you consider taking a role in presenting this event to our community? We always welcome new volunteers and you can "walk alongside" experienced leaders who will share their particular job knowledge in our effort to continue to provide this valuable service.

For more information, please contact our local fair coordinator, Lorena Medina, by text or phone at (720) 372-0410, or by email at loremedina0817@gmail.com.

Past

■ continued from previous page

southern Oregon. It shows him dipping a blonde pig-tail belonging to a fellow student into an ink well decorating an old fashioned desk ensconced in a long forgotten, two-room country school resting under a sprawling oak tree in the rural community of New Hope, Ore., a school featuring 32 students spread across eight grades, all sitting in one room and under the one teacher living in the adjoining room.

The finger points at the source of the boy's freckles, a befreckled mother cooking the world's best fried chicken in a black, cast-iron skillet on her wood-burning kitchen range, the same range that heated the tub of bath water pumped from the well every Saturday and in which every one of the five kids remaining at home had to lather up with lye soap and scrub and scrub, even behind the ears, until clean. She was the classical mother hen knitting stocking hats, socks, mittens and sweaters for her entire brood.

As I sit here in front of the computer glancing down at my \$150

cowboy boots, the finger points again at mom, with the five kids who remain under the home roof lined up, each taking their turn, each with a calloused bare foot on the piece of cardboard upon which the foot was traced to determine its size. The tracings were sent to "Monkey Wards" in time for mail order shoes, costing maybe \$2 or \$3 a pair, to arrive by the time school started in the fall.

The searching finger moves on, finding a new picture of mom with her black hair tied in a bun at the back of her head, dipping a scrub board into a tub of water recently heated on the kitchen range, rubbing and rubbing the dirt from the multi-patched denim jeans, home-sewn plaid shirts, calico dresses, etc., that clothed her brood.

Again the finger swings around, pointing this time at my stepfather, clad in long johns and scratching his head as he rolls out of bed, strikes a match, lights the kitchen

range, puts the coffee pot on the back burner, shares a cup of coffee with mom, milks the cow and goats, and then with lunch box and thermos in hand, cranks up the family jalopy and bumps off down the dusty country road to the lumber mill where he stacks Oregon pine the rest of the day. Every day.

Wiping a hand across tear-redened eyes and shaking a balding head sadly, I realize, where there is, long gone, but never far from here.

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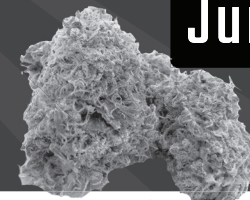


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A prayer for the new year

By Sami Fortin
Special to The PREVIEW

Lord, Prince of peace, spirit and truth:

Let all the world know that even if it all comes crashing down around them, those who are found in my presence will know “All is well.”

Truth is my new word for the coming year. How do I touch the world with truth? How can I make a difference? I feel so small and insignificant and yet you tell me I matter. In fact, you know the number of my days and you can count the hairs on my head and not one thing happens that you don't know about. You came into this world to call us out of it, not to be recluses, but to show others that you are the truth, the way and the life.

Father, help us to get out of our comfort zones and be in the right place at the right time to encourage one another. May we start this new year flaming into fire the gift you've given each of us to do. If we question what that looks like, we miss out on the gift. You're about doing good and that's what you want us to do, laying down our lives for others. Give us the strength to do just that. Go the extra mile, not only give our jacket, but our shirt, too. Put a generous heart in your people that they not only give out of their pocket book, but out of their time, also, knowing that we're covered by you. Grant us a bigger trust in the one who created us to do greater things than this.

Instead of making New Year's

A Matter of Faith

Truth is my new word for the coming year. How do I touch the world with truth? How can I make a difference?

resolutions, let us resolve to follow you more closely, read your word more diligently, be involved with your people that are earnestly working to make your world a better place, by sharing your love and forgiveness. Help us to go out of our way to show kindness, putting others before ourselves.

I don't have the answers for my neighbor's problems, but I know you do. Give us the right words, or just a smile or prayer at the right time. Give us a boldness to step out and share the good things you're

doing in our life. You say in your word, “Do not remember the past events, and pay no attention to the things of old. Look, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I make a way in the wilderness, rivers in the desert.” (Isaiah 43:18-19).

Let us walk in expectation of this new thing you're doing in our life by seeking joy beyond measure, being content in our circumstances; peace that passes understanding, by letting go of past hurts and rejections; love that knows no boundaries, by being kind to those who are hard to love.

Lord, I pray you'd give each of us a new word, one we can hold onto each year. Give us goals we can accomplish in your strength alone showing others the power in your Holy Spirit. It won't be us, but they will see you.

Help us to hold onto your promises and know (even if we doubt) that you love us and you have plans for us — plans for our welfare, not for disaster, to give us a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11). Make us strong and courageous and careful to obey all the wonderful laws you give us. This is the way to a wonderful life; filled with your spirit. As you make all things new, give us a greater hope that we will see goodness in the land of the living.

In Jesus name, amen.

We have no greater joy than to see our children walking in the truth. Won't you invite Him in today? I'll have to write again to share what I'm learning. Truth is my new word for the coming year.

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New Thought presentation: 'May the Force Be With You'

By Lisa Burnson
Special to The PREVIEW

"When you're matched up to the energy of peace and love, you regain the power of your source — that being the power to manifest your desires, to summon well-being and to attract abundance." —Dr. Wayne Dyer.

All are welcome to join New Thought Center for Inspirational Living (NTC) this Sunday, Jan. 12, at 10:30 a.m. for our presentation "May the Force Be With You." Embrace your gift of intuition and enlist your helpers, the angelic realms, and more within your heart. Our speaker will be Shayla White Eagle McClure.

Also on Sunday, Jan. 12, 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.

Upcoming events

Thursday, Jan. 9, 6 p.m.: Movie: "Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead," the story of a man who changed his life through better nutrition.

Saturday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m.: "Manifestation Magic" workshop.

Thursday, Jan. 16, 6 p.m.: "Fountain of Youth: Ancient Rites for Longevity."

Saturday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: "Increasing and Enhancing Your Natural Gift of Intuition."

Sunday, Jan. 19, 10:30 a.m.: "Opening Gateways in Your Life: 40 Day Manifestation."

Thursday, Jan. 23, 6 p.m.: "Forever Young: Better Health Through Nutritious Eating Habits."

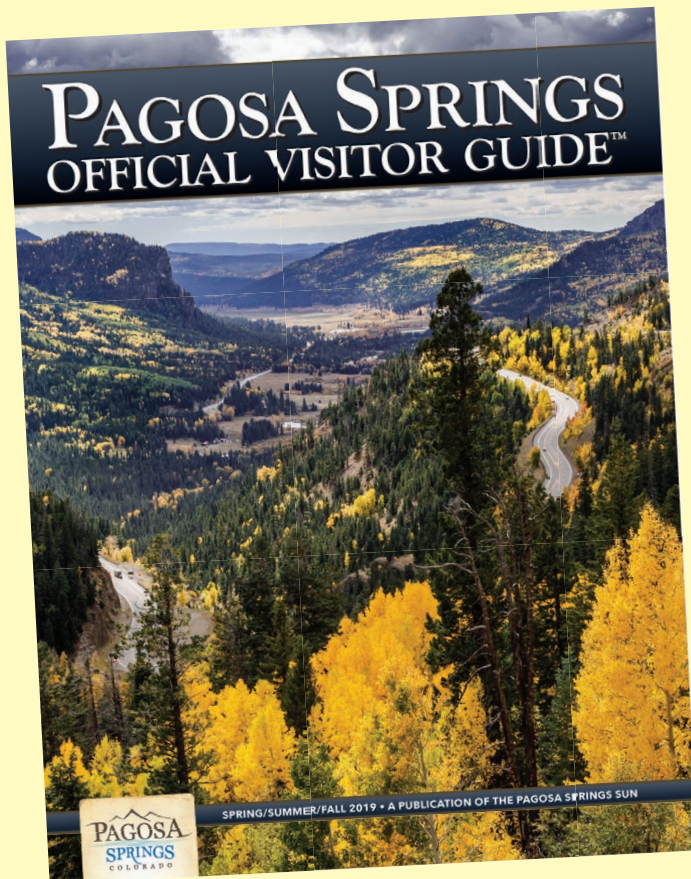
Please call NTC for more information about these events.

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.

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



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

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H C S K I I T D A T A M L H I Y C O D M
 L P K F I N E C U P M M N O T I M E I S
 E D G N L O G Z E S H E L V E S S N D N Z
 Z F C T L C S M I H G R O U P I N G S Z
 I K V T D N O I T A T N E S E R P G P I
 T T R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y G R Y T
 I T Y C I K S G E K M Y R B N Y O T C Y
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 A R Y K V G V E O K I R P Y G I O E I M
 P K O U G Z D D E N F S N L T R N G N R
 M A N A G E M E N T R F U P O Y O G G V

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ASSESSMENT
- CLUTTER
- DATA
- DEADLINES
- FILING
- GARBAGE
- GROUPINGS
- INSTRUCTION
- LEADERSHIP
- LISTENING
- MANAGEMENT
- NOTES
- ORGANIZED
- PRESENTATION
- PRIORITIZE
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- PROFESSIONAL
- RESPONSIBILITY
- SCHEDULE
- SHELVES
- SKILLS
- STORAGE
- TIME
- TRAINING

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from page 14**

ury 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.

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

CONNECT 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 at the end of the 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.

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. No registration required. Please check in at the front desk. Everyone will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis. This is a free legal clinic via computer link for parties who have no attorney. Volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for the legal issues in the areas of family law, civil litigation, property law, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, veteran's benefits and civil protection orders. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Wrestling: Rocky Mountain Duals. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Moonrise Cross-Country Ski Social.

Sunset, Cloman Nordic Park. Email PagosaNordic@gmail.com for more information.

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 Nordic Season Opener Race and the Southwest Nordic Race series (SWNRS) Opening Freestyle Event. 9 a.m.-noon, Cloman Nordic Park. Freestyle ski: Competitive 20k (SWNRS race), Citizens 5k, Youth 3k, KidsK race. Email PagosaNordic@gmail.com for more information.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 9:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Since it is the first of the year, annual dues will be collected and the classes for the year presented. Everyone is welcome.

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 mines around Silverton. Visitors welcome.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Sisson Library. For kids 6-12 years old.

We have the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Family Storytime: Puppetry. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Putting on a puppet show can be lots of fun. At this event not only will we use the library puppets to tell stories, we will also learn how to create puppets of our own from a variety of household objects. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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 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.

Stories to Tell Us. 2-3:30 p.m., Best Western Pagosa Lodge Overlook Room. An open group of individuals meeting each week to tell their life stories to one another. There are

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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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

Join us ...

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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New Year!
2020



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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

no age restrictions or prior writing experience required. Weekly topics are found on the Stories2TellUs.com website so attendees can come prepared.

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., 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.

PALS Adult Education. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency. GED, college prep, financial

aid, tutoring and more! Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Wellness Clinic. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center. Held by Tabitha Zappone, FNP-C.

Bridge for Fun. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 2 p.m., Senior Center.

Computer Class: Basic Website Design through WordPress. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn to create your own blog or basic website with WordPress.com. Explore how to navigate WordPress, make pages and posts, add photos and customize the appearance of your website. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Knitting Club. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For teens in the 4th grade to adults. Bring your knitting, crochet or needlepoint projects and hang out with other crafters. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.

Pagosa Springs Girls Choir: Keep Pagosa Warm. 4:45 p.m., across U.S. 160 from Pagosa Springs Middle School. The members of the choir will take warm scarves and tie them to the fence. Each scarf will have a note attached to encourage those who need a warm scarf to take it with them.

CPR Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension Office. Anyone needing to receive or renew

certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

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.

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Join us as we discuss upcoming issues with Greg Lopez, a politician who served as mayor of Parker.

Hand-Drumming Class. Noon, PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a hand-drumming class. All are welcome.

■ **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

Hand drums will be provided for those who don't have one. For further information, call 731-3117.

Men's PTSD Group. Noon-1:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church library. Focusing on resolving anger and conflict. Contact Vets for Vets at 507-3005 for more information.

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

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Ruby's Book Club' 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join our book club. We will discuss "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" by Lisa See. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Time for Tots. 2-3 p.m., Community Center. For 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.

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.

Pagosa Innovation Center. 5-7 p.m., Riff Raff on the Rio. A nonprofit

founded to transform a downtown building into a place that sparks pride and vitality and attracts entrepreneurs, visionaries, dreamers and economic developers to create, collaborate, learn, teach and thrive. It will be a home to meet, work, learn and collaborate in order to better grow and complete our incomplete business and economic development ecosystem. It will be a kind of factory and refinery for turning ideas and inspiration into local businesses and jobs.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

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

United Way Day at Wolf Creek Ski Area. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Wolf Creek Ski Area. Join us for a fun day of skiing and boarding with discounted Full-day lift tickets for \$65 adults, \$41 for seniors and \$34 for kids. Half day starts at 12:30 p.m. Call 264-5639 for more information and ticket purchases.

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.

Family Storytime: Skype with Traci Sorrell, author of 'We are Grateful; Ostaliheliga.' 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us as Traci Sorrell shares her

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Targeted, with "in on"
- 6 Tub toy
- 10 Gold medalist Lipinski
- 14 Immature egg
- 15 Heavy drinker
- 16 Desktop feature
- 17 Merchandise movers
- 19 Reunion attendee
- 20 Mournful
- 21 Actresses Ralston and Rolle
- 23 Guggenheim display
- 24 Not moving
- 25 Like Steve Austin of WCW
- 29 Lookout point
- 33 Sword handle
- 34 Hole-making tool
- 35 Mall attraction
- 36 Well-worn
- 37 Kristen or Patrick
- 39 Something to check
- 40 Loathsome
- 42 Indignation
- 43 Massive
- 44 H.S. students
- 45 Harvard or Columbia, for Obama
- 47 Move like a top
- 49 Cookie container
- 50 Salad ingredient
- 53 Street surface
- 57 Wrapped up
- 58 Emphasize
- 60 Gardener's spring purchase
- 61 Deck feature
- 62 Skin disease
- 63 Aardvark fare
- 64 Spot
- 65 Intense feeling

DOWN

- 1 Firefighting aid
- 2 D.C. office

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
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63						64				65				

Copyright 2020 by The Puzzle Syndicate

- 3 Eastwood played one in 2018
- 4 Polished and posh
- 5 Covet
- 6 Coalition
- 7 1956 film, "___ Miss Brooks"
- 8 Move up the ladder
- 9 This one and this one
- 10 Use a torque wrench
- 11 One to grow on?
- 12 Engine sound
- 13 "No ifs, ___ ..."
- 18 Tycoons, slangily
- 22 Blue eyes or baldness, e.g.
- 24 Bitter feeling
- 25 Photo session
- 26 Diacritical mark
- 27 Any Platters platter
- 28 "I ___ you one"
- 30 Contradict
- 31 Likeness
- 32 Raring to go
- 35 Brahma, in Hinduism
- 37 Raw fish dish
- 38 Hand holder?
- 41 Moving ahead
- 43 Trackman's transit
- 45 Combat zones
- 46 Bad atmosphere
- 48 Condition
- 50 Civil Rights figure Parks
- 51 Chef's need
- 52 Get together
- 53 Trust, with "on"
- 54 007
- 55 Hence
- 56 Bucks and does
- 59 Party bowlful

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

L	E	S	S		T	H	A	N		A	T	L	A	S		
A	M	O	K		R	A	C	E		F	A	L	S	E		
S	I	R	I		A	N	E	W		C	R	A	T	E		
S	T	E	F		F	I	G	R	A	F		A	M	I	D	
					F	I	N	E		G	R	A	N	A	R	Y
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A	B	E	T			P	A	L	I	N	D	R	O	M	E	
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A	M	E	N	D			E	V	E	R			P	A	S	S
L	A	R	G	E			R	A	R	E			E	L	S	E

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WORD SCRAMBLE

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O C E T L S

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Closet

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

award-winning book before answering questions from the audience. A story about Ostaliheliga, a Cherokee word that is used to express gratitude, the book begins with the Cherokee new year in the fall and then continues to show a variety of different moments in the Cherokee year. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

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

History Club. 1 p.m., Senior Center. Are you interested in reading and talking about history with others? Join us and bring your ideas and experiences. The discussions will cover many historical subjects based on the preferences of the group. For more information, call Jim at 731-6878.

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Ribbon Cutting. 2 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for the ribbon cutting for our new land donated in memory of Margaret Wilson. The ceremony will be followed by hot chocolate, homemade treats and fellowship inside the library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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., Sisson Library. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters in our ongoing RPG. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

The Spouses/Family of Veterans Group. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact Dr. Sharon Carter at 398-0883 or Charlotte at 731-1025 for further information.

First Aid Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

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. 16

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.

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.

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. PALS can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Friday, Jan. 17

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.

CONNECT 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 at the end of the 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.

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

Pagosa Pirates Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Montezu-

ma-Cortez High School.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Basketball. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Montezuma-Cortez High School.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Winter-Themed LEGO Contest. Sisson Library. Submissions must be turned in between Jan. 18 and Jan. 24. The winners will be announced after LEGO Club on Jan. 24 at 12:15 p.m. Entries must be built ahead of time. Your LEGO creation cannot be larger than 18 inches on any side. You must use your own LEGO bricks (or any brand of age-appropriate building blocks). No sharing of pieces. Entries must consist of traditional LEGO pieces only. No Technic or motorized pieces will be accepted. Entries must be your own creation, not a LEGO kit. Prizes will be awarded for each category: preschool, ages 5-7, ages 8-11, adult 18 and up. One prize will also be awarded for the judges choice and for the entry that best fits the theme. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Cottage Foods Class. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., CSU Extension office. This certification allows certain foods to be produced in home kitchens and be sold directly to the consumer. The cost is \$40. Go to www.eventbrite.com/cottage-foods-pagosa-co-tickets-83416072719. Call 264-5931 for more information.

Family Storytime: Vehicular Visions. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Vroom! Start your engines for this fun program where we will build our own vehicles and perhaps participate in a race. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Cabin Fever Festival. 4 p.m., Hot Springs Boulevard. Join us for a bonfire, multiple food trucks, libations of every sort. We have heaters. We are also planning to have disc golf tossing, a fat bike demo and a ski thing. All proceeds and donations go to your local nonprofit bouldering gym. Call 946-2422 for more information.

Pagosa Pirates Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Centauri High School.

Pagosa Pirates Boys' Varsity Basketball. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa vs. Centauri High School.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosasun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

Community news.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

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JONES MECHANICAL. EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY to learn the HVAC trade. Experienced or will train. (970)731-3046.

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA Springs Annual Meeting will be held at 4p.m. on January 15, 2020 at the Humane Society Thrift Store meeting room located at 279 Pagosa St. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect Directors for the upcoming year and to conduct such business, which may come before the meeting. Annual meeting attendance is limited to persons who are current members. You must become a new member in good standing no later than January 1, 2020 or have renewed your existing membership prior to the annual meeting to attend and vote.

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.



SAMANTHA: I'm Samantha, or Sam if you prefer! I'm just 9 months old and a real beauty in a black fur coat. Got a home where I can purr up a storm? Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



FAWN: I'm Fawn, a year-old loveable girl who would love to be your best buddy. I need a secure yard and I'd love someone who works from home so I can spend tons of time with you. I have so much love to give — do you? Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



FIDGET: I'm Fidget, and I'm the ultimate barn kitty. Need someone to take care of your unwanted pests? My favorite breakfast is Mice Krispies! 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.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org.

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.

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.

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COLORADO DREAM HOMES has a part-time position open immediately for an assistant to the president who is the lead decorator, handles existing client relations and is in charge of new sales. Three days a week, 8 hour days. Can be flexible. Skills required: must be proficient at Microsoft Excel program, Word, and be mathematically inclined in doing Excel costing sheets, knowing formulas. Also must be a people person, for the job requires a lot of interaction with future and present owners. Having construction knowledge or being able to read a floor plan would be a plus, otherwise we will train. Wage will be based on abilities. Drop by Colorado Dream Homes, 2283 Eagle Drive, to pick up an application or you can email a request for application and submit resume to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com. Phone number (970)731-3071.

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.

LABORERS NEEDED. GOOD PAY. (970)403-2228.

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.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for **Nutritional Service Workers** to prepare and cook food for hospital patients, staff and visitors. Must have a flexible schedule and willing to work nights and weekends. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosapring-smedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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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.pagosapringmedicalcenter.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.

NOW SEEKING PART-TIME POSITION for food prep position. Apply at Boulder Coffee Cafe, 643 San Juan St.

DENTAL HYGIENIST: San Juan Dental is seeking a caring and compassionate dental hygienist to join our team. Please email resume to drcicmsmithdds@aol.com or stop by our wonderful office and meet the team. (970)264-9436.

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 BOOKKEEPER. We are seeking a bookkeeper with QuickBooks and payroll experience. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. 214 PAGOSA ST. seeks saute and grill cooks. Full time and part time. See Chef Travis Tuesday- Friday, 1p.m.-4p.m. Hourly rate depending on experience.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a part-time **Housekeeper**. Must be willing to work nights and some weekends. Applications may be picked up at the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosapringmedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

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1ST SOUTHWEST BANK is seeking an outgoing, personable Teller with a passion for community enrichment to join our team in Pagosa. Starting wage at \$14/per hour with a great benefit package. Must possess strong attention to detail and excellent customer service skills. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details and to apply.

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ARCHULETA COUNTY FAIR BOARD is accepting contract bids for County Fair Manager. This contract is to be the event planner and coordinator with the Archuleta County Fair Board and the CSU Extension office. The AC Fair is held the first weekend in August and planning takes place all year long with most of the work during the June/ July/ August months. Please go to <https://www.archuletacounty.org/jobs.aspx> to see the full contract description. You can submit your bids to Archuleta County Fair Board, P.O. Box 370, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Please call the CSU Extension with any questions (970)264-5931.

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 rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

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Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

BEST OF PAGOSA SPRINGS is now hiring for a licensed Real Estate Agent. The right candidate will be a dedicated, organized, outgoing individual with strong communication skills both written and oral. Flexible schedule and fun work environment make this a great opportunity for the right person! bestofpagosasprings@gmail.com.

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.

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is hiring for a Part-time Art Design Specialist and a Part-time Assistant Advisor. Please see our website (pagosapeakopenschool.org/now-hiring) for full job descriptions.

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for Laundry Attendant. This position starts work at 8:30a.m., Thursday through Monday. Pay starts at \$12/hour. Employment includes FREE hot springs admission for you and your immediate family! Download an application at www.pshotsprings.com/contact-spa-motel/employment-opportunities/ or pick one up at Healing Waters Resort & Spa at 317 Hot Springs Blvd.

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.

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@pagosahun.com. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls, please.

DELIVERY/ WAREHOUSE. PERFORMS DELIVERY, warehouse and installation functions. Scheduled hours are Monday through Friday with weekends off. Experience preferred. Must be reliable and pass background check. Starting wage is \$15/ hour. Apply in person at Sears, 2800 Cornerstone Drive.

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK, experienced cashier. Clean, sober, good with people. Apply in person, The Malt Shoppe. No calls.

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.

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LINE COOK/ PREP COOK WANTED full time at the PEAK DELI. Bring resume. No calls.

BOOKKEEPER. IMMEDIATE OPENING for an experienced bookkeeper. Willing to consider full-time or part-time employment. Please send resume and requirements to papagosa1124@gmail.com.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS & GREEN HOUSE PAGOSA have multiple positions available. No experience is required; we love to train motivated people. We offer competitive wages, a happy, friendly work environment, employee discounts and more. Please stop by Pagosa Therapeutics for an application or email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

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ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

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ROOM TO RENT OR TRADE for services (housekeeping, caretaking, etc.) for one or two nights a week. Professional, nonsmoking adult would like to save on the commute. If interested, please contact me at (970)946-6668.

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BLIZZAK DM-V2 265/70R16 snow tires; used one season; 12/13" depth; mounted on steel wheels; \$400. Bridgestone Dueller H/T D684 II 265/70R17 113S tires; used 1,000 miles; \$300. Call (317)617-9497.

PRICE REDUCED TO \$400. Bakflip G2 Tonneau cover. Was on my 2017 Toyota Tundra Crewmax, but will fit years 2007 and up, 5-foot, 7-inch bed. Like new, black, originally \$858. Call 946-3137.

ALL NATURAL, 100% GRASS finished beef and lamb, pastured pork, and organic free range chicken from GrassRoots Meats. Available at our warehouse on Mondays, as well as the Choke Cherry Tree and Joy's the rest of the week. www.grassrootsmeats.colorado.com. Call Lois for more information, (970)582-0166.

1996 24-FOOT FLATBED TRAILER WITH RAMPS. Needs some TLC- some welding needs done. Call 264-1642. Please leave message. Can text photos if you leave number.

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2001 FORD SUPER DUTY XLT, 3/4 ton pickup truck. 4 door, long bed, V- 10, gas powered, automatic transmission, 2 wheel drive. Aftermarket trailer brake controller. White, interior is tan cloth. 163,650 miles. \$8,500. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St., Pagosa, (970)731-7296.

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BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH fully furnished one level home on 3 acres for rent. 30+ day minimum. Rental rates/ terms will be based upon length of rental lease. (719)464-6313.

ROOM FOR RENT \$575, plus deposit. Separate entrance. References required. Off North Pagosa Blvd. mnenergy88@gmail.com.

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LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)459-4411 or sunethaproperties.com.

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1 BEDROOM FOR RENT in private home in town. \$400/ month, share utilities with roommates. (970)903-0604. Se habla espanol/ Jose Luis or Kevin.

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UNFURNISHED 2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH condo. Nice unit with a gas fireplace. Available January 1st. \$1,100/ month. Sunetha (970)422-7162.

SADDLE MOUNTAIN TOWNHOMES lease available March 1st. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 baths. Open floor plan with gas fireplace, oversize 2-car garage. Close to bike path, uptown City Market and rec center. \$1,850/ month includes: water, lawn maintenance, snow removal. Call/ text (512)626-8499.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

AVAILABLE 15 JANUARY 2020. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with office space. Close to town, unfurnished. Clean, efficient, recently refurbished. Pets OK with deposit. Water and garbage included, deposit and background check required. \$700/ month plus electric and propane. Call Becky 264-6938.

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Stories To Tell Us meeting weekly

By **Theresa Howard**
Special to The PREVIEW

The holiday visitors have departed and the decorations have been lovingly stored away until next year. Now what?

Consider spending the quiet winter months writing your life's story. You will benefit from the review and your descendants will appreciate learning more about you and the times you grew up in.

Stories To Tell Us is an open group of individuals meeting each

week to tell their life stories to one another. Weekly topics are found on the Stories2TellUs.com website so attendees can come prepared.

In remembering and writing about the times of your life, you will review from an adult perspective the many choices you made and how they determined the life you have lived.

In listening to another's life stories, participants glimpse others struggles and successes, gain new perspectives, motivations and insights. Oftentimes, hearing

another's story will revive sleeping memories of our own lives.

All are welcome to join us on Sundays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Overlook Room of the Best Western Pagosa Lodge on U.S. 160. There are no age restrictions or prior writing experience required. Please visit the website prior to attending to find the week's topic and bring your story to the meeting prepared to share.

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 hooded merganser.

When spotted on one of our area lakes or on the river, the hooded merganser demands a second look. In breeding plumage, the eye-catching, fan-shaped white hood on the male's black head gives a regal look to this small duck. Black back, chestnut-colored sides and a white breast cut by a black side stripe complete the male's color scheme. Females and immatures show a brown color pattern and cinnamon-colored shaggy head crest.

These ducks use their slender, toothed bills for catching and holding onto prey, which is usually swallowed whole. Legs set far back on the body assist them in diving for fish, aquatic insects, crayfish, amphibians and even some plant matter. They will also feed by swimming with only the head submerged. An extra transparent eyelid, the nictitating membrane, protects their eyes and allows them to locate food underwater by sight.

These mergansers are restricted to North America, where they nest in tree cavities in forested, shallow-water habitats. They will also use nest boxes. Once incubation starts, the male disappears, leaving the female alone to defend the eggs from predation by raccoons, minks, snakes, bears and other birds. Within 24 hours of hatching, ducklings jump from the nest, up to 50 feet to the ground, and are led by mom to water. They need little parental care.

Although not frequent visitors to our area, they are certainly ones worth watching for.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminuche-audubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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