



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 112 — NO. 32, THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020

‘We’re very hopeful’: Wolf Creek Ski Area could reopen on Friday

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

Wolf Creek Ski Area could reopen in the coming days if it is granted a variance from the state health department.

Davey Pitcher, president and CEO of the ski area, explained how Gov. Jared Polis’ new Safer at Home guidelines, implemented this week, open a window of opportunity for the ski area to reopen.

“Interestingly, in the Safer at Home guidelines the biggest and actually the one thing that we’re asking the variance for — the new guideline says you can’t recreate more than 10 miles from your house,” said Pitcher, adding, “It’s probably in response to concerns

■ See Ski A8



SUN photo/John Finebrock

Wearing a face covering and gloves, San Juan Basin Public Health Executive Director Liane Jollon speaks to the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) during a special meeting on Tuesday. Jollon advocated that the county delay the reopening of some nonessential local businesses to May 8. The BoCC voted unanimously to follow Gov. Jared Polis’ Safer at Home guidelines, which allow retail and personal services to open on May 1, and noncritical offices can open on May 4.

County votes to follow governor’s Safer at Home order despite health department recommendation

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

The county commissioners voted to follow Gov. Jared Polis’ “Safer at Home” order despite the local health department recommending the county adopt stricter guidelines to reopen businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Tuesday, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held a special meeting to vote on a resolution that declares that Archuleta County will follow the Safer at Home Executive Order issued by the governor.

Liane Jollon, executive director of San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH), advocated at the meeting that the commissioners take measures that are stricter than the governor’s order and delay some business reopenings by about a week.

SJBPH is the health department for both La Plata and Archuleta counties.

Earlier on Tuesday, SJBPH re-

■ See Safer A8



SUN photo/John Finebrock

Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis, architect Brad Ash, Town Manager Andrea Phillips, Public Works Director Martin Schmidt, and town council members Madeline Bergon and Matt DeGuise throw dirt in the air during the groundbreaking ceremony for the town’s new maintenance facility as construction and town staff look on.

Town outlines potential budget cuts in response to COVID-19

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council held a discussion at its regular meeting on April 23, outlining potential cuts that could happen due to the coronavirus pandemic.

According to agenda documentation, the Town of Pagosa Springs is anticipating revenue reductions in a variety of areas due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To help combat some of the effects of these revenue reductions, the town has made some reductions in its General Fund and Capital Fund, Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained during the meeting.

In the General Fund, the town has reduced travel and training and currently is utilizing a hiring freeze, Phillips explained, with agenda documentation noting that would “save” about

\$25,000 and \$9,708, respectively.

For the town’s K.I.D.S. (Kickin’ It During Summer) camp, Phillips noted that she hopes the town can still hold one this summer, but explained that the number of kids who are able to attend might be decreased from 70 or 80 kids to 55 kids.

There would also be no second cycle of council’s economic development initiatives, Phillips explained.

This would save the town about \$77,000, according to agenda documentation.

“We did not take these out of the budget yet, but these are things that we have in the back of our minds, things we could do if we need to,” she said.

Under possible reductions if needed, Phillips explained that the town could delay or do some work on its land use code update in-house if needed.

If done, that could save the town about \$20,000, she added.

“We have an additional \$10,000 in the Planning Department for consultant expenses, but a lot of those expenses are related to projects that we may end up delaying,” she said.

In regard to the Fourth July, Phillips explained she does not know how that day is going to look just yet.

“I don’t know whether we’re going to be able to move forward with having large crowd events at that point in time,” she said. “If not, the town put in \$10,000 for fireworks, the Tourism Department put in \$10,000 out of its budget, and then, we also have money towards the parade.”

If those events are not able to move forward, the town would save \$30,000 between July 4 fireworks and a parade, she explained further.

■ See Town A8

Board of Education hears report on out-of-state students

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At its meeting on April 14, the Archuleta School District Board of Education heard a report on how many students attending district schools live outside of Colorado — namely from Dulce and Chama in New Mexico.

The board requested the report at its March meeting, with Superintendent Linda Reed providing both a written and an oral report at the April meeting.

As of the October student count (which helps determine school

funding from the state), Reed told the board, the district had 164 students from New Mexico out of its total count of 1,742, though it has lost three students from New Mexico since then.

Of those 164 students, 54 are at the elementary school, 61 are at the middle school, and 49 students at the high school.

The district’s count, she reported, sat at 1,709 as of April 1.

From October to April, the elementary school remained at 564 students, the middle school went

■ See Students A8

Health service district to hold drive-through election Tuesday

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Tuesday’s polling place election for the Upper San Juan Health Service District, which oversees Pagosa Springs Medical Center, will be a drive-through election in the medical center’s parking lot at 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

The district’s designated election official, Heather Thomas, informed the board of the change at Tuesday evening’s board meeting and noted the drive-through election is taking a cue from Bayfield’s recent election.

“So we had, as you know, previ-

ously selected the board room as the polling place, and to keep in line with all of the regulations that we internally have for screening of everybody who comes into Pagosa Springs Medical Center, we thought it would be best to follow along the lines with the town of Bayfield doing a drive-through election instead,” she told the board, adding later, “That’ll help keep people from feeling like they would be endangered coming in here and help us stay safer as well.”

Thomas explained the drive-through path will be the same

■ See Election A8

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Letters

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

Donate pet food

Dear Editor:
For those of us who are doing good during this trying time, you might consider donating good brand name dog and cat food and/or cat litter to the Pagosa Humane Society Shelter. The thrift shop has been closed temporarily and I'm sure they could use some help from some of us animal lovers at this time.

Paula Bain

Pillars of character

Dear Editor:
Thank you to Patty Tillerson for her thought provoking letter April 16th. She mentioned "excellent temperament" as being an important requirement for a successful President. Thinking on the subject, I happened upon the "Six Pillars of Character" from the Character Counts website. They are Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

Trustworthiness is defined as "the ability to be relied on as honest or truthful." The Washington Post's non-partisan Fact Checker has documented more than 18,000 false or misleading statements President Trump has made from the day he was inaugurated through April 3, 2020, including more than 350 just concerning the coronavirus pandemic.

Please vote this November, and please consider the temperament and character of those running for President of the United States.

Jan Hester

Class of 2020

Dear Editor:
Thank you to the graduating class of 2020. Thank you to our community members who are adopting and reaching out to this influential group of kids.

I liken myself to this graduating class. I have known many of them since the days of Headstart.

I volunteered in many of their elementary classes. I voiced for them systemic change, even as it was unpopular with the establishment. And in the years of this class being in public school, many options arose for them. Options arose for online schooling, options arose for vocational training, options were birthed for alternative styles of educating, even in the traditional classroom, as technology changed the fabric of our culture. And those who taught them cared for them greatly. And deeply.

This graduating class was born out of the tragedy of 9/11. And this graduating class was old enough to watch the changes of the financial crash of '08 & '09. And they were young enough to be entirely changed by it. Parents still worked and were busy, yet wages declined in tourism and the trades, so activities and opportunities on a generational level were greatly lessened. This graduating class has watched the epidemic of gun violence become prevalent. And now, in their senior year, they are the COVID-19 graduating class. They have adapted to distance learning. Many of them are our essential workers, stocking shelves for us. They have been prohibited to socialize in their senior year and their plans for college, moving away, vocational schools and starting an adult life are restricted by what the world may look like in the next coming months because of the health/financial crisis. This class has been unlike any other graduating class.

And this group of kids are phenomenal. Graduating class of 2020: Never be afraid to voice your experiences, because your perspective is invaluable to us as a whole. You have shown adaptability, courage and you are creating a new foundation in our society by the interconnectivity your generation has with each other. This your struggles and social media has taught you. Every part of our community's landscape are so very proud of you: the people, the mountains, the adversity and the struggles of this time period. We love you so very much.

Christa Laos

Health insurance

Dear Editor:
At the exact time that people need health care the most — during a global pandemic — millions are not only losing their paychecks, but their health insurance. A result of our employer-based health care system.

Even those who are still employed may see their coverage downgraded as their employers rush to cut costs. At the same time, a new analysis estimates that premiums for those with insurance could jump up 40% next year. While doctors are risking their lives, tens of thousands of people died and millions lost their coverage; the largest health insurance provider in the U.S. experienced a \$4.1 billion increase in revenue over the last three months. They are not only thriving during a pandemic, but using their profits, not to lower co-pays, but to buy back their own stock.

This crisis is exposing some of the fundamental flaws in our health care system. From a patchwork system of unpredictable employer-health insurance to the relentless pursuit of profits.

History shows that big societal changes often happen during a crisis. In the face of COVID-19, national support for Medicare for All is growing in popularity.

We need to urgently transition from an antiquated employer-based health system to: expanded and improved Medicare For All. This crisis has shown that we are at our best when we take care of each other. This is the America we need. It's time to demand Medicare for All, a system that meets needs rather than seeks profits.

Jan Phillips
Durango

Together?

Dear Editor:
Well, the "we are all in this together," and "we are all facing a common enemy" seems to have lasted maybe 4 weeks. So much for the quaint idea of an America united in the face of a crisis. The spirit that won World War II seems

to be long gone. We now have Trump supporters out protesting in states that have imposed strict stay at home orders, including our own, even though the virus has killed over 50,000 of our fellow citizens. And our Dear Leader Trump encourages this unlawful behavior. We have ministers holding church services, putting their parishioners (and anyone who later comes into contact with their parishioners) at risk of illness and death. We have that great legislator, Rep. Jim Jordan, advocating the investigation of Governors who imposed restrictions. We have Attorney General Barr, our Attorney General, threatening Federal legal action against Governors who are following science. Finally, we have Dan Patrick of Texas saying there are more "more important things than living," and our grandparents should be willing to die for the economy. Did you ever expect to hear such garbage from a politician, let alone one from the "pro-life" party?

To hell with science and the medical community. We want our bars and restaurants open. I certainly feel sympathy for those who have lost their jobs. This includes my son, who is a sign language interpreter and has seen his opportunities dry up as meetings cease. In the wealthiest Nation on earth, they should get the relief they need immediately. But opening the economy too soon may well unleash a second wave of infections and create even more suffering and economic hardship.

A perfect illustration of this "me first" attitude was a photograph I saw of a fairly young woman (maybe 30) at the protest against stay at home orders. She did not wear a mask. Her large sign said, "my body, my choice." The sign featured an image of a mask in a red circle with a slash through it. This represents perfectly the disgraceful selfishness of those who demand that we reopen the economy at all costs. Actually, it is not only her body at risk. A mask protects others from the droplets that a cough or sneeze might project

■ See Letters A4

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Obituaries

Colonel James Blackburn Adams

Our most remarkable husband and father passed away suddenly on the evening of April 25 at his home in Ker-ville, Texas. Like many others of his generation, he lived a life that represented the best of America. He was kind, intelligent, humorous, hard-working, patient and loving, and he valued above everything, honesty, justice and integrity.



Jim Adams was born to Lynn and Florence Adams in Corsicana, Texas, in 1926. He was the youngest of three. His family lived through the Depression by dint of his father's multiple jobs augmented by raising chickens and eggs behind their small house. Later, they moved to Mexia, Texas, where Jimmy studied, raised and rode horses, worked part time, learned to drive and made lifelong friends.

In 1943 at the age of 17, he volunteered and after posting high enlistment test scores was recruited into the Army Specialized Training Program. He was assigned to LSU where he completed two semesters of engineering studies making the Dean's List each time before the Army canceled the ASTP and assigned him to Japanese combat

language training and active duty. His official report date was D-Day, June 6, 1944. After completing language training at Yale, he turned 18 and was sent to basic training at Ft. Hood. Afterwards, he was sent for additional language training at the University of Minnesota before boarding a troop ship for Japan where he had been assigned as Tech Sergeant to a combat unit. He was 5'6" tall and weighed 110 lbs. The war in Japan ended before he arrived and he spent almost two years in Tokyo as part of the U.S. occupying forces.

After mustering out, he used the money he saved and the GI Bill to buy a car and obtain his law degree (LLB/JD) and then BA at Baylor. After graduation, he became the assistant prosecuting attorney in Grosbeck, Texas, where he narrowly escaped a courthouse shooting by an irate father in a child custody case. In 1951 with a campaign budget of \$50, he successfully ran for the Texas Legislature and was elected — at the age of 24. One of his key legislative actions was to push through a bill to ban cash payouts from slot machines — a key business of organized crime throughout Texas at the time.

Having then decided to make his career in law enforcement, later in 1951 he resigned from the Legislature to accept an appointment to the FBI as Special Agent. Given Jim was only 5'6", he did not meet the minimum height requirement for special agents, but upon review of his qualifications, Director Hoover issued a waiver to allow his hire. Over his 27 years with the Bureau, he served in various roles and locations attaining the position of associate director, the number two position in the FBI. He held key positions in the investigation into President Kennedy's assassination, organized crime and cold war counter intelligence. After Watergate, because of his reputation for integrity, he was brought back to headquarters from the field specifically to identify and execute improvements throughout the Bureau. He also then spent 100s of hours testifying before congress during the Watergate investigation hearings. He received both the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service and the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal. In 1978, he served for a short time as acting director.

He retired from the FBI in 1979,

becoming the executive director of the Criminal Justice Division of the Texas Governor's Office, and then in 1980, Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Rangers — a job he particularly desired and cherished. He retired in 1987 — but continued for the rest of his life to talk about the wonderful, dedicated people he had the honor of working with in both the FBI and DPS.

More importantly for his family, though, during his first posting to FBI headquarters in 1954, he met Ione Winistorfer, a very pretty and very intelligent young woman who was working in the Administrative Division. Over the next 65 years, he repeatedly called their marriage "the smartest decision he ever made." Jim and Ione had three children: James Jr., Elizabeth and Martha Wolcheski, all three married and have children. The extended family has always remained close.

After retirement, Jim and Ione finally built a small cabin in Pagosa Springs where they spent nearly every summer until only a year ago. Jim was a member of the Rotary and Ione volunteered at the library. They had been visiting since the late '70s when they were introduced to Pagosa by close friends. Pagosa has become an anchor for the family, as both the children and grandchildren now visit regularly and enjoy the friendship of their neighbors.

At his passing Jim leaves behind his wife, Ione; their children, along with spouses Debbie Adams and Frank Wolcheski; seven grandchildren (Katherine, James III, Nick, Kelsey, Chloe, Bridgitte and Blake); six great-grandchildren (Jaime, Lillian, Charlotte Jean, Evelyn and Ezra); nephews, nieces and, lastly, those close friends, who unlike him, have so far escaped the tragic inevitability of age. We miss him terribly and cannot yet imagine getting over the pain of his loss.

Services will be scheduled at a later date.

Condolences may be sent at www.grimesfuneralchapels.com by selecting the "Send Condolences" link.

Arrangements are entrusted to Grimes Funeral Chapels of Ker-ville, Texas.

Eloner Irene Fabbri

Eloner Irene Fabbri passed

away Wednesday, April 22, at home in Lafayette, Colo. She was 94 years old.



Eloner was born July 29, 1925, to Glen and Verda Stithem in Palco, Kan. She was baptized at the age of 11 at a Baptist church in Silvis, Ill. She worked at ERC (Electronic Trim) for 14 years, Ford Properties (real estate) for seven years, and was a sales representative for Vienna Sausage for two years. She was an active member of the Moose International and attained the title of College of Regents and also Sons of Italy, attaining title of Mistress of Ceremony.

She is survived by her children: Larry G. Allen, of Pagosa Springs; Lance M. Allen, of Cedar Hills, Utah; and Linda M. Kleidosty, of Meridan, Kan.; eight grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; seven step-great-grandchildren; and many extended family and close friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands, Leo M. Allen and Albert A. Fabbri, and a grandson, John.

Visitation was held at Hood Mortuary, 2017 Eagle Drive, Pagosa Springs, on Monday, April 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. A funeral service was held Tuesday, April 28, at 10 a.m., at Crossroads Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave., Pagosa Springs, and burial followed at Hilltop Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Moose Heart, 155 S. International Drive, Mooseheart, IL 60539, (630) 966-2200, www.moosecharities.org/ways-to-give/.

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.

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:

PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

e-mail: editor@pagosasun.com

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.



Continued from A3

from the mask wearer. So, it is my body, my family's body, my friend's body, the grocery clerk's body, the nurse's body, the policeman's body, everyone's body that she has put at risk. If these morons want to kill themselves, so be it. You can't stop stupidity. But, please don't kill the innocent Americans who are simply trying to follow the rules

Letters

for survival. You have no right to do that.

John Porco

Veterans honor Sammy Martinez

Dear Editor:

Veterans for Veterans express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Sammy Marti-

nez. He was a long time member of our organization and we will miss him. To honor Sammy, Veterans for Veterans will donate a memorial brick and have it placed in the Veterans Memorial Park. We thank him for his military service in Vietnam, in the US Army and his participation in Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.

W Tom Zilhaver

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"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."
John 14:27

In light of health concerns for our community, the Pagosa Springs Church of Christ has suspended all public assemblies until further notice. This includes our Bible classes and worship services.

A website you may go to on Sunday for worship at home is <https://polishingthepulpit.com/>. The service will have congregational singing, prayers, communion thoughts, a Bible study with Dan Winkler, and thoughts on giving.

With more time available you might like to spend some of it in studying at home.

- If you are struggling with faith or have questions go to <https://www.doesgodexist.org/>. John Clayton was a former atheist who came to belief in God through science. He was a science teacher specializing in physics and earth science.
- A site designed to study the Bible in a safe environment: <https://www.mathetis.org/>. You may study alone or form a small group.
- In Search of the Lord's Way may be listened to on KWUF radio at 1400 AM radio every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.
- The following programs may be viewed on DISH TV Sunday mornings on channel 3, KCDO:
6:30 a.m. Let the Bible Speak
7:00 a.m. The Truth in Love
7:30 a.m. In Search of the Lord's Way

If you need to talk, please call the church building and we will get in touch with you. As the virus continues to spread please pray for leaders, the workers on the front lines, the sick, those who have lost loved ones, and those working on vaccines and cures. We pray life is back to normal soon.

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Business

Special election ordinance regarding town's URA approved on first reading

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

At its meeting on April 23, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved an ordinance upon first reading regarding a potential special election pertaining to a possible revision to the town's home rule charter regarding the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority (URA).

The petition proposing the change was circulated by local citizens.

Town Clerk April Hessman explained that the proposed amendment to the home rule charter would require voter approval prior to the town council or URA using tax-increment financing (TIF) whenever the total TIF revenues are expected to exceed \$1 million over the life of the project.

The proposed ballot question, entitled Ballot Question A, states: "Shall the town of Pagosa Springs home rule charter be amended, as set forth in ordinance no. 932, by the addition of the following provision: 'Any proposal by the town council or by the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority to use Tax Increment Financing (TIF) must first be approved by the town electors whenever the total TIF revenues are expected to exceed \$1 million (\$1,000,000) over the life of the project.'?"

The town clerk's office received a statement of intent to circulate the petition. That form was approved for circulation on Feb. 13. The petition also required 118 signatures, or 10 percent of the number of town electors registered to vote on Feb. 5, according to agenda documentation.

By March 31, the petition was returned with 173 total signatures, with Hessman certifying that 140 of those signatures were registered town electors.

That petition was determined to be satisfactory on April 9, according to agenda documentation.

"Per the election laws and calendar, a special election will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020. Ordinance 932, first reading, sets the date for the special election, sets the ballot language, designates the town clerk as the election official, and sets this to be a mail ballot election," agenda documentation reads.

If the proposed amendment passes, it would add a new section to the town's home rule charter, under budget and finance and under tax increment financing, Hessman explained.

"The cost for the special election we're estimating to be around \$5,000. It may be higher or lower depending on attorney fees," Hessman said.

Community member Glenn Walsh, who

identified himself as one of the citizens who helped circulate the petition, spoke during public comment about his experiences circulating the petition.

In speaking with town residents, Walsh explained that the people he spoke with noted that the URA "could be an absolute fantastic authority" if it targeted community issues such as affordable and workforce housing and finding high-wage jobs.

"I just want to say, personally, I am not at all against URAs. I am not against urban renewal projects of significant scope. But the first one that I looked at didn't have a single unit of affordable housing and really didn't have a single major employer that was promising any wages," he said. "It just didn't make a whole lot of sense. I think this is just a backstop."

Town Attorney Clay Buchner "cautioned" Walsh that "backstops" like this URA have been tried before in other towns and cities.

"When they are challenged they have been overturned. The substance of this petition in particular has been overturned in other cities," he said.

The motion to approve Ordinance 932 on first reading was approved unanimously by the town council.

chris@pagosahun.com

Town council votes to defer Chamber of Commerce rent payments

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

In response to a rent relief request from the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, the Pagosa Springs Town Council opted to defer rent payments for the Cham-

ber for April and May contingent on whether or not the Chamber receives a pending grant for rent payments.

According to agenda documentation for the April 23 regular meeting of town council, the Chamber rents its space at the Pagosa Springs

Area Visitor Center from the town through a lease.

The monthly rental payment for the Chamber is \$971.18; the town would forgo about \$1,942.36 in revenue if they were to waive April and May rent payments for the Chamber, agenda documentation outlines.

"Our income has come to a screeching halt, understandably so," Chamber Director Mary Jo Coulehan said during the meeting. The Chamber is a 501(c)(6), meaning that the organization is not eligible for the majority of programs that are out there for assistance, she added later.

Coulehan noted that she has applied for one grant, but outside of that, the Chamber is working with reserves currently.

That grant is through the state's relief program, Coulehan explained, adding that the grant

might be the only one the Chamber is eligible for at this time.

"I applied for a \$20,000 grant and I hope to hear next week," she said. "Our workload hasn't decreased, it's increased."

If the Chamber gets the grant, Coulehan noted that she would pay the rent for those two months.

"I would feel more comfortable right now, then, given what she said, to maybe defer that payment until we see if they get the grant, and if they don't get it maybe revisit it," council member Shari Pierce said.

Pierce ultimately made a motion to defer the rental payment for the Chamber for two months, and if the Chamber does not receive that grant, then council will revisit the discussion.

That motion carried unanimously.

chris@pagosahun.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, April 30

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

Tuesday, May 5

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

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

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District meeting. 5 p.m. See town website for participation information.

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

Wednesday, May 6

Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 5 p.m. See town website for participation information.

Thursday, May 7

Dispatch Executive Management board. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Monday, May 11

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

Tuesday, May 12

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

Archuleta County Republican Women's meeting. Noon, Boss Hogg's, 157 Navajo Trail Drive. (Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.)

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session and regular meeting. 5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, virtual meeting.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors regular meeting. 6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa

Blvd.

Wednesday, May 13

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular board meeting. 4 p.m., contact admin@pagosapringscdc.org for Zoom meeting link.

Thursday, May 14

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

Tuesday, May 19

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

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

Wednesday, May 20

Archuleta County Republican Central Committee meeting. Noon, Pagosa Brewing, 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. (Subject to cancellation due to COVID-19.)

Upper San Juan Library District board meeting. 4 p.m. Zoom meeting; join us at <https://us-02web.zoom.us/j/79928556999>.

Tuesday, May 26

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

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

Wednesday, May 27

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


Thursday, May 28

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session — presentation of budget. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

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


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Courthouse offices to reopen May 4 with limitations

By Kristy Archuleta
Special to The SUN

The Archuleta County clerk, Archuleta County treasurer and Archuleta County assessor will be reopening to the public on a limited basis.

Starting Monday, May 4, there will be controlled access through the front door closest to Jim Smith Realty. A staff member will be stationed near the door and allow the public in as space allows. You will be directed to the appropriate office or assigned a waiting spot in the main lobby.

There is a limit of four people at any given time in the clerk's office, two in the treasurer's office and two in the assessor's office. These limits are to allow for 6-foot distancing between customers.

The clerk's office will resume VIN inspections, title transfers and marriage license applications

by appointment only. We encourage customers to continue to utilize our online services for registration renewals www.mysdmv.colorado.gov, or use the 24-hour drop box located on the west end of the building by the flag poles.

If you need to update your voter registration or make changes to your record, please go online www.govotecolorado.gov.

For an appointment or any questions regarding recording of real estate documents, please contact the clerk's office at 264-8350.

The assessor's office will accept appeals/protests of your 2020 property value by appointment only. You can download an appeal/protest form online at <https://www.archuletacounty.org/407/forms> and choose "Property Protest Form" or call the assessor's office at 264-8310 to have a form mailed/mailed to you or to talk to someone to make arrangements with you regarding the next steps.

The treasurer's office will be accepting pay-

ments for property taxes. You may also drop payments in the 24-hour drop box located on the west end of the courthouse by the flag poles. Payments can also be made online at www.archuletatax.com. Please contact the treasurer's office at 264-8325, option No. 1 with any questions.

We are trying to reopen to the public while keeping our customers and staff as safe as possible. The tasks listed above as "by appointment only" are things that generally take longer and might cause customers to have to wait extended times in the lobby.

We hope this process will keep as many people waiting as little time as possible. We ask that you wear a face covering, and our staff will be wearing face coverings as well. We ask that you not come to the courthouse if you have a persistent cough or a fever. Please call the office you wish to visit and see if we can help you without you having to come in.

Free Internet access points available in town for locals

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

For Archuleta County residents who may not have adequate or any Internet access, there are numerous methods to get connected around town during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office (BSM) has provided a free public Internet access point at Pagosa Springs Town Hall, located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

The BSM website explains that interested parties can use the access

point at Town Hall 24 hours a day, seven days a week; those who are looking to connect should connect to the "TOPS Guest" Wi-Fi network and do not need a password to connect.

For parking, the BSM website notes that people can park anywhere in the Town Hall parking lot except for the town's police department parking lot on the south side of Town Hall.

Archuleta County residents will also be allowed to park in the dirt lot to the east across Hot Springs Boulevard from Town Hall, the BSM website explains.

However, if you have questions,

do not go into Town Hall, the BSM notes. Instead, email bsm@archuletacounty.org.

In an interview on April 29, BSM Communications Manager Jason Cox explained the motivation behind this decision.

"Our mission as part of improving broadband service into the community is about providing access as universally as we can," he said.

Library and other opportunities

There is another access point for locals to use from their cars at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library,

located at 811 San Juan St.

Additionally, Zito Media is offering its 20-by-2 megabit Internet service free of charge for two months for low-income residents.

More information on this program can be found by calling (800) 365-6988, texting (814) 200-0728 or emailing support@zitomedia.com.

For New Mexico residents, Kinetic by Windstream is offering two months of service free, as well as other offerings.

For more information on this program, visit windstream.com or www.lifelinesupport.org.
chris@pagosason.com

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Local officials urge residents to complete 2020 census forms

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County staff and officials urge the public to complete their 2020 census forms.

"Do it," said Archuleta County Commissioner Ron Maez in an interview Wednesday. "I'm urging all citizens of Archuleta County to please do the census. All information that you give the census department is undisclosable. It cannot be given out by law and it is only used for the purposes of population so that in Archuleta County we can qualify for grant funding and federal funding. It helps our county."

As of press time Wednesday, Colorado's "Self-Response" rate was 58.2 percent for the 2020

census.

Archuleta County's was 28.4 percent.

"The census is absolutely important to this community in the federal resources we get," said Commissioner Steve Wadley in a phone call Wednesday. "People that are worried about the government, knowing that they're here — certainly undocumented people need not worry about the information from the census. I know they're going to be reticent, I know they're not going to want to take somebody's word for it, but I absolutely promise that that information can't be shared with immigration or anybody else. It can't be. It's against the law for it to be shared."

Mary Jo Coulehan, co-chair of the Archuleta County Complete

Count Committee (CCC), commented on the response rate in Archuleta County.

"We are a huge community with P.O. boxes instead of receiving mail at physical addresses, so that has delayed the, so-to-speak, invitation process," she said.

Coulehan explained that census field representatives may start going door-to-door to gather information around the third week of May and that the COVID-19 pandemic has complicated some of the strategies to get the word out.

"We were planning on being at a lot of events, but we didn't have that opportunity," she said, noting that the CCC will increase its advertising in both The SUN and on local radio.

"It's just so easy," Coulehan said of completing the census. "They're saying 10 minutes, but it's really five minutes."

Coulehan noted that phone and online are the easiest ways to submit information, and are the most confidential.

"More so than ever, as we're applying for federal funds and state funds, it's just critical we give an accurate count in our community. Because every person is worth — they're estimating \$2,300 a person. That affects so many programs in our community," Coulehan said.

The census can be completed at my2020census.gov, by calling (844) 330-2020, or by returning the paper questionnaire sent to your home or P.O. box.

john@pagosason.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

- April 22 — Death investigations, USFS 613.
- April 23 — Information only, U.S. 160.
- April 23 — All other thefts, Highland Avenue.
- April 23 — Fourth-degree arson-misdemeanor, Susan's Place/Crooked Road.
- April 23 — Second-degree burglary, all other thefts, West View Road.
- April 24 — Driving under restraint/alcohol/drug-related offense, failed to drive in single lane (weaving), failed to display valid registration, San Juan Street/North 5th Street.
- April 24 — Menacing-intimidation (Inc. stalking, threats), third-degree criminal trespass, harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, reckless driving, criminal attempt to commit felony, expired license plates, second-degree assault-aggravated-police officer-weapon, drove vehicle while under the
- April 21 — Information only, Ranch Place.

- April 22 — Drove vehicle without insurance/drove vehicle without valid driver license, South 8th Street.
- April 25 — Burglary/shoppinglifting, Aspen Village Drive.
- 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson**
No report.
- Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**
Krisa E. Sweeney, speeding 1-4 over limit, total fines and costs — \$83.50.
- Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**
No report.

- influence of alcohol, Dichoso Street.
- April 25 — Drove vehicle without insurance, improper registration, Pinon Causeway/U.S. 160.
- April 25 — Second-degree assault on police officer or fireman serious injury, criminal mischief, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct-misdemeanor, U.S. 160.
- Pagosa Springs Police Department**
Calls for service over week: 96.
April 20 — Trespass warning, South 8th Street.
April 20 — Theft, Country Center Drive.
April 20 — Warrant arrest, South 9th Street.
April 20 — Assault, South 9th Street.
April 22 — Obscene conduct/trespass warning, San Juan Street.
April 23 — Trespass warning, Hot Springs Boulevard.

- April 23 — Drove vehicle without insurance/drove vehicle without valid driver license, South 8th Street.
- April 25 — Burglary/shoppinglifting, Aspen Village Drive.
- 6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson**
No report.
- Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay**
Krisa E. Sweeney, speeding 1-4 over limit, total fines and costs — \$83.50.
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Town approves contract for maintenance facility

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The town maintenance shop project is officially set to take place following a Pagosa Springs Town Council decision at a meeting on April 23, with council approving the project's guaranteed maximum price (GMP) and a contract with Alcon Construction.

The current town maintenance facility, which is located on South 5th Street, has been the town's maintenance area for many years; however, the buildings that are on the site are "undersized and not very efficient," according to Town Manager Andrea Phillips.

"One of the primary goals and objectives of the town council has been, for many years, to build a new maintenance facility and the one that we currently have is definitely in need of replacement," she said.

A new maintenance facility would allow for the town to have better storage of its equipment and improve on the "eyesore" that is the current site, she added.

"We, of course, want to provide safe, clean and efficient facilities. We want to have modern facilities that support our operations and in turn can provide a better level of service to the public," Phillips said.

Multiple departments and divisions of the town will be consolidated into one "campus," Phillips described.

Currently, staff is working out of a trailer on the town's old sewer lagoon property with equipment being stored outside, she added later.

The new site would also provide for future space needs, Phillips explained.

Rebuilding on the current site would be the best and least costly option, she added later.

"Our parks maintenance staff has been working out of an old shed without heat or plumbing, and, frankly, the main building itself is in a sad state of disrepair," she said.

"If the Town moves forward with accepting the GMP and entering into contract with Alcon Construction, Inc, demolition and site clearance can begin on the week of April 27th," agenda documentation notes.

Public Works Director Martin Schmidt added that there has been a local focus for the project since the very beginning.

Part of that local focus involves the selection of local architecture firm Reynolds Ash and Associates, Schmidt noted.

"The same thing kind of fell in with the CMGC [construction manager/general contractor] selection with Alcon. They were really a southwest Colorado business," Schmidt said. "In the subcontractor selection we've really pushed Alcon to advertise locally, to bring in as many local subcontractors as they can."

Currently, the town has four awarded local subcontractors, Schmidt noted.

"Because of the way the CMGC process works, we're going to continue to be able to shop this with local subs. If they are able to come in and be price competitive we will be able to utilize them as the project moves forward," Schmidt said.

Project funding

According to agenda documentation, funding for the new town maintenance facility comes from a variety of sources.

"The Town's cash is leveraged with a grant and financing. The Town anticipates that 70-80% of the project budget will be expended in 2020, with the remainder in 2021," agenda documentation reads.

In the spring of 2019, town council was rewarded with a \$1 million Department of Local Affairs Energy Impact Tier II Grant for the new project, according to agenda documentation.

Council also issued \$3 million in certificates of participation (COP) toward this project, Phillips explained, adding that the town is already paying on the COPs.

"We have a 15-year agreement through Stifel and Zions Bank. That is a 2.87 percent interest rate that is fixed. We can pay that down early if we happen to have additional funds," she said.

The majority of the construction on the new facility would occur this year, Phillips explained.

In regard to the CMGC process, Brad Ash of Reynolds Ash and Associates explained that this process was selected in order to bring a general contractor on board that would help give the town the most of its program that it could afford.

Alcon Construction has currently been contracted for the construction management portion of the project, Ash explained.

"Currently, we have been working with Alcon Construction to come up with a budget and doing some value engineering, and I have been really pleased with the process in working with the town and how hard Alcon has been working to get this project budget as close as we can to what was originally presented," Ash said.

Design changes

The original scope of the project proposed a phased project; this phased proposal was thought to allow the town to spread out costs of the project over a period of years while the town could also seek out another grant, agenda documentation notes.

However, following meetings, a phased approach would actually be too expensive and difficult for the town, leading to the project taking on a single phase rather than two, agenda documentation reads.

The existing property has been

dealing with all of the drainage on the south side for several years, Brian Huff of Reynolds Ash and Associates explained during the meeting.

Therefore, about \$1.3 million is set toward dealing with the drainage issue, Huff explained.

"Since the initial bid process began, we've cut roughly \$452,000 out of the project by working back and forth with Alcon," Huff said, adding that the CMGC process saved about "a quarter of a million" in various areas.

The existing layout still has the potential to add 4,000 to 5,000 additional square feet at some point in the future if it is determined to be required, Huff added later.

Some of the problems with the original proposed site plan were due to a 3,000-square-foot detention pond in the middle of the site, Huff added.

"Another issue once we got into this existing site was none of the setbacks that are required by the town are implemented in the site plan, so it didn't really work," he said.

Other changes, through the use of value engineering, involve removing fencing on the north side of the project and utilizing the building on the north side as a property boundary, Huff explained later, adding that this saves about \$60,000.

The town's parks staff has agreed to take on the landscaping for the project, Huff noted, adding that would save about \$80,000 for the project.

Additionally, there has also been a significant reduction in concrete on the new site, saving about \$150,000 for the project,

Huff added.

Cost changes, project timeline and recommendation

The initial cost of the original, two-phased project came in at \$5,979,435. The new project's total cost is proposed to be \$5,234,615.35, a savings of \$744,819.65, according to agenda documentation.

The agenda documentation notes that Alcon's GMP is about \$4,824,410.25 of the \$5,234,615.35

"We do see some savings, obviously, from doing this as a combined project," Schmidt said.

The project has been ongoing since 2017, Schmidt noted, adding that, in 2019, the town started applying for grants and issuing COPs.

"We're really hoping that the calendar year of 2020 is the year we're going to be able to get the vast majority of this project done. Alcon's constructing schedule shows January of 2021 as the time they're going to hand us the keys," he said.

Following more discussion, Phillips explained that the town's recommendation is to accept the GMP from Alcon Construction, as well as approving entering into the CMGC contract.

"I think this is an exciting project. It's probably the biggest infrastructure project that the town has ever attempted," Mayor Don Volger said. "It's been long overdue."

The motion to approve the GMP of \$4,824,410.25 and enter into a contract with Alcon Construction as the CMGC was approved unanimously by council.

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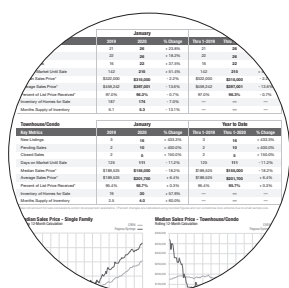
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Governor issues executive order on Safer at Home

Executive orders also issued on New Normal Advisory Board and elective procedures

By Claire Ninde
Special to The SUN

On Sunday, Gov. Jared Polis issued executive orders on Safer at Home, the New Normal Advisory Board, and Voluntary or Elective Surgeries and Procedures.

"Together, Coloradans have been effective in leveling and flattening the curve, but life will remain much more dangerous than usual these next few months and we should all wear masks when in public. Safer at Home is by no means a free-for-all. My administration has acted boldly in the face of this pandemic and is focused on ensuring our state can endure on the trail ahead. We all have a personal responsibility to slow the spread of the virus and must find a way of living that is psychologically and economically sustainable for Coloradans," said Polis.

The Safer at Home Executive Order D 2020 044 outlines a new level in Colorado's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes a more sustainable way of living for Coloradans while slowing the spread of the virus and allowing

more Coloradans to return to work. The executive order is tentatively set to expire 30 days from April 27, but can be amended or extended at any time.

Coloradans should continue staying home as much as possible, and the executive order directs vulnerable populations, including seniors, to continue staying home, only leaving when absolutely necessary.

Changes happening during Safer at Home will be phased in, with different changes going into effect April 27, May 1 and May 4.

Monday, April 27

Retail businesses can open for curbside delivery. Real estate home showings can resume. Voluntary or elective medical, dental and veterinary surgeries and procedures may resume if facilities are following required safety protocols.

Friday, May 1

Retail businesses can phase in a public opening if they are implementing best practices.

Personal services can open if they are implementing best

practices.

Monday, May 4

Offices can reopen at 50 percent reduced in-person staffing capacity, if best practices are being implemented to protect the health and safety of employees. Businesses are encouraged to allow employees to continue telecommuting at higher levels if possible. Child care facilities can also expand or reopen if they are following Safer at Home requirements.

Colorado is a diverse state and the governor knows each community will have different needs. The Safer at Home order outlines the options local governments will have when it comes to slowing the spread of the virus and protecting their communities:

- Local governments can implement the guidelines of Safer at Home to match the state.
- Local governments can go further than the state, including but not limited to stay-at-home orders or additional protective measures.
- Local governments can relax guidelines more than the state. To do so, local governments will need

to demonstrate proof of 14 consecutive days of decline of infection of COVID-19 in the county. They also must submit an application to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) that includes a written COVID-19 suppression plan approved by the appropriate local public health authority, all hospitals within the jurisdiction, and elected leadership.

Read the Safer at Home Executive Order at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w4xfCKF3ELTULfpqLoASRofW_LRb2glz/view.

The governor also signed Executive Order D 2020 045, which will allow medical, dental and veterinary voluntary or elective surgeries and procedures to resume as long as the health care facility or other setting is following the required safety protocols as set out in the Executive Order. This went into effect Monday, April 27.

Under this executive order, facilities performing these procedures must establish a plan to reduce or stop voluntary or elective surgeries and procedures if there is a surge of COVID-19 infections in the county or municipality in which they are located. The CDPHE will determine the conditions that constitute a surge.

Read the executive order at: https://www.colorado.gov/governor/sites/default/files/inline-files/D%202020%20045%20Elective%20Surgeries_1.pdf.

Earlier this week, Polis announced the New Normal Advisory Board. The board will advise the governor and the CDPHE on coordinating and harmonizing policies and rules designed to maximize social distancing during the Safer at Home phase. The board shall focus particularly on how local jurisdictions and local public health agencies can coordinate with the state on public education efforts that aim to maximize compliance and enforcement efforts for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Read Executive Order B 2020 002 at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1v7VF8O4HdSY_OshdBLvawk-OxkzmOvXup/view.



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3	\$3,831
4	\$4,561
5	\$5,290
6	\$6,021
7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
For each additional person over 8	add \$137

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



Photo courtesy Michelle Carpenter

The Seeds of Learning Incredible Years Parent Program facilitators and families celebrate completing the program despite the stay-at-home order. After completing nine of 14 weeks in person, the group committed to using a virtual-learning format. Although the celebration took a different form Monday night, facilitators Lynne Bridges and Michelle Carpenter couldn't be more proud of these parents.

Archuleta County extends Declaration of Local Disaster

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

On April 21, the Archuleta County commissioners voted unanimously to adopt a resolution that extends the Declaration of Local Disaster to May 5 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

County officials and staff told The SUN this week that the extension is so that Archuleta County can be reimbursed for expenses associated with fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I want to reassure the public that the only reason we extended this is for the simple fact of recouping money that we've expended

for COVID-19," Archuleta County Commissioner Ron Maez told The SUN on Wednesday.

The resolution states that the declaration "... shall continue until the adjournment of the Board's Regular Meeting scheduled for May 5, 2020, at which time the Board will consider whether another extension of the Declaration is warranted."

The next meeting of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners is on May 5 at 1:30 p.m.

Parties who wish to virtually attend the meeting can contact county staff at 264-8300 for the Zoom meeting details.

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Outdoors

Report bear sightings and problems as soon as possible

By Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Special to The SUN

Bears are coming out of their winter slumber in southwest Colorado, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is asking residents to help in making sure bears live as long and as wild as possible. Please, report bear issues to CPW as soon as you see them at 247-0855.

Some bear sightings were reported in the Durango and Bayfield areas this week.

Besides securing trash and taking down bird feeders, residents should call the CPW office as soon as they see bears knocking over trash cans, getting into bird feeders or hanging around an area for more than 15 minutes. Unfortunately, many people ignore what they might consider "minor" problems. Reporting problems early provides wildlife officers flexibility in dealing with the situation. But when a bear becomes aggressive, CPW officers have few options.

"We know that a lot of people don't call CPW when a bear is causing problems in a neighborhood because they think our only course of action is to euthanize the bear," said Matt Thorpe, area wildlife manager

in Durango. "But if we hear early about minor problems, wildlife officers have a menu of options on how to handle the issue and can take action that will have a better outcome for the bear and for the neighborhood."

If a bear is causing problems, it's most likely because some type of food source is available — bird feeders, improperly stored garbage, garbage cans being left out or being put out the night before pickup, pet food being left outside, etc. Often, the food source can be found at one residence in a neighborhood. So, when CPW receives a report, for example, of a bear hanging too long around an area, a wildlife officer can go there and attempt to determine the source of the problem.

"Early reports help us to approach a situation with a lot of options available," Thorpe explained. "Many times, it's easy to find the food source and talk to a resident about that. We can make suggestions to the neighborhood or a homeowners association, work with the trash hauler, or even decide to trap and move a bear."

But CPW needs cooperation from residents to make an early intervention.

"The last thing a CPW officer wants to do is put down a bear. Every wildlife officer absolutely hates to do that," Thorpe said. "But if a bear moves from causing minor problems to acting aggressively and causing major problems, like breaking into houses or vehicles, we have no options. At that point, we are required by law to euthanize the bear. Human safety always comes first."

The best solutions come when residents choose to work with CPW. "So please, give us a call when you see problems," Thorpe said.

Bear sightings and problems should be reported to CPW's Durango office at 247-0855.

Following are simple and effective tips to keep bears wild:

- Keep garbage in a well-secured location.
- Only put out garbage on the morning of pickup.
- Clean garbage cans regularly to keep them odor free.
- Use a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available from your trash hauler or on the Internet.
- If you don't have secure storage, put items that might become smelly into the freezer until trash day.
- Don't leave pet food or stock feed outside.

• Bird feeders are a major source of bear/human conflicts. Attract birds naturally with flowers and water baths. Do not hang bird feeders from April 15 to Nov. 15.

• If you must have bird feeders: clean up beneath them every day, bring them in at night and hang them high so that they're completely inaccessible to bears.

• Do not attract other wildlife by feeding them, such as deer, turkeys or small mammals.

• Don't allow bears to become comfortable around your house. If you see one, yell at them, throw things at them, make noise to scare them off.

• Secure compost piles. Bears are attracted to the scent of rotting food — and they'll eat anything.

• Bears have good memories and will return to places they've found food.

• Allow grills to burn for a couple of minutes after cooking to burn off grease and to eliminate odors. Clean the grill after each use.

• Clean up thoroughly after picnics in the yard or on the deck. Don't allow food odors to linger.

• If you have fruit trees, pick fruit before it gets too ripe. Don't allow fruit to rot on the ground.

• Keep garage doors closed.

• Lock your doors when you're away from home and at night.

• Keep the bottom floor windows of your house closed when you're

not at home.

• Do not keep food in your vehicle; roll up windows and lock the doors of your vehicles.

• When car-camping, secure all food and coolers in a locked vehicle after you've eaten.

• Keep a clean camp, whether you're in a campground or in the backcountry.

• When camping in the backcountry, hang food 100 feet or more from campsite; don't bring any food into your tent.

• Cook food well away from your

tent; wash dishes thoroughly.

• Talk to your neighbors and kids about being bear aware.

• If you keep small livestock, such as chickens, keep animals in a fully covered enclosure that is electrified. Don't store stock food outside, keep enclosures clean to minimize odors, hang rags soaked in ammonia and/or Pine-Sol around the enclosure.

• If you have beehives, install electric fencing where allowed.

For more information, go to the Living with Wildlife section on the CPW website: cpw.state.co.us.



Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

Spring turkey season is underway and this bird somehow missed the message that it would be safer at home following Gov. Jared Polis' orders instead of out strutting around.

Join Audubon's June bird survey

By Jean Zirnheft
Special to The SUN

Smokey skies have often been an indication that the Forest Service is conducting prescribed burns in the forests near Pagosa Springs in an effort to prevent catastrophic wildfires that threaten our forests and homes. In addition to fire, mechanical thinning of the brush layer (mastication) and selective harvest of trees are preventative treatments employed to our forests. These measures led members of the Weminuche Audubon Society to investigate the question of how these wildland fuel-reduction treatments affect bird populations.

With input from the San Juan Forest Health Partnership, the U.S. Forest Service and Mountain Studies Institute (MSI), and with the support of Audubon Rockies, Weminuche Audubon board members Herb Grover and Keith Bruno designed a citizen science project to involve Audubon chapter members in a Bird Community Monitoring Project in three areas of the San Juan National

Forest.

In preparation for the study, Anthony Culppepper of MSI gave a presentation at the March chapter meeting in which he provided an overview of local forests and treatment methods being employed. In May, local teacher Chris Couch helped us improve our "birding by ear" skills.

Our study compared bird populations in three areas of the forest. The site on Turkey Springs had been subjected to both recent prescribed fire and mastication. In fact, the site was burned immediately before the study commenced. The site on Fawn Gulch had been masticated in 2017, and the site on Jackson Mountain had not been thinned or burned in the recent past.

Volunteers in the study worked in pairs to document bird species heard or seen in six minutes at each of 15 predetermined points in the study area. Each team committed to visiting their assigned survey loops for four visits during June and the first part of July. Twenty volunteers contributed more than 400 hours to the

study, which additionally surveyed forest structure differences. Fifty-four different bird species and over 900 birds were recorded.

We found singing birds, nesting birds, flying birds and hiding birds. A detailed report of the study findings can be downloaded from our website, www.weminucheaudubon.org. Find out which birds were common to all sites and which were unique.

The Weminuche Audubon chapter is excited to participate in the study again this June. In preparation, we'll be practicing how to identify birds by their song. Because we were unable to meet in April, Grover created an informative video to recap this citizen science project which may be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/mfBiFN0gR6A>. The chapter is indebted to Grover for the extraordinary work that he has put into this project.

We are inviting all local birders to participate in this fun study and will be assigning teams in May. Please contact the chapter at weminuche.audubon@gmail.com for more information and to volunteer.

Forest Service roads begin to open 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 status as of April 23:

- Black Mountain, No. 661, closed.
- Blanco River, No. 656, closed.
- Blue Creek, No. 012/Big Branch No. 664, closed.
- Buckles Lake, No. 663, closed.
- Burns Canyon, No. 649 (to second gate), open.
- Burns Canyon, No. 649 (above second gate), open.
- Castle Creek, No. 660 to Opal Lake trailhead, closed.
- Castle Creek, No. 660 to Fish Creek trailhead, closed.
- Chris Mountain Road, No. 681, closed.

- Devil Creek, No. 627, to state wildlife area, closed.
- Devil Mountain, No. 626, closed.
- East Fork, No. 667, closed.
- East Toner No. 637, open.
- Echo Canyon, No. 029 (Nipple Mountain), open.
- Eight Mile Mesa, No. 651, closed.
- Falls Creek Road, No. 039, closed.
- Fawn Gulch Road, No. 666, closed.
- First Fork, No. 622 (main gate), closed.
- First Fork, No. 622 (gate at Sheep Creek), closed.
- Fourmile Road, No. 645, closed.
- Jackson Mountain, No. 037, open.
- Jack's Pasture Road, No. 746, open.
- Kenney Flats, No. 006, open.
- Lefthand Canyon, No. 024, closed.
- Lower Piedra to Campground, No. 621, closed.
- McManus, No. 633 (at Plumtaw intersection), open.
- Middle Fork, No. 636, open.
- Monument Park East, No. 630, closed.
- Monument Park West, No. 630, closed.
- Mosca, No. 631, closed.
- Nipple Mountain, No. 665, open.
- Nipple Mountain, No. 665 (above Echo Canyon), closed.
- Plumtaw, No. 634, closed.
- Poison Park, No. 644, closed.

- Price Lakes, No. 731, closed.
- Snowball, No. 646, closed.
- Snow Ranch, No. 628, open.
- Trail Ridge, No. 639, open.
- Turkey Creek, No. 647, open.
- Turkey Springs, No. 629 — Lower/middle gate, open.
- Turkey Springs, No. 629 — Upper gate, open.
- Valle Seco Upper, No. 653 to private property, closed.
- West Fork, No. 648, closed.
- Williams Creek, No. 640 (from gate to lake), open.
- Williams Creek, No. 640 (to Palisades HC), closed.
- Wolf Creek Road, No. 725, closed.

You can find information on travel management, road openings and closings, and Motor Vehicle Use Maps on the San Juan National Forest website, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/>. Conditions change quickly, so check with the ranger district office in the area you plan to visit to get the most current information on road conditions and openings. Call the Pagosa Ranger District at 264-2268.

To find current information on other seasonal Pagosa Ranger District road closures on the website, click on the "Forest Road Conditions" link located on the right side of the page under the "Quick Links" box. Under Alerts and Notices, click "Pagosa Ranger District Road Status."

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Steve Lekson to give virtual presentation on the 'Millennium on the Meridian' May 13

By Nadia Werby
Special to The SUN

The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) hosts a free Lecture Series five times a year to offer the opportunity for the public and CRIA volunteers to gather and enjoy a speaker whose topic typically relates to southwest archaeology, archaeoastronomy and/or Chacoan culture. Experts in the field travel sometimes from far distances to Pagosa Springs to present at this free series, but this month's lecture series is now happening live and online for all to enjoy from the comforts of your home.

Join us on Wednesday, May 13, as Steven H. Lekson discusses "Millennium on the Meridian." Space is limited to first-come, first-served. To join this special

Zoom presentation online at 7 p.m., you will need the Zoom link and meeting ID located on www.chimneyrockco.org/lecture.

The "Chaco Meridian" proposed in 1999 suggested that the 11th century regional center at Chaco Canyon relocated to Aztec Ruins in the early 12th century, and again shifted far to the south to Paquime in the late 13th century. More recent work suggests that this north-south alignment was important long before Chaco, as far back as the sixth century, and may have continued to shape regional history after Paquime, well into the 16th and 17th centuries.

The new information comes from recent and past excavations, recent observations on the distribution of iconic architectural features, and ethnohistories from the earliest Spanish entradas.

Lekson was curator of archaeology at the Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Boulder. He received his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico in 1988, and held research, curatorial or administrative positions with University of Tennessee, Eastern New Mexico University, National Park Service, Arizona State Museum, Museum of New Mexico and Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. Lekson directed more than 20 archaeological projects throughout the southwest. He was editor of the journal *Kiva* (2006-2011) and continues as contributing editor for *Archaeology* magazine (2003-present). Lekson's publications include a dozen books, chapters in many edited volumes, and articles in journals and magazines. His most recent books: "A History of the Ancient Southwest" (2009),

"Chaco Meridian" (2015) and "A Study of Southwestern Archaeology" (2018). He curated six exhibits, most recently "A History of the Ancient Southwest" (2014) at the CU Museum of Natural History. He retired in 2018.

CRIA offers a great training program to anyone interested in joining our amazing team of volunteers. You can learn more about how to get involved in CRIA and Chimney Rock National Monument at www.chimneyrockco.org.

CRIA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that runs the daily operations and interpretive program at Chimney Rock National Monument in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the San Juan National Forest. For more information, see the CRIA website at www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.

WRITERS ON THE RANGE

COVID's killing the oil industry, and it may not come back

By Jonathan Thompson
Special to The SUN

In early January — which seems like a lifetime ago in the age of COVID-19 — President Donald J. Trump crowed about the United States' new status as a net-exporter of petroleum. He claimed that the robust American oil industry, freed from the shackles of environmental regulations, had achieved energy dominance and thus liberated the nation from the yoke of Middle Eastern crude.

Just weeks later, the novel coronavirus would lay waste to oil markets, forcing Trump to beg Saudi Arabia to step in and save this nation's beleaguered oil industry. Energy independence, it turns out, was an illusion, and the so-called shale revolution was built upon a shaky foundation that was poised to collapse even before the pandemic ravaged the globe.

In the aftermath of the Great Recession, the Federal Reserve dropped interest rates to near zero and otherwise encouraged investment in high-risk ventures. That opened up a gusher of easy credit for, among other enterprises, oil and gas companies looking to drill shale formations that new drilling techniques had made accessible.

Companies dived into debt to finance thousands of new, multimillion-dollar "fracked" wells, sparking a drilling boom of unprecedented scale that lasted from 2009 to 2014, busted, and then came back in a limited way in recent years.

Each new well was, initially, like a fountain of cash. Oil prices were at an all-time high, and during the first weeks of an oil well's life, it kicks out hundreds of barrels per day. The good times, however, were fleeting. Shale wells have a particularly steep decline curve, meaning that after that first surge of oil — call it the first-month buzz — its production decreases by as much as 10 percent per month. So, in order to keep the oil and money flowing, companies have to drill more and more wells, which requires them to go deeper into debt, which requires them to sell more oil, and so on, until, at last, the whole scheme collapses under its own weight.

Cracks began to appear in the hydrocarbon bubble years ago, and in the months prior to the arrival of the coronavirus, a breakdown appeared imminent. Investors, tired of shoveling money into an industry without seeing much return, tightened their purse strings, drying up the only real cash flow many companies had.

Last year, 42 debt-saddled oil and gas companies filed for bankruptcy. Haynes and Boone, a law firm that monitors energy sector bankruptcies, predicted even greater casualties this year, even if oil prices stayed above \$50 per barrel. They did not, crashing to below \$20 this spring and then dropping into negative territory — meaning sellers had to pay to get the oil off their hands — on April 20.

The effects have been devastating. During the first three months of 2020, seven oil companies went bankrupt, including Denver-based fracker Whiting Petroleum, which laid off one-third of its workforce last July and reported \$5.9 billion in debt.

The number of active rigs is falling fast. Minus new wells and their first-month buzz, production from oil fields — even the booming Permian gas field — will soon start dropping, killing the energy-independence delusion, at least for now.

Finally, it seems, the foolhardy CEOs are getting their comeuppance, the reduction in flying and driving is keeping millions of tons of greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere, and the idling of drill rigs will give ravaged landscapes and communities in the oil patch a chance to rest and heal.

Yet the pain will ripple outward as

thousands of oil-field workers lose their jobs, adding to the 22 million who have filed new unemployment claims in recent weeks.

States like New Mexico, Wyoming and Colorado — which derives \$1 billion annually from oil and gas revenue — will watch billions of dollars of projected revenue evaporate, gutting future budgets.

Bankrupt oil companies will orphan thousands of marginally producing oil and gas wells, leaving them to the taxpayers to clean up. Meanwhile, the Trump administration eliminates even more protections on the environment and human health.

Oh, and those oil company executives that dragged us into this mess in the first place? They're getting a windfall. Just days before it filed for bankruptcy, Whiting Petroleum approved a \$6.4 million bonus for CEO Brad Holly.

Jonathan Thompson is a contributor to *WritersOnTheRange.org*, a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He reports on energy and the environment.

EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

How to buy local during COVID-19

By Robin Young
SUN Columnist

Food and groceries feel more important than ever during the COVID-19 situation. In response, Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg reminds every Colorado resident how local food is adding extra value to our lives and, of course, to the grocery shelves: "Thanks to our farmers and ranchers across the state, our local food system is abundant and our supply chains are healthy. This is a moment for us to continue coming together to support Colorado agriculture and buy local food."

Colorado farmers, ranchers, farmworkers, truckers, retailers, chefs and food manufacturers continue to put food on our tables while doing their part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Locally grown and raised produce, dairy, meat, grains and other locally made products are abundant. And local chefs continue to prepare takeout meals using seasonal, local ingredients.

While consumers may see some empty shelves, that is only because people have been purchasing food at a higher rate than normal — not due to lack of supply. There is plenty of food coming from Colorado farms, ranches and food makers. Food systems are operating as intended; and as more food is purchased at retail, the food supply chain is adjusting to increased consumer demand.

"More than ever, local buying and eating are not only good for agriculture, they are good for all Coloradans. Every time we buy local food and products, we are simultaneously boosting Colorado's economy and heritage — with agriculture as one of the biggest economic drivers in the state," said Wendy White, marketing specialist for Colorado Proud.

"It's not just the responsibility of the farmers and ranchers; it's

important for everyone to take an active role in feeding Colorado — both literally and economically. After all, every bite is helping our state," added White.

Here are 10 ideas for how every Coloradan can nourish our farmers, ranchers and food and beverage businesses while buying and eating local food:

- Buy local. Click and share this website to see product offerings and shipping options from local producers, ranchers and manufacturers from around the state: ColoradoProud.com.

- Pick Colorado-grown produce. Look for the Colorado Proud label, which symbolizes a particular piece of fruit or vegetable was grown in our state. And check out what local produce is in season.

- Buy Colorado-made products. When shopping, look for Colorado-made products, such as jams, sauces, condiments, snacks, sweets and other locally made food products, which will also have the Colorado Proud label.

- Support Colorado's livestock producers. Look for Colorado beef, lamb, pork, bison and poultry or order directly from local producers.

- Drink Colorado wine, beer and spirits. Liquor stores feature Colorado beer and wine sections, both in-store and online orders, breweries are now offering online ordering, and local wineries are open for pick-up and many will also ship to your front door.

- Buy direct from a Colorado wholesaler. Many local companies are now selling food and products directly to end-consumers. ColoradoProud.com offers a list of companies participating under the "Wholesaler" category.

- Order meals from Colorado chefs and restaurants. Restaurants continue to serve meals for delivery or takeout, and some farm-to-table chefs are recognized for using local ingredients.

- Cook recipes with Colorado-grown ingredients. We are all cooking more than ever, so why not pick a recipe made with locally grown ingredients?

- Send Colorado-made gifts to friends and family. How about a Colorado gift basket for your local friends who need a smile and something delicious, or even for your out-of-state family? Check out this directory of Colorado-made gift companies that ship.

- (Virtually) thank a farmer. We are sharing many stories from Colorado farmers and ranchers who are helping their communities and health care workers during this time, featured on Colorado Proud's Facebook page: [Facebook.com/COProud/](https://www.facebook.com/COProud/).



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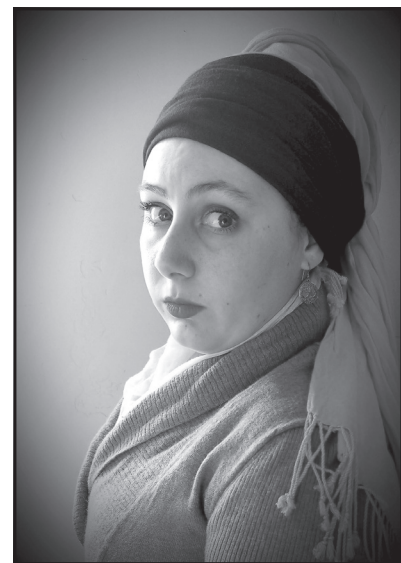
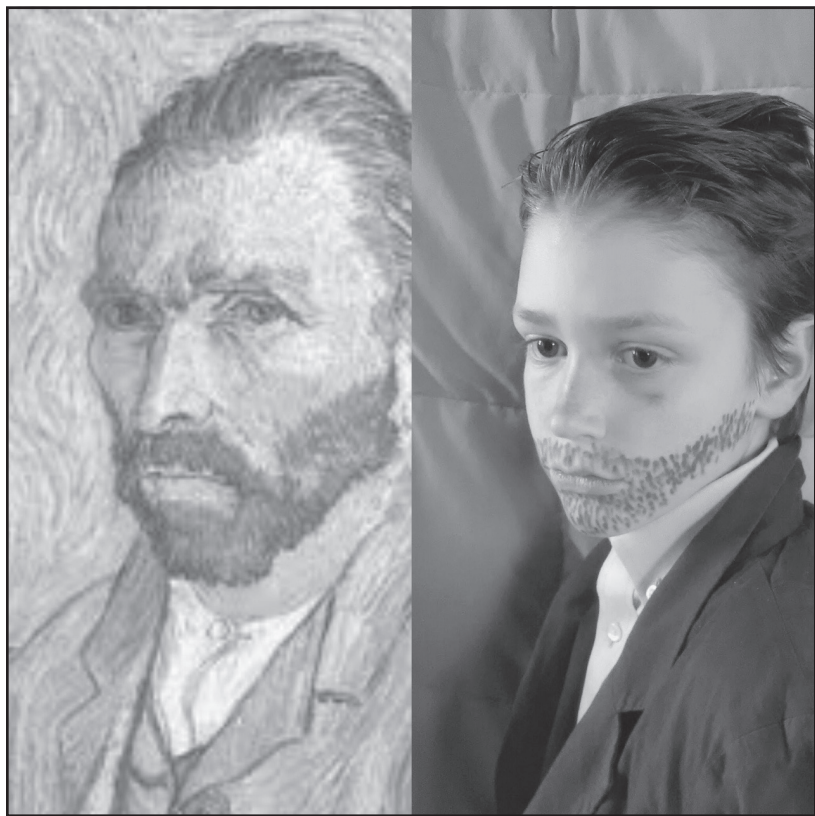
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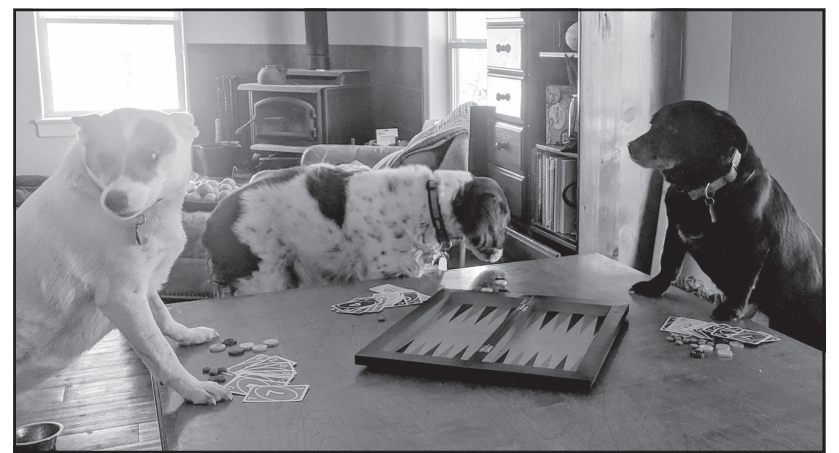
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Recreating masterpieces

Photos courtesy Pagosa Family School

Pagosa Family School's art teacher Linda Lutomski was inspired by museums around the country challenging the public to recreate masterpieces by posing and making props using everyday objects. Her students were presented with the challenge to recreate their own masterpieces. Families worked together to create the scene, paying close attention to the subject and objects in the paintings and photographing the result. Lutomski and her husband, Jim, as well as art classroom instructional aide Mattie Joyner, also participated.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Pagosa Springs Elementary School will be enrolling kindergarten students for the 2020/21 school year starting Monday, May 4th.

- Enrollment forms can be picked up at the front entrance of the elementary school or found online at <https://elementary.mypagosaschools.com/> under the PARENTS & STUDENTS tab on the elementary website.
- Completed packet, a copy of birth certificate and immunizations records need to be dropped off at the elementary school front office Tuesday, May 26th-Friday, May 29th during the office hours of 1:00pm-3:30pm.
- Our office staff can be reached at 970-264-2229.

We look forward to meeting all our upcoming kindergartners.



HEY STUDENTS!

Have you nominated your Adult Role Model for 2020?

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- Determined
- Trustworthy
- Good Listener
- Energetic
- Passionate
- Makes positive choices
- Respects others
- Positive attitude
- Inclusive
- Patient
- Selfless
- Inspiring
- Helpful
- Fun

We are extending the Adult Role Model Campaign until May 1st.

**Who is your Role Model?
Who is your hero in this time of COVID-19?**

Forms went home with students at the beginning of March or you can request a form. Forms can also be downloaded at <https://sjbpublichealth.org/thrivingcommunities>

Call Cheryl Bowdridge at 970-946-5276 with questions or email: cbowdridge@sjbpublichealth.org

Adult Role Model Campaign brought to you by Rise Above Violence, Archuleta School District, San Juan Basin Health Department

Pagosa Family School enrollment is OPEN for all homeschool and private school students.

Enroll now for the 2020-2021 school year. Course offerings for the 20-21 school year will include art, music, drama & choir, elementary Spanish, as well as fun and interesting exploratory classes.

Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-5pm. Find an enrollment form online at family.mypagosaschools.com.

All public school students who wish to join PFS classes can place their name in the lottery for available space during the first week of school in September.

Contact Jane Parker for more info:
jparker@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228 x408



Charter school hosts Virtual Nature Walk Week

By Alison Beach
Special to The SUN

To celebrate Earth Day and encourage our students to enjoy nature in this time of social distancing and distance learning, Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) "hosted" a virtual Nature Walk Week from April 20 to April 24.

The event was a fun scavenger hunt for our families. Each day, they sent in photos with different themes. Monday they found "A Unique Rock."

Tuesday they sought out the "Most Colorful Leaf." Wednesday our families were tasked to "Find an Animal." Thursday we asked "Where's the Water?" and families sent in photos of natural water. Friday was "Amazing Tree Day."

We believe that staying connected is essential to cultivating our culture in this time of social distancing. We are working toward this important mission, whether that learning is in-person or a distance-learning format.



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Sports

Taylor Lewis named league's female winter athlete of the year

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs High School senior Taylor Lewis was recently named the Intermountain League (IML) Winter Female Athlete of the Year.

Lewis was part of the 20-4 Lady Pirate basketball team that made it to the Final Four of the state tournament before the tournament was canceled due to COVID-19 concerns.

According to MaxPreps, Lewis averaged 9.9 points per game this season, as well as 4.8 rebounds per game and 2.2 steals per game.

She was voted to both the Colorado High School Activities Association and Colorado High School Coaches Association all-state teams this year.

"Taylor is a 4 year varsity letterman in basketball and has been voted to the IML All Conference First Team for 3 years," an email from Athletic Director Marcie Ham states, continuing later, "She spent hours in the gym working with younger players and she cared just as much about helping them grow as she did making herself a better player. This is evidenced at her excitement levels and supportive comments/actions in the rare moments when she was on the bench. She is an amazing young lady and we wish her the best in the future!"

randi@pagosasun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa Springs High School senior Taylor Lewis was recently named the Intermountain League Winter Female Athlete of the Year for her work on the court this season, which included helping her team to the Final Four.



Photo courtesy DUST2

DUST2 announces that registration is opening for Middle School Summer Camp and Fall Cycling Team on May 1. Pictured is the DUST2 2019 team.

DUST2 team registration to open May 1

By Janine Emmets
Special to The SUN

DUST2 is excited to announce that registration is opening for Middle School Summer Camp and Fall Cycling Team on May 1.

Links to register can be found on the DUST2 Facebook page and website (www.dustx2.org).

DUST2 has many generous donors who allow us to offer scholarships and/or loaner bikes to those that need financial assistance or don't have a bike. Scholarship applications and more information can be found on the website.

The Middle School Summer Camp will be taking place July 13-17. This program gives middle school students the opportunity to learn new skills, gain confidence on their bike and be challenged to try new things.

The Fall Cycling Team will start on Aug. 3, with practices three afternoons a week until Oct. 22. Students in high school have the option to race with the Colorado High School Cycling League and participate in four races throughout the fall. Racing is not required, though, so any riders that just want to be a part of the team and have fun riding bikes are encouraged to join.

Being part of the team will give students the opportunity to work on bike skills, learn basic maintenance and how to conduct themselves out on the trail. The team focuses on different skills throughout the program and teaches them how to make good decisions when they are out mountain biking.

The coaches are excited for another great season in 2020. We hope to see some new faces this year on the team.



Photo courtesy Pagosa Fire Protection District

Eric Ziminsky

Ziminsky promoted to lieutenant

By Pagosa Fire Protection District
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) announces the recent promotion of Eric Ziminsky from firefighter to lieutenant effective April 21.

Ziminsky began his volunteer firefighting career with the PFPD in February 2013. His primary response zone is from Station 5 in the Aspen Springs area.

Ziminsky is a vital member of the PFPD, participating on emergency calls, training, the technical rescue team, station care and apparatus maintenance.


Fire Chief Randy Larson said, "Eric serves the Aspen Springs area and the entire Pagosa Fire Protection District with honor and integrity. His contribution to his community and the fire department has led to this well-deserved promotion. Congratulations to Lieutenant Ziminsky for his accomplishments."



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‘Out of the goodness of their hearts’:

Women Helping in Pagosa Springs nears 12 years of philanthropy



By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

For about 12 years, Women Helping in Pagosa Springs (WHIPS) has met each month to discuss how they can better serve the community.

WHIPS gives direct, monthly financial assistance to individuals and families in need and also gives two female graduating seniors a \$1,200 scholarship each year.

WHIPS was started in 2008 by the late Cindy Gustafson, with support of her husband Ron Gustafson, who was routinely the only man allowed at the WHIPS meetings, and who was deemed the groups’ “mascot” by one of WHIPS’s longtime members.

WHIPS was started when Cindy Gustafson heard about a women’s group in town that met at restaurants once a month to discuss pertinent local issues, but thought the \$16 price tag for each participant was too much.

Cindy then started WHIPS with the goal of including more women in the local community by dropping the price for each lunch down to no more than \$12 per meal per person.

“People said that won’t even work,” said Ron Gustafson, who was married to Cindy for 42 years. “Well, it did work.”

WHIPS met each month, without skipping a beat, following the group’s inception in 2008.

However, in April and May of this year, WHIPS had to cancel its meetings, held on

the last Tuesday of each month, because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the monthly luncheons, WHIPS members identify members of the community who need financial assistance.

“Every month we pretty much help someone,” said Nancy Ford, longtime member of WHIPS. “It’s mentioned by our ladies at the luncheon, ‘Oh I know this person, her husband is unable to work right now from a broken leg,’ or somebody has cancer and they have to go to Denver for tests. It’s word of mouth from our ladies, bringing up someone who needs assistance for that month for gas or groceries or medical transportation.”

Ron Gustafson cited an incident about a decade ago where Jenelle Syverson, now owner of The Choke Cherry Tree, had her cabin burn down and members of WHIPS came to her aid.

“The house actually burned in the middle of my divorce, so I was just becoming a single mother. I was trying to pay all my bills,” Syverson said in phone call. “WHIPS actually — Cindy just brought me in an envelope full of cash while I was at work one afternoon. It made me bawl. The ladies

were fantastic ‘cause it really did, it helped me get through.”

Ron Gustafson noted how much Syverson has accomplished in the years since.

“Look at today what [she] has done ... She has a beautiful store now ... She has done so much, she’s been on the Chamber board and every time somebody will ask for a donation of some sort she would make up a basket and she has done this many, many, many times. I praise [Jenelle] for all she has done in the community,” he said.

Syverson is now a member of WHIPS.

“Now it’s absolutely fabulous because I get to be on the other side and help other ladies in the same way,” she said.

Cindy Gustafson passed away in December 2014, just prior to the monthly WHIPS meeting.

Ron Gustafson noted that more than 250 people attended Cindy’s celebration of life, demonstrating how entwined with the local community she was.

Ford asked the WHIPS ladies at the next meeting if they wanted to continue the group.

“I asked the ladies, ‘Do you want to continue or not?’ and they said, ‘Well if you’ll do

it, ‘cause you helped Cindy, we’ll help you.’” Ford has been the leader of WHIPS ever since.

Ford explained that, on many occasions, Cindy Gustafson would relay questions that someone asked back to her, as she generally knew the answer.

This happened so often that the catchphrase “Ask Nancy” quickly caught fire within WHIPS and Ford ultimately put it on her business card.

“Cindy would say, ‘Ask Nancy’ and eventually she said, ‘Why don’t you put ‘Ask Nancy’ on your business card?’” Ford said.

Ron Gustafson estimated that WHIPS has raised and distributed more than \$20,000 since its inception in 2008.

The 2019 WHIPS scholarship award recipients are McKinzie Kelley, who is attending Adams State University to obtain a degree in nursing, and Valeria Monteroso, who is attending San Juan College to prepare to be a pediatric nurse.

Ford noted she hopes to restart the WHIPS meetings soon, once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides, and that the meetings are usually attended by around 30 people and have had up to 75 attendees.

“These are some fantastic ladies. It’s such an honor and a privilege to be a member of a group that gets together just because, out of the goodness of their hearts, they want to help,” Syverson said. “It’s part of why we love Pagosa because there’s people here like that.”

john@pagosasun.com



Nancy Ford

“Every month we pretty much help someone,” said Nancy Ford, longtime member of WHIPS.



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GOAL High School Still Going Strong

Despite the global chaos brought on by the coronavirus, GOAL Academy High School, a statewide charter serving over 5,000 students, has remained steady in its educational delivery. Although adjustments have been made in its blended educational model, GOAL is pretty much business-as-usual. The fact that all curriculum is delivered through online platforms has allowed for minimal disruption as the fourth quarter gets under way; furthermore, teaching, tutoring, and other communication with academic coaches, teachers and administrators routinely happens through virtual platforms as well.

GOAL is certainly doing its part in the realm of social distancing along with national and state protocols by eliminating the face-to-face contact which typically takes place in over thirty student drop-in centers across the state. GOAL continues to provide for the needs of its students including: technology components, food and drink, teaching, tutoring, and social-emotional support.

Even more notable, GOAL has enrolled an additional 472 students for the fourth quarter. As students graduate or transfer, leaving available seats, GOAL provides a “lottery” at the end of the second

and third quarters to allow for new enrollees from its substantial waiting list. As the school continues to grow, and despite the substantial educational distraction caused by the pandemic, GOAL is still hopeful to see around one thousand students receive their diplomas this year. Many will finish with college credit, even associates degrees, thanks to the school’s strong partnerships with colleges and universities across the state. A high percentage will also graduate with workforce and industry certificates as well. For the second year in a row, GOAL will proudly announce a Daniel’s Scholarship winner!

Chief Executive Office, Dr. Constance Jones, relayed her thoughts during this un-paralleled time in every aspect of daily life, including education. “Now, more than ever, it is critically important for us to model for our students how important it is to support one another. We need to try and keep things as normal as possible and at the same time, be very conscious of the safety and wellness requirements that have been put in place. We encourage our students and staff to show kindness and compassion, to check on each other, and help each other get through these challenging times.”

Enrollment appointments begin May 4, 2020.

For more information, go to goalac.org or call 1-877-776-4625 (9-5 Monday – Friday)

preview

ARTS & MORE

Aspire Virtual Walk for Moms

Celebrate the superhero in your life • May 2



Photo courtesy Aspire

April 30, 2020



Photo courtesy Aspire

This year's Walk for Moms will take place virtually on Saturday, May 2, with the event slated to help support Aspire Medical Services and Education.

Virtual Walk for Moms set for Saturday

By Marcy Mitchell
Special to The PREVIEW

Honor the superhero in your life by walking for a young mom in Archuleta County on Saturday, May 2. It is a fun way to spend the morning with friends and family and to celebrate motherhood in our community.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are going to host the event "virtually." Teams and individuals will all walk that day in their individual neighborhoods then record videos, photos and connect via Facebook. We can stay safe but get outside and celebrate life.

During this pandemic, Aspire is still providing affordable prenatal care, pregnancy testing, early ultrasounds, digital parenting and prenatal classes, as well as diapers and baby supplies. Many of our young families have lost jobs and income, so having quality and affordable prenatal care and education has never been more important.

All proceeds from the event go directly to help offset costs for patients and keep our prenatal care affordable to everyone in the community, as well as provide evidence-supported parenting and prenatal education programs and supplies. Events provide more than one-third of Aspire's revenue, so supporting

■ See Walk on next page

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San Juan Stargazers offer constellation flashcards

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers will not hold a regular meeting in April because we are following the health safety measure of staying at home.

In Pagosa, we are all lucky to be able to enjoy astronomy almost any night with our superior dark night skies. Use a telescope, binoculars or just step outside and view the wonders of our universe as the ancient people did.

Looking at the magnificent night sky in Pagosa is safe, uplifting and often awe-inspiring.

If you would like to take this unique opportunity of life in the spring of 2020, the San Juan Stargazers will send you a free set of constellation flashcards. You do have to cut them out and paste to complete the cards, but they can be very helpful to increase your ability to identify the con-

stellations. This offer is for both adults and students. Study the cards during the day and then test yourself at night. You can also look on the Internet to find what deep-sky objects are located in each constellation. Please call the club number at 335-8286 and leave your name and address on the recording.

We will keep you posted on Stargazers activities and Night Sky programs at Chimney Rock. Since so many of our members are retired

people, we will be overly cautious with taking risks.

The San Juan Stargazers are part of the Astronomical League, which includes clubs from all over the U.S. We have a new website, www.sanjuanstargazers.org, as well as an email address, sjstargazers@gmail.com, and a club phone number, 335-8286. Our club address is P.O. Box 2217, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

Keep looking up, especially at night.

Walk

■ continued from previous page

the Walk for Moms is an essential way to help our most vulnerable families in Pagosa Springs.

Online check-in begins at 9 a.m. and then awards for best dressed team, top team fundraiser, best dressed pet and top walker will be announced at 9:55 a.m. via Facebook Live. Register at <http://aspirepagosa.org/upcoming-events/> or call 264-5963.

So, sign up as a team captain and rally your co-workers, friends and family to work together as a team or sign up as an individual and do your own thing. Either way, 100 percent of the money you raise will go to supporting a superhero mother in Archuleta County.

"We are focused on helping children 0-3 thrive physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually during the most pivotal stage of growth. We do that by providing education, medical services and resources to parents and caregivers," said Marcy Mitchell, Aspire executive director. "Our programs have already reduced the low birth weight percentage and preterm births in our area as well as equipped parents. So, by participating, you are helping young children in our area thrive."

For more information or to register or donate online, please visit <http://aspirepagosa.org/upcoming-events>.

Based in Pagosa Springs, Aspire has been providing medical services and education in a safe and supportive environment for the past 21 years. Aspire is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our main source of income is through events and the generous support of individuals and organizations.



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Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

The cast of “Matilda” during its final rehearsal. Work on the production was stopped four days short of opening night.

This year’s ‘Matilda’ performances canceled

By Dale Johnson
Special to The PREVIEW

The directors, cast, crew and musicians for this year’s spring musical, “Matilda,” put in countless hours of hard work only to see it stopped four days short of opening night.

Although this has been such a disappointment for everyone involved, we all know that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the entire world. We are living in unprecedented times and every single area of our normal lives has been affected.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to perform this year. We appreciate the time, the talent and the heart everyone gave. Much love to all our more than amazing directors: Dan, Venita, Dale and Billy. We all grew as performers as we sang, danced and acted to bring our wonderful “Matilda” to life.

More importantly, we walked away from the show having experienced kindness, acceptance, compassion, tolerance, patience and love as part of the “Matilda” family. The experience is the journey. Our experience has been one of greatness and love.



Pagosa Family School enrollment is OPEN for all homeschool and private school students.

Enroll now for the 2020-2021 school year. Course offerings for the 20-21 school year will include art, music, drama & choir, elementary Spanish, as well as fun and interesting exploratory classes.



Pagosa Family School classes are held at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-5pm. Find an enrollment form online at family.mypagosaschools.com.

All public school students who wish to join PFS classes can place their name in the lottery for available space during the first week of school in September.



Contact Jane Parker for more info:
jparker@pagosa.k12.co.us or call 970-264-2228 x408

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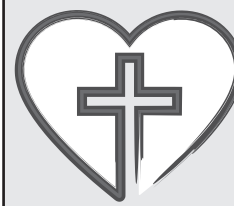


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John 14:27

In light of health concerns for our community, the Pagosa Springs Church of Christ has suspended all public assemblies until further notice. This includes our Bible classes and worship services.

A website you may go to on Sunday for worship at home is <https://polishingthepulpit.com/>. The service will have congregational singing, prayers, communion thoughts, a Bible study with Dan Winkler, and thoughts on giving.

With more time available you might like to spend some of it in studying at home.

- If you are struggling with faith or have questions go to <https://www.doesgodexist.org/>. John Clayton was a former atheist who came to belief in God through science. He was a science teacher specializing in physics and earth science.
- A site designed to study the Bible in a safe environment: <https://www.mathetis.org/>. You may study alone or form a small group.
- In Search of the Lord's Way may be listened to on KWUF radio at 1400 AM radio every Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.
- The following programs may be viewed on DISH TV Sunday mornings on channel 3, KCDO:

- 6:30 a.m. Let the Bible Speak
- 7:00 a.m. The Truth in Love
- 7:30 a.m. In Search of the Lord's Way

If you need to talk, please call the church building and we will get in touch with you. As the virus continues to spread please pray for leaders, the workers on the front lines, the sick, those who have lost loved ones, and those working on vaccines and cures. We pray life is back to normal soon.

Pagosa Springs Church of Christ

277 Lewis Street • 264-2552

Hayden Kiker receives music scholarship

By Dale Johnson
Special to The PREVIEW

Juliana was a beautiful, brilliant and talented young woman of 19, who loved music and singing and life. A music scholarship was created to honor her memory and spirit. Our latest scholarship recipient is Hayden Kiker.

Kiker has been in several Curtains Up Pagosa productions, beginning with “Jesus Christ Superstar.” He has participated in “Hollydaze,” “Tarzan” and “Willy Wonka,” and was the fiddler in “Fiddler on the Roof.” He has also performed in “Mary Poppins,”

“Hunchback of Notre Dame,” “Footloose” and “Matilda” with Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS), and “Jungle Book” with Thingamajig Theater Company. Kiker lends his vocal talents to Heralds of Christmas each year.

Kiker is a voice and piano student with Venita Burch and a violin student with Heidi Tanner. He also plays percussion in the PSHS concert band and jazz band, as well as the community band, and he performs with the PSHS Piratones and the Americana Project.

Kiker is appreciative of Juliana’s scholarship so that he can continue his studies.



Photo courtesy Dale Johnson
Hayden Kiker.

Avoiding being ‘whale done’

Isolated — and still getting into trouble. An island unto myself, I am staying at home, social distancing from the world, outside of the occasional virtual meeting. Yet one thing remains: I haven’t learned how to keep my mouth shut.

“There’s a reason you’re you.” That was a line I heard from a movie that reminded me that its OK to be me. Thankfully!

I told our son about a recent video call. “I think I have become an Isaiah-with-a-message. Or, maybe I am just running through a virtual sea with my buttocks showing.”

Our son said, “It’s probably the latter.”

I heard myself tell the Tuesday night prayer group, “I’m sorry.” Then, after a brief moment, I spoke again and said, “No, I’m not sorry, and I’ll take it to my grave.”

I’m not usually so emphatic although I felt I needed to take a stand when asked a question recently. It was something that came from our group leader, a Messianic Jew who shared that congregations are “updating” the Torah. She asked us all what we thought.

Without skipping a beat, I voiced my opinion and managed to come unglued during the delivery. “No,” was the operative response — something I should have left alone until I knew more.

I didn’t wait to understand the question that I was being asked. Nor did I consider the word selection used. My only comment, as I expressed to those on the video call, “Don’t touch the Word of God.”

In a world of change, there are some things that don’t — God and His Word.

Something else that doesn’t change: the line I walk. I had, however, assumed that someone was questioning if the first five books of the Hebrew Bible should be changed. I would later come to know that wasn’t what was being asked.

When did God appoint me the keeper of the universe? He didn’t.

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



We are told in Deuteronomy not to add or take away from the things that we are commanded to do.

In this case, I interpreted a question, then rushed to share my view.

I realized this when someone told me, “You sure are hard on everyone.”

Maybe I am. I’m hard on myself, too. Time is short and the world is getting darker and darker. First, unrest. Now, fear. In the mix, believers are falling away. We shouldn’t act surprised. The New Testament tells

us over and over that there will be those who depart from their faith.

Could it be triggered by someone wanting to change something of historic record from over 2,000 years ago? Maybe it is triggered by me not listening, assuming someone is jumping off the written page without clarifying intent.

Jonah did the same thing. Well, he didn’t jump off the page, but he was thrown off a boat. He was told to go to a people who were waiting and willing to hear from him. His response? To run in the opposite direction as fast as he could. He missed the most important part of the message. People were “waiting” and “willing.” They weren’t equipping themselves for battle.

Had I become a Jonah, positioning myself for a fight instead

■ See Lane on next page



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Photo courtesy Habitat for Humanity

Last year, Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County completed projects with the help of 53 Care-A-Vanners from all over the nation. This year, Habitat Archuleta's work will continue, though probably without the outside help, making the organization's greatest need local volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County seeking volunteers

By Lori Henricksen
Special to The PREVIEW

Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County would like to thank the generous members of our community who have offered a hand up to our fellow citizens in need of immediate assistance during this

challenging time.

As we transition to the "Safer at Home" phase of Colorado's response to the effects of COVID-19, we also look ahead to the importance of the recovery and resiliency phase, which includes helping families obtain access to safe, stable and affordable housing.

Affordable housing is an essential service for Archuleta County. The people who make Archuleta County a safe, healthy and

■ See Volunteers on next page

Lane

■ continued from previous page
of opening a door for a meaningful discussion? Maybe I had set someone up for a fight, not taking a minute to see an opportunity for exchange.

I stand by my convictions, but perhaps I need to wait until they are breached before rushing into the water like a battleship.

Final brushstroke: As Christians, we are called to be messengers. By

action, that means to be absent of judgment, to deliver a message in a way that can be received. How important it is to conduct ourselves with the same mercy and grace afforded to us. Otherwise, like Jonah, we will find ourselves in deep water or worst yet, "whale done."

Readers' comments

Send your comment to betty@bettyslade.com.

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Volunteers

■ **continued from previous page** thriving community — service, hospitality, school and municipal workers — need affordable housing. Affordable homeownership creates families who are vested in our community, have a decreased reliance on public assistance and whose children are more likely to do better in school. Homeowners are better prepared, both economically and socially, to survive an unforeseen crisis like COVID-19.

Habitat Archuleta will continue to build and improve homes even as funding for long-term housing has been diverted to more immediate needs resulting from the pandemic. We've been building homes in Archuleta County for 26 years and will begin construction on our 28th home in June, a month later than anticipated.

Our 2020 Partner Family (Dad works for the school district) has been preparing for homeownership since last fall by completing homeowner education classes and obtaining an affordable mortgage. They will build their own home alongside volunteers who understand they are doing more than filling a onetime need — they are helping a family help themselves in building a better future.

We will continue to build with volunteers, although most likely without the assistance of Care-A-Vanners, Habitat for Humanity volunteers that travel throughout the country building homes. Last year, 53 volunteers from all over the country helped build our Partner home and added "voluntourism" dollars to our economy as they stayed and played in our community.

Habitat Archuleta's greatest need in building this year's home is for local volunteers. We appreciate all of our long-time local volunteers and supporting businesses, however, we need more people to join us. We encourage volunteers with any or no experience. If you're new to swinging a hammer, we'll

teach you the skills. And if you're experienced, we'll have plenty of construction stories to share.

If you are able to join us on the construction site, we will be doing things a little differently to ensure everyone's safety. Precautions will include providing space for social distancing, wearing masks and having plenty of sanitizers for hands and tools. We will follow guidance from Habitat International and national, state and local public health authorities to ensure a safe working environment. These precautions do add to our building costs, but are necessary and worthwhile to protect our volunteers, staff and supporting businesses. Habitat Archuleta does not receive funding from Habitat International; we rely on our own fundraising, so donations of any amount are always appreciated.

We have many other volunteer opportunities in addition to new home construction — preparing lunches for the building crews, assisting with repair projects, planning events, fundraising and outreach for partner families for our future builds.

As we begin construction on this year's home, we are also seeking future homeowners for our 2021 new home build, as well as current homeowners who are struggling to keep their home in good repair. We qualify Partner Families based on need, ability to pay and willingness to partner.

If you or someone you know is interested in one of our programs, please contact Lori Henricksen, executive director, at 264-6960 or Director@HabitatArchuleta.org. You can also sign up for our email newsletter at Info@HabitatArchuleta.org or visit HabitatArchuleta.org for application and volunteer forms, online donations and more information.

Things may not be what they were, but they will get better. Habitat Archuleta will be here to advocate for safe, affordable

housing in Archuleta County. How we build is changing, but what we build remains the same: a strong foundation for a family. Your time, your voice and your financial support will help bring strength, stability and independence to Archuleta County families in need of a decent place to live.



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Library resuming several services for patrons beginning May 4

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

As Colorado shifts from “Stay at Home” to “Safer at Home” and relaxes some coronavirus restrictions, your library has exciting news about ways we will be transitioning into this new phase effective Monday, May 4, resuming several services to you, mostly outside the building:

- We will offer curbside service outside the front door so that you can pick up materials including holds, tax forms and things you email to us to print for you. These services will be available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call the library at 264-2209 when you are in the parking lot so that staff can place the items outside for you and walk away, thus maintaining physical distancing. If you put a hold on something from home, please wait for your usual alert (email or text) before coming to pick it up.

- During those same hours, we also will accept returns. We will have a cart outside marked “Returns” for your materials — for safety’s sake, do not use the drop box at the library or the one uptown at City Market. Using this cart system, we can quarantine returned items and get them ready for the next patron. Please note that returned items will be in quarantine for 72 hours before they are checked off your account and wiped down.

- As well, we will resume accepting your donations of materials. Watch for a cart at the entrance marked “Donations.”

- If you do not have a library card but want to use our online resources, you now can self-register. From our website, click “My Account” in the top right. It is the usual login page for current patrons, and it now has (in blue) an option to “Register for a new Library Card.” There’s a short form and then staff will get back in touch with you to give you your login credentials.

- We also will be readmitting a very limited number of people into specific areas of the building for computer appointments Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you want to make a computer appointment, call the library at 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org to schedule a time.

With some possible exceptions, computer appointments will be 45 minutes. This shortened period allows time for staff to clean and disinfect the computers between uses. Also note that in compliance with the San Juan Basin Public Health recommendations, you must wear a covering over your nose and mouth, such as a bandana or homemade cloth mask, reserving



hospital-grade masks for medical workers and those who are sick. The old adage of “No shirt, no shoes, no service” is now “No shirt, no shoes, no mask, no service.” We are not able to provide such coverings; you must bring and wear your own.

- Our services may have to work around our HVAC replacement. We’ll keep you informed of any interruptions to our operations relating to the installation as best we can, if we get enough notice.

“While we’ve been closed we have missed our patrons and are very happy we will be able to see you now, even in this limited way,” said Meg Wempe, library director. “Our reopening plans are evolving, informed by best practices learned from our professional Colorado and national library peers, and by local state and federal laws and regulations.

“I have belief in our amazing community, and our ability to look out for each other and provide compassion, comfort and care. We look forward to seeing you again in the library, once it is deemed safe to return to full service. In the meantime, we hope you will take advantage of these resumed services and please reach out if you have questions.”

More on our operations now

1. You can download e-books and audiobooks through our CloudLibrary app on your smartphone or tablet. IndieFlix allows unlimited streaming access to award-winning shorts, feature films and documentaries. By using the online resource TumbleBook Library, you can find children’s books and audiobooks.

2. As always, you can access Wi-Fi from your car in our parking lot — with your windows and doors closed, please.

3. We are not accepting meeting room reservations or hosting any in-person programming at this time. We hope you will join us for some of our virtual programs.

4. We’re also happy to help you with tech help over the phone for our online resources.

The census has never been easier

You can respond to the census right now even if you have not received an official invitation to respond. This is especially important

for households that receive mail in a post office box because the delivery of 2020 census invitation letters to households with a post office box has been delayed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The good news is that you do not need to wait for anything from the Census Bureau — you can do it online. Instead of using a unique census ID number, you will be asked to enter your physical address.

To complete the census online, go to www.my2020census.gov, or call (844) 330-2020 for the English version or (844) 468-2020 for the Spanish version. Remember that Wi-Fi is available from your car in the parking lot 24/7, even during the library closure. You can visit our website at pagosalibrary.org/census-2020 to view a video that demonstrates how to fill out the census online.

Please phone the library at 264-2209 or email us at ruby@pagosalibrary.org if you have any questions regarding the census.

Your participation is hugely important because it will determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives, directly affect hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for local and regional agencies and projects like health clinics, fire departments, schools, social services like Medicaid, even roads and highways for the next decade. Archuleta County needs your par-

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ continued from previous page
 ticipation to get our fair share of these federal dollars.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics. The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

Free legal clinic

Next Friday, May 8, our volunteer attorney will answer legal questions by phone. Please call the library at 264-2209 or send us an email at ruby@pagosalibrary.org to register. We will need your first name and a contact phone number where our volunteer attorney can call you on the day of the legal clinic.

Nonfiction

“Cosmos: Possible Worlds” by Ann Ruyan, based on the Fox and National Geographic TV series, is the sequel to the Carl Sagan classic. “Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks” is a Frommer’s travel guide.

Thrillers, suspense and mysteries

“Walk the Wire” by David Baldacci features FBI consultant Amos Decker in the latest in the Memory Man series. “Dead Land” by Sara Paretsky is a V.I. Washington mystery. “Camino Winds” by John Grisham begins with the death of a thriller author in a hurricane in

Florida.

Other novels

“Simon the Fiddler” by Paulette Jiles is a story about a ragtag band of musicians and an itinerant fiddle player set in Texas at the end of the Civil War. “Master Class” by Christina Dalcher follows a mother whose child is taken away from her because she failed a monthly school test. “The Book of Longings” by Sue Monk Kidd features a rebellious, ambitious woman in the first century. “Kept Animals” by Kate Milliken is narrated by a daughter more than 20 years after a forest fire changes everyone’s lives.

Downloadable e-books

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

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Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library’s website. Use “Quick Pick,” the discovery tool that lets you sample movies like you would music.

Donations

For their generous monetary donations, we are grateful to Gayle Dixon, Susan and Terry Arrington, Steve Merchant and Ken Rogers.

Quotable quote

Piglet: “Where are we going, Pooh?”

Pooh: “Home, Piglet. We’re going home, because that’s the best thing to do right now.”

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, CDs and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at pagosalibrary.org.

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Senior shopping assistance program, pick-up meals continue

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Senior Center has initiated a senior shopping assistance program during this period of pandemic emergency. Many members of our community are practicing social distancing and voluntary isolation and access to groceries and prescription medicine has been identified as a critical need.

A hotline has been established to connect with a Senior Center volunteer to get the process started. The access number is 422-7084.

Volunteers are needed to help staff telephone lines and to perform the actual shopping tasks. In Pagosa Springs, contact Rod Hubbard at (303)594-5117 to volunteer.

Drive-through pick-up meals continue

The Senior Center is continuing our temporary closing of the congregate dining room due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

In order to continue providing meals, we are offering take-out hot meals and a salad with a drive-up option under the portico at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

These meals will be available Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is a \$4 suggested donation for those age 60 and above. If you need to have your meal delivered, please call 264-2167 to see if this option is available in your area. The cost per meal for the public age 59 and under is \$8.50. The meals include a salad, hot meal, drink and dessert or bread. Our daily menu is posted

Senior News

on our website at psseniors.org and below. Please call 264-2167 to make a reservation for pickup. We are also continuing our Meals on Wheels program.

There will be no games, classes or presentations during this time. The staff will be available by phone. If you need to speak to a staff member, please call 264-2167.

The Community Café menu

Thursday, April 30 — Turkey salad on croissant, potato/leek soup, broccoli with butter, milk, salad and chocolate chip cookie.

Friday, May 1 — Spaghetti with beef meatballs and marinara sauce, caprese salad, Italian spinach with mushrooms, milk and focaccia bread with butter.

Monday, May 4 — Ham with pineapple sauce, baked sweet potato, broccoli with butter, milk, salad and cranberry salad.

Tuesday, May 5 — Fish chowder, honey garlic green beans, buttered corn, milk, cheddar biscuit with butter and salad.

Wednesday, May 6 — Turkey with cornbread dressing and gravy, shredded Brussels sprouts with lime, milk, salad and pumpkin pie.

Thursday, May 7 — Beef chicken-fried steak with mashed po-

tatoes and gravy, yellow squash casserole, salad and pineapple pie.

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

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



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To see if you qualify (see chart) or call 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435)
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2	\$3,101
3	\$3,831
4	\$4,561
5	\$5,290
6	\$6,021
7	\$6,157
8	\$6,294
For each additional person over 8	add \$137

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

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Solve the code to discover words related to poetry.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 6 = e)

A. 16 21 6 3

Clue: Type of rhythmical writing

B. 19 6 8 10 6

Clue: Writing with a metrical rhythm

C. 26 21 8 12 10

Clue: Elements of speech

D. 8 7 14 3 6

Clue: Correspondence of sounds

Answers: A. poem B. verse C. words D. rhyme

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, April 30

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

Saturday, May 2

Virtual Walk for Moms. 8-11 a.m. Honor the superhero in your life by walking for a young mom. Instead of coming together at the park, we are going to encourage teams to dress up, and then walk in their neighborhoods while taking a video or photo and sharing it. We will livestream the event and post videos and photos on Facebook. We will all enjoy the outdoors in small numbers, but celebrate together from our various neighborhoods. Visit aspirepagosa.org.

Tuesday, May 5

Global Day of Giving and Unity. #GivingTuesdayNow will be an international day of giving and unity aimed at raising much-needed funds for communities and individuals affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. United Way of Southwest Colorado is proud to be an official

launch partner of #GivingTuesdayNow.

Thursday, May 7

Introduction to Mindfulness. 5-6:30 p.m. The course will be taught by Sarah Riehm. Mindfulness training offers techniques that can help anyone reduce stress, lower anxiety and manage chronic pain. There will be time for questions and answers after the lesson. This will be an interactive session with gentle movement, so wear comfortable clothing. The workshop will be conducted as a Zoom online meeting. Class size is limited, so register with Brad Glover at the library. Email ruby@pagosalibrary.org, or call 264-2209. For more information, contact Sarah Riehm at (469) 236-0017.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the COVID-19 threat, Loaves and Fishes will continue to offer meals to the community as takeout only. There will be no sit-down service. Guests should come to the front doors of the Parish Hall, where they can pick up meals to go. This practice will continue until further notice.

Friday, May 8

Free Legal Clinic. 2-3 p.m. Your local library staff will schedule all appointments, and the volunteer attorney will call each clinic patron by telephone. For this reason, it is especially important that a reliable phone number be included for

scheduling clinic patrons. To be added to the sign-up sheet, send an email titled 'Sign up for Free Legal Clinic,' plus your name and phone number, to ruby@pagosalibrary.org. This is a free legal clinic 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.

Saturday, May 9

Cottage Foods Training. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This training meets requirement and, upon passing, provides a certificate of training, valid for three years. To register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/on-line-colorado-cottage-foods-training-tickets-103414463444>.

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.

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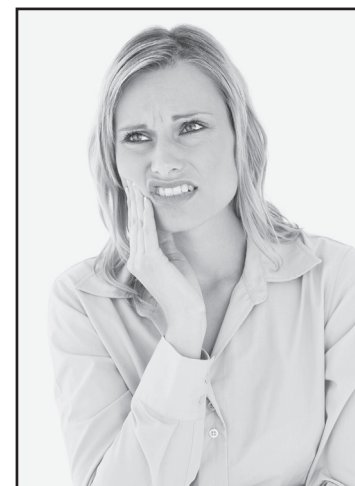
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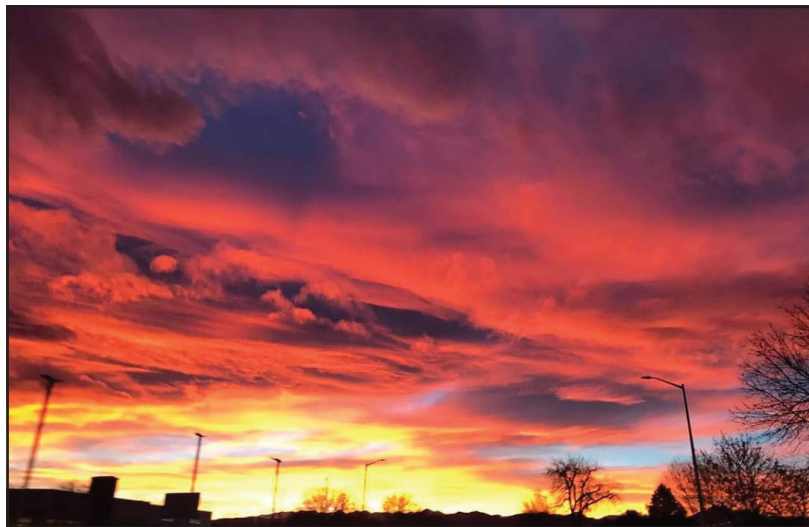
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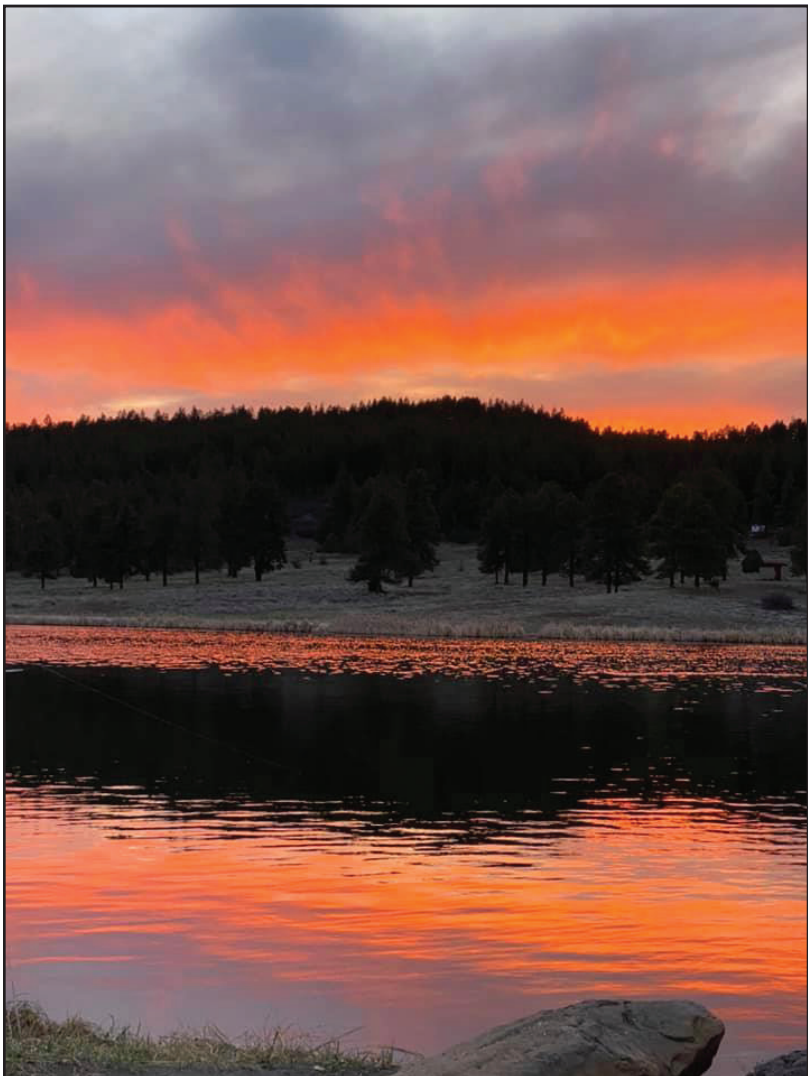
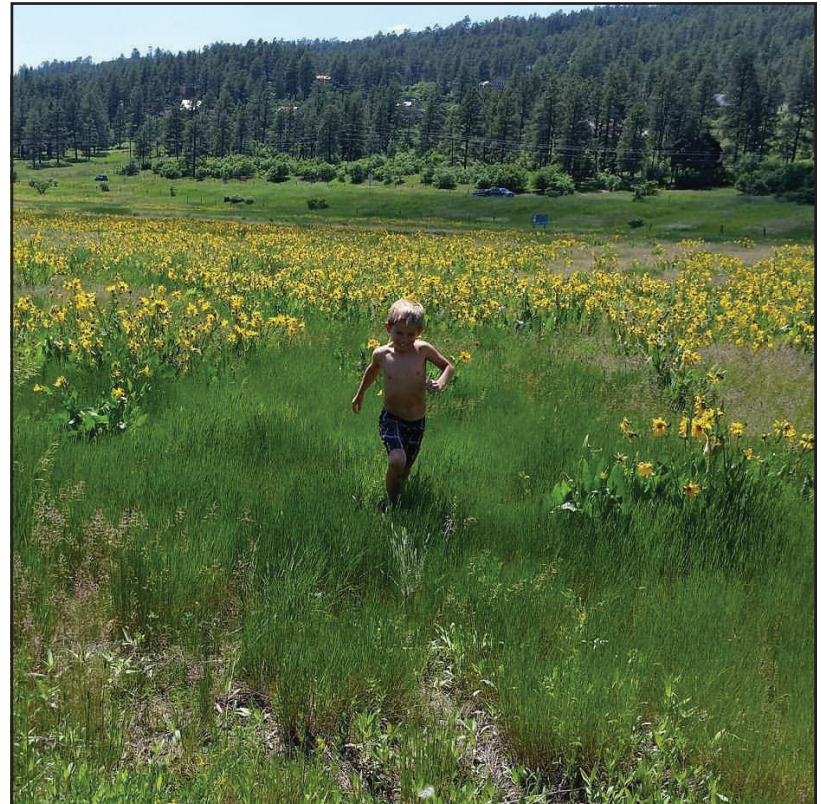
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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY


Scene ... celebrating Earth Day. The cancellation of many Earth Day and Earth Week events didn't stop SUN readers from celebrating, with many heading outside in Pagosa Country. 2020 is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.







KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



**Pagosa Springs Elementary School
will be enrolling kindergarten students for the
2020/21 school year starting Monday, May 4th.**

- Enrollment forms can be picked up at the front entrance of the elementary school or found online at <https://elementary.mypagosaschools.com/> under the PARENTS & STUDENTS tab on the elementary website.
- Completed packet, a copy of birth certificate and immunizations records need to be dropped off at the elementary school front office Tuesday, May 26th-Friday, May 29th during the office hours of 1:00pm-3:30pm.
- Our office staff can be reached at 970-264-2229.

We look forward to meeting all our upcoming kindergartners.

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 lark bunting.

Deemed the state bird of Colorado in 1931 for its unique aerial song and display, the lark bunting is a common bird throughout central North America, a widespread native in western prairie, sagebrush steppe and desert grasslands. This medium-sized member of the sparrow family moves in loose colonies up from wintering grounds in Mexico and southern Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. Upon arrival, they split into smaller groups where males oftentimes maintain territories with multiple mates in breeding sites with tall grasses and shrubs to hide their cup-like ground nests. Males typically establish their territory and then spend weeks performing courtship stunts, flying 15 feet off the ground only to sing elaborately on their descents to attract mates.

Upon entering breeding season, adult male birds transform from brown streaky sparrow-like "basic" plumage into their bold black and white "alternate" plumage. They are predominantly black, but have striking large white patches on their wings and white tipping on their tail feathers. Females and immature males appear a much streakier brown. Both males and females have a distinctly conical bluish gray bill built for an insect and seed diet.

Though much of their habitat is protected by generations-old family ranches, lark buntings are considered as a "common bird under steep decline" by Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Partners in Flight estimates that numbers may have fallen by as much as 86 percent since 1970. Habitat loss from residential and energy development in the grassland ecosystem is the main culprit to account for this loss. Restoring lands previously disturbed to native grasses has proven effective to encourage this species' return.

Though predominantly known to inhabit lower elevations, lark buntings have been recorded passing through this corner of the Rockies in migration. A trip down to Navajo Lake or points south dominated by sagebrush at this time of year may afford folks a socially distant glimpse of our state bird.

Check our website, www.weminucheadubon.org or www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/ for future events.

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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	4	3			1		8	5
	2			6	5	3		
6		5		4				2
			1				2	
	1	7	2		9			
		2		7			9	
						5		9
		1	4			8		
7	3			9				

Level: Beginner

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7	3	6	5	9	8	2	4	1
5	9	1	4	3	2	8	6	7
2	8	4	6	1	7	5	3	9
4	5	2	3	7	6	1	9	8
3	1	7	2	8	9	4	5	6
8	6	9	1	5	4	7	2	3
6	7	5	8	4	3	9	1	2
1	2	8	9	6	5	3	7	4
9	4	3	7	2	1	6	8	5

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

WORDS

- ALLITERATION
- ALLUSION
- ANAPEST
- ANAPHORA
- ASSONANCE
- CAESURA
- COUPLET
- EMPHASIS
- END
- ENJAMBMENT
- EPIGRAPH
- FOOT
- IAMB
- LINES
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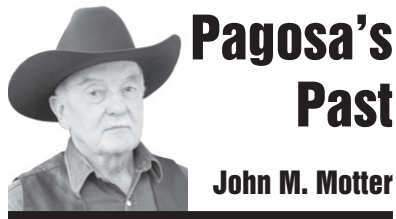
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School days: Fil Byrnes and Pagosa's first school

In mid-October of 1878, troops under the command of Capt. William Hartz marched across the Continental Divide from Fort Garland and temporarily set up camp in Pagosa Springs. Their mission was to protect Pagosa Country settlers from a perceived threat from the Southern Ute Indians.



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Among those settlers was a young man named Fil Byrne. Now we've reached the target I was aiming at when I started the school days series of columns a few weeks ago — Pagosa's first school.

Byrne rode into town shortly after Hartz and commenced teaching school. Welch Nossaman had come to the Hot Springs a few years before the Army and Nossaman is said to have built a log cabin on the locale of what today is Town Park. A bit of guesswork is involved, but it is possible Nossaman's cabin was later used by Byrne as a schoolhouse. Byrne was the first school teacher and at one time was county superintendent of schools.

I could write a book about Byrne and his contributions to Pagosa Country history, but now is not the time. As in other early communities, as settlers moved out of town, crossed a divide and began clearing land for another town, they also built a schoolhouse for their children. In Archuleta County, schools were soon built at what became

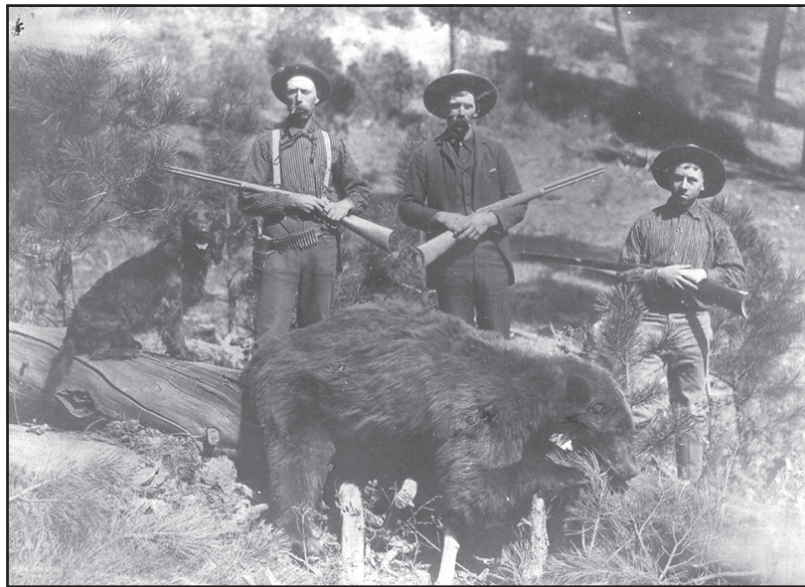


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Pictured in the center is Fil Byrne, proud of the brand new .30-30 rifle cradled in his arms and with which he shot this black bear while hunting along the Blanco River.

Chromo, Edith, Pagosa Junction, Cat Creek, on the Upper Blanco River, on the Lower Blanco River, at Frances, Arboles, Allison, Yellow Jacket Creek, Chimney Rock, Turkey Creek and many more. Several of those school buildings remain. Fred Harman III moved the Upper Blanco schoolhouse his father attended to the Fred Harman Museum in town.

At the beginning of settlement, Archuleta County was covered with huge stands of ponderosa pine trees and mills were built in every stand. Each mill created a need for another schoolhouse and often another commissary. Temporary narrow gauge railroads were built to most of the mills. The lumber companies were awarded free land on which to build the railroads and

a square mile of free timber on either side of the railroad. Considering that encouragement, it is little wonder the timber was clear-cut and has not grown back.

Two major lumber companies did most of the cutting, Ed Sullenburger's Pagosa Lumber Company started at Pagosa Junction, and the Biggs Lumber Company started in New Mexico and entered Archuleta County at Edith. Sullenburger later moved his mill to south Pagosa Springs. He moved it to Dulce in 1916.

Back to schools. There was a time when teachers could punish misbehaving children with a paddle or a belt. I have personal experience with this particular "used to be."

New Thought topic: 'Loving What Is: Embracing Spiritual Ascension'

By Lisa Burnson
Special to The PREVIEW

"Everything happens at exactly the right moment. You don't have to like it, it's just easier if you do." — Byron Katie.

All are welcome to join New Thought Center for Inspirational Living (NTC) this Sunday at 10 a.m. for our presentation: "Loving What Is: Embracing Spiritual Ascension in the Body, Mind and Spirit." Our speaker will be Shayla White Eagle McClure.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for physical distancing.

Staying home? Check out our YouTube channel: Pagosa New Thought Center.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Join us for our weekly call for inspiration this Thursday at 5:30

p.m. Call (605) 475-4002, PIN 285254#, featuring speakers across the country.

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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■ See Topic on next page



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Have you nominated your Adult Role Model for 2020?

We are extending the Adult Role Model Campaign until May 1st.

Who is your Role Model?
Who is your hero in this time of COVID-19?

Forms went home with students at the beginning of March or you can request a form. Forms can also be downloaded at <https://sjbpublichealth.org/thrivingcommunities>

Call Cheryl Bowdridge
at 970-946-5276 with questions
or email: cbowdridge@sjbpublichealth.org

Adult Role Model Campaign brought to you by Rise Above Violence,
Archuleta School District, San Juan Basin Health Department



The hopeless bank robber

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

Frank reached a crossroads. Sick kids throughout the winter created a mound of “payment due” notices from doctors. The loan company threatened foreclosure on their home. A flat on his old truck helped deflate any hopeful expectations. His second job helped, but not enough. He needed a way out.

The events played over and over in his head as he wrote the note he would later hand the teller. He stuck the small-caliber pistol inside his coat pocket, but jammed the shells back into his dresser drawer.

He tried everything. Even petitioned God’s help. Like the banker, God didn’t return his calls.

The ride into town gave him time to think. After today, he would be a wanted man — always glancing over his shoulder, on the run. A plan began to form in his mind. Lay low for a while in a small, out-of-the-way hotel. Call his wife and tell her everything. He would figure out the rest later.

He planned to send small portions of the stolen money home. Not large amounts or big bills, but small ones sent often enough to keep the roof over their heads.

Frank parked the pickup on a side street, close to the alley for an easy getaway. In a final urgent plea, he prayed. “God if you really care, now would be a good time to show up.”

He pushed on the handle and slid out of the car. With a determined stride, he covered the short distance

A Matter of Faith

to the bank.

A long string of customers at the teller’s window heightened his strained nerves. Frank feared he would lose his courage. In a weak attempt to take his mind off the real purpose of his visit, he studied the people.

The impatient man ahead complained, “They need more help around here,” as the line inched forward.

The young clerk looked apprehensive as she waited on patrons. Left alone to cope with the rude, loud-mouthed man, she glanced around, but no one rescued her.

Frank watched the guard stare at the clock on the wall, more attentive to the time of day than the folks around him. “Worthless,” Frank mumbled. The guy needed to do his job, approach the creep and help calm her nerves. By Frank’s calculation, the guy’s shift ended in about 30 minutes. Not today.

A petite, elderly lady finished her transaction, made eye contact with Frank and smiled before she strolled through the revolving door. A subtle lavender scent lingered in the air.

At least one person is in a good mood. Frank glimpsed down and

spotted a New Testament on the floor and bent to retrieve God’s Word. The small Bible laid open to a page in Philippians. A verse highlighted in yellow read, “But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Frank closed his eyes and shut out all the noise. “God, is this scripture a sign or a mere coincidence?”

He detected a glimmer of optimism as God spoke into his spirit. “Believe in me.”

The buildup over the previous months finally drove him to the edge. Somewhere along the way, he lost confidence in God and himself. But a smile from a kind woman and a misplaced little Bible became the means God used to bring peace to his troubled heart. God’s divine intervention kept him from the biggest mistake of his life.

He left his place in the queue and headed toward the exit. Through gritted teeth he muttered, “Your lucky day” and gave a cool nod to security. Outside, he paused and looked up. The evening sun warmed his face as he walked back to his truck.

Frank slipped the little Bible inside his jacket and touched the cold barrel of his revolver.

“For I know the thoughts I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” — Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJ).

Because of Jesus, there is always hope. Regardless of how desperate the problems appear, God is greater. Trust him and never lose faith.

I love you but Jesus loves you more.

Topic

■ continued from previous page information by joining us; emailing PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052,

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052; or calling (505) 604-5031. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought).

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- How does your landscaping look?
- Does your door need painting?
- De-clutter your yard and home.

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Library to offer free Introduction to Mindfulness workshop

By Brad Glover
Special to The PREVIEW

On May 7, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., the Ruby Sisson Library will be offering a free workshop on Introduction to Mindfulness. The course will be taught by Pagosa resident Sarah Riehm, who moved here with her husband full time in March of 2019 after being faithful visitors for six years.

Riehm holds a certification in mindfulness training, as well as a certificate in fitness training and senior adult fitness.

Mindfulness training offers proven, science-backed techniques that can help anyone reduce stress, lower anxiety and manage chronic pain. While "mindfulness" means many different things to people, this class is based on specific methods developed by Professor Jon Kabat-Zinn, founder of the Stress Reduction Clinic and the Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Boston. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers after the teaching session. This

will be an interactive session with gentle movement, so wear comfortable clothing.

This workshop will be conducted as a Zoom online meeting. Class size is limited, so register today with Brad Glover at the library. He can be emailed at ruby@pagosalibrary.org, or call the library at 264-2209. After you register, you will be sent an invitation via email with a link to join the meeting. To participate, you need to have a smartphone or computer with a camera that is connected to the Internet. Or, you can listen to the audio portion only on your phone.

Zoom is a free online meeting platform; if you are not a registered Zoom user, don't fret. You do not need to register or install it prior to the event. However, you might want to install it before this event and run a test to make sure your camera and audio are hooked up so you can enjoy the meeting. Visit <https://zoom.us/signup> to install Zoom for free.

If you have any questions about the course content, contact Riehm at (469) 236-0017.

Outbreaks in long-term care facilities

By Kay Kaylor
PREVIEW Columnist

I advocate for residents in extended care and assisted living residences as the region's lead long-term care ombudsman. I also am a Senior Medicare Patrol and State Health Insurance Assistance Program counselor. Information on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

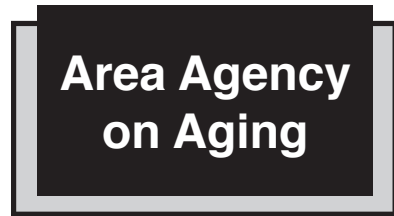
Now that at least 36 states are openly reporting the cases and deaths from COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, the public is likely shocked at the numbers. According to a Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) report released April 23, the portion of total deaths from the virus experienced in care facilities ranges from 8 percent in South Carolina to 60 percent in Delaware. In Colorado, 17 percent of total cases and 50 percent of total deaths have occurred in long-term care homes as of that date.

Residents of these homes are among the most vulnerable to contagious illness due to age and

underlying health conditions, and the close quarters make control of the virus difficult. Advocates such as Justice in Aging and National Consumer Voice are continuously sharing information and contacting lawmakers to seek improvements, such as help for employees and increasing tests and protective equipment.

In 2017, almost 40 percent of facilities had infection control issues found during health department inspections, KFF notes. Due to national directives, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has postponed its regular inspections to focus on facilities with virus outbreaks or with prior infection control citations. In this region, at least one facility had

■ See Aging on next page



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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Croaking critter
- 5 Smoking, say
- 10 Former filly
- 14 Wander about
- 15 Go gaga over
- 16 Brother of Cain
- 17 Ready for business
- 18 Kind of situation
- 19 Fairy follower
- 20 Innumerable
- 22 Beauty-related
- 24 Realtor's client
- 26 Not slouching
- 27 Costa del _____
- 29 Electrifying swimmer
- 30 Flip through
- 32 Beach town attraction
- 34 Inheritance of the firstborn
- 39 Away from the wind
- 40 Legend maker
- 41 Small jazz combo
- 42 Underwood product
- 44 Shout
- 45 "Schindler's _____"
- 46 Incite, with "on"
- 48 Apiece, in scores
- 49 Ends of the Earth?
- 52 Took a break from cooking
- 54 "The Odyssey", for one
- 57 California vulture
- 60 Once, long ago
- 61 Climate activist Thunberg
- 63 Lion's locks
- 64 Far from ruddy
- 65 Lid or lip application
- 66 The "A" of ABM
- 67 Place for tools
- 68 Wrapped up
- 69 Sign-making substance

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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64					65						66			
67					68						69			

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DOWN

- 1 Memo field
- 2 Like some muscles
- 3 Wake too late
- 4 Lamp dweller
- 5 Bike-steering devices
- 6 Without further _____
- 7 Shady spot
- 8 Bearded bloom
- 9 It may be pitched
- 10 Type of leave
- 11 Taper off
- 12 Dig discovery
- 13 Choose for office
- 21 Brewpub offering
- 23 "Now _____ this!"
- 25 Draw out
- 27 Petty quarrel
- 28 Like a mechanic's rag
- 30 It may be curbed
- 31 One way to pay
- 33 Bush, in 2004
- 35 Boring routine

- 36 Scooby Doo, for one
- 37 Sledding spot
- 38 Cost to cross
- 43 Bit of smoke
- 47 Slimy gunk
- 49 Easter treats
- 50 She's been dubbed the "Queen of All Media"

- 51 Hosiery material
- 52 Change, as a bill
- 53 Break one's spirit
- 55 Leer at
- 56 Moran of "Happy Days"
- 58 Not fooled by
- 59 Bridle strap
- 62 Piece of pipe

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

S	C	O	R	E		S	T	E	P		S	H	A	G			
L	O	V	E	R		A	U	R	A		L	O	U	R			
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T	A	L	I	S	M	A	N		R	H	E	S	U	S			
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P	L	O	T				R	A	I	D			A	N	N	O	Y
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E	W	E	R				M	E	T	E			S	T	I	L	E

Subscribe to The SUN

Could you be missing out on senior discounts?

By Chris Orestis
Special to The PREVIEW

People who reach or near their retirement years often need to watch every penny.

Sure, some of them are financially fit and don't lose sleep worrying that their bank accounts and investments will run dry, out of money. For many, though, frugality is the watchword as they struggle to make it through each month.

Fortunately, aging does come with at least one financial perk — senior discounts that restaurants, grocery stores, retail stores, airlines, car rental companies, hotels and other businesses offer to their older clientele. These discounts give older Americans a break on prices for everything from a gym membership to a fast-food meal to a movie ticket.

You would think all seniors and their families would be all over these opportunities. But, surprisingly, many people don't take advantage. In some cases, that could be because it doesn't occur to ask whether a discount is available. In other cases, people just have a hard time thinking of themselves as seniors.

But you need to be aware — and you should always ask. In scouring for discounts, here are a few other things to keep in mind:

- Don't assume you're too young. How old do you need to be? It varies. That's one reason it's always good to ask. You could already be eligible for a discount at a business and not realize it. For example, AARP

membership starts at 50 and comes with numerous discounts built into the membership. Chili's restaurants offer a 10 percent senior discount to those 55 and older. At the other end of the scale, Taco Bell will give you a free beverage, but not until you are at least 65.

- Sometimes when you go matters. Some discounts happen on a particular day of the week. Just as an example, some Captain D's restaurants offer a "Happy Wednesday" discount where once a week seniors can choose from among eight meals at a reduced price. No one expects you to schedule your entire life around discounts, but for some individual things — such as a night at the movies or dinner out or even a shopping trip to a retail store — it's worth knowing that going a day earlier or a day later might make a difference.

- Occasionally, you don't even have to be a senior. Plenty of opportunities exist to save money whether you're advancing in years or not. Many stores offer store "memberships" that come with a discount with each purchase. Also, the American Automobile Association is another organization whose members enjoy a number of discounts in much the same way AARP members do.

- Individually, some discounts might amount to just a dollar or two. But as you take advantage of more of them, those savings grow. When you're on a fixed income — or just want to get the most out of every dollar you have — the difference over time can be significant.

Aging


■ continued from previous page

an April inspection due to a prior infection control citation.

Families and friends who cannot visit, generally unless a resident is nearing death, must avoid sharing with residents their anxiety, fears and frustrations with the situation. People who are living with dementia will sense these feelings and become upset while also tending to forget or not understand why caregivers are wearing masks, for example, cars are driving by honking or people are talking to them outside a window with a phone.


The Alzheimer's Association suggests continuing to communicate with residents, to send cards and treats, and to emphasize how these confusing practices are temporary and for everyone's safety. It offers information and support through its 24-hour Helpline, (800) 272-3900.

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare. For further information, please call or text 403-2165 or send an email to leadombudsman@sjbaaa.org.



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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE. Water and Wastewater Surcharges. The Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Board is proposing a \$0.68 surcharge per Water Equivalent Unit (EU) (a residential home is a single EU) and \$0.22 surcharge per wastewater equivalent unit to offset Capital Investment Fee reductions for new construction of homes that meet low income or workforce housing definitions. In conformance with C.R.S. §32-1-1001(2)(a), a public hearing regarding these proposed surcharges shall be held at the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on May 14, 2020 at 5:00 at the PAWSD District Office at 100 Lyn Avenue, Pagosa Springs Colorado. This Board Meeting can also be accessed remotely via Zoom using Meeting ID: 812 9365 1137 and Password: 934381. For additional remote dial-in information visit www.pawsd.org > District Business > Public Meetings. This public hearing is your opportunity to express your support or opposition of these proposed fees. Please join us and provide your input. **PAGOSA AREA WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT** By: /S/ Jim Smith. Chairman: Jim Smith.

DRIVE UP CANNABIS WINDOW for adults at **Good Earth Meds**. Call your order in to (970)731-3202, follow the traffic cones to Drive Up Window. Go to "www.goodearth-meds.com" for Recreational Menu. Let's all stay safe and healthy.

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BIDS FOR THE PAGOSA SPRINGS Maintenance Facility. Alcon Construction is still considering local bids for the Pagosa Springs Maintenance Facility. The project consists of 29,000 total square feet of shop, storage and administrative building space in four buildings. We are seeking local interest and would like to see more local bids. Some of the scopes we're still considering are: Flooring, paint, signage, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, rough carpentry, EIFS siding finish, block masonry etc. If you're interested in bidding the project please contact Marshall Tringham with Alcon Construction at (719)589-4084 or mtringham@alconconstruction.com.

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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 6p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org. As of 3/31, our meeting space is temporarily unavailable due to COVID-19 precautions. For updates, please text (303)815-8569. For a list of online and phone meetings, please visit al-anon.org.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

STEAK NIGHT WEDNESDAY 6-10p.m. at Iron Dram Whiskey Bar. 12 oz. ribeye, potato, salad, roll and dessert, \$24; half \$12. Jersey Lily's cooking!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous is now meeting online once a day, everyday, Sunday- Saturday. For meeting schedule and information, email aapagosa@gmail.com, or call Val at (970)946-6086.

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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HELP WANTED

PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE- F/T position. No experience necessary. Competitive pay/benefits. Energetic. Dependable, multi-tasker a must. Submit resumes to Rocky Mountain PT, 35 Mary Fisher Cir.

NOW HIRING FULL-TIME FRONT COUNTER associate with positive customer service skills. Job includes waiting on customers with their meat and seafood needs, packaging meat, taking phone orders, cash register sales. Must be able to multi task and be friendly. Customer service experience preferred. Please apply in person with Kevin at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

VILLAGE INTERIORS CARPET ONE is hiring! We are looking for energetic additions to our sales force. Must be able to multitask. Sales and QuickBooks experience helpful. Full time. Contact Dan or Jared (970)731-2711.

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.

HIRING FENCE BUILDERS AND fence repair individuals. Experience a must. Piedra Valley Ranch. (970)946-4615, ask for Robert.

CNA CLASS STARTING SOON. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Competitive wages and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

ELEMENTARY TEACHER NEEDED at Del Norte Elementary School for the 2020/2021 school year. We are seeking a hardworking and enthusiastic teaching professional to join our dynamic, vibrant and fun-loving team. Please submit your application, resume and cover letter to: Amy Duda, Principal, at aduda@urtigers.co or contact Amy at (719)657-4030. Applications can be retrieved online at: dnscd.org.

HELP WANTED

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.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Please email applications and resumes to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or fax to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

LINE COOK/ PREP COOK WANTED full time at the PEAK DELI. Bring resume. No calls.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Scheduling/ Pre-Registration Specialist.** The Specialist will receive appointment requests, usually by phone, for services and procedures. The Specialist coordinates the exam times per protocol with convenience considered for the patients and departments. Responsible for the accurate and efficient pre-registration of scheduled patients by gathering and recording the patient demographic and insurance data into the computer system. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or human resources office or downloaded at www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to Mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EOE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for local nonprofit Pagosa Springs Girls Choir. The Executive Director will report to the Board of Directors and will have overall strategic and operational responsibility for the Choir's programs, as well as expansion and execution of its mission. He/ she will work in conjunction with the Music Director. Please submit your resume by Thursday, May 7, to singpagosa@gmail.com.

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 20-21 school year includes Middle School Math Teacher; Alternative High School Teacher (Must be certified in a core subject area); Head High School Boys' Basketball Coach; Asst. High School X-Country Coach; Asst. Middle School Football Coach; and Bus Drivers. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

ARCHULETA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE is accepting applications for the position of Detention Officer. For job description and wage details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff's Office Application and resume to Human Resources at PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

CONSTRUCTION HELPERS NEEDED. Will train. Reliable transportation required. Call Fullerton Works, LLC at (970)403-5119.

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CDL CLASS B OPERATOR WANTED. Stop by 128 Bastille Dr. to pick up an application or email resume to pagosa.office@eagleriverwaste.com.

THE UPPER RIO GRANDE (previously Del Norte) School District is seeking applications for a Jr/Sr High School Principal for the 2020/2021 school year. Applicants must hold a current Colorado Principal license. Previous experience as a Principal or Assistant Principal is preferred. Applications may be obtained online at www.dnscd.org. Please submit your application, resume, and cover letter to: Chris Burr, Superintendent, cburr@urtigers.co, (719)657-4040.

SMALL HOTEL HIRING PART-TIME housekeeper. Must be available weekends. Pay rate depending on experience. Please call 731-5345.

SPA/ HOT TUB WATER CARE and Maintenance Person wanted. Need clean driving record. Maintain water chemistry, cleaning of spa/filters/ covers, etc, chemical treatment, and more. Technical repair of heaters, pumps, plumbing, controls, etc. Deliver and replace covers, install accessories, help Spa/ Hot Tub Delivery Crew on deliveries and moving display tubs in and out of showroom. Training is provided. Please call (970)946-4673 for more information or visit us at Homespun Comforts, 301 N Pagosa Blvd, B-6.

MUSIC DIRECTOR for local nonprofit Pagosa Springs Girls Choir. The Choir Director is responsible for providing the leadership in choral music. He/ she is to use this position to continue to develop this well-established middle school community girls choir and to assure the success of the music education and performances of the choir. Please submit your resume by Thursday, May 7, to singpagosa@gmail.com.

HAVE LOVE AND ROOM in your heart for children? Consider being a foster family or family helper with Human Services. Call 264-2182 for more information.

ASSISTANT BREWER. Opportunity of a lifetime! Join the Brew Crew at award-winning Pagosa Brewing. Will train. Heavy lifting and attention to detail required. Apply at 118 N. Pagosa Blvd., Facebook, or PagosaBrewing.com.

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FIFTH-WHEEL TRAILER HITCH by RBK Industries, 15,000# Pro Series, includes mounting rails and hardware, \$200. Heavy-duty DELTA cabinet shaper with accessories and bits, \$250. Call Mac 731-0306.

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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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2012 TOYOTA PRIUS HYBRID. Mileage 83,000 miles, second owner. Good to excellent condition. Call (970)946-5662 or Beehive at (970)731-3340.

BUCKSKIN TOWING & REPAIR LLC has a 1957 Rust Chevrolet Wagon VIN#233319 and a 1957 Black/ White Ford Wagon VIN#132385 for sale. Please stop by Buckskin Towing & Repair at: 1435 E. Hwy. 160 to place a bid on these vehicles. P.O. Box 311, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970)264-2500.

2012 TOYOTA PRIUS C hybrid hatchback with 146,393 miles, serviced regularly. 4 door, auto transmission and hybrid power plant. New windshield, aftermarket wheels, floor mats, roof rack. \$7,000. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St., Pagosa, (970)731-7296.

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RENTAL AVAILABLE MAY 1ST. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2,400 sq. ft. home on fully landscaped half acre. 2 minutes from grocery store. Walking distance to many uptown shops. Pagosa Peak views and large deck. Sodded for outdoor recreation with many beautiful trees. Enjoy loft office and extra upstairs living room. Large driveway with 2 car garage. (Rent includes professional snow removal and lawn care.) \$2,200/ month. For inquires call (970)749-0208.

NICE TINY HOME on Lower Blanco River Road. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, plus enclosed garage and detached workshop. Beautiful views and private location. 1.5 usable flat acres. Must haul or have water delivered. \$950/ month. First, last plus security deposit due at signing. Questions/ inquiries to steve.sarkis@gmail.com.

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. \$1,750/ month includes: water, lawn maintenance, snow removal. Call/text (512)626-8499.

FOR RENT-LAKE FRONT HOME: 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Detached 2-car garage with loft. No pets. \$1,675 per month plus deposit (970)749-6374.

BE THE CHANGE. Primary election ballots go out June 8 and the county primary election is June 30. You get to decide if competence and character are important to you! For change, vote Warren Brown county commissioner district 1. Paid for by the Committee to Elect Warren Brown, Registered Agent Warren Brown.

LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)459-4411 or sunethaproperties.com.

DOWNTOWN APARTMENT. 1 BEDROOM, 1 bath, furnished, utilities included except internet. \$1,200/ month rent and \$1,200 deposit. (970)749-4769.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH APARTMENT for rent. \$1,100/ month includes ALL utilities (except internet/ cable), \$1,100 security deposit. NO pets, NO smoking, shared washer/ dryer in basement. Located 2 miles east of town right off of highway, quiet country like setting. Call or text (970)903-0966.

SAN JUAN RIVER RESORT. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, furnished, water included. \$1,650 per month. Call Ginni at (970)731-2216.

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DOWNTOWN HOUSE FOR RENT. 4 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, 1-car attached garage. (303)908-6958.

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COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE NOW in the beautiful Towne Terrace building downstairs, Unit 103. Nice high ceilings, open and spacious. 927 sq. ft., \$1,500 per month. Call Cindy Houston (970)903-7934.

40X60 SHOP WITH OFFICE. 2 12'x14' doors. 1 10'x12' door. 1-1/2 acres, totally fenced in with automatic gate. Great for auto repair or big truck shop. (970)731-3177.

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DOWNTOWN OFFICES AVAILABLE UP-STAIRS in the Heritage building, 468 Pagosa Street. Starting at \$250/ month. Includes kitchen, conference room, utilities and WiFi. 946-2728.

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HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

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HOUSES FOR SALE

JUST REDUCED! DESIRABLE LOG house. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, living, dining and kitchen are one great room. Single detached garage, asphalt drive to street, and fenced. \$307,500. (480)235-8435.

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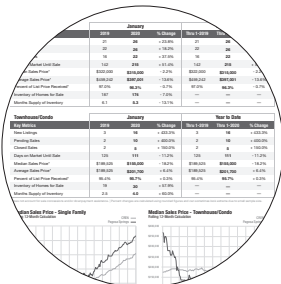
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