



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

A large herd of cow and calf elk spend a relaxing afternoon in a meadow near Pagosa Springs recently.

School district unveils draft reopening plan

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Archuleta School District began unveiling its draft plan for reopening schools this fall and receiving feedback on it, beginning with district staff and the Board of Education (BOE).

Next Tuesday, July 21, the district will hold a pair of parent meetings regarding the plan.

The draft plan is available on the district's website, www.mypagosaschools.com.

"Our families are trusting us to build a really good plan," Superintendent Dr. Kym LeBlanc-Esparza told the BOE Tuesday.

The superintendent told the

board that, as of the meeting, 480 parents had responded to the district's parents survey and 133 staff members had returned their survey.

In presenting information related to the draft plan, LeBlanc-Esparza noted the draft was based on the current guidance available from the Colorado Department of Education and public health agencies, though updated guidance for schools was expected Wednesday morning.

Board feedback on the plan touched upon determining and documenting students meeting state requirements and curriculum,

■ See School A8

Local COVID-19 cases rise by eight in two weeks

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases among Archuleta County residents has doubled since the end of June, with the county sitting at 16 confirmed cases as of noon Wednesday, with seven patients having recovered.

From April 17 to June 29, Archuleta County remained at eight total confirmed cases among residents.

As of noon Wednesday, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) reported 11 confirmed cases among nonresidents in Archuleta County through Tuesday, but the agency notes that does not include all cases who are visiting the area.

That figure, according to SJBPH's

website, "includes cases who were visiting from another country, state or county in Colorado. This will include any cases that are reported to SJBPH and were tracked or investigated by the team. This will not include cases who live in La Plata county but sought medical care in Archuleta. This data should be interpreted carefully because it does not include ALL cases who are visiting the jurisdiction, this only includes the cases that SJBPH was notified of and performed a case investigation in order to prevent spread of COVID-19. These cases will be included in the case counts for the location of their permanent residence."

As of Tuesday evening, Pagosa

■ See COVID-19 A8



SUN photo/John Finefrock

The scenic overlook on Wolf Creek Pass signals to visitors and locals alike that they have arrived in Pagosa Country.

Planning commission approves justice center design

Requires evidence of county's financial ability to finish the project

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Planning Commission approved the final major design review application for the Archuleta County Justice Center pending a variety of conditions being met, including securing a funding source, at a regular meeting on July 14.

Located at 125 Harman Park Drive, construction is anticipated to start in the summer of 2020, according to agenda documentation.

Brad Ash, of Reynolds Ash and Associates, noted that the project would be completed in the summer of 2021.

The project is expected to be one story and about 17,115 square feet and will include three courtrooms and other spaces at around 7,880 square feet, agenda documentation describes.

Additionally, a probation department, space for the county clerk, a holding area and secure corridor to the detention center, commons room and area available for two

■ See Planning A8

Voters opt to amend town's home rule charter

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

In Tuesday's Town of Pagosa Springs election, Ballot Question A passed with 257 yes votes and 89 no votes.

The result means the town's home rule charter will be amended so that "Any proposal by the Town Council or by the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority [URA] 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."

April Hessman, town clerk, outlined the voter turnout in an email to The SUN on Wednesday morning.

"We mailed out 1,050 ballots per the voter registration list we received from the Archuleta County Clerk.

"We received 347 ballots," she wrote.

The voter turnout was roughly 33 percent.

"I'm not surprised by the outcome of the election yesterday, but am very disappointed," wrote URA Commission chair Don Volger in an email to The SUN. "This was a complicated issue that

many didn't fully understand. However, we have a wonderful URA Board that will meet soon to discuss how to proceed. Our options will be limited because of the one million dollar cap on [infrastructure], but we can still encourage and support responsible development that aligns with our Comprehensive Plan and suggestions from Smart Growth America. I believe everything happens for a reason, and it will be very interesting to see how this plays out."

"The overwhelming majority of Town voters

■ See Voters A8

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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EDITORIAL

Bodhi's bike: A gift in more ways than one

There is nothing quite like a 7-year-old boy's love for his bike.

It was natural that when Bodhi King celebrated his birthday weekend at the Town Park Athletic Field with friends and family, his bike went along with him to the party.

When his family was leaving the park to return home, it was discovered that Bodhi's purple Fit Misfit BMX bike was missing.

His parents reached out to friends on social media for help in recovering the bike, which had been his Christmas present.

Those friends reached out to other friends, sharing the post about Bodhi's bike.

The SUN shared his mom's post to the newspaper's Facebook group, where it was spotted by Susan Sorce.

Susan and her husband, Ken, live in the Aspen Springs subdivision and they have a Facebook group known as Aspen Springs COMMUNITY.

"I just wanted people out here to know to keep an eye out for that bike. A lot of the people out here take their kids to town to play and I just wanted to let them know what had happened and to keep an eye out for that bike," wrote Susan about why she shared the missing bike post in her Aspen Springs group.

Susan is just that sort of person, providing information to the group in order to help others. In her caring fashion, she also shares posts about lost pets, accidents, fires and such with her friends and neighbors.

The group is pretty popular in her subdivision and you will find people helping each other all the time in myriad ways.

As a matter of fact, Roper the dog was happily reunited with his family in no time, thanks to a post in the group the same day that Susan posted about the missing bike.

As social media goes, it didn't take long for those in the Aspen Springs COMMUNITY group to start expressing their sadness and disdain over Bodhi's stolen BMX bike.

Jan Havens wrote: "Takes a real quality person to steal a kids bike. What an ____."

We'll let you fill in the blank there.

Anne Jo Lee Hill exclaimed "Just, wow, who steals a kids bike?!"

It didn't take long for Elle Craig to redi-

rect the subject from who would do this to a child and pose the question: "If it doesn't turn up who wants to pitch in and buy a new one for this young man? Isn't that what CommUnity is about?"

"Let's make his Birthday better than this incident. Does anyone know his mother?"

Sandy Freeman was the first person to reach out and chip in to help buy Bodhi a new bike.

She was quickly followed by a pledge from Niara Terela Isley. Then, Darrin Strickland, Becky Woods Ziminsky and Cindi Galaty Galabota all chimed in, wanting to give to the cause.

Steven Keno wasn't sheepish when he wrote: "Count me in. Lets show them how the community can come together."

Jason Okash stepped up with \$40 to help a kid get a new bike.

Ken and Susan chipped in, too, with Ken exclaiming, "I love our Community!"

It was looking very much like this group was going to make sure that a 7-year-old boy would receive the best gift ever.

Chris Torres asked the group for confirmation that Bodhi would be getting another bike.

Others were determined to keep looking for the missing bike.

Lori Ayers shared that she had asked her teens to ask their friends to keep an eye out for Bodhi's bike in town.

Others shared their own experience and were determined to help make a difference.

"Who can I give my support and \$ to.... I'm in!!!!!! My daughter had her bike stolen once.... We found it later at the bottom of a bridge. All busted up of course. It broke her heart," Deborah Lubeck added. "This is unbelievable that someone would be so callous and cruel to take a kids bike. On his birthday no less!!!! Desplicable!!!!"

When Elle came back online later, she was pleased at what had transpired in her absence, "Wow! I'm back online. You all are amazing! This is wonderful!"

In a matter of hours, this group of Aspen Springs residents had lived up to the Facebook group's name: Aspen Springs COMMUNITY.

A couple of group members reached out to Bodhi's mom for more information.

"You all have restored my faith in my home town," Ivy King responded in a

Facebook message. "Just knowing there are people left like you all makes my heart happy ..."

"Please extend our thanks to all the Springers for even thinking about this! I'm crying!! Just sending me this is enough."

"Side note: his auntie had offered yesterday to take care of a bike for him."

"I am so grateful for all of you to even think of him. Absolutely wonderful."

Ivy included a few heart emojis in her message to express her love for the kind gesture.

"It's really is 'faith restoring' to see this kind of love and support," wrote Becky Woods Ziminsky. "...When people want to know more about this area I am always proud to talk about our little community within a community."

"The hearts of you, all my neighbors, is refreshing in this crazy world. This incident isn't about the bike anymore as a family member stepped in but for Bodhi to know for every 'bad egg' out there there are 10 more good ones that will step up and stand up for what's right! - Bravo [Aspen Springs]!"

You might think that is where the story ended. It is not.

Elle asked her friends, "So, Tomorrow I'd like to go get a Birthday card and I'll contact each of you who said they'd like to pitch in. Given that his Aunt is buying his bike I thought we could get him a gift card. I'm open to any other suggestions. Becky Woods Ziminsky, would you mind helping me in coordinating this?"

The group decided to reach out to Maria Olsen at the Turkey Springs Trading Post to allow people to drop off donations/gifts for Bodhi and to have them sign a card at her store.

Justin Timmerman, Linda Gunnels, Annie Stone and Christopher Gray joined in to support the effort, with Maria and David at the trading post also contributing to the gift fund.

What a difference one community can make in restoring one's faith in humanity after it was stolen on a 7-year-old boy's birthday, along with his bike.

The story brings to mind one of our favorite quotes by Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Terri Lynn Oldham House

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
July 16, 1920

Cement work on the new Sparks building was commenced Monday morning with two eight-hour shifts working daily. The walls have been completed and the roof is now being laid. The hoisting of the cement buckets is accomplished by means of a Ford car and is a novel sight.

The brick front of the Hatcher Merc. Co. store is now completed, the center stairway has been torn out and the front is now ready for the finishing touches.

Durango and Pagosa will cross bats on the local diamond Sunday afternoon at 2:30. It is an undisputed fact that these are the best two teams in the San Juan basin and the time has come to decide which is the better of the two. This will make the fourth game this season between Pagosa and Durango, Pagosa having been victorious in two and loser in one in the clashes with the Smelter City boys. It behooves every lover of the national game to be out in full force Sunday afternoon, as we cannot afford to lose this game and the championship of the basin.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
July 20, 1945

The big tree that fell across the basin road Saturday fell just in front of the Frank Stephens' car stopping the family on their way to town. Mr. Stephens, July Macht, and Emory Minium made a road around the fallen giant, to serve until the tree can be removed.

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Risinger are doing some re-decorating, painting and papering inside their home in the Park, and putting in a new hot water tank.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Brown are painting their ranch house. It surely improves the appearance of the whole place — would that more Pagosans were so inspired.

The local ration board announces this week that all canning sugar applications must be in their office on or before Aug. 4th. Under a new ruling no more canning sugar applications will be received after that date, SO GET YOUR CANNING SUGAR NOW.

Airplane Stamp No. 4 will be good for a new pair of shoes beginning August 1st.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
July 16, 1970

Archaeological crews are now working on the restoration of ancient Indian ruins atop Chimney Rock. In addition college archaeologists are excavating ruins that have not been uncovered before and mapping and charting the ruins in the Chimney Rock archaeological area. This area is under the supervision of the Forest Service and an archaeological visitor area is being developed on top of the mesa.

Due to the fact that Chimney Rock is relatively inaccessible in the area where ruins are being restored, helicopters are used to fly in materials and supplies. Last week a helicopter, piloted by Jim Hicks, of Durango, air-lifted 60,000 pounds of sand, 10,000 pounds of cement, a cement mixer, water tanks, tools, and equipment to the ruins area in one day.

Particular care is taken to make sure that stabilized ruins are sturdy and safe. The early residents of Chimney Rock, now believed to have been built in the period from 950 to 1100 A.D., were experienced and careful stone masons. Kivas are built very solidly and adjoining rooms are of excellent workmanship.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
July 20, 1995

Has the dramatic growth in population in Archuleta County over the past few years brought with it a corresponding increase in housing rental prices? This is a question the Archuleta County Housing Authority and its management agency Southwest Community Resources needs to answer. The answer could have a major impact on the ability of low income families to afford adequate local housing in the years to come. According to Housing Authority president Margaret Gallegos, a phone survey of residents of the county will continue through the end of July. Surveyors are calling residents seeking only statistical information, and Gallegos urged all people contacted to cooperate in the brief process. The Archuleta County Housing Authority provides assistance to low income families through its Section 8 program and uses money provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

WHADDYA THINK?

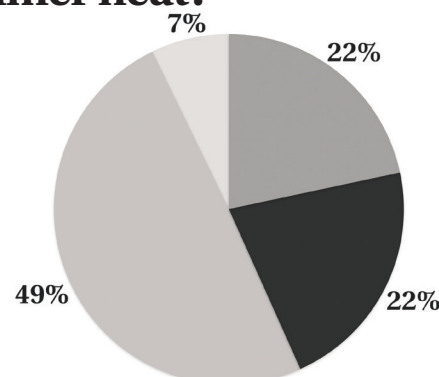
What is your favorite way to cool off in the summer heat?

Poll results (194 votes)

Play in the river. — 22 percent
Stay inside. — 22 percent
Head to the high country. — 49 percent
Other. 7 percent

Vote this week online:
What would you give up to end the drought?

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
7/7	86	52	-	-	-
7/8	85	43	-	-	-
7/9	86	46	-	-	-
7/10	90	45	-	-	-
7/11	93	46	-	-	-
7/12	91	51	-	-	-
7/13	86	51	-	-	-

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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.

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

'Scarlet Letter'

Dear Editor:
Racism is the new "Scarlet Letter" that the left wishes to emblazon across the forehead of anyone and everyone who disagrees with their Socialist agenda. It is falsely used to discredit President Trump and those who support him, to deny adequate legislation to stop the flow of illegal immigration and is slowly becoming interchangeable with homophobia, xenophobia, and the like. It is also falsely applied to anyone who objects to the violence, arson, and looting by rioters associated with the Marxist Black Lives Matter organization.

My Webster's New World Dictionary defines racism as: "a doctrine or teaching, without scientific support, that claims to find racial differences in character, intelligence, etc., that asserts the superiority of one race over another or others, and seeks to maintain the supposed purity of a race or the races."

Does real racism still exist? Yes, sadly it does but it does not exist on anywhere near the scale that it did in the 1950's and 60's. Things have gotten much better over time. Should the rare instances of police misconduct be punished? Of course they should. Does that mean that all police are racist? That assertion is patently absurd.

The FBI estimates that there are 17,985 law enforcement agencies in the U.S., and about 800,000 sworn law enforcement officers in our nation. The FBI also reports that in 2019 there were 48 officers feloniously murdered in the line of duty. It is also reported that 55 percent of people shot by the police are white, 27 percent are black, and 19 percent are hispanic. These statistics are used by the left to claim "sys-

temic racism" by police in America, but in reality the person most likely to be killed by the police are those engaging in violent criminal behavior. An individual's behavior, not his race, is the determining factor in fatal shootings by police. To paint the entire law enforcement community as "systemically racist" is both inaccurate and dangerous.

Calls to defund or disband entire police departments disproportionately impact minority neighborhoods who sadly suffer the highest crime rates. This is especially true of places like New York and Chicago who have draconian gun laws that inhibit the ability of minority families to defend themselves. Ask the 670 Chicagoland area families who suffered either a murder or wounding so far this year.

America is not a racist nation. White people are not privileged just because they are white and just making that assertion is, in fact, a form of racism. Being white doesn't make someone racist. These and similar claims only divide our nation and breed hatred or distrust between ethnic groups. But of course, that's precisely what the left wants as they continue to pursue the path of Identity Politics in order to obtain political power.

Please keep your Scarlet Letter to yourselves.

Richard Bolland

'Personal choice'

Dear Editor:
It seems to me that John Farleys letter was incomplete, thus inaccurate somewhat, in failing to mention an extremely impacting variable — that being the variable of personal choice. To clarify by example, I asked a native American about college, etc. He told me it was available through the tribe. So my next question was why don't people take this opportunity / advantage, get some education and come back to help their people through this? He replied he did not know except maybe they did not want to leave where they were. I am just passing on what I was told. Personal choice. Also, for the mortality rate stats you threw out there; that has a lot to do with the mother's health. If I, having food stamps, can buy what I want, continue to pass up greens, fruits, vegetables, etc. to eat fry breads, mounds of French fries, pizza, alcohol and rampant drug use ... well, it's reasonable to assume the impact on health. Obesity, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Personal choice. Are you following this important variable? I noticed you did not mention The United Negro College Fund ... I thought they helped. According to state number searcher, Charlie Kirk, under the present administration black unemployment hit a record low, black wage growth hit a record high and there is booming black business growth. Listen, racism has been here and is here, was even in the Bible and it is my believe it will be here till Jesus comes back. It is not right; but destroying innocent people's property and ranting certainly won't help. That is fuel to the fire, which is what some actually want, it seems. As far as George Floyd; that was not right of the cop and I do hope justice is served, but I can't say I'm sorry the career criminal is gone. Several times in prison, a rap sheet longer than Main street (making a point), holding a loaded gun to a pregnant women's stomach while his 5 buddies burglarized her house, (Really? 6 guys against a pregnant woman?) and all the mass things he did Not

get caught for during his life ... who knows? He may have killed someone himself? Candace Owens, a young black woman, who knows her own culture and people, gave this information out (being public info). And I have heard the GOFUNDME his family started has over \$14 million, so ... anyway, I would much rather see this nation get outraged over the million plus innocent, crimeless infants we murder each year. Many because people won't take 30 seconds to put a condom on. Yeah ... I know ... personal choice killed them, right? All lives matter.

Peg Ellis

Internet outages

Dear Editor:
This is open letter to the Archuleta county commissioners and Pagosa Springs Town board.

This past week we've experienced yet another one of our "regular?" internet outages in our community. This prevents visitors & locals alike from using their credit cards & internet. (Note to Town of PS ... you're losing sales tax revenue everytime the internet goes down) & it's simply bad for our local businesses.

Now that internet usage is skyrocketing due to the pandemic Redundant internet service in the Pagosa area is an urgent necessity.

We've been promised broadband for so many years & locals know it's been a wimpy, failed promise. There is fiber optic now to the top of Wolf Creek Pass. What's the hold up in bringing it to Pagosa. ?

Every week ... I urge local leaders to pester, cajole & insist that Colorado's state agencies prioritize Pagosa's urgent need for internet redundancy. It's a vital service that fails way too often.

P.S. I had to print & hand deliver this letter because the internet was down.

Jeff Greer

'Wear your mask'

Dear Editor:
Dick Riethmiller's letter contains some basic arithmetic misinformation. He states that COVID-19 has resulted in about 220 deaths per day in the U.S. Today's cumulative death total is 137,000.

■ See Letters A4

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be signed by the author, unless emailed
include the author's phone number and address
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Letters

Continued from A3

There are 150 days in the five months of February through June. Dividing 137,000 by 150 gives 913 deaths per day, over four times the rate he claims.

Deaths from pneumonia are around 50,000 annually. COVID-19 has killed over twice that many in only five months, and the total may very well hit 200,000 deaths by the end of the year.

The perception that COVID-19 is nothing to be worried about is just plain wrong. Perhaps Mr. Riethmiller is younger than 60, and thinks that he has nothing to be concerned about. Those of us in the geezer group, 60 and older, definitely do have reason to be concerned. The COVID-19 death rate in people ages 60-69 is roughly 6%. Double that for 70-79. Double it again for 80-89. It reaches 45% for people 90 and older. Those are not good odds.

Do us all a favor, Mr. Riethmiller, and wear your mask whether you want to or not. None of us want to, but we'd all like to survive and wish the same for everyone we know.

Paul Groh
Santa Fe, N.M.

School reopening

Dear Editor:

It appears that the United States is not capable of dealing with a pandemic such as we now face. Apparently our President is so focused on re-election that saving lives is just not a priority. At this point, every victim of the virus, whether they survive or die owes their fate to the President and / or the governor of their state. Scientists and the medical community are being ignored or silenced by politicians. Now the next set of U.S. citizens to pay the price for this historic incompetence are our students and school employees. As a retired teacher of 37 years in grade levels three thru twelve, having seen the yearly "seasonal flu" all but shut down schools, it is obvious that the reopening that is being proposed by Trump and his minions will be just another avoidable, tragic disaster.

Ron Hardeman

Eleven drops of water

Dear Editor:

I had to laugh when I read in the article about the Sand Creek fire, "On Monday, a Chinook helicopter delivered 11 drops of water to the hottest part of the fire." I know the meaning was 11 trips with the water bucket, but the wording of it made me chuckle ... A good thing in these crazy days we are experiencing.

Sonny Kelley

Pursuit of power

Dear Editor:

Muskogee, Oklahoma, 1927: My father was transferred to Muskogee to become General Manager of a large commercial bread company. His fleet of trucks delivered freshly-baked bread to grocery stores throughout Northeastern Oklahoma and all day-old bread was returned to the Plant. He became friends with the folks in nearby Tahlequah, Capitol of the Cherokee Nation, and made it company policy to donate all day-old bread to their people to feed their hogs. On learning of my birth, Cherokee Chiefs arrived to present to my father, a beautiful hand-beaded neck-piece in honor of my birth. I believe that event helped to shape my life. A Lakota wise man, in recorded records, provided a beautiful description of how all creation is able to give us guidance in our lives if we take notice of "their ways":

"God gives his instructions to every creature, according to His plan for the world. He gave his instructions to all the things of nature. The pine tree and the birch tree, they will follow their instructions and do their duty in God's world. The flowers, even the littlest flower, they bloom and they pass away according to this instructions. The birds, even the smallest bird, they live and they fly and they sing according to His instructions. Should human beings be any different?"

How beautiful is that? Sadly, on our way to become "One Perfect Union," such wisdom was often ignored in pursuit of power. Even

before "our kind" discovered this beautiful country, the Apostle Paul addressed this problem beautifully in Ph 2:3-4: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility, consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others."

Yes, God gives to humans, the ability to choose between "His instructions" for goodness or the evil among us. God's "instructions" to love our neighbors as ourselves is to live with love in our hearts — hateful acts are not God's ways. Keep love alive.

Patty Tillerson

Common ground

Dear Editor:

Kudos to the writer of last week's 'Systemic Racism,' which was both civil and well-reasoned. His statistics were convincing. His reasoning went like this:

The statistics {each an economic indicator} on Black Americans reveal a depressing picture. While the data for White Americans is glowing. Therefore, our American system is 'systemically racist,' as it produces unequal outcomes for the two races. Whites are obvious benefactors of 'white privilege,' as Blacks are held back. Therefore, our Founders set up a system for the benefit of whites i.e. 'white supremacy.' Case closed.

As a 'racial theory,' this sounds right. But when the actual history is allowed to speak for itself, none of the above is true. For the theory compares 'apples to oranges.'

The supposition is that everyone in America lives under the same 'American system.' However, contrary to the statistics, many Black citizens prosper under our system. To name but a few: Oprah, Obama, LeBron James, the founder of BET Network and other executives, Black movie and entertainment stars, etc. Each of them enjoys more 'privilege' than most whites. If America is systemically racist, how does this happen?

And then I saw it. As to our American legal system {the Con-

stitution and Congressional legislation} racism has been outlawed since 1865. And the illegal, systemic racism of Jim Crow Laws in the Democrat South was outlawed in 1964. And though every citizen lives under our anti-racist legal system [of course it can be misused by rogue individuals] not every citizen operates under our capitalist economic system: the practical aspect of "liberty and prosperity."

What is currently called 'privilege' I've known my whole life as "the blessings of liberty." Whosoever is blessed to live in America's Constitutional and free enterprise system can prosper.

However, the vast majority of Blacks live in Democrat run inner-cities, and have inadvertently chosen to live under a socialist welfare system; devised by their Democrat leaders. Beginning with FDR's New Deal, then put on hyper-drive by LBJ's "Great Society," and now a central platform of the Democrat Party, this welfare system is how Blacks are 'kept.'

So, the concept of 'systemic racism' is a misnomer. For the system that produces the appearance of 'racism,' {unequal outcomes seen through a racial lens} is a socialist welfare system that most Blacks and relatively few whites live under! Therefore, the suppressing Black statistics don't reveal systemic racism, but the long-term effects of a socialist/communist/Marxist welfare system. Blacks are held back by economic socialism, not by whites. For the welfare cycle is dependency, hopelessness, and despair. While free enterprise engenders self-determination, independence, hope and competence. Escaped 'Democrat slaves' have learned this for themselves.

And this socialist system is what the Democrat Party wants for America itself. Are you ready for despair?

The Marxist mob has it all wrong: America doesn't suck, their system does. To its credit, socialism isn't racist, for it is equally soul crushing for whatever race you happen to be.

Charles Wenzel

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The following meetings are subject to change.

- Tuesday, July 21**
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.
- C-STAT Distinguished Performance Award by state of Colorado to Archuleta County Department of Human Services team. 3 p.m. Archuleta County

- administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. and via Google online. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.
- Thursday, July 23**
Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority meeting. 5 p.m. See town website for participation information.
- Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m. See town website for participation information.
- Tuesday, July 28**
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. Join Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96904926293>, meeting ID: 969 0492 6293 Phone in using: (346) 248-7799.
- Friday, July 31**
Pagosa Springs Town Council work session. 5 p.m. See town website for participation information.
- Monday, Aug. 3**
Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors regular meeting. 5 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

- Tuesday, Aug. 11**
Archuleta School District Board of Education meeting. 6 p.m., virtual meeting. See the agenda on the district website for participation information.
- Thursday, Aug. 13**
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting. 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.
Public meeting information should be sent to editor@pagosun.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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Obituary

Ophelia G. Downey

Ophelia G. Downey, 96, a resident of Albuquerque since 1972, passed away on Monday, March 30. Ophelia was born Nov. 28, 1923, to Ophelia and J. Felix Gomez at Pagosa Junction, Colo.



Ophelia was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, Allan K. Downey, her brother, Jose Felix Gomez, and her parents.

She is survived by her sisters, Maria Abeyta, of Westminster, Calif., and Liliosa Padilla, of Aztec, N.M., as well as her sister-in-law, Dodhi Gomez, of Vacaville, Calif., and their families.

She is also survived by her children: Karen Downey (Ed), of Beau-

mont, Calif.; Valerie Buseman (Ray), of Mullica Hill, N.J.; Alicia Rodriguez (Art), of La Jolla, Calif.; and Sean Downey (Abby), of East Montpelier, Vt. Her grandchildren include Brian Buseman (Vanessa) and Darren Buseman (Elizabeth "Biz"), both of Mullica Hill, N.J.; Dane Rodriguez (Kyra) and Zeke Rodriguez (Ashley), both of San Diego, Calif.; and Katrina "Kat" Rodriguez, of New York, N.Y. In addition, she is survived by seven grandchildren: Alex, Sophie, Christian, Declan "Dek," Luke, Jackson, Hunter, Logan and Natalie "Talie."

A rosary and Mass will be celebrated in the future along with a private interment at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

Ophelia grew up in the small rural town of Pagosa Junction, Colo., where her parents ran a family mercantile and sheep ranching business. Ophelia attended the town's two-room schoolhouse through grade eight. For the next four years (grades 9-12), she went

away to school at Loretto Heights in Denver, Colo., graduating in 1941. She earned a scholarship to Loretto Heights College in Denver, where she studied for two years before attending two semesters at Highland College in Las Vegas, N.M. By then, Ophelia had acquired sufficient college credits to earn her teaching certificate and returned home to teach grades one through four during the war years in the same two-room schoolhouse she once attended as a child.

In 1945, Ophelia moved to Pagosa Springs, Colo., where she qualified and began employment as a social worker in the Department of Social Services for the state of Colorado in Archuleta County. She visited and assisted many old-age pensioners, widows with children and mothers of World War II servicemen during those post WWII years until 1949.

In 1949, Ophelia's life adventure continued when she married an Irishman from Pawtucket, R.I., (Allan Downey), who was in the

Army and then the U.S. Air Force until he retired from the service. With their love and commitment to one another, Ophelia and Allan lovingly raised their children amid duty transfers and separations. They lived in Colorado, South Dakota, Ohio, England, Oklahoma and finally landed in New Mexico, where they retired in 1974.

Ophelia was a much-loved, strong, independent woman who was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and cousin throughout her life. Her second devotion was to her church and religion from which she drew strength. She took great pleasure in gardening and listening to music of varying genres and taking daily walks. In earlier years, she loved to dance and enjoyed traveling, ceramics, embroidery, crocheting, sewing and baking.

We will miss Ophelia with all our hearts. We bid her good night and God bless with all our love.

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County commissioners discuss face coverings

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

At their work session on Tuesday, two of the Archuleta County commissioners weighed in on what Commissioner Ron Maez called a "hot topic": whether the government should mandate wearing face coverings in public.

Maez explained a commissioner from another part of the state asked if Archuleta County might write a letter of support for a statewide face covering mandate in public and then generally discussed the issue with Commissioner Alvin Schaaf.

"What I look at is resources if this starts occurring. If the mandate's put into play, who's gonna enforce it? How are they gonna enforce it and with what money are they gonna get to enforce it?" Maez said,

adding, "I know it's threatening — it's life-threatening, but it's not an immediate life-threatening situation and it puts another call load on the 911 services... The county really doesn't have the resources to expand the enforcement of this."

"I just don't understand at what point it became government's responsibility to tell people what to do when it comes to health and safety," Schaaf said. "We're adults, most of us, and the children have parents who can make decisions for them. I'd like to be able to make the choice, whether or not [inaudible] that I wanna wear a mask. Personally, I can't because of health reasons, but I should have a choice, and I shouldn't have to worry about my neighbor calling in and say, 'Hey this guy's not wearing a mask, he's not social distancing.' This is

still a free society..."

"Bottom line is it's a matter of respect," Maez said. "If we respect everybody else's choice, we may not like the choices they choose, but we should definitely have respect for how they choose to safeguard themselves. Businesses have the right to mandate a face covering within their business. It's up to that business to make that decision and I'll support that. But until the people come together and we all learn that we gotta respect everyone else's opinion — we may not like it and we can voice our opinion on it, but we gotta respect it, no matter what."

Commissioner Steve Wadley was absent for the work session on Tuesday, but was the first commissioner to bring up the face covering issue at the commissioners' work session a week prior on July 7.

"I'm gettin' a lot of questions about masks," said Wadley. "I think we ought to talk about it at some point. I know that some people are adamantly opposed to it and some

people are adamantly in favor of it. It's gonna be one of those where you have to make half the people mad and the other half real mad. I know the town's taken it up, and I think at some point we should take it up also."

Later that night, the Pagosa Springs Town Council considered a resolution requesting wearing of face covering in public within town limits, and Maez noted at the July 7 work session that he wanted to take his cues from them.

"I'd rather see what their decision is, and if their decision is for education and support, you know, the signage and gettin' the message out there, I think the county ought to help them with that," Maez said. "But maybe let's wait and see what the town renders tonight and then see whether or not the commissioners want to move in with that or not."

The town council approved a resolution that night requesting residents and visitors to wear face coverings when in town limits. john@pagosahun.com

Options presented for replacing town sewer lines

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A phased replacement plan for sewer lines within the Town of Pagosa Springs was discussed by the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) at a regular meeting on July 7.

According to Public Works Director Martin Schmidt, RG and Associates LLC (RGA) went through 82,277 linear feet of pipe video, which is only about 65-68 percent of the town's sewer lines.

Within RGA's report, about 75 percent of the town's sewer lines are classified as being in "good" condition or category 1, or "fair condition" or category 2; however, about 5.7 percent, or 4,693 linear feet, of the town's sewer lines were described as "overall moderate condition" or category 3.

RGA's report notes that for 11.5 percent, or 9,460 linear feet, of the town's sewer lines were in category 4, meaning that repairs should be scheduled. Another 4.4 percent, or 3,601 linear feet, were described as "emergency" or category 5.

For lines described as being in category 3, repairs would cost the town about \$922,000; for category 4, the cost is about \$4,734,000; and for

lines in category 5, repairs would be about \$1,431,000.

"These are costs that the GID can't bear all at once. Potentially, we could look for some low-interest loans that are available to sanitation districts to try and pay for some of these repairs," Schmidt said during the meeting.

According to RGA's report, to complete every repair for the town for categories 1-5, it would take until 2044 and would cost about \$12,933,000 in 2020 dollars.

RGA recommends dividing the system into 10 separate sections and inspecting one of those 10 sections every year.

"It allows us to keep our replacement schedule updated," Schmidt said.

RGA also notes that the PSSGID should complete manhole evaluations, use any pertinent information to revisit the rate study done in 2018, update the phased replacement plan, maintain an annual system status report and secure funding for a replacement plan.

Additionally, RGA suggested the PSSGID go through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's State Revolving Fund for low-interest loans, Schmidt explained.



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Business

Town council approves policy and fees for mobile event stage

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs' fee schedule was amended by the Pagosa Springs Town Council at a regular meeting on July 7 in order to account for a recently purchased mobile event stage.

The stage was purchased for \$83,000 by the Pagosa Area Tourism Board (PATB) in 2019 following approval from town council and the county commissioners.

A subcommittee meeting was held on June 17 with town staff, members of the PATB and the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce to discuss policies for the stage and a fee structure.

During that meeting, the group discussed the

idea of having a different fee structure for non-profit versus private events; however, the subcommittee eventually decided to come up with one rental fee to make things easier.

According to agenda documentation for the July 7 meeting of town council, the town will be the owner and operator of the stage.

The daily rental fee for the stage is \$600 per day, according to agenda documentation.

Additionally, the security deposit for the stage is a refundable \$500 charge, and to rent stage wings it is a onetime charge of \$35.

"We backed into that price of \$600 per day by taking a look at what the town's costs would be," Phillips said.

The town did some research while crafting

the fee schedule, and Phillips explained that this cost is "reasonable" compared to the city of Durango's fees.

"Really, the goal of this is not to make money. It's really to encourage more events in town and more usage of the stage. We're really just trying to cover our costs at this point," she said.

According to the policy, the stage is only available for use within a 5-mile radius of the Pagosa Springs Town Hall.

"We don't want to become an equipment rental type of thing," she said. "Most of the events would be in town, anyway."

The motion to amend the town's fee schedule in relation to the mobile event stage fees was approved unanimously by town council.

Car Show and ColorFest canceled for 2020

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

As for most organizations in 2020, canceling fundraisers and events has been a difficult decision. Not even mentioning the fun that most of the fundraisers provide, there are the fundraising dollars that are critical to the organization's livelihood. In a difficult decision, the Chamber of Commerce made the decision to cancel both the Car Show — which had already had been postponed from June to August, and ColorFest — typically held in September.

Not knowing how long the pandemic and the restrictions set forth were going to last, the Chamber made the decision in April to postpone the Car Show until August. Hoping that our community would be stabilized and restrictions eased, we planned to delay the Car Show and still have our traditional show — just a little later. The response to that decision from car enthusiasts and locals was very positive. Many communities canceled their shows early and car collectors were just aching to get out and display their pride-and-joy vehicles. The Chamber has been actively planning ways that we could distance the cars, offer activities that included social distancing and still be responsible. After looking at several locations and getting thwarted at every turn by a restriction or construc-

tion problem, and reviewing the increased positive COVID testing numbers, the Chamber made the decision to cancel the show altogether.

ColorFest was a much clearer decision to cancel. The number of people that gather for each of the activities including the balloon rally, wine and food tasting, and beer fest are just too great to manage safely. No different than some of the other large events such as the folk festival and the county fair, the Chamber felt we could not handle such a large event safely given today's community status. Related ColorFest events such as the Breakfast with Balloons and the Color Run/Walk have also been canceled.

Again, similar to some of the other community organizations that are "pivoting" and trying to think of other ways to keep the community engaged, the Chamber is also looking at a different ColorFest "activity." We still want to celebrate this beautiful time of year, keep ColorFest in the minds of our residents and visitors who travel to Pagosa solely for that event and have some fun. Stay tuned to see if we will be able to pull off a more virtual event.

We also understand that events such as these are economic drivers to our community, especially our lodging, retail and food service industries. We know a decision like this affects your businesses, and so do not take making these decisions lightly. What this year has taught us is that

we will probably never go back to the way things have always been done. We will take this year to plan, adjust, rearrange, and hopefully be prepared for next year and the return of our events. Thank you to the community for your continued support.

Paycheck Protection Program extended

As businesses continue to scale back due to number restrictions and orders get canceled, businesses still find themselves struggling, cutting back employees and finding they need to manage this pandemic crisis.

The Paycheck Protection Program, or PPP, has been extended to businesses until Aug. 8. There is also talk that it will be extended further, but no definitive work on that yet. It is important if you are a business — larger or even gig worker, that you look into this program. Get with your banking institution to find out about their process or if they are still processing applications. If not, there are other financial institutions through the Small Business Association that are lending. Contact the Chamber or Small Business Development Center to find a list of these lenders. We still have a long way to go. Don't get stuck, especially if you are just now feeling the strain of lost business. Contact Mary Jo at the Chamber at 264-2360 for more information or to schedule a consultation.

Past, present and future of town's geothermal system discussed by town council

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A report on the town's geothermal heating utility was provided to the Pagosa Springs Town Council at a regular meeting on July 7.

The geothermal heating system has been operated and owned by the town since December of 1982, according to Public Works Director Martin Schmidt.

The town put out a bid and Alan Plummer Associates Inc. was awarded with an assessment of the utility, Schmidt explained.

Currently, the geothermal system has 32 customers that range from a school to small residences, Schmidt explained.

The geothermal system is fully operational and the town has not experienced any failures that would inhibit the utility to heat those that the town committed to heating, Schmidt added.

A report from Alan Plummer Associates Inc. Project Engineer Steve Omer done for the town touches on the system's current conditions, capacity and expansion opportunities.

Existing conditions

For existing conditions, Schmidt explained that Omer analyzed the way in which the town runs the utility, looking at daily logs and current water rights that the town is using, among other things.

"We saw that we're operating our heat exchanger at a potentially less than optimal rate. We could have 20 percent more salable heat per day," Schmidt said.

The town is using about 3.4 miles of distribution and return lines for the geothermal system. These lines include plastic, steel, copper and asbestos-reinforced concrete, according to Schmidt.

Half of the system has insulated piping, but the return half does not, he added, noting, "We don't have a good understanding as to why it was designed that way. We'd like to see

more insulation."

A private well showed "significant damage" according to Omer's report, which the town could look into repairing or making the private well owner aware of the damage, Schmidt noted.

System capacity

According to Schmidt, about 75 percent of the transferred heat is lost and not sold to customers just due to "Mother Earth."

"We don't really have massive leaks of water or any of those things. At this point, 3.4 miles of lines we lose about a gallon a minute due to leaks," he said. "When you consider that there's a rubber gasket every 4 or 5 feet in the system, that's pretty good to only lose a gallon over that distance. It's not through leaking water, it's just Mother Earth stealing heat out of our pipe."

Most of the town's pipes, valves and meters are in good shape, but the town's heat exchanger has not seen a "real service."

According to Omer's report, the town's heat exchanger was in its "final tolerances" of the gaskets that keep it in operation, and Omer advises that the heat exchanger should be serviced.

Specifically, Omer explained during the meeting that the issue for the gaskets is compression.

"We could heat more houses if we used more water, and currently, we're not using about 100 gallons per minute water right out of the Rumbaugh well," Schmidt said. "The issue is, we don't have piping right now from the Rumbaugh well to our geothermal building."

Schmidt noted that the town is not in danger of losing that water right, but the town must show use.

Expansion opportunities

One idea for an expansion opportunity was to cool homes in the summer with the geothermal piping using river water, Schmidt noted.

"When you actually look at the

river data, the average temperature of the river through the summer months is 63 and a half degrees, and 63 and a half degrees doesn't give us enough of a difference," he said.

Another expansion opportunity looked into by Omer was the limits of the geothermal system and how many more customers the town could add to the system.

"We found that we could not add a customer like the high school. Just the high school would overwhelm the system..." Schmidt said.

Agenda documentation further explains, "The school district had asked the Town to look into connecting the high school to geothermal heat, but it was quickly determined that the geothermal utility does not have enough available heat to support the high school. Plummer recommends that the Town focus on new building heat connections on a smaller scale."

Up to 13 more residential customers could be added or nine more mixed-use customers, according to Omer's report.

"One of the things pointed out is that sidewalk and parking lot, intersection heating is a really variable heating use," Schmidt said. "It's a really big drain on the system. In order to guarantee we're not going to have negative impacts on our customers, it was advised to steer away from sidewalks, intersections, parking lots, those kinds of things."

The geothermal heat could also be used to produce power, according to Omer's report.

"There's the potential for an annual revenue of around \$70,000," he said. "It really depends on the reimbursement rate that LPEA [La Plata Electric Association] would give us."

This would strip about 10 degrees from the outflow from the geothermal system and produce electricity that would be stored in batteries and put back into the grid, Schmidt described.

"The idea is that you could put it back on when LPEA would need it

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Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to any people.



Proverbs 14:34

Mankind often places their hope for the furtherance of society in education, science and statistics, government, judicial systems, military strength, etc. Those things are needed and important.

However if men and women are not righteous, placing hope in those things leads to unwanted results. Without righteousness, education can become the promotion of a person's ideas over truth. Science and statistics may be made to say what the producer desires. Government may become weighed down with the desire for power. Judicial systems can

become blinded by status and money. Military strength may be used for the power of it. Even religious people can live unrighteous lives, justifying their own desires over God's will.

Righteousness is doing the right thing, right living. When people seek to do the right thing, a nation will be exalted. Will all the unwanted results be corrected? No, men and women will still fall short. But righteousness is the goal for which we must strive. It gives us a place to begin our stand. Will you join us in seeking to do right?

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Town receives clean audit for 2019

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Town of Pagosa Springs received a clean, or unmodified opinion, of its 2019 financial statements at its regular meeting on July 7.

Crimson Singleton with HintonBurdick CPAs, the town's audit firm, noted that the town received a clean audit, signifying that the financial statements are "materially correct."

"All of the issues that we have had previously were cleaned up in 2018 and that continued in 2019," Singleton said.

There were no compliance findings in regard to state compliance for the prior year or current year, Singleton noted.

Governmental fund highlights

Within the town's governmental funds, total revenues for the general fund were about \$3.9 million and total expenditures were \$3.5 million.

In the general fund, the fund balance increased by about \$414,000, going from \$2,550,721 to \$2,965,476, she added later.

The town's capital improvement fund balance increased by about \$3.18 million, going from \$1,434,926 to \$4,613,893, Singleton noted.

That fund had about \$3.8 million in revenues and \$3.8 million in expenditures, she added later.

"All of the governmental funds operated within the approved budgets," she said.

Proprietary fund highlights

The town's sanitation fund had total operat-

ing revenues of \$746,651 and \$970,480 in expenditures, she explained.

The town's geothermal fund had total operating revenues of \$42,097 and expenditures totaling \$55,116, Singleton noted.

"In total, they all were below the budget," she said. "If you look just at the operating expenses, you were over budget a little bit. There was \$701,000 actual compared to the budget of \$633,000, but if you look at it in total, there were some capital outlay budgeted that wasn't expended, so, overall, across the fund, you were below budget."

Fund resources

Restricted funds of the general fund went from \$842,868 to \$844,266, according to Singleton.

The town had unassigned funds increase from \$1,591,031 in 2018 to \$2,009,272 in 2019.

According to Singleton, unassigned funds are available to use for any purpose.

"You're in a pretty good position there. You've got available resources as needed and you've got a little bit of a cushion," she said.

For the capital improvement fund, assigned funds went from \$1,434,926 in 2018 to \$1,583,630 in 2019, according to Singleton.

"There weren't a lot of capital projects that occurred in 2019," Singleton noted. "Overall, the resources are expected to fluctuate somewhat as you save up and build money for different projects, but you're in a pretty good position now to have resources available for projects."

The restricted fund balance for the tourism fund has been "steadily increasing over the last five years," Singleton explained, with funds increasing from \$527,875 in 2018 to \$667,069 in 2019.

The net investment for capital assets within the sanitation fund went from \$6,153,908 to \$6,156,126, according to Singleton.

Unrestricted resources in the sanitation fund decreased from \$1,337,187 to \$1,118,347, according to Singleton.

"It's a fairly stable trend for the unrestricted," she said. "The unrestricted resources are starting to trend downward a little bit. It's just something to keep in mind. Overall, the fees and the revenue in that fund should sustain all the expenditures required to maintain the assets and the activity in those funds."

Singleton noted that the town could do a rate study to make sure it can maintain the resources in that fund.

For the town's governmental cash balance thread, the town went from \$3,487,791 in 2018 to \$7,362,203 in 2019.

The big spikes in that fund were from bonds that had not been spent yet, according to Singleton.

Over the last five years, the town's "business-type" cash balance has been trending downward, Singleton noted, with there being \$1,352,414 in 2018 and \$1,159,201 in 2019.

"It's just something to keep in mind. Keep an eye out, so it doesn't keep trending downward where you get into trouble," she said.
chris@pagosahun.com

County expected to lift hiring freeze

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) may lift the county's hiring freeze at its regular meeting next week.

County Administrator Scott Wall told the county commissioners at their work session Tuesday that he and County Finance Director Larry Walton recommend that the commissioners lift the freeze.

He cited that sales tax revenue hasn't taken as dire of a hit as some predicted once the COVID-19 pandemic shut down some local businesses and reduced tourism numbers.

"I know there's been a lot of departments that have had a lot of shortcomings and they wanna hire people and they've been spreading their people out pretty thin," Commissioner Ron Maez said. "I think we should lift that county hiring freeze."

On April 7, the three county commissioners unanimously approved a hiring freeze in the county with the exception of dispatch and the Archuleta County sheriff's pa-

trol and detention departments."

In subsequent work sessions with the county commissioners, some elected county officials expressed frustration that they couldn't fill positions as they saw fit.

"I'm very fortunate to have a staff of three and myself, but I understand other departments are struggling due to employee shortage, so the consideration of lifting the hiring freeze by the BOCC is a good thing, filling the positions is essential for county to operate to its full capacity as well as giving residents of Archuleta County the opportunity to get a good job. With these struggling times it seems like it's a win win situation for both," wrote Archuleta County Treasurer Elsa White in an email to The SUN.

"I am happy the hiring freeze will hopefully be lifted," wrote Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta in an email. "I am down one employee right now and would like to fill it as soon as possible without leaving another department short. We all have to work together and taking from another office doesn't exactly

help the moral."

Archuleta County Assessor Natalie Woodruff wrote that she appreciates the commissioners "reviewing the current hiring freeze."

"The Sheriff's Office certainly understands the reasoning behind the County implementing the hiring freeze. This has absolutely impacted our organization as we have had two vacancies, during the majority of the hiring freeze, that we have been unable to fill. We are certainly hopeful that the Commissioners lift the freeze next week. We

look forward to being fully staffed," wrote County Undersheriff Derek Woodman in an email.

The Archuleta County commissioners are expected to vote on lifting the hiring freeze, or not, at their regular meeting on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Remote meeting details can be obtained by calling the county administration building at 264-8300.
john@pagosahun.com

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Voters

Continued from front

told Town government to present them with projects which benefit all of us, not the narrow interests of a few developers," wrote Glenn Walsh, who helped develop the language of Question A and collected signatures to get it on the ballot. "Projects which bring middle class jobs, work force housing and improvement to genuinely blighted parts of our community will be approved. Massive corporate welfare for luxury hotel suites and \$750,000 short stay condos will be rejected. This vote should be a big wake call for Town government. This URA 'scheme' has been a very tightly guarded inside game to date. Public discussions have been very guarded

and tactical. The entire community — all County taxpayers — need to discuss and decide which projects deserve our tax dollars. That's the only way to develop projects with real game changing impact."

"The Town Council made a questionable decision, last November, to designate a vacant 27-acre parcel as 'dangerous urban blight,'" wrote Bill Hudson, who helped write the ballot language and collect signatures for the initiative. "They then compounded that error by refusing to grant direct representation on the new Urban Renewal Authority commission to local governmental districts that could be forced to contribute tax revenues to future

projects for up to 25 years. Going door-to-door during our monthlong petition drive, we heard over and over the disappointment felt by the town taxpayers over the Council's URA decisions.

"I'm grateful for the folks who wrote the Town's Home Rule Charter and allowed the citizens to initiate changes to their municipal government whenever they felt things were getting out of hand — as the citizens did back in 2013, when the Town was proposing an amusement park on Reservoir Hill, and the voters stepped up to require taxpayer approval. I feel much more positive about development in Pagosa Springs now that the voters have

spoken."

"The people have overwhelmingly decided to take back control of how they want their taxes used," wrote Greg Giehl, who helped collect signatures for Question A to get on the ballot.

"I'm disappointed, but not surprised," said Greg Schulte, vice chair of the URA Commission, in a phone call. "I do still believe that the ballot language is not legally valid and I believe that the Town of Pagosa Springs will find itself at court at some point."

Asked about next steps for the URA Commission, Schulte said, "I'll look forward to the URA board discussion on July 23rd."

In a "MEMORANDUM FOR Pagosa Springs Town Council and Planning Commission," sent to

The SUN by town attorney Clayton Buchner, he compared Ballot Question A to an amendment passed in Wheat Ridge, Colo., which was found to be "in conflict with state law and therefore invalid" in the case Longs Peak Metropolitan District v. City of Wheat Ridge.

"The Wheat Ridge amendment to the City Charter sought to require the approval of Wheat Ridge voters for URA projects exceeding \$2.5 million in Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenues. The Pagosa Springs proposed ballot question seeks to amend the Town Charter to require the approval of Pagosa Springs voters for URA projects exceeding \$1 million in TIF revenues. The only substantive difference being the dollar amount," Buchner's memorandum states.

The document continues, "The First Judicial Court of Colorado struck down the City of Wheat Ridge amendment in a Summary Judgment opinion issued on September 8, 2017 ... The court found that the fundamental subject matter at issue, namely the remediation of urban blight, was a matter of mixed local and state concern. The Court went on to conclude that, because the amendment required additional procedures for approval of TIF beyond those required by the URA statute, the amendment was in conflict with state law and therefore invalid."

The next meeting of the URA Commission is set for 5 p.m. on July 23. Remote participation information will be available on the town's website prior to the meeting.

School

Continued from front

giving teachers time to transition between learning modules if necessary, ensuring communications with families, risk and benefits for staff related to COVID-19 such as sick days, the district's plan for students from New Mexico who live under different state orders, cleaning and sanitizing facilities, and more.

The 10-page draft includes an overview, considerations for reopening school, and information on proposed learning models, social and emotional learning support, targeted health precautions, safe learning spaces and healthy practices, transportation, nutrition services, potentially high-risk activities, communications with families, and a summary.

"The goal of this plan is to address district-wide processes, procedures and instructional models. Following our district process, each school will convene a work group to develop appropriate plans and procedures specific to that school. Those plans will also be shared with families and the community," the overview states.

The plan notes that the district will work with national, state and local recommendations and acknowledges that the information and guidelines built into the plan are likely to change.

"While many of our staff and families are hopeful for an in-person school experience, we recognize that in-person learning may not be the fit for every family. Our district will offer an online option for those who are interested. No matter which option is best for you and your family, we are committed to working with you to ensure your child has a positive, engaging, supportive educational experience," the overview reads.

The plan lays out four proposed learning models: extensive online learning, targeted in-person instruction with mostly online learning, blended learning that would likely include students attending

school in person a portion of the week and engage in online learning at home the other days of the week, and primarily in-person learning.

"We will adhere to the appropriate models based on phases defined by the governor's office and the Colorado Department of Health," the document states, with LeBlanc-Esparza telling the BOE Tuesday how the district starts the school year will depend on health orders in place at the time.

Families will also have the choice between in-person or online instruction, which LeBlanc-Esparza noted would be through an available online model paid for by the district.

In terms of health and safety practices, the draft document outlines things including, but not limited to:

- Temperature screenings and COVID-19 screening questions.
- Strongly recommending face coverings for staff and students.
- Maintaining social distancing with at least 6 feet of physical distance whenever possible, with staff expected to have a face covering if that distance is not possible.
- Teaching students appropriate handwashing techniques.
- Providing opportunities for students to wash hands or use sanitizer throughout the day.
- Each student will be expected to have his or her own supplies and materials.
- Each student will be issued a Chromebook for use at the school.
- Lockers will not be used for the upcoming school year.
- Communal water fountains will be disconnected and students will be asked to bring a refillable water bottle from home.
- "To the maximum extent possible, we will limit the number of personal interactions a student experiences throughout the school day. For example, traffic flow will be designed so that students may maintain appropriate social distance

and avoid face-to-face interactions."

• "Any recesses and/or student breaks will be staggered to ensure the number of students in a designated area meets current guidelines."

• "Custodians will engage in deep cleaning and sanitizing as per CDC and Colorado Department of Education guidelines."

• There will be no community use of the facilities due to cleaning and sanitizing needs.

• No outside visitors will be allowed, and parents will not be able to eat lunch.

"Providing transportation to our students will be a unique and ongoing challenge," the plan notes.

The plan notes that a typical school bus has capacity for 60-78 riders.

"During this COVID-19 pandemic, it becomes incredibly challenging due to the close proximity of seating and need for ongoing cleaning measures," the plan states before laying out transportation-related guidelines, which include cleaning and sanitizing after each run, social distancing, masks, assigned seats and more.

LeBlanc-Esparza noted during the meeting that 52.73 percent of people who took the survey stated their child(ren) would not ride school transportation.

Parent meetings

The parent meetings will be held on Tuesday, July 21, and a draft plan for opening schools this fall is slated to be presented.

The meetings will be held at 5:30 and 7 p.m., with both meetings taking place virtually via Zoom — a change from what the district previously announced.

Those looking to attend either meeting are required to RSVP to Robyn Bennett at rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us or by calling 264-2228, ext. 5401 to obtain access information.

randi@pagosasun.com

COVID-19

Continued from front

Springs Medical Center (PSMC) had reported 16 nonresident positives of patients tested at its facility.

As of noon Tuesday, PSMC reported 59 pending tests, and CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb reported that PSMC is currently seeing a turnaround time for test results of five to 10 days.

Webb noted that PSMC continues to do in-house testing, but is having trouble getting supplies for its in-house testing.

Dr. David Shaeffer, co-owner of Pagosa Medical Group (PMG) reported Tuesday that PMG continues to test daily for COVID-19 patients in its curbside lab and is seeing a turnaround time of two to three business days.

Testing continues to be available elsewhere in the community, as well, at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare and through other programs with SJBPH, with each agency having different testing protocol and requirements, such as appointments or walk-in availability.

There also continues to be capacity concerns in the region, and local health officials continue to urge everyone to help slow the spread.

Webb reported to The SUN that Mercy Regional Medical Center re-

mains at surge capacity for its ICU beds.

"Much of the time, Archuleta County residents are transferred to Mercy, so this is concerning," she wrote in an email.

"This is the highest level we've seen in the entire pandemic," Mercy CEO Michael Murphy said in a Tuesday La Plata County Economic Development Alliance investor meeting, explaining that a combination of COVID-19 patients and other patients who have delayed care has created capacity challenges.

Murphy noted during the meeting that five of its 23 ICU beds were being used for COVID patients as of Tuesday morning.

"Medical professionals have used masking, isolation, and hand washing to control the spread of disease for many decades," Webb wrote, adding, "It is even more important to continue this practice during a pandemic, and I hope people in our community will adopt these practices and slow the spread, so that local resources are not overwhelmed."

"We are strongly encouraging our patients to avoid public gatherings, wear a face covering in public places, and try to keep 6 feet away from others when possible," Shaeffer wrote in

an email to The SUN.

PSMC and PMG, as well as other local health care facilities, continue to be open for regular patient care with additional protocols in place to increase safety.

Regional cumulative case counts

As of noon on Wednesday, La Plata County was reported as having 149 cases (with 64 recovered and one death among cases). As of 4 p.m. Tuesday, Conejos County was reported as having 18, Rio Grande County logging 82 (with two deaths), Mineral County having 17 and Hinsdale County tallying three.

Neighboring and near Archuleta County to the south, Rio Arriba County, N.M., listed 140 cases (with 43 recovered and one death), and San Juan County, N.M., listed 2,742 cases (with 1,537 recovered and 173 deaths) as of Tuesday afternoon.

The Jicarilla Apache Nation, which largely falls within Rio Arriba County, had announced 112 cases as of July 14, with 35 recovered. According to media releases from the nation's president, Darrel Paiz, 53 new cases were the result of community-wide testing that was conducted on July 9 and 10.

Planning

Continued from front

future courtroom additions is also included.

The town planning commission had previously approved a sketch major design review for the project at a meeting on April 28.

Before a formal motion was made to approve the final major design review application, planning commissioner Mark Weiler raised a question on funding for the project.

"I'm wondering, we've required some bonding for completion of other projects as a planning commission and I'm wondering if we're going to do the same here," he said. "I'm wondering about the financial vehicle that they'll use to fund it."

Planning Director James Dickhoff noted that the sidewalk for the project would be the only item that would be considered public infrastructure that would be required to have bonding on.

Dickhoff noted that the project is public property, but everything else is part of the development.

"The only time we would do private bonding would be if it's common property for a homeowner's association or development, for example, where there's common property elements," Dickhoff said.

Later in the meeting, Weiler with-

drew his question on the funding for the project, adding that it might be "uncomfortable" for Ash in an ethical manner to comment on the matter.

However, Ash noted that the project is a very public process and the contractors want to make sure the money is there before they submit qualifications and bids.

"Right now, this physical year, as the county would say, we're waiting to finish up the detention center so they know what allowances or contingency items are coming back to them," Ash said. "At the moment they're significant, six digits, but there's a few things here and there that need to be quantified and taken care of before they say what that budget number is."

In the past, the planning commission has asked for verification on funding, according to Planning Commission Chair Peter Adams.

"The way to do it officially is to have a bond in place, to make sure that it gets developed," Dickhoff said. "Since it was a point of contention on some of the previous applications, we've just taken it off of consideration for now until we clarify with our attorney what the best practice is going to be and how we can legitimately request that."

According to Dickhoff, it is part of

the planning commission's fiduciary duty to make sure that projects are constructible.

Archuleta County has a plan on how to finance the project and has a "number of grants applied to this project," including one from the Department of Local Affairs, Dickhoff noted.

"At the end of the day, they're either going to get the money or they're not," Weiler said. "I don't think a general contractor would start the thing unless they had some good assurance that they were going to get the money."

Following more discussion, planning commissioner Jeff Posey made a motion to approve the final major design review application for the Archuleta County Justice Center contingent upon a variety of things that included, but were not limited to the county providing approved fire hydrant locations, sidewalk connectivity for the north and northeast parking lot areas, trash collection enclosure details and "evidence of financial ability to finish the project as depicted in this plan."

That motion was approved unanimously by the planning commission.

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Dispatch board working to revamp agreement

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Changes are in store for Archuleta County's dispatch center, both in its physical location and with its budget.

Early last month, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved an application from Archuleta County to raise the E911 surcharge from \$1.25 per month to \$2.25.

The E911 surcharge is levied monthly on phone bills and routed to Archuleta County's dispatch center if a phone has a billing address in the county.

Members of the Dispatch Executive Management Board have pleaded with the public to make sure their phone's billing address is local in the county, to ensure that their E911 surcharges are being routed to Archuleta County's dispatch center.

The increased E911 revenue is expected to generate about \$175,000 annually.

"The added funding that's coming in is great because our costs are going way up," said dispatch board chair Connie Cook. "The E911 surcharge was increased, so that is going to help us be able to continually grow and expand dispatch because

then we can increase our budget and we can all still be able to afford it, versus if we didn't have that extra money, it'd be really hard to buy really expensive things or add more employees because we don't have any added funding."

A state mandate that will triple dispatch's phone costs, the need to replace outdated radio equipment and moving the entire dispatch center next year are just some of the costs that are causing dispatch's expenses to rise.

The dispatch board comprises members associated with the four entities that utilize and fund dispatch: the town, the county, the fire district and the hospital district.

The amount each entity pays is based on a three-year average of calls routed to each agency by dispatch.

The county pays about half, the town pays about 36 percent, the hospital district pays about 12 percent and the fire district pays about 4 percent.

Currently, the four contributing agencies are rewriting the inter-governmental agreement, or IGA, between the four entities involved.

Emergency Communications Director Kati Harr said in an interview Wednesday that each contributing agency is "aligned in wanting

what's best for dispatch and allowing for dispatch's growth."

"I know there's some confusion regarding the county's policies as our fiscal agent and how to move forward with this new surcharge revenue in a way that is forward thinking and planning for the future, and still in alignment with the policies and procedures that the county has in place fiscally," she said, adding, "With the county as our fiscal agent we are beholden to their policies and procedures, as we would be with any fiscal agent. Currently, my understanding is that we cannot just set surcharge money aside to be used to build our strategic reserves or our working capital. However what we can do, on an annual basis, is decide what our user agencies' contributions will look like and increase or decrease those based on dispatch need, current financial environment, user agency revenue, etc. So, it is not a given that user agency contributions will decrease. However, per the county's policy, the surcharge money that we receive is subtracted from our operating expenses and what is left over is funded by our user agencies."

Harr added, "One of the executive-level goals set by the board in 2019 was to pursue sustainable fund-

ing for dispatch, and if dispatch's growth is solely dependent upon our user agency contributions increasing yearly — that to me paints a challenging picture for our future growth. So hammering out the IGA surcharge increase is one piece of that pie of sustainability. Other pieces would look like keeping our capital replacement schedule accurate and up to date, staying on top of industry evolution and standards and the transition to [Next Generation] 911 and what that's gonna cost our agency. Pursuing alternate funding, supporting legislation that prioritizes PSAPS [public-safety answering points] and dispatchers — all of those things are pieces of the pie that contribute to a brighter future for our dispatch center, both fiscally and operationally."

At the PFPD Board of Directors' meeting on Tuesday night, PFPD Chief Randy Larson explained he would soon propose to change the entire funding formula for dispatch.

Instead of each agency paying for a percentage of dispatch's budget, Larson will propose that dispatch charge each agency about \$48 per call.

In her interview Wednesday, Harr commented on Larson's expected proposal. ■ See Agreement A10

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Judge rules in favor of LPEA's request for exit charge to be let out of contract

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

A Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) judge has ruled that Tri-State Generation and Transmission's refusal to identify an exit charge to let La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) out of its contract was "unjust and unreasonable" and "discriminatory."

In July 2019, LPEA formally asked Tri-State to provide the amount of money it would take for LPEA to exit its contract with Tri-State, which is due to run until 2050.

After not receiving that number, LPEA filed a formal complaint with the PUC in November 2019, asking the regulating body to push Tri-State to identify what the exit charge would be.

"A Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) ruled Friday in favor of La Plata Electric Association's efforts to obtain a just and equitable exit charge from their power provider Tri-State Generation & Transmission (Tri-State)," a press release from LPEA reads.

The judge's ruling on July 10 states that "Tri-State's refusal to provide an exit charge to La Plata was unjust and unreasonable" and "discriminatory."

The ruling also states that "It is important that [Tri-State] Members who wish to seek alternatives can

easily assess the pros and cons of maintaining membership. The evidence presented in this proceeding, and the reason this proceeding was filed, makes it clear that Tri-State is not overly concerned with addressing the concerns of its Members," according to LPEA's press release.

"If this decision is allowed to stand, more than \$1 billion in costs will be unjustly added to our members' electricity bills in Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming," Tri-State's CEO Duane Highley is quoted as saying in a press release. "In an effort to save money for themselves, United Power and LPEA are a step closer to forcing costs they agreed to pay onto smaller, less wealthy utilities and their rural consumers. Our efforts to protect the interests of all our cooperative members and their electricity consumers will continue both at the Colorado Public Utilities Commission and at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission."

"The recommended decision provides one more piece of LPEA's power supply puzzle," LPEA's CEO Jessica Matlock is quoted as saying in the LPEA press release. "We've been asking for this number for a long time so that we can fully evaluate our options and determine the best course of action for our members — and the ALJ has finally provided that for us."

She is further quoted as saying, "This gives us the chance to chart our own energy future for southwestern Colorado—the very reason we filed this case in the first place. We look forward to a final resolution at the Colorado PUC in the coming weeks. Should this exit charge be affirmed, it will be up to our board to decide which of the three options is in the best interest of our membership."

"LPEA estimates that it would save hundreds of millions of dollars over the life of its contract with Tri-State by exiting early, while also hitting its emission reduction goal 10 times faster. That would reduce LPEA's CO2 emissions by 8.8 million metric tons between 2020 and 2040, equivalent to removing 96,000 cars from the road every year for 20 years," the press release notes.

"Basically, the Administrative Law Judge did not set an exit charge but rather set a methodology to determine that exit charge. A technical workshop will need to be held to determine the final buyout number for LPEA, which we expect to take place next week," LPEA Vice President of Communications Hillary Knox wrote to The SUN in an email. "More details will be released at that time. The exit charge methodology in the recommended decision is in line with the amounts Tri-State's Board had previously found to be just and reasonable during settlement ne-

gotiations allowing [other Tri-State members] to exit,"

Knox also wrote that all LPEA members "will be affected the same" by the decision.

"As we do not have the exact exit figure yet, we cannot determine a completely accurate estimated cost savings yet. That said, our very conservative estimates do show hundreds of millions of savings (aka lower rates for LPEA members) over the course of our contract with Tri-State if we leave early," she wrote.

She continued, "Bottom line, we are pleased with the decision by the CO PUC because it will allow us to fully evaluate our options when it comes to our power supply, which we've been trying to do for years to reduce costs for our membership. The cost of power is the biggest chunk of our budget ... so it is also our biggest opportunity to cut costs and minimize rate increases in the future."

Fireworks potential cause of Aspen Springs brush fire

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A brush fire in Aspen Springs unit six that occurred on the morning of July 11 was reportedly started due to fireworks and is under investigation.

Nine Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) personnel were paged out by dispatch to a wildland fire at 748 Gun Barrel Road at about 8:20 a.m. on July 11, according to PFPD Deputy Chief Karn Macht. The PFPD arrived on scene at 8:51 a.m.

"Upon arrival, found a quarter-acre fire, attack lines were stretched, fire was knocked down. We got some more resources on scene," he said.

"Another brush truck, and the Forest Service sent a squad. We cut a handline around the fire and mopped it up and we left it monitor status and went back on Sunday and put some more water on some hot spots."

According to Macht, the PFPD would be checking on the fire as of Monday to make sure all the smoke in the area has been taken care of.

"The fire was burning in the ground. It actually scorched some Ponderosa pines and went through some Gambel oak and went through some grass," Macht described. "If it would have gotten bigger, there was some structures that were in the area, but, luckily, we were able to get

a handle on it before anything was threatened."

The PFPD left the scene on July 11 at 11:37 a.m. and returned to the scene on July 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Macht reported.

About 3,000 gallons of water were used on July 11 to combat the fire and 4,000 gallons of water was used on July 12, Macht noted.

According to Macht, the cause of the fire is undetermined at this time, but noted that the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office made contact with some people who were on-site and that "fireworks were a potential cause."

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Outdoors

Southern Ute Reservation initiates Stage II fire restrictions

By **Lindsay Box**
Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Due to the lack of monsoon moisture, current high temperatures, dry fuel conditions and the occurrence of recent wildland fires, Stage II fire restrictions have been implemented for all trust lands throughout the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. Everyone on reservation land is asked to be very cautious and use common sense with fire this time of year.

Stage II fire restrictions prohibit acts for the general public, commercial operators, and industrial

oil and gas operators performing work on the Southern Ute Reservation.

General public

Prohibited acts:

1. Open burning. Burning of trash and/or yard waste is prohibited.
2. Agricultural burning. Burning of crop land, fields, rangeland, debris burning, slash piles, prescribed burning and weed burning are prohibited.
3. Camp fires. Building, maintaining or using a warming fire or campfire outside of officially

designated or developed camp sites is prohibited. Charcoal broilers and wood and coal stoves used outside of dwellings are classified as campfires and prohibited. Fires for ceremonial sweats are allowed upon notification of the local fire authority and/or Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) fire office and approval from them.

4. Fireworks. Possession, discharging or use of any type of fireworks is prohibited.

5. Smoking. Smoking is restricted to designated areas, within structures or within vehicles equipped with ashtrays.

6. Operating equipment. Operating or using any internal combustion engine (chain saws, generators, etc.) without a spark arresting device properly installed, maintained and in effective working order.

Commercial and industrial restrictions can be obtained from the BIA Fire Office by calling (970) 563-4571.

Anyone violating the provisions of this fire ban may be subject to prosecution outlined in the Southern Ute Indian Criminal Code.

The restrictions became effective at 6 a.m. July 12 and will remain until conditions improve.

One local lake full this week, water production remains over 20 million gallons

By **Chris Mannara**
Staff Writer

As of Monday, only one local lake remained full, according to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey.

Village Lake remains full, as it was last week.

Hatcher Lake is 16 inches from full this week, or 95.06 percent full. Last week, it was 11 inches from full.

Stevens Lake is 7 inches from full this week, or 97.92 percent full. Last week, it was 8 inches from full.

This week, Lake Pagosa is 4 inches from full, or 98.55 percent full. Last week, it was 5 inches from full.

Lake Forest went from 7 inches from full last week to 9 inches from full, or 93.18 percent full this week.

Total diversion flows remain at 4.3 cubic feet per second (cfs), with the West Fork and San Juan diversions adding 3 cfs and 1.3 cfs, respectively.

From July 3 through July 9 of this year, water production totaled 20.42 million gallons.

Contributing to that total, the Snowball water treatment plant produced 5.20 million gallons, the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 8.25 million gallons and the San Juan water treatment plant produced 6.97 million gallons.

Last year, in that same time-frame, total water production was listed at 17.01 million gallons.

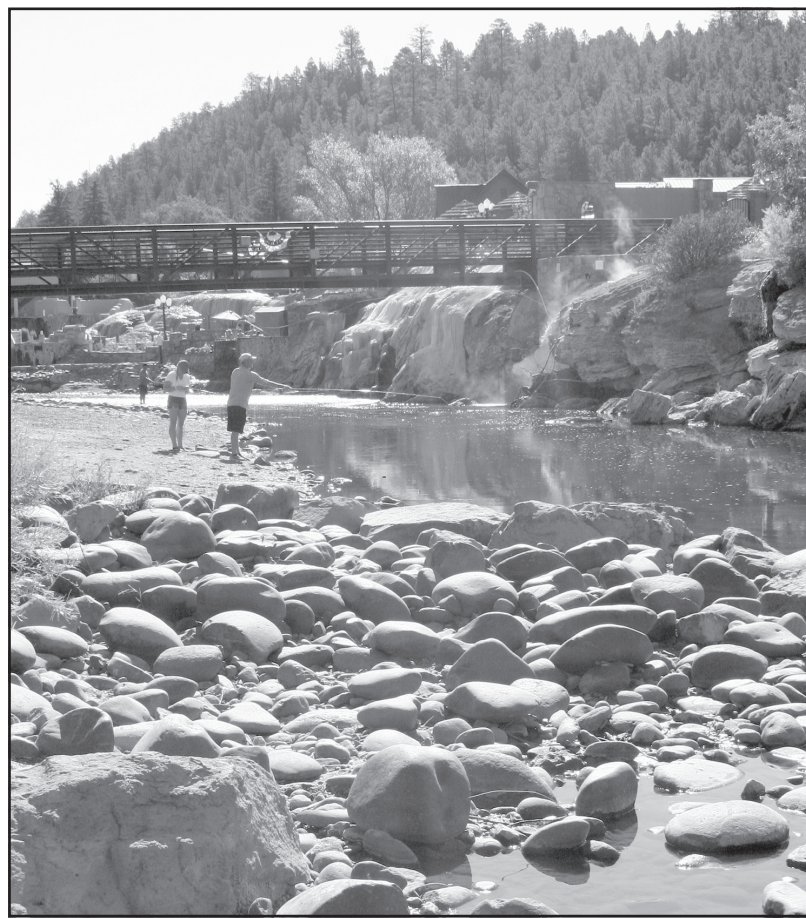
From June 26 through July 3 of this year, water production totaled 20.34 million gallons.

River report

As of Wednesday, the San Juan River had a reported flow of 30.7 cfs, below the average for July 15 of 308 cfs.

The lowest reported flow total for July 15 came in 2002, when the San Juan River had a reported flow of 10.9 cfs. The highest reported flow total came in 1995, when the San Juan had a flow of 1,550 cfs.

chris@pagosahun.com



SUN photo/Shari Pierce

The San Juan River running through downtown Pagosa Springs provides a source of recreation despite recent low levels. The river had a reported flow of 30.7 cfs Wednesday morning, with the average for July 15 being 308 cfs.

Native Plants Garden, Habitat Hero Workshops and Solar Array to enhance GGP

By **Sally High and Keith Bruno**
Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership and Weminuche Audubon

The Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) is undertaking three exciting projects on the Centennial Park site in July. Pagosa Springs' Riverwalk promises to be a busy place as improvements are added for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. By mid-August, the park enhancements should be completed with the help of several partnering organizations.

Native plants garden

The GGP is building a native

plants garden in collaboration with Weminuche Audubon Society and Southwest Conservation Corps (SWCC). Garden fence construction begins Monday, July 20, when Colorado Youth Corps brings youth workers to Pagosa Springs for two weeks of park improvements.

The 42-foot round fence and garden construction result from a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant that the GGP submitted through the Town of Pagosa Springs. Materials are paid for with existing GGP and Weminuche Audubon funds. The youth workers will complete their site improvements and participate in local learning activities on July 31.

Solar energy installation

GGP received a La Plata Electric Association Renewable Generation

Funds Grant for construction of a solar array to generate electricity for the GGP site. An active solar generation system is being installed.

Habitat Hero workshops

Weminuche Audubon received a National Audubon Society Coleman and Susan Burke Center for Native Plants grant to plant a native plant garden for demonstration and education of the public. The GGP is proud to partner with Audubon and provide the site for the permanent demonstration garden.

Beginning Monday, July 27, local partners join Audubon Rockies to host native plants workshops free to the public.

Jamie Weiss, Audubon Habitat Hero coordinator, will teach a Habitat Hero virtual orientation workshop about the importance

of bird-friendly native plants and preserving our local biodiversity. The online workshop is from 2 to 4 p.m. and registration is required: <https://rockies.audubon.org/events/pagosa-springs-habitat-hero-project>.

Hands-on workshops continue Tuesday, July 28, when volunteers will assist in planting the native plant Habitat Hero garden on the GGP site. The end of the week brings a special movie, "Hometown Hero," to be shared online.

Community-minded Pagosa Springs organizations are encouraging responsible behaviors to keep each other safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are determined to complete our planned hometown improvements by encouraging outdoor activity, social distancing and face coverings.

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Agreement

Continued from A9

"If the dispatch board comes to a consensus that a new funding structure is necessary, I will absolutely contribute my thoughts and input to that restructuring process," she said. "In terms of a flat fee funding configuration, I understand that is a configuration used at other agencies, and in order to provide feedback on that specific setup, I would need to do a lot more research, reach out to my peers, run the numbers, etc."

Dispatch move

Archuleta County's dispatch center has been housed in a shopping center for about the last decade.

Dispatchers have reported that toxic fumes waft into the center from a neighboring business and that, generally, the facility has been inadequate and is not particularly secure.

The dispatch center also partially flooded in February, though it stayed in continuous operation.

Around January of 2021, the dispatch center will move to the former home of Norma and Fred Harman III, located uptown in Harman Park, which it will share with the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.

The next meeting of the Archuleta Combined Dispatch Board is set for Aug. 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Remote meeting details can be obtained by finding the dispatch board meeting agenda at <http://www.archuletacounty.org/Agenda-Center/>, which is posted no less than 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

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‘This just feels like home’: Jared Payne’s journey from child musician to business owner

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

Jared Payne has cemented Pagosa Springs as his home after a spell in Oregon made him realize this is where he belongs.

Payne was born in Salt Lake City in 1985.

When he was 4, his parents got divorced and his mother exited his life. He continued to live in Salt Lake until he was 9, when his father passed away and he and his brother moved to Pagosa Springs.

“My grandparents adopted us from Salt Lake City. They picked us up and rescued us, basically,” he said.

Payne’s grandparents had a house in Aspen Springs, where his aunt and uncle lived across the street.

As Payne grew older, he and his brothers hung out more and more with his aunt and music-playing uncle, who encouraged Payne and his younger family members to start a band.

In 1996, when Payne was 11, his family formed The Pagosa Hot Strings, commonly referred to as the Hot Strings, a bluegrass band.

“Our first gigs were at what was called Fairfield Pagosa, which is now present-day Wyndham Pagosa, at these meetings where timeshare owners would show up and local business owners would pitch deals and bargains ... That was the very start,” he said.

The Hot Strings also were hired by Paradise Pizza to serenade diners and because the band played acoustic instruments they could meander throughout the dining room and even to the kitchen to “give the cooks and working staff a little bit of tunes,” Payne said.

Mary Jo Coulehan, executive director for the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, hired The Hot Strings to play just before the Fourth of July fireworks for about eight years at the annual Red, White and Bluegrass.

The band’s popularity continued to grow in the late ‘90s. The Hot Strings were the opening band for the first-ever Four Corners Folk Festival in 1996 and stayed the opening act for 13 years.

Payne explained that the band gaining popularity for him and his brothers was “a phenomenal part of our childhood.”

Around 1998, the band started to set bigger milestones.

They began actively practicing with a larger goal in mind: To win the Telluride Bluegrass Festival’s band contest.

In 1999, their dream came true. The Hot Strings won the Telluride Bluegrass Festival band contest.

“My brother Carson [Park] was the youngest band member to be part of the winning band and I believe he was 12. I was maybe 13 because I’m only a year or so older than he is,” Payne said, noting that he calls Park his brother but technically they are cousins.

The Hot Strings continued to tour, play locally around Pagosa and generally increase their visibility and success.

They recorded an album in Nashville, “Uncharted.”

“We wound up getting highlighted in Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine as having an ‘on the edge’ CD,” he said. “Meaning we weren’t a traditional bluegrass band, we were kinda, in their view, ‘on the edge.’”

So this was kinda like the peak moment for the band.”

Payne attended Fort Lewis College after graduating from Pagosa Springs High School, though didn’t really know what he wanted to study.

The Hot Strings were still together, but some members of the band were losing discipline.

“We, being younger 20s, late teens, we got to the point where we

hadn’t experienced life very much. We were all so young with a little bit of early success, so I think what happened, from my point of view, is we were a little ahead of ourselves and weren’t quite experienced with life as much,” Payne said.

Payne noted that the band started unraveling when he was in college due

to a familiar foe to rock and bluegrass bands alike: the rock ‘n’ roll lifestyle.

Some band members started partying too much and missing important gigs or auditions.

“I got frustrated and I quickly realized this wasn’t going to be something I could count on as far as moving forward in the short-term,” Payne said. “I was putting in all this effort and we’re not all on the same page and I kind of moved on at that point.”

When the Hot Strings disbanded, Payne also was having increased doubts about what he was doing at college.

“I was not real confident in what I was studying at all,” he said. “So I decided to stop that and the Hot Strings pretty much fell apart. So at that point my brother and I were like, ‘Man we really haven’t lived anywhere other than Pagosa and Durango other than when we were little kids.’ We thought, ‘Oh Portland, Oregon, seems like a cool place.’ So that’s exactly what we did, we said heck with it, we’re dropping everything and packing our bags and going to Portland.”

Payne and his brother moved to Portland in 2008 during the financial crisis, which he said just “lended itself to the roller coaster” of his experience in the city.

While he had hopes of enjoying the same musical success as he’d had around Pagosa, Payne learned that it wouldn’t come as easily in Oregon.

“We quickly found out that in Portland it was much harder to get paid to play music. They would pay you, but you had to be, like, a name to make money. It was really difficult to think that we were ever gonna play music for a living up there,” he said.

Payne noted that separate from music, it was difficult to get hired for any job in Portland during the financial crisis.

That’s when he got creative. He started making flyers that advertised “We’ll clean up your yard” or “We’ll clean stuff out of your gutters” and got some rudimentary landscape jobs, but was still struggling financially.

Payne was trying make ends meet when Park came to visit him from Pagosa.

Just 10 miles from Portland, Park’s car broke down and would have cost thousands of dollars to fix, so he junked it.

Payne, with a light workload of his not-so-burgeoning landscaping business, decided to drive his brother back to Pagosa Springs.

After driving straight from Port-

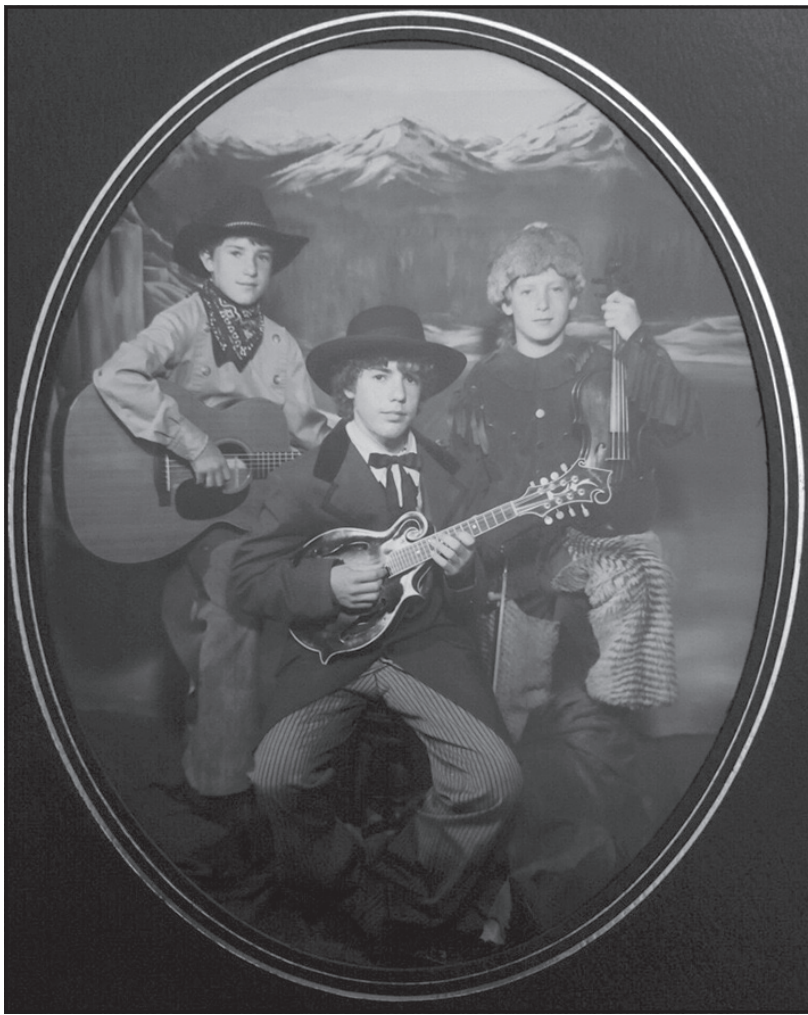


Photo courtesy Jared Payne

Jared Payne, Josiah Payne and Carson Park were the core members of The Hot Strings bluegrass band, who played together from 1996 to 2008.

land, Payne had an unfortunate homecoming: He hit a deer in Bayfield and totaled his truck.

Now back in Pagosa, he wondered why he’d ever left in the first place.

“Once we were back here I was like, ‘This just feels like home.’ I did know deep down that Pagosa feels like home and Portland did not,” he said.

He canceled his lease in Portland and the landlord auctioned off his possessions that were still in the apartment.

Payne was basically out of money, his vehicle was totaled and he knew he had to do something.

It was November of 2009 and Payne posted flyers around Pagosa Springs for jobs for snow removal and was hired right away, a sharp contrast from his time in Portland.

Payne cleared snow all winter, and in the spring, he worked smaller landscaping jobs like pulling weeds and planting trees.

“Basically at that point, it just gradually climbed progressively to more in-depth landscaping projects,” he said.

Payne then earned a job that he suggested essentially changed his life: landscaping the yard of a large home owned by a vice president of a major airline.

The project took months and was one of the first major landscaping projects Payne completed with his company.

“It gave me what I needed inside my own self because I was a really unconfident person and struggled with that a little bit. Just because of the events in my life and thoughts of, ‘What if I’m going to be a failure?’ I dropped out of college, I felt a little bit scared. I didn’t know if I

was good enough to do an important person’s landscaping job, but once I pushed myself through, it was like, ‘Well, I’m not turning back now.’ I was gaining confidence after that point,” he said.

Payne’s landscaping business took off and he’s been steadily employed ever since, even having to refuse jobs because he’s so in demand.

In July of 2019, Payne bought the Pagosa Springs territory under the franchise iTrip Vacations, a short-term rental management company.

“I’ve always been a creative thinker at heart where I’m trying to think of better ways to do things. What’s a better way to landscape? What’s a better way to get in the vacation rental industry? I started recognizing some problems with the county getting a lot of complaints about destructive tenants, loud people, Airbnb’s exploding and kind of taking over neighborhoods, etc., and I realized, ‘OK, we’re developing an issue county-wide with this, so why not introduce myself as someone who is a determined person to find solutions and see if I can’t lend myself to figure it out,’” Payne said.

He added, “I fundamentally believe Pagosa is just one of those specific kind of unique, beautiful places in the world that people really do enjoy coming to, and I see a lot of new homeowners here that have recently purchased a home and they just couldn’t live without having Pagosa in their life. People love Pagosa, they love coming here. It’s a special place and for those of us that live here, we obviously understand that. Either we moved here or we continue to stay here because we love it.”

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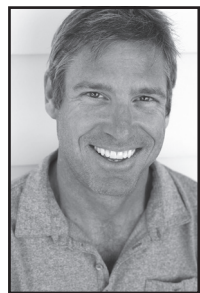
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Education

Board of Education announces director vacancy

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) is looking to fill a vacancy following the resignation of Brooks Lindner, who served as the board president and director for District 1.



Brooks Lindner

Lindner resigned effective July 7 in a letter addressed to the BOE and Superintendent Dr. Kym LeBlanc-Esparza that explains Lindner's family sold their house and he will no longer have a residence in District 1.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my seven years on school board," Lindner wrote. "I learned a lot, forged friendships and professional relationships, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have had an impact on the education of the children in

our community. I certainly would have preferred to serve out my second term, but the sale of our house is a necessity in my family's life right now. I am committed to continuing to serve our district in whatever capacity I can as a community member."

Lindner was elected to the board in November 2013.

At its meeting Tuesday evening, the BOE approved a resolution accepting Lindner's resignation and announcing the vacancy, which it notes must be filled by appointment within 60 days.

According to the approved resolution, anyone interested is invited to send a letter to the board with a statement of interest and qualifications by Aug. 27.

Those letters should be delivered to the district office at 309 Lewis St.; sent by email to rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us; or sent by mail to: Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett, P.O. Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

The letter of intent should address the following:

1. Why do you want to be on the board?

2. Do you plan on running for the position once your term expires in November of 2021?

3. What is your philosophy of education as it relates to serving on the board?

The board will then interview prospective candidates at a 5 p.m. public meeting on Sept. 8. The appointee will serve until the board's next regular biennial election in November 2021.

To be eligible to fill the vacancy, a candidate must be a registered elector of the school district and a resident of director District 1.

Citizens who are interested in applying but who are unsure of what director district they reside in can go to govotecolorado.gov, then to "Find my registration" to find out which school board precinct they reside in, which is located under the "County & District Information" tab.

The district explains the boundaries of District 1 as: "Beginning at the intersection of Hwy 160 and County Rd (CR) 600, the boundary line of Director District #1 shall run North along CR 600 to the intersection of Steven's Lake Rd, thence Northerly

along Steven's Lake Rd to the intersection of Dutton Creek, thence North along Dutton Creek to the intersection of US Forest Service Rd (USFS RD) 661, thence Northeast along USFS RD 661 to the intersection of CR 400, thence North along CR 400 to the Archuleta/Mineral County line, thence West along the Archuleta/Mineral County line, thence North along the Archuleta/Mineral County line to the Northwest boundary of Archuleta County, thence East along the common boundary of Archuleta/Mineral County line to the Continental Divide, thence West along the Continental Divide to the East line of La Plata County, thence South along the common boundary of the La Plata/Hinsdale County line to the Northwest boundary of Archuleta County, thence East along the common boundary of Archuleta/Hinsdale County to CR 600, thence Southerly along CR 600 to North Pagosa Blvd, thence South along North Pagosa Blvd to the intersection of Hwy 160, thence East along Hwy 160 to the beginning point where Hwy 160 intersects with CR 600."

A map is also available on ASD's website.

Charter school board discusses reopening school

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Monday evening, the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) Board of Directors discussed how the school should move forward in terms of reopening in the fall, with the board favoring seeking funding that would allow the school to decrease class sizes for in-person education while also offering a distance-learning option.

The board discussed the matter in a work session, with School Director Angela Reali-Crossland first explaining what work she and the school staff had done in reaching out to students' families.

Reali-Crossland explained that two surveys were sent to families, one for those with returning students and the other to the parents of incoming kindergartners enrolled with the school.

The survey for returning students garnered 38 responses representing 51 returning students, Reali-Crossland explained. The other received 12 responses.

That survey asked about successes and challenges of distance learning, components that were helpful in the distance learning process, what education options (in-person education, distance learning or hybrid) families felt would be best and priorities for safety. The survey for incoming kindergarten students was the same but did not ask the questions about distance learning that took place this spring.

Among the successes listed were helpful staff members, the ability for the students to connect with each other, parents understanding what their children were learning, students becoming more independent in their learning, and more.

Challenges listed included the lack of social interaction, parents struggling to serve as a teacher at home, parents not having the ability to both work and focus on their children's schooling, poor Internet connections, too much screen time, and more.

Of the families with returning students, 60.5 percent favored full-time in-person education, 36.8 percent felt a hybrid model would work for them and a portion stated they needed a distance-only option.

Of the kindergarten families, 75 percent favored in-person learning, 16.7 percent favored a hybrid and 8.3 percent responded that they needed distance learning.

Reali-Crossland noted that only a few who listed a hybrid approach as their option mentioned COVID-19 in their reasoning.

Reali-Crossland also summarized what the families are most concerned about in terms of priorities for safety (families could choose several):

- 83 percent chose increased cleaning of classrooms.
- 81 percent chose increased handwashing stations.
- 54 percent supported health checks.
- 45 percent chose having a max of 20 students in a classroom.
- 32 percent supported a cohort of students staying together.

- 29 percent supported masks for staff.
- 29 percent supported staggered start times for different grades to lessen the number of people entering the building at a time.
- 27 percent supported masks for students.

In response to board questioning, Reali-Crossland explained that teachers expressed more about safety and logistics than class sizes.

She added that every instructor had the opportunity to serve on the distance learning committee, and Assistant Director Thomas Davenport reached out to each about resources and concerns for next year.

Some expressed concerns over things such as what it would look like to keep kindergartners 6 feet apart, Reali-Crossland explained.

"I think they would prefer lower numbers because it would be easier

to enforce some of those things," she said. "If we were at 25 in a classroom, they would have an assistant and so the ratio and the number doesn't always create, I mean they'd have extra support, if that makes any sense."

Reali-Crossland further noted both at her meeting and in her written report, "All of our future classrooms will hold 25+ students with social distancing protocols in place."

That, she explained, is based off of 900 square feet for 25 students.

But, she noted, family concerns and the state will dictate the number of kids in a classroom.

Reali-Crossland noted that if the state allows 25 kids per classroom, PPOS has a chance to go back full-time five days a week.

"There are definitely some concerns of families related to that," she said, asking the board what PPOS might want to do that would be more

strict than the state, such as allowing 25 per classroom if the state does since that's what the budget allows or "aggressively grantwriting" to help cover the costs associated with putting only 15 kids in a classroom.

Board member Bill Hudson suggested he doesn't see a big difference between 15 and 25 kids in a classroom as far as safety of the kids, and asked if a hybrid option would be available for families wanting their kids to go only one or two days per week.

"It sounds to me like your proposal, Bill, is actually home-schooling, where they don't really want to have in-person education," board member Mark Weiler said, adding that fewer kids per teacher raises the quality of the time each teacher can spend with each student.

He recommended grantwriting to

■ See School A13

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or email pagosayouthsoccer@gmail.com

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HUD Publisher's Notice



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

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Public Notices

TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS
N. 8th St Safe Routes to Schools
CDDT Project Number: MO16-033

CDDT Project: 21504

The Town of Pagosa Springs is in the process of finalizing the above-mentioned project constructed by U-Can Afford Landscaping, Inc. P.O. Box 4247 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Any claims against this project by suppliers, subcontractors, or others should be delivered to the project owner, The Town of Pagosa Springs at 551 Hot Springs Boulevard P.O. Box 1859 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. All claims shall be delivered before July 27th, 2020. Any claims received after July 27th, 2020 will not be considered. Call the Pagosa Springs Public Works Department with any questions: 970-264-4151 x 251. Published July 9 and 16, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

PUBLIC NOTICE ARCHULETA COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

The Archuleta County Board of Equalization (CBOE) will sit to review the assessment of all taxable property located in Archuleta County, as prepared by the Archuleta County Assessor, and to hear appeals from determinations of the Assessor on August 3, 2020. Hearings will be held in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Published July 16 and 23, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Department has identified potential zoning designation errors on the Town's official zoning map for the following properties: 558 S. 9th Street, 566 S. 9th Street, 574 S. 9th Street, 603 S. 7th Street, 627 S. 7th Street, 635 S. 7th Street, and 643 S. 7th Street which are currently zoned Mixed Use Town Center (MU-TC) however should be considered as Medium Density Residential (R-12 zoning), and 575 S. 7th Street which is currently zoned as Open Space (OS) however should be considered as Public/Quasi Public zoning.

The Planning Department will be presenting the consideration for amending the official zoning map to the Planning Commission and Town Council at the following public hearing dates:

The Planning Commission will consider a recommendation on the matter at a public hearing scheduled on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 5:30pm.

The Town Council will then consider the requested rezoning application at two public hearings on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 5pm and Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5pm.

To comply with the current social distancing requirements, the agenda will include instructions on how to join the meeting via video conference and/or telephone.

To access the meeting agenda, staff report and proposed development application, click the Meetings and Agendas tab on the left-hand side on the Town's website home page at pagosapublicworks.com.

Anyone having questions or wishing to provide comments should contact the Town Planning Department at 970-264-4151 x21.

Public comments will be accepted at all public hearings. Published July 16, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO

WATER RESUME

TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7 Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of June 2020, for Archuleta County.

20CW17 Peter A. Headley & Ashlee S. Andrews, 921 Chamisal Rd. NW, Los Ranchos, NM 87107; Sedgwick Pumpsite; Archuleta County; Date of original decree, 10/18/00; Case no., 98CW43; Subsequent decrees, 6/26/14, 14CW2; In the SE1/4SE1/4NW1/4, Section 1, T33N, R2W, NMPM; Lower Rio Blanco, tributary of San Juan River; Appropriation date, 7/21/97; .02 Absolute, .03 Conditional; Irrigation and fire protection, .02 absolute and .03 for approximately 2.0 acres irrigation and fire protection; Date water applied to beneficial use, 8/28/07; Pump generates 60 psi output; Irrigation for 2 acres, fire protection, safety; Easting 320410, Northing 4111584;

74689

Account Number: R015785

Schedule Number: 589316408018

Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2016-03805

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to CALUM R. MCNEIL

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2015

That said real estate was owned or specially assessed in the name(s) of TONY RUIZ for year 2015.

That said CALUM R. MCNEIL on the 18th day of June 2020, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to CALUM R. MCNEIL

On the 2nd day of December 2020, unless the same has been redeemed.

Said property may be redeemed from said sale at any time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my hand this 6th day of July 2020

/s/ Elsa P White

Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado

Published July 16, 23 and 30, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

CONCERNING THE ABANDONMENT LIST OF WATER RIGHTS IN ARCHULETA & MINERAL COUNTIES

The Division Engineer, in accordance with §37-92-401, Colorado Revised Statutes (2019), has compiled the list of absolute water rights that he or she "has determined to have been abandoned in whole or in part and which previously have not been adjudged to have been abandoned."

A complete list of water rights that have been abandoned, in the opinion of the Division Engineer, may be found on the Division of Water Resources (DWR) website <https://www.colorado.gov/water>.

If you wish to object to the inclusion of any water right on the Division Engineer's abandonment list, you must file a written statement of objection with the Division Engineer by July 1, 2021. We request that objections be submitted using DWR's Abandonment Objection Form, which can be obtained on the DWR website (search keyword "Abandonment 2020") or from any DWR office. The Abandonment List, with any revisions made as a result of written statements of objection, will be filed with the Water Court by December 31, 2021. Once the list is adjudged by the entry of a decree by the Water Court, such decree will be conclusive as to the abandonment of the water right.

In the following table, U indicates units of either C-cfs or A-acre-ft. The uses being abandoned are either 'All Uses' indicating all decreed uses of the water right, or the individual uses listed, such as Irr-irrigation. If any aspect of the decreed place of use is being abandoned, that is indicated by 'Yes' in the Place column.

WATER DIVISION 7 ABANDONMENT LIST ARCHULETA COUNTY

Structure Name	Water Source	Decreed Amount	Aband Amount	Remain Amount	U	Abandoned	Place
CHAMA ROAD DITCH	Navajo River	5.0000	5.0000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
CROWLEY NO 1 PUMPING STA	Navajo River	0.0530	0.0530	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
CROWLEY NO 2 PUMPING STA	Navajo River	0.0750	0.0750	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
EAKLOR NO 1 PUMPING STA	Navajo River	3.0000	3.0000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
EUGENE MARTINEZ NO 1 D	Navajo River	1.5000	1.5000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
EUGENE MARTINEZ NO 2 D	Navajo River	1.5000	1.3000	0.2000	C	All Uses	No
JOE HERSCH DITCH NO 1	San Juan River	2.0000 (AP)	2.0000	0.0000	C	FIS	No
JOE HERSCH DITCH NO 1	San Juan River	2.0000	1.0000	1.0000	C	IRR,STK	No
O'CONNELL AND KING DITCH	Mccabe Creek	3.0000	2.5000	0.5000	C	All Uses	No
PERINO DITCH	Sambrito Creek	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
POMA WELL NO 1	San Juan River	0.2000	0.2000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
POMA WELL NO 2	San Juan River	0.1000	0.1000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
RIEPEL DITCH	Sambrito Creek	0.2500	0.2500	0.0000	C	All Uses	No

WATER DIVISION 7 ABANDONMENT LIST MINERAL COUNTY

Structure Name	Water Source	Decreed Amount	Aband Amount	Remain Amount	U	Abandoned	Place
BIG ROCK SPRING	West Fork San Juan River	0.1000	0.1000	0.0000	C	All Uses	No
CHAPMAN AND HOWE DITCH	West Fork San Juan River	15.6000	10.0000	5.6000	C	All Uses	Yes

Published July 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2020 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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VETERAN'S CORNER

REACH: A call to action to engage the nation in preventing suicide

By Raymond Taylor
Archuleta County Veterans Service Office

The White House and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently launched the REACH national public health campaign aimed at empowering all Americans to play a critical role in preventing suicide.

The goal of REACH, which was established by the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide (PREVENTS), is to change the conversation around suicide by urging people to recognize their own risk and protective factors — as well as the risk and protective factors of their loved ones.

"REACH will empower our nation's veterans to seek and receive help and it will encourage them to reach out to their brothers and sisters in need who may be vulnerable," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "The power of this campaign will change how we talk about mental health and suicide in our nation. It will ensure that those in need, especially the men and women who have served our great nation, will receive the care and support they deserve."

"The REACH campaign will inspire and educate all Americans — encouraging them to share their own struggles and to reach out to those who are hurting. It will engage our veterans to help lead the way as we change how we think about, talk about and

address suicide," said PREVENTS Executive Director Dr. Barbara Van Dahlen. "I urge everyone to go to wearwithreach.net and take the PREVENTS Pledge to REACH and be part of the solution. Together, we will prevent suicide."

The website also includes information on factors that may protect against suicide, such as belonging to a faith-based community, healthy family relationships, having a purpose in life and strong problem-solving skills. REACH encourages everyone to intentionally strengthen their protective factors — to care for their emotional health and well-being just as they do their physical well-being.

Although suicide is preventable, the nation is facing an epidemic in deaths, with 132 Americans dying by suicide each day. In 2017, there were 47,173 suicide deaths and an estimated 1.4 million suicide attempts. For veterans, the overall suicide rate is 1.5 times higher and the female veteran suicide rate is 2.2 times higher than the general population after adjusting for age and/or gender.

To that end, the REACH campaign website provides information to help people recognize risk factors for suicide, including financial stress, chronic illness or pain, isolation and mental illness, in themselves and in their loved ones. It also links to resources that can provide assistance in avoiding the hopelessness that can lead to suicide.

If you or someone you know is

experiencing thoughts of suicide or is in crisis, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline for confidential support 24 hours a day at (800) 273-8255. Veterans and service members, including National Guard and Reserve, who need immediate help should call the (800) number and press 1 to reach the Veterans Crisis Line, chat online at www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat or text 838255.

For further information, please contact the Veteran Services Office (VSO).

The office of Archuleta County veterans service officer provides assistance to qualified military veterans, and their families, or a veteran's survivors, in applying to and in obtaining VA program assistance, benefits and claims. This assistance is provided within the guidelines, policies and procedures established by the Colorado Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This is a mandated program of the state of Colorado.

Contact information

Veterans: Thank you for your service. Welcome home.

For further information on VA benefits, please call or stop by the Archuleta County VSO, located at the Senior Center in the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The office: 264-4013, fax number: 264-4014, and email is raytaylor@archuletacounty.org. Bring your DD

Form 214 (Discharge) for applications to VA programs or benefits for which the veteran may be entitled to enroll, and for filing in the Archuleta County VSO. Always leave me a message and phone number to contact you.

The following veterans groups meet in Pagosa Springs:

- American Legion Post 108: second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

- Veterans for Veterans: every Tuesday at 10 a.m., Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

- Combat Veterans PTSD Group: every other Tuesday at noon, Community United Methodist Church, Lewis Street. Contact Gary Hanneman at 946-2540.

- Women's Group of Spouses of Veterans: first and third Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., Dr. Carter's office; contact Charlotte at 903-9690.

Important information

- 799-VETS, www.Vets4VetsPSCO.org.

- Durango VA Outpatient Clinic: 247-2214.

- Farmington VA Center: (505) 326-4383.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.: (800) 465-8262.

- VA Health Care Emergency Notification: (844) 724-7842.

The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support to veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365. Call (800) 273-8255, chat online, or text 838255.

CDE to offer optional SAT and PSAT tests this fall at no cost to public school seniors and juniors

Colorado Department of Education

Colorado school districts and charter schools will have the opportunity this fall to offer their 12th- and 11th-grade students the SAT and PSAT at no cost to the student.

The Colorado Department of Education will pay for the assessments that will be administered during the school day on specific dates in September and October, using existing funds designated for assessments.

The optional assessments will provide interested eligible students with an opportunity to take, at no expense to them, the SAT or PSAT in place of the spring 2020 SAT and PSAT school-day exams that were not administered due to the suspension of in-school learning last spring because of the COVID-19 public health crisis. Replacement administrations are not being offered for the canceled CMAS

or PSAT9 exams.

"The SAT and ACT are not required for admission into Colorado public colleges and universities next year, but I know many of our students will still want to take a college entrance assessment as another way, in addition to grades and activities, to demonstrate their accomplishments," said Colorado Education Commissioner Katy Anthes. "I'm pleased we will be able to offer the SAT to our seniors and the PSAT to our juniors — at no cost to them — to provide another opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge to postsecondary institutions, as well as scholarship providers."

In addition, students may elect to take the SAT on one of three available Saturday administration dates at state expense if they attend a public school that has not chosen to participate in a school day administration.

Results will be used for individual student and local school or district purposes only and will not be used for state reporting or accountability in 2021.

In-school test dates:

SAT

Primary test date: Sept. 23.
Make-up test date: Oct. 28.

PSAT

Primary test date: Oct. 14.
Alternate test date: Oct. 28.

Test dates may be canceled in the event of a local or regional school closure related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the event of closure, additional test dates are not expected to be scheduled, but students may have the option to take the assessment on a Saturday administration.

School

Continued from A12

increase the individual attention, which would also differentiate PPOS.

Board member Julie Simmons suggested that high-risk students who missed out on half of the previous school year will probably need an in-person option.

Simmons added that she had heard from "quite a few" parents who probably wouldn't send their students back without a distance option because of current conditions, and other parents stated they can't work while their kids are schooling at home or who feel like their kids are not learning at home.

"There's two totally different scenarios going on right now," she said. Later in the conversation, Reali-Crossland noted that if PPOS offers in-person education, she believes it legally has to offer distance learning.

As the conversation continued, Reali-Crossland and the board discussed possible learning platforms for distance learning and opted to not offer a hybrid learning model that would allow students to be on campus some days and home others.

Instead, PPOS will focus on offering in-person and distance-learning options.

Board president Ursula Hudson suggested pushing in-person educa-

tion as the first choice, but noted that the distance-learning option would help the school be set up if it has to again close to in-person education.

During the regular meeting that followed the work session, the board unanimously voted to allow grant-writing to help cover additional costs associated with smaller class sizes and tech support.

Current enrollment

As part of her report to the board during the regular meeting, Reali-Crossland outlined the school's current enrollment of 110 students, as well as its wait list numbers:

- Kindergarten: 17 enrolled, five on the wait list.
- First grade: 18 enrolled, nine on the wait list.
- Second grade: 18 enrolled, two on the wait list.
- Third grade: 12 enrolled.
- Fourth grade: seven enrolled.
- Fifth grade: 14 enrolled.
- Sixth grade: eight enrolled.
- Seventh grade: 16 enrolled.

Reali-Crossland explained that, with the exception of siblings of existing students, spaces in classes with more than 17 students have not been filled, and she indicated that some families are still debating their enrollment due to the pandemic.

Other business

In other business at the meeting, the board also approved allowing a firearms safety and instruction company to use space within the school when students and staff are not present.

Reali-Crossland explained that the company would use the space to do firearms instruction and would have no live ammo on-site, and no firearms would be left on-site.

In return, she explained, the company could either pay rent or trade work hours to help with things like maintenance.

Bill Hudson suggested PPOS have a policy for people looking to sublet space from PPOS, which the board agreed with.

He further expressed concerns

with sanitation.

Judson Crossland, co-owner of the company looking to rent space, told the board the company always seeks to leave places it uses cleaner than it finds them, and Bill Hudson pointed out his concern centered more on sanitizing.

Crossland noted he was more than happy to accept an agreement on a provisional basis and allow PPOS to figure things out.

The board approved a letter allowing the company to have a firearm and instruction company on school property and is expected to discuss a policy at its August meeting.

The board also approved hiring a food security/food program advisor. randi@pagosasun.com

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- ✓ Respect One Another

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- Practice social distancing and stay six feet apart
- Wash your hands frequently



Supported by Town Council Resolution 2020-18

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Pagosa Farmers Market

Saturdays • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. • East end of town at the East Side Market



Photo courtesy Pauline Benetti

Pagosa Farmers Market bulking up

By Pauline Benetti

Southwest Organization for Sustainability

Our third market is coming up this Saturday and the season is ramping up. At the last market, we had growers displaying a wide range of fresh locally grown vegetables: tomatoes, microgreens, carrots, broccoli, beets, lettuce, herbs, spinach, kale, cucumbers, peas, radishes, turnips, peppers and chard. In addition, we had nine dozen eggs and a variety of plants, including basil, rosemary, peppers, oregano and comfrey. In the category of essential specialty items, we had hand-tailored face coverings, water bottles and hand-made scented hand soap for those frequent hand washings.

Those of you who arrived late to the market are probably wondering why you did not see this cornucopia of plenty. Well, it is precisely because you arrived late. You have to remember that our growers do not mass produce in the manner of a commercial grower. Their greenhouses and hoop houses and row covers are a family project, so they plant only what they can care for and harvest and have water to support, and this year water may be a limiting factor.

The market does look different with all our vendors wearing face coverings, but, perhaps, the biggest dif-

ference and the one most sadly missed is the lack of opportunity for community gathering, for meeting up with friends, for sitting down to talk and listen to some music. Instead, we are asking our friends to enter the market through the east entrance, where they will be given a mask if without one, make their purchases while maintaining distance and leave through the west exit with, perhaps, a wave to a friend here and there or a short conversation. We can only hope that by next season the market can return to normal.

There is no change to our SNAP policy, however. We continue to accept SNAP cards and continue to hand out free a \$20 value of Double up Bucks for the first \$20 SNAP purchase, essentially doubling purchasing power. In addition, we will be redeeming coupons from the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging which have been distributed to local seniors to encourage shopping at the Pagosa Farmers Market and buying nutritious local food. These coupons are supported by funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. For more information, call 403-2164.

The market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the east end of town at the East Side Market.

Hope to see you at the market Saturday — but early.

Volunteers needed for senior shopping assistance program

By Cheryl Wilkinson

PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Springs 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.

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.

The Community Café menu

Thursday, July 16 — Beef bris-

Senior News

ket, macaroni and cheese, green beans, milk, salad and carrot cake.

Friday, July 17 — Chicken Marsala, roasted asparagus with walnuts, twice-baked cauliflower, milk, salad and cherry pie.

Monday, July 20 — Tuna sandwich, cream of zucchini soup, caramelized butternut squash, milk, salad and chocolate chip cookies.

Tuesday, July 21 — Hot turkey salad, corn chowder, spring pea medley, milk, salad and pumpkin

pie.

Wednesday, July 22 — Roast beef, mashed potatoes with beef gravy, glazed carrots, milk, salad and lemon bars.

Thursday, July 23 — Chicken and dumplings, oven-fried green tomatoes, milk, broccoli with butter, salad and apple 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 Ross Aragon Community Center.

For your convenience, you can make your reservations in advance or have a standing reservation on

■ See Senior on next page

Wednesday

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Jack Ellis Band, 6 p.m.

Friday

Pagosa Brewing Company: Ukulele Jam Band, 5:30 p.m.



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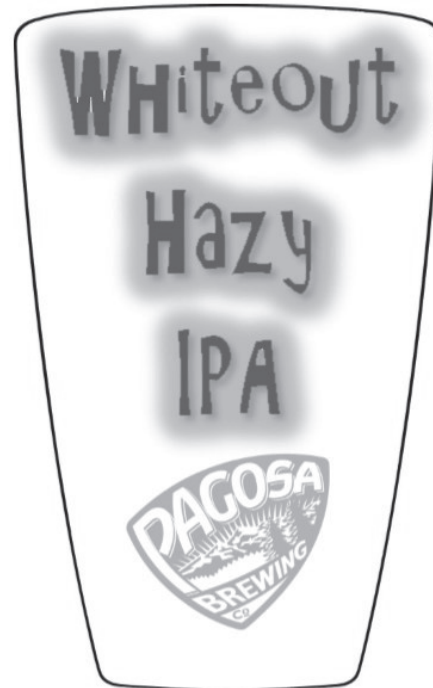
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Rise and Recover Together, Pagosa Springs merchandise to benefit local nonprofits

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Archuleta Committee of the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado has pivoted its 19th Hole Concerts and created a new, online grant opportunity for local nonprofits. Since in-person gatherings are challenging this summer, we are inviting locals to purchase merchandise that will boost community spirit and raise important dollars for nonprofits.

Rise and Recover Together, Pagosa is a campaign rooted in community spirit. It is a shared movement to lift each other up in light of the hardships faced during the COVID-19 crisis. The campaign is centered on a locally designed logo to represent Pagosa's strength and resilience during challenging times and to remind everyone we

are stronger together.

Visit basintees.com/rise, scroll down to the Pagosa Springs section to find T-shirts, hats, yard signs, stickers and window clings. All proceeds from the Pagosa Springs sales will benefit selected nonprofits (originally applicants for the 19th Hole Concerts). Benefiting organizations are: Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, Veterans 4 Veterans, Aspire and the Archuleta County Fund (which is a community foundation fund raising money for future granting to local nonprofits).

We'd like to thank the sponsors of our 19th Hole Concerts for making this pivot with us and supporting the nonprofits in this new way. Please consider joining this creative initiative by purchasing merchandise to raise community spirit during these challenging times.


Senior

■ continued from previous page 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.

Due to COVID-19, food supplies have been affected. Substitutions will be made accordingly.

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A view from the top

By **Betty Slade**
PREVIEW Columnist

We are living in a time when walls of division, disruption and distraction are appearing all around us. They have likely always been there; we just see them bigger and more solid than before.

Some are made to keep us in, while others are there to keep us out. What used to be for personal safety now confines anxiety and memorializes pride. Constructed as a center line between the left and the right, or as a quarantine zone for religious dogma. What was once built as a demarcation of fact now marks the anomalous and perceived.

I take a day trip to see my family every summer. They own a cabin at the top of Cumbres Pass. As if left untouched by time, we can see the Toltec Railroad in the near distance. From the wrap-around porch, we can imagine a time much harder than today, but less complicated, to be sure.

My family consists of many cousins and an only living aunt. Our kitchen table talk? Stories from the homestead. When a train ride down the mountain to sell milk and eggs meant buying fabric for clothes or oil for lamps.

We love and care for each other, something that has been passed down throughout the generations. But our lineage is not seamless. My family members have a different theology than I do, which has created an invisible wall. It's a partition that creates a certain restriction in

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



any conversation.

We are all very passionate about our faith and how we worship God. To the casual observer, one would think we were perfectly aligned. Although we speak a similar language, our belief is not the same.

There is a barrier between us, something we have learned to silently agree to let be. After our visit, we always make plans to see each other again. After all, we are still family.

This year's trip atop the mountain was just as the times before. We laughed about Uncle Donald antics and marveled over Grandma Jesse's cooking. But to my surprise, the invisible wall of difference began to fall. There was a common concern and cry in all our hearts. Nothing we talked about seemed to be more important than the people of our nation and those we love.

When we were ready to leave, we prayed together and became united in our resolve. We experienced being one in heart and spirit for the first time since I left my family's church at the age of 18.

The next day, I asked my Sweet Al what he thought about the visit and if he felt a difference. I said, "I

feel like we folded our cards."

"What do you mean?"

"We have always concealed a part of ourselves from each other, because we knew where the boundary lay. This last visit, we looked beyond that boundary, and came together in prayer for a singular purpose — to let what is, be, and to seek wisdom for what we do not understand."

The subject of walls brought me back to a story in the scriptures — a skipping gazelle, an allegory of King Solomon and the Shulamite girl.

The voice of the beloved, like a gazelle leaping upon the mountain and gazing through the lattice on the wall. He called, "Come away with me. The winter is past and the voice of the turtledove is heard in the land." — Song of Solomon 2:8 (NJK).

She refused and turned him away, "Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away, turn my Beloved, and be like a gazelle upon the mountains of Separation."

Final brushstroke: There will always be walls of some measure on earth. Even those that have been pulled down can still cast a shadow. But if we follow the path of the gazelle, a symbol for the resurrected Jesus, we will see things from a vantage point that levels the height of anything that separates us, only serving to outline those things that define us.

Readers' comments

Send your comment to betty-slade@centurytel.net.

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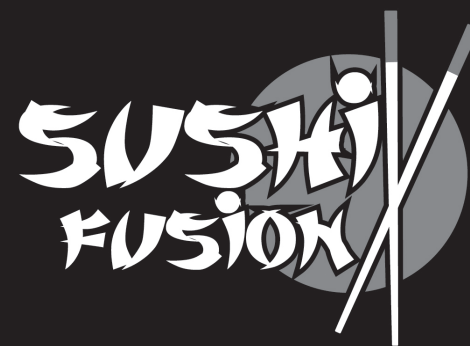
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Romance scams increase during pandemic

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, all as an employee of San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA). Information on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

New websites by con artists are proliferating during the pandemic, and scams have tripled. Organizations such as AARP continue to educate the public and report on scam techniques. AARP's The Perfect Scam podcasts, with investigative journalist Michelle Kosinski and fraud expert Frank Abagnale as hosts, feature dozens of interviews of scam victims, experts and con artists and average 25 minutes. The podcasts are found on the website aarp.org, and a subscription is available on several online streaming services.

Romance scammers continue to entice vulnerable people who have experienced divorce, death or other traumas. Dr. Justin Lehmiller, social psychologist, said in one AARP podcast that the predators prey on people's deep insecurities.

We all need to belong, he noted, and after weeks or months of frequent contact with the love interest, the victims' passion and feelings lead them to act irrationally and ignore their own doubts and warnings from friends and family. The biological and emotional connection of the romantic relationship over time helps create blinders.

Abagnale explained how scammers use social engineering skills, researching on the Internet everything they can find, such as social media posts, about a target's interests and attitudes, to develop emotional intimacy with the person. They know the human desire to be loved and understood, so they talk for hours, send flowers, and share poetry and photos.

According to hacking expert Rachel Tobac, who tests the security of businesses, con artists often work for others and have access to voice-changing software that can alter the gender and accents of the speaker.

Several of the scammed professional and experienced women in the AARP podcasts tried dating websites at the urging of friends. After weeks or months of on-line "dating" and then sending money for convincing reasons to a "friend" of the con artist, the women realized their love interest was not who he seemed. A consistent clue in a romance scam is that the person from the dating site will not use live video even when asked repeatedly.

Area Agency on Aging

In one long-term romance, the man eventually confessed, and she discovered on video that he was a younger man from Nigeria and not at all the British businessman

who had courted her; he tried to continue the relationship. She was a former intelligence officer and trained to be suspicious, but despite some concerns and research on his information, she lost more than \$1 million. For example, the skilled con artist even had her chat with different family members and a lawyer with convincing separate personalities.

In three of the stories, the scam-
■ See Agency on next page

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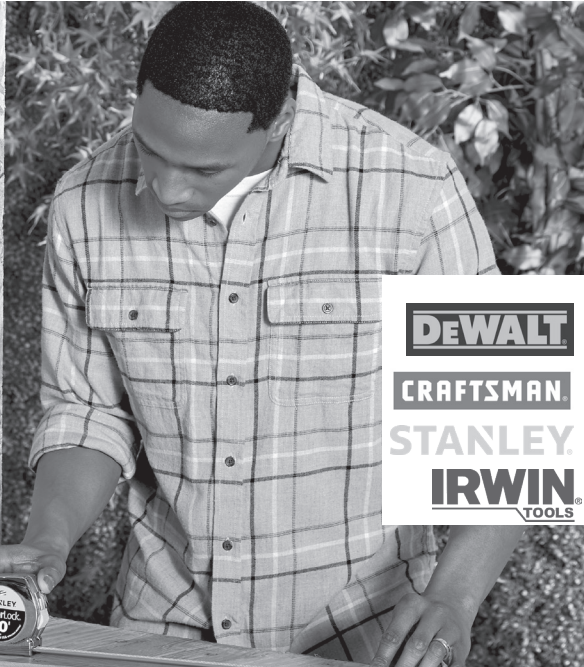
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New Young Adult teen series and library reopening going well

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We are delighted to announce that we are adding a new section to our Young Adult collection. Called YA Series, it consists of shorter chapter books about 100 pages or fewer with content geared toward teens. You'll find it at the beginning of the Young Adult Fiction section.

"These books are short and engaging reads, which are ideal for teens who don't already like to read, or who may not be as confident in their reading ability but who still want to read books with stories they will enjoy," said Claire Spence, teen services librarian. "We will start very small, with only one shelf. If the series proves to be popular, then we'll look at expanding."

The collection will include books like "A Name Earned" by Tim Tingle, which earned a starred review on Kirkus; "Thicker Than Water" by Natasha Deen; "The Unbroken Hearts Club" by Brooke Carter; and plenty more from multiple genres including mystery, horror, science fiction and romance.

More library reopening news

"It seems to be going well,"

Library News

said Meg Wempe, library director. "People are excited to be back inside the library — and we're happy to see them."

That's the staff reaction as your library building is now partially reopen for the first time since the middle of March, albeit with some limitations. Services currently available:

- New: Tech time, ESL and GED. See details below.

- Up to 20 patrons at a time can come into the building Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to return books, browse, register for a new library card, make copies, send faxes, pick up tax forms and check out materials like books, DVDs, CDs and periodicals.

- The first hour every weekday — from 9 to 10 a.m. — is reserved for seniors and other high-risk people.

- Eight computers are available weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., three by advance appointment

and five for walk-ins. Call us at 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org to schedule a time. In most cases, computer usage will be limited to two hours per day. Staff will continue to clean and disinfect the computers between uses.

- One early literacy computer is available for youngsters on a walk-in basis Monday through Saturday.

- Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for building entry and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for computer use.

- Curbside service continues Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for those not comfortable coming into the building. Phone 264-2209 when you are in the parking lot so staff can bring the items out for you. If you put a hold on something, please wait for your usual alert (email, phone call or text) before coming to pick it up.

- For safety's sake, hand sanitizers are available and there will be frequent cleanings inside the building throughout the day. Also, please practice social distancing and wear facial coverings while you are in the building. If you don't have a mask, we are happy to give one to you.

- Notary public service is now

■ See Library on next page

Agency

■ continued from previous page
mer has a romantic accent (but not his own) and, at some point, travels overseas and gets "in trouble." Then he asks for loans or donations to a fake charity using Western Union, Google Play cards, the victim's own bank accounts or an account set up to help him. When the couple makes plans to meet,

something always prevents it, and often the scammer asks the partner not to tell others. Legitimate-sounding excuses start to pile up in the relationship.

If you are using a dating website, slow down, insist on a live video within a couple weeks, tell others details and do not blame yourself for joining the numerous people

who have been tricked by these experienced con artists. For advice, call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Hotline, (977) 908-3360.

SJBAAA 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.

Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to any people.

Proverbs 14:34

Mankind often places their hope for the furtherance of society in education, science and statistics, government, judicial systems, military strength, etc. Those things are needed and important.

However if men and women are not righteous, placing hope in those things leads to unwanted results. Without righteousness, education can become the promotion of a person's ideas over truth. Science and statistics may be made to say what the producer desires. Government may become weighed down with the desire for power. Judicial systems can

become blinded by status and money. Military strength may be used for the power of it. Even religious people can live unrighteous lives, justifying their own desires over God's will.

Righteousness is doing the right thing, right living. When people seek to do the right thing, a nation will be exalted. Will all the unwanted results be corrected? No, men and women will still fall short. But righteousness is the goal for which we must strive. It gives us a place to begin our stand. Will you join us in seeking to do right?

Dorman Diller

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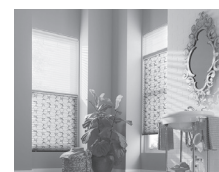
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Library

■ **continued from previous page** available Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. The cost is \$5 per notary.

- You now can place holds on items from other libraries. They are in different stages of courier service and reopening, so items may take longer than usual.

- If you do not have a library card but want to use our online resources, you 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 provide your login credentials. If you previously self-registered, you now can pick up your physical card after providing proof of address.

- We’re also happy to provide tech help over the phone for our online resources.

- Please note we are not accepting meeting room reservations or hosting any large in-person programming at this time.

Tall Tale contest

Do you have an extravagant story to tell? Submit your entries to our all-ages Tall Tale contest by 5 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, July 17. Winners will be announced on July 20. Submissions should be original stories, but can use already existing characters. Both written entries and audio recordings will be accepted — not videos, please.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Pre-Writers, Emerging Writers, Developed Writers-Children, Developed Writers-Teens, Developed Writers-Adults and Judge’s Choice. For more information and submission guidelines, please visit the library website at pagosalibrary.org or call us at 264-2209.

Email your tale to ruby@pagosalibrary.org, or deliver a hard copy to the library. All entries should be clearly labeled as entries to the Tall Tale contest and include the author’s name, age and contact information. You do not need to have a library card to participate.

Book sale canceled

Because of the coronavirus, the Friends of the Library have canceled this year’s book sale, which had been scheduled for Aug. 4-6.

Fundraiser bumper stickers

Your library’s foundation has launched a small fundraiser with two different bumper stickers that can be purchased at the library for \$5 each. Both say, “I (heart symbol) my library.”

HVAC installation

Our long-awaited HVAC project is well underway. We apologize for

the noise and will have earplugs available at our front door greeter station.

Summer Reading Program

It’s not too late to sign up for the free all-ages Summer Reading Program that runs until July 31.

- You will be given a “choose

your own adventure” booklet with fun activities and challenges. Completing them makes you eligible to win weekly prizes purchased from local businesses.

- There are adventure booklets for four groups: pre-K, K-5, teen and adult. Pick them up at the library and view them on our

■ **See Library on next page**



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Library

■ continued from previous page website.

• To sign up, call us at 264-2209, email ruby@pagosalibrary.org or register online at pagosalibrary.org/summer-reading. We just need to know your name, contact information and what age group to assign you to.

• In addition to the adventure booklets, a new all-ages challenge will appear each week in this “Library News” column. Anyone who completes the challenge will be entered to win a weekly drawing for various prizes.

Challenge 8: Design a bookmark

Put your creative skills to the test and design a bookmark. Bookmarks are typically 2 inches wide and 7 inches long, but yours can be any length or shape. Please do not copy a design found online; we want to see originality expressed in your design. Submit a photograph of your completed bookmark to ruby@pagosalibrary.org. All ages can participate, and everyone who submits a design will be entered into our weekly prize drawing. Please include a name and phone number with your submission.

Tech Time

Make an appointment for one of three slots available noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Brad will be helping one person (or one couple) at a time.

ESL

Classes are resuming Tuesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. Please register so we can keep it to a small group in our limited open spaces. No walk-ins, as the front door will be locked.

GED

GED classes plus HiSet, CDL and other tutoring is available on Tuesdays from 2 to 7 p.m. by appointment for both new and returning students.

Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom

Join us via Zoom on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 pm for our Dungeons and Dragons group open to teens and young adults. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

Family storytimes on Facebook

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m., join us for great stories and fun songs on the library’s Facebook page.

Wednesday storytimes are now on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m., you can interact with Josie — and she is eager to have a live audience. Saturday’s sessions are prerecorded. If you have a Facebook account, log in to Facebook and search for the Ruby

Sisson Memorial Library. If you don’t have a Facebook account, access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon (a lowercase f) in the upper left hand corner of the screen. Or contact us and we can send you a direct link. These sessions are available to watch for about two weeks after the initial posting.

Storywalk program for kids

Every Thursday, Josie, your early literacy librarian, will post signs outside the library that follow the sidewalk up towards the elementary school detailing a new Summer Reading Storywalk for kids. The July 16-23 theme is legends. Get outdoors and follow the pages of a book for a fun-filled activity. After you finish, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library.

Please complete the census now

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. 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 will directly affect hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for the next 10 years for local and regional agencies and projects like health clinics, fire departments, schools, social services like Medicaid, even roads and highways. Archuleta County needs your participation to get our fair share of these federal dollars.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. 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.

Nonfiction

“The Room Where It Happened” by John Bolton is a memoir of the Trump administration by the former national security advisor. “Stamped from the Beginning” by Ibram X. Kendi is a history of racist ideas in America. “Demagogue” by Larry Tye is a biography of Sen. Joe McCarthy.

Books on CD

“The Book of Longings” by Sue Monk Kidd imagines the life of a young woman married to Jesus. “Texas Outlaw” by James Patterson and Andrew Bourelle is a Texas Ranger western. “Hit List” by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington thriller. “The 20th Victim” by James Patterson and Maxine

Paetro is a Women’s Murder Club adventure. “Walk the Fire” by David Baldacci features Amos Decker in the Memory Man mystery series. “Camino Winds” by John Grisham is a mystery set during a hurricane. “Masked Prey” by John Sandford is a Lucas Davenport thriller. “North of Laramie” by William W. and J.A. Johnstone is a Buck Trammel western. “Phantom Hill” by Carlton Stowers is a Ralph Compton western. “Bad Apple” by Lancaster Hill is a novel of the Alamo.

Mysteries and thrillers

“Hush” by James Patterson and Candice Fox features a former detective freed from jail by a police commissioner who needs her help. “The Clutter Corpse” is a new mystery series featuring amateur sleuth and de-clutterer Ellen Curtis. “Her Last Flight” by Beatriz Williams is a suspense story of a lost pilot and a wartime photographer. “Black Book” by James Patterson and David Ellis centers on what is missing from a madam’s customer book.

Other novels

“The Lion’s Den” by Katherine St. John is set on a luxury yacht in the Mediterranean. “Blue Ticket” by Sophie Mackintosh is a feminist dystopian tale that imagines a world in which a girl’s fate is chosen for her. “Mrs. Lincoln’s Sisters” by Jennifer Chiaverini takes place after the president’s assassination. “A Burning” by Megha Majumdar tells of three young people seeking to better their lives in India. “The Second Home” by Christina Clancy

■ See Library on next page

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Is quarantining negatively affecting our kids?

By John Lough
American Counseling Association

Most schools closed in mid-spring. Playgrounds in many areas are taped off. Sports programs from baseball to swim meets are being canceled. The current COVID-19 crisis and its quarantining measures are directly affecting our children every day in a variety of ways.

Many parents worry what the long-term effects may be on our kids. It's a question for which there aren't a lot of ready answers, but the consensus from numerous experts is that most kids will be all right.

This is especially true for younger children. While they may now complain when locked down at home that they're "bored," it's probably the same complaint voiced during every summer's school vacation.

Being bored at times won't harm a child's psychological and emotional development, but, rather, it does offer opportunities for par-

ents to help build self-sufficiency. Providing kids with additional ways to express their creativity and enhance learning is one approach, but sometimes simply leaving a child to develop his or her own answers to being alone can encourage a child's independence and ability to create his or her own activities. Parents can empathize with a child's unhappiness with the current situation, but they don't need to be a constant playmate or source of entertainment.

With pre-teens and teenagers the problems can sometimes be more difficult. Social interaction is extremely important to these age groups and the disappearance of classrooms and the freedom to just hang out with friends often are more serious issues than simply being bored. Additionally, older children are better able to understand the health and societal problems this health crisis has brought, which can mean higher levels of anxiety and stress as they worry

not only about their own health, but that of others close to them.

Allowing fewer restrictions on electronic interactions is one way for today's pre-teens and teens to stay connected. Social media and cellphone chat times can be replacements for that face-to-face time the kids previously enjoyed.

But parents also need to watch for any serious problems that today's changed world can bring to their kids. Significant changes in eating and sleeping habits, being overly argumentative, or withdrawing from family and friends for extended time periods can all be signs of depression. Depression isn't simply being sad, but it's a serious, longer-term mental health issue which is treatable and for which medical and mental help should be sought.

"Counseling Corner" is provided by the American Counseling Association (ACA). Send your comments and questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

Library

continued from previous page

showcases three siblings dealing with secrets and nostalgia. "Seven Lies" by Elizabeth Kay begins with a lie between two best friends.

Donations

We are grateful for the generous monetary donations from Susan and Terry Arrington and from Lenore Bright in memory of James Adams.

Material donations now can be

put into the drop box at the library — but not into the drop box at City Market. Donations will undergo the same rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns.

Quotable quote

"When you get right down to the root of the meaning of the word 'succeed,' you will find that it simply means to follow through."

— F. W. Nichol (1955-1892), IBM executive. He made the first-ever business call from the U.S. to China

when he called IBM's Shanghai office from New York in May 1937.

Website

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Horseback trailin' on the Continental Divide

Last week's column described a hike to the Continental Divide up the East Fork of the San Juan River Trail. This week, I'm describing my first trip up the same trail, but with a difference. A big difference. That first trip was horseback.

I had a friend named John Ross who owned two Tennessee



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

walking horses and had nothing to do for a while but ride Pagosa Country mountain trails. When he invited me to go along, he got an excited yes. He'd been bragging about those horses and here was a chance to find out if it was all talk or for real.

According to Wikipedia, a Tennessee walking horse is a gaited horse known for its unique four-beat running walk, flashy movement and sure-footedness. You also need to know this Motter-guy has owned and ridden horses most of his life starting with plow horses and, despite the cowboy hat, always rode with one eye looking for the best place to land in case my horse decided to unload his cargo.

And so, the eventful day arrived and we loaded the two gray horses into his trailer, an uneventful event. About an hour or so later, we park the trailer along the road beside the source of the Nipple Mountain



Photo courtesy John Motter

The 1901 Fourth of July celebration in Pagosa Springs was beefed up by Jicarilla Apache, Southern Ute and Navajo Indians. The festivities included bucking horses, races, drinking, gambling and a declamation by one of the leading town fathers.

Trail, cinch up the saddles, give the horses a handful of grain, climb aboard, point their noses uphill, and poke a flank with our spurs. Yipee! Away we go!

As the Tennessee walkers wind around sharp turns, scramble across rocks and keep a sharp eye out, it seems my mind is full of mullings. Mulling No. 1: How did I get here? Mulling No. 2: Why did I get here? Mulling No. 3: How do I get out of here? Mulling No. 5: What if the horse falls? Mulling No. 6: What if we meet a bear? Mulling No. 7: Why is my right stirrup scraping the cliff going up on the right side and my left stirrup silhouetted against a creek 2,000 feet below on

my left side?

After what seemed like an eternity, we reached the top. Looking west, we could see mountain ranges in far-away Utah and Arizona. Looking east, we could see the Front Range about 75 miles distant across the San Luis Valley. Looking down was scary far on either side.

Since the sun was settling in the west, I set up my camping gear, tent, stove, etc., cooked biscuits and beans, and hit the sack. We got home safely the next day, which emboldened me to ride with him a week or so later into the depths of the Weminuche Wilderness area. I'll tell the tail of that trail next week.

Teaching scouts, part two

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Steven, the scoutmaster of a new troop at scout camp, had a lot to learn about scouting. It's true, at the campfire program where all the troops gathered for the evening program, his troop always wore top-notch uniforms. My boys seldom wore anything besides jeans and T-shirts. When the camp directors yelled, "Who's got spirit!" Steven's troop yelled the loudest. My boys sat there quietly, looking disgusted.

One night, after Steven's troop won the spirit stick for the second night in a row, Steven came over.

"Your boys don't seem to have any scout spirit at all."

I smiled. "Oh, my boys have scout spirit. They just don't think yelling has anything to do with scouting. But you wait until the conclave games on Friday. I will put my boys up against any troop in lashing, bridge building, fire starting or anything you want. That's

what scout spirit is to them."

"But don't you want to win the spirit stick?" Steven asked. "You've got the biggest troop and could win."

I shook my head. "These boys

are farm boys that spend their days working hard. When I became their scoutmaster, we compromised on certain rules. I wouldn't make them yell for the spirit stick, and I wouldn't

■ See Scouts on next page

WORD SCRAMBLE

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Scouts

■ continued from previous page

make them wear uniforms except to important ceremonies and when doing anything with flags.”

“Whatever you’re doing with them must work,” Steven said. “When I go around to the different merit badge stations, the top boys on the list are always from your troop. I keep wondering what your camp is like.”

“If you ever want to drop by, feel free,” I said.

The next day, at dinner time, Steven came. I invited him to join us for dinner, and he accepted. Most of the boys were doing their assigned chores.

“How do you get them to do their part?” Steven asked. “My boys whine about everything.”

Just then, Mort came over. “Daris, do I really have to haul water tonight?”

“Of course not,” I replied. “I’m on the kitchen cleanup. You can do that, and I’ll haul water.”

“I’ll haul water,” he said, rolling his eyes and picking up the water cooler on his way to the nearest spigot.

I turned back to Steven. “I always work with the boys. I willingly join the group doing the job they hate the most. That way they can’t say I expect too much of them, and I always can offer to trade.”

We had a decently good spaghetti dinner — decent by scout-cooking standards. Then the boys wanted to play Old Sow. I was visiting with Steven, and Gordy brought me my stick. “Come on, Daris. We challenge you to be the sow tonight and see if you can get the puck into the center again.”

I quickly explained the rules to Steven. Each boy had his stick in a hole on the perimeter of a large circle. Everyone was against each other, and if a boy pulled his stick out of his hole to whack the puck, another boy could steal that hole, leaving the first boy scrambling for safety. Until I came along, the boys had always stolen each other’s holes, sending the one without one off to be the sow and get the puck. But I played differently. When I played, I took the puck through all the striking sticks into the hole in the center of the circle. That was the ultimate win.

I left Steven to join the boys. I started bringing in the puck, which was just a block of wood. Soon sticks were flying as each boy tried to knock it out for me to chase. Two or three times, the puck was sent flying, and the boys laughed as I chased it. But eventually, expertly blocking their sticks and maneuvering the piece of wood, I got it into the center circle and stood on it.

“I win!” I yelled, as the boys groaned and demanded a rematch the next night.

As I came back, Steven smiled. “I think I’ll go teach my boys to play Old Sow.”

I smiled. “Be careful. Until you get good at it, you probably don’t want to try for the win.”

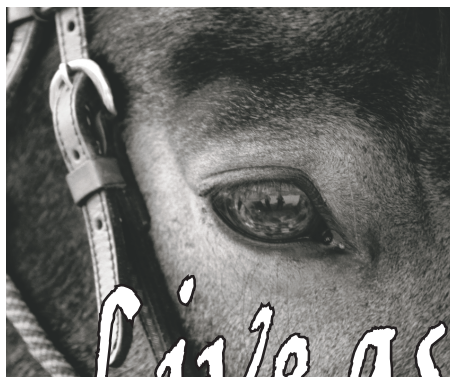
As Steven left, Mort asked, “Do you think his troop playing Old Sow is a good thing?”

I laughed. “I guess we’ll see.” And the next day, we did see.

When Steven came to the campfire program, he had bruises all over him and some stitches over his eyebrow.

Mort elbowed me and pointed at Steven. “I think you forgot to tell him the rule about the end of the stick having to stay below the knee.”

To be continued.



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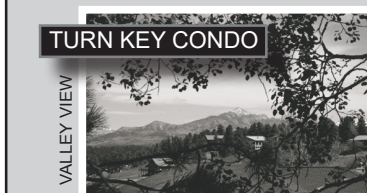


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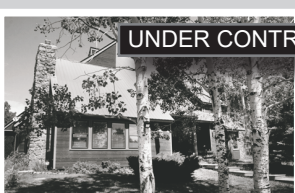


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Climbing walls while sitting in a chair

By **W.S. Robinson**
PREVIEW Columnist

Reclining in my favorite chair recently in vanishingly small Inez, Wyo., I found myself close to tears. My wife, Maria, sat beside me to ask what was troubling me.

Suddenly, tears flowed. “Geez, you could say I squashed a bug.”

I’d pinched a queen honeybee earlier that day while transferring a package of bees into a hive. I know better. I’ve kept bees my entire adult life. But I was contemplating other things as I substituted a little marshmallow — a temporary block that the worker bees can remove — for the cork confining her in her cage while in transit.

She popped out. I clamped my finger over the hole, but hit her instead. She staggered off among the 10,000 other bees of her colony. I feared I’d find her dead at the bottom of the hive.

I was raised to admire, not kill, the six-legged. I recall appearing before my draft board, applying for conscientious objector status with the Vietnam War in full swing. My mother sat beside me at the long table and told all those gray-headed World War II veterans, “This is who we are as a family. We don’t even kill yellowjackets.”

But tears? Maria, always perceptive, said, “Maybe that queen is just the straw that broke you.”

She’s right. The real weight is this pandemic, which should scarcely be a factor in my life. We live in perhaps the safest place in the Lower 48, a ranch in eastern Wyoming, where our nearest neighbors live over a mile away. As I write this, the Wyoming Department of Health lists fewer than 1,800 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the entire state.

Yet each day I read the news, and I mourn for this country and the world, ill-equipped to handle a virus ravaging us all. The college where I teach has gone online. The class I teach in Yellowstone National Park is canceled. Here I am, unhappily home on the range.

Every morning by sunrise, I am walking fields and cottonwood bottoms along the North Platte River. It’s not painful duty. A bald eagle stands alongside its fledgling eaglet on an immense nest as its mate fishes from a branch over the river. White pelicans sleep in snowdrift-like groups, oblivious to my passing. The dew reveals thousands of glistening orb webs strung between stalks of crested wheat grass and rabbit brush. It brings to mind Tom Paxton’s song “Getting Up Early” that I sang years ago at my wasp-loving mother’s memorial service: “I walk the long grass, get my legs all covered with dew, Getting up early, remember-

Writers on the Range

She’s right. The real weight is this pandemic, which should scarcely be a factor in my life.

ing you.”

Songs in my head have always provided a background rhythm on these ranch walks. Until now, they were often tormenting earworms from my youth, tunes by Herman’s Hermits or Gary Lewis and the Playboys. Now the songs are melancholy, brought on by John Prine’s death from COVID-19: “Sam Stone was alone when he popped his last balloon

“Climbing walls while sitting in a chair”

Even Prine said he couldn’t sing “Sam Stone,” that desolate song of drug addiction, very often. But it’s with me every morning and it echoes through the day. Even though I’m privileged, fortunate so far in my experience of this pandemic, I seem to be climbing walls from my recliner.

I miss teaching young minds in the classroom. I miss bumping into friends in town. I already miss those unwritten songs that John Prine still had in his complicated brain, full of snakes and bluebirds.

Hell, I still miss my mother. I worry about friends and family, all in more vulnerable situations than I am. I fret over the legions of unemployed, the professional caregivers and factory workers. I worry about topics I’m teaching: unabated carbon release into the atmosphere, the planet-devouring human population.

Every morning. I watch the sun rise on the prairie. I can almost feel the earth turning to embrace that distant fireball burning away the dew. Today, I checked the beehive. The queen is alive. I find her busily seeking empty cells where she can deposit her eggs. She has a noticeable lurch in her walk. Maybe that’s the best even the most sheltered of us can hope for.

W.S. Robinson is a contributor to Writers on the Range (writersontherange.org), a nonprofit dedicated to spurring lively conversation about the West. He studies honeybee behavior and teaches at Casper College in Wyoming.

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Noxious Weed of the Month: spotted and diffuse knapweeds

By Ethan Proud
PREVIEW Columnist

That plant with the purple flower usually means thistle, but knapweeds have purple blooms as well. Russian and spotted knapweed flowers are typically purple and diffuse knapweed blooms may be purple — though they are usually white.

For this article, we will only be discussing the biennial knapweeds in our area: spotted and diffuse. In the early stages of life, knapweeds can be hard to identify. They have sage-green highly dissected leaves,

Extension Viewpoints

meaning that the margin flares out and returns to the mid-vein. Being biennials, the first year they will not grow out of the rosette stage and bloom. During their second year, they will bloom small inflorescences that appear similar to Canada thistle. The petals are feathery and subtended by bracts

of scales on the flower bud.

On spotted knapweed these bracts are tipped with black and on diffuse they are yellow and spiny, and stick out between 90 and 45 degrees from the bud. In a perfect world, these plants would die after they bloom, but knapweeds can also act as short-lived perennials and live for three to five years, producing seeds the entire time. After the aboveground portion of the plant dies back, or senesces, the base of the stem becomes

■ See Viewpoints on next page



Photo courtesy Jamie Jones

Spotted and diffuse knapweed.

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Ways to prevent falls around the house

Special to The PREVIEW

Despite all of the potential hazards around a house — from electrical issues to fire hazards to carbon monoxide — the National Home Security Alliance says that falls are the leading cause of death due to home accidents.

Falls are responsible for one-third of all home-related fatalities. Although seniors are the group most affected by falls, these types of accidents can affect anyone.

A broken bone may be a minor inconvenience for young people, but fractures are more serious for the elderly. As a result, seniors must take measures to protect themselves against falls. These steps can minimize risk at home.

1. Remove tripping hazards. Examine rooms and hallways for potential hazards, such as slippery throw rugs, floorboards that stick up, loose carpeting or furniture that blocks walking paths. Remedy these hazards as soon as possible. Address loose floorboards and place nonslip materials beneath rugs.

2. Install grab bars or railings. Install grab bars in certain locations for extra stability or where someone may need leverage getting up from a seated position. They are particularly helpful near toilets and bathtubs and in stairways and hallways.

3. Stick to sensible shoes. Sensible shoes fit properly and have sturdy, nonskid soles. Avoid walking around in slippers or even in stocking feet, which are much more slippery.

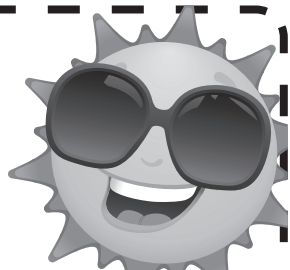
4. Store items within reach. Store items that are used frequently,

such as dishes, in easily accessible cabinets and other locations. This prevents having to climb or reach for them.

5. Install more lighting. Poor visibility can contribute to falls. Lighting in hallways, stairways, bathrooms, and bedrooms — even if it is a small night light — can be enough to light the way.

6. Reinforce your home's exterior. Falls do not only occur inside. Inspect the perimeter of a property for uneven turf, holes, or cracked or uneven patches of walkways. Make sure lighting is working at entryways, and check that exterior handrails are secure.

Falls can cause serious injury or death, particularly for aging men and women. Simple fixes around the house can make things more secure and reduce the risk for falls.



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Viewpoints

■ continued from previous page

brittle and it forms a tumbleweed, dispersing seeds until it becomes stuck in a fence, ditch or some other obstruction.

Spotted and diffuse knapweeds readily hybridize and hybrids can be expected in areas with both species. Two other knapweed species are toxic Russian knapweed and yellow star-thistle, and the same toxins can be found in the biennial species — just in lower quantities. Livestock will not usually select these plants, but if a pasture is completely infested, they will eat anything green in the absence of desirable forage. Be sure to use rotational grazing practices as knapweeds will readily invade overgrazed and degraded rangeland and pasture.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

LOCAL NEWS WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- AUDIENCE
- BEAT
- BROADSHEET
- BULLETIN
- BYLINE
- CIRCULATION
- CLIP ART
- COLUMN
- COLUMNIST
- COMMUNITY
- CUTLINE
- DECK
- DISTRIBUTION
- EDITION
- EDITOR
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- NEIGHBORHOOD
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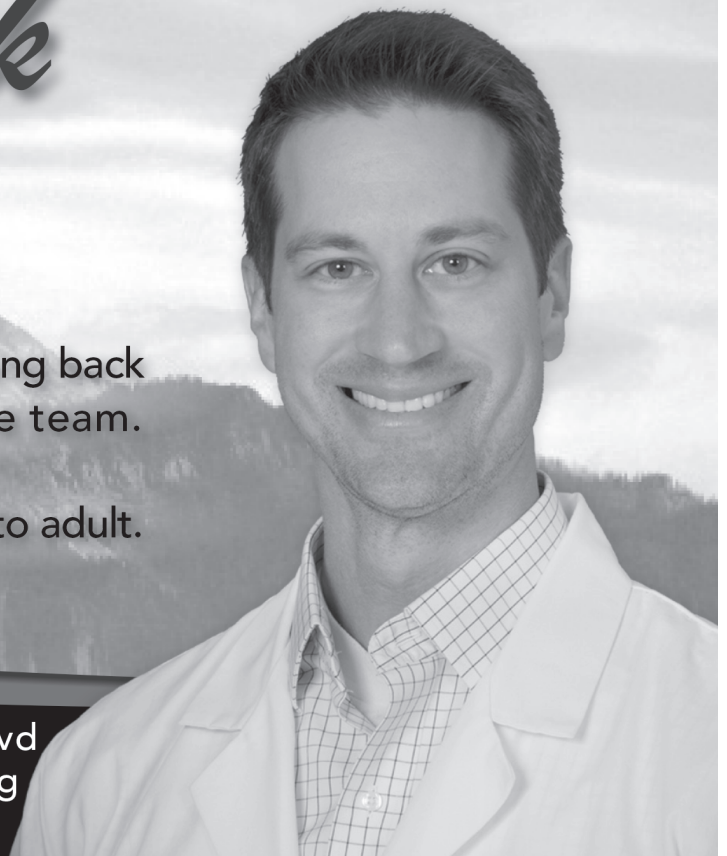
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, July 16

Outdoor Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., the wooden cross behind the parking lot. Docents provide information and inspiration regarding the Chartres-designed labyrinth. It is a path of releasing, receiving and renewal. We encourage social distancing and wearing a mask in the presence of others. In addition to the Thursday guided tour, the labyrinth is available seven days a week.

Stretch and Balance. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of exercises to help regain balance, de-stress and alleviate pain.

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.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Lecture Series: 'Chaco, North of the San Juans.' 7 p.m. Steven H. Lekson will be discussing the Zoom presentation online. To join this meeting, you can obtain the Zoom link and meeting ID located on www.chimneyrockco.org/lecture. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.

Friday, July 17

HER Story. 8:30-9:30 a.m., 140 Country Center Drive, Unit 2. A women's group providing a safe, supportive space to grow and heal as you share your story. An opportunity to meet other women in your community in a peer-supported group focused on healing from trauma, abuse or violence.

Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights. 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email movies@ppos.co for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

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Saturday, July 18

Pagosa Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., East Side Market. Available for purchase will be essential products only. For more information, contact Pauline Benetti at 264-5232.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild Meeting. 10 a.m., Yamaguchi Park

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Spoonful, say
- 6 "Black Beauty" author Sewell
- 10 Cassette contents
- 14 _____ and pains
- 15 Crackpot
- 16 Smack hard
- 17 Poe specialty
- 19 Diner dish
- 20 "An Affair to Remember" co-star
- 21 Electrified particle
- 22 Second point in tennis
- 24 Kite part
- 26 Not of this world
- 28 Fuzzy fruit
- 31 Glimmer
- 32 Flip one's lid?
- 33 Knitter's need
- 35 Petty argument
- 39 Arcing shot
- 40 Gridiron gain
- 43 Start for step or stop
- 44 Crafty site
- 46 Freshwater fish
- 47 Coffee bar order
- 49 Part of AMA, briefly
- 51 Washed-up star
- 53 Gilbert and Sullivan work
- 57 Terrarium plant
- 58 Report holder
- 59 Beach Boys hit, "Surfin' _____"
- 61 Cartoon ant
- 64 Anna's sister in "Frozen"
- 65 Cologne's cousin
- 68 Part of FYI
- 69 Campsite critter, briefly
- 70 Eucharist plate
- 71 Pipe part
- 72 Lab work
- 73 Make changes to

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21			22	23				
			24		25		26	27						
28	29					30		31						
32						33	34				35	36	37	38
39				40	41					42		43		
44			45		46				47	48				
			49	50				51	52					
53	54	55					56		57					
58							59	60			61		62	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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DOWN

- 1 Item on a to-do list
- 2 Tylenol target
- 3 Barbecued treats
- 4 GMC model
- 5 NY time zone
- 6 Choir part
- 7 Who might be to blame
- 8 Swe. neighbor
- 9 80's flick "Say _____"
- 10 Race giveaways
- 11 Well-apprised
- 12 Naples staple
- 13 Kind of alcohol
- 18 Missile housing
- 23 Farm layer
- 25 Revolting, to a kid
- 27 Move convulsively
- 28 Up to snuff
- 29 Connive
- 30 Coup target

- 34 Personals, e.g.
- 36 Sovereign ruler
- 37 Pot builder
- 38 Many a Bieber fan
- 41 Rothko's field
- 42 "Anything _____?"
- 45 Rigging support
- 48 First name on Mount Rushmore
- 50 "I told you so!"

- 52 Way off
- 53 Follows orders
- 54 TV series starter
- 55 Come next
- 56 Lincoln and Ford
- 60 Put in the mail
- 62 Place for a roast
- 63 Take a needle to
- 66 Enemy
- 67 Asp anagram

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

⊙ * ✱ ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☽ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

Solve the code to discover words related to local news.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 11 = e)

A. 11 20 11 4 7

Clue: Something going on

B. 12 11 9 2 12 7 11 12

Clue: One who investigates

C. 21 1 20 11 12 7 8 19 11

Clue: Draw attention to a product

D. 10 8 12 10 14 24 21 7 8 2 4

Clue: Number of copies sold

Answers: A. event B. reporter C. advertise D. circulation

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

pavilion. The challenge quilts will be voted on. Bring a chair, show and tell, and a picnic lunch for after the meeting. Drinks will be provided by the guild. Family Storytime. 2:30 p.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights. 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email movies@ppos.co for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

Tuesday, July 21

Chi Energi. 8:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of movements and stretches to create energy for the healing of our mind, body and soul.

Stretch and Balance. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of exercises to help regain balance, de-stress and alleviate pain.

Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom. 2-4 p.m. Go on an adventure from the comfort of your couch. This program is open to teens and young adults. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

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Wednesday, July 22

Family Storytime. 10 a.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m., you can interact with Josie. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more

information.

Garden Talks with Ron Chacey. 5:30 p.m. This year you will be able to attend from the comfort of your own home. Just tune in via Zoom from your computer, iPad or mobile device. First Chacey will talk about what's going on this week in his personal garden. You will view current photos of his plants, garden beds and hoop houses. Everyone will be muted, but also be able to submit questions or comments via chat. Then there will be a question-and-answer period.

Thursday, July 23

Outdoor Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., the wooden cross behind the parking lot. Docents provide information and inspiration regarding the Chartres-designed labyrinth. It is a path of releasing, receiving and renewal. We encourage social distancing and wearing a mask in the presence of others. In addition to the Thursday guided tour, the labyrinth is available seven days a week.

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Friday, July 24

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Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights. 11 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email movies@ppos.co for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

Saturday, July 25

Pagosa Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., East Side Market. Available for purchase will be essential products only. For more information see calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page
tion, contact Pauline Benetti at 264-5232.

Family Storytime. 2:30 p.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs via prerecorded videos posted on the library's Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights. 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email movies@ppos.co for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

Tuesday, July 28

Chi Energi. 8:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of movements and stretches to create energy for the healing of our mind, body and soul.

Stretch and Balance. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of exercises to help regain balance, de-stress and alleviate pain.

Dungeons and Dragons via Zoom. 2-4 p.m. Go on an adventure from the comfort of your couch. This program is open to teens and young adults. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org for details on how to join.

Pagosa Peak Open School Fund-raiser: Car Hop Movie Nights. 8:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way. Looking for something fun to do this summer? Swing by and catch a movie in your car. All summer long we will host drive-in style showings in our parking lot. Entrance is by donation. Concessions will be available for purchase. Email movies@ppos.co for movie information, showtimes and to reserve your spot.

Wednesday, July 29

Family Storytime. 10 a.m. For all ages. Join us for great stories and fun songs. Wednesday storytimes are on Facebook Live, so if you go to Facebook at 10 a.m., you can interact with Josie. If you have a Facebook account, you can log in and search for the Ruby Sisson Memorial Library. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can access the page by visiting our website and clicking the Facebook icon, or you can contact us and we can send you a link. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Garden Talks with Ron Chacey. 5:30 p.m. This year you will be able to attend from the comfort of your own home. Just tune in via Zoom from your computer, iPad or mobile device. First, Chacey will talk about what's going on this week in his personal garden. You will view current photos of his plants, garden beds and hoop houses. Everyone will be muted, but also be able to submit questions or comments via chat. Then there will be a question-and-answer period.

Thursday, July 30

Archuleta County Fair. 8 a.m. Virtual event information to be announced.

Outdoor Labyrinth Guided Walk. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd., the wooden cross behind the park-

ing lot. Docents provide information and inspiration regarding the Chartres-designed labyrinth. It is a path of releasing, receiving and renewal. We encourage social distancing and wearing a mask in the presence of others. In addition to the Thursday guided tour, the labyrinth is available seven days a week.

Stretch and Balance. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A variety of exercises to help regain balance, de-stress and alleviate pain.

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.

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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-Blake L.

Discovering truths

By Sami Fortin
Special to The PREVIEW

Dear Father,
There's so much going on around us, in our homes, workplace and the world. We all need a place we can come to and escape all the evil and chaos. Help people everywhere know that You offer this place of refuge. A place where we are protected from the enemy and also a place of perfect peace. Not like living in a bubble, but almost a place where peace surrounds us even in the midst of trials and temptations.

Lord, You place a comforting blanket over us and give us so much, help us to respond by giving You what we have — our hearts. Touch us Lord, with a spark of hope, that there really is life after addiction, depression, cancer, abortion, divorce or any of the evils our hearts have deceived us with.

These are ongoing desires in our hearts: peace, safety, home, beauty, love, joy, patience and self-control, and these are all gifts that You offer freely when we come to you with a sincere heart. In fact, I'm so blown away by Your perfect gifts for such undeserving persons as myself and others that I want to run into Your arms and thank you. In Jesus' name.

Looking for truth?

A Matter of Faith

In John 14:16, Jesus told him, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

In John 14:16, Jesus told him, "I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

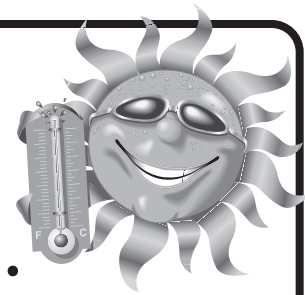
Look no further than to the Father. Call, on the name of Jesus

and He will surely come to your rescue, even if you're doubting with unbelief. He'll help you see through the lies and guide your steps as you wander in the wilderness. He'll bring you to the mountaintops after going through the red sea. There's trouble up ahead, but He'll hold your hand through that too.

See, He's holding you up with His righteous right hand, He's surrounding you with His army of angels and He will bring people into your life that will help change you for the better. Some are like sand paper that smoothes the rough edges and others are like sweet honey to make your journey worth it. Wherever you are on this journey called life, don't miss out on the best it has to offer. The power of the Holy Spirit living inside you is guiding you each day. Thank you, Lord, for this wonderful life, You light up my world. Help me to do the same for you and others.

Send your "Matter of Faith" submissions to editor@pagosasun.com.

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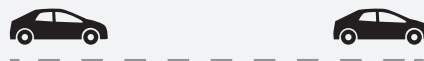
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New Thought to discuss spiritual responsibility

By Lisa Burnson
New Thought Center
for Inspirational Living

“We have a spiritual responsibility to be consciously grateful, because that energy’s frequency flows from us and assists in our healing, our brothers’ and sisters’ healing, and ultimately, the healing of the planet.” — Louise Hay.

All are welcome to join the New Thought Center for Inspirational Living (NTC) this Sunday, July 19, at 10 a.m. for our presentation: “Spiritual Responsibility and Trans-

parency of Truth: The Birthing of a Higher Consciousness.” Spiritual responsibility has been described as taking responsibility for one’s life as the path of spiritual growth. Our speaker will be Shayla White Eagle McClure.

We will have spirited live music. Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing.

Staying home? Please tune into our YouTube channel: Pagosa New Thought.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each

Wednesday at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

Wednesday, July 22, 5 to 7 p.m., Chamber of Commerce Sunday owner at our open house at the NTC. Lively music by the Retrocats. Call/text (970) 309-6067 for more information.

Thursday, July 23, 6: to 7:30 p.m. Reception for traveling shamans: Harmony Fire Eagle, Gushikawa, and Terra Raye at the NTC. Refreshments and delightful conversation.

Please join us for our summer series: “Courtyard Concerts” in August and September featuring several local bands and supporting several local charities. Bring a lawn chair, picnic blanket, picnic snacks and enjoy these evening events on Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Outside alcohol is not allowed. Contact Shayla by texting (970) 309-6067 for more information.

About us

The 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. The NTC honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine.

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

Sunday devotionals offered by the Baha’i Faith

By Paulette Heber
Baha’i Community of Archuleta County

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

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

A weekly theme is reflected in the prayers, music, poetry and selections from world religions and various sources. All are encouraged

to contribute inspirational pieces. This Sunday, July 19, our theme is noble character.

“The fruits of the tree of man have ever been and are goodly deeds and a praiseworthy character.” — Baha’u’llah.

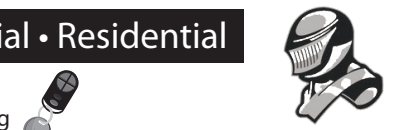
The Baha’i Faith is a world religion whose purpose is to unite all people of the world in one universal cause, one common faith.

To learn more about the Baha’i Faith, please visit the official international website of the Baha’i Faith at www.bahai.org. Our local contact is archuletabahais@gmail.com.

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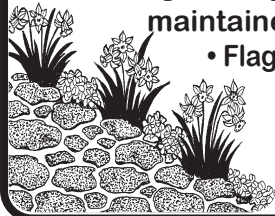
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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HEALTH SERVICES

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS Wellness Center. Chiropractic, acupuncture, craniosacral, massage, water therapy in the hot springs. Auto and sports injuries. 1/2 hour \$60 and 1 hour \$120 treatment. (971)221-4797, hotspringhealers.com. Home visits. Durango hours on Wednesday.

DEEP RELAXATION - 1:1 session with vibrational sound therapist. Feel the vibrations, bowls placed directly on body for deep healing/relaxation. (970)335-9225.

HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Check-in Receptionist**. The receptionist is responsible to welcome and greet all patients, family members, visitors, and vendors of Pagosa Springs Medical Center in a friendly, professional, courteous, and helpful manner, providing excellent customer service. Responsible for maintaining the patient check-in log to ensure all patients are checked-in and registered for services at PSMC to ensure services are provided in a timely and efficient manner. Coordinates with the Volunteer Desk for any patient needs, e.g., wheelchairs, guided direction to appropriate areas of the clinic and hospital. Applications may be picked up at the hospital front registration desk, the human resources office, or downloaded at www.pagosaprimedicalcenter.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.

WE ARE SEEKING a versatile individual who can help us with chairside dental assisting and front office administration. No experience necessary; will train the right candidate. Please send resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

USE YOUR CAREGIVING TALENTS to help others stay in their home. Training and flexible schedule. LifeCare (970)516-1234.

PAGOSA WELLNESS SPA is looking for dependable team players for our expanding business at our recently opened location at the Best Western Pagosa Lodge. We are accepting applications for Massage Therapists and Estheticians looking for flexible hours and a willingness to learn. Send resume to info@pagosawellness.com. Call (970)422-7161 for questions.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND GREENHOUSE PAGOSA are looking for happy, enthusiastic people to join our budding business. We are willing to train the right candidate if you're committed to being a part of this continually growing industry. Please send a copy of your resume to employment@jandjinc.net along with a copy of your **Colorado M.E.D. Badge**.

SEEKING SERVERS- Pagosa Brewing & Grill seeks part- and full-time serving team members. Applications at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and Facebook. No phone calls.

PART-TIME HELP FOR LANDSCAPING WORK. Must be experienced with mowing, weed eating, trimming. Call Eric, 946-2061.

LOCAL LANDSCAPING COMPANY is seeking seasonal workers for landscaping and irrigation installations. Experience is a plus! Must have reliable transportation. Call Buck Frisbee Landscaping at (970)946-0996.

RIFF RAFF BREWING SEEKS someone with a positive attitude that is willing to learn. Following positions are available: prep cook, line cook and a food runner. Pick up application at 274 Pagosa St.

HELP WANTED

MASTERCORP- A RESORT HOSPITALITY leader is looking for local talent to join our staff of Housekeepers to join our beautiful resort: Wyndham Pagosa. We provide: weekly pay based on performance (average \$16/ hour). Paid training. People proud culture team environment. Advancement opportunities. To apply visit www.applymc.com or contact Daniel (760)613-8852.

EXPERIENCED EQUIPMENT OPERATOR TO work in Chama, New Mexico for logging company. Call (970)507-0876.

TAX PREPARER: Immediate need for a year-round tax preparer to work 30-40 hours per week. Other tax related admin duties will be required. Flexible schedule. Please send resume and salary requirements by fax to (970)264-4451 or by email to jjaccountingsvc.com.

SMOKE RINGS IS NOW taking applications for budtenders. Bring your resume by 266 E. Pagosa St.

GENERAL LABORER, PART TIME, at your convenience. (970)398-9136.

FULL-TIME SERVER/ BARTENDER POSITION available at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery. Must have positive customer service skills and reliable. Please apply in person.

2 CHICKS AND A HIPPIE: We need part-time dishwasher, host/ barista and kitchen help. Come in to apply.

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

LOST CAJUN: HIRING FOR a part-time FOH Server and Experienced Kitchen Staff. Multiple shifts are available. Must apply within the store. Pay is depending on experience for the kitchen openings.

JONES MECHANICAL. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED but will train right person. Excellent opportunity to learn the HVAC trade. (970)731-3046.

POSITION OPEN-PART-TIME HELP needed M-F at Navajo Trail Laundry. Please apply in person, 75 Navajo Trail Dr.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Opening for 20-21 school year: Bus Driver; Middle School Paraprofessional; Middle School Custodian; Part-time Bus Aide. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

FULL-TIME DRIVER NEEDED. Must have Class B CDL with hazmat endorsement as well as current health card, be able to pass random drug and alcohol screenings, willing to work some overtime, altering weekends and on call shifts during winter. Basic computer skills are preferred. Call 264-5823 for an application or pick one up in person at 1040 E. Hwy. 160.

POSITION NOW OPEN FOR barista. Boulder Coffee Cafe is looking for team players to become a part of a great team serving Pagosa Springs. Apply at 643 San Juan St.

CONSTRUCTION HELP NEEDED. Equipment operator and labor help. Driver's license required. Start immediately. Many different phases of work. Please reply to (970)946-1169 or to donaldford51@hotmail.com.

HELP WANTED

MOTEL SOCO IS NOW HIRING! We are definitely the coolest place to work in town, just ask any of our staff! Opportunities for growth within the company are available. Seeking fun and energetic people to fill the positions of full-time and part-time room attendants (housekeeping), and a morning cafe/ kitchen person. Mornings, weekends and holidays are a MUST for these positions. Please submit resume to info@motelsoco.com, stop by Monday- Thursday from 11a.m.-3p.m., or call anytime to schedule a meet and greet with a Manager.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE, LOUNGE AND PATIO. Seeks motivated and dedicated bartenders. Most work nights and weekends and holidays. Seeks experienced grill and line cooks and a Day Kitchen Manager. Seeks a part-time pastry cook. Must work Sunday and Monday mornings and fill in as needed. See Chef Travis and Chef Erika. You can send your resume to: Contact@alleyhousegrille.com.

JOURNALIST - THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN is seeking qualified candidates for a reporter position. Must demonstrate aptitude for, and commitment to community newspaper journalism. Candidates must be prepared to handle deadlines, cover breaking news, report on sports and government and write features. Position is 30 hours a week. Send cover letter including salary expectations, resume, references and clips to Reporter Position, The Pagosa Springs SUN, PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or hand-deliver them to the paper at 457 Lewis St. Emailed submissions are acceptable (helpwanted@pagosason.com). The Pagosa Springs SUN, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

OFFICE MANAGER. San Juan Dental is seeking a caring and compassionate new team member for our growing boutique practice. Dental experience a plus. Please email resume to dreicrsmithdds@aol.com or stop by 101 Pagosa St.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CITY Hall Cafe and Coyote Moon Bar and Grill. All positions. Apply within or call (970)398-0355.

CDL DRIVERS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS needed. CDL minimum 1 year driving experience. Knowledge of forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. No overnight trips. Send resume to: pagosaland@pagosa.net.

HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED. APPLY at the High Country Lodge or call (970)264-4181.

CLEANERS, UP TO \$15/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable and committed. Text Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED. MUST have some metal experience. \$15-\$20 per hour depending on experience. Call San Juan Roofing, (970)749-0830.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE, LOUNGE & PATIO. Part-time Housekeeper. 3-4 mornings a week. Must be reliable and work when scheduled. Please apply in person. Monday- Friday 9a.m. to 3p.m.

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

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.

HELP WANTED

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.

PEAK DELI HIRING IMMEDIATELY for skilled line cook with multitasking abilities and customer service skills; counter help also needed. NO CALLS. Stop in for application.

PAGOSA LIQUOR HIRING FULL-TIME cashier. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

NEXT GEN EXCAVATION LOOKING for well-rounded person with a class A CDL license to drive truck, operate equipment, and perform general labor. Pay starts at \$16/ hour. Call (970)946-7303.

NORTH PAGOSA SHELL HIRING full-time cashier. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING a yard associate/ driver. Lumber experience is a plus. Duties include helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks, and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and medical and dental insurance for full time employees. Please apply in person or contact Darrin at (970)731-4111.

LOOKING FOR A NAIL Tech to take over existing clientele in a well established salon. Call (970)946-5593.

HILLSIDE INN IS LOOKING for a team player to join our housekeeping staff. Housekeeper responsibilities include (but not limited to): performing a variety of cleaning activities (bathrooms, rooms, hallways), make beds, ensure all rooms are cared for and inspected according to standards, etc. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays. Please send your resume to hillsidennpagosa@gmail.com or stop by the hotel to pick up an application.

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

FULL TIME HOURS. With possible 2 bedroom, 1/1-2 bath rental available. Storage facility plus Uhaul rentals. Must have good customer service skills, computer skills, some lifting and outdoor work. If interested, please call office 264-5958 during regular business hours. M-F, 9a.m.-5p.m. or email me at allpurposestorage193@gmail.com.

PART-TIME HIRED HAND. Responsible, ranch work, horse care, yard and snow work. Self motivated, attention to detail and thoroughness. 731-1957.

SEEDS OF LEARNING is accepting applications for a full-time, year round assistant preschool teacher. This person must have a warm, friendly personality, be sensitive to the feelings and needs of others and able to work with and relate well with children, families and co-workers. Must have a minimum of an associate's degree in Early Childhood (or related field) or be in the process of completing the degree. This person will actively participate in planning and implementing the curriculum as well as assessing the needs of individual children. A resume with education and experience is required. Please call Lynne or Dee at (970)264-5513.

HELP WANTED

GENERAL LABORER. Help wanted- full time. Please call (970)264-5000. Pagosa Cattle Company.

GOOD EARTH MEDS (Recreational Cannabis) is seeking a person for sales and prep work. Computer and basic math skills are a plus. MED badge is required before starting. Send resume to: bdelany@centurytel.net.

MARKETING ASSISTANT. We are looking for a dependable, innovative person to help us grow our expanding brand as we look for new opportunities and creative ways to edge out the competition. Do you work well with others? Are you a creative thinker? Come work for a great company that continues to grow and thrive in our ever-changing economy. Duties and responsibilities include: Update multiple websites weekly/ monthly; Daily/Weekly posts to social media; Organize, present and design print and digital advertising for multiple locations; Design and order merchandise for multiple locations; Update online menu systems daily/ weekly; Assist Marketing Director and Owner with various tasks. Must have experience in marketing involving both print and digital mediums. Adobe and MS Office skills required. I.T. experience is a plus but not required. Previous experience in the cannabis industry is preferred but not required. A Colorado M.E.D. Badge is required before you can start work. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

DISHWASHER NEEDED 4 DAYS a week at The Rose, 408 Main Street. Apply in person or call Steve (970)946-6529.

ROOT HOUSE COFFEE & SHOP is hiring. We are looking for experienced baristas and bakers. Must be 21+ years. Come and join our team. Pick up an application or drop off your resume. The door of opportunity is open!

SUSHI FUSION FULL -TIME KITCHEN and server positions. Immediate opening. Excellent pay plus tips in both positions. Apply in person or text (316)461-9613.

CHOW DOWN PET SUPPLIES is looking for someone to join our team this summer. Full-time help is needed immediately. Applicants must have excellent customer service skills, be self-motivated and have a strong love for animals and their well being. Pick up application in person. 100 County Center Drive.

CAREGIVER NEEDED FOR 94 year old woman. Preferably a live in caregiver but can do two shifts: 6p.m. to 9a.m. and 11a.m. to 4p.m. Some experience would be good but not required. References will be needed. Call (970)731-2846.

DENTAL ASSISTANT. San Juan Dental is seeking a dental assistant and wellness coordinator. Please email resume in pdf form to dreicrsmithdds@aol.com. Work in a great office with arguably the best dental staff in the country. Pay commensurate with experience.

LEAD & LINE COOKS. Pagosa Brewing seeks kitchen team members for Line and Lead Cooks. Apply at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and Facebook. No phone calls.

CAREGIVER NEEDED FOR ELDERLY WOMAN with dementia. COVID precautions a must. Experience, background check and references required. \$16/ hour. (970)946-7970.

KITCHEN HELP, MORNING AND afternoon shifts. No experience necessary. Flexible schedule and competitive wages. Apply in person, Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs. EOE.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HIGHER GROUNDS NOW ACCEPTING resumes. Must be able to work weekends, able to multitask, dependable, enjoy customer service and a desire to learn about coffee, food and baking.

PAGOSA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB is seeking employees in the following departments at the golf course. Candidates must apply in person. Golf Maintenance, full and part time. Early morning start time. Golf Cart and Pro Shop Staff. Flexible schedules. Bartenders, mid mornings to late afternoons. For more information, call (970)731-4755. Located at 1 Pines Club Place, Pagosa Springs.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Part-time Patient Registration Clerk**. The Clerk provides administrative support. The clerk will courteously greet all patients in person and on the phone in a timely manner. They are responsible for the accurate and efficient entering of patient information into the Electronic Health Record through the Registration Conversation. They will enter, update or verify patient demographics, insurance and copayments for every encounter. They are responsible for verifying insurance eligibility. They are responsible for collecting and posting insurance copayments and patient payments. 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.

FULL-TIME KITCHEN LINE COOK needed at The Buck Stops Here. Must be reliable and dependable. Apply with Kevin.

SATURDAY LABOR, 4 HOURS per week. Mow, dig, haul, paint, miscellaneous labor. \$19/ hour. Call (505)980-3782.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is accepting applications for the following positions: Janitor- this is an evening position; a lead teacher for the three year old room; an aide in the morning in the pre-k room, and for our after care program for the elementary children. If you are interested in any of these positions, please call Anette at (970)903-4217.

LANDSCAPING LABOR NEEDED. Looking for individuals to perform general landscaping projects in beautiful outdoor Colorado. Call Charlie at (970)264-0913.

CLEANERS NEEDED FOR BUSY local company. \$15/ hour for employees, \$18-\$20/ hour for 1099 contractors. Flexible scheduling. Please contact us at cleanPSCO@gmail.com.

MOUNTAIN PIZZA & TAPROOM is a fast growing, successful Pizza Brand. Are you looking for a career opportunity and not just a job? We are looking for full- and part-time people. Amazing opportunity for career progression. Wonderful teams- ain't no Family like a Pizza Family. Apply in person at 175 Pagosa Street. Pagosa Springs, CO.

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR wanted. Must be experienced and have a wide variety of skills, needs to pass background check and have a valid driver's license. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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

HELP WANTED

PREP COOK. PREPARE COOKING ingredients by washing and chopping vegetables, cutting meat etc. Undertake basic cooking duties such as reducing sauces, parboiling food, etc. Prepare simple dishes such as salads, entrees, etc. Maintain a clean and orderly kitchen by washing dishes, sanitizing surfaces, taking out trash, etc. Please contact charlie@pseniors.org.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS Animal Shelter now hiring Part-time Kennel Technician, 3-4 days/ week, some weekend work required. Cleaning kennels, feeding and caring for animals. Job can be physically demanding; requires standing, lifting and moving. Must adhere to shelter procedures to maintain animal health and safety; previous animal care experience helpful but not mandatory; must be a team player and follow COVID-19 safety protocols (includes mask, gloves and frequent cleaning). Reliable transportation, valid driver's license, social security card and background check required. Pick up application and apply in person at the Humane Society Animal Shelter, 465 Cloman Blvd.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Scheduling/ Billing Clerk**. The Clerk is responsible for complete patient scheduling and pre-registration for radiology procedures/services, verifies insurance, and ensures insurance cards, government issued photo ID's, physician orders and any other appropriate documentation is scanned to the encounter. Informs patient of estimated patient responsibility at the time of scheduling and refers urgent/ emergent self-pay patients for financial counseling. Responsible for billing assigned insurance accurately and timely within Cerner and Revenue Manager. Reviews and corrects claims in error and/or rejected status. Required to maintain productivity standards for scheduling and other departmental goals: cash collections, AR Days, etc. 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.

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.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER OPPORTUNITY and being a part of your local community? 1st SouthWest Bank is hiring a Teller, offering a strong benefit package and career growth opportunities. EOE. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details and to apply.

COLORADO DREAM HOMES is hiring for a full-time office assistant. Seeking a personable, detail oriented self starter. Responsibilities include answering phones, purchasing, assisting the office manager and filing. The position includes paid time off. Please send resume and inquiries to coloradodreamhomesinc@gmail.com, call (970)731-3071 or stop by our office at 2283 Eagle Dr. for an application.

HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING:

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware is currently accepting applications for cashiering.

We are looking for high-energy positive applicants who enjoy working with people in a fast-paced environment and take pride in doing an excellent job. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. Full or part time.

Please apply in person Monday through Thursday.



Terry's ACE
525 Navajo Trail Dr.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a **Medical Assistant** for our Rural Health Clinic. The MA is responsible for providing care to the patient under the direction of a physician or health care provider. Assist the Provider in delivering high quality patient care. This position requires accurate documentation in the patient chart specific to scope of practice for the MA role. Perform in-house lab tests, EKG's, and assist with basic procedures under the direction and supervision of a health care provider or RN. Administer and document medications and vaccinations appropriately under the direction and supervision of a health care provider or RN. Follow-up with all outstanding patient orders, referrals, and prior authorizations. 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.

CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at www.peoplecarehs.com. Contact Deandra at dberes@peoplecarehs.com or (970)399-8257.

CHUCK'S EXPERT SERVICES. We install and repair commercial and residential HVAC. Commercial refrigeration and commercial cooking equipment a plus. Please send resume with experience, references and pay to chuckhvacr@hotmail.com, or call (970)317-5274 and leave message.

FOR SALE

FRIGIDAIRE ISLAND MOUNT RANGE Hood \$475 FHPC3660LSA. 36" stainless steel curved glass. 3 speed 400 cfm 120v. Includes 10' flue extension kit FHP10X60LS. Never unboxed. (702)375-8840 Mike.

FIREWOOD \$50/ CORD. Ponderosa pine, already cut into 16" rounds and de-limbed. Ready for easy pickup and loading. Close to town. (970)264-1442 (719)849-9030.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$175 per cord. (970)317-3120.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-OWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

FOR SALE

Locally raised

Grass Fed Beef

100% Angus
Half or Whole
Beefs Available



Call 970-731-1103
for details on pricing and
to place your reservation

SYLVAN 14 FOOT V-HULL aluminum boat. Evinrude 6 HP motor with tank. Minn Koda trolling motor with 12v battery. Cushions, trailer with winch, accessories. Asking \$2,500. See at A-Affordable Storage, Hwy. 160 west.

STEARNS AND FOSTER HIDE-A-BED couch. Sturdy and in good condition. \$35. (719)660-3695.

GET YOUR FIREWOOD NOW! Don't wait till it's too late, GUARANTEE yourself dry seasoned wood this year. Get a HUGE dump truck load for \$375. Pine mix. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

QUALITY TOP SOIL, fill dirt and gravel for sale. Delivery available. Joseph 946-2281, 731-4856 evenings.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$220/ cord. Delivered. Pine, spruce, aspen mix. Also have bundles for \$10. (970)661-3888.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

EVERYTHING YOU NEED to make stained glass. Band saw, grinder, solder-iron, and all the glass you'll need for years. Includes flux, foil, cutters, solder, chains, patterns. \$500. OBO email and I'll send pictures. beca931922@gmail.com.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. (970)317-4933.

MELISSA AND DOUG FARM animal and pet sound puzzles, \$7 each. 18" surge boy's bike with kickstand and training wheels, \$25. Schwinn men's 21 speed 25" aluminum bike, \$175. Crib mattress, \$7. Paul Baines cedar chest, \$2,250. 731-5098.

CRAFT FACED INSULATION: 10 R38C 10-1/4x23x48, \$93 each. 5 R30 10x23x48, \$71 each. 18 R19 5-1/2x15x93, \$43 each. 34 R11 3-1/2x15x40, \$25 each. OSB 7/16x4x8, \$10 each. (970)946-2888.

DEER AND ELK HORNS and one 6x6 bull mounted elk. Call (970)749-8286, (970)749-7807.

WILSON STAFF TOUR MEN'S golf clubs with bag. Slightly used. \$400 firm. Serious calls only. (727)946-0078.

12 YARDS FILL DIRT, \$125. 12 yards top soil, \$400. Delivered in core area. (970)946-6262.

ALL NATURAL, 100% GRASS finished beef and lamb, pastured pork, and organic free range chicken from GrassRoots Meats. Available at our warehouse on Mondays, as well as the Choke Cherry Tree and Joy's the rest of the week. www.grassrootsmeats.colorado@gmail.com. Call Lois for more information, (970)582-0166.

FIREWOOD. 2 CORDS SPLIT, \$350 delivered. 2 cord minimum. Jeff (970)903-2997.

YARD SALES

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE Saturday, July 18, 2020 from 8a.m. to 1p.m. No early birds, please! Lots of women's clothes and miscellaneous kitchen items and other goodies! 2001 A Eagle Drive, right behind the Advance Auto Parts store on Putt Hill.

195 GRANADA DR., OFF PIEDRA/ MIS-SION. Home decor, ping-pong table, baby gear/ clothes, bike, books, juicer, kitchen, golf, garden, computer, ice chest, furniture. Saturday only, July 18, 7a.m.

MOVING SALE. HAND TOOLS, automotive equipment, hardware, household goods, furniture, books, fishing equipment, too many items to list. Please wear a mask. 218 S 7th St. 8a.m.-2p.m. Saturday, July 18.

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

ESTATE SALE, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, July 17 and 18, 7:30a.m. sharp. Tools, furniture, beds, kitchen, decorative items, books, cookie jars, crafts, jewelry, household stuff, 2000 Suburban 4X4 and so much more. Hwy. 160 west, right on N. Pagosa, right on Saturn (in Hatcher), left on Laguna, left on Mallard, house #80. Rain or shine. AEHPOS.

SALE FRIDAY, SATURDAY 7/17-7/18, 8a.m.-3p.m. 179 Monte Vista, Hatcher. Guy stuff, gal stuff, 25' ladder, Townie bicycle, small furniture, snowshoes, camping, fishing, household, decorative, houseplants.

PERSONALS

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

PETS

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

HAVE YOU EVER WISHED you owned an AKC, ASDR Miniature Australian Shepherd? AKC, ASDR puppies are expected to be born July 20th, 2020. Now taking names and phone numbers of those serious buyers who want to be on our waitlist. Call quick! Add your name to the WAITLIST in order to pick your puppy of choice. Deposit of \$300 due when puppies are born. Vet checks, genetic testing completely BEFORE your puppy goes home at 10 weeks. Prices range \$1,750-\$2,000. (\$500 additional if you are interested in breeding rights). See www.aussietales.org for more information and pictures of our Dam and Sire. We are local. All dogs that we own are our beloved pets. Call (719)510-8034, ask for Nita.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

LIVESTOCK

HAY, TIMOTHY, BROME, ORCHARD grass, alfalfa mix, 65# bales. Stacked and covered. \$8/ bale, #800 bales. Call or text (970)903-3049.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

LIVESTOCK

5 GOATS FOR SALE, \$125 each. See at 335 Rob Snow Rd., PS. (970)317-5665. See posters at hardware stores.

HORSE BOARDING AVAILABLE, UP to 2 horses. Stall and running stream through 10 acre fenced pasture. \$100 per month. (970)883-2600.

BARN STORED GRASS HAY, \$5/bail. 946-4067, 946-0019.

WANTED

RECYCLE YOUR GEL PACKS and styro-foam peanuts. Drop them off at GrassRoots Meats, 140 Seminole, Unit 8. Leave by door. Thanks!

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

BEAUTIFUL 2013 KEYSTONE HIGH Country Cougar travel trailer for sale. \$21,900. Call with any questions: (970)731-0323.

HONDA RANCHER 2005 350 4X4 ES with winch, \$2,500. (702)306-2235.

2011 KEYSTONE OUTBACK RS230 toy hauler. Set up for outside kitchen and TV mount. Very good condition, \$14,000. (760)331-3338.

2007 LANDMARK GRAND CANYON 38' 5th, \$20,000. 3 slides, king bed, granite counters, dishwasher. Lazy Crutch Park #8, Pagosa Springs. (505)281-5518 or (970)731-4032.

2005 POLARIS 600 ATV, less than 500 hours operating time. 2005 Polaris 400 ATV, less than 400 hours operating time. Best offer. Call Ken (970)264-1660. Showing and ride on request.

31' AIRSTREAM, LIKE NEW. Sleeps 6 with bunk beds. Reduced to \$50,000. (970)946-2888.

AUTOS

2014 BMW X128I. 37,000 miles. \$19,900 firm. (970)946-2888.

LOW MILEAGE 2008 JEEP Wrangler Unlimited X. New tires, soft top, manual transmission, 36,000 miles. \$15,900. In Pagosa, call (512)689-8994.

JEEP TJ 97. F & R Ford 9" diffs w/ 4.88 gears & ARB lockers. Has Atlas 4.3 TRFR case & on board air, 37" near new Goodyear Wrangler MT/A tires w/ new spare. Has soft & hard doors w/ Warn Zeon 10- S winch. \$12k w/ haul trailer w/ tie downs or \$10k w/ out trailer. Tom (970)264-0020.

2016 GOLD LEXUS RX350. Loaded, runs great. \$24,900 OBO. (970)946-3856.

1995 GEO TRACKER LSI. 2" lift kit. 66,163 actual miles. Needs new engine. \$500 OBO. Call (970)264-0211 for more information.

1979 JEEP CJ-7. New engine 2004- 304 V8; 4" suspension lift, 37" tires; Tuffy lockable console, full roll cage, 4 point harnesses, custom seats; 9.5 Ti WARN Winch; CB. \$6,250 OBO. (970)985-5764.

4X4 CHEVROLET TRACKER LT 02 for sale. Regularly maintained, front and back tow package, custom seat and dash covers, cruise control, power locks and windows, 179,000. \$4,000 OBO. Call or text JJ (970)880-2598.

AUTOS

2004 FORD RANGER 4X4 pickup. Extended cab, automatic, new tires. low mileage, on second engine. Asking \$8,500 or best offer. (970)946-1275.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

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RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

NICE HOME IN DOWNTOWN PAGOSA. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Fenced yard. \$1,450/ month not including utilities. First/ last/ deposit and references required before move in. steve.sarkis@gmail.com.

PRIVATE CABIN NEXT TO national forest. Off grid. References, deposit. No pets. \$600/ month includes utilities. snowdome ranch@protonmail.com.

BRAND NEW DUPLEX UNIT in downtown Pagosa. W/D included. \$1,050/ month including basic utilities, not cable/ internet. First/ last/ deposit and references required before move in. steve.sarkis@gmail.com.

3 BEDROOM, 2-1/2 BATH, 1,950 SF home Lake Hatcher area. Garage, views, decks, gas fireplace, new paint and carpets. No pets or smokers. First, last, security deposit. Tenant pays utilities. 1 year lease. \$1,800. (970)946-4967.

TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM rental needs. (970)731-8599.

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH unfurnished, very clean duplex. Laundry room with washer/ dryer hookup, single car garage or storage, quiet area, close to shopping. \$1,000/ month for two, plus utilities plus deposit plus last month's rent with approved rental application. No pets, nonsmoking. 1 year lease. Available August 1st. Call Norman Ragle, (970)946-2340, leave text or voice message.

AVAILABLE AUGUST 1: 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath on Lake Pagosa. Beautiful lake views, 1-car garage, washer/ dryer. \$1,300. Also available August 1: 2 bedroom, 1 bath furnished charming downtown cottage on private road. Text (970)582-0148.

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY. 3 BEDROOM, 3 bath condo. 1,700 sq. ft. Washer/ dryer, forced air heat/ AC. Great location, lake views. Nonsmoker, no pets. You pay utilities. \$1,400/ month plus \$1,400 deposit. (970)731-2522.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENTAL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! www.NexthomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

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Archuleta Housing for the Elderly

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634 S 8th St.
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Waitlist is closed until further notice.

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ROOM FOR RENT. DOWNTOWN by river. Utilities included. Washer/ dryer. No pets/ smoking. \$675 deposit. \$675/ month. Text for information. (719)480-9834.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH TINY HOME for rent in downtown Pagosa. In-floor heat, nice kitchen. No pets/ smoking. \$950 includes utilities, except internet. References required. (970)946-2137.

FURNISHED MOBILE HOME. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. No tobacco or large pets. 1 year lease. \$900 plus utilities. (858)200-5200.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

RENTAL AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 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.

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

33 FEMALE AND SMALL DOG need housing. Dog just had 2nd ACL surgery. Hard working, clean and quiet. Good references, need by October 1st. Please help! ((970)409-0188.

PRIVATE 1 BEDROOM, SMALL office. 8 miles out of town. Wood stove, all appliances. 1 dog okay. Fenced back yard. Available August. (970)731-2010, please leave message.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE. Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

5 OFFICES WITH RECEPTION. 4 at 150 sq. ft. 1 at 230 sq. ft. 2,000 sq. ft. of shop/ warehouse space. Call (970)946-0874.

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

HURRY, THIS OFFICE WON'T LAST! 20x20 with cabinets and wet sink. Quiet, ideal for counseling, massage, hair salon. \$350/ month includes parking, shared bathrooms and waiting area, cleaning and WiFi. Call (970)731-0527.

HOUSES FOR SALE

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COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT uptown. Upstairs unit with nice light and private bathroom. Security, WiFi and utilities included. \$400 a month. (970)946-2728.

SHOP/WAREHOUSE. 2,000 SQ. FT. 14'x14' overhead door, 2 entrance doors. (970)946-3762, Doug.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

LOOKING TO PURCHASE A BUSINESS in the Pagosa Springs area. \$100,000 plus cash flow preferred. No restaurants. (843)813-1556.

DOWNTOWN RETAIL STORE for sale. Turnkey and profitable. Inventory, POS system, website, email list and fixtures all included in sale. \$242,900. (970)759-0310 www.footprintspagosa.com.

PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS for sale. Oxygen bar and retail shop. For more information, call (405)274-3955.

STAND UP ELECTRIC SCOOTER Rental Business. Comes with website, booking platform and POS system ready to be transferred to new owner. Sale includes: 6 scooters, scooter racks, locks, helmets, logo, fanny packs, protective eyewear, pumps, chargers, extra tires and more. Check out my website: www.PagosaScooter.com. Asking \$7,500. Come take a look. (970)903-0529.

RANCHES

88+ ACRES WITH 2,000+ feet of Piedra River frontage. Water rights, fenced and X-fenced, 4,000+ SF ranch house, 15 acres irrigated, orchard. \$849,000. Peggy Andrews Independent Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

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HOUSES FOR SALE

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME in SJRR and about 100 yards from the San Juan River or National Forest. Approximately 7 miles to Pagosa or 17 miles to Wolf Creek Ski Area. Vacation or full-time home selling fully furnished including hot tub. Freshly stained and priced to sell at \$399,000. Eddie Ring Wolf Creek Realty (970)759-8032.

WOW, WHAT A VIEW! Stunning 35 acre mountaintop oasis. 2 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-car garage, guest cabin, gated, with river and national forest access. \$598K, view included! MLS #768748 or call (970)731-1114.

OUTSTANDING FAMILY GETAWAY. Log cabin- 5 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 3-car garage, 20 acres. Backs to Pagosa Lakes. NO HOA. \$695,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

LOG CABIN ON THE CONEJOS RIVER, 3 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath, 3 garage, 2.3 acres in gated community with national forest access, \$780,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

3 BEDROOM, 3 BATH with lake access, great investment, \$245,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

EXCEPTIONAL DOWNTOWN RIVER FRONT home with views of mountains and wetlands. 5 decks, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 garages, one detached. Prepped for another living unit. \$625K. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/pagosariverhome>. (970)398-9136.

PERFECT ZEN RETREAT. Solitude on 3 wooded acres. Bungalow with 2 outbuildings. Electric, propane and cistern. Excellent condition, one of a kind. \$239,000. CALL KIM MOORE, EXIT HOME AND RANCH (970)946-5619.

NEW HOME FOR SALE at 676 Prospect Blvd. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, owner financing is available, subject to approval. Call Bill Reeve, Broker Associate for EXP Realty (970)903-9334.

LUXURY HOME ON THE CONEJOS River in gated community with national forest access. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2-car garage, 1.4 acres. \$1,600,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

7 GARAGES, 3 BEDROOM, 3-1/2 bath, views of Navajo Lake and San Juan Mountains, 1.6 acres city water, NO HOA, \$555,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

GOOD GRAZING, NICE VIEWS & PRIVACY. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2,738 sq. ft. custom-built home. 10 grassy acres, fenced and cross-fenced. 4-stall barn with 2nd floor hobby room. 10 minutes to up- and downtown Pagosa Springs. \$749,000. Photos and information at www.GoodGrazing.net. Call owner at (970)799-4598.

HOUSES FOR SALE



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MODERN COUNTRY CHARM in the mountains. Big mountain views on 3 acres. 2,500 sq. ft. newly remodeled home. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 3-car garage. CALL KIM MOORE, EXIT HOME AND RANCH (970)946-5619.

PROPERTY

BEAUTIFUL 5 ACRES IN ECHO Lake Estates. Access to utilities, awesome mountain views, \$90,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

PROPERTY

LOWER BLANCO, 3.6 ACRES. Water rights, next to national forest, access to river. Views. Power installed, with RV hookup. \$52,000. (970)398-9136.

FSBO. BEAUTIFUL, QUIET 35 acres in gated community. \$65,000, owner financing available. (970)903-2900 or (970)903-0870.
4.89 ACRES HEAVILY TREED, lots of cool seclusion, \$52,000 Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

2260 PIEDRA ROAD. 1/3 acre, \$9,000. Finance available. hoganpagosa@gmail.com.

79.69 ACRES WITH 80 SHARES of water and two ponds, with irrigated pipe throughout property, views of La Plata Mountains and the San Juans. \$375,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

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PROPERTY

NICE CORNER LOT IN PAGOSA LAKES. Tall pines, beautiful mountain views, access to water tap. \$32,500. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

1.5 ACRES WITH WATER TAP available, with power to the property, nestled in the trees by Navajo Lake, \$60,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

PROPERTY

3+ ACRES IN THE RIO BLANCO Valley. Borders national forest, south facing with great solar exposure. \$52,000. Peggy Andrews Independent Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

FSBO 47 ACRES \$90,000. 7739 County Road 542. 1,000 feet of CR frontage. (970)749-4209. No calls after 8p.m.

3.43 ACRES, BEAUTIFUL CONEJOS RIVER, in a gated community with access to national forest, \$125,000. Give Deb Archuleta at Archuleta Properties a call (970)903-2817.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Free weekly garden talk: A complete guide to growing delicious tomatoes

By Leslie Wustrack
Pagosa Springs Community Gardeners

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is sponsoring a free online educational series on gardening throughout the spring and summer months. Renowned expert Ron Chacey covers all topics related to gardening in the Pagosa Springs area. All gardening talks are free and accessible via computer or telephone.

On Wednesday, July 22, at 5:30 p.m., Chacey, the eminent regional vegetable grower and an original founder of the Pagosa Springs Community Garden, will offer a complete guide to growing

tomatoes.

The evening's format begins with photos of Chacey's personal garden and a discussion of what he is currently doing in his garden. An in-depth presentation on best practices for growing delicious tomatoes will follow. All participants will be muted, but will be invited to send in questions on his presentation and on any gardening topic.

An avid grower with seven decades plus of experience, Chacey is a believer in trial and error in all areas of gardening. Chacey believes that learning from mistakes is the foundation of successful gardening.

The 5:30 p.m. free gardening talk will be held via Zoom or telephone.

To join our email list and receive weekly talk information, please send an email to pagosaspringcommunitygarden@gmail.com. For the July 22 talk, please visit <http://www.Facebook.com/PagosaSpringsCommunityGarden> or email PagosaSpringsCommunityGarden@gmail.com for easy links to the talks.

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is located at the end of 5th Street on the San Juan River in downtown Pagosa Springs. Decades old, the garden is on land owned by the Town of Pagosa Springs, and plots are granted to the town's citizens free of charge. In 2017, the garden was rejuvenated by community volunteers with the assistance of local Pagosa Springs businesses. Raised beds and deer-out fencing were constructed with donated lumber. Soil amendments, fertilizers, seeds, plant starts, tools, hoses and other necessary items are all provided through the generosity of Pagosa Springs businesses. The Town of Pagosa Springs provides free water for the Pagosa Springs Community Garden.

The Pagosa Springs Community Garden is free and open to all. Residents and town visitors are invited to stop by and enjoy the lovely space.

Bird of the Week



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

The "Virginia" in this bird's name has nothing to do with location. It's range is limited to the southwest, breeding most commonly in Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, and spending winters in thorn scrub and deciduous forests in the mountains of Mexico. According to Partners in Flight, this warbler has experienced a population decline of 46 percent in the last 50 years for reasons not well understood.

The Virginia's warbler breeds in pinyon-juniper or oak forests with scrubby, steep slopes. Its nest is built on the ground and subject to cowbird parasitism. During breeding season, they are generally found only in pairs, but during migration and in winter, they live in mixed species flocks with other warblers.

Virginia's warblers are gray overall with bright yellow patches on the chest and under the tail. A bright, white eye ring and thin, pointy bill are characteristic. Males, and sometimes females, have a patch of chestnut-colored feathers on top of the head, but these are not always displayed.

Males sing on their breeding grounds, but by mid-July songs cease and only contact "chip" calls are heard. These birds don't sit still for long, hopping from branch to branch within a shrub while wagging their tails. Here they pick insects and spiders from deciduous vegetation. Virginia's warblers never occur in coniferous forests without deciduous trees.

Forest management practices which remove the shrubby understory have negative impacts on nesting sites.

For information on future events, visit www.weminucheadubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/.

Community news.

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