



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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San Juan River project to improve access, safety for boaters

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Public access to recreation amenities is a priority for outdoor advocates in southwest Colorado and a new project to greatly improve an access point for boaters on the San Juan River is in the planning stage.

A group of residents and organizations is working to build a safe and sustainable river take-out ramp about 12 miles south of Pagosa Springs along Archuleta County Road 500, also known as Trujillo Road. Boaters have rafted this section of the San Juan — known as Mesa Canyon — for years, but access has become crowded as more people use the area.

■ See River A8



These two bull elk were spotted battling for dominance near Pagosa Springs recently.

Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

Purple is the new red

State announces addition to COVID-19 color system: County could move to Level Red

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The state of Colorado is expanding its COVID dial to include a new purple level Friday, with purple taking the place of red as the worst level on the dial.

The six levels on the dial are now:

- Level Green: Protect Our Neighbors.

- Level Blue: Caution.
- Level Yellow: Concern.
- Level Orange: High Risk.
- Level Red: Severe Risk.
- Level Purple: Extreme Risk.

“This growth keeps skyrocketing,” Gov. Jared Polis said Tuesday concerning the state’s “exponential”

■ See COVID-19 A8

‘You need to be the person you needed’

Neagle speaks of his passion for people as a police detective

By Simone Mounsamy
Staff Writer



Boyd Neagle

When he was 3 years old, he would watch “Roy Rogers,” “The Lone Ranger,” and “Green Hornet” with his grandfather.

“They instilled in me that the good guys wear the white hats and they help people,” said Boyd Neagle, detective at the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD), of these TV characters. “From there, I never had any doubt.”

During a phone interview for The SUN, Neagle explained that he’d known since those 3-year-old moments that he wanted to be a police officer.

He joined the police academy in 1994 and has occupied the force in different divisions and on different levels since then.

“It’s been an amazing ride,” Neagle professed.

He’s been on the DUI court, worked on marijuana enforcement in Cortez on a huge case with international marijuana cartels, and taught the liquor code, marijuana law, and standardized field sobriety testing for new law enforcement at the police academy.

“I think it’s so important to pass these skills on to the next generation. You gotta lead by example,” Neagle declared.

When asked what his favorite part of the job is, Neagle responded, “The people. We usually meet people on the worst day of their life ... You do your job but you gotta keep in mind, you need to be the person that you needed on the worst day of your life.”

Neagle currently works on the Sixth Judicial District Compensation Board, appointed by District Attorney Christian Champagne. Being on the board means that Neagle gets to see the other side of a crime

situation.

“The victims’ board provides counseling, medical care, and other services for victims of crime ... I’m not just making cases, I can be of help,” he clarified.

But there are tough moments, too.

“When you work in a small community, the toughest thing is that you care ... If you get a call about a major car crash, you wonder if it’s someone you know. It’s a double-edged sword: It’s great to know everybody but then things can really hit home,” Neagle said.

Despite hardships, the detective makes a point of staying positive.

“I try to stay positive. If you’re looking for the tragedy or the bad things, you’ll keep seeing them. If you look for the positive, it keeps your spirits up.”

A native of Houston, Texas, and born in 1972, Neagle said he’s “married to a wonderful lady.” They like to hike, “go see the grandbaby,” go off-roading with the ATV, ride dirt bikes, and play with their dogs.

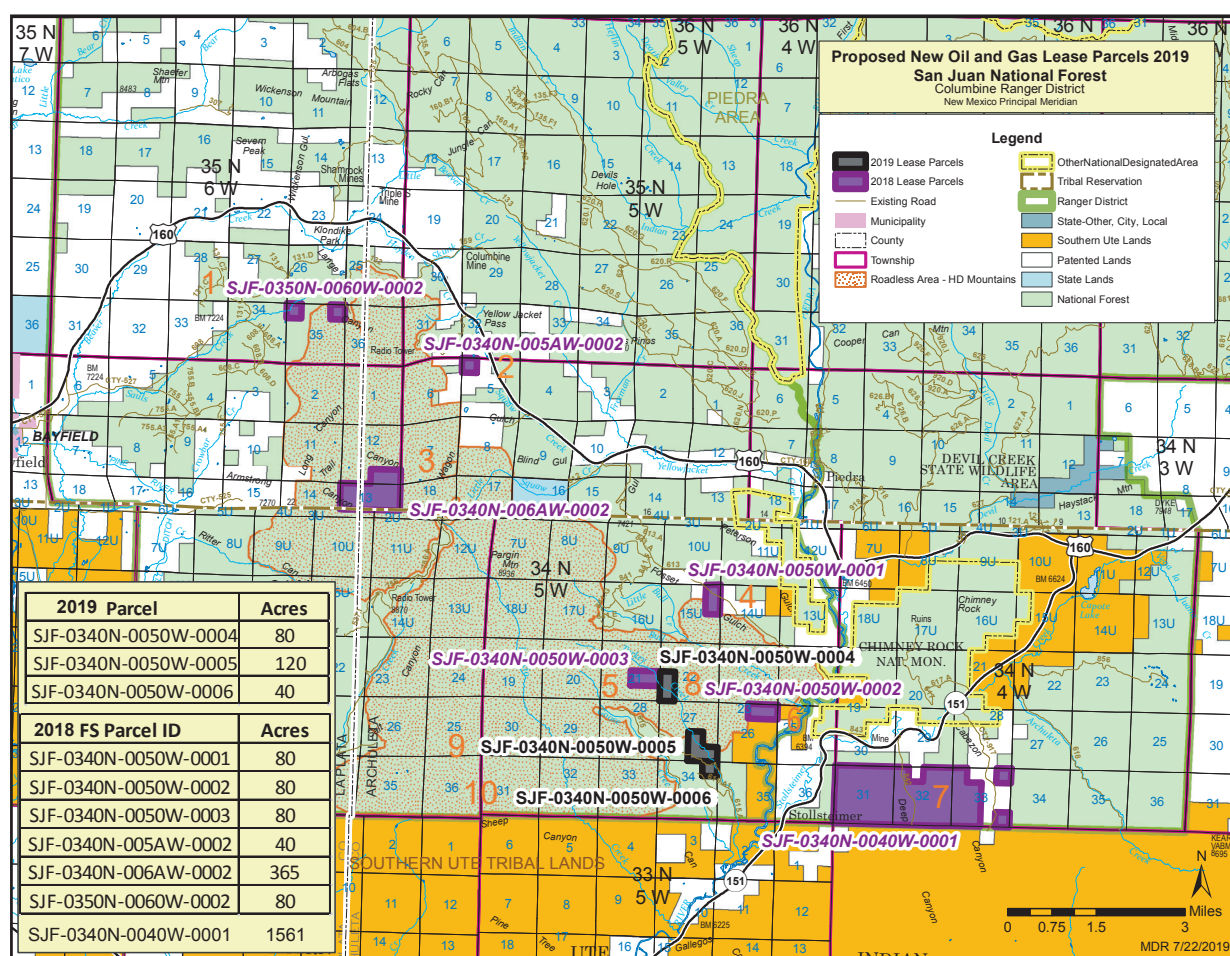
When speaking of his grandfather, who was a construction worker building highways all over the U.S., Neagle said, “He had a profound effect on my life ... much like my father.”

At the end of the interview, Neagle mentioned there was one event in his life that had truly shaped his career. The event pertained to his father.

“He spent time in prison,” Neagle said. “One day I ask him ... ‘Were you guilty?’ He said, ‘The first time? Nope, I was just a poor kid from the other side of the train tracks in the wrong place at the wrong time.’”

Neagle’s father came from a sharecropping family, and he had been caught dancing with the wrong

■ See Neagle A8



Map courtesy Bureau of Land Management

The above map identifies parcels being looked at for an oil and gas lease sale. The Bureau of Land Management is currently accepting public comment on a draft environmental assessment related to the parcels.

BLM seeking comment on environmental analysis for potential oil and gas lease sale

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The public now has until Nov. 25 to comment on a draft environmental analysis (EA) that considers the “reasonably foreseeable” impacts of putting 10 parcels totaling 2,563.16 acres of San Juan National Forest, as well as other parcels in other locations in Colorado, up for lease for potential oil and gas development.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initially opened a 15-day public comment period for the assessment on Oct. 27, which was set to close on Nov. 10 before being extended to Nov. 25.

In total, the draft analysis considers 16 parcels equaling 4,493 acres for potential fluid mineral development (oil and gas, tar sands and oil shale) in three areas of the state — the San Juan National Forest, White River National Forest and Pawnee

National Grassland.

As of Wednesday morning, there were 16 comments submitted for the assessment.

Leasing process

The draft environmental assessment indicates that the BLM received expressions of interest (EOIs) from members of the public regarding oil and gas leasing on certain lands within the three designated areas.

The document further explains the process of the BLM offering National Forest System lands for oil and gas leasing: “If the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) has identified national forest lands as available for oil and gas leasing, the BLM may offer them in competitive lease sales. The USFS identifies available lands and specifies appropriate stipulations

■ See Lease A8

ACSO announces Citizens Advisory Group

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Monday, Nov. 9, Archuleta County Sheriff’s Office (ACSO) announced it will be starting a Citizen’s Advisory Group.

Sheriff Richard Valdez released a letter that states, “Over the last several months, Law Enforcement across the United States have been targeted for their unjust treatment towards the people they swore to serve and protect.”

■ See Advisory A8

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Business

Additional funding available for restaurant winter outdoor seating

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area
Chamber of Commerce

The Colorado Outdoor Winter Dining Grant Program assists Colorado-based restaurants that are experiencing financial hardship because of the COVID-19 crisis and state and local regulations limiting the number of customers in indoor spaces.

Recipients must use the grant funds to purchase items needed to maintain outdoor dining spaces for patrons during colder weather. The maximum amount awarded will be \$10,000. In all circumstances, grants from the program will be made only to help pay for limited types of eligible expenses, which include but are not limited to: architectural or design fees, con-

struction materials and contractor fees, tents, heaters and/or heating equipment or expenses related to heating, furniture, lighting, snow removal, safety measures/equipment, cold-weather gear for staff or patrons, and other expenses directly related to your outdoor dining program.

Projects completed after Aug. 1, projects in process or planned projects that will be completed by Jan. 15 are eligible to apply. Proof of hardship — special priority will be given to businesses that can show a year-over-year revenue loss of more than 40 percent. Any restaurant that can show a loss of 20 percent or more will be considered. Corporate-owned chain locations are not eligible. Franchisees are welcome to apply.

For grant awardees, half of the

funding will be distributed upon notification of the award. Final funding (second half) depends on submission of a photo of the completed space plus receipts for all eligible expenses. The next round of applications opens on Nov. 30 and are due Dec. 11. Interested applicants should go to <https://cooutdoor dining.org/colorado-winter-outdoor-grants-application/> for the full list of criteria and guidelines.

Another reminder for our business community, not only for restaurants, is that the Town of Pagosa Springs also has a COVID Relief Fund Program.

Similar to the state program, local businesses may apply to the Town of Pagosa Springs for reimbursements up to \$7,500. The reimbursements include tents, heaters, building adjustments, awnings,

or other COVID-related needs such as hand sanitizer, disposable menus, phone apps for menus or online shopping, etc. This is also a reimbursable program, not an advancement program.

The anticipated deadline for this program is Nov. 30, so time is running short for businesses to file their applications. Go to <https://www.pagosasprings.co.gov/> and then click on the Pagosa Springs Coronavirus Relief Fund Program link.

You must have receipts to back up your application in either of the programs. Don't leave money on the table. These programs are here to help our business community offset some of the economic hardships that are being incurred in order for your business to stay afloat. Don't miss your opportunity.

Pagosa Lodge denied second freestanding sign by town planning commission

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

During a Nov. 10 meeting, a sign variance application was denied for the addition of a second freestanding sign for the Best Western Pagosa Lodge by the Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Commission and the applicant was advised to submit a revised sign variance application.

The freestanding sign would allow more signage for the hotel's logo and would be internally illuminated; however, the current Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) standards allow for just one freestanding sign per property, according to Senior Planner Cindy Schultz.

"This is a slightly unusual situa-

tion in that it's actually comprised of two individual properties that are, for all intents and purposes, operating as one," Schultz said.

Schultz added that she had not received any clarification from Archuleta County as to why the property is separate parcels.

Both of the freestanding signs that are proposed for the property are going to go on the same property and would not be on separate parcels, Schultz explained, adding that the town would like to see both parcels become consolidated into one at some point in the development process.

"There is significant frontage on this property. It is 840 linear feet. The way that we allocate signage for a sign program is by linear foot. Each linear foot equates to

1 square foot of total signage, but the maximum allowed for any one freestanding sign is 100 square feet in this particular district," Schultz said.

According to agenda documentation, the dimensions for the sign are 18 feet, 3 inches high with a pedestal base of 12 feet and the sign itself is about 65 square feet.

The sign will be double-sided with identical sign faces, and the base is not calculated in the signage area, agenda documentation further notes.

"The existing sign now that says Best Western, if you recall, there is a message center at the bottom. Currently that is covered with banner material for the Pagosa Wellness Group," she said. "At some point they will remove that lower panel and move that inset sign, the Best Western sign, down into that space."

The second sign would be a sign for the new lodging establishment, Schultz noted.

According to agenda documentation, the sign would be for a Holiday Inn.

Given that there is a significant amount of frontage, the town has no concerns over having a second sign on the property, Schultz explained.

However, staff has questions on what will be included on the directory sign, she added.

According to Schultz, the approval criteria for a sign variance involve things such as unique physical circumstances or conditions of the location.

If the variance is granted, the

Region 9 to host tiny home Q-and-A session

By Stephani Burditt
Region 9 Economic Development
District of Southwest Colorado

Tiny homes are growing in popularity due to their affordability, mobility, simplicity and our region's changing demographic trends.

Join the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado for a free and interactive presentation around tiny home developments.

Hear lessons learned from Bob Lieb, the developer behind Es-

calante Village, located in Durango and the region's first tiny home community.

Join us Wednesday, Dec. 2, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and learn the "good, bad and even the unknowns" to tiny home development on your property. Lieb was a La Plata County commissioner from 2000-2008.

To receive a registration link to this event, please contact Region 9 at laura@scan.org or steph@scan.org. To register directly, go to https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mErTf-AcRHSJPKAT1A0-DQ.



Members of the Wolf Creek Ski Team presented Pagosa Springs Medical Center with a homemade ski plaque to show their gratitude for PSMC's continued sponsorship, supporting Pagosa Springs young athletes.

Pictured:
Dr. Rhonda Webb, CEO of PSMC, Lilly Buchner and Isabelle Ratcliff

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San Juan Basin Public Health Executive Director Liane Jollon nominated for Outstanding Government Service Award

Sen. Michael Bennet's office

Colorado U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet announced he has nominated Liane Jollon, executive director of San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) and past president of the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO), for the American Medical Association's (AMA) Dr. Nathan Davis Awards for Outstanding Government Service.



Liane Jollon

Named for the founder of the AMA, the awards recognize elected officials and career public servants for significant contributions to the advancement of public health.

"Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jollon has been a critical part of the public health response in southwest Colorado. She has been a calm, informed, and resourceful leader, advocating not just for her region, but for every other public health agency across the state. Jollon has the marks of a true leader — the ability to maintain hope, weather setbacks, and maintain good humor, in the face of what seems an endless crisis," said Bennet. "Jollon has earned the trust of Coloradans, and the fierce loyalty and respect of her staff. She has displayed the leadership and scientific integrity that 2020 demanded. In recognition of her exemplary work as a leader in public health, I am thrilled to nominate

her for this award."

"Liane has been a stand-out leader both locally and in the state of Colorado during this COVID-19 pandemic," said SJBPH Board of Health President Ann Bruzzese. "Early on, Liane led with humility helping all the local leaders get comfortable acknowledging that they will have to lead through COVID-19 with many unknowns; at the same time, Liane set the early example for all to follow the data and facts."

"Liane truly has a way of fiercely fighting for critical resources that

many smaller communities often lack, yet, she does so with the type of passion that yields results," said Silver Thread Public Health District Director Tara Hardy. "If anyone deserves recognition for exemplary leadership in public health not just during this crisis, but throughout her career, it is Liane Jollon."

"As the public health director for a health district that serves two counties and four municipalities, Liane's innate ability to think strategically while acting tactically has ensured that the citizens of the health district have clearly articulated guidance to protect themselves, and others, as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic," said La Plata County Manager Noel C. "Chuck" Stevens. "Liane challenges all members of the community at large to think critically, act creatively and challenge the status quo in developing solutions to the myriad problem sets that present because of the pandemic."

"Good leaders, which I believe exist throughout our community, need great leadership in crisis. Thankfully, that is what Liane Jollon has delivered for our community, exceptional community leadership under the most difficult of circumstances," said Tom Stritikus, president of Fort Lewis College. "Managing a global pandemic is a 24/7 task and Ms.

Jollon's commitment to our community is unrivaled. There is no call, no concern, no question she will not take."

After spending the first 15 years of her career in the nonprofit sector, Jollon left to earn her nursing degree. She joined SJBPH as a clinic nurse and quickly demonstrated deep understanding of public health issues and leadership abilities. In 2013, she was named executive director of SJBPH. In 2019, she was selected as the president of CALPHO and helped lead Colorado's public health response to the pandemic from this position as well.

Bennet and his office have worked with Jollon and other state and local public health leaders throughout the pandemic. In May, Jollon joined Bennet and other leaders for a discussion about the need for a national health force to bolster public health efforts and put Coloradans back to work. In July, Bennet met with Jollon and CALPHO board members to hear about local response efforts and take feedback on how Washington can help. In early October, Bennet joined Jollon for a meeting with Archuleta County leadership where he heard about how the pandemic and economic downturn is putting tremendous strain on their communities.

County, SJBPH discusses use of COVID-19 funds, operational improvements and affordable septic permits

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

At the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners' work session held Nov. 2, the board heard from Liane Jollon, executive director of San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH). Jollon spoke about the allocation of COVID-19 relief funding.

"We are sitting in a very good spot here and the economic recovery is exceeding state expectations," Jollon said.

However, the problem that SJBPH is concerned with is that the state is expecting to see a surge in cases and that Archuleta County will be late to the trend.

This poses an issue with the recent allocation of \$79,000 and how it will be used, according to Jollon.

She explained that "front-loading" the 2021 costs with these funds doesn't exactly solve the 2021 problem. The possibility of a vaccine being released could have an effect on how the county and SJBPH choose to spend the funds.

Along with Jollon, the commissioners spoke about being "stretched out" with COVID-19 relief funds. SJBPH recently decided to cut funding for six programs in order to cover costs needed to deal with the impacts of COVID-19.

With elections taking place that week, the commissioners and Jollon expressed that there is uncertainty about how or if the federal government will continue to provide COVID-19 relief funds.

"Let's do every safety precaution that we're asked to do and maintain

a forward progress in trying to get things done and protect our community, so we don't have a future surge ... I don't want to go through another shutdown," Commissioner Ronnie Maez said.

Operational improvements

The board brought up concerns about local SJBPH office hours, to which Jollon explained that the office in Pagosa Springs is open.

Another topic that Maez highlighted in the discussion was the term limits and restrictions to be placed on the SJBPH board members.

The county requested the board members of SJBPH have term limits of two consecutive four-year terms, not to exceed a total of eight years.

Archuleta County would also like to have the board members of SJBPH be allowed to have an alternate appointee with voting privileges.

Commissioner Steve Wadley spoke to concerns about the transparency of the SJBPH budget in regard to what is being spent specifically for Archuleta County.

According to Maez, SJBPH has previously combined its budget with La Plata and Archuleta counties.

Wadley expressed concerns over this by stating he is unsure if Archuleta County is receiving its fair share of services provided for the amount of money that has been allocated to SJBPH from Archuleta County.

Jollon's response to these concerns was that SJBPH is open to reviewing and changing policies in

order to reflect a more transparent budget with Archuleta County.

Another topic of discussion was the process in which SJBPH appoints its board members.

In an interview with Maez, he explained that, currently, SJBPH appoints all of its board members on their own.

Commissioner Alvin Schaaf currently sits on the SJBPH board. That board appointment was voted on by the commissioners on Jan. 21.

Maez noted that the county would like to be involved in those decisions.

Jollon expressed again that SJBPH is open to improving its policies and continuing to improve communication with the county in order to better serve the community.

Resolution approved

At the commissioners' regular board meeting on Nov. 17, the commissioners unanimously voted to approve a resolution requesting additional services by SJBPH.

According to the approved resolution, there were seven separate requests from the county:

"1. The Board of representation shall be amended to allow the Boards of County Commissioners of La Plata and Archuleta Counties to appoint all members of SJBPH and the Board of Health.

"2. Board members of SJBPH shall have a term limit of eight continuous years.

"3. Board members of SJBPH shall be permitted to have an alternate serve when they cannot be present at SJBPH meetings.

"4. SJBPH shall have operational and accessible offices open in Archuleta County each business day of the week to serve citizens' needs.

"5. SJBPH shall develop a Communications Improvement Plan to better serve the Board, citizens and business owners of Archuleta County.

"6. SJBPH shall segregate their annual budget in order to see how services are delivered to Archuleta County in relation to the revenues that are received by all sources.

"7. SJBPH shall prepare a comprehensive review of all expenses

would violate the sign portion of the town's LUDC.

"Generally speaking, I think it's out of place. The materials and the design. The idea that the tenant sign is associated with a corporate logo. I think that's unfortunate in this situation, quite frankly, that the corporation would have that particular criteria for their signs," Adams said.

■ See Sign A7

Sign

Continued from A5 materials, we don't have a standard for that except for in the historic district," Schultz explained, adding that some national businesses have their own requirements for signage and the town opts to respect those wishes.

Planning Director James Dickhoff suggested that there could be an opportunity to make changes to the base of the sign or some stone elements could be added in the form of a planter or border.

"To me, this is a complete different direction with the large logo sign, and quite frankly, I don't think it's necessary," planning commission Chair Peter Adams said.

Adams noted that he did not believe the size of the lot should determine the sign or its materials or location.

Later in the meeting, Adams explained that he thought this

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Consulting firm gives update on ongoing analysis pertaining to water conservancy district's water rights

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

An update was given on Wilson Water Group's (WWG) efforts in completing a water use and water demand analysis for the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) and completing a water availability analysis for the West Fork reservoir and canal water rights during a regular meeting on Monday.

WWG was hired by the SJWCD via a board decision at a Sept. 21 meeting for a cost of \$19,050 and will complete the efforts by the end of 2020.

Currently, WWG has been working on its first task, which is to develop a water demand analysis strategy, Project Engineer Brenna Mefford noted, adding that the first

task would be completed in the next week or so.

The next task, to complete a current water use and water demand analysis, will be completed soon after, Mefford explained.

Task three, which is to complete a water availability analysis, will be started in December, Mefford added.

"Even though we're doing this as a study, right now we're going to provide you guys with this information and you make the decision about what you want to do with these rights," she said.

If the SJWCD were to go through with diligence on the West Fork water rights, it would have to show it has a potential demand for the water and that the district needs it, Mefford explained, adding that the SJWCD needs to show water

availability.

"Finally, you have to show that you have the means to develop that water and put it to that use that you had identified earlier," she said.

WWG has reached out to various entities with SJWCD legal counsel Jeff Kane to understand all of the district's water rights and come to an understanding of the district's water rights portfolio, Mefford added.

Meetings were also conducted with Joe Crabb from the Colorado Division of Water Resources to get an understanding of water operations within the San Juan Basin, Mefford explained.

WWG also reviewed Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District's (PAWSD) drought contingency plan and its water rights decrees, Mefford explained further.

"We looked at the projected changes for population, municipal use, industrial use and agricultural water use, and how those are going to change and how they are predicted to change in Archuleta County over the next 30 years," she said.

Other meetings were also held with Colorado Parks and Wildlife relating to the West Fork water rights, she added later.

"We've talked to most of the people we planned to try and figure out how we're going to lay out this analysis and now we're going to move into task two, where we're actually going to do the current water use and water demand analysis. For this task there are a few more people that we need to reach out to and have talks with about water demand," Mefford said, adding that WWG will need to talk to PAWSD, for example.

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Sign

Continued from A6

Planning commission member Peter Hurley explained that if the planning commission were to grant this variance, the commission should be prepared to grant this sort of request to other businesses in similar situations.

Later in the meeting Adams suggested that the existing structure be used for the logo sign and then possibly a separate sign could be installed for the tenants.

"I just don't think it's compatible with the highway that's very close by. There are signs that represent the different corporations, businesses, et cetera. They are quite different. This sign that is being proposed is going to really stand out and, I think, like a sore thumb,"

Adams said.

The planning commission could also ask the applicant to ask the parent corporation for a variance from its policy, Posey suggested.

"It's been a long time for the lodge to get back up on its feet," Weiler said, adding that he believed the application was "just fine."

Later in the meeting, Weiler made a motion to accept the application for a second freestanding sign as presented.

"At this point, I would like to have the applicants come back to us with a different design for their sign which is more compatible with our other signage along U.S. 160 and the neighborhood," Adams said.

Weiler's motion was denied via

a 3-2 vote, with Posey, Adams and Hurley voting against the motion and Weiler and Chris Pitcher voting for the motion.

Later in the meeting, Posey made a motion to deny the applicant's sign variance application citing that the variance would "violate the purpose and intent of the sign code regulations," adding that the variance would "alter the essential character of the neighborhood or district in which the property is located."

"We invite the applicant to return with a proposal that does not do that," Posey said.

Posey's motion passed via a 3-2 vote, with Pitcher and Weiler voting against and Posey, Adams and Hurley voting for the motion.

chris@pagosasun.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Nov. 19

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

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

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

Tuesday, Nov. 24

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 special meeting. 9:30 a.m. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board work session and regular meeting. 4:30 p.m. work session, 5:30 p.m. meeting. See town website for participation information.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

Archuleta County Planning Commission meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners'

meeting room, 398 Lewis St. and Zoom online.

Monday, Nov. 30

Colorado Counties Inc. Winter Conference. 8:30 a.m., virtual meeting. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Tuesday, Dec. 1

Colorado Counties Inc. Winter Conference. 1 p.m., virtual meeting. Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

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

Thursday, Dec. 3

Dispatch Executive Management board meeting. 9:30 a.m., virtual meeting. Web address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7186713647>, meeting ID: 718 671 3647.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners Underfunded Courthouse Facility commission application reviews. Time to be determined. Call 264-8300 one to two days before the meeting to obtain the login information.

Tuesday, Dec. 8

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

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

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.

Archuleta School District Board of Education. 6 p.m. Virtual Zoom meeting.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting and Board of Trustees of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund meeting. 6:30 p.m., administration building, 165 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Thursday, Dec. 10

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

Monday, Dec. 14

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

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

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Residents voice concerns to commissioners over pandemic

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Editor's note: Assertions that follow were not fact-checked by The SUN.

Multiple residents spoke at the meeting held by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, Nov. 17, voicing concerns over how local officials and public health agencies are handling the COVID-19 pandemic.

The citizens spoke about the possible effects of another economic shutdown and what that could mean for some local businesses. Claims were also made that the initial shutdown happened well after the first surge in cases and that there is no pandemic happening in Archuleta County.

Other topics of concern included the possibility of government agencies influencing COVID-19 case numbers in order to receive a financial benefit from the state or federal government, the safety of testing procedures, children not being able to fully develop communication skills due to adults constantly wearing a mask and the quality of education students are receiving during this time.

Greg Giehl was the first citizen to offer public comment. He opened by reading a resolution that called to repeal the declaration of a local disaster in Archuleta County.

The resolution claims that the declaration of a local disaster in the county happened after the initial surge in cases. Giehl claims the majority of the county experienced an "influenza like illness" between December 2019 and February 2020 and that these cases had different symptoms from typical influenza symptoms that we are used to seeing.

He claimed that, to date, the "Pagosa Regional Medical Center" has not experienced a "pandemic caseload" in COVID-19 cases.

He also stated, "The virus was developed in a laboratory in a collaborative effort between the United States and China."

As part of the resolution, Giehl stated, "If the sole purpose of continuing the declaration is to acquire public funds under the false pretense of a perceived public safety emergency, that would actually constitute continuous appropriation of public funds."

Diane Brewington brought up the concern that the testing being conducted for the virus is not being performed by trained medical staff,

The citizens spoke about the possible effects of another economic shutdown and what that could mean for some local businesses.

but rather by medically untrained volunteers.

Brewington explained she feels like the medical profession is being undermined with nonmedically trained volunteers administering tests.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb was in attendance and offered public comment, saying, "Please do your part to keep from spreading this. Yes, most people won't get sick from this, but for those who do, it matters."

At the request of the commissioners, Webb also spoke to the concern of nonmedically trained volunteers administering tests.

She stated that all personnel administering testing at PSMC are medically trained.

She explained that the PSMC has recently acquired new testing kits that consist of an oral swab that nonmedically trained personnel can administer, but currently everyone administering tests at PSMC are trained medical staff.

Deni Blaisch commented, saying, "We are going about this in a fear-based way."

She went on to state, "We are heading down a very dangerous road when we stop empowering individual people and are locking healthy people within their homes. As far as I can tell there is nothing legal about that."

Sandy Nelson added that she believes it's "criminal" that the commissioners are trying to shut the community down.

Commissioner Steve Wadley interjected, saying, "We haven't taken any action to shut anything down. Anything that's been done is coming out of the governor's office."

David Zarate noted he has been a "frontline worker" throughout the pandemic and that at first everyone was scared, but as more facts come out, it doesn't make sense to him as to why we are in a pandemic, citing survival rates.

Gunnar Bergkamp added, "To me, the mask thing is really part of a social engineering ploy that we're getting conditioned to."

He stated how it doesn't make sense to him how wearing a mask at a restaurant is helping. He claimed that based on the numbers coming out about COVID-19 cases, he doesn't understand why lock-downs are happening.

Nicholas Kazarinoff, who explained he is a doctor, spoke about the possible impacts on a child's "mirror synapse" from adults constantly wearing a mask.

He claimed that a child needs to have visual sight of an adult's face when they are speaking, and if they don't, the development of the child

is not complete.

He also claimed that masks offer no protection from a virus and that there are multiple health risks to wearing masks.

Chloe Dawson, a student from Pagosa Springs High School, spoke about the way distance learning is affecting her educational experience.

She claimed that teachers have been more focused on making sure students are socially distancing and wearing masks rather than focusing more on the curriculum, adding it's very difficult for her and other students who learn better through in-person teaching.

She also brought up how the football team and cheerleading squad have been ordered to quarantine so that they can continue to compete in their competitions, while there seems to be no action like that taking place just to get students back to full-time in-person learning.

Merlin Wheeler gave an anecdotal story about "fostering paranoia."

He claimed that he was in a store, wearing a face shield, when a woman approached him and said to him, "You have to have a mask in here," in a very angry tone.

He added this paranoia has been fueled by the state of urgency that we have been declaring all across the country.

"We don't have a pandemic. As many people have pointed out, this is no worse than the average flu and I don't understand the motivation for this shutdown," Wheeler said.

Bergkamp spoke a second time, saying, "We all really know this is about money."

He brought up a question for Webb asking, "How can we have unbiased reporting when there's a financial incentive to report cases?"

At that point later in the meeting, Webb was no longer in attendance.

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2021 combined dispatch budget proposal presented

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

On Nov. 16, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners held a work session in which they heard from Emergency Communications Director Kati Harr in regard to the 2021 Archuleta County Combined Dispatch budget.

Harr began the presentation by reviewing revenue increases that dispatch has pursued and obtained this past year, starting with the 80 percent increase in local 911 surcharge fees.

Harr then brought up the new statewide 911 surcharge rate that has been set at 10 cents per call. The surcharges will be collected starting in January 2021 and will be distributed starting in March 2021.

"Projected additional annual state surcharge revenue for our center is \$41,000 per year," she said.

Harr also pointed out that House Bill 1293 that was passed allows for "surcharge audit reimbursement." The Public Utilities Commission will be the ones to pay the surcharge audit reimbursement.

"This is something I'd be very interested in doing; I think it could bring further revenue to my center," Harr said.

Additional revenue increases can also be seen in the prepaid wireless surcharge.

The surcharge has been modified from a 1.4 percent flat fee per transaction to a flat fee of \$1.38 per transaction. According to the presentation, this will be distributed "based on wireless call volume throughout the state-Archuleta County comprises .17 [percent] of the entire statewide distribution."

Harr stated, "\$163,000 I think is a pretty accurate idea of the in-

creased revenue for 2021."

According to Harr's presentation, "Additional Critical/Required Expenditures for 2021" consist of the facility move at \$65,000, increased rent at \$14,000 and PBX replacement at \$14,000.

Harr commented, saying, "It's a heavy-hitting year, we're trying to accomplish a lot."

According to Harr's presentation, the total 2021 dispatch budget is listed at \$1,268,000 and the total user agencies' share is listed at \$873,000.

The four agencies that make up the combined dispatch center consist of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO), the Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD), the Upper San Juan Health District (USJHD) and the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD).

According to Harr's presentation, in 2019 the ACSO made up 47.3 percent of the user agencies' share, the PSPD made up 35 percent, the USJHD made up 12 percent, and the PFPD made up 5.8 percent.

Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton was in attendance and offered some clarification about the combined dispatch budget.

Walton pointed out that the combined dispatch board is different than the boards of the individual entities that are supporting the dispatch budget.

"If we approve the stuff that's been requested on the proposed list in combination with what's already in the budget for dispatch, it actually produces a little bit more money than we would strictly need for 2021. Because this is an art, not a science, I don't see that as a problem. In working through the

projections, it seems to me that it would be a reasonable expectation that the contributions from all the entities could remain flat, probably, for a number of years because of the additional revenue strings," Walton said.

Harr replied to Walton's comment, saying, "I feel really confident with this additional revenue and also some other additional revenue avenues that I hope to pursue once we get our feet under us a little bit, that we can figure out a sustainable funding plan for dispatch. It's a huge priority for me, it's a huge priority for our board and it's something that I can say with full honesty and transparency is something I'm pursuing."

Harr's presentation also had additional budget proposals that included:

- Professional services.
- Repair and maintenance.
- "Licensure/fees."
- Furniture/fixture/office equipment at \$6,000.
- Rents/leases at \$15,500.

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2021 budget outlines potential projects, town council discusses possible cuts

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Possible expenditures for 2021 were outlined and big-ticket items were presented to the Pagosa Springs Town Council as part of a budget work session on Nov. 12.

Specifically within the capital improvement fund, Town Manager Andrea Phillips noted that, along with town projects, there are also some maintenance and debts that have to be paid.

According to the 2021 draft budget, the town is projecting \$2,031,402 in maintenance and debt expenses. This is an increase from the original 2020 budget figure of \$1,918,523 and the estimated figure of \$1,920,279.

Other items that contribute to that total include \$249,785 for the town's new maintenance facility lease and purchase as well as \$853,292 for the streets division and another \$450,033 for the parks maintenance division.

Visitor Center

One item in particular, the lease purchase agreement of the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center, is budgeted at zero based on an assumption that the town will be paying off that agreement.

The Pagosa Area Tourism Board (PATB) agreed at a meeting on Nov. 10 to share in the cost of paying off that agreement, specifically a 50 percent share, Phillips noted.

The remaining balance for the space is about \$138,604, Phillips explained.

By paying off the remaining balance, this would also save the annual 3.5 percent interest that is on the purchase of the building, according to Phillips.

"If we do have additional revenues, it might be a good thing to think about paying down some of our debt to save interest and get some things off the books," Phillips said.

Later in the presentation, specifically for facilities expenditures, Phillips explained that there is \$35,000 budgeted for Visitor Center maintenance.

Those funds would be used for parking lot paving in 2021 and also for snow fencing or guards on the roof of the building, Phillips noted.

"It looks like they have a roof replacement scheduled for the following year and I was wondering if it wouldn't be better to go ahead and do that in 2021 and maybe get the tourism committee to use some of their anomaly funds from

this year toward that and then, of course, we could contribute from this budget towards that as well," council member Shari Pierce suggested.

Phillips noted that she was not sure if the PATB would support funding the roof repairs of the Visitor Center.

"It would be a benefit to them to have a building that functions well and isn't leaking," Pierce said, adding that it could not hurt to ask.

Council member Madeline Bergon suggested that town council could help frame expectations between the town and the PATB in regard to this repair and other issues that may come up.

"Look at how much the town budget has put into purchasing that building over the years. I feel like that building is essentially, for the most part, just used by them. There's a small space that the Chamber is paying a lease on, so really, I think

said.

Other expenditures and possible cuts

Expenditures for the Pagosa Springs Police Department for 2021 are projected to total \$83,500, which include \$31,000 for police equipment and \$42,000 for a police car, according to the 2021 draft budget.

"This one would be a police patrol vehicle. Traditionally, the department purchases them off of state bid," Phillips described. "This would take out of commission a vehicle that is over the 100,000-mile and five-year threshold."

Phillips noted that the older vehicle could be "recycled" and deployed elsewhere for other town divisions or could be also resold elsewhere.

For the street maintenance plan, the town has budgeted \$469,000, and, according to Phillips, this is a plan that the town has gotten positive feedback on.

People within the community have been very appreciative that the town has stayed on top of street maintenance, Phillips explained.

"I do think that if we have available funding, we might want to even add a couple of sections to mill and overlay that were not contemplated in this \$469,000," she said.

In total, streets maintenance is projected in the 2021 budget to cost \$826,000.

For parks, the town is projecting various total expenditures of \$177,400. One cost associated with that is \$20,000 for parking lot paving at the River Center Park, according to the 2021 budget.

"Beyond just the condition of the pavement there, there's probably some discussion we need to have with the adjacent property owners about access into that area," Phillips said, adding that Public Works Director Martin Schmidt and Planning Director James Dickhoff have already engaged in conversations with those property owners.

Schmidt noted during the meeting that the town needs materials to do anything with the parking lot as there are a lot of tough materials to work with, such as river rock, in the parking lot.

Under facilities, Town Hall improvements are projected to cost \$30,000 under the 2021 budget, according to the draft budget.

"This was to really think about the way that this facility, as beautiful as it is, but to think about how it's truly functioning," Phillips said.

For the street maintenance plan, the town has budgeted \$469,000, and, according to Town Manager Andrea Phillips, this is a plan that the town has gotten positive feedback on.

their budget should be funding the repairs and things to that building that is theirs," Pierce added.

However, there could be an impression that the Visitor Center is a town facility and not one that is for tourism, Phillips added.

The PATB has paid utilities but does not pay the town in rent for the space, Phillips noted, adding that there is no agreement in place.

"Just to play the bad guy, if we were to shutter the Visitor Center, that would impact tourism the most. It seems like maybe they should be paying it," council member Matt DeGuise said.

Pierce added that because the PATB is the biggest user of the space that it should contribute something to the repairs.

"I think if they were using all of it then we would have a case for them to just pay for all of it," Pierce

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Calls for service over week: 180.
Nov. 9 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.
Nov. 9 — Cruelty to animals-abandonment, no location listed.
Nov. 9 — Information only, Bull Elk Place.
Nov. 10 — All other thefts, Running Horse Place.
Nov. 11 — Trespass warning, Summit Trail.
Nov. 11 — Warrant arrest, warrant arrest, Dyke Boulevard and Beucler Lane.
Nov. 11 — Warrant arrest, Dyke Boulevard and Beucler Lane.
Nov. 12 — Agency assist, U.S. 160.
Nov. 12 — Criminal mischief, U.S. 160.
Nov. 12 — All other thefts, Pines Drive.
Nov. 12 — Information only, North Pagosa Boulevard.
Nov. 12 — Owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, drove vehicle when license canceled, expired license plates, U.S. 160 and Pinon Causeway.
Nov. 13 — Warrant arrest, Harman Park Drive.
Nov. 13 — Warrant arrest, Cactus Drive.

Nov. 14 — Information only, San Juan Street.

Nov. 15 — Harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, domestic violence, recklessly discharges a firearm, County Road 500.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service over week: 203.
Nov. 8 — Careless driving, Aspen Village Drive.
Nov. 8 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, defective headlights, U.S. 160.
Nov. 9 — Burglary, criminal mischief, South 10th Street.
Nov. 9 — Identity theft, Rob Snow Road.
Nov. 10 — Harbored vicious animal, South 6th Street.
Nov. 10 — Warrant arrest, San Juan Street.
Nov. 11 — Identity theft, Great West Avenue.
Nov. 14 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Nov. 14 — Remained in park/rec facility between dusk and dawn, San Juan Street.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.
Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
Nov. 12 — Enrique P. Campuzano, driving under the influence, 10 days jail, 48 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$1,920.50.
Nov. 12 — Kevin J. Hartman, driving while ability impaired, 15 days jail suspended imposition, 24 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$801.50.
Nov. 13 — Levi Alexander Karnes, speeding 5-9 over, total fines and costs — \$127.50.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.
Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Justin P. Fay
No report.



"So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls."

Acts 2:41

(continued from previous article) In Acts 2 Luke records that Peter and the eleven apostles spoke about Jesus to a crowd that had gathered. When the Jews realized they crucified the Messiah for whom they had been looking, they asked, "What shall we do?"

Peter replied, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." He testified and exhorted them with more words and said "Be saved from this perverse generation." This resulted in about three thousand souls receiving the word, being

baptized, and added to the church that day.

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Sports

FOOTBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team will get another chance to carry out its pregame ritual and take the field Saturday when the Pirates host the Eaton Reds in the first round of the 2A state playoffs Saturday at 1 p.m. There will be no general admission to the game.

Pirates to host first round of playoffs versus Eaton

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team will take on the Eaton Reds in the first round of the state playoffs. The game is set to kickoff this Saturday, Nov. 21, at 1 p.m. at Pagosa Springs High School's Golden Peaks Stadium.

The Pirates finished their regular season undefeated, claiming the top spot in the state's 2A Southwest League. The Reds ended their regular season with a 4-2 overall record and finished third in the state's 2A Patriot-East League.

According to CHSAA Now.com, the Pirates are entering the post-season ranked fourth in the state's 2A division, while the Reds are ranked fifth.

The playoff brackets for this year were determined, and seeded, by

the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) Seeding Index, which combines the CHSAA Ratings Percentage Index, CHSAA-Now coaches' poll, MaxPreps Rankings and Packard Ratings. Usually, league champions are automatically granted a playoff spot and the remaining spots are filled based off of CHSAA's Seeding Index. This year only, the CHSAA Seeding Index was used to determine playoff brackets.

The Pirates have been quarantined the past two weeks due to an exposure to the virus in their last home game against La Junta.

In a phone interview, coach Nathan Morales explained that the team will get one practice together this Friday before the game.

Due to quarantine restrictions, the Pirates haven't been able to practice on the field with each other since their game against La

Junta.

When asked if he was worried about the lack of practices, Morales said, "I'm not worried one bit. We're making the best of it."

Morales went on to speak about the mentality of the team.

"People don't understand this team, they don't understand the mindset of this team. We've found so many different ways to become a better football team through all of this," he said.

He also highlighted how the team's mentality all year long has been to "control the controllables" and that the players have always focused on what they can do, not what they can't.

"We're all about growth and everything that happens to us in life, we learn from it, we grow from it, and we're better because of it," Morales said.

"They're a good football team; that's what you get in the playoffs," the coach said of the Reds.

As for what Morales is hoping to see from the Pirates, he said, "Just continue what we've been doing ... I'm not going to ask them to do anything more extraordinary than they already have. I don't need anybody to be more than they are."

Morales added, staying focused on the positives that have come out of this unique season, "We're excited to have the opportunity to play this weekend."

When asked about how well the team has been able to prepare for this weekend's game, Morales responded, "I have the utmost confidence in our team, and I'm excited

to play this weekend."

A win this Saturday would send the Pirates to the semifinals, where they would either face Moffat County, who are ranked eighth in the state, or first-ranked Resurrection Christian.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only two spectator ticket opportunities are allowed per home player and coach, with no visiting spectators allowed and no general admission, according to Athletic Director Marcie Ham.

Those looking to watch the games can do so by purchasing a subscription at <https://www.nfn-sportnetwork.com/supportprogram>.

Due to the effects that the COVID-19 pandemic had on finalizing and approving a fall football season for Colorado, there are only eight teams in this year's postseason bracket, half of the usual 16 teams that make it into the playoffs.

According to CHSAA, nearly 80 percent of schools across the state opted to play their football season this fall rather than wait to play in the spring.

Last week, CHSAA announced that it will be holding a championship game for each division in the state: 6-man, 8-man, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A.

However, unlike previous years with some of the larger division games being played at the Denver Broncos' Empower Field at Mile High stadium, this year all championship games will be played at Colorado State University-Pueblo's DeRose ThunderBowl stadium. clayton@pagosasun.com

RECREATION NEWS

Register now for youth basketball, arts and crafts class

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Dec. 28 for youth basketball ages 9-12. There will be two divisions, 9-10 and 11-12. There are only 40 spots available per division. Early registration is recommended.

The cost is \$35 and registration may only be completed at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

Practice will start in January, with games beginning in February.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233.

Arts and crafts class

The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Nov. 25 for an arts and crafts class held at the Community Center.

Registration can be completed at the Community Center. The class is for ages 9-13 and class size is limited to 10 participants. Early registration is recommended.

Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursdays from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. This class is a three-week session running Dec. 1-17. The cost of the class is \$25 for the three-week session.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233.

LEAP Applications Accepted
Nov. 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021
COLORADO Department of Human Services

To see if you qualify (see chart) or call 1-866-HEAT-HELP (1-866-432-8435)
Online: Colorado.gov/CDHS/LEAP or Coloradopeak.secure.force.com

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	MONTHLY GROSS INCOME (60% OF STATE MEDIAN INCOME)
1	\$2,619
2	\$3,425
3	\$4,231
4	\$5,038
5	\$5,844
6	\$6,650
7	\$6,801
8	\$6,952
For each additional person over 8 add \$151	

For application assistance call 970-264-8513. If you or your organization is interested in hosting an outreach event call 970-264-8510.

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Outdoors

Women's Outdoor Media Association announces Mia Anstine as inaugural Founder's Award winner

By Mia Anstine
Women's Outdoor Media Association

The Women's Outdoor Media Association (WOMA) recently presented Mia Anstine with its first-ever WOMA Founder's Award. The recipient of the WOMA Founder's Award is recognized for her continued support of shooting sports, hunting, fishing and archery.

According to WOMA President Lenee Landis, "We chose Mia to receive the initial WOMA Founder's Award because of her lifetime commitment to volunteerism and her passion for educating women and juniors to participate in a wide variety of outdoor activities. The premise of this award is to recognize 'unsung heroes' who are selfless in devoting their time and ability to engage women in the outdoor lifestyle while building their confidence and teaching them important skills."

Anstine has volunteered as an instructor at the WOMA's annual She Never Quit charity event for five years.

"We also want to recognize that she's involved as a volunteer for other organizations on local, state and national levels" said Landis. "Mia embodies the generous and passionate spirit required to guide women with a desire to learn more about the outdoors on a journey of self-discovery and success. We're thrilled to have her on our team and delighted to recognize her dedication by presenting her with our WOMA Founder's Award."

"It is an honor to receive recognition for my volunteer work and devotion to education," said Anstine. "While a 'thank you' is not necessary, it sure does feel good. I hope this award inspires others to step up and volunteer in the outdoor industry so they, too,

can recognize the fulfillment that comes along with teaching others how special the shooting, hunting, fishing and outdoor lifestyle is."

The WOMA Founder's Award recognizes Anstine's work at WOMA events as well as her continual contributions via her own company, plus her efforts with the Colorado Sportsman's Roundtable, Safari Club International, the DC Project and the many other outreach endeavors she participates in.

"Mia is a mentor and has the ability to do it all with patience and a smile; she has made a profound impact on women's lives," said Landis.

About Mia Anstine

In addition to being a certified instructor of archery, rifle, pistol, shotgun and hunter's education, Anstine is an award-winning outdoor writer, big game outfitting guide, advocate, wife and mother. Her work has been featured on television, radio, in newspapers and magazines. As an engaging speaker, commentator and instructor, Anstine has been featured in numerous interviews.

Her passion for influencing others to pursue their outdoor dreams resulted in Anstine being the first American woman (and of Latin descent) featured on the cover of Field and Stream magazine (August 2016).

About the WOMA Founder's Award

This award, created in honor of the WOMA founder, Deb Ferns, highlights someone who's tirelessly taught women and inspired programs to elevate women's participation, experiences and abilities in the outdoor world.

The WOMA Founder's Award will be presented each year at the



Photo courtesy Mia Anstine

Mia Anstine receives the Women's Outdoor Media Association's Founder's Award.

annual She Never Quit charity event. Criteria include but is not limited to: lobbying efforts for wildlife management; being a viable community member in continued education for hunting, fishing, shooting sports and/or archery; Second Amendment activism; conservation; and a lifelong commitment to bringing more women and youth into the outdoor lifestyle.

About WOMA

Established in 2008, WOMA focuses on increasing media coverage of women who are active in traditional outdoor sports, especially shooting, hunting, fishing and archery.

Village Lake rises 1 foot, snow pack remains above 100 percent of median

By Clayton Chaney
Staff Writer

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) Manager Justin Ramsey released a public service announcement this past Monday, Nov. 16, outlining the current water levels in Pagosa Springs' local lakes, including a 1-foot rise in Village Lake.

According to the press release, Lake Forest's water level dropped 1 inch from last week's report, bringing the current water level to 4 inches from full.

Hatcher Lake remains the lowest of the five lakes, despite rising 2 inches from last week's report. The current water level is listed at 61 inches from full.

Stevens Lake's water level is down 5 inches from last week's report, bringing the current water level to 50 inches from full.

Lake Pagosa's water level remains at 12 inches from full, consistent with last week's report.

Village Lake rose 1 foot from last week's report, bringing the current water level to 12 inches from full.

The West Fork diversion flow rate is listed at 3 cubic feet per second (cfs) and the Four Mile diversion flow is listed at 1 cfs.

Water production from Nov. 6 through Nov. 12 is listed at a total of 9.31 million gallons. The Snowball water plant contributed 2.64 million gallons, while the Hatcher plant contributed 6.67 million gallons.

Last year, total water production was listed at 10.2 million gallons for those dates.

River report

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the San Juan River was flow-

ing at a rate of 77.7 cfs in Pagosa Springs as of 2 p.m. on Wednesday Nov. 18.

Based on 84 years of water records, the average flow rate for this date is 90 cfs.

The highest recorded rate for this date was in 1942 at 285 cfs. The lowest recorded rate was 28 cfs, recorded in 1976.

Snow report

According to the U.S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture National Water and Climate Center's snow pack report, the Wolf Creek Summit, at 11,000 feet of elevation, had 6.4 inches of snow water equivalent as of 2 p.m. on Nov. 18.

That amount is 130 percent of the Nov. 18 median for this site.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins were at 109 percent of the Nov. 18 median in terms of snow pack.

clayton@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Tammy Walters

Villanelle the dog watches for a family of deer to visit every day and runs out and barks to try and scare them away, but none of them pay her any mind.

which curve bears North 10°30' 23" East, 113.41 feet; Thence North 27° 05' 21" East, 537.09 feet; Thence North 31° 33' 00" East, 225.00 feet to the northeasterly end-center of the strip herein described, whence the South 1/4 corner of said Section 26, bears South 32° 37' 25" East, 1244.11 feet distant.

It is the intent of the above and foregoing to describe a continuous strip of land 60.00 feet in width, the side lines of which strip are lengthened or shortened to close upon the northerly easement limit of said County Road at the southwesterly end and to close on a line perpendicular to the final course along the centerline at the northeasterly end.

TOGETHER WITH ALL ITS APPURTENANCES (PROPERTY). Also known by street and number as: 1251 County Road 139, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 12/31/2020, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 11/9/2020 Last Publication 12/3/2020 Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

DATE: 08/29/2020 Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado By: /s/ Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Daniel L Fiedler #47916 Daniel L Fiedler 190 Tailsman Dr. Suite D-6, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 507-8528

Attorney File # 20PLYLER102 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015 Published November 5, 12, 19, 26 and December 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2020-005

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On August 28, 2020, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.

Original Grantor(s) Louis Ervan Tardona III and Sydney Marie Sawyer Original Beneficiary(ies) Stephen Plyler Current Holder of Evidence of Debt Stephen Plyler Date of Deed of Trust July 08, 2014 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust July 09, 2014 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 21403764 Original Principal Amount \$335,696.95

Outstanding Principal Balance \$259,758.29 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(j), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. A tract of land in the SW1/4 of Section 26, Township 35 North, Range 2-1/2 West, N.M.P.M., being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point whence the Southeast Corner of said Section 26, bears South 78° 10' 33" East, 3265.18 feet; thence North 58° 27' West, 330.00 feet; Thence North 31° 33' East, 660.00 feet; Thence South 58° 27' East, 330.00 feet; Thence South 31° 33' West, 660.00 feet to the point of beginning.

TOGETHER WITH A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT, 60 feet in width, for ingress and egress purposes as described set forth in the Warranty Deed recorded July 15, 1980 in Book 174 at Page 221, known as No. 1251 County Road 139, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Also known by street and number as: 1251 County Road 139, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 12/31/2020, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 11/5/2020 Last Publication 12/3/2020 Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

DATE: 09/29/2020 Elsa P. White, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado By: /s/ Elsa P. White, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is: Daniel L Fiedler #47916 Daniel L Fiedler 190 Tailsman Dr. Suite D-6, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 507-8528 Attorney File # 20PLYLER101

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Charles Michael Weed, Deceased Case No. 2020PR30037

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before March 22, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.

Bette Benavides, Personal Representative 1212 H Street #52 Ramona, CA 92065 Published November 12, 19 and 26, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Archuleta County Combined Courts 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 1 PO Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Case No. 20C30092

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Public notice is given on 11/6/20, that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Adult has been filed with the Archuleta County Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk on December 10, 2020 commencing at 9:00 a.m. Agenda's and meeting information are available at sjbph.health.org/boardofhealth. The 2020 Draft Supplemental and 2021 Proposed budgets are available for inspection at sjbph.health.org/reportsandbudgets. Anyone within

the Health District (La Plata County and Archuleta County, CO) may provide comment to SJBPB at any time prior to the adoption of the budgets. Published November 19, 26 and Dec. 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Christopher Lee Griffin, Deceased Case No. 20PR30021

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before March 25, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.

Todd M. Starr Cunningham Swaim, LLP P.O. Box 2560 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 (970) 749-0807 tstarr@cunninghamswaim.com Published November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of Lucy Candelaria aka Lucy Sodida Candelaria aka Luciana S. Candelaria aka Lucy S. Candelaria aka Luciana Sodida Candelaria, Deceased Case No. 20PR18

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before March 25, 2021, or the claims may be forever barred.

Bernadette M. Candelaria Gonzales 2572 So. Field Court Lakewood, CO 80227-2911 Published November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

EMILY BERRY 905 CEDAR SPRINGS TERRACE ARLINGTON, TX 76010 LUTHER H. BERRY 905 CEDAR SPRINGS TERRACE ARLINGTON, TX 76010

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 3rd day of November 2016, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

MICHAEL J CAREY the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOT 1 OF BLOCK 10 IN AMENDED ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 15, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74503.

Account Number: R002642 Schedule Number: 569302102009 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2016-03676 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefor to MICHAEL J CAREY

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 taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of EMILY BERRY and LUTHER H. BERRY for said year 2015

That said MICHAEL J CAREY on the 28th day of September 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 MICHAEL J CAREY On the 31st day of March 2021, 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 30th day of October 2020 /s/ Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado Published November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

RICHARD COTO 871 S. ALESSANDRO ST HEMET, CA 92543-7069

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 2nd day of November 2017, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

OCK LLC the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

LOT 227 IN LAKE HATCHER PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD NOVEMBER 5, 1973 AS RECEPTION NO. 78738.

Account Number: R011732 Schedule Number: 558336203045 Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2017-04027 and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefor to OCK LLC

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2016

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of RICHARD COTO for said year 2016.

That said OCK LLC on the 19th day of October 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 OCK LLC On the 31st day of March 2021, 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 2nd day of November 2020 /s/ Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado Published November 19, 26 and December 3, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners is seeking volunteers to serve on the Archuleta County Airport Advisory Commission. Applicants must be County residents, 18 years of age or older with knowledge of aviation and of Stevens Field Airport. The Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) acts in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and the Airport Manager, providing input on airport issues when requested.

Please mail Letters of Interest with brief background to Archuleta County Administration, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or deliver to County Clerk at 398 Lewis Street. Deadline for receipt of letters is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 20th.

Published November 19, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

PUBLIC HEARING The Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday December 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. by Zoom remote participation to take public comment on the 2021 proposed budget and the proposed capital projects programs are available for public inspection on the Town website and in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall. Published November 19, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

PUBLIC HEARING The Town of Pagosa Springs Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday December 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. by Zoom remote participation to take public comment on the 2021 proposed budget and capital program for the Town of Pagosa Springs. Copies of the proposed budget and the proposed capital projects programs are available for public inspection on the Town website and in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall. Published November 19, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Piedra Park Metropolitan Improvement District (PPMID) Board of Directors for the calendar year 2021. The proposed budget is available for public inspection at 55 MILTON LANE ARBOLES, CO. Copies are also available upon request by email at PIEDRAPARK@YAHOO.COM or phone at (970 749-5968). The proposed budget will be considered at a regular meeting of the PPMID board of directors to be held on December 9, 2020 at 55 Milton Lane, Arboles, Colorado at 6 PM. Any interested party may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections therein in writing at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget. Any objections may be submitted to the PPMID Board of Directors by email at PIEDRAPARK@YAHOO.COM or letter P.O. Box 1609 Arboles, CO 81121. Published November 19, 2020 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

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EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

'Murder hornet' title is all buzz, no sting

By Robin Young
SUN Columnist

The Asian giant hornet has earned the nickname "murder hornet," but entomologists say that name isn't deserved.

As if there wasn't enough to worry about with the COVID-19 pandemic, a new twist to 2020 was announced. This time it's the vespa mandarinia — better known as the Asian giant hornet. The world's largest hornet, it can reach up to 2 inches long, has a wingspan up to 3 inches wide and a quarter-inch stinger to inject its venom.

News of the insect being recently discovered in North America has spurred startling headlines about the so-called "murder hornets." The nickname comes due in part to its ability to decimate an entire colony of honeybees by decapitating them.

But Colorado State University entomology professor and extension specialist Whitney Cranshaw said all the buzz is unnecessary.

Cranshaw, who is also chairman of the Entomological Society of America's committee on common insect names, recently wrote a response about the media reaction and the colorful name to his listserv PestTalk.

"The name 'murder wasp' is just silly and needlessly inflammatory. It is a predator; it eats other insects. Like all mantids, most all lady beetles and lacewings, all spiders ... We have three wasp families (sphecidae, crabronidae, pompilidae) that are very well represented in most any yard/garden in the state, which are generally referred to by the far more benign term 'hunting wasps.' These insects paralyze their prey, haul the paralyzed insect to some nest, lay an egg on it and have a larval stage that slowly consumes the live — but paralyzed — insect. Should we call these the 'kidnap and slowly butcher' wasps?"

In an interview with KUNC, Cranshaw said the post stemmed from frustration over seeing even

highly regarded media feeding the "murder hornet" frenzy.

"I expect something like that from The Enquirer, but not the New York Times," he said.

To be an acceptable common name, Cranshaw says it has to be based on some unique features.

"All hornets murder stuff," he said. "I mean, what we call a very common insect around here, which is technically a black yellow jacket, the bald-faced hornet — it murders insects all day."

While the finding of the insect in a small area of western Washington and British Columbia is news — it's typically only found in Asia — Cranshaw said the fear that it's spreading is unnecessary.

"At this point in time, it's very premature to think that this is going to be a threat," he said.

The Asian giant hornet's method of attack might be part of why people are latching onto this story. After catching its prey, the hornet decapitates it, chewing portions of the thorax into a ball and then flying back to the nest. One hornet can kill approximately 40 bees in an hour. During a "slaughter and occupy" event, a swarm can wipe out an entire bee colony in a matter of hours.

But while the hornet can do great damage to honeybees, Cranshaw said it prefers to go after social bees and wasps.

"It is far more likely to be an insect that would attack all those little paper wasps that are making those nests on the side of your house or the yellow jackets that are in the ground making a nest there, that then run around on your hamburger and drink Coca Cola out of your can at the end of summer," he said. "That's what they're going to murder more than honeybees."

Besides, the honeybee has far bigger things to worry about as far as predators go.

"In terms of a threat to honeybees, I mean, we have way more important things that damage honeybees now that recently came

into the country than the Asian giant hornet will ever be," Cranshaw said. "It's back of the line after things like varroa destructor mites and nosema ceranae — the disease, and small hive beetles. It goes to the end of the line. It's another threat, but not a huge one, and it's not going to be an issue here in Colorado."

The Asian giant hornet is found in low-elevation, moist forest areas, Cranshaw said, making Colorado's high-elevation, dry forests a poor choice and one where it would not thrive if it were to ever get here. And, to get here, it would need some human help.

"There are geographic barriers that this thing would have to pass between western Washington and eastern Colorado that I can not see this passing on his own," he said. "Somebody would have to carry it and that's a very dicey kind of thing to do."

The potential threat to humans has also made the hornet an intriguing story, with reports that, in Japan, approximately 50 people died from Asian giant hornet stings last year. But according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, an average of 62 people die from wasp, hornet and bee stings in the U.S. each year. In Colorado, about 95 percent of all stings are from the western yellow jacket, Cranshaw said.

"The Asian giant hornet's sting is not particularly toxic," he said. "It just has a big stinger."

And as far as overall size goes, Colorado insects hold their own, Cranshaw said. The cicada killer wasp, native to parts of Colorado, is in the same weight class as the Asian giant hornet.

"If you go down to southeast Colorado, check out the blooming flowers at the end of August and early September, and you'll see these huge, blue-black-orange wing tarantula hawks. And then if you're in an area where the cicada killers occur ... I mean they look like a giant, mutant yellow jacket from hell."

But the catchy headlines and the fact that people are looking for anything not COVID-19 related to read about right now makes the Asian giant hornet far more interesting, Cranshaw said.

"Well, there are aspects about this insect that certainly make it a good story," he said. "It's a big wasp and it's got a big stinger and sometimes it will attack honeybee hives ... and it can do damage to that hive. So those kinds of aspects of it certainly make it an interesting insect."

For information, please call the Archuleta County CSU Extension office at 264-5931.

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

Donate to the Archuleta County 4-H program

The Archuleta County 4-H program boasts a membership of more than 150 members annually. Often, these programs rely on fundraisers to help offset the costs of the program, such awards, supplies and, most importantly, leadership opportunities. Members can attend various leadership camps and conferences statewide and even nationally.

To help our program continue to support our members, we appreciate any contribution you make. To pay online, visit <https://client.pointandpay.net/web/Archuleta-Co4H/> and select Contributions and Donations.

Like us on Facebook — <https://www.facebook.com/Archuleta-County4H/>.

CPR and first aid certification

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered monthly by the CSU Extension office generally on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at 264-5931 to register.

Funding available for projects addressing forest health, wildfire risk

By Teddy Parker-Renga
Colorado State Forest Service

Wildfires are both natural and inevitable — including in wildland-urban interface (WUI) settings where millions of Coloradans live. These fires can be particularly destructive in areas where forests are unhealthy, unmanaged and unnaturally dense.

For those interested in taking action, but who have lacked the means, funding is now available to help address this risk.

The Colorado State Forest Service announced that it is accepting proposals from Colorado HOAs, community groups, local governments, fire protection districts, utilities and nonprofit organizations seeking funding to improve forest health, conduct forest restoration and reduce wildfire risk on non-federal land in the state. Approximately \$700,000 in total funding is available and grant awards are available up to \$250,000.

The Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program helps fund projects that strategically reduce the potential wildfire risk to property, infrastructure and water supplies and that promote forest health through scientifically based forestry practices.

The competitive grant program

is designed to reduce risk to people and property in the WUI and support long-term ecological restoration. Applications must not only promote forest health and address the reduction of hazardous fuels that could fuel a wildfire — such as trees and brush near homes — but also utilize wood products derived from forest management efforts.

The state can fund up to 50 or 75 percent of the cost of each awarded project; grant recipients are required to match at least 25 or 50 percent of the total project cost through cash or in-kind contributions depending on whether the project location falls within an area of "fewer economic resources."

Projects can be located on private, state, county or municipal forestlands. Program funds also are allowable to fund the purchase of equipment that directly supports and expands on-the-ground opportunities to reduce hazardous fuels. Program funds may be used for forest restoration, but are not part of post-fire rehabilitation activities.

Applicants must coordinate proposed projects with relevant county officials to ensure consistency with county-level wildfire risk reduction planning. Follow-up monitoring also is a necessary component of this grant program to help demonstrate the relative

efficacy of various treatments and the utility of grant resources. The CSFS will work with successful project applicants to conduct project monitoring and conduct site visits to assess effectiveness and completion of projects.

Additional emphasis will be given to projects that: are identified through a community-based collaborative process, such as a Community Wildfire Protection Plan; are implemented strategically across land ownership boundaries; are conducted within a priority area identified in the 2020 Colorado Forest Action Plan; utilize the labor of an accredited Colorado Youth or Veterans Corps organization; and include forest treatments that result in the protection of water supplies.

Applications must be submitted electronically to local CSFS Field Offices by 5 p.m. on Dec. 11. A technical advisory panel convened by the CSFS will review project applications and make funding recommendations. The CSFS will then notify successful applicants next spring.

Applications and additional information about the Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program are available at CSFS Field Offices and online at csfs.colostate.edu/funding-assistance.

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Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

A blanket of snow covers Navajo Peak near Chromo.

Fire board reviews 2020, 2021 budgets, approves purchase of new lifts

By Simone Mounsamy
Staff Writer

At its Nov. 10 meeting, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors took another look at its draft 2021 budget.

The budget that the board presented remains the same as that of the October meeting. No vote was held, and the draft budget remains open for inspection. The final draft will be presented on Dec. 8.

Fire Chief Randy Larson said, "I do not anticipate any changes."

Total revenues have gone down from the 2020 projected year-end to 2021 by \$727,824, from \$3,307,742 to \$2,579,918. Total resources have gone down, as well, by \$683,558, from \$4,104,250 to \$3,420,692.

The PFPD maintains \$100,000 in general reserve, \$150,000 in capital reserve and has added \$19,938 into the pension fund since 2019.

Total expenses are at \$3,263,476 for the projected year-end and \$2,977,853 for the 2021 draft budget.

The PFPD is well under budget for the year due to lack of traveling like sending people to trainings and conferences, Larson explained.

The 2020 budgeted expenses in fire operations show \$83,212 less at the projected year-end than the \$469,594 budgeted.

However, the budgeted capital outlay expenses are projected to have gone up \$438,038 by the year-end, with the projected year-end figure being \$692,038, compared to the budgeted \$254,000.

General overhead expenses are projected to be down \$24,388 by the year-end, though they are budgeted to go back up by \$34,643 next year.

Impact fees are no longer projected in the budget.

A total of \$269,056 more was budgeted this year from last year for payroll and benefits expenses (\$1,204,663 versus \$1,473,719); however, \$26,201 less has been projected by year-end. For the 2021 draft budget, \$1,560,231 has been determined for payroll and benefits expenses, which is \$112,713 more than what is projected for this year's end.

The PFPD had 18 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2019. In 2020, it added an administrative assistant, making 19 FTEs, and it projects 19 again for 2021.

The PFPD has seasonal firefighters for the wildland season and one part-time inspector, as well, explained Shirley Brinkmann, PFPD executive administrative assistant.

PFPD approves purchase of new lifts

Three bids were received on equipment for the maintenance department, according to Larson.

A prevention vehicle and a service vehicle were in the budget for this year, but due to "shutdowns of factories" these vehicle purchases did not happen. As a result, "there is quite a bit of money left in the capital budget," Larson voiced.

Instead of using it for the vehicles, they are purchasing a column lift, scissor lifting table, and

jack stands. These will ameliorate the maintenance of the vehicles, which has been very difficult, explained Larson.

He went on to spell out that the lifts had been put in the budget for 2021, so next year they will use that part of the budget to buy the trucks not purchased this year.

The motion to approve the purchase was approved unanimously.

Other business

In other business, the board:

- Heard that the district had had 808 calls for service this year.
- Announced that the fire station now dons a new sign.

PFPD Board of Directors meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, and the next meeting will be held on Dec. 8.

simone@pagosasun.com

Thanksgiving issue Thursday, November 26 Early Deadlines

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, November 20

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Monday, November 23
Too Late to Classify 10 a.m., Monday, November 23

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, November 19

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving

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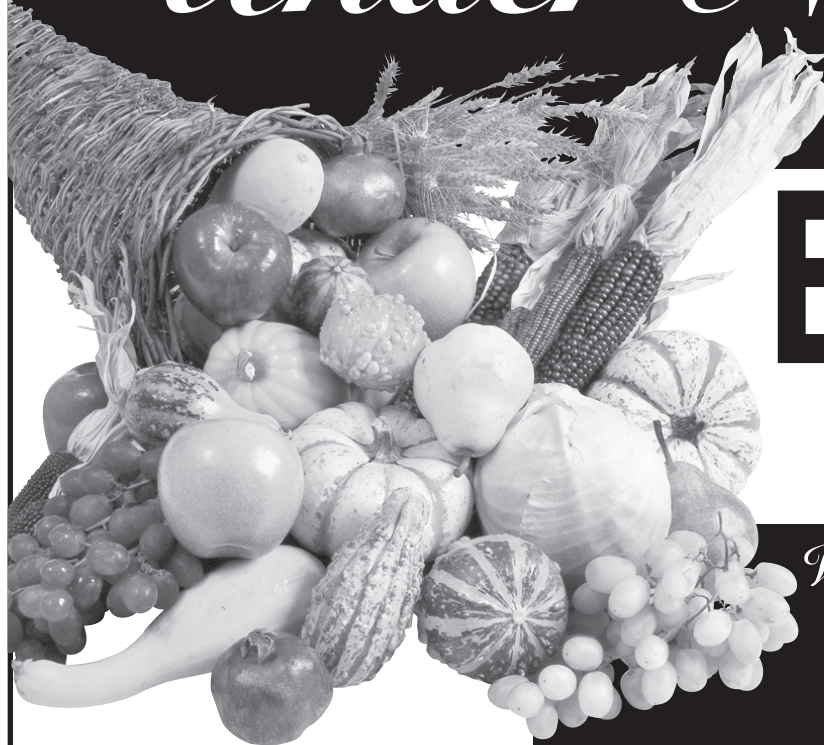


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ARTS & LIFE



Photo courtesy Beth Tollefsen

November 19, 2020



Photos courtesy Pagosa Peak Open School

Pagosa Peak Open school is seeking businesses to display artwork created by kindergarteners. For a very special and COVID-safe celebration of learning, the school's kindergarten class will have a Project-based Learning Gallery Walk.

Wanted: Businesses to display kindergarten artwork

By Alison Beach
Pagosa Peak Open School

For a very special and COVID-safe celebration of learning, Pagosa Peak Open School's kindergarten class will have a Project-based Learning Gallery Walk.

Karla Parker-Choat (the kindergarten teacher) will be hanging up selections of the class's artworks in various businesses in the community.

Students will make a map for the gallery walk for families to follow

during the week of Thanksgiving Break (Nov. 23-27). three to four pieces of kindergarten artwork for this galley walk, please

If you know of any business owners who would like to showcase her at kparkerchoat@ppos.co.

Pre-boxed Holiday Meals

The "RONA" will not stop the turkeys from arriving.

We will have 200 pre-boxed holiday meals.

This will be a first come, first served drive-thru distribution on November 23 from 1 to 5 p.m. at 434 Lewis Street (must line up down Lewis Street, not Hwy. 160)

NO EARLY BIRDS, and no picking up for others.

Because of the governor's restrictions on COVID-19, we will be unable to do early sign ups.



Community United Methodist Church
434 Lewis Street

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

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Voting for Food Coalition projects closes Sunday

By Pauline Benetti
Food Coalition

There is still time to vote on projects that strengthen our local food system.

Our local Archuleta Food Coalition was awarded \$20,000, which it decided to distribute through a participatory approach to decision-making. It instituted a process called participatory budgeting. Basically everyone who is in high school and older, and who lives in Archuleta County, works in Archuleta County or whose kids go to school in Archuleta County is

eligible to vote on projects.

Nine deserving projects, all aimed at increasing the local food supply and supporting food equity and submitted by local organizations and individuals, have applied for funding from the Food System/Food equity Coalition and the community (that's you) can vote for four of them.

Voting will be held virtually until Sunday, Nov. 22.

Go to the Coalition's website, foodcoalition4archuleta.org, and

click on the pop-up box, "Hey, you there!" and fill out the simple form. In return, you will receive an email allowing you to vote.

Here's the list of projects. Each one is introduced with a brief video on the Coalition website: FoodMeal Backpacks, Heritage Cooking Class, Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership, Snack Program, Online Pagosa Farmers Market, Gift Cards, Ingredient Boxes, After Hours Pantry and BioDegradable Containers.

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Give Gifts of the Heart this holiday season

By Michelle Huck
Community United Methodist Church

Gifts of the Heart (GOH) cards have been around for several years now. Unfortunately, this year the annual Christmas Bazaar was canceled. GOH has always had a booth there and people loved buying \$5 cards that they could choose which of five nonprofits the money would go to.

You can still get beautiful holiday cards (also birthday, sympathy, etc.) directly from the Methodist Church. Just call the church administrator, Michelle, at 264-5508 and she will be glad to help you.

This year, more than ever, our community is in need. With travel/visitor restrictions, what a wonderful way to keep in touch with friends/family and in addition help our community.

Nonprofits to choose from:

- Food Pantry.
- Pagosa Outreach Connection.
- Rise Above Violence.
- Vets for Vets.
- Senior Center.

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For the first time in 108 years, Operation Santa is nationwide

Letters accepted through Dec. 15

United States Postal Service

Let's face it, this year has been a struggle for so many people in more ways than one. Thoughts of kids, the holidays and wondering how to provide for them may also be weighing heavily on many. But take heart, Santa and the Postal Service are way ahead of you — and are here to help.

The USPS Operation Santa program celebrates its 108th year in 2020 by opening up for nationwide participation. Now, more than ever, the program is needed to help less-fortunate kids and families during the holidays.

The Postal Service established the USPS Operation Santa program to help those in need at the holidays experience the joy of opening presents — and to create special holiday memories. Since it began, millions of less-fortunate children and their families have been helped by the kindness of others. The program is for every person of every belief, or non-belief. The purpose is to help as many deserving families as possible. And that can only be done if good-hearted adopters step forward.

To participate in the USPS Operation Santa program as a possible recipient of holiday gifts, all you have to do is write a letter, put it in a stamped envelope with a return address and send it to Santa's of-

ficial workshop address: 123 Elf Road, North Pole 88888. Letters will be accepted through Dec. 15.

Program details

Hundreds of thousands of letters are written to the USPS Operation Santa program every year in hopes of being adopted by kind and generous people across the country. These letters are opened by Santa's elves and, for safety reasons, all personally identifiable information of the letter writer is removed (i.e. last names, addresses, ZIP codes) and uploaded to USPSOperationSanta.com for adoption.

Beginning Dec. 4, letters will be available for nationwide adoption by visiting USPSOperationSanta.com — all from the socially distant safety of your own home. Potential adopters can read the letters and pick one, or more, that they'd like to fulfill. For security reasons, potential adopters must be vetted by going through a short registration and ID verification process before they are allowed to adopt any letter.

Companies also help adopt letters. Every year, many companies create teams and adopt several letters. All the better to help grant that special wish to deserving families and kids.

How to write a letter

Sending a letter to Santa is easy

if you know how. The Postal Service is here to help with guides and tips to help kids write and send their best letters ever. All the information you could possibly need to write a letter, address an envelope, put on a stamp and send it on its way can be found on USPSOperationSanta.com and in our Holiday Newsroom. The only thing the Postal Service can't help with is to tell kids what to ask for. That is up to their imagination and we would never stifle creativity. These tips are also good all year-round for sending thank-you cards, birthday cards or letters to Grandma and Grandpa just to say, "Hi."

USPS Operation Santa history

While the Postal Service began receiving letters to Santa more than 108 years ago, it wasn't until 1912 that Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock authorized local postmasters to allow postal employees and citizens to respond to them. This became known as Operation Santa.

The complete history can be found online at the Postal Service Holiday Newsroom, along with additional news and information, including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

Join the Food Coalition in supporting our neighbors this holiday season

Food Coalition

On Saturday, Nov. 21, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (Local IBEW 111 26 and 26A) of La Plata Electric Association will be holding a community food drive from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help the Food Coalition provide

food for holiday meals.

Some of the items that the Food Coalition would be able to share with their clients this holiday season include fresh produce, cheese and butter. Monetary donations will help support the purchase of these and other items for the community responding to the emergent needs.

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Listen for the silence

A writer stood at the podium and spoke. His first words, "When I came here two years ago, I met you in my nightmare hour." He choked up and continued as I sat in disbelief.

While I listened to him speak of his pain, I couldn't help but think that my head must have been in a fog at the time. I had no idea the struggle this man was going through. He had never said anything before this moment.

It made me wonder just how many people are carrying the weight of the world on their own shoulders, crying in silence, needing to be heard.

As for me, I am at a place in my own life where I am looking forward to experiencing a bit of quiet. Although I am still writing and supporting other writers, I find myself seeking more and more comfort during the ever illusive still of a moment. Maybe it's because at my age, my home and schedule still resemble Grand Central Station.

It is a self-centered thought, but one I have dreamt of. I imagine getting to the summit of my own mountain climb, hearing God tell me, "Good job. You have persisted along your journey and have reached a place where peace be yours."

On second thought, maybe that is the opposite of what God wants me to hear. After all, I have encountered more and more people who are seeking relief from a place of quiet that has enslaved and even tortured them.

Maybe the message to me is, "You're not through yet. It's time you are awakened to the hush that haunts others."

Perhaps there are those who I need to hear from, those who need to take solace as I walk with them as they seek true repose.

I have never had a problem being heard. I know what I believe and I

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



On the fortunate side of misfortune, the devil overplayed his hand. The young man came crashing down.

speaking what is on my mind. But, there are those who are yet to discover their voice. Not because they don't know who they are or what they believe, but because the adversary is bidding for their souls. And, he will stop at nothing until we know nothing but shame and destruction.

I have always believed that it's important to be quiet as we wait on the Lord to develop us. It can be in those same times, however, when we are flooded with attacks against our heart and mind, causing us to question our worth.

There was a sweet boy, a perfect child, focused, achieved accolades in sports, who was pursued by the best colleges in Colorado. Why worry? This child had it all together. Wrong.

He left for college and started on his journey towards discovering himself. Along the way, drugs and alcohol fueled a sense of entitlement and emotion that filled his world with noise and distraction. Meanwhile, during his quiet moments, he wrestled with identity and confidence.

On the fortunate side of misfortune, the devil overplayed his hand.

The young man came crashing down. His once strong, athletic body became bent like a pretzel. He sat alone in darkness, crying in silence to be set free.

Like so many others, he cried out. "Where are you, God? How did I get here? How do I escape?"

Although his would be a story of redemption, this young man isn't alone. There are countless others who are seeking an escape from a voiceless vortex that is spinning them out of control.

A friend called, worried about her daughter. She had smashed her face in a glass, attempting to commit suicide.

It wasn't the welcoming sound of a symphony that caused her to take such drastic actions, but a pit of despair that muted any voice of reason.

Final brushstroke: Have you stopped and looked at what is going on around you? It can be difficult. To do so means we have to selflessly direct our attention toward those who are languishing in silence. It also means that we may have to use our own sought-out moments of peace and tranquility to hear what only God can direct us to hear. But make no mistake, there are those we need to stand and fight for, and it is not for those who are making all of the noise. First, we need to learn how to listen for the silence. Second, we need to be willing to give up our own agenda for the sake of securing one far more important and everlasting.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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Free Talking Book Library ideal for those with difficulty reading

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

The Colorado Talking Book Library (CTBL) is a free service from your library that lends audio and Braille books and magazines, as well as large-print books, for people who have eye issues, or have physical or learning disabilities that make it difficult to read regular books. All of the audiobooks and most Braille books are also available for on-demand downloads.

CTBL wants you to know that Talking Books are not just for blind people — although they are a god-send for people unable to see. The service is also available to people who experience physical disabilities or illnesses that prevent them from holding a book, sitting up for longer periods of time, have a learning disability or difficulty turning the pages of a book.

Importantly, Talking Books are completely free — no charge for the books, no charge for the talking book player and no charge for the postage to mail the books back to the library. Your books come through the U.S. Postal Service with all postage paid.

CTBL, located in Denver, serves people of all ages. Their youngest user is 3 years old and the oldest is 104. The library has more than 35,000 audiobooks, 7,000 Braille books and 22,000 large-print books, with new books added each month. You can even tell your preferences to CTBL.

To sign up, get an application from the library staff or go to <http://www2.cde.state.co.us/ctbl/tbser-vices.htm> and click on Getting Started/Application. Fill it out and have the first page signed by a nurse, doctor, librarian, therapist, activity director, social worker or teacher. In the case of a learning disability, a doctor must sign the application. Then send it in. You'll receive a welcome packet and a player and a couple of audiobooks to get you started.

Library News

www2.cde.state.co.us/ctbl/tbser-vices.htm and click on Getting Started/Application. Fill it out and have the first page signed by a nurse, doctor, librarian, therapist, activity director, social worker or teacher. In the case of a learning disability, a doctor must sign the application. Then send it in. You'll receive a welcome packet and a player and a couple of audiobooks to get you started.

Special note

"We want people to always feel welcome in the library and to experience a very friendly vibe when they visit," said Meg Wempe, library director. "But we need to remind everyone that, similar to other public indoor spaces in Colorado, we must follow the executive order that requires people ages 11 or older to wear a covering over their noses and mouths when entering or moving within any public indoor space. If you are unable or unwilling to wear a mask, we have made reasonable accommodations and are pleased to assist you outside the building through our curbside service."

Adult DIY: Holiday treats

Join Brad on Facebook on Fri-

day, Nov. 20, from 2 to 3 p.m. for a free food-themed DIY that will inspire you to create new appetizers and desserts for the holidays.

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. This event will be available on the library's website for viewing afterwards.

New after-school program

In response to COVID, we have revamped our free after-school program into STEAM enrichment kits, STEAM standing for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, for ages 5 and up. Registration is required at 264-2209. Pick up your kit and then bring your completed projects back to the library to be displayed in the last week of the month.

DIY craft takeaway for kids

Drop by your library for free DIY crafts takeaways for youngsters age 10 and older. Just pick up a packet outside the library and follow the instructions.

In-person gaming

Free in-person gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect for all ages has resumed on Fridays from 2 to 3 p.m. Due to COVID concerns, we are

■ See Library on next page



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2	\$3,425
3	\$4,231
4	\$5,038
5	\$5,844
6	\$6,650
7	\$6,801
8	\$6,952
<i>For each additional person over 8 add \$151</i>	

For application assistance call 970-264-8513. If you or your organization is interested in hosting an outreach event call 970-264-8510.



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Library

■ continued from previous page

only allowing a maximum of four participants in the gaming room. Masks must be worn and social distancing maintained at all times.

Storywalk for kids

Every other Thursday, Josie posts signs outside the library that follow the sidewalk up toward the elementary school detailing a new free Storywalk for kids. The Nov. 19-Dec. 3 theme is gratitude. After you finish the walk, pick up materials for a craft or activity at the library.

Tech Time

Make a 15- or 30-minute appointment for one of three free in-person slots available noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Brad will help one person (or one couple) at a time. If you have a Tech Time appointment on Thursday, phone from the parking lot or knock loudly on the front door to be let in. Note: There will be no tech time Nov. 24 and 25.

ESL

Free in-person classes take place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. by appointment. Please register so we can keep it to a small group in our limited open spaces. No walk-ins, please.

Dungeons and Dragons

Join us Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. for Dungeons and Dragons free for teens and young adults on Google Meet. Contact claire@pagosalibrary.org to learn how to join. If you don't have Internet access, contact us anyway — we may be able to accommodate you in the library.

Children's programs on Facebook

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m., join us on the library's Facebook page for free children's programs. Wednesday sto-

rytimes are on Facebook Live, so you can interact with Josie. Saturday's Discovery Times — with games, art ideas, science experiments, history and more — are prerecorded.

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.

Adult education

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) accelerated GED course takes place in person Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 2 to 7 p.m. Come to your library to get help from Mark with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Appointments required; please contact us by phone or email.

Activities calendars

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

Summary of our partial reopening

• We're now open on Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. with 1 to

2 p.m. reserved for seniors and higher-risk populations.

• Other hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for seniors and higher-risk populations. Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays: closed.

• We are accepting meeting room reservations for small groups, with library programs having first dibs on the rooms. You can schedule only so far out, usually two weeks to a month, depending on where we are in the month.

• Up to 30 patrons at a time can come into the building.

• Hand sanitizers are available and there will be frequent cleanings inside the building throughout the day. 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.

• Nine computers are available. In most cases usage will be allowed for three hours per day. Staff will clean and disinfect the computers between uses.

• One early literacy computer is available for youngsters Monday through Saturday.

• Curbside service continues Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. except for Thursdays, when it's from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday from 10

■ See Library on next page



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Library

■ continued from previous page
a.m. to 2 p.m. 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.

- You can drop your returns of books, CDs and DVDs in the drop box at City Market, as well as in the drop box at the library. No donations in the City Market box, please.

- Notary service is available on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. The cost is \$5 per notary.

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

- We're happy to provide tech help in person or over the phone for our online resources.

Short stories

“The Office of Historical Corrections” by Danielle Evans is a powerful collection of short stories that focus on race, culture and history.

Thrillers, mysteries and suspense

“Moonflower Murders” by Anthony Horowitz features literary detective Atticus Pund. “The Kingdom” by Jo Nesbo features two brothers who must make peace with their past. “The Law of Innocence” by Michael Connelly features defense attorney Mickey Haller, who has been framed for murder. “The Reckoning of Gosamer Pond” by Jaime Jo Wright features two women separated by a century. Also by the same author is “The Haunting at Bonaventure Circus” featuring a woman diving deep into the history of an old circus train depot.

Other novels

“The Archer” by Paulo Coelho uses a bow and arrow expert to

reveal the tenants of a meaningful life. “In the Lion’s Den” by Barbara Taylor Bradford is a historical novel set in London in the late 1800s. “The Mountains Sing” by Nguyen Phan Que Mai is a story of four generations set against the background of the Vietnam war. “The Weekend” explores growing old and growing up when three friends gather to mourn.

Books on CD

“Troubles in Paradise” by Elin Hilderbrand is the conclusion of the Paradise trilogy. “Shakeup” by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery. “Love Your Life” features a woman who ditches her dating app for a writers’ retreat in Italy.

DVDs

“Fatima” is an uplifting story about the power of faith. “The Crown” is the complete third season. “This is Us” is the complete second season.

Large print

“This Just Speaks to Me” by Hoda Kotb is the author’s second collection of quotes and inspirational stories. “Hidden in Plain Sight” by Jeffrey Archer is book two in the William Warwick saga. “Return to Virgin River” by Robyn Carr. “Marauder” by Clive Cussler and Boyd Morrison is the latest in the Oregon Files adventure series.

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Donations

For their generous monetary donation, we are grateful to Susan and Terry Arrington. For their materials donations, we thank Judy and Bill Slaton.

Please put your material donations into the drop box at the library — not at City Market, which is reserved for returns. Donations undergo the same rigorous three-day quarantine process as returns.

Quotable quote

“In 1948, the U.N. General Assembly came together and ratified a Universal Declaration of Human Rights, describing the world they wanted to build ... To me, that begins with culture — the place where arts, sciences and society connect. When scientists from dozens of countries join hands to unlock the mysteries of our universe; when a filmmaker or musician lifts up voices and stories from the margins; when museums and concert halls redefine the communities they serve ... that is taking action for a better future.” — Yo-yo Ma, American cellist and child prodigy.

Website

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“So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.”

Acts 2:41

(continued from previous article) In Acts 2 Luke records that Peter and the eleven apostles spoke about Jesus to a crowd that had gathered. When the Jews realized they crucified the Messiah for whom they had been looking, they asked, “What shall we do?”

Peter replied, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” He testified and exhorted them with more words and said “Be saved from this perverse generation.” This resulted in about three thousand souls receiving the word, being baptized, and added to the church that day.

Salvation, life, forgiveness of sin, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit can still be found today by being baptized upon your faith that Jesus is Christ and Lord. Peter proclaimed this promise is for you, your children, and all who are far off.

Would you like to know more about Jesus as Lord and Christ? Do you believe that Jesus is Christ and Lord and are ready to be baptized for the forgiveness of sin and to receive the Holy Spirit? If we can help, let us know.

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AM Worship

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Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services help some family caregivers

By Kay Kaylor
PREVIEW Columnist

I advocate for residents in extended care and assisted living residences as the regional 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). The many aging and care concerns will be addressed here.

November is National Family Caregivers Month and this year's theme is "Caregiving Around the Clock." Many elders and people with disabilities rely on family caregivers to help them remain at home. Colorado Medicaid programs to help people "age in place" include five different types of waivers under the title Home and Community Based Services. People who qualify for this type of long-term care Medicaid, and the qualifications differ from the Health First

Area Agency on Aging

Colorado health insurance, also may qualify for Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services.

Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services allow elders or their representatives to direct and manage who provides personal care, homemaker and health maintenance services. In the program, you hire, train and manage attendants of your choice, including family members, using Health First funds. The program offers training, ongoing support, and tools and education for recruiting, hiring and managing chosen attendants. It also has an Attendant Directory to help match clients with caregivers.

The Archuleta County Department of Human Services deter-

mines who is eligible for such waivers and services in this area (264-2182). Once accepted, people in the program receive case management through Community Connections Inc. (249-2464).

The case manager works with elders or their representatives to determine the services needed and sends the referral to Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services. Services include personal care, such as bathing, dressing and eating; health maintenance with the flexibility to use staff without a license or certificate; and home-making, such as housekeeping, meal preparation and laundry.

SJBAAA offers resources for people age 60 and older or on Medicare; see sjbaaa.org. For further information, please call or text 403-2165 or send an email to leadombudsman@sjbaaa.org.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Nov. 19

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch: Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Due to the CO-

VID-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.

■ See Calendar on page 11

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Members of the Wolf Creek Ski Team presented Pagosa Springs Medical Center with a homemade ski plaque to show their gratitude for PSMC's continued sponsorship, supporting Pagosa Springs young athletes.

Pictured:
Dr. Rhonda Webb, CEO of PSMC, Lilly Buchner and Isabelle Ratcliff



Photo courtesy John Motter

This photo shows the first Archuleta County school, building on the left, and first Catholic Church in town, building on the right. Both buildings are on the north side of Lewis street on the block between 3rd and 4th streets.

The very first settlers

Shortly after AD 1, small bands of Indians entered the San Juan River Basin. Where they came from is uncertain. They may have come from the Mogollon Rim area of New Mexico, where there is evidence of an earlier, corn-raising, sedentary, population. These Indians occupied portions of Pagosa Country until about A.D. 1125. They are generally referred to as the Ancestral Puebloans.

By the time Europeans entered Pagosa Country, the Ancestral Puebloans were gone. They left behind deserted buildings and villages surrounded by ground strewn with potsherds and other artifacts. The availability and quantity of these relics we were regarded with awe by early explorers and settlers. They often referred to these long-gone inhabitants as Aztecs, perceiving similarities in the artifacts and buildings with those of the Aztec Indians encountered by the Spanish explorers in Mexico.

The earliest Pagosa area settlers little understood the culture or the extent of Ancestral Puebloans civilization. They often entered these ancient sites and carried away pottery, arrowheads, turquoise jewelry and other artifacts.

At that time, Professor J. Allard Jeancon, curator of the Colorado State Museum, took an interest in the Ancestral Puebloans. He was introduced to the Chimney Rock ruins by Ed Colton, a Pagosan.



Parties under Jeancon's direction or influence surveyed the extent of Ancestral Puebloan ruins in Pagosa Country.

A scientific party directed by Frank A. Roberts, in the sum-

mer of 1923, started from Pagosa Springs and went down the San Juan River in search of evidence of Ancestral Puebloan habitation. About 20 miles south of Pagosa Springs in the Trujillo/Montezuma area, they encountered remains of residences.

As they continued downstream to Arboles where the San Juan is joined by the Piedra River they discovered artifact ruins on both sides of the river with concentrations at Trujillo, Juanita, Pagosa Junction and Carracas.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 9

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

PALS by Appointment. 2-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Adult education in person. Pagosa Adult Learning Services can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org for more information or to make an appointment.

English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.

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

Friday, Nov. 20

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 com-

munity in a peer-supported group focused on healing from trauma, abuse or violence.

Gaming. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect. Please note: Due to COVID concerns, we are only allowing a maximum of four participants in the gaming room. Masks must be worn at all times inside the library and social distancing must be maintained throughout the program. Call 264-2209 for more information.

DIY: Creative Appetizers. 2-3 p.m., Facebook. Join Brad for a delicious food-themed DIY that will inspire you to create some new appetizers or desserts for the upcoming holiday season. This event will be available on your library's Facebook page and it will be available on the library's website for viewing any time. Call 264-2209 for more information.

The Good News Club. 2-4 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children K-6th grade. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

Saturday, Nov. 21

Discovery Time. 2:30 p.m. Facebook. For all ages. New videos are posted to Facebook each Saturday. View to explore new games, art ideas, science experiments, history, activities, and more. Call 264-2209 for

more information.

Monday, Nov. 23

PALS by Appointment. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Adult education in person. Pagosa Adult Learning Services can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org for more information or to make an appointment.

Tuesday, Nov. 24

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or

■ See Calendar on next page



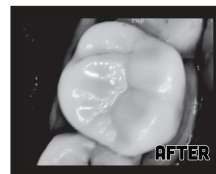
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AFTER



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 MARY C. 10/20

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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Byron Greco

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

The Cassin's is a finch of the western mountains of North America, where it is a year-round resident of evergreen and aspen forests. Here, they may migrate elevationally from their breeding territory, moving downslope in winter months. Except during nesting season, Cassin's finches usually travel in small flocks, often in the company of crossbills, grosbeaks, siskins and other finches. They do visit backyard sunflower feeders.

The heavy, conical bill of the Cassin's is well suited for extracting the seeds from pine cones, which make up a large part of its diet. In spring, these finches feed heavily on the buds of quaking aspen. They also have a craving for salt, which they satisfy at mineral deposits.

The male Cassin's has a streaked brown back with a rosy-pink wash on the throat, plain breast, back and rump. He can erect his bright red crown feathers, giving him a peaked-head look. Females and immature males are streaky brown with white undersides cut by short, crisp streaks. Both sexes show thin white eye rings and notched tails.

It can be difficult to distinguish the Cassin's from the similarly marked house finch. House finches are generally smaller and slimmer, with more rounded heads. A close look will show the male house finch wearing a brown cap.

John Cassin, for whom this finch is named, was a prominent 19th century ornithologist. Worldwide, nine bird species are named for him.

For reasons not well understood, the Cassin's finch is experiencing population declines.

For information on future events, visit www.weminucheadubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheadubon/.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page for more information.

English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.

Community in Conversation Book Discussion Group. 5-6:30 p.m. Offering free weekly Zoom community discussions. Our purpose is

to equip people with the tools they need to have meaningful conversations on difficult yet important issues. We hope to discover together some common ground, to find out what unites us rather than divides us. If you would like to participate, send an email to sarah.riehm@gmail.com.

Principles Before Personalities Group of Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m., Tennyson Building
 ■ See Calendar on page 14

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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

ANSWER:



Photo courtesy Pennie DeClark

Our Savior Lutheran School is again holding its annual Sees candy fundraiser. Due to COVID, preorder is the only way to participate.

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thetileandcarpetstorepagosa.com

Buy Sees candy and help support Our Savior Lutheran School

By Pennie DeClark
Our Savior Lutheran School

Just in time for Christmas, we will be selling world-famous Sees candy to raise money for Our Savior Lutheran School. Come help support the children of Pagosa Springs and enjoy some tasty chocolate at the same time (they also make great Christmas gifts).

We will be selling 1-pound Christmas wrapped boxes of: assorted chocolate, dark chocolate, milk chocolates, soft centers, and nuts and chews. We also have available: peanut brittle, toffettes, peppermints, lollipop assortments, mini holiday assortments and kid's mini Santa boxes.

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we will not be able to sell outside of any stores, so preorder is the only way to get candy this year. If you would like to place an order,

please contact Pennie DeClark at 903-3242 before Monday, Nov. 30. The candy will be delivered the week of Dec. 18 and I will deliver it to you or you can pick it up at Bank of Colorado.

All of the proceeds raised benefit the children at Our Savior Lutheran School. We have been serving the children of Pagosa Springs from all denominations for 26 years, providing exceptional education opportunities, with small classroom sizes, in a safe and loving, Christ-centered environment. We currently offer two preschool classes, kindergarten through sixth grade, and have over 70 students enrolled this year. Thank you for your support.

Informative.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

Welcome

Team Pagosa Realty Group is pleased to announce
Tina Valles

has joined our office of professional real estate agents.

Reach Tina at (970) 946-2789
or tina@teampagosa.com



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Laura Daniels, Broker/Owner
2839 Cornerstone Drive, Unit 4 North
PO Box 900, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
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Thanksgiving issue Thursday, November 26 *Early Deadlines*

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, November 20

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Monday, November 23
Too Late to Classify 10 a.m., Monday, November 23

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, November 19

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100 • www.PagosaSUN.com



Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 12

Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Contact Charlotte or Ken at 903-9690, or Nate at 507-1004.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

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.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

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

Friday, Nov. 27

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.

Saturday, Nov. 28

Discovery Time. 2:30 p.m. Facebook. For all ages. New videos are posted to Facebook each Saturday. View to explore new games, art ideas, science experiments, history, activities, and more. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Monday, Nov. 30

PALS by Appointment. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Adult education in person. Pagosa Adult Learning Services can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call 264-2209 or email ruby@pagosalibrary.org for more information or to make an appointment.

Tuesday, Dec. 1

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 9 a.m., Tennyson Building Event Center, 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Breakfast meeting. Veterans and associated members are invited. Social distancing is required at this time. Contact 799-8387 for more details.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

English as a Second Language by Appointment. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call 264-2209 or email for more information and to make an appointment.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 2

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children ages 3-5. Includes Bible time, songs, crafts, games and more. COVID mandates will be followed, including social distancing and masks. For more information or to register, go to coloradocef.org/GNC.

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.

Tech Time by Appointment. Noon-1 p.m., Sisson Library. Make an appointment for one of three slots available. Brad will help one person or one couple at a time. Call 264-2209 to make an appointment or for more information.

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

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.

YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Vehicles for hire
- 5 Windows predecessor
- 10 Literary lioness
- 14 Friend in war
- 15 Without delay
- 16 Prom goer
- 17 Romantic setups
- 19 Police, slangily
- 20 Soldier with a spear
- 21 Ordering option
- 23 It may be bitter
- 24 First ____
- 26 Doomsayer's sign
- 27 Like some gains
- 30 Horse's tidbit
- 33 Comment on, in a way
- 35 Ballroom dance
- 37 Overhead items
- 38 Smallest in size
- 41 Working stiff
- 42 Barn bundles
- 44 Era that began in 1957
- 46 "____ takers?"
- 47 Loftiest
- 50 Salty drop
- 51 Thanksgiving serving
- 52 "Poison Arrow" band
- 55 Flowering vine
- 59 Man of the cloth
- 61 Alert
- 62 Writing desk
- 64 Ship of Greek myth
- 65 Linus' younger brother
- 66 Andy's radio partner
- 67 Gas light
- 68 Knight mare?
- 69 Canvas cover

DOWN

- 1 Knitting stitch
- 2 Detective Pinkerton
- 3 Extremely

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			

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- 4 Lip-____
- 5 Baroque tune
- 6 Hot spot
- 7 Numbers to crunch
- 8 Leopardlike cat
- 9 Bagel variety
- 10 Wharton's "____ Frome"
- 11 Salacious look
- 12 Musical chairs goal
- 13 Part of a pot
- 18 Gave out
- 22 Word on a penny
- 25 Lavish affection (on)
- 28 Misplace
- 29 Poke fun at
- 30 In an orderly way
- 31 Full of excitement
- 32 Fine-tune, as muscles
- 33 "Fernando" singers
- 34 Indian bread
- 36 Copies
- 39 Nimble
- 40 Ingredient in Worcestershire sauce
- 43 Bird feeder block
- 45 Cleanser brand
- 48 Proof of pedigree
- 49 Car radio button
- 50 Mortise insert
- 53 Element no. 5
- 54 High point
- 55 Aquatic bird
- 56 Merchandise
- 57 Proof word
- 58 One to grow on?
- 60 Winter wear
- 63 Co-star of Betty and Bea

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

Subscribe to The SUN

Feeling a bit shut in? Here's a fresh new way to connect

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

If you're looking for new and exciting ways to connect with others, we announced last week that we now have a whole host of world-class performances, lectures, seminars and live topical discussions that you can join. No need to register in advance.

Just a few of the offerings available this month include:

- "Coloring and Conversation" presented by Vivian Visser. Use any materials you have on hand and unwind with new friends.
- "Songs of the Seasons" with Madeline Morgan.
- "Virtual Tech Explorations for Advanced Users" facilitated by Vivian Chazen.
- Aretha Franklin with Brian Salgado presenting — learn more about the Queen of Soul.
- "Creative Voices Poetry Reading Series" with Caroline Edasis.
- "Active Adult Exercise" led by Paige Corley.
- "Tai Chi" with instructor Lin Shook.
- "Professional Caregiver, Family Caregiver" and other up-to-date information are available every month.

November performances and so much more: Our new alliance with Mather allows easy access to the Chautauqua Institution's online performances and so much more. Discover something new or enjoy something old:

- The arts — theater, music, dance, symphonies.
- Education — lectures, courses, book clubs, discussions.
- Religion — speakers, sermons, interfaith dialogue.

There are download printable resources, as well as a link to sign up to enjoy a bevy of virtual (online or phone) fun, educational and social opportunities. You can learn more about these programs, our organization and meal reservation options at our website: <http://www.psseniors.org/>.

Temporary dining room closure continues

The Pagosa Springs Senior Center is continuing its temporary closing of the congregate dining room due to coronavirus concerns.

In order to continue providing meals, we are offering take-out

Senior News

hot meals and a salad with a drive-up option under the portico at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

These meals will be available Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. There is a \$4 suggested donation for lunch for those age 60 and better. If you need to have your meal delivered, please call 264-2167 to see if this option is available in your area.

The cost per meal for the public age 59 and under is \$8.50. The meals include a salad, hot meal, drink and dessert or bread.

Please call 264-2167 to make a reservation for pickup. We are also continuing our Meals on Wheels program.

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

The Community Café menu

Thursday, Nov. 19 — Beef short ribs, mashed potatoes with gravy, sauteed zucchini, tomatoes and onions, milk, salad and peach cobbler.

Friday, Nov. 20 — Pork zuppa Toscana, glazed carrots, focaccia bread with butter, milk, salad and German chocolate cake.

Monday, Nov. 23 — Cod and white bean cassoulet, braised greens, milk, salad and coconut cake.

Tuesday, Nov. 24 — Turkey with cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, salad and pumpkin pie.

Wednesday, Nov. 25 — Roast beef caprese on ciabatta with pesto, roasted red pepper soup, milk, salad and cranberry salad.

Thursday, Nov. 26 — Closed for Thanksgiving.

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

tend 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.

www.pagosaphoto.com



HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM BANK OF COLORADO

We are very thankful for the opportunity to live and work in this great community. Thank you for your continued support. Have a happy and safe holiday from your Bank of Colorado family.

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Donations sought for Shop with a Cop event

By Nick Stasi
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 8

For almost three decades, the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 8 has hosted our annual Shop with a Cop event. We've never missed a year and we plan to keep the tradition alive this year the best we can.

This event pairs local children in need with a law enforcement officer and together they go shopping at Walmart for clothing and toys that the child wouldn't otherwise receive. We fully fund each year's event through charitable donations from businesses and citizens like you. Through generous donations, we were able to support 175 children from La Plata and Archuleta counties last year.

This year, the FOP Lodge 8 will again be hosting a one-day event in Durango and a one-day event in Pagosa Springs. We are currently

seeking donations to make this year's event a success and we need your support. This year, your support is more important than ever.

As you know, many families have been impacted by COVID-19 and lost income, which means they cannot provide for their family in this upcoming holiday season. In addition, we lost a tremendous local resource when Project Merry Christmas closed its doors. This has left even more families and children in need in our region.

We will spend on average \$150 per child, with approximately \$100 of that going toward clothing and essential items, and \$50 on toys. We are asking you for your help in raising money for this program and making these families' holidays a little brighter during these difficult times.

Donations will be accepted through the mail and no phone solicitations will be made. If you

are interested in sending in a donation, you can send it to the address below. If you know of anybody else who may also be interested in donating this year, please forward this information to them.

Donations can be mailed to: Durango FOP Lodge 8, Shop with a Cop, P.O. Box 2172, Durango, CO 81302.

We would like to publicly recognize our donors again this year as well. If you want to be listed on our website as a sponsor and have your website linked to ours, please let us know when sending your donation. We will only list those who specifically ask to be listed.

We sincerely appreciate your support in helping local families and in helping to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community. This event has been a tremendous success in the past and we are excited to continue this tradition again this year.

New Thought topic: Embrace and receive your good

By Lisa Burnson
New Thought Center
for Inspirational Living

All are welcome to join New Thought Center this Sunday, Nov. 22, at 10:30 a.m. for our presentation, "Embracing and Receiving Your Good in Thanksgiving." Our speaker will be Shayla White Eagle McClure.

Our sanctuary is sanitized and set up for social distancing

We will have spirited live music.

Upcoming events

Meditation Circle is held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. (weather permitting). All are welcome.

Band practice is every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. We welcome musicians and singers to join our band. Please text Bruce at 507-0739 to join or for band information.

Saturday, Nov. 21 (tentative), Workshop: "Meditation and Movement." Call (971) 221-4797 for information.

Friday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m. Movie Night: "Tomorrowland" with George Clooney. Donations appreciated.

Library

The New Thought Center has a large library of inspirational and spiritual books. To borrow or donate a book, please come to the New Thought Center prior to Sunday service or Meditation Circle.

About us

The New Thought Center promotes living a spiritually centered life, and promotes the philosophies of Centers for Spiritual Living

and Agape Centers. New Thought honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the divine.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes and knowledge. Participate, learn or contribute your insights, beliefs, knowledge and skills.

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

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

JIM GARRETT

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Rhonda Webb, MD
CEO/CMO

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A blended family is becoming the American family

By Rich Wandschneider
Writers on the Range

When “All in the Family” hit the TV screens in 1971, the war in Vietnam was raging, cities from Washington, D.C. to Detroit were charred from riots in the wake of Martin Luther King’s assassination and many young people like me were leaving those cities, moving west to rural America.

Archie Bunker stayed in Queens, where a “bar was a man’s castle,” while daughter Gloria and son-in-law “Meathead” tried to help Archie grasp hippies and anti-war protests.

We called ours the “back to the land” movement, and we chuckled with Meathead as Archie Bunker got chuckles from our dads. But we were done watching “Leave it to Beaver” and “Ozzie and Harriet.” Our flexible families were radically changing.

Well, the family has changed again and I’d argue that my own occasionally dysfunctional family is closer to what’s happening in America now than either of the television versions of the past.

In 1965, I joined the Peace Corps and went to Turkey, where I spent most of the next five years. I’d grown up in Minnesota and California, child of immigrant families from Germany and Norway. In Turkey, I met a Peace Corps volunteer from Pennsylvania whose own family roots traced to Italy and Poland. We married and moved to rural northeast Oregon in 1971, just as Archie was hitting the airwaves.

As the Vietnam War dragged on, adoption services began bringing mixed-race Vietnamese children to the United States and then poor children from India and Central America. Simple American adoptions had only recently come out of a closet — historically they were hush-hush affairs with unmarried mothers going to visit faraway aunts and doctors quietly arranging adoptions.

In 1976, we adopted a 1-year-old white boy born in New Jersey and brought to Oregon by a mom too young and poor to raise him. In 1983, we adopted a boy from Calcutta, estimated to be 6.

We thought all we needed was love to bring these kids into the American mainstream. We didn’t realize that kids bring past trauma with them. We also didn’t imagine that being brown in eastern Oregon would be so hard.

The white son had his next bout with trauma when a classmate committed suicide in his presence. He transferred schools, became a star athlete, went to college — and struggled. He joined the Navy and married a woman whose father served in Vietnam and whose mother is from the Philippines. Their road seems smooth right now.

Writers on the Range

Color wasn’t an issue when the kids were young, but as our brown boy hit junior high, conscious and unconscious racial slurs got louder. He got the “N word” more than once, transferred schools twice, and at 18 moved to Portland; he didn’t graduate from high school. He had babies and couldn’t manage them, so I raised a mixed-race grandson and granddaughter in eastern Oregon.

Again, early years were easy, but racial slurs murmured in school hallways and on athletic fields made their high school years hard. “How’s being black?” wrote a classmate in my grandson’s yearbook. His friendships withered and he took out anger on the football field. His sister graduated online and moved away.

I did not realize how isolated they both felt until my grandson went to nearby Eastern Oregon University. There, the student body is 25 percent non-white. He loves college.

Their father, born in Calcutta, has found a life and a wife in Phoenix, Ariz. She is an immigrant, too, from Uganda, and they and their 2-year-old son came to visit us one Christmas. There was apprehension on all sides: If brown gets noticed in small-town Northeast Oregon, what will the locals do with this new Indian-African family?

The 2-year-old stole everyone’s hearts, at home and in town, and the grandkids I raised are begin-

ning to understand their father’s hard journey as they begin their own adult journeys in a rapidly changing America. Even Eastern Oregon is growing multicolored with Mexican and Thai restaurants, students from across the world, and the resurgence of American Indians.

It won’t be easy, but my grandkids, brown and black, representing the heritage of four continents and one island nation, are gaining confidence. They will grow my family tree in directions my German-Norwegian-American grandparents, parents — and Archie Bunker — would never have imagined.

This is what America is becoming, and it’s a good thing.

Rich Wandschneider is a contributor to Writers on the Range, writersontherange.org, a nonprofit dedicated to lively conversation about the West. He writes in Oregon.



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BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

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RIVERFRONT 3 ACRES on the Rio Blanco, owner financing! \$139,000. Peggy Andrews Independent Broker (970)946-0473.



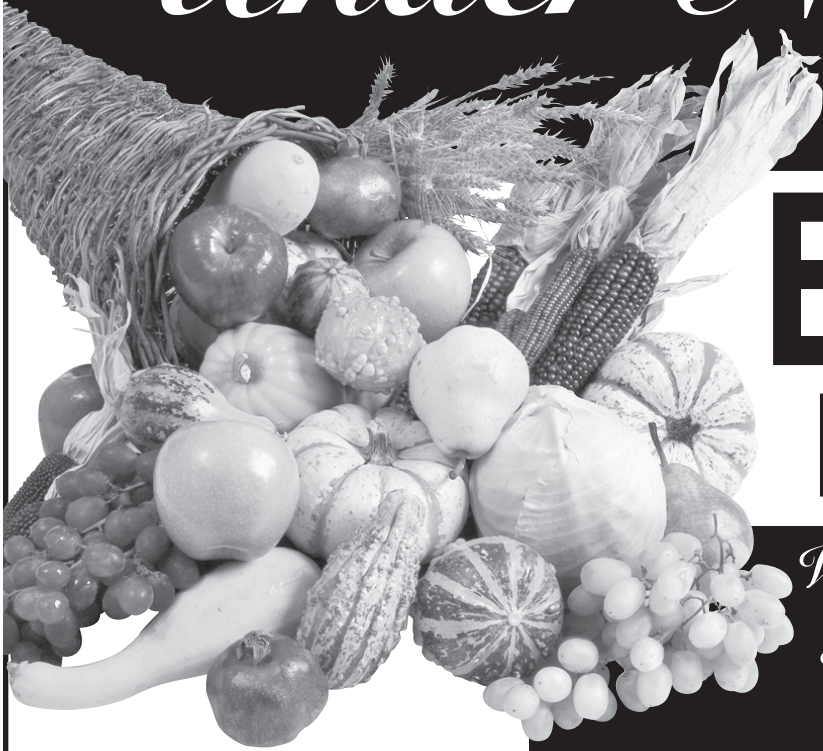
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