



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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Lodging tax collections increase for 10th consecutive year

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Lodging tax collections came in 12.19 percent higher in 2018 than in 2017, with a total of \$856,778 collected within Archuleta County last year.

2018 was the 10th consecutive year lodging tax collections increased.

Tourism Director Jennifer Green gave the updated figures to the Pagosa Springs Town Council at its meeting on Feb. 21.

The town's collections were up 7.29 percent (\$44,582) over 2017, Green's information notes, while the county's collections were up 31.92 percent (\$48,522).

In an email to The SUN, Green noted that it was interesting that,

■ See Lodging A8

On to State!



The No. 3 Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates pose for a picture after punching their ticket to the Great 8 on Saturday, March 2. The team faces No. 6 Lutheran this evening in Denver.

SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Threat at school leads to arrest

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Editor's note: Due to their age, The SUN has chosen not to name the suspect in this case.

On Feb. 27, a report was made of an alleged threat at Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) by a student.

According to Pagosa Springs Police Department (PSPD) Chief Bill Rockensock, there was a disruption between a couple of students that occurred during the last period of the day on Feb. 27.

"We got notified around 4:30 of the incident and responded to it, of course, immediately," Rockensock said in a March 4 interview.

The PSPD was notified of the incident through dispatch, Rockensock explained.

When asked whether or not the threat was a shooting threat, Rockensock responded with, "Yes and no. It was a direct threat, pretty much, to

■ See Threat A8

Town council, business sector to discuss economic development

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

At a March 28 work session, the members of the Pagosa Springs Town Council will meet with members of the business community to discuss economic development initiatives.

The topic was most recently discussed at the council's Feb. 28 work session, with Town Manager Andrea Phillips looking for direction from the councilors on what, if any, next steps the town should take regarding economic development.

In an agenda brief prepared for the work session and at the work session, Phillips reminded the council that town staff and elected officials took part in training regarding primary job creation and retention, and the town and county recently received the Blueprint 2.0 report with recommendations.

She added, "There have been a lot of really good discussions happening around the private sector, and there's a lot of just great momentum, I think, right now in the community around, you know, what makes sense for Pagosa Springs in terms of moving forward."

She then asked if the town wanted a more formalized role in job-attraction and job-retention efforts.

She also noted economic development relates to the town's and county's joint strategic priorities: broadband, affordable and workforce housing, and early childhood

■ See Economic A8



Photo courtesy Kandi Meisinger

Sadie's absolute joy is playing in the snow. Mitch Meisinger's 2.5-year-old Wheaten Terrier absolutely loves this winter in Pagosa Country.

County addresses CBI investigation, makes moves to construct jail

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

At the regular meeting of the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on March 5, the commissioners took measures to begin construction on the new jail and briefly addressed the investigation into unaccounted-for property received through a federal program.

At the meeting, the commissioners were met with criticism about their knowledge of unreported assets given to the Archuleta County

Sheriff's Office (ACSO) through the Department of Defense's Law Enforcement Support (LESO) Program, also known as the 1033 Program.

During public comment, local resident Rob Keating stated, "I'd like to chastise the BoCC for withholding this information from the public nearly 10 months," accusing the board of "hiding important information from the public."

The ACSO is under investigation by the Colorado Bureau of Investi-

■ Jail A8

County working to keep glass out of landfill

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The county is running out of space to store glass and has stopped accepting it as a recyclable, according to Matt Archuleta, operations manager for the Archuleta County Public Works Division.

"Glass is just the one thing that nobody's taking because there hasn't been a market for it," said Archuleta, adding, "We want to be green and to do the right thing. We do not want to put it in our landfill."

Archuleta cited that because glass is a recyclable, public works would prefer to repurpose the glass instead of tossing it into the landfill.

Currently, the landfill is storing about 90 cubic yards of glass in two shipping containers, and public works staff is trying to find a creative solution to repurpose it.

"Anything we can do to divert these recyclables so they go to a better purpose and keep it out of the landfill, that's what our priority is. We're kind of constrained with the current market for all recyclables, but especially with glass."

Archuleta said that there's currently no market for glass and that, because solid waste is an enterprise fund, any effort to get rid of it needs to pay for itself.

■ See Glass A8

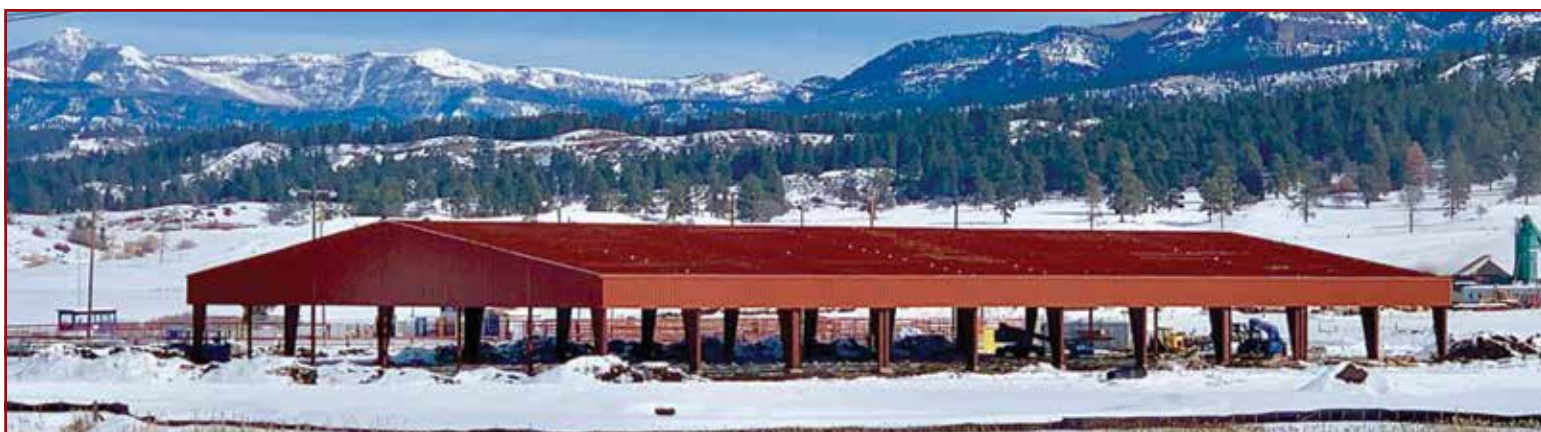


Photo courtesy Diana Talbot

The construction at the Western Heritage Event Center (WHEC) property has taken shape, and the steel, open-sided covered arena is fully constructed. It is situated on the south side of the current rodeo arena and grandstands and measures 130 feet by 250 feet. Winter and spring work will continue with the installation of electrical and other engineered requirements in order to receive the certificate of occupancy during the summer. The arena name will be the Hughes Pavilion since the Hughes Foundation has provided approximately 65 percent of the construction funds. Other funds have come from WHEC fundraising.

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Opinion

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SUN STAFF

- Publisher/Editor**
Terri House, editor@pagosasun.com
- Assistant Editor**
Randi Pierce, randi@pagosasun.com
- Reporters**
Chris Mannara, chris@pagosasun.com
John Finefrock, john@pagosasun.com
- Advertising and Circulation Manager**
Shari Pierce, shari@pagosasun.com
- Advertising Representative**
Lauren Hawksworth, lauren@pagosasun.com
- Head Pressman**
Robert Penton
- Assistant Pressman**
Brian Maurer-Townsend
- Mailroom**
William Thomas and Kody Penton
- Classified Advertising/Front Office**
Missy Phelan, classads@pagosasun.com
Shana Young-Gawdun, classads@pagosasun.com

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2/28	46	16	-	-	-
3/1	47	31	S	T	T
3/2	39	33	S	T	T
3/3	41	33	S	.8"	.40"
3/4	42	22	S	1.2"	.17"

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EDITORIAL

Be on the lookout for scammers

A text message warned that there was possible fraud activity in The SUN's account at a local branch of a national bank.

All we had to do was click the link in the message. We know better than to click on unknown links. Instead, we checked the accounts online from a laptop. Everything seemed fine. We then called the number on the back of the credit card associated with the accounts. After pushing a plethora of buttons, we explained the situation to the person on the phone, who then transferred us to a business banker — a crochety business banker who informed that he didn't send us the text message.

No kidding. After explaining for the third time what had transpired, we were informed to keep checking the account for fraudulent activity and to delete the text message without clicking on the link.

A few days later, we received another message, which said the same thing. Needless to say, we are keeping a close eye on our account activity.

We spend quite a bit of time deleting unsolicited emails and ignoring unknown phone calls. Robocalls are out of control. We've actually stopped answering cellphone calls if we don't recognize the number.

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser kicked off National Consumer Protection Week on Monday by unveiling a list of the top 10 consumer

complaints of 2018. Consumers filed 9,110 complaints and inquiries with the Consumer Protection Section of the Office of the Attorney General during 2018.

The top complaint was fraudulent/unwanted telephone calls, which included 845 complaints made regarding phony IRS tax collection scams, as well as other imposter scams, including tech support scams and phony debt-collection scams.

The Better Business Bureau website suggests the following ways to keep safe from scammers:

- Never send money to someone you have never met face-to-face. Just don't ever do it. And really, really don't do it if they ask you to use wire transfer, a prepaid debit card or a gift card.
- Don't click on links or open attachments in unsolicited email. Links can download malware onto your computer and/or steal your identity. Be cautious even with email that looks familiar; it could be fake.
- Don't believe everything you see. Scammers are great at mimicking official seals, fonts and other details. Just because a website or email looks official does not mean it is. Even Caller ID can be faked.
- Be extremely cautious when dealing with anyone you've met online. Scammers use dating websites, Craigslist, social media and many other sites to reach targets.
- Never share personally identifiable

information with someone who has contacted you unsolicited, whether it's over the phone, by email, on social media, even at your front door. This includes banking and credit card information, your birth date and Social Security numbers.

- Be cautious about what you share on social media and consider only connecting with people you already know. Be sure to use privacy settings on all social media and online accounts. Imposters often get information about their targets from their online interactions, and can make themselves sound like a friend or family member because they know so much about you.
- Don't be pressured to act immediately. Scammers typically try to make you think something is scarce or a limited-time offer.
- Don't buy online unless the transaction is secure. Make sure the website has "https" in the URL (the extra s is for "secure") and a small lock icon on the address bar. Even then, the site could be shady.
- Whenever possible, work with local businesses that have proper identification, licensing and insurance, especially contractors who will be coming into your home or anyone dealing with your money or sensitive information.

The best defense you have is common sense and skepticism. Trust your gut, not a scammer.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

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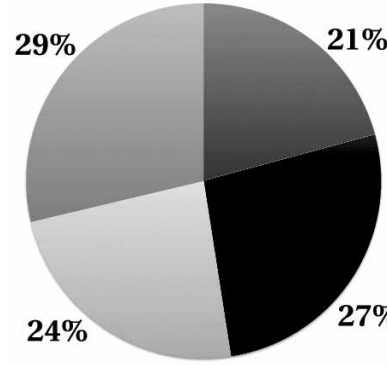
Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger
dvolger@gmail.com
Matt DeGuise
mdeguise@pagosasprings.co.gov
Madeline Bergon
mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov
Nicole DeMarco
ndemarco@pagosasprings.co.gov
Tracy Bunning
tbunning@pagosasprings.co.gov
Mat deGraaf
mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov
David Schanzbaker
dschanzbaker@pagosasprings.co.gov

WHADDYA THINK?

How much snow do you predict for March?

Poll results (178 votes)

- Up to 10 inches — 21 percent
- 11 to 20 inches — 27 percent
- 21 to 30 inches — 24 percent
- Over 30 inches — 29 percent



This week online:
Are you eager for spring?

Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the March 6, 1980,
Pagosa Springs SUN.

SEARCH AND RESCUE — The Civil Air Patrol operated a search mission out of Stevens Field last Saturday and Sunday. The search was part of an area wide search for a plane missing since February 21. This search plane was an official CAP plane from Denver.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 8, 1929

Several report excellent radio receptivity of the inaugural program at Washington throughout Monday.

We learn that the following ticket has been formulated for the coming town election: Mayor, E.M. Taylor; Trustees, M.R. Mickey, Chas. Brown, W.C. McComas, Chas. A. Day, W.W. Mullins and B.D. Ellsworth. We have not learned whether there will be other tickets in the field.

Books are very expensive, ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$5.00 and even more. So we ask, especially of the children, to handle all books with care, kindly returning them promptly, and, if possible, in better shape than when taken out.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 10, 1944

The fire last summer cleaned out the bar business then operated by Percy Chambers. He has been busy getting resettled under the name of "Pagosa Bar" in the building of G.A. Alley, located between the bank corner and Hersch's Store. The "Pagosa Bar" is not ready for business at this time but will be as soon as all of the building repairs are completed and fixtures can be put in place. It looks like an improvement to Pagosa Springs, too. Just watch the Sun and you will know exactly when the new "Pagosa Bar" is ready to go full blast.

There are many Pagosa boys, some old friends of mine and some that I know only by name that are in various army camps over the country. Many of them, I know, are near New York and New Jersey, which of course is nearly the same. I just hope that you will tell them, through your paper, that when they are in this neighborhood, old Red Ryder and his family would be mighty happy to have them come and see us. We have an extra couple of rooms in the house here in Forest Hills, which is but half an hour by subway from Manhattan, and would more than enjoy having them out for whatever length of time their leave will permit. Our home address is 22 Whitson St. Forest Hills, L.I., and the phone number is Boulevard 8-4253. We'll be seein' you sometime in May, so this invitation above lasts only as long as we are here. Hasta La Vista, FRED HARMAN. "Red Ryder."

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 6, 1969

Snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass until March 1st totaled 432-1/2 inches for the season. This is a corrected figure from that published last week. Measurements from two different sources were used last week to determine total fall but the total given this week is that from the East Side Highway Camp, with Curtis Strain making the report. More snow has fallen since that time and it now appears evident that snowfall will exceed 500 inches this winter. This has happened three out of the past 10 winters, 581 inches in 1962; 605 inches in 1965, and 522 inches in 1968.

Town board members reviewed final plans and specifications for the new water supply system to be installed this year at the regular board meeting this week. Called for in the plans and specifications are a pipeline from West Fork, a filtration and treatment plant, and storage facilities. The water, after being treated at the plant, will be clear and will also meet all regulations for purity. The filtration plant is to be located north of town at the intersection of a private road to the Ray Macht ranch and the Four Mile road.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of
March 10, 1994

Archuleta County voters will be deciding the fate of a 2 percent sales tax increase in November if a draft agreement between town and county officials wins final approval. Government officials want a seven-year extension on the existing voter-approved 2 percent increase, which lapses on Jan. 1, 1996. The money generated from the increase is now split 60-40 between the county and the Town of Pagosa Springs, respectively. The county has used the money to fund construction of a new jail facility, and the town's share was dedicated to capital improvements projects, primarily road paving.

The town intends to use the money for capital improvements and maintenance of capital improvements. The county agrees to use its share for road improvements throughout the county. Also in the draft, the town and county agree to cooperate regarding use of the Archuleta County Jail facilities.



Letters



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

Stand for life

Dear Editor:
This letter is a follow-up to our letter a few weeks ago "Stop Infanticide".

It has been very obvious that much of the "main stream media" are Not "fair & balanced", and are very biased. We were appalled that the recent "Born Alive abortion Bill" Vote by the U.S. House referencing "Infanticide" was Not covered by ABC, NBC, or CBS News. That's 0 minutes of coverage of an issue about which everybody needs to know.

President Trump demanded, in the recent State of the Union, that Legislation be passed to make it illegal to "kill" late term — full term Babies at or just after delivery.

So, everyone does need to know how this came out. The Republican-Conservatives voted "For Our Babies", render care.

It was painful to hear that Democrats voted "Against Our Babies", let them die on the counter. All this in the name of "Mother's reproductive health". This is absurd. It's not her body. She's already reproduced. The Baby is a living, breathing person. This is murder of a child.

This Democrat Party is Not the party of our Grand and Great-Grandparents. This making murder legal of our most vulnerable, a bizarre Socialist agenda, a 93 trillion dollar green deal, coupled with a biased main stream media, could destroy America as we know it. Did some Americans really vote for these guys to legislate like this? They all should be fired.

Slavery made it legal to own

certain persons as property. That law has been repealed and deleted a long time ago. In 2,019, legislators makes it legal to treat our Babies as property and not Humans with rights and kill them on demand. This is exactly what Hitler did..

Despite what many of you may hear, this is Not our President Trump's agenda. He Stands for Life, and we Stand for Life and we Stand with him and Pray for him daily,

Even our Humane Society-Animal shelter operates with No-Kill, Let Live regulations for the animals. It's hard to believe we are having this conversation in America.

Jan and Tom Carnley

Climate change

Dear Editor:
Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) announced at CPAC that he is co-founding the bicameral Roosevelt Conservation Caucus to develop market-based solutions to environmental problems. I applaud his leadership. Faced with a daunting challenge like climate change, we need strong voices, bold vision, and thoughtful policy proposals from across the political spectrum.

For too long, Republicans in Congress have ceded the issue to Democrats, creating an imbalance as Americans seek out politically and economically viable solutions. Lack of robust Republican engagement has also created a leadership vacuum as young conservatives worried about climate change seek a trustworthy and welcoming political home base for the fight of their lives.

Conservation is a conservative value. Teddy Roosevelt showed us that a hundred years ago. Now Cory Gardner takes up his mantle. Welcome to the fray, Senator. Welcome to leadership.

Kathy Fackler, Durango chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby

Los Pinos Fire Protection District

Dear Editor:
The Board of Directors of the Los Pinos Fire Protection District would like to express our sincere appreciation for the support and trust of our communities and the constituents that live within our District. During the attempted recall of the board and internal investigation processes over the past several months it was a difficult time for the Fire District and we thank all of the staff for their dedication and professionalism to perform their duties while these processes took place.

We want to reassure our community that the Los Pinos Fire District is committed to the safety, mission and goals of the District in providing the community the professional quality of services we have provided for the past thirty-two years. Your Fire District has many challenges ahead, but we assure everyone that we are moving forward in a positive manner and have begun the search for a new Fire Chief and anticipate having a new chief in the next few months. Retired Chief Larry Behrens has provided the District with his invaluable guidance and leadership during this period. Chief Behrens has served in this capacity as a volunteer and the Board, the District employees and community members, are deeply appreciative of his unselfish service.

We are committed to unite with our line staff and their leadership to serve each and every one of you at the time of your greatest need.

Once again, "Thank You" for your continued trust and support.

Respectfully;
James Brown, Kirk Becker, Paul Blocker, Frank Weis, Mark Williams

Editor's note: The Los Pinos Fire Protection District encompasses portions of La Plata and Archuleta counties, and includes the communities of Oxford, Tiffany, Allison, Arboles and the town of Ignacio. Pagosa Fire Protection District provides services to the majority of Archuleta County.

Pick up after dog

Dear Editor:
Please pick up after your dog, even with snow on the ground.
Ginny Smiley

Be thankful

Dear Editor:
Well, sometimes lives become somewhat stressful, e.g., busy, busy, busy and more. Reflecting on the beauty of the celebrations from late Fall, only about 3 months ago, Thanksgiving, of course was the beginning. Mercy, you say, seems it was a long time ago. Yeah, all of us have "short memories" when "busy" takes over our lives. But it's true, Thanksgiving doesn't come around again for 8 months.

Thanksgiving Day is more than just one day. It is an interruption in our "train of thought" that, hopefully, we will carry forward into the coming year. I am thankful every day for the beauty that surrounds me. I am thankful for the kindness practiced among our people. "The best things in life are not things."

So, feeling stressed out? Let's count our blessings and be thankful.

You know you are loved.
Patty Tillerson

Court of Appeals denies rehearing in suit against county officials

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The Colorado Court of Appeals has denied a petition for rehearing in a suit filed against former and current county officials, according to an order issued by the court.

The suit, which alleged that former county officials illegally prevented plaintiffs' proposed initiatives from appearing on Archuleta County's 2014 ballot, was initially dismissed in 2016 by Sixth Judicial District Court Judge Jeffrey Wilson.

The defendants in the case are listed as former county commissioners Clifford Lucero and Michael Whiting, current Commissioner Steve Wadley and former county attorney Todd Starr.

Wilson wrote in a court order that "with the exception of a county sales tax, there is no constitutional or statutory authority for a county-wide ballot initiative in unincorporated non-home-rule counties."

Later, \$18,565.50 in attorney fees and costs were awarded to Archuleta County.

According to Archuleta County Attorney Todd Weaver in an email to The SUN, the plaintiffs then appealed the entire case, but because they did not file the appeal on time, the Court of Appeals only considered the plaintiffs' appeal regarding the award of attorney's fees and nothing more.

The District Court denied the appeal, stating that some arguments raised in the plaintiffs' appeal were raised for the first time, and that "appellate courts won't review arguments raised for the first time on appeal," according to the court order.

After the District Court ruled the plaintiffs must pay the attorney fees for the initial suit, the defendants (county officials) requested additional attorney fees for the appeal, stating the plaintiffs' argument is "frivolous."

In the order, the court of appeals stated, "It's possible that some aspect of this case was appealable, but even if this appeal isn't frivolous

as filed, we conclude that it's frivolous as argued."

The court awarded the county officials attorney fees for the appeal, at an amount not yet determined.

The plaintiffs petitioned for a rehearing, asking the Court of Appeals to reconsider the entire ruling of the District Court.

The Court of Appeals denied the plaintiffs' petition on Feb. 28.

In his email, Weaver stated, "... I believe the Court of Appeals made the correct decision in accordance with the law."

The plaintiffs in the case are listed as Dave Brackhahn, Wayne Bryant, Gregory Giehl, Cole Gra-

■ See Rehearing A4

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All letters must:
be 500 words or less
be signed by the author, unless emailed
include the author's phone number and address
be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday), email submissions are preferred

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

If necessary, only one letter in support of a political candidate or issue will be printed each edition.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.

New Local Artists in the Gallery!

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Obituaries

Allan Boelter

Allan Boelter was born Jan. 18, 1947, and was called home Feb. 18. We praise God that Allan is with our Lord in heaven and no longer suffering. Allan is survived by three sisters, four children, multiple nieces, nephews, grandchildren and his wife, Lisa Maranz-Boelter.



A funeral service will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church on March 9 at 11 a.m. At a later date, Allan will be interred with military honors at Riverside National Cemetery, California.

Evangeline M. Catchpole

Evangeline M. Catchpole, 105, of Bloomfield, N.M., formerly of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away on Feb. 27. She was born on Dec. 17, 1913, in Ardmore, Okla., to James and Esther Moorehead.



There will be a graveside service for Evangeline in the spring-time. To express your condolences, you can go to www.farmingtonfuneral.com.

Sean Padilla

Sean Padilla was born Aug. 17, 1972. He died peacefully in his sleep Feb. 22. Sean grew up in many places, but felt rooted to Albuquerque, N.M.



Sean was an accomplished car salesman in Las Vegas, Nev., where he met the love of his life, Fionna, in 1999. Fionna and Sean married in 2003 and had a loving marriage raising two daughters together. From traveling the world, Sean found a passion for cooking and was able to open a successful business in Pagosa Springs, Colo.

Sean was an excellent father who doted on his daughters, always hugging them, making sure they knew he loved them as he provided for them.

Family was a strong priority for him, Sean extended his family through lifetime friends. People were naturally drawn to Sean because he was genuine and charismatic. With a strong sense of loyalty, he would always be there for a friend or family member in need. Keeping everyone together, Sean was often the glue making sure that his entire family stayed in touch.

His wealth of knowledge gave him the ability to fit in anywhere. Well versed and very intelligent, Sean knew about many topics and cultures. He had a superior sense of humor and was always willing to make others laugh. He kept up to date on the latest fashions and trends and enjoyed numerous

hobbies.

Sean had the gift of gab and his dynamic personality broke all the molds of society. Fully tattooed, he would strike up a conversation with anyone, from the richest to the poorest person; Sean was non-judgmental and only saw people for their souls.

Our beloved Sean will be missed dearly. He will remain in our hearts the rest of our lives as his children carry out his legacy.

Sean Padilla is predeceased by his father, Bill Padilla Jr.; his brothers, Brian and Derek Padilla; his grandparents, Patsy Corrine Abner, Bill Sr. and Michele Padilla. Sean is survived by his wife, Fionna Padilla; mother Karen Padilla; mother-in-law Ivy Liew; daughters Miquela and Maxine Padilla; siblings Melissa Padilla and Steven Solis, Desire and David Smith, Carlos Padilla and Sara Shively-Padilla; nieces Zoe Smith, Gabriela and Natalie Padilla; and nephew Eli Smith. Sean left behind lots of aunts, uncles, cousins and extended family members whom he loved very much.

Sean's memorial will be held March 9 at Sol Rio Church, Rio Rancho, N.M., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; potluck to follow. You can donate to Sean's widow and daughters at any Wells Fargo account — Sean L. Padilla's memorial fund 2012162315.

Arthur Russell Voorhis

Russell Voorhis passed away Feb. 28 in Pagosa Springs, Colo., surrounded by family after a long battle with cancer. Russell was born Sept. 10, 1956, in Durango, Colo., to Willie and Pheobe (Jones) Voo-

his. He grew up in Pagosa Springs, enjoying the many outdoor activities and great neighborhood friends. He loved hunting elk and deer with Steve and Gilbert, fishing with his dad, camping — especially at East Fork, and the Denver Broncos. Russell was a retired volunteer of the Pagosa Springs Volunteer Fire Department and Pagosa Fire Protection District. He worked at Hersch's Market, and later City Market, for 38 years before the effects of cancer forced him to retire. He loved greeting every person he saw in the store, and knew everyone by name. He loved the community and people of Pagosa Springs. He welcomed his daughter, Jessica, Jan. 2, 1986. She was his pride and joy. He married the love of his life, Sandy, Feb. 5, 2010. They moved to Sanford, Colo., to be closer to kids and grandkids three years ago, after he retired.



Russell is preceded in death by his parents, Willie and Phoebe Voorhis, and niece Jayme Voorhis.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy (Rice) Voorhis; sister Vicki (Steve) Buck, of Rockport, Texas; brother Steve (Barbi) Voorhis, of Pagosa Springs; sister Vanessa (Johnny) Gurule, of Montrose, Colo.; daughter Jessica (Jesus (Chuy)) Antunez, of Tablequah, Okla.; stepchildren: Stacey (Hank) Wills, of Pagosa Springs, Stephanie (Kyle) O'Kane, of Alamosa, Colo., Ky (Kory) Smith, of Sanford, Mike (Kelseigh) Smith, of Pagosa Springs, Jeremy (Kaitlynn) Smith, of Sanford; grandkids: Cathy, Dylan, Brittany, Adrianna, Armani, Destyni, Julianna, Heston, Paitin, Taytum, Raelynn, Ryker, Hunter, Jacksona and Kimber; and a precious great-granddaughter, Aura. Nieces and nephews: Terri, Matthew, Travis, Michael, Makayla, Myron and Breanna; and Aunt Eula Dunagan, of Whitehall, Mont.

Archuleta Democratic Club formed, to meet monthly

By John Porco
Special to The SUN

The Archuleta County Democratic Party (ACDP) is pleased to announce the formation of the Archuleta Democratic Club, which will meet monthly. The intent is to provide an opportunity for dialogue on progressive ideas in an informal social setting.

Each meeting will feature a speaker on a topic of interest to Democrats

and other concerned citizens, as well as occasional elected officials and candidates. There will be an opportunity for participants to suggest subjects for future meetings.

Plans for the inaugural club meeting are now in place. The lunch will be held at noon on Tuesday, March 12, at the Pagosa Brewing Company. There is no admission fee, but all participants will be asked to order lunch.

Our speaker will be Robin Young,

the county Extension agent, who will discuss the new Resilient Archuleta initiative. Some of you may have attended the initial Resilient Archuleta public meeting a few weeks ago, which was very well received.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to RSVP to Becky Herman, chair of the ACDP, at becky.herman98@gmail.com or at 903-0788 so that we can provide a count to the restaurant. All people are welcome at the lunch.

Republican meeting to look at Heritage Action organization

By Sandy Artzberger
Special to The SUN

What is the Heritage Action organization? How does it affect the Republican party? What is a sentinel builder for Heritage Action? These are questions Heritage Action Sentinel Builder David Kelly, founder of Liberty First LLC, will address Tuesday, March 12, at the Archuleta County Republican Women's noon

meeting at Boss Hogg's.

Kelly will also give an update on Heritage's strategy to get Republicans united around an agenda "now," and provide insights regarding bills before the Colorado Legislature such as Red Flag and the bill to have Electoral College vote be same as popular vote for a presidential candidate. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. on March 12 for "meet and greet" and the meeting is from noon to 1 p.m. at Boss Hogg's. All are welcome.

Rehearing

Continued from A3

Court of Appeals. The court merely reviewed attorney fee issues and suit form, and ignored the substance of the evidence.

Maehr's statement continued, "Plaintiff's plan either a Colorado Supreme Court appeal, and/or a U.S. Supreme Court appeal, for deprivation of due process, and voting right violations to all Archuleta County residents and most other Colorado county residents."

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Weaver noted there aren't any next steps for the county until the case is sent back to District Court to determine the amount the county is entitled to for the appeal, which will be in addition to the \$18,565.50 already awarded.

Weaver stated the plaintiffs have until March 29 to file an appeal with the Colorado Supreme Court, if they choose to.

john@pagosasun.com

Colorado Flood Safety and Wildfire Awareness Week

By John C. Shepard
Special to The SUN

Gov. Jared Polis has proclaimed the week of March 3-9 as Colorado Flood safety and Wildfire Awareness Week, according to information provided by the National Weather Service.

Flood-prone areas have been identified in over 250 cities and towns and in all 64 counties in Colorado. Over 250,000 people live in floodplains in Colorado. There are estimated to be 65,000 homes and 15,000 commercial, industrial

and business structures in identified floodplains. The value of the property, structures and contents located in the identified floodplains is estimated to be around \$15 billion.

In 2018, the Archuleta County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan estimated that there is almost \$17 million on 250 parcels at risk of a base flood event in Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs. However, only 132 property owners carry National Flood Insurance Program policies (as of September 2018), leaving many at risk in a flood.

On average 2,500 wildfires oc-

cur across Colorado each year. Since 2012, eight people have been killed when wildfires occurred in the wildland-urban interface. The Archuleta County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2008) ranks 258 of 288 subdivisions in the county for vulnerability to wildland fire.

For more information on floodplain development, see the Archuleta County Planning Department webpage, or for emergency management, see the Archuleta County Emergency Operations page at: <https://www.archuleta-county.org/>.

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Memorial

Betty Jean Beasley

A memorial service will be held for Betty Jean Beasley at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St., Pagosa Springs, Colo. The Rev. Don Strait will officiate. Burial will take place later in the spring, alongside her late husband at Santa Fe National Cemetery.



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Business

CDOT unveils downtown revitalization plan, only some funding secured

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

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

The vision plan proposes a variety of upgrades to the downtown Pagosa Springs area, but CDOT only has funding secured to upgrade traffic signal equipment at Pinon Causeway and the Lewis Street/Hot Springs Boulevard intersections with U.S. 160.

CDOT staff was asked by the town to make plans for other revitalization efforts should funding become available.

"As Pagosa Springs became aware that we were starting that design process they said, 'Hey we want to talk more about the character of main street, or Pagosa Street and what it looks like, and would there be an opportunity when you guys come through for the reconstruction to do some other things like concrete bulb outs or medians or landscaping to spruce up our downtown?'" explained Julie Constan, traffic and safety engineer for CDOT, in a phone interview.

The vision plan proposes to upgrade traffic lights at Pinon Causeway and the Lewis Street/Hot Springs Boulevard intersections with U.S. 160, resurface U.S. 160 where it runs downtown, add and widen some downtown sidewalks, add bicycle striping to parts of U.S. 160 and improve the culvert for McCabe Creek, among other things.

McCabe Creek has been deemed the worst culvert in the region by CDOT, according to Pagosa Springs Town Manager Andrea Phillips

in an email to The SUN.

Phillips noted that if the McCabe Creek culvert fails, it could take U.S. 160 with it.

With the exception of the traffic signal upgrades, there is no funding as of yet for the rest of the vision plan that CDOT outlined.

The only point of contention at the meeting concerned a proposed raised median on U.S. 160 between Lewis Street and Hot Springs Boulevard, with Commissioner Ron Maez suggesting that a raised median would increase costs for the project and make snow removal more difficult.

"I think the money savings just with having it painted would probably be better for everybody," said Maez.

In a follow-up phone call, Commissioner Steve Wadley echoed Maez's sentiment, saying the raised median complicates snow removal.

"In all honesty, I would prefer it not to be raised ... People don't realize what a problem it is on where to park snow," he said.

Currently, CDOT has an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Pagosa Springs. CDOT plows the snow to the middle of U.S. 160, and Pagosa Springs crews remove the snow within 72 hours, according to Constan.

Pagosa Springs Planning Manager James Dickhoff characterized the proposed raised median by saying, "It's kind of an obstacle as well as a divider, but it does provide a pedestrian refuge at that mid-block crossing, which I think is a good safety improvement."

He added, "I think the main issue is where are we going to put our snow, and if we put it on the median, how are we going to get it out of there?"

Dickhoff also noted that there is currently

"not a dime" for the downtown revitalization effort in the plan.

"The [Corridor Vision Plans] are only meant to get preliminary plans on the shelf, so it has not gone through final design yet, and that won't occur until funding is available," said Dickhoff, adding, "I'm not really quite sure at what point CDOT will have funding available to actually move forward with any of those improvements, with the exception of those equipment upgrades they're going to do this fall."

The equipment upgrades Dickhoff referenced will be the traffic signal upgrades.

The plan also outlines resurfacing the asphalt through downtown Pagosa Springs, and Constan noted that the poor condition of U.S. 160 through downtown is "not news to anybody."

"So, the resurfacing piece, basically taking asphalt and putting it into what we call concrete pavement, that is what was really driving the initial efforts of the [downtown] reconstruct project," said Constan, adding, "Any time we do a project like that where we're putting new asphalt down or new concrete pavement down or something like that then we start looking at other things that could go along with the project that make sense."

Constan outlined what the next steps for the project will be.

"Our next step is we'll formalize a final plan saying this is what we would do moving forward if we get money, and we have an IGA with Pagosa Springs we'd ask them to sign off on, so that if it becomes controversial later we can kind of point back to, 'No, we did all this work to get to this point.'"

john@pagosasun.com

CHAMBER NEWS

It's Chamber checkup time for your business

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

The Chamber of Commerce is a membership-based organization. We are thankful to those businesses that pay their membership dues and help support the business community and the efforts of our organization.

Those efforts include business support, encouragement of economic vitality through partnerships and event production that attract visitors to our community. We also provide business educational assistance and business development assistance.

These services are in addition to one of the main reasons why businesses join the Chamber — referrals. Whether through an email,

phone call or in-person visit, the Chamber refers to businesses daily and we refer member businesses first.

However, having your business found and recognized is not only our responsibility; it is your responsibility. Here is a typical scenario: Your business gets a renewal reminder, you choose whether you want to renew your membership, and hopefully you pay your bill and join again. You don't do anything else.

However, just like any other marketing effort you choose to engage in, are you utilizing your benefits and is the marketing effort paying off? Do you know how your business referrals are doing? Are you in the right category?

As an additional service to our

members, we will be helping you accomplish these assessment activities by going through a membership checkup. When your business membership comes due, our membership coordinator or ambassador will contact you to ask you some of these questions.

There will be a monthly Maximizing Your Membership class on Tuesday, March 12, from 9 to 10 a.m. Take just an hour to find out more about what benefits you might be missing.


The Chamber will also be offering a number of educational opportunities this year. There will be classes on creative display and merchandising, Excel, QuickBooks intro and advanced, social media — how to make it work for your business, and goal-setting and


leadership development.

In addition, we will be hosting two evening networking opportunities: a home-based business open house and a women's networking open house. The home-based business event is designed to get those


■ See Chamber A6

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-  **100 Sweetwater Drive in Twin Creek** — borders greenbelt and Dutton Canyon, near national forest where you can hike, bike, and snowshoe, close to paved roads. **\$27,900**
-  **35 Acres in Pinon Hills Ranch** — gated community, year-round access, underground utilities, access to the San Juan River. **\$69,900**
-  **30 Moffat Court in Twin Creek** — treed lot on a cul-de-sac. Almost half an acre. **\$27,000**
-  **1889 Badger Road in Aspen Springs** — 360-degree views of the mountains, perfect off-the-grid spot for cabin, walking distance to national forest. 11 acres. **\$49,000**



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Pagosa Springs Medical Center starts year ahead of budget

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) started 2019 with a bottom line in the negatives, but with gross charges surpassing January of 2018 by 3.62 percent.

The information was part of a financial report delivered by Chief Financial Officer Chelle Keplinger to the board of the Upper San Juan Health Service District, which oversees PSMC, at its Feb. 26 meeting.

At \$4,862,680, gross revenue was 3.62 percent ahead of the same month in 2017 and \$2,589 above what was budgeted, Keplinger's presentation shows.

The report reveals net revenue for the month rang in at \$2,676,087, though, which is 2.75 percent less than the same month in 2017 and 2.84 percent less than budget.

Expenses for January, the report notes, came in at \$2,953,976, which was \$144,883 under budget and \$54,902 less than was spent in January 2018.

In the end, the presentation

shows, PSMC ended January with a net income of -\$44,891, though that amount is less of a loss than the budget predicted, -\$94,116, and less than January 2018's -\$64,627.

Keplinger then relayed to the board that the focus right now in terms of finances is on the number of days in accounts receivable. For January 2019, the days in accounts receivable sat at 76.5.

Keplinger also updated the board concerning its bond covenants and PSMC's failing to meet a bond obligation that required the district to have 60 days cash on hand at the end of 2018.

A report on days cash on hand at the end of each year since 2008 shows that PSMC ended 2018 with 52.48 days cash on hand, and that 2018 was the third time PSMC has failed to meet the obligation.

In January, Chief Administrative Officer Ann Bruzzese informed the board that the other two times PSMC failed to meet the requirement, 2011 and 2014, lined up with the addition of new lines of service at PSMC.

In 2011, PSMC started its gen-

eral surgery line of service, and in 2014 PSMC started orthopedic surgery.

In 2018, PSMC opened its Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

"Per Board resolution in January, Turning Point Advisors has been engaged to provide recommendations," Keplinger's February presentation states concerning the update. "TPA is scheduled to be on-site in March as part of its evaluation."

Keplinger noted that, during that visit, Turning Point Advisors staff will conduct interviews with select people.

She then noted the changes PSMC's administration is already implementing to improve days of cash.

First, she discussed reduced expenses, including an ongoing evaluation of all PSMC expenses and work to eliminate "any non-essential use of materials, space, storage," as the presentation notes.

The presentation also notes PSMC is in the process of renegotiating certain service contracts.

Keplinger noted she was "happy

to say" PSMC has been able to reduce its number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) through attrition, with a reduction of 5.75 FTEs in 2019.

That, she explained, has been done by restructuring roles and positions as employees leave.

Keplinger also outlined improvements to the revenue cycle process, including implementing new contracts with companies to improve billing and reduce accounts receivables, implementing new software to identify patient benefits in order to improve the number of clean claims and minimize denials, negotiating and renegotiating some payer contracts, and improving workflows to support providers in seeing more outpatient clinic patients per day.

In other business at the same meeting, the four board directors present held an executive session to discuss PSMC's annual report of PSMC's peer review activities. Following the executive session, the board unanimously approved a resolution accepting the report.

randi@pagosasun.com

Candidates for LPEA Board of Director election verified

Cooperative members may also be asked to vote on bylaw revisions in April

By Indiana Reed
Special to The SUN

The La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) independent election supervisor committee has verified candidates for the cooperative's 2019 board of directors election. Election materials/ballots are

scheduled to be mailed to all members on April 8.

With the director elections, in District 1, Archuleta County, two new candidates will vie for the seat vacated by retiring director Mike Alley. Holly Metzler and Michael Whiting will be on the ballot.

In District 2, south and west La

Plata County, incumbent Dan Huntington is challenged by Jeff Mannix. In District 4, north and east La Plata County, incumbent Jack Turner is challenged by Sarah Ferrell.

In the city of Durango, only one candidate, Joe Lewandowski, has submitted an election petition. Pending formal approval by the LPEA board, Lewandowski will be appointed to the board.

"As always, we ask our consumer-members to learn about the can-

didates and vote in their districts," said Mike Dreyspring, LPEA CEO. "As a rural electric cooperative, all members in good standing, who pay their electric bill to LPEA, are qualified to vote for the directors who represent them, as well as the bylaws, which are the governing directives of the cooperative. If any members have any questions, I welcome their call or email."

Contact Dreyspring at 382-3509 or mdreyspring@lpea.coop.

37th annual Water Seminar: 'Coming Together Around Dwindling Colorado River Supplies'

Special to The SUN

Tired of shoveling snow? This might lift your spirits: snowpack is now 125 percent of normal in southwestern Colorado and ex-

ceptional (D4) drought conditions have subsided for now.

Yet, despite this promising precipitation, the Bureau of Reclamation's Feb. 1 forecast anticipates below-average runoff this year.

And even under threat of federal intervention, the Lower Basin has not yet adopted its drought contingency plan and committed to taking shortages.

It's only appropriate that the 37th annual Water Seminar focus on the Colorado River and southwestern Colorado's say in its future.

This year's theme is "Coming Together Around Dwindling Colorado River Supplies." Please join us on April 5 to hear from experts on questions and priorities for our communities in the context of current hydrologic, political and legal conditions.

Doors open at 8 a.m. and the program runs from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel,

501 Camino del Rio, in Durango. Cost is \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door.

Registration is now open and includes catered breakfast and lunch. Register at swgcd.org/event/2019-annual-water-seminar/ or call 247-1302. Stay tuned for a draft agenda and speaker lineup.

In case you aren't familiar with the Southwestern Water Conservation District, we've advocated for our communities in Colorado River water planning and management since 1941, when we were established by the state legislature. We play an active role in policy discussions among water users, and regularly engage with state and federal agencies on Colorado River management.

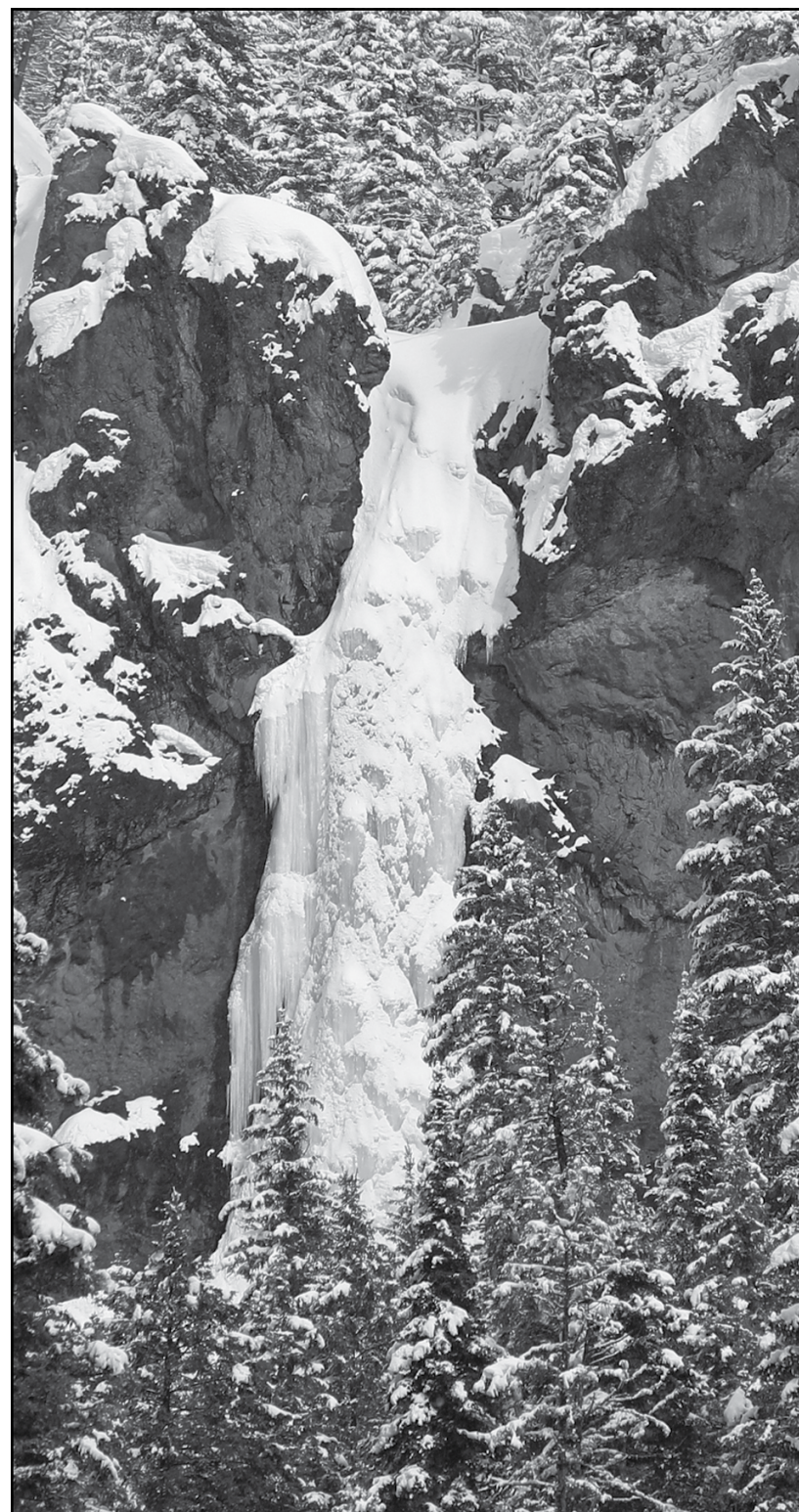


Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

A frozen Treasure Falls offers visitors a breathtaking fortune in scenery. The falls is named for Treasure Mountain, an area rich in folklore and stories of a large buried treasure. Most accounts suggest that a treasure chest full of gold was buried in the area after a group of Frenchmen were "waylaid" by either Spanish explorers or Native Americans.

Chamber

Continued from A5

business owners who work from home face-time with other home-based business owners.

How can the Chamber help your business? What do you need from the Chamber or from the community being a "lone eagle"? As for the women's networking event, we want to find out what "keeps you up at night." What do you need to be more successful? What are

Legislative Lowdown to be live streamed

By Kathleen Adams
Special to The SUN

The League of Women Voters La Plata and Durango Public Library present the annual Legislative Lowdown — an update on the 2019 session with Colorado Sen. Don Coram and Colorado Rep. Barbara McLachlan, presentation and Q-and-A about what's happening now, and coming up in state legislature.

This event will take place April 6 at 10:30 a.m. at the Durango Public Library and will be broadcast and live streamed on DGOV, the Durango government television, posted on the durangogov.org website: www.lwvlaplata.org.

some of the stumbling blocks for you as a business owner or working woman? We will be looking for topics from the attendees to continue this networking series with topics addressed at every open house.

We hope the business community will take advantage of some of these opportunities to let the Chamber help you be more visible, productive and successful. You don't have to wait for your Chamber checkup call. Call us any time at 264-2360.

Membership news

We have eight renewals to thank this week. We welcome back Abba Eye Care, Buckskin Towing and Repair, High Country Lodge and Cabins, Incredible Pagosa Vacation Rentals, Liddell's Retreat, Pagosa Mountain Sports, Rainbow Gift Shop, and San Juan Water Conservancy District. We would like to introduce our newest member, Reliable Cleaning.

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Some time back, you may have been told that you needed a trust. The usual reason given is to avoid probate and inheritance taxes. The federal estate tax exemption for a single person in 2019 is \$11,400,000. A lot of people who have trusts simply forget about them over time. If the trust still exists, an inventory for the trust and your estate will have to be prepared, usually the hardest part for either one. Maybe you made provisions for your children who are now grown and have children of their own. Most trusts just aren't irrevocable any more. If you want to get rid of the old trust or make amendments, give me a call and I will tell you what you may be able to do.

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Photo courtesy Anette McInnis
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Rotary Ice Melt Contest to benefit scholarship fund

By Will Spears
 Special to The SUN

The snow will melt and our lakes will become ice-free, but when? Your correct guess could win you a big prize.

Exercise your climatological and meteorological brain cells while having fun with a new Rotary fundraiser. It's an ice melt contest that is open to all Pagosa Springs community members and visitors. The proceeds will provide support for Rotary's annual high school senior scholarships.

It's called the Hatcher Lake Ice Melt Contest. It is modeled on a highly popular contest conducted for over 30 years in Summit County

on Lake Dillon by the Rotary Club in that community. The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club is conducting this contest in cooperation with the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA).

This is a contest of precise timing. Rotarians will take a massive drum with clocks attached to it and set it on the now-frozen Lake Hatcher on March 8 at 9 a.m. As we head toward March 20, which is the first day of spring, the lake will thaw, the drum will fall through the ice, the clocks will stop working and signal the date and time to end the contest and award the winners.

The top three guesses — closest to the date, hour, minute and second when the clocks stop — will

win \$1,000 for first place, \$500 for second place and \$250 for third place.

Tickets for your guesses are \$5 each, \$20 for five and \$100 for 30. Get your tickets soon, as the ice will historically melt before March 20.

Entries must be submitted by midnight on March 20. Enter as many times as you'd like. Forms are available at pagosaspringsrotary.com, through a link on the PLPOA website, at The Choke Cherry Tree, the Chamber of Commerce in the Visitor Center, the PLPOA Rec Center or the administration office.

Pagosa Springs Rotary President Shellie Peterson shared her view, "Locals, visitors and other astute guessers (such as yourself) can use

skill and luck to predict the exact time of the icy plunge."

Allen Roth, PLPOA general manager and Rotary member, explained that major "bragging rights" will be garnered by winners. We all enjoy talking about the weather. Let's see who will win some cash by registering their opinion(s).

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club expects that the Hatcher Lake Ice Melt Contest will provide significant support to the Rotary Scholarship Fund, which annually provides valuable support to graduating Pagosa Springs High School students, helping to further their education. In 2018, Rotary provided \$28,000 in scholarship funding.

Full bowls fill hearts: Empty Bowls raises over \$4,000

By Kirsten Le Roux
 Special to The SUN

On Saturday, Feb. 23, a little over 300 people swarmed into The Springs Resort and Spa hotel atrium to support Empty Bowls' 10th anniversary celebration.

After a week of heavy snow, Saturday provided a welcome break in the weather. With many experiencing cabin fever, having been trapped in homes with snowed-in drives and roads the days preceding, the event provided a welcome and worthy excuse to make the effort to head into town.

It was a bumper turnout. All except nine of the 350 clay bowls that were made for the event were sold, and, by 5:45 p.m., only 45 minutes after the doors opened, over 300

bowls had already gone.

"With the music, the bar and the lively atmosphere of so many people in the room, I can only describe the evening as glorious," said Tess Garcia, founder and organizer of the Pagosa Springs Empty Bowls charity program. She continued, "After 10 years of hosting this event, I was so amazed to see that many of the people attending were first-timers. The new format and venue really attracted a different group of people from Pagosa. I was so grateful to have the idea of Empty Bowls exposed to so many new people, and, honestly, it did feel like our little event was all grown up in that setting. I loved every minute of it."

In the conference room and the hallway, 32 slow cookers and roasters stood heaping full of the most

delicious and diverse soups, chilis, chowders and stews you could imagine, all served by 18 enthusiastic members of the Pagosa Peak Volleyball Club, Loaves and Fishes volunteers and other community volunteers. There was a whole line of delectable vegan and vegetarian fare as well as our favorite comfort foods like chicken noodle, red and green chili, and loaded baked potato soup. There were many popular locally inspired dishes, and then some exotic creations like New England clam chowder, roasted red pepper with smoked Gouda, and jambalaya and rice. There were also a few delicious twists like lime chili, pumpkin chili, roasted apple and onion, and carrot ginger.

Heaping-full bowls of steaming scrumptiousness circled the

room, and by 7 p.m., everything was eaten, including a table heaped full of yummy after-dinner sweet treats made by local businesses and volunteers.

Between the entry and the silent auction, the event looks to make a profit of a little over \$4,000. At the time of writing, a few of the silent auctions items are still outstanding.

The Empty Bowls team would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the event and made it the success it was. A special thanks to The Pagosa Springs SUN who helped to spread the word.

It was truly a community effort that filled (and will continue to fill) empty bowls with food, but also our hearts with joy and gratitude.



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Town and county consider potential parks and rec agreement

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs are considering combining the two entities' parks advisory boards into one.

At its joint work session on Feb. 26, the town and county briefly discussed adopting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that changes the structure of the town's parks department and county parks advisory boards.

The MOU would create one advisory board that would report to the Pagosa Springs Town Council and the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), according to Darren Lewis, parks and recreation director for the town, in an email to The SUN.

Lewis wrote that the new advisory board will be formed by combining the town's Parks and Recreation Commission and the county's Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails (PROST) task force.

The new board will be named the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

The MOU also doubles the contribution from the county to the town for park purposes, up to \$60,000 from \$30,000, taken from Colorado's Conservation Trust Fund's annual allocation to the county.

The commissioners asked at the meeting if Cloman Park might be managed by the town after the MOU, which town manager Andrea Phillips said wasn't possible.

"This additional amount, the extra \$30,000 that's coming from the conservation trust for a total of sixty to the town, we certainly appreciate," said Lewis at the meeting, adding, "It's just there's not enough there to absorb another park."

"We're willing to accept your additional \$30,000, but there's not additional maintenance that we're going to be taking on as part of this agreement," said Phillips.

The county receives \$100,000 annually in Conservation Trust funds, and currently has a \$500,000 fund balance, as reported by The SUN on Feb. 21.

"The county understands that the town has kinda had the [brunt]

of providing parks," said Lewis in a phone interview, adding the MOU is a "nice gesture ... to collaborate together and work together in regard to our parks."

The town manages about eight parks, according to Lewis in a phone call with The SUN.

The county manages Cloman Park.

Lewis noted that the \$30,000 increase to the parks and recreation budget is helpful, but won't revolutionize his day-to-day life as parks and recreation director.

"The only thing that changes for me ... There will just be one meeting and these two boards will merge," said Lewis, adding, "I think it's gonna help in the future in regards to just getting ideas of what we can do in our parks."

The MOU cites a 2014 county-wide advisory vote that had over 5,000 responses which "decisively affirmed the residents' desire for the Parties to join efforts and resources for parks and recreation purposes ..."

It adds, "the Community Parks and Recreation 2018 Survey (with

over 500 responses) also conclusively stated that parks and recreation activities were of paramount importance and that the Parties should collaborate together on this endeavor ..."

The new board will consist of:
• One county commissioner (or an appointee of the commissioners).

• One town council member (or an appointee of the council).

• Five at-large members from the general public of Archuleta County.

The MOU would automatically renew each year unless either the town or the county gives written notice.

Per the draft MOU, the new board would:

• "Advise the Town and County and other stakeholders regarding parks and recreation matters."

• "Hear requests from community groups and recreational organizations regarding funding for facilities or programs and make recommendations to the Town and County regarding same."

• "Assist the Town and County with master plans and strategic planning for future parks and recreation facilities."

• "Developing and recommending new policies, ordinances, administrative procedures and other means to expand the Parks and Recreation programming in a coordinated and efficient manner."

• "Conducting studies and making recommendations relating to new park and recreation plans, goals and objectives ..."

• Performing any other duties to advise on or assist with park and recreation matters as assigned by the Town Council or County Commissioners."

The town and the county will each separately have to adopt the MOU for it to take effect, with the BoCC anticipated to consider the item on March 19 and the town council will consider it on March 21.

john@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Mary Gamache

Members of the Gray Wolf Ski Club celebrate Mardi Gras on March 5 at Wolf Creek Ski Area on a picture-perfect day with fresh powder snow on the slopes and lunch at the lodge. The club originated in 1984 to promote skiing and fellowship for people 50 years of age and older. There currently are more than 800 members from throughout the United States, most in the Pagosa Springs area.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Monday, March 11

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

Tuesday, March 12

Archuleta School District Board of Education middle school visit.

Birth



Introducing Vaughn Vail Renner, born at home in Pagosa Springs on Feb. 10. She is welcomed with love by the Renner family: Airen, Kierstan, Finley, Darla and Piper.

8 a.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School, 309 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.

8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Republican Women's meeting.

Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant, 157 Navajo Trail Drive.

Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board meeting.

4:30 p.m., Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session and regular meeting.

5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board.

5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Commission.

5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors regular meeting.

6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 13

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular board meeting. 5:30 p.m.,

Chamber of Commerce conference room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, March 18

San Juan Water Conservancy District special meeting. 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5.

Tuesday, March 19

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.

8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners regular meeting.

1:30 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Thursday, March 21

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

Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting.

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

Tuesday, March 26

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session.

8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Joint town/county work session.

Noon, Archuleta County admin-

istration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board.

5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Upper San Juan Health Service District regular board meeting.

5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center Great Room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, March 27

Archuleta County Planning Commission regular meeting.

6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Thursday, March 28

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

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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Then, we will accept a scheduling deposit of \$500 that does three things. First, it secures you several days on our schedule this summer. Secondly, it locks you into last year's prices. When we have to buy well casing again, the costs WILL go up. You will probably save the \$500 in not paying for this year's material costs. Thirdly, we have the time to do the research and carefully find the best solutions for you.

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Come, join the fun!

Outdoors



Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

These big horn sheep experienced the problem most Pagosans have dealt with this winter: getting over berms of snow. In this case, the snow berms were on Wolf Creek Pass.

CRIA Lecture Series: Seventh-century farmers of the southwest

By Nadia Werby
Special to The SUN

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) is proud to host a special presentation on Thursday, March 14, by Archaeologist Shanna Diederichs about the influx of farmers into southwest Colorado in the seventh century.

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

By the sixth and seventh centuries A.D., new territories in the San Juan Region of southwest Colorado and northwest New Mexico opened for the first time to agricultural colonization. Frontier colonization is, by nature, a contentious process

that usually results in factioning, violence and displacement.

In contrast, the San Juan Region saw an unprecedented period of peace and integration during colonization. This peace appears to have been achieved with new and revitalized social institutions represented by great kivas, large central pithouses and sipapu ritual features. These institutions were especially important at community centers such as Shabik'eshnee Ruin in Chaco Canyon and likely gave rise to quintessential Pueblo institutions still alive today.

Diederichs is the supervisory archaeologist and project director of the Basketmaker Communities Project with Crow Canyon. She has a master's in anthropology from Northern Arizona University and an

undergraduate degree in anthropology from the University of Colorado. She has worked as an archaeologist on projects throughout the southwest and in destinations such as Alaska and southern Egypt. Crow Canyon's Basketmaker Communities Project is a multiyear research initiative in southwest Colorado focused on community development in early agricultural society.

You can learn more about how to get involved in CRIA and Chimney Rock National Monument at the Chimney Rock Open House on March 22 at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. There will be a host of CRIA volunteers on hand who are eager to introduce guests to the variety of roles that support this unique program and the flexibility

in level of commitment. Some of the volunteer positions include visitor cabin host, mesa host, tour guide and maintenance crew.

CRIA offers a great, in-depth training program in a fun environment to anyone interested in joining our amazing team of volunteers. This year volunteer training will take place on April 26 at the PLPOA Vista Clubhouse at 230 Port Ave.

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

Snow water equivalency numbers continue to climb with recent snowfall

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

More snow has meant an obvious increase in snow water equivalency (SWE) levels as well as precipitation levels this week, per a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) District Manager Justin Ramsey.

As of March 4, SWE was measured at 29.7 inches, up from last week's total of 26.1 inches.

The SWE median, also measured in inches, increased from 25.5 inches to 26.2 inches.

The median and averages are based on data from 1981 through 2010.

With those reported increases, the SWE is now 113.3 percent of median, an increase from last week, when the SWE was only 102.4 percent of median.

Precipitation has reported levels of 32.3 inches as of March 4, when last week levels were reported at 29.5 inches.

The precipitation average also increased, going from 26.9 inches to 28.4 inches.

This week, precipitation levels are 113.7 percent of median, up from last week's total of 109.7 percent of median.

"I feel pretty good," Ramsey said of the SWE and precipitation data.

Lake levels have seen minimal, if any, increase from last week.

Both Lake Hatcher and Stevens Lake have seen no increase from last week, with levels remaining stagnant at 19 inches from full and 133 inches from full, respectively.

Lake Pagosa is currently 17 inches from full. Last week it was 18 inches from full.

Village Lake is currently full due

to recent snowfall, when last week it was 4 inches from full.

Lastly, Lake Forest is still 1 inch away from full.

"Certainly Hatcher is going to be full. I think if we don't put any more water in Hatcher, I think just melt-off will fill Hatcher up," Ramsey said.

Total cumulative available lake water for treatment and delivery has jumped to 78.2 percent, up from last week's total of 77.7 percent.

Diversion flows, again, remain the same at a collective total of 5 cubic feet per second (cfs), with the West Fork diversion still contributing 2 cfs and the Four Mile diversion adding another 3 cfs.

According to Ramsey's press release, Four Mile's flows have been diverted to Stevens, and there will be further investigation as to why there has been no recorded change

in Stevens' levels.

However, Ramsey explained that the water from Four Mile is in fact making it to Stevens Lake, but because of heavy snowfall in the area, the water is taking longer to get to the lake.

"I'm fairly confident that we're going to start out the summer in pretty good shape," Ramsey said.

Ramsey also noted that it will probably be pretty late into the season before there is a call on Four Mile.

"I would be shocked if we lose our water source at Hatcher before May. Hopefully it'll be the end of May," Ramsey said. "If you remember last year, it was April 12."

From Feb. 22 through Feb. 28, total water production was listed at 8.57 million gallons, when last year during that same period water production totaled 9.52 million gallons.

This year, from Feb. 22 through Feb. 28, the Snowball water treatment plant produced 3.04 million gallons and the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 5.53 million gallons.

From Feb. 15 through Feb. 21 this year, water production totaled 10.29 million gallons.

chris@pagosasun.com

Turkey hunting seminar and youth/women's mentored turkey hunt April 12-14

By Doug Purcell
Special to The SUN

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will offer a free Turkey Hunting 101 Seminar on April 12 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the John Paul II Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. The turkey hunting seminar is open to anyone interested in learning how to turkey hunt.

In conjunction with the turkey hunting seminar, CPW will also host a mentored turkey hunt for qualified youth and women applicants. The mentored hunting event will span the weekend of

April 13-14, following the turkey hunting seminar. Hunts will occur on private properties around Pagosa Springs.

Youth (12-18) and women interested in participating in the mentored turkey hunting event must fill out an application which can be obtained from:

- CPW Office, 151 E. 16th Street, Durango.
- U.S. Forest Service Office, 180 Pagosa St., Pagosa Springs.

No hunting experience is necessary, but selected hunters must possess a valid hunter safety card and a spring over-the-counter

turkey hunting license by April 12. Applications must be received by March 26 and selected hunt participants will be notified by March 29.

CPW can supply needed equipment (including firearms and ammo) for the hunt. Participants will need their own cold-weather clothing, footwear and camouflage outerwear (turkey hunting starts in the cold early morning and camouflage is very important). Selected participants are encouraged to use their own equipment.

For additional information, please call District Wildlife Manager Doug Purcell at 799-0843.

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Kid Koncert

Many thanks to everyone who attended Curtains Up Pagosa's "When I Grow Up," a Kid Koncert, the first of our 2019 Concert Series. The concert was a kick start to a year-long celebration of CUP's 30 years.

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EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

Understanding how raspberry plants grow

By Robin Young
SUN Columnist

Raspberries are a great, productive fruit plant that can be grown by gardeners in many parts of the United States, including all but the highest elevation areas of Colorado.

In addition to all of the delicious fruit they produce, they can also be an attractive visual element in the landscape. Unfortunately, backyard raspberry patches are often overgrown and unkempt looking. This is primarily due to the fact that most gardeners do not have a good understanding of how raspberry plants grow. This leads to improper pruning or even a total avoidance of pruning. Without proper pruning and management, raspberries will be less productive and more prone to diseases and pests.

The goal of this article is to provide the understanding necessary for everyone to have beautiful, healthy, productive raspberries.

Raspberry plants are perennials. This means they come back year after year. But there is a catch — only the crown of the plant and its roots are truly perennial.

The above-ground portions, known as canes, are actually biennial. This means that the canes have a lifespan of only two years. Their first year is spent growing vegetatively, the second year is spent flowering and fruiting. After they have produced a crop of fruit, they will die. In any given year, new canes grow from the crown of the plant, emerging sometime during April. These new canes will grow tall and leafy (and prickly), but they will not produce

flowers or fruits. These first-year canes are known as “primocanes.” They will drop their leaves and go dormant during the fall and remain so until the following spring.

After emerging from dormancy in their second year, these same canes are referred to as “floricanes.” At this point, these canes are not going to grow any taller. They will put all of their energy into flowering and fruiting on relatively short branches known as “fruiting laterals.” These fruiting laterals grow from the axillary buds that formed during the prior year at the base of each leaf. Once the resulting fruits have been harvested, it is time to cut the floricanes to the ground.

The growth habit described above is the norm for raspberries. Raspberries that grow in this fashion are known as “summer-bearing” or “floricane-bearing.” They produce crops of ripe berries during July.

This is the way all raspberries grew until a major breeding breakthrough in the years after WWII. That was when breeders began working with wild plants that showed the ability to flower and fruit on primocanes (aka first-year canes). These original wild plants produced small, seedy berries, but they did so from mid-August until a hard frost. Plant breeders recognized the season-extension potential of this trait and within a decade had succeeded in creating commercially viable, primocane-fruiting raspberries with great flavor. This primocane-bearing type of raspberry is also known as “fallbearing” or “everbearing.”

The vast majority of raspberries grown in Colorado gardens

are primocane-bearing varieties. Primocane-bearing raspberries start each season by producing vegetative canes, just like floricane-bearing types. The big difference occurs in mid-summer. At that point, the primocanes of floricane-bearing types are still busy growing in a purely vegetative fashion. Primocane-bearing types, however, start producing fruiting laterals on their upper portions, leading to a late summer/fall crop of raspberries. The fruits produced typically start to ripen sometime in August (depending on variety) and continue producing fruit until a hard frost or freeze occurs.

There are two major advantages to growing fallbearing (primocane-bearing) raspberries: 1) easy pruning and 2) no winter hardiness issues. Both of these advantages come from the fact that the primocanes grow and fruit in one season.

Because you do not need to maintain any canes through the winter, pruning is as simple as mowing the whole patch to the ground. Similarly, since no canes need to overwinter, and because fruit buds develop in the same year as the fruit will develop, there is no chance for fruit buds to get damaged by cold during the winter. Considering the fickle winter weather we get in Colorado, as well as our frequent spring frosts, the fall-bearing varieties have been hugely popular in our state.

Before you decide you will only ever grow fallbearing types, you should know that there are several varieties of summer-bearing raspberries that have adequate winter hardiness for our climate. By plant-

ing both summer- and fall-bearing varieties, you can greatly extend your raspberry season.

If you want to get a little more advanced in your raspberry pruning, there is a way to get your fallbearing raspberries to give you two crops per year (one in July, the other in August-September). Keep in mind that your primocanes only produce fruit along the upper portions of each cane. The remainder of the cane (the lower half to two-thirds of the cane) will behave like a summer-bearing type and produce flowers and fruit the following summer.

So, after the plants have gone dormant in the fall, you will want to prune off only the upper portions of the primocanes. The following spring, the buds along the length of those shortened canes will start to grow and will produce fruit in July. Simultaneously, new primocanes will emerge from the soil. These will give you your fall crop.

So, are you confused yet? Don't lose hope. While this may seem very confusing now, there is an easy and fun way to understand it all: observe your plants.

Now that you know what kinds of structures and growth habits to look for, you will be amazed at how clear the distinctions are when you watch your raspberry plants grow for a 12-month cycle. You'll be explaining the ins and outs of raspberry growth to your friends and neighbors in no time.

For more information, check out “Raspberries For the Home Garden” by CSU Extension: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/garden/07001.html>.

‘We’re in good shape’: Snowpack levels continue upward trend

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Once again, it has been another productive week for local snowpack totals, with local basins showing an increase of 8 percent and the Upper San Juan site being up by 16 percent.

According to data from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins are currently 132 percent of median, up from last week's total of 124 percent of median.

The Upper San Juan site is currently 118 percent of median; last week, that site was only 102 percent of median.

“We’re in good shape, no doubt about it,” NRCS District Conservationist Jerry Archuleta said.

For context, Archuleta noted that the Upper San Juan site was at 51 percent of median this time last year.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas

and San Juan River basins were 52 percent of median this time last year, Archuleta explained.

In addition to the increase in local snowpack totals, the other seven basins with snowpack totals have all seen increases.

The Upper Rio Grande Basin has seen snowpack levels increase by 7 percent, going from 120 percent of median to 127 percent of median.

The Yampa and White River basins saw an increase this week as well, jumping from 109 percent of median to 114 percent of median this week.

More increases were reported for the Arkansas River Basin, with reported snowpack levels of 132 percent of median this week, up from last week's total of 122 percent of median.

The Laramie and North Platte basins are currently 112 percent of median — an increase from last week when those basins were 106 percent of median.

At the South Platte River Basin, an increase of 8 percent is indicated,

with totals sitting at 118 percent of median, up from last week's total of 109 percent of median.

The Gunnison River Basin is 129 percent of median, up from last week when that basin was 120 percent of median.

Lastly, the Upper Colorado River Basin is 121 percent of median — an increase from last week's 112 percent of median.

The Wolf Creek summit is 136 percent of the March 6 peak, when last week the summit was 127 percent of the Feb. 27 peak.

Also, the summit is at 101 percent of the median peak, when last week it was only 86 percent of the median peak.

Last year, according to Archuleta, the Wolf Creek summit was 71 percent of peak.

“Wolf Creek, the level we’re at right now, is actually above what we’d expect at peak on average,” Archuleta said, noting that the seasonal peak typically does not happen until the

end of April.

Archuleta also indicated that the Upper San Juan site is also not far off from that same mark.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), rain and snow are both in the forecast locally, with a 20 percent chance of snow showers tonight.

Additionally, the NWS indicates a 50 percent chance of snow on Friday, with the rest of the week being mostly sunny.

For Wolf Creek Pass, the NWS indicates a 30 percent chance of snow tonight, with more snow on the horizon through Saturday.

In regard to the current state of snowpack levels locally, Archuleta explained that he is feeling pretty good about where the snowpack levels are.

“Even if things did dry up, and we didn’t get as much moisture as we have,” Archuleta said, “we’re up to that point where we’re almost to peak already.”

chris@pagosahun.com

Governor announces water board appointments

By Travis Duncan
Special to The SUN

Gov. Jared Polis has announced three new board appointments to the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB):

- Gail Schwartz, of Basalt, representing the Colorado River basin.
- Jackie Brown, of Oak Creek, representing the Yampa-White River basin.
- Jessica Brody, of Denver, representing the city and county of Denver.

In addition, the governor appointed Russ George as the director

of the Inter-Basin Compact Committee (IBCC) in addition to five gubernatorial appointees: Aaron Citron, Mely Whiting, Robert Sakata, Patrick Wells and Paul Bruchez.

“I’m excited to work with these appointments,” said Dan Gibbs, executive director of the Department of Natural Resources. “Their collective experience is unmatched.”

Schwartz has spent over two decades serving Colorado in both appointed and elected office. Brown brings a diverse background in natural resources and is a leader in the water community as the current Chair of the Yampa-White-

Green basin roundtable. Finally, as general counsel for Denver Water and formerly with the Denver City Attorney's Office, Brody brings both municipal and environmental law experience.

“I’m looking forward to working with the newly appointed board and IBCC members to continue implementing Colorado’s Water Plan. They bring valued expertise and leadership to the water community,” said Rebecca Mitchell, director of the CWCB. “We sincerely thank the outgoing board members and IBCC appointments for their service. Their dedication has been

instrumental on numerous policy and planning efforts, including bringing a diversity of perspectives to Colorado’s Water Plan.”

George is a fourth-generation native of the Rifle area and brings a depth of state government and public service. George was instrumental in creating the IBCC and basin roundtables.

“As the first champion of the IBCC and roundtable process, there’s no one better equipped to lead the IBCC. We’re embarking on a future of great opportunity in water, and Russ is the perfect choice to navigate the times ahead,” said Gibbs.

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Sports

BASKETBALL



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The Lady Pirates' bench celebrates after a successful 3-pointer during Saturday's Sweet 16 win over the No. 15 Grand Valley Cardinals. Despite being down by one at halftime, the Lady Pirates went on to win 48-31 to advance to the Denver portion of the 3A state tournament.

Lady Pirates advance to Great 8 for seventh straight year

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

For the seventh straight year, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates will advance to the Great 8 portion of the 3A state tournament, thanks to last week's first-round and Sweet 16 wins.

For this year's Great 8, the No. 3 Lady Pirates are slated to face off against the No. 6 Lutheran Lions at 7 p.m. tonight at the University of Denver.

Pagosa is entering the game with a 21-2 record, while Lutheran (from Parker) is entering with a 20-4 mark.

The two teams matched up at a tournament earlier this season, with Pagosa claiming a two-point victory after being outscored by Lutheran 19-11 in the game's final quarter.

"It was close at halftime," coach Wes Lewis recalled. "We kinda got up seven, 10 points in the fourth quarter and they ... made a late run and we finished the game up

by two."

The coach recalled that the Lady Pirates were up by five until a last-second 3-pointer landed for the Lions.

In addition to that game, the teams have had three common opponents on the season. In regular-season play, both teams fell prey to St. Mary's and Colorado Springs Christian, and both teams defeated Colorado Academy.

"They're a good team," Lewis said of Lutheran, outlining that they press, have a fast player who shoots 3-pointers and a 6-foot-1-inch post player. "We'll have our hands full with Lutheran."

This winner of tonight's match-up will advance to take on either the No. 10 Centauri Falcons or the No. 2 Colorado Springs Christian Lions in Friday's Final 4 action, with the Falcons and Lions playing each other at 4 p.m. today.

On the other half of the Great 8 bracket, No. 1 St. Mary's and No. 9 Alamosa face off at 8:45 a.m. this

morning, while No. 5 Eaton and No. 4 Delta take each other on at 11:45 a.m.

The Final 4 match for the Pirates' portion of the bracket is set for 4 p.m. Friday, while the Final 4 match for the other side of the bracket is set for 7 p.m.

Saturday's third-place game will be played at noon, and the championship match will begin at 4 p.m.

Journey to the tourney

To reach the Great 8, the Lady Pirates hosted first- and second-round play Friday and Saturday.

On Friday, the Lady Pirates defeated the No. 30 Trinidad Miners 54-17.

Pagosa took a commanding lead early in that affair, scoring 14 in the first quarter while limiting Trinidad to two points.

That trend of besting Trinidad continued in the remaining three quarters: 15-7, 10-6 and 15-2.

Lewis noted he thought the Lady Pirates were good defensively in the

game, but had too many turnovers with 13 and missed some shots they should have made.

"We tried to stay very vanilla in this game, as always, and not show the other two teams much," he said, adding, "Just glad to get the win."

Hailey Griego put up 15 of the Pirates' points in the affair, and complemented that work with eight rebounds, an assist and two steals.

Elsa Lindner contributed 12 points, five rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Devin Wilson added 10 points, which included two 3-pointers, six rebounds, four assists and four steals.

Molly Graham scored eight points and pulled down four rebounds.

Taylor Lewis notched a 3-pointer, two rebounds, two assists and a steal.

Three Lady Pirates put up a pair of points: Adelyn Dozier, Miah

Schoffner and Teagan Stretton.

Dozier also logged three assists, Schoffner added a rebound and an assist, and Stretton added two rebounds, an assist and a steal to her stat line.

Pagosa made three of five attempts from the free-throw line.

Then, on Saturday, Pagosa took on the No. 14 Grand Valley Cardinals, who had defeated No. 19 The Vanguard School on Friday.

The Lady Pirates handed their visitors a 48-31 loss in that Sweet 16 game, punching their ticket to Denver.

But that game was not easy sailing for the Lady Pirates, who found themselves tied at seven each at the end of the first quarter and down 16-15 at halftime.

"Give them some credit," Wes Lewis said of Grand Valley. "They're a good basketball team. They play hard, they're physical, they're relentless. They did a good job of packing it in, especially in the first half, and we got some good looks

from the perimeter; they didn't go down. You know, if we could have made some shots in the first half, it'd have loosened them up a bit."

The coach added that the Pirates got some post touches and missed some fairly easy shots in the first half.

At halftime, Wes Lewis explained the team discussed that they would go to a different zone offense for the second half that Grand Valley had not seen yet.

"I thought we got some decent looks out of it in the second half," he said.

The team then also adjusted to a new defense by Grand Valley, a 1-3 chaser that locked a defender on Wilson.

"It took us a couple of possessions to recognize it, and when we did recognize it we moved Taylor to the high post, we got some easy high-low dumps out of our Black-jack offense," the coach said. "And, I thought that started creating us a

■ See Pirates A13

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BASKETBALL

Fourth-quarter collapse sinks Pirates in opening round of state tournament

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

After three quarters in its opening-round matchup against the No. 8 DSST: Stapleton Knights, it looked like the No. 25 Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' basketball team was going to complete the upset on March 1 and move on to the Sweet 16.

However, a fourth quarter that saw Pagosa give up 22 points while only scoring seven themselves closed the door on the 2018-19 campaign for the Pirates as they fell to DSST: Stapleton 44-32.

It was close throughout much of the game, with Pagosa holding a slim 18-13 lead at halftime.

At the end of the third, the game was even closer, with Pagosa leading 25-22; however, DSST's scoring outburst in the final quarter led to the Knights holding on to advance to the next round of the 3A state tournament.

DSST: Stapleton went on to advance to the Sweet 16 on March 2 with the win over Pagosa, but ultimately fell to the No. 9 Kent Denver Sun Devils, 58-52.

"We played one of the best games that we have played in awhile against DSST-Stapleton. Our defense was especially good and it gave them some problems," coach Randy Sorenson explained in an email.

In the fourth quarter, Pagosa had some chances to extend its lead, but could not convert on some easy looks at the basket and did not execute well down the stretch, Sorenson explained.

Despite the box score showing that Pagosa was outscored 22-7 in the final quarter, Sorenson explained that score was not indicative of how close the game was.

"Their pressure got to us a little bit. Turnovers hurt us. We turned it over for layups a couple of times and we had to foul at the end to try and extend the game," Sorenson wrote. "The turnovers for layups and them hitting a couple of timely shots changed the momentum. We were very disappointed to not have finished off the game."

Mason Snarr led Pagosa in points against the Knights with 12 total while also pulling down nine rebounds and blocking three shots.

Ryan Lewis added another six points while also snatching three rebounds and notching a steal.

Both Jesus Pacheco and Cade Cowan finished with five points, with Pacheco adding three rebounds, two assists and two steals. Cowan added a steal to his stat line as well.

Mitch Lewis rounded out the scoring with four points while also adding three rebounds.

Pagosa turned over the ball 19 times against DSST: Stapleton — tied for their third-highest mark of the regular and postseason.

The Pirates finished the 2018-19 season with an overall record of 9-12, which included a 3-7 record in league games.

Overall the season was a good one, Sorenson described, adding that early in the season, the Pirates played well.

"We had some things go wrong during the second part of the sea-

son unfortunately. Some of them were uncontrollable and some of them were things that we could have done better," Sorenson explained.

This season, Sorenson added that every team Pagosa played was a good one and that the league was tough this year.

With the loss, Pagosa will now say goodbye to three seniors from this year's team: Cowan, Pacheco and Javier Mariñelarena.

"I would like to say thanks to the three seniors that we had for all of their hard work and for being great kids," Sorenson wrote. "They were a big part of our program. It is always hard to say goodbye to the seniors."

Sorenson also took time to thank his assistant coaches — Jerry Renfrow, Josh Sanchez, David Snarr and Caleb Forrest — stating that they did a wonderful job and that the program is lucky to have them.

In an overview of the rest of the state tournament, only one Inter-mountain League (IML) team still has a chance at a state championship.

The No. 7 Montezuma-Cortez Panthers defeated the No. 26 La Junta Tigers in the opening round of the state tournament on March 1 by a score of 70-62.

In the Sweet 16 on March 2, the Panthers survived a double-overtime thriller against another IML opponent, the No. 10 Centauri Falcons, by a score of 66-62.

The Panthers will take on the No. 2 Sterling Tigers in the Great 8 today at 8:30 p.m.

The No. 28 Bayfield Wolverines were eliminated in the first round of the state tournament on March 1 by the No. 5 Delta Panthers by a score of 67-63.

The No. 18 Alamosa Mean Moose defeated the No. 15 Platte Valley Broncos by a score of 57-48, but were then eliminated by Sterling in the Sweet 16 on March 2 by a score of 47-32.

Retooling for next season

With another season in the books, Sorenson explained that the Pirates will have several good kids that have varsity experience returning to the team.

"We have some work to do for sure but hopefully we can get better from now until November and come back strong next year," he said.

chris@pagosahun.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa's Teagan Stretton looks to the referee after battling for the ball with a Grand Valley opponent while teammate Devin Wilson celebrates the move in Saturday's Sweet 16 game. In Wilson's final game on the Pagosa Springs High School court, the team earned the right to advance to today's Great 8 action.

Pirates

Continued from A12

little bit of separation, and we were able to hit some shots in the second half that we didn't in the first half."

The team just played a little bit better in the second half, Wes Lewis summed up.

Eight Lady Pirates put points on the scoreboard in the game, led by Wilson's 12, which included a trio of 3-pointers. She added four rebounds, two assists, a block and three steals.

Lindner followed with 11 points, five rebounds and an assist.

Griego put up eight in the game, with half of those coming in the form of free throws. She also pulled down eight rebounds and logged an assist.

Stretton contributed seven points, including a 3-pointer, as well as four rebounds and an assist.

Graham added four points, a

rebound and a block.

Dozier put up a second-quarter 3-pointer and had a rebound, two assists and a steal.

Taylor Lewis added two points, three rebounds and four assists.

River Pitcher notched a fourth-quarter free throw.

The team shot 63 percent from the charity stripe, making 15 of 24 attempts.

The team turned the ball over seven times in the game.

"It was certainly a battle throughout, but I was proud of the kids to just stay the course," he said. "We talked about it before the game: There's going to be some ups and downs in the game, and just stay calm and stay poised, and just don't get too high on the highs and low on the lows, and just stay steady. And, I thought they did."

randi@pagosahun.com



Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Logan Harper
Basketball



Favorite subject: English

Comments from coaches Jerry Renfrow and Josh Sanchez: "As a basketball player, Logan has shown to be a role model and leader. Logan continuously works hard to improve himself and others. He is there to support all of his teammates. Throughout the year, Logan would specifically help those that were new

to the game and teach them everything from fundamentals to plays on the court. His support helped his team improve.

"Logan works hard in the classroom. He has shown to be a student first and has made school a priority.

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'Over the Rainbow'

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir hosted its sixth annual "Over the Rainbow" fundraiser Friday night at the Ross Aragon Community Center. The evening included a treasure-filled silent auction, a catered dinner, a performance by the Girls Choir and a dance with live music provided by the San Juan Mountain Boys. Proceeds from the event benefit the choir's educational programs.



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***Important things to know about this offer:**
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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Moors and McCumber

Pagosa Springs High School • Friday, March 8 • 6 p.m.



Photo courtesy James Moors

March 7, 2019



Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

The colorful, talented, fun-loving and full-of-heart cast poses for the camera after last weekend's concert. Many thanks to everyone who attended Curtains Up Pagosa's (CUP) "When I Grow Up," a Kid Concert, the first of the 2019 Concert Series. The concert was a kick start to a year-long celebration of CUP's 30 years.

Moors and McCumber to perform March 8 at high school

By Cindi Galabota
Special to The PREVIEW

Gather your friends and family and come to the Pagosa Springs High School tomorrow, March 8, to see the incredible singing duo and multi-instrumentalists Moors and McCumber.

Local festival-goers will remember Moors and McCumber from their past visits to Reservoir Hill. They incorporate elements of various American roots music styles including country, roots rock, folk, bluegrass, R&B and blues. More recently, they have been influenced heavily by Irish music. They will put on a great performance you will not want to miss.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the

concert starts at 6:30 p.m. with an opening show by the Pagosa Springs High School Americana Project students. The Americana Project is in its 10th year. It is an elective class taught by the talented Bob Hemenger that uses musical performance and creativity to foster self-confidence and self-expression. Americana Project students will be performing both original and cover songs. Moors and McCumber will start at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Entry to the concert is by donation, with a suggested donation of \$10 per person or \$25 per family. All net proceeds from the event go towards the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation.

The mission of the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Founda-

tion is to support and enhance the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library by raising funds for information resources, programs, services and facilities. The foundation is led by a volunteer board of directors and supported by individual donors and community partners.

To learn more about supporting the newly formed Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation, please call Cindi Galabota at 264-2209 or email cindi@pagosalibrary.org.



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Pagosa Brewing Company: Kirk James Blues Band, 6 p.m.

Riff Raff on the Rio: Lucy Barna, 6 p.m.

Saturday

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

Riff Raff on the Rio: Robin Davis Duo, 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Pagosa Brewing Company: Open Mic hosted by Emily Tholberg, 6 p.m.



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Nicole G., Facebook

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9Health Fair and National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 27

By Constance d'Angelis
Special to The PREVIEW

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day and our Pagosa 9Health Fair are on the same day. We are cooperating.

Last April in Colorado, more than 16,000 pounds of pills were collected and disposed of safely. Across the country, it was 912,000 pounds.

So what? Do you want to drink water with antibiotics in your morning coffee? Or, those drugs can become the products of criminals who deal in illegal prescription drugs.

Why dispose of old and expired drugs in an environmentally favorable way? Data shows that drugs flushed down the toilet or put into landfills get into the water. A study of the water quality of streams in the Boulder Creek Watershed found a diverse set of pharmaceuticals and organic wastewater chemicals in water samples.

Let's be part of the solution, not the problem.

Members of our local Archuleta County Sheriff's Office will be at the 9Health Fair on April 27 and will have a special table.

Come to the 9Health Fair on April 27 from 7 to 11 a.m. at Pagosa Springs High School. Bring the old stuff. It's OK to leave drugs in the bottle or packet.

If you have over-the-counter drugs, you can bring those, too.

The sheriff's drug experts will

offer education about the potential for abuse of medications.

More drug disposal information is available at: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/ or <https://takebackday.dea.gov>.

The health fair will also offer a blood test panel for \$35, free screenings, educational programs and the chance to meet health

professionals.

Have special health and wellness skills? Could you offer education and information? Want to volunteer? Have a working brain and a good attitude? Questions? Contact Sharee Grazda at 731-0317 or email sgrazda@gmail.com. Visit 9HealthFair.org. Reach Constance at 7LawsofHealth@gmail.com.



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Generous donor to match up to \$20,000 in donations to Our Savior Lutheran School at Hoedown fundraiser March 15

By Pennie DeClark
Special to The PREVIEW

An extremely generous, anonymous donor has offered to match up to \$20,000 in donations raised from now until the Colorado Guys and Gals Hoedown with Andy Janowsky and Jeff Johnson on Friday, March 15, to benefit Our Savior Lutheran School.

He has observed the growth in the school and recognizes the excellent level of education that the students are receiving.

Tickets are on sale now for the Hoedown and can be purchased ahead of time at the school (56 Meadows Drive) for \$40 per person. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium, with cocktails and music starting at 6 p.m. A delicious brisket dinner with beans, potato salad and rolls will be served, with a cash bar serving beer and wine and a silent auction with tons of amazing items for purchase.

Our Savior Lutheran School is a 501(c)(3) and does not receive any federal funding. All of the monies raised go to the school and help provide discount tuition for families who need assistance.

There will be envelopes at the event for donations specific for the match donations, or if you would like to make a contribution ahead of time, please contact Pennie DeClark at 903-3242.



Photo courtesy Pennie DeClark

A pair of Our Savior Lutheran School students show their surprise at the announcement that an anonymous donor has offered to match up to \$20,000 in donations raised from now until the Colorado Guys and Gals Hoedown on Friday, March 15. Tickets are on sale now.

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Anonymously report anything that concerns or threatens you, your friends, your family or your community.



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Photo courtesy Susan Dussell
Wildflowers in Ice Lake Basin. Susan Dussell will present the Pagosa Springs Photography Club's March program, with a topic of "Wildflowers of the San Juans: Wildflower Identification and where to find and photograph them."

Photography Club to talk wildflowers and where to find them

By Gregg Heid
 Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Photography Club will hold its March meeting on Wednesday, March 13, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Join us for socializing at 6 p.m., followed by a brief business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Longtime photographers and those just starting out are welcome.

The Photography Club normally meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the fellowship room of the Methodist Church.

The March presentation will be given by Susan Dussell. Her topic will be "Wildflowers of the San Juans: Wildflower Identification and where to find and photograph them."

Dean and Susan Dussell retired early 20 years ago and moved to Pagosa Springs. Their interests are hiking, biking, skiing and world

travel. Photography is a major part of those adventures. After making it a hobby to learn all the mountain wildflowers, they lead wildflower identification walks and hikes for the U.S. Forest Service and San Juan Outdoor Club.

Take a break from shoveling and snow sports to think about the colorful wildflowers growing under all that snow. The wildflower season should be spectacular this summer. Learn about the Dussell's favorite wildflower destinations and hikes.

We are all very lucky to live in the San Juan Mountains, where wildflowers are a photographer's dream.

Club members may bring up to 10 photos on a thumb drive to share with the group after the presentation.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact our president, Andy Butler, at (512) 581-1470 or visit our website, pagosaprintphotoclub.org.

Cabin-fever Reliever

Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry starts March 8

Every Friday, March 8-April 12
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St. Patrick's Irish Festival scheduled for Saturday, March 16

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is preparing for a great festival day in honor of its patron saint. On Saturday, March 16, beginning at 11 a.m., St. Patrick's Day will begin in earnest on the parking lot behind St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

"This will be our fourth parking lot Irish festival," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's, "and it promises to be our best yet."

The parking lot will be lined with booths of vendors and non-profits. There will be a live Irish concert, fly-tying and casting demonstrations, Irish libations, free food and, of course, the World's Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The parade is led by a trailer filled with young leprechauns and St. Patrick himself, holding court over the proceedings. There is a piper band led by our own Jim Dorian, a fire truck (later available for kids to peruse), a few vintage automobiles and (last but not least) a garbage truck. Don't blink. You might miss it.

The parade begins at noon on the north end of the parking lot and concludes on the south end of the parking lot. Don't be late or you'll miss it. Any others who wish to participate in the parade should arrive by 11:30 a.m. to line up. Children are invited to ride in the float with St. Patrick. Parking will be available at the hospital next door to the church.

The NightSong Trio, with Jessica Peterson on flute, Heidi Tanner on violin and Sally Neel at the piano, will present a 30-minute concert of Irish jigs in the church. There will be a class in fly-casting and fly-tying offered by the Men of St. Patrick's, and free hamburgers and hot dogs will be available in the parish hall (donations gratefully accepted).

"This is not meant to be a fundraising event," said Neel. "All proceeds will be given to the church's food box ministry. We just want to provide a fun place for our town's people to enjoy the day with friends."

If you are a vendor, there are still



Photo courtesy Sally Neel

Michelle Chapman and her mother, Burdette, get into the spirit of St. Patrick's Day at the annual Irish Festival to be held at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Saturday, March 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free food, lots of vendors and the World's Shortest Parade mark the festivities. The parade begins at noon.

a few slots left to set up a booth. The space is free of charge. Vendors must supply their own table or tent. For more information and to reserve a space, contact Lynne McCrudden at 731-5801.

Pets are welcome, but must be on a leash. Owners are responsible for waste cleanup. Put on your favorite, most outlandish Irish green and come and join the fun.

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

The 2018 Dancing with the Pagosa Stars are all excited that this event is back on for another year. The event is set to be held July 20.

Dancing with the Pagosa Stars set to return in July

By Tess Wisher
Special to The PREVIEW

Last year, Dancing with the Pagosa Stars brought Pagosa together to dance, eat and support Seeds of Learning. Well, this wildly popular event is back this year and better than ever.

On July 20, eight Pagosa stars and their coaches will perform dance routines similar to the “Dancing with the Stars” television show, all to benefit Seeds of Learning.

Seeds of Learning is Pagosa Springs’ very own high-quality early education facility that provides education to the area’s pre-

schoolers. Seeds of Learning is one of only 10 percent of preschools in the United States to be nationally accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

This wonderful organization serves at-risk children whose futures are brighter because of their Seeds education. The Dancing with the Pagosa Stars event raises money for the over 80 percent of Seeds families who cannot afford the full tuition price of \$52 per day so that more children can have access to the life-changing education center.

More information on Dancing with the Pagosa Stars will be revealed as we all excitingly prepare

for the dance filled night. To keep up with all of the updates, please go on Facebook and like the Dancing with the Pagosa Stars Facebook

■ See Dancing on next page



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Raffle prize is a brand new propane-fired Marcel Outdoor 34” Concrete Fire Pit by Christopher Knight Home, with a retail value of over \$300. Raffle tickets are \$5, cash or check only, available at HSPS Thrift Store, HSPS Animal Shelter and Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 970-264-5549.

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Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

In the midst of endless snow, frozen garage doors that would not open and trucks that couldn't make it, the "Footloose" volunteers persevered. With the help of Chris Weigan, Hunter Swinehart, Austin Blanchard and Doug Roberts, the "Footloose" sets were transported to the high school stage and installed. "Footloose" opens on March 19.

Dancing

■ continued from previous page
page. There you'll find info about the event, ticket sales, the choreographers, coaches and the stars. You'll even learn about some of the many reasons to support Seeds of Learning.

A social, held at the beautiful home of Lisa and Dwight Peters on Feb. 9, was the perfect place for the Stars and their coaches to meet and get acquainted. Guests listened intently as Lisa Peters, entertainment chair for the event, guided the stars through dates for lessons, plans for creation of videos and all the small details that will make this a fun experience for everyone.

Mark your calendars now for Dancing with the Pagosa Stars to be held on July 20 at 6 p.m. at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

Tickets for this fun event will go on sale at 8 a.m. on May 10, and details on how to obtain tickets will be available in future articles and on our Facebook page in April. Ticket price is \$125 when paying with cash or check and \$128.50 if paying with a credit card. Ticket prices include admission to the dance competition, dinner, drink tickets and open audience dancing while winner votes are tallied.

To reserve Producer Tables (seating eight) or individual tick-

ets, call Lisa Peters at (281) 650-0875 or Dee McPeck at 317-3224, beginning May 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. No tickets will be available for purchase at Seeds of Learning. Tickets will be sold on a first-paid basis. Last year, the extremely limited number of tickets to this thrilling event sold out quickly, so mark your calendars and be sure to call in.

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Justice Water Systems, Inc. is offering to schedule to drill wells with our friends and neighbors here in Archuleta County. Last year we were overrun with work. So during the end of this winter, we'd like those of you who want a quality well, want success for both you and your drilling contractor, to contact us. We will do the surrounding wells research and prepare you a detailed contract.

Then, we will accept a scheduling deposit of \$500 that does three things. First, it secures you several days on our schedule this summer. Secondly, it locks you into last year's prices. When we have to buy well casing again, the costs WILL go up. You will probably save the \$500 in not paying for this year's material costs. Thirdly, we have the time to do the research and carefully find the best solutions for you.

We want to partner with people who understand that quality work often results in less cost per gallon water over many years.

Reserve your time on our calendar now.

Call: 970-731-1200 Email: Info@justicewater.com

Website: JusticeWater.com

GET RID OF THAT OLD TRUST!

Some time back, you may have been told that you needed a trust. The usual reason given is to avoid probate and inheritance taxes. The federal estate tax exemption for a single person in 2019 is \$11,400,000. A lot of people who have trusts simply forget about them over time. If the trust still exists, an inventory for the trust and your estate will have to be prepared, usually the hardest part for either one. Maybe you made provisions for your children who are now grown and have children of their own. Most trusts just aren't irrevocable any more. If you want to get rid of the old trust or make amendments, give me a call and I will tell you what you may be able to do.

WILL FOR A SINGLE PERSON	\$500.00
WILL FOR A COUPLE	\$750.00
CODICIL (MINOR CHANGES TO EXISTING WILL)	\$250.00
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Saturday, March 16

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church parking lot
(parking at Pagosa Springs Medical Center parking lot)

Fun begins @ 11 a.m.

Parade begins @ noon

(Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade from one end of the parking lot to the other)





Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Members of the 4-H sewing project took their annual field trip to Joann Fabric Store in Farmington, N.M., to choose a pattern and fabric for the garment they chose to make this year. All 4-H members are actively working within their projects to learn new skills and create an exhibit to demonstrate their knowledge for judging at the end of the 4-H year. All exhibits will be judged and on display at the Archuleta County Fair Aug. 1-4. Front row (left to right) are Jordan Maxwell, Faith Lee, Carson Martin, Addie Hittle and Kylie Ketchum. Back row (left to right) are Macey Jacobson, Reece Peterson, Emma Gantt, Grace Kiker, Amelia Laverty, Kylie Keuning and Caroline Smith. Not pictured: Ashlie Elliott, AmberLynn Snarr, Brynn Looper and Korban Lee.

Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, March 7

Hai Chee. 8-9 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Movement focusing on

balance within mind, body and soul. Slowly reduce tension as you feel better, one breath at a time.

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

more information.
Women's Wellness. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sisson Library. A program for women ages 21-64 facilitated by San Juan Basin Public Health. There will be no physical examinations. The sessions will

■ See Calendar on next page

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-STEVE B. 12-16

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30420 County Road 500 — River property, 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on 110 acres, senior water rights. \$1,950,000. MLS 743102



101 River Run Drive — Antonito, Colorado, 3 bedroom, 4 bath, 3.43 acres, located on Conejos River. \$1,454,000. MLS 744785



3700A County Road 600 — 5 bedroom, 2 bath plus powder room, 3 car garage, no HOA, 20 acres. \$850,000. MLS 748819



22210 County Road 500 — 40 acres, 2 bedroom, 1 bath home built in 1900, San Juan River runs through property. \$594,000. MLS 747264



366 Bonita Vista Drive — Tiffany, Colorado, 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, oversized 2-car garage, 23.44 acres. \$475,000. MLS 739674



8329A Hwy. 151 — 4 bedroom, 3 bath brick home on 2 acres, views of HD mountains and Chimney Rock. \$373,000. MLS 744162



133 Mesa Avenue — Bayfield, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2-car garage. \$285,000. MLS 752212



301 N. Pagosa Blvd. B-14 — Own your own salon, 2 massage rooms, 4 hair stations, manicure table and more. \$200,000. MLS 751073



17675 Hwy. 151 — Views of Navajo Lake, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$115,000. MLS 745265



17 Canyon Circle — 2 bedroom, 2 bath, decks. \$95,000. MLS 752924

39969 County Road 500 — Arboles, 40 acres with breathtaking views of Navajo Lake, great build sites, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, manufactured home. \$295,000. MLS 752203

870 Cool Pines Drive — 4.73 acres, paved road to clubhouse & equestrian center. \$169,900. MLS 744843

22048 Hwy. 17, Lot 47, Antonito, Colorado, 3.43 acres, NF access. \$150,000. MLS 750135

Hwy. 151 — Four buildable lots in Piedra Park Subdivision, 2.54 acres. \$115,000. MLS 745267

149 & 154 Engineer Point — 5.74 acres at end of road. \$55,000. MLS 752523

190 Bob's Place — 5 acres, power to property. \$52,000. MLS 733707

284 Franklin Place — 1 acre, price reduced, permitted 3 bedroom septic installed. \$45,000. MLS 741082



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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** provide education on about where and how to access cancer screenings, assess barriers to screening for breast and cervical cancer, and help with information about women's sexual health. You will also hear about free or low-cost services. Light refreshments will be served. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Loaves and Fishes Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. All are invited to enjoy a hot meal in a welcoming atmosphere.

Pickleball. Noon-3:30 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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

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

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

Teen Advisory Board. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For youth in the 7th-12th grades. Bring your fun and innovative ideas to help us plan teen programs. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

PALS Adult Education. 4:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Avalanche Awareness. 5:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Join Mark Mueller for a presentation about avalanche safety. Mueller is an avalanche forecaster for the Colorado Avalanche Information Center, which says that ava-

lanches are the deadliest hazard in Colorado. Call 264-2209 for more information.

San Juan Outdoor Club. 7 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Keith Bruno, Southwest Colorado community naturalist with Audubon Rockies will speak on the Four Mile Ranch Youth Program. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. Guests welcome. Visit www.sanjuanoutdoorclub.org for more information.

Friday, March 8

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

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

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

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

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

benefits and civil protection orders. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Caregiver Support Group. 3-4:30 p.m., Senior Center. Being a caregiver is inherently stressful and, at times, overwhelming. A support group can have significant positive outcomes for the caregiver's overall health. Ana Sancho Sama, Ph.D., licensed psychologist, will be facilitating. If interested, call 264-2167.

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

Hunter Education Youth Class. 6-9 p.m., Community Center. For more information, contact Don Volger at 264-2197.

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation Fundraiser. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Doors open at 6 p.m. A concert performed by Moors and McCumber. Pagosa Springs High School Americana Project students will be opening the show. Entry to the concert is by a \$10 suggested donation per person or \$25 per family. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Saturday, March 9

Hunter Education Youth Class. 8-11 a.m., Community Center. For more information, contact Don Volger at 264-2197.

Open Gym. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Center. Any event conflicts which would not allow a Saturday open gym will be posted in advance on the town's website, Facebook page and in the newspaper. Call 264-4152, ext. 521 for

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
more information.

Family Storytime. 9:30-10 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Fundamentals of Buddhism: A Practice and study with Debra Quayle. 10 a.m., Universalist Unitarian, Suite B-15, 70 Greenbriar Drive. All are welcome.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6 to 12 years old. We've got the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Sunday, March 10

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

Monday, March 11

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

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

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

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

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

PALS Adult Education. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equiva-

lency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

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

Incredible Years Parenting Class.

5:30-8 p.m., Seeds of Learning.

An opportunity offered to anyone who wants to build positive relationships with their children, needs more effective discipline or would like new ideas to help their children learn and grow. This class is created for families with children between the ages of 3 and 8 years. A free dinner and child care will be provided.

Hunter Education Regular Class.

6-9 p.m., Community Center. For more information, contact Don Volger at 264-2197.

CPR Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension Office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Tuesday, March 12

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

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

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

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

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

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Heritage Action Sentinel Builder David Kelly will be speaking giving an update on Heritage's Strategy to get Republicans united around an agenda "Now." Doors open at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Archuleta Democratic Club. Noon, Pagosa Brewing Company. There is no admission fee, but all participants will be asked to order

lunch. The speaker will be Robin Young, the county Extension agent, who will discuss the new Resilient Archuleta initiative. Anyone interested on attending, RSVP to Becky Herman at becky.herman98@gmail.com or call 903-0788. All people are welcome at the lunch.

Hand-Drumming Class. Noon, PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a hand-drumming class. All are welcome. Hand drums will be provided for those who don't have one. For further information, call 731-3117.

Pickleball. Noon-3:30 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

Which one of these choice properties would work for the home of your dreams?



729 Kelsey Circle in Timber Ridge — amazing views, underground utilities, flat build site, over 3 acres. **\$129,900**



100 Sweetwater Drive in Twin Creek — borders greenbelt and Dutton Canyon, near national forest where you can hike, bike, and snowshoe, close to paved roads. **\$27,900**



35 Acres in Pinon Hills Ranch — gated community, year-round access, underground utilities, access to the San Juan River. **\$69,900**



30 Moffat Court in Twin Creek — treed lot on a cul-de-sac. Almost half an acre. **\$27,000**



1889 Badger Road in Aspen Springs — 360-degree views of the mountains, perfect off-the-grid spot for cabin, walking distance to national forest. 11 acres. **\$49,000**



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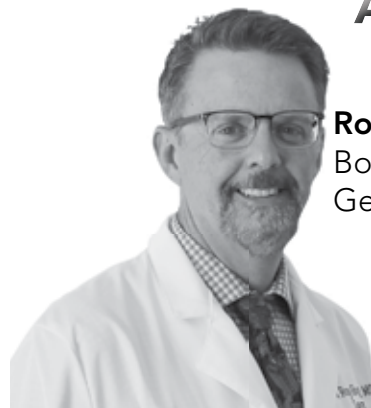
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Book Club for Adults. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for refreshments as we discuss “The Great Alone” by Kristin Hannah. Stop by and pick up a copy. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

PALS Adult Education. 4:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we learn West Coast swing. West Coast is a form of swing dancing in a slot to moderate tempo blues, R&B and contemporary music. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, March 13

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

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they

need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Flow Yoga Class. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. Please bring a mat and a towel. For more information, call Roz at (281) 435-0563.

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

Open Volleyball. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. We have all levels of players from those who have played in high school and college to players just learning the sport. We keep score, but the points truly don't matter. What matters is learning about the game of volleyball, working as a team and, mostly, having some laughs. Call 264-4152 for more information.

Jelly Beans After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. Free for all ages. For information, call 903-8104 or (702) 556-5649.

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

Role-Playing Game. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters in our ongoing RPG. This is a recurring program. If you want to be a part of the game but missed the last event, don't worry, you can join in anytime. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

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

meeting.

Hunter Education Regular Class. 6-9 p.m., Community Center. For more information, contact Don Volger at 264-2197.

First Aid Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension office. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. The presentation will be given by Susan Dussell. Her topic will be “Wildflowers of the San Juans: Wildflower Identification and Where to Find and Photograph Them.” Join us for socializing at 6 p.m.

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

Thursday, March 14

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

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

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Mountain View Homemakers.

11:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church. Mike LeRoux, the director for the Office of Emergency Management in Archuleta County, will be speaking. Interested men and women are invited. A potluck will be provided by members. For information, call Tozi at 731-3360.

Loaves and Fishes Community Lunch.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. All are invited to enjoy a hot meal in a welcoming atmosphere.

Pickleball.

Noon-3:30 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Duplicate Bridge.

1 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game.

1 p.m., Senior Center.

Computer Class: Microsoft Word Resumes.

1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Whether you already have a resume or need to start from scratch, learn how to use Microsoft Word to create a professional-looking resume using basic and advanced formatting tools. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Tech Time.

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

PALS Adult Education.

4:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Documentary Film and Dinner.

5-8 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. "Traces of the Trade: A Story from

the Deep North" traces a journey by Katrina Browne, the filmmaker, and nine of her cousins into the dark past of the slave trade which enriched their white New England family. A light meal and drinks will be provided by the parish. This will be followed by the viewing of the film and an opportunity for discussion.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association Presents 'Seventh Century Farmers of the Southwest.'

7 p.m., The Springs Resort and Spa EcoLuxe building. Archaeologist Shanna Diederichs will speak about the influx of farmers into southwest Colorado in the seventh century. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.

Friday, March 15

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

Pagosa Stitching Group.

9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi.

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

AARP Smart Driver Course.

12:30-4:30 p.m., Senior Center. The classroom course costs \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for nonmembers. To register, call 462-9613.

Movie.

2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Penguins team up with an elite

spy organization to save the world from an evil doctor. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga.

5-6 p.m., Community Center. **Colorado Guys and Gals Country Hoedown.** 5:30-9 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran gymnasium, 56 Meadows Drive. Dust off your fanciest western boots, denim jeans and cowboy hat and join us for a fun night of great music, food and dancing to benefit the children of Our Savior Lutheran School. Andy Janowsky and Jeff Johnson from The High Rollers will be playing their boot-stomping tracts. There will also be a silent auction with items for bid. For more information, contact Pennie DeClark at 903-3242.

Hunter Education Regular Class.

6-9 p.m., Community Center. For more information, contact Don Volger at 264-2197.

Submit your calendar items to editor@pagosahun.com; mail them to The Pagosa Springs SUN, P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or deliver them to The SUN office by noon Monday.

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Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Hafen's writings on the Old Spanish Trail.

We're using Wikipedia as a source of information because historians have done a great deal of research subsequent to the Hafens and their latest findings should be on Wikipedia.

We ended last week with the Catholic Fathers and their entourage camped out with the Santa Clara Pueblo Indians near today's Española, N.M. The travelers were guided by Native Americans from Utah who undoubtedly followed traditional Indian trails.

From Santa Clara Pueblo, the party traveled "nine leagues to the Pueblo of Santa Rosa de Abiquiu," where they remained on July 31, 1776, and where they celebrated a Solemn Mass seeking the aid of "their most holy patrons." On land, a league was most commonly translated as 3 miles in the English measuring system. "Most holy patrons" undoubtedly refers to patron saints, not identified in this rendition of the journey.

The party closely followed the Chama River Valley northward on the next portion of the journey before making its last New Mexico stop in today's Dulce. Dulce was unnamed in those days, but nearby is Horse Lake, Lago de Cabeza in Hispanic. Horse Lake and Pagosa Hot Springs were identified on the earliest Hispanic maps of the area,



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

For many years, Pagosa Springs' town hall went through changes as it stood on the west bank of the San Juan River near the corner of Pagosa and San Juan streets. The tower for the fire alarm bell was added later. Some say the building started as a bakery for Fort Lewis, the Army post which occupied the block from circa 1877 to 1882.

maps not very accurate to scale or other landmarks.

From Dulce, the holy entourage entered Colorado by following the Navajo River to its juncture with the San Juan River at Juanita, following the San Juan River eastward to its junction with the Piedra River at Arboles, then eastward to Ignacio, Durango and Hesperus. After passing through Mancos, they camped near the base of Mesa Verde National Park on Aug. 10.

At this point in his journal, Escalante wrote, "Father Fray Francisco Antansio [Dominguez] awoke troubled by rheumatic fever which he felt in his face and head since the day before, and it was desirable to make camp here until he should be better, but the continuous rains,

the inclemency of the weather and the great dampness of the place forced us to leave it. Going north and having traveled a little more than half a league, we turned to the northwest, went on a league and then swung west through valleys of very beautiful timber and abundant pasturage, roses and various other flowers."

Motter: I've used today's names for much of this description of the journey because today's readers will recognize the locations and because equating old names with new names would require too much space. Next week, the journey continues.

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UUUs to discuss the words and deeds of Bob Dylan

By Pauline Benetti
Special to The PREVIEW

Know something about Unitarian Universalism (UUism). First, understand that ours is a “living tradition.” It is concerned with the “here and the now” and how that can be made better for all people.

While it looks back to the example of our spiritual ancestors, it is also looking forward to the prophets of our time and reveres the lives and actions of men and women who have the strength and wisdom to do the right thing now.

This practice UUism has codified into the second source from which we draw strength and support: words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love.

Our speaker this Sunday, Stephen Clarke, a guest of the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, will speak to his research report, “Bob Dylan and an Initiatory Tradition in Popular Culture.” Is there anyone who knows Dylan’s life and songs who has not recognized the words and deeds of a prophetic man?

Clarke will examine several converging influences crucial to Dylan’s remarkable continuing influence on American culture. These are the poetic Muse as considered by Robert Graves, the backstory of Harry Smith’s remarkable Anthology of American Folk Music, Dylan’s lifelong fascination with the fractal visage of the Goddess both sacred and profane, and a deep intuition of the tikkun olam (the discipline leading to the restoration of the world) within both Hebrew Kabbalism and esoteric Christianity.

Through all of these can be detected resurgent remnants of a lost ancestral tradition and a spiritual heritage the equal of any other, as grounded through a remark-

able public life of speaking truth to power. Dylan’s own considered words, collected from various sources, will punctuate many novel considerations of deep concern to our own folk soul. All musicians are welcome. Comments and requests for transcripts can be sent to Clarke at hozhonahasglii@yahoo.com.

Clarke, since 1948, has been a walkabout hitchhiker, single fa-

Dylan’s own considered words, collected from various sources, will punctuate many novel considerations of deep concern to our own folk soul.

ther, associate founder of several Rudolf Steiner Waldorf schools, a research scientist with a degree in chemistry and physics, an anti-war activist, a BMW and Mercedes-Benz mechanic and shop owner in New Mexico for 30 years, a consecrated priest in his lineage, and is a staff-holder with Pueblo and Navajo Medicine Men co-celebrant in traditional healing ceremonies throughout their homelands. An early physical setback impelled him to “reversal of attention” and a lifelong practice of meditation and transformational path-working according to his various ancestral influences.

He and his wife, Juli, now live in Pagosa Springs, where he spends as much time as possible outside, in a life of continuing education

and acculturation to the spiritual identity of the land. Now occupied as a writer investigating the spiritual backstory of the American landscape (e.g., the Saturn Mysteries in Mesoamerica at the time of Christ), he likes to read tales of the old Chinese Zen masters, work out in the gym, soak in the springs, immerse himself in the cantatas of J. S. Bach and construct large-scale models of WWII naval vessels. The musical journey of Dylan has been a strong counterpoint throughout.

Ours is a welcoming congregation; we invite everyone to share in our faith community. Leadership is by Pastor Dean Cerny on the third and fourth Sundays or by a lay leader on other Sundays.

The Religious Exploration program for 2- to 9-year-olds continues in March on March 17 and 24. For more information, contact Anna Ramirez at afrancis_@hotmail.com.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pick up this week’s edition of The SUN to read about:



- Last week’s threat at high school
- Pagosa Springs Medical Center starts year ahead of budget
- La Plata Electric Association announces board candidates
- Snow water equivalency levels climb
- Lady Pirates take regionals, head to Great 8
- Pagosa Springs High School spring sports begin
- Letters to the Editor
- and much more local news

Available on newsstands throughout Pagosa Springs and by subscription, (970) 264-2100 or [typeservices.com/Pagosa Springs SunID537/](http://typeservices.com/PagosaSpringsSunID537/).

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The keys to a great life

By Lisa Burnson
Special to The PREVIEW

No one can grow for us. We must grow ourselves. The mind of all people is some part of the mind of God. Therefore, it contains within itself unlimited possibility of expansion and self-expression.

Be what you wish to be, feel what you wish to feel, and place no limit on principle. You can have a great life.

Please join the Rev. Janet Wyrick at Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) this Sunday, March 10, at 10:30 a.m. for a playful, fun-filled service as the keys to a great life are shared. All are welcome.

Meditation Circle

PCNT holds Meditation and Healing Circle each Wednesday at 6 p.m. (weather permitting). All are welcome. Instruction is provided for beginners.

Upcoming events

On Thursday, March 7, at 6 p.m., we will view and discuss the film, "What The Bleep Do We Know!?" On Thursday, March 14, at 6 p.m., we will view and discuss "The Celestine Prophecy." All are welcome. Donations appreciated. Please contact PCNT for more information.

Science of Mind classes

On Sunday, March 10, at 9 a.m., PCNT will hold a Science of Mind 101 course. This is an introductory eight-week course. We will learn to transcend limits and to live without boundaries. There will be study of the basic principles of Science of Mind. You will experience a life-enhancing personal awakening that will be cultivated.

PCNT is a New Thought center based on fostering living a spiritually centered life and promoting the philosophies of the Centers for Spiritual Living and the Agape Centers.

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

PCNT events are held at 40 N. 15th St., in the Momentum Fitness building.

Request a concentrated affirmative mind treatment or obtain information by joining us, emailing PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com, mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052, or calling (505) 604-5031. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought) or our website, www.PagosaNewThought.org.

Documentary film viewing at St. Patrick's to include discussion and dinner

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

On Thursday, March 14, at 5 p.m. St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will sponsor the viewing of a thought-provoking documentary film that unearths a hidden legacy of slavery in America.

"Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North" traces a journey by Katrina Browne, the filmmaker, and nine of her cousins

into the dark past of the slave trade which enriched their white New England family. The Emmy-nominated film is a transparent and vulnerable view into the story of the DeWolfe family as they research and explore the unsettling truth of their ancestors being the foremost slave traders in U.S. history.

"The public is invited and encouraged to attend," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's. "As we

■ See Documentary on page 18

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

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

ANSWER:

SOMEONE... is coming. has come. is coming again.



The theme of the Bible is like a thread woven through a fine fabric.

Join us if you would like to know more about Him.

Time of Services

Sunday	Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
	AM Worship	10:30 a.m.
	PM Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Pagosa Springs Church of Christ
277 Lewis Street • 264-2552



Dorman Diller, Minister



Photos courtesy Mary Miller

Jack Ellis and friends entertain guests of Loaves and Fishes at the parish hall on Lewis Street every two weeks. Loaves and Fishes hosts a free hot meal to the community every Thursday. Members of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church prepared and served the meal this week.

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Can a leopard change its spots?

By Richard Gammill
Special to The PREVIEW

“This man is a career offender,” the judge pronounced as he imposed a 35-year prison sentence. “He is a danger to society who should simply be kept off the streets.”

Matthew Charles was convicted in 1996 of selling 216 grams of crack cocaine and illegally possessing a gun. However, his rap sheet included a long list of serious crimes, which caused the judge to impose the harsh penalty.

Soon after Matthew began serving his sentence, a friend gave him a Bible and then a minister helped him come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Matthew said, “Once I accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Savior, that inward spiritual change started to reflect itself outwardly ... reflecting everything that had taken place on that February day in 1996.”

For the next 22 years, Matthew was a model prisoner, without a single disciplinary infraction. When President Donald Trump introduced him to the nation during his State of the Union address on Feb. 5, he said Matthew had completed more than 30 Bible studies, became a law clerk, taught GED classes and mentored fellow inmates.

Matthew was released from prison in 2016 under a new law that shortened prison sentences for prisoners convicted of certain drug offenses. Two years later, a court ruled that because of his prior offenses, he was ineligible for

A Matter of Faith

early release and he was sent back to prison.

During those two years of freedom, he volunteered at a food pantry and worked as a driver. He lived an exemplary life, guided by his deep sense of faith going back to his spiritual conversion in 1996. Matthew’s situation became widely known and a public clamor arose over his case, gaining attention from members of Congress and celebrities including Kim Kardashian West.

On Dec. 21, 2018, Trump signed legislation known as the First Step Act, which eased mandatory minimum drug sentences. A judge quickly ordered Matthew released from prison for the second time in three years. A month later, the entire nation learned his story of redemption.

Is the story of Matthew a rare exception to the popular idea that people seldom experience such a drastic life change? The ancient prophet Jeremiah expressed it this way: “Can a leopard change its spots? Neither can you do good who are accustomed to doing evil” (Jeremiah 33:23).

It is a basic tenet of the Christian faith that such change is not only

■ See Faith on next page

Documentary

■ continued from page 16

enter into the season of Lent, a time for self-reflection and repentance, this film shines a light on a particularly difficult part of our nation’s history and one family’s painful journey in discovering the truth.”

St. Patrick’s is one of only six Episcopal parishes in Colorado selected to present this film. A light meal of homemade soup, salad, bread and drinks will be provided

by the parish. This will be followed by the viewing of the film and an opportunity for discussion.

The evening begins in the church parish hall at 5 p.m. and will conclude at 8 p.m. St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Members of the congregation and local community, especially students, are encouraged to attend. The evening is free of charge.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Ballroom move
- 5 Skirt feature, sometimes
- 9 M, to Einstein
- 13 Study aide
- 15 Garden walkway
- 16 Death notice, briefly
- 17 Addams Family's Fester, e.g.
- 18 Law firm newbie
- 20 Something huge
- 22 Seller of Alaska in 1867
- 23 UPC part
- 24 Foreshadow
- 25 In the direction of
- 28 Big bully
- 29 SNL segments
- 30 Refinery residue
- 31 Scruff of the neck
- 35 Biblical boat
- 36 Understanding
- 39 Greyhound, e.g.
- 40 Commuter line
- 42 Right on the map?
- 43 Seize illegally
- 45 Abstract style of the '60s
- 47 In a monotonous way
- 48 Merlot, for one
- 51 "___ here long?"
- 52 Embroidered hole
- 53 Success at the expense of others
- 57 Anteater's cousin
- 59 "The Audacity of Hope" author
- 60 Big cat
- 61 Palindromic term of address
- 62 Xbox enthusiast
- 63 Repair, as clothing
- 64 Nose out

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		

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65 Tear apart

DOWN

- 1 Concert memento
- 2 It can be hard to carry, for some
- 3 Cut into glass
- 4 Skunk
- 5 Sudden gush
- 6 Whip's blow
- 7 "___ a deal!"
- 8 Leaving no stone unturned
- 9 Wet
- 10 Put down
- 11 Peaceful protest
- 12 Place of another
- 14 Penitent's emotion
- 19 Rudely terse
- 21 Simon's couple
- 24 Chris of "Jurassic World"
- 25 Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
- 26 Creole veggie
- 27 Online prefix with -pedia

28 Great time

- 30 Flat replacement
- 32 Go up against
- 33 Knitting stitch
- 34 Perceive
- 37 In the _____ (for now)
- 38 Christmas crackler
- 41 Area prone to flooding
- 44 Marine hazard
- 46 ___ Piper
- 47 Attorney's charge

48 Bailiwick

- 49 Eagle's home (var.)
- 50 Exorcist's target
- 51 Ecological community
- 53 Stars and Stripes, e.g.
- 54 British title
- 55 Word said before opening the eyes
- 56 Fabric quantity
- 58 Little fella

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

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Standing in the way of a life

“Give me back my life,” my 20-year-old son said to me.

I remember the jolt I felt and thought, oh no. He might make a mess of his life. Talk about a rude awakening and a person who was in the way of her child. I needed to see my wrong thinking and what I was doing, but at the time I couldn't even see there might be a problem.

Another rude awakening came to me again. This time in a dream. It was over 20 years ago when I learned I was the problem.

I had a dream that shook me to my core. Today, it's still as visual as when it came to me in the middle of the night.

My son stood in the pouring rain, wet and drowning in a large ravine. I stood in the doorway yelling to him, “Come in. Come in. You're getting wet.” He couldn't budge.

The more I yelled, the further he sank into despair. I was in a state of panic. I kept yelling. I could see him drowning, but I couldn't do anything about it.

The next morning, I wondered what the dream meant. I heard a voice from within me say, “He couldn't get in out of the rain because you wouldn't let him come in. You were standing in the doorway.”

It was the beginning of seeing something very wrong that needed to be corrected in me in order to save this poor child. A person I loved more than life itself was drowning in what I thought was good intentions, well meaning and even love. Yet, I

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



was the one who was standing in his way. I saw the problem. I was steeped in religion and law without grace.

When I put down the weapons of judgment and religion and accepted God's grace, my son came home. No judgment, just thankfulness with grace for both of us. God changed me as he was changing my son to fit into his place in the family again.

I recently said to my friend, “A person might cause another person's downfall by standing in their way and placing certain expectations on them. How can anyone fight God when a person says, ‘Its God's will?’”

My friend asked me to explain what I meant.

I emphasized that we use God to declare our own dogma and will even bring condemnation on someone else, knowing or unknowingly. God help us all. A person will loom so big in their thinking it won't allow them to think or know their worth.

I could name many people in family, business or life. For instance, a person can be lodged into a certain dogma — legalism or judgment or just plain old stubbornness.

I saw a writers' group go down hill because a leader wouldn't listen to the rest of the group. I saw a mother change the direction of her family members. I saw a church topple because of a leader's stubbornness.

I found when I changed in what I thought was gospel truth and stepped aside, I gave place for my son to live his own life. At the time, it was hard and difficult, but I trusted God to show me the truth. He did. Today, I flourish and so does my family.

I said to my Sweet Al, “Sometimes, we are the placeholder for the next person in line. We keep our foot in the door for the next generation, but we need to know when to get out of the way.”

Final brushstroke: When my son ran to the Philippines, he jokingly said, “If I could run further away, I would.” Today, he has come home after 20 years. He is living his life the way God meant for him to live it. I don't even pretend to know what God has in store for him.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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Faith

■ continued from previous page possible, but is to be expected: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV).

Shon Hopwood, one of Charles' lawyers and an associate law professor at Georgetown University Law Center, said in an interview on NBC News, “I think what Matthew shows is that people can change, character's not static and people can have redemption if given the opportunity to come out of federal prison and show they are a changed person.”

Matthew recognizes that he is seen as a model for “rehabilitated”

inmates who will benefit from the new law. More than 2,000 crack offenders are now eligible to seek early release under the First Step Act. However, his experience went beyond rehabilitation.

He said, “The change that happened within me was stronger than just rehabilitation. It changed me personally. It made me want to obey the law and be a better person.”

Matthew plans to be an advocate for those who are on the same path to freedom he has taken.

He said, “Since I was incarcerated for 22 years, I want to take advantage of that situation and speak on behalf of those who have also changed.”



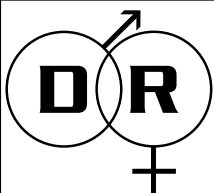
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A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 315 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 7p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD). (Last Friday of the month 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649 or aa-westerncolorado.org.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETS WEDNESDAYS, 7p.m. at 315 N. 2nd St./ CR 200, Snowball Rd. For information contact Woody (970)582-0065 or Carl (970)903-2346.

\$2,500 PROGRESSIVE JACKPOT IS at a MUST go level. Jackpot will be awarded no matter the number of balls called on Sunday, March 10. Regular bingo starts at 6p.m., early bird bingo starts at 5:45p.m., doors open at 5p.m. Must purchase a regular bingo packet to play the progressive. Bingo held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall, 445 Lewis St. No outside food and beverages please.



JANIE: Hello! I'm Janie, a sweet and snuggly girl looking for my Forever Home! I love to be held and hang out with my feline friends in the cat room. Come up and visit me today! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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TRADITIONAL ALANON GROUP: Traditional AlAnon Group meets Mondays, 6p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Dr. (325)669-9715.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Saturday, 10:30a.m., 234 N. 2nd Street (CR200/ Snowball Road). www.al-anon-co.org.

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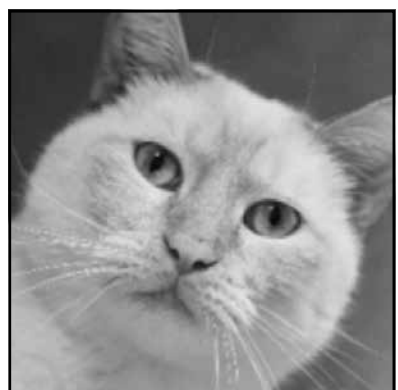
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XAVI: Hello all! I'm Xavi, a sweet and social boy searching for my Forever Home! I enjoy spending time with my feline friends and wouldn't mind sharing a home with a furry friend. Come up to the shelter today and spend some time with me! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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DENTAL HYGIENIST: San Juan Dental is seeking a caring and compassionate dental hygienist to join our team. Please email resume to dreicmsmithdds@aol.com or stop by our wonderful office and meet the team. (970)264-9436.

FULL-TIME HYGIENIST WANTED to accommodate growing practice. Join our team of hardworking professionals! State of the art practice with 25 years in Pagosa, weekends and holidays off, excellent pay. Open Tuesday-Friday. Meet us at Pagosasmiles.com; email resume to office@pagosasmiles.com.

CNA'S NEEDED, DAY SHIFT and night shift. Night shift differential. Apply in person. Pine Ridge Extended Care. Under new management.

LIFECARE- PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME positions available for Personal Care Providers/ Homemakers. Working phone and reliable transportation required. Training provided to those seeking a rewarding position with our agency. Application/ information (970)516-1234, ext. 1. <http://www.lifecare-inc.com>.

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MARKETING ASSISTANT WANTED! Must have experience in marketing involving both print and digital mediums. Need experience with Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop and Microsoft Office. Preferred applicants will have I.T. experience as well, though it is not required. Position is part time to start with the potential for full time. A Colorado M.E.D. Badge is required. Please send resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

PLANNER. The Archuleta County Development Services is accepting applications for Planner. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits. For job description and wage details visit www.archuletacounty.org submit application and resume to HR, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or fax (970)264-1879 or email rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CDL DRIVER/ YARD HELP NEEDED. Call 264-5515, 2690 E. Hwy. 160.

LABORERS AND CARPENTERS. Pay based on experience. (970)403-2228.

NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Seeks Director. The Archuleta County Education Center is accepting applications for Director of Wings Early Childhood Center serving children ages 1-5 years. Minimum requirements: Associate or Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education; Colorado Director Qualified Certification and experience as an ECE teacher. Strong leadership and communication skills and ability to lead the operations of a new center. Strong background in developmentally appropriate programs; human resources; policies and procedures; budgets; facility management and a working knowledge of state licensing rules and regulations. Background check required. A full job description is available at www.theacec.com. Submit cover letter, resume and references to janet.santo78@gmail.com by March 22, 2019.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

AUTOS

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS



Archuleta Housing
We are encouraging families to apply!
 Our 3-bedroom and 4-bedroom waitlist is VERY short.
Call Leslie or Carol to discuss 970-398-1860
We are accepting applications for all size apartments.
Archuleta Housing Corporation
 Office is located at 703 San Juan St., Suite 205

3 BR/ 2 BA, ranch style house in Lake Forest Estates. 2 car garage, deck, all appliances including washer/ dryer. Available March, \$1,650 monthly. Call (303)525-7105.

LONG & SHORT TERM Rentals available. OWNERS More Properties Needed! www.NextHomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

BRAND NEW CUSTOM 3 bedroom home, 2 car garage, Forest Lakes, 4/10 acre, on paved walking path. Natural gas fireplace. \$2,200/month. Ellynn Ragone (575)779-3239. www.lakeforestcir.shutterstock.com.


FURNISHED HOME DOWNTOWN. MASTER bedroom, 2 bath plus loft. W/ D included. 2 car garage/ Dog/ cat, maybe. \$1,450/ month plus utilities. First, last plus \$500 deposit. Application and references required. Call/ text (602)571-0197.

CONDO FOR RENT. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, garage, furnished or unfurnished, near downtown. Nice mountain view. \$1,275 monthly. (254)289-4028.

SMALL 1 BEDROOM/ 1 bath on Lower Blanco. \$950/month plus minimal electric. 1.5 fenced acres. Must haul water. Pets okay. 2 detached sheds/workshops. First, last plus \$300 deposit. Application and references required. Call/ text (602)571-0197.

NEW EFFICIENCY APARTMENT connected to home. \$750, all bills paid, plus deposit. mnenergy88@gmail.com.

HILLTOP VIEW HOME FOR lease Meadows 1. 3 bedroom, 1,700 sq. ft., double garage, on 9 acres. NO smoking, \$1,500/ month, security deposit \$1,500. Burt (619)992-9100. Available April.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
 All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."
 This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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HOUSES FOR SALE

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 420 Pagosa St. Ste. A
 www.ThatOrangeDog.com

Every office is independently owned and operated

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM rental needs. (970)731-8599.

CONDO AVAILABLE MARCH 15. 2 bedroom 2 bath, great location off Cloud Cap Ave. W/D, \$1,100 per month, \$1,100 deposit plus utilities. (970)749-1759.

NICE 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath home with garage on paved road in Pagosa Lakes, large yard plus open space, energy efficient, newly remodeled, W/D included. Available early April, prefer no pets. \$1,500 plus deposit. (970)903-0187.

POPLAR COURT. 3 STORY log home, oversize 2-car garage, 4 bedroom, gas fireplace, lots of decks. \$2,275. (970)731-2216.

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

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH on golf course. Garage and water paid. \$900/ month plus deposit. (479)244-7141.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

GORGEOUS REMODELED RETAIL SUITE at Talisman Plaza. 1,250 sq. ft. with front and rear doors. Available immediately. Seth Furtney (970)385-5547.

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PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE. Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. 1,560 square feet office or retail space. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

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ON SITE RENTALS and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007.

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MEXICAN RESTAURANT (3,556 SF). Established Ignacio, Navajo Lake traffic! Turn key, equipment, furnishings. Retail shop provides additional income. \$300s. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOME BUYING TODAY is a competition. Be prepared to WIN! FREE seminar (with preregistration). March 7, 6-8p.m. or March 9, 10a.m.-noon. 2800 Cornerstone Drive, Suite 211. Topics: down payment assistance; real estate contract; closing costs; making an offer; inspection costs; credit scores; and more. Wen Saunders (970)731-8800. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates. Lisa de Kramer (970)739-3616 Cornerstone Home Lending. NMLS #441114. Equal housing opportunity.


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PROPERTY

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MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

PROPERTY

SELLING OR BUYING THAT just right horse property? Call Pamela Novack, your neighbor and friend in Pagosa Springs since 1981. (970)946-0534, EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa.

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107+ ACRES SALE PRICED! Fenced 2 sides, seasonal spring, mountain views, gated access, community water. \$235,400. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

OWNER FINANCING. Buy now, build later! 4.6 acres, electric, \$50s! 1.23 acres, investment multi mobile lots, \$40s! 1.63 acres, electric, ranch views, \$30s! 2 acres, city water, national forest access, \$60s! Buying or selling land? Call Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

Homemakers sponsoring ‘Living with Wildfire — Mitigate, Prevent and Protect’ on March 14

By Tozi Rubin
Special to The PREVIEW

Mike Le Roux is the director of emergency operations for the Office of Emergency Management, a division under the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office. Le Roux and his team are primarily responsible for emergency preparedness within the county, as well as coordinating the county's emergency response to wildland fires, search and rescue and other county-level incidents.

Le Roux's team provides for the

protection of life, health, safety, welfare and property of the public and community. In addition, they assist community members in solving problems related to emergency management.

We know that most of us are relieved by this winter's snowfall. However, all of this precipitation will mean that grasses and shrubs will grow rapidly this spring and summer, thus, increasing the possibility of wildfire. And we live in an area that is wildfire-prone, as evidenced by last year's 416 Fire

near Durango.

On March 14, Le Roux will speak at Homemakers. Our meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. We socialize before we enjoy a potluck lunch provided by members. First-time visitors are not expected to bring food.

This meeting is open to men as well as women.

Mountain View Homemakers is a 50-year-old monthly gathering of area women who are interested in making their lives, the lives of their families and the community more enjoyable. The meetings include lunch and a speaker or activity. This

is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends in the community.

We meet on the second Thursday of every month. There are no dues or membership requirements and every interested woman is welcome. Homemaking skills such are not required. Call Tozi at 731-3360 with questions.

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Ben Bailey

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the brown-capped rosy finch.

The brown-capped is the least common of our three varieties of rosy finches. The brown-capped is found only in Colorado and northern New Mexico. Its body is chocolate brown. The plumage varies, but you may see pink highlights in the wings, tail and belly. Migration is altitudinal; the birds move down the mountains, rather than flying southward in winter. A non-breeding bird's bill is yellow now, but will darken for breeding season.

This species visits feeders and that is your best bet for observation at this time of year. Look for a flock of as many as 50 birds, moving quickly and all together as a group. In summer, nest sites can be found above treeline wherever there are proper cliffs, caves, rock slides, old buildings, railroad tunnels, mines or steep cliffs.

National Audubon calls this bird "uncommon and local. Its isolated mountaintop habitats are likely to be especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change." The species appears on a State of the Birds Watch List, which lists species that are at risk of becoming threatened or endangered without conservation action. Keeping track of sightings is, therefore, especially important.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminuche-audubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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