



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 112 — NO. 12, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019

\$466,000 broadband grant awarded following appeal

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Despite having been initially denied on its application for a \$466,000 broadband grant, Visionary Communications, on behalf of the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC), was approved for the grant on Dec. 4 following an appeal.

The grant, from the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DoRA), will contribute a portion of a \$717,000 broadband project, which includes matching funds from the Archuleta County broadband fund, Visionary Communications and Hinsdale County.

These funds will be used to fund towers and equipment upgrades, according to CDC Administrator Mary Jo Coulehan.

■ See Broadband A8



Archuleta County Sheriff's Deputy Shane Bracken poses with members of a happy family during the Shop With a Cop event on Dec. 5. Members of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Pagosa Springs Police Department, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Durango Police Department, La Plata County Sheriff's Office, Archuleta County Combined Dispatch and Archuleta County Emergency Management shopped with families for the holiday season. Each child received a \$150 budget to shop for clothing and toys while paired with a local law enforcement officer.

SUN photo/Chris Mannara

District won't charge taxpayers for full-day kindergarten, mills to be lowered

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) has opted to not charge local taxpayers the \$242,953 set aside for full-day kindergarten.

The district was receiving those funds from a mill levy override (MLO) passed in November of 2018.

At that time, Archuleta County voters approved Ballot Issue 5A, which concerned increasing property taxes for a seven-year period for funding for ASD; voters approved increasing taxes \$1.7 million annually for the seven-year period (beginning in 2019 and ending after collection year 2025).

ASD's MLO funds are being used to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and staff; fund full-time school resource officers for safety; fund full-day kindergarten; and provide required funding for Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) to increase staff salaries, supplement full-day kindergarten and improve school safety.

Due to the passing of a bill to fund full-day kindergarten that was signed by Gov. Jared Polis in May, the ASD board discussed what to do with the full-day kindergarten funds at its regular meeting on Nov. 12 following a presentation by ASD Finance Director Mike Hodgson.

■ See School A8

Commissioners may oppose wolf reintroduction

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) may publicly oppose a ballot initiative that would reintroduce gray wolves to Colorado.

The Colorado Restore Gray Wolf Population Initiative may be on Colorado's ballot next year and the Rocky Mountain Wolf Action Fund expressed that it planned to submit over 200,000

signatures Tuesday to get the initiative on the state ballot.

The measure would require the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission to create and implement a plan to reintroduce gray wolves on designated lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023.

The BoCC met in work session Tuesday morning to discuss publicly opposing the initiative.

"I think we've existed fine without 'em and I think we should continue to do so," Commissioner Ron Maez said at the work

session.

Commissioner Steve Wadley stated that gray wolves are "a handful" and said that if they attack, "It's not like pulling a cocker spaniel off of somebody's leg."

"I think we need a letter or something just to let the state know that we're not in support of this," said Commissioner Alvin Schaaf.

■ See Wolf A8

County to issue temporary property tax credit, selects new audit firm

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County residents will receive a tax credit on their property tax notices next year.

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the county commissioners, County Finance Director Larry Walton presented his third-quarter financial report, which included that announcement.

"We'll end up having to return to the taxpayers, you might say, a temporary tax credit for the year of almost \$300,000," Walton told the county commissioners. "It would be .849 mills, so that is already built into the 2020 budget."

The Archuleta County Treasurer's Office confirmed that county residents will see the tax credit on their 2019 property tax notices, which will be sent in 2020.

Walton explained there are three

things that can cap the amount of property tax the county can collect:

- The county can't "modify upward" the mill levy rate without voter approval.
- Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) limits.
- The "5.5 percent" rule, which is separate from TABOR, also limits the amount of property tax that may be collected each year.

"The position of the State is that whichever of those 3 caps is the most 'restrictive' is the one that gets applied," wrote Walton in a follow-up email. "In this case, the '5.5%' rule is the most restrictive, and therefore, we have used that one to limit the property tax collection that will occur in 2020."

The exact amount of the temporary tax credit is \$295,967, according to Walton.

■ See County A8



Lucky children of all ages posed with Santa Claus and told him their various Christmas wishes at the 14th annual Festival of Trees on Dec. 6 at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

SUN photos/Chris Mannara



Index

Opinion	A2
Letters	A3
Obituaries	A5
James Edward Klaproth II	
Doris Kay Lattin	
Manuel Severo Montoya	
Education	A6
Charter school approves bonus for director	

Sports	A10
Pirate wrestling falls to Piedra Vista, goes 3-2 at Demon Duals	
Public Notices	A17
PREVIEW	
Live Performers	2
Classifieds	31
PagosaSUN.com	
ExplorePagosa.com	
Pagosa.info	



Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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			Type	Depth	Moisture
12/3	45	21	-	-	-
12/4	43	24	-	-	-
12/5	38	32	S	2.1"	.40"
12/6	40	20	S	T	0.2"
12/7	45	17	-	-	-
12/8	34	31	S	1.5"	.17"
12/9	37	21	-	3.3"	.40"

Pagosa Springs
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EDITORIAL

A gift for us all

Have you taken advantage of this year's local Holiday Hoopla shopping extravaganza?

Be sure to check out the Holiday Hoopla pages in this week's PREVIEW. Local businesses have pulled out all the stops, making this the perfect opportunity for you to make it your goal to shop local.

There are only a few days remaining where shoppers can find out just what all the hoopla is about, but there are still several days and opportunities for shoppers to support local businesses right up until Christmas.

Where we shop, where we eat and where we have fun — all of it makes our community home. Our one-of-a-kind businesses are an integral part of the distinctive character of Pagosa Springs.

By choosing to patronize local establishments, you make a positive impact on our community in many ways.

Spending locally instead of shopping out of town or online strengthens our local economy and ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested in this community.

When you shop locally, 4 percent of the total sales tax goes to the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County. This pool of money helps pay for local roads, parks and law enforcement, among other things. When shoppers spend money out of town, those tax dollars support services in other communities.

If you have an emergency, you need help and you need it quickly. Do you

want your money to go toward law enforcement elsewhere? For better streets and roads elsewhere? For community services and new public buildings elsewhere? Of course not — but that's just where it goes when you shop out of town.

Statistics indicate that for every \$100 you spend at a local business, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures. That investment has a big impact.

If you spend \$100 out of town, we get nothing. Your money will boost another town's economy. Your sales tax dollars will support another city and county and maybe even another state.

Businesses help shape a community's identity. Pagosa Springs wouldn't be in existence if it weren't for local businesses. Entrepreneurs set up shop here over a hundred years ago and have served this community ever since.

Embrace what makes Pagosa Country unique. Saying you found a unique gift locally has a special ring to it. You are sharing the quaintness and charm of Pagosa Country with signature gifts. Buying local keeps our community unique.

Customer service of the kind you thought had disappeared can still be found in the smallest of local businesses — local businesses that are the lifeblood of this community.

Remember, local businesses are owned, managed or run by our friends and next-door neighbors. You know them. They go to church here, coach

youth sports teams, eat in local restaurants and live just down the street from you. You may see them at the beauty shop, the coffee shop, at local events, or out shopping at and supporting other local businesses. When you buy in local stores, you're supporting your neighbors.

There is a true ripple effect when you shop locally. Our business owners live here, play here, eat here and give back to the community through their time, talent and money. They purchase local services such as electricians, plumbers, pizza delivery and so on. Pagosa's charitable organizations and youth sports depend on donations from local businesses.

Local business operators are an integral part of any community and deserve local support, particularly at this time of year.

Thriving local businesses are part of a vibrant, growing community, making it an attractive place to live, work and raise a family.

We encourage you to take some time and check out the many advertisements in this week's paper and support those local business owners who work hard to bring you quality goods and services in our hometown. When you are out shopping, you will want to visit one of the local eating and drinking establishments also advertised in the pages of this week's newspaper.

Doing business locally is a gift for us all.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Archuleta County Commissioners

Ron Maez, Chair

264-8303

Steve Wadley

264-8304

Alvin Schaaf

264-8305

Pagosa Springs Town Council

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger

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WHADDYA THINK?

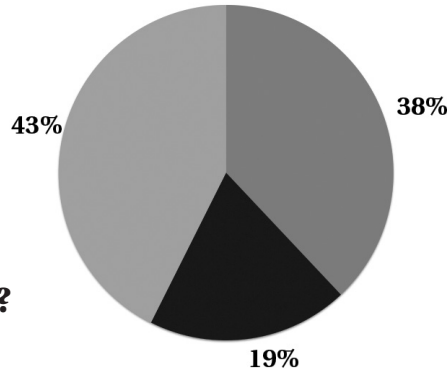
Do you believe in Santa Claus?

Poll results (108 votes)

Once upon a time — 38 percent

No — 19 percent

Yes — 43 percent



Vote this week online:
Are area roads in
good shape for the winter?
www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Nov. 20, 1980, Pagosa Springs SUN.

BAND STUDENTS — Two Pagosa Springs band students Kevin Wilcox and Leslie Hawkins have been selected for McDonald's All American High School band. Wilcox, at left, and Hawkins, at right, are shown with Band Director David Webb after being notified of the honor.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 13, 1929

Miss Edna Sparks is quarantined at her home in Pagosa Springs for smallpox contracted at Kearns, where she is teaching school. She is getting along nicely but the school will probably remain closed until after the holiday, owing to the prevalence of many cases of the disease in that vicinity.

Among the new cases of smallpox in Pagosa Springs are Miss Addie Dunn at the home of her mother, and the J.P. Kimball family in this city, where three members are ill from the disease.

With the completion of the repair work on one of the Arlington hot water wells the first of the week, an appreciable and satisfactory difference has been noted in the flow and pressure of all the wells which supply the necessary heating element to several business houses in Pagosa Springs. The drill rig will be left in this city until next spring, when the other Arlington well will also be repaired.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 15, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Kimball and Glenda Rae and Mrs. and Mrs. Glenn Kimball and family spent the day at Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Clark's Sunday. The men branded calves. On Monday, they expected to work cattle at the J.P. Kimball ranch.

That fellow Walter Irvin sure gets around — and fast too. He left Tuesday for a short business trip to Amarillo, Tex., and hoped to be back this week-end. He is one busy man trying to get his new home completed for a Christmas home coming of the Irvin family. But we will wager that he stops long enough enroute, to boost Pagosaland.

Lloyd Anderson went to Chaco Canyon, N.M., Monday with a load of wild animal bait.

Mr. and Mrs. Jule Macht went to Walsenburg Monday, expecting to be home Tuesday. Mrs. Macht went to have her eyes fitted for new glasses.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Archuleta of Dyke, stopped over in Pagosa Springs, briefly, Tuesday, enroute to Del Norte and Alamosa on business. Mr. Archuleta and Louie Marquez have moved their sheep to Tiffany for the winter where Mr. and Mrs. Archuleta will care for them.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 11, 1969

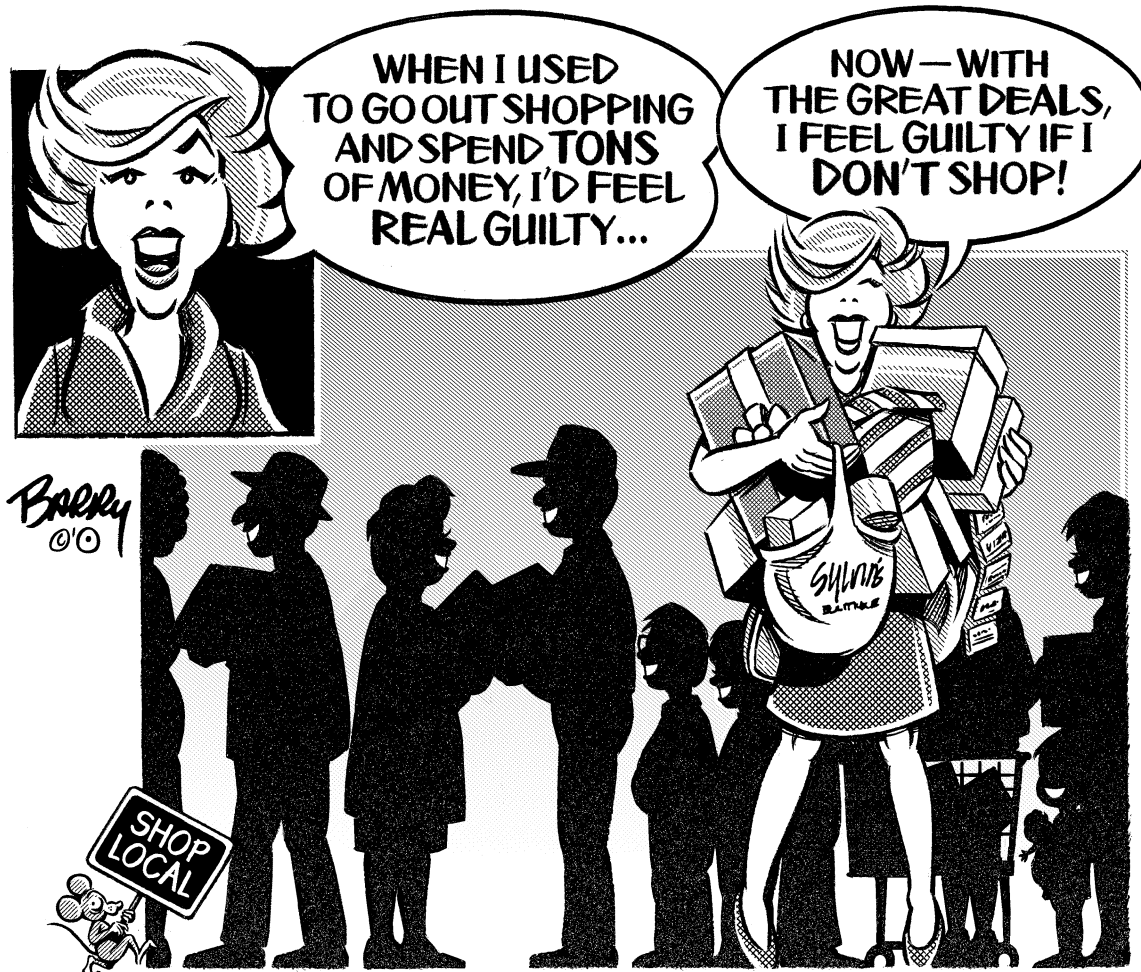
There is good news in the community this week. The San Juan Lumber Company mill here has started operations after a shutdown of several weeks. The mill was shut down late in the fall after bad weather brought a halt to logging operations. The roads have now frozen enough that logging is underway. Carl Edwards, manager of the local mill, said this week that logging operations were going ahead at a steady pace and unless there was some major difficulty the mill would operate for the rest of the winter.

Jim Duffy, local manager for Ralanco Industries, announced this week that operations at Pagosa, three miles west of Pagosa Springs, had ceased until next spring. Mr. Duffy said that all local operations of Ralanco Industries would be closed down during the winter months. When weather permits next spring the service station and cafe facilities will be improved to meet the standards needed and work will also resume on the construction project.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 15, 1994

Jim Iverson, of Pagosa Springs, and Marian Shepherd Lang, of Fort Smith, Ark., received an unusual present this holiday season. Each other. Iverson was adopted as a newborn, and Lang is Iverson's birth mother. After 44 years, the pair was reunited in November on a Chicago-based syndicated television talk show after the mother's long search for her son was complete. Since their reunion in Chicago, Iverson and Lang have talked by phone every three or four days. Iverson learned about his three half-siblings. He has a brother Tom, 40, and sisters Judy, 42, and Debbie, 32. He has talked to all three on the phone. He also has begun to absorb some of the extensive family genealogy collected by his mother. Jim is going to California to spend part of the Christmas holiday with the new found members of his family. Iverson's son lives in California and Jim hopes to introduce him to his new grandmother, aunts and uncle, and other relatives.



WHEN I USED TO GO OUT SHOPPING AND SPEND TONS OF MONEY, I'D FEEL REAL GUILTY...

NOW — WITH THE GREAT DEALS, I FEEL GUILTY IF I DON'T SHOP!

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.

Comparing documents

Dear Editor:
Let's compare two of the most influential documents ever produced, the U.S. Constitution and the Christian bible.

First their history, our Constitution was a work in process (drawing heavily on King John's Magna Charta) during our revolution coming to fruition and written by the folks who fought the war. Whereas the Bible was a 'living document' passed orally through many generations and a 'god awful' number of iterations with multiple authors until finally forced into a single work by Constantine, Emperor of Rome by his chosen Rabbis ... hmmm. Why, well he couldn't run Rome's far flung empire with all its different gods, chaotic holidays and calendar conflicts vs the ability to put everyone on the same clock/calendar & tax base via the Christian faith ... voila the first Christian Bible.

Benefits to mankind, the Constitution provides inalienable individual rights mixed with obligations to respect others and all you have to do is honor & defend your nation

(unless you're a Republican Congressperson). The Bible, well if ... and that's a big if, offers you eternal bliss if you submit to it's God before you're dead. However, if you're not a 1%er well tough religion is all you get so go to church more often. Renege on your religious pledge and it's curtains for eternity. However, there's a tricky "catch 22," die before you can commit and be blessed then it's never...never land forever ... sorry timing's everything. Look at it as if you're a financial investor ... think a futures contract, your choice is to go long on acceptable risk vs. shorting everything you know to be true, factual and betting the ranch on an unprovable promise. Yup, dat's 'da bet.

Requirements: The Constitution is based on your inalienable human rights backed by the rule of law. The Bible, well you get a bunch of promises if you're forgiven of all sins; and no protection or peace from transgressions unless you're willing to forgive the bad guys.

Wrap up: It is with the greatest sadness that I must report that while the Bible has some interesting fables to live by the Constitution wins as a document of value and worth to mankind & civilization. However with Barr as AG prostituting the DOJ, Pastors showing anger and demeaning comments to others and Priests abusing children, one might say it's currently a tossup.

Then again, take heart, Born Again Christians probably always have the perfidy of Donald, his gofer Giuliani, & Moscow Mitch, lest we forget their stalwart aide-de-camps 'MBS' the Saudi Prince and Putin. What's that about politics, strange bedfellows, hypocrisy and the-enemy-of-my-enemy ... is my? Dave Blake

When law-abiding citizens of America are labeled as "deplorable", "racist", "sexist", "fascist", "people who cling to their guns and religion", "irredeemable", or "xenophobes"; sooner or later some on the left will take violent action against such "plagues" on society. Some already have. I fear that sooner or later the traditionalists of this country who view the encroachment of Socialism as the death knell of the nation and the end of their Constitutional rights simply won't take it any more.

Texas Rep. Louie Gohmert was actually speaking the truth when, immediately following the House vote to authorize the impeachment of President Trump he declared, "It's about to push this country to a civil war if they were to get their wishes, and if there's one thing I don't want to see in my lifetime, I don't want to ever have participation in, it's a civil war. Some historian, I don't remember who, said, guns are only involved in the last phase of a civil war." This remark, of course, begs the question, "Are we currently in a cold civil war?" I fear the answer to this question is "yes".

The reason I say we are now in a cold civil war is due to the inability of the left to consider any other viewpoint besides their own. They no longer desire any bi-partisanship or "reaching across the aisle". What they want is a total capitulation of the right to their Socialist dream of an unattainable utopia despite the reality that it cannot be achieved. Their desire is not to share power with a "loyal opposition" but to destroy any opposition. This goal, coupled with the violent language employed against traditional citizens, and Capitalism leaves no room for compromise. It will result in violence and will ultimately and tragically result in a violent response.

If this is not the future America desires to see, then the language on all sides needs to reflect that desire. Perhaps in this season, it would be well to consider the language employed by the Prince of Peace whose birth we celebrate.

Richard Bolland

Valle Seco land exchange

Dear Editor:
Have you heard about the Valle

Seco Land Exchange Proposal near Pagosa Springs? We are seeking input from users of lands affected by this proposal. If you are familiar with the area and have something to say, please contact us — Colorado Wild Public Lands — a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to careful analysis of this type of public/private land exchange. Our email is: coloradowildpubliclands@gmail.com

The Forest Service is seeking input on a proposal to exchange public lands along the Middle Fork of the Piedra, the West Fork of the San Juan and Johnny Creek for private lands on the Middle Fork and south of Pagosa Springs. The exchange would remove some acreage from the South San Juan and Turkey Creek Roadless Areas and modify the Wild and Scenic River corridor along the Middle Fork of the Piedra, possibly reducing publicly accessible river frontage. The public would receive a private inholding south of Pagosa Springs near Klutter Mountain. There are several private beneficiaries of the exchange and Western Land Group from Denver is a private consulting group facilitating the exchange. For more information about the proposal, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57154&exp=overview>

Will this proposed exchange impact you? How will it do so? Does this proposal enhance or diminish your user experience on your local public lands? The Forest Service

■ See Letters A4

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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

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or fax: (970) 264-2103

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.

Violent language and violent acts

Dear Editor:

There is a direct connection between violent language and violent acts. As we watch events unfold in Washington with the attempted political coup of a duly elected President it is important to note the language that is being employed. Violent language can and does lead to violent acts.

What was it that prompted James T. Hodgkinson to attempt to assassinate the Republican members of Congress nearly murdering Rep. Steve Scalise? What was it that prompted the black-shirted thugs known collectively as Antifa to both physically and verbally assault anyone in a MAGA hat, smash business windows, and torch automobiles? What was it that prompted members of Black Lives Matter and their sympathizers to gun down law enforcement officers in cold blood? Such actions are prompted by violent language that precedes and encourages the acts.

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Letters

Continued from A3

deadline for scoping comments on this proposal Friday, Dec. 13, so please contact us soon.

Thanks for your input,

Hawk Greenway, Jean Perry, James Katzenberger, Anne Rickenbaugh, Franz Froelicher and Stef Davis, Colorado Wild Public Lands Board of Directors

Airport concerns

Dear Editor:

Mr. Bigley, Thank you for your service as an EMT and 1st responder. I am sure you have impacted the lives of many people. To your point regarding potential life threatening emergencies, I have indeed experienced such an emergency, having been in septic shock about 18 months ago. As an EMT, I am sure you are aware that sepsis kills more people annually than heart attacks and can be fatal in 12 hrs or less. Due to extenuating circumstances, PSMC was not able to treat this case and I was transported to Mercy in Durango, by car, and was in emergency surgery in a bit over an hour. Unless there is an air ambulance on standby at Stevens Field 24/7, the time it would take to get a plane wheels up out of Denver, to here and back Denver, or even Albuquerque, to a hospital could be fatal. I did not have that time and if that were my only alternative, I could very well not be here today.

I have no argument with having an airport here. It can serve the county in many beneficial ways, including the wildfire mitigation and protection you describe. My concern is that is a county operated facility that is used primarily by pilots for personal benefit at taxpayer expense. Many just use it for recreational purposes. There is reportedly a "flight school" (a safety concern) operated by a private pilot for personal enrichment. There is a "flight demonstration team" that operates out of the airport. There are large multi-passenger aircraft, allegedly owned by wealthy residents/visitors, coming and going. Do these entities pay fairly for the privilege of using the airport for their personal gain? My concern is that this airport runs a budget deficit to the tune of \$220,000 annually, money that could be better

spent elsewhere that would benefit all residents. If SJBPH and PSMC want to fund and maintain the air ambulance you describe, on a 24/7 basis, then I might be comfortable helping fund that at some level. But when hanger space only costs \$.50/sqft/yr (\$1800+/- per yr), the persons using the airport for personal benefit are simply not covering the operating costs of the facility they are using. There are people in this county that can't find adequate living space for \$1800/month. Maybe we should rent out hanger spaces to provide shelter for the homeless/disadvantaged citizens of the county? Persons that can afford an airplane, its maintenance, and the hanger/tie down space, fuel, permits, and other associated fees should certainly be expected to pay for the use of the facility they get at taxpayers' expense. If you or anyone else can provide fact based evidence of the revenue the airport itself generates that can cover the budget deficits the county has stated, I will withdraw my complaint.

For lack of space, I won't go into the safety aspects of pilots disregarding published FAA guidelines for flight safety and noise abatement. I will save that for another day.

Gary Hardin

Thankful for letters

Dear Editor:

As former full-time Pagosa Springs residents, my husband and I both were so grateful to read Dick Ray's recent heartwarming story and historical background of this beautiful area. It brought back memories of life intertwined with Dick's sweet wife, Vimmie, and renewed my thankfulness for so many, with whom we still enjoy visiting when we are in Pagosa.

I wish to also thank Stan Counsel, Richard Bolland, Patty Tillerson and others for their uplifting letters to The SUN. Although I have not met them personally, they are among the true peacemakers in the wonderful small but growing town we once called home.

As Ms Tillerson often says, please "know that you are loved."

Joan Kelley Gardner, Kan.

Tipton's agenda

Dear Editor:

Representative Scott Tipton voted No on the recent Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act- about the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado. Tipton is failing to lead on public land and wilderness protection, even though outdoor recreation is a huge economic boon to our state's economy.

His recent vote joins a long list of past anti-environment stances. According to Wikipedia, "He rejects the scientific consensus on climate change. He argues that climate change is driven by natural climate cycles. He opposes the Paris Agreement, the international agreement which mitigates greenhouse gas emissions. He opposes federal regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. He voted in favor of legislation that would make it easier to sell federal public lands. In 2010, while serving in the state legislature, Tipton voted against legislation to compel Xcel Energy to convert three coal powered plants to natural gas power plants. He also voted against legislation to require electricity utilities to use more renewable energy."

Tipton's pro-pollution agenda is locking our nation's greenhouse gas emissions into an upward trajectory, increasing the likelihood of future wildfire devastation, drought damaged crops, and compromised winter tourism. Colorado's economy is at risk.

Jo Ann Kopke Bayfield

Democrat confusion

Dear Editor:

In the 11/21 SUN letters to the editor section, Democrat Dave Blake asks "Is our President Donald Trump a not-so-secret Russian asset (helper)?" with Blake's innuendo being that Trump's imaginary stopping of aid to the Ukraine was designed to help Russia. Of course, there has been no stopping of aid to the Ukraine as they are receiving approximately \$400 of much needed military aid. However if Blake's is truly concerned about the Ukraine, he might look at his fellow Democrat Obama who refused to send any military aid to the Ukraine when they were being invaded in 2014. The president of The Ukraine begged for weapons from the Democrats but they sent none. Hmm. A thinking person might just say that was being a (helper) to the Russians.

Blake then comments on Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden who was paid \$50,000 a month to be on the board of a corrupt Ukrainian gas company. Blake treats this as normal and compares it to what director's of Fortune 100 companies are paid. Newsflash: Fortune 100 companies pay director's for their expertise and experience in business. Hunter Biden had zero

business expertise or experience. His only claim to fame was being the son of the U.S. vice president. The raises the still unanswered question of why a corrupt foreign company would spend that kind of money to hire Hunter Biden. What did they want and did they get?

In conclusion, I'd like to help clear up some Trump hater confusion. Fact: No Ukraine aid has been withheld. That disaster which cost many Ukrainians their lives happened under the Obama regime. President Trump has rectified that. Fact: There is no investigation of Hunter Biden going on in the Ukraine. President has withheld nothing and there is no "dirt" being dug up.

Charles Newton Highlands Ranch

'All in favor obstruction'

Dear Editor:

You have to wonder about the intelligence of some of our elected representatives. Take one of Colorado's own, Rep Joe Neguse. He told CNN last week that it was not true that he had supported impeachment before being sworn in, in Jan. 2019.

On que, up pops a segment from MSNBC in Nov 2018, where he said he did support impeachment and supported Rep Al Green's (D-TX) impeachment resolution from earlier in the year.

When are we going to start electing people who are smart enough to remember that anything ever said on radio and TV and everything ever posted on social media it out there, waiting for someone to dig up and throw in your face when you lie.

Jerry Nadler and his co-conspirators, held a press conference announcing two articles of impeachment, Obstruction of Congress and Abuse of power.

What ever happened to the main focus of all this, the "proven fact of bribery", extortion, quid pro quo or whatever focus group tested term they liked?

Looks like it wasn't proven after all.

As for "Obstruction of Congress", as Judge Gideon J Tucker said "No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session."

So, yeah, I'm all in favor obstruction.

Barry Smith

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Card of Thanks

Aikido

Dear Editor:

I would like to offer my public gratitude for a particular blessing that has made its home with us here in Pagosa. Aikido of the San Juans, led by instructors Bill and Lisa, teaches the Japanese martial art of aikido to students young and old. As the father of two young practitioners, I am so thankful for this opportunity my kids have to learn discipline, etiquette, and confidence with their physical bod-

ies through aikido. Lisa and Bill do very well in adapting their teaching to various age levels and levels of ability, and foster an atmosphere of mutual support and learning. They keep students' safety always in mind while challenging students to stretch their abilities and learn new things that will serve them for a lifetime. I thank God for their investment in our community and especially the next generation of leaders.

Emrys Tyler



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Obituaries

Manuel Severo Montoya

Dear dad,
You were born into this world March 9, 1964, until you had to leave us suddenly at only the age of 55 on Nov. 19 and only God knows why.



There are so many things I didn't get to tell you and so here's to you, Dad. I've come to know strength, the strength you had that I can now carry with me. I've come to know kindness and caring and compassion for others, as you showed me throughout my life. It's so hard writing this, but I wanted to let you know that you were loved more than you could ever have imagined by all of us.

We had such an outpouring of love from our community through this tough time from everyone that knew my dad it was just incredible to see the many people that just loved and cherished and knew him and we would like to thank everyone for your kind words and support during such a difficult time.

You put everyone's worries before your own, Dad. You did for others before you did for yourself. Your family was your whole world as you were ours and we carry that with us everywhere we go now.

We did everything together even when we weren't doing anything at all. I'm going to miss that the most. You were a hard-core man who

loved classic rock, believed the mountains were your church and could find complete peace whenever you would visit them. You fought hard for what you believed in. You taught me only to be strong and that I could get through anything. You were a fearless man who taught me that even in death we should never fear. Put in this world what you want out of it you would say. Always be humble, caring and kind to others, always, you would say.

You were the most wonderful man to Mom and I always. The way you loved and respected her throughout your 35 years together taught me so much about love. You two were inseparable and I just loved to watch how your love for each other never stopped growing.

I loved watching you become one with your grand babies and how proud you were to have them. They made you soft and brought out that big ol' teddy bear in you.

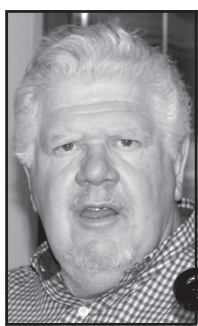
And just to see how much you loved your son-in-law as I do. You two became the best of friends and I found a piece of you in him. And I am so thankful to you for showing me the way.

You leave behind a beautiful wife, Lisa Marie Montoya, a beautiful daughter, Stephanie Marie Perez, 34, and son-in-law Domingo Nerio Perez, 39, four wonderful grand-babies, Ayden Manuel Montoya, 13, Estevan Domingo Perez, 7, Emilio Andres Perez, 4, and EllyAna Mae Perez, 0.

We will never stop loving you dad, and you will never be forgotten.

James Edward Klapproth II

James Edward Klapproth II, age 71, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away peacefully at Fitzsimmons Veterans Home on Saturday, Nov. 30. He was surrounded by the love of his family as he battled dementia.



Born in San Diego, Calif., on June 5, 1948, the son of James Edward Klapproth and Mary Catherine (Gleason) Klapproth.

After graduating from Western High School, Anaheim, Calif., he enlisted in the Navy, where he studied electronics mechanics. He had a great love for music and especially loved playing the guitar. In addition, his hobbies included fishing, camping, photography, and tinkering with computers and

electronics.

He leaves behind his wife, Marjorie; his son, Robert Klapproth; his daughter, Rebecca Gregg, and her husband, Allen; stepson Dan Dewey; four grandchildren: Anthony Hobbs, Jacob Gregg, Samantha Gregg and Katelyn Gregg; his sister, Candace Susan Clark; and brother Steven Charles Klapproth.

James was preceded in death by his parents, James and Mary, and also his stepson, Jeff.

A memorial service for James will be held Thursday, Dec. 12, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Olinger Crown Hill Mortuary and Cemetery, 7777 West 29th Ave., Wheat Ridge, Colo. A reception will follow from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A committal service will occur Thursday, Dec. 12, from 1:15 to 1:40 p.m. at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, 4400 W. Kenyon Ave., Denver, Colo.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.CrownHillFuneral.com for the Klapproth family.

Doris Kay Lattin

Doris Kay Lattin, beloved wife, mother, grandma, sister, twin, aunt and friend, passed away at home Dec. 9.

Doris was 74 years old and is survived by her husband of 56 years, Ray Lattin, son Doug and his wife, Kathie, daughter Lori and her husband, Melvin Chavez. Her brothers, Victor, Dwayne and Dennis Parkhurst, and sister Carol Mercier; her grandchildren, Traci Bishop, Chris Lattin, Brad Lattin, Kevin Armfield; step-grandchildren Timothy and Maranda Chavez; and great-grandchildren Hayden and Riley Bishop, Jake Lattin-Chavez and Corben Lattin; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. She is preceded in death by Lloyd, Edna and Ricky Parkhurst.



Doris graduated from Pagosa Springs High School in 1963 with her best friend Linda Pennell. Eventually, Doris and Ray moved to Reno, where she opened up a beauty shop named Aladdin's Lamp. In 1983, they moved back to Pagosa Springs to operate the family ranch, which she enjoyed. At that time, she also was working in the family business.

Her joys were her grandkids, great-grandkids, gardening, painting and birds.

We will have a gathering this spring in her honor. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the cancer research center in her name.

Axis Health System CEO retiring, replacement named

By Karla Sluis
Special to The SUN

The Board of Directors of Axis Health System (AHS) announces the retirement of its chief executive officer, Bern Heath, Ph.D.

Heath has served as CEO for more than 19 years. Over that tenure, he has overseen tremendous growth of the organization and the transformation from a traditional community mental health center to a health system that brings together primary care, mental health, substance use treatment and oral health in one setting.

Under his leadership, AHS returned an inpatient, psychiatric resource to the region with the construction and operation of the first state-licensed acute treatment unit. Axis also established the third crisis intervention team (law enforcement partnership) in the state and the very first in the nation in a rural/frontier setting.

Other accomplishments include

the construction of three clinical facilities and the expansion of crisis services.

While Heath will step down on Jan. 3, 2020, he provided initial notice of his planned retirement in August of 2018, allowing the board time to determine a successor.

It is with excitement that the Board of Directors of AHS announces the appointment of Shelly Burke as the new CEO, effective Jan. 4, 2020. Burke has also been with Axis for 19 years. For the past seven years, she has served as chief operating officer.

"Shelly's skills are well known and have been apparent throughout her tenure. Appointing her to the CEO role was not a hard decision and Axis will not miss a beat in the transition," said John Albright, president of the AHS Board of Directors.

AHS has seven locations in southwest Colorado and offers primary, behavioral and oral health care, and crisis response and stabilization.

Bar D Wranglers Annual Christmas Jubilee



Dec. 17, 2019

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Obituaries

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As is tradition, Kathy Faber's kindergarten class delights family and friends with various Christmas tunes as part of the class' annual kindergarten Christmas program on Dec. 4.

Charter school approves bonus for director

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Following an executive session, the Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors made a motion to give School Director Angela Crossland a \$5,000 bonus Monday.

The PPOS board entered into the executive session during its regular board meeting on Dec. 9, citing Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4)(f)(i), specifically citing "personnel matters regarding performance of School Director," according to agenda documentation.

That statute states that a local public body can enter an executive session for, "Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting."

Crossland stated to the board that she preferred to have an executive session regarding her performance as school director.

Upon returning from executive session, PPOS board member Bill Hudson raised the question on whether or not the board wanted to make a decision on Crossland's performance.

"I'd like to make a motion that we pay Angela a bonus that was negotiated. The full amount," PPOS board member Julie Simmons said. Hudson seconded Simmons' motion.

"I'd like to clarify that we are deciding to do this a little earlier than proposed. If we vote to approve it based off of excellent performance," PPOS Board President Ursula Hudson said. The motion to disperse the \$5,000 bonus, as promised during contract negotiations with Crossland, was approved unanimously by the PPOS board.

Within Crossland's contract with PPOS, there is a section that outlines compensation and bonuses.

Crossland's contract states that her base salary for the 2019-2020 school year is \$70,000 annually.

"Additional performance bonuses maybe allocated semi annually tied to evaluation and reviews. As negotiated at signing, the first

evaluation shall be worth Five thousand Dollars," the contract reads.

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Town of Pagosa Springs receives \$15,200 GOCO grant to improve Centennial Park GGP facilities

By Rosemary Dempsey
Special to The SUN

This week, the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Board awarded a \$15,200 grant to the Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Department to hire a Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) crew to make improvements to Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) public education facilities in Centennial Park.

This grant is part of GOCO's Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) grant program. CYCA represents a statewide coalition of eight accredited corps that train youth, young adults and veterans to work on land and water conservation projects. Corps members earn a stipend for their service and

an AmeriCorps education award to use toward college or reducing existing student loans.

"CYCA's partnership with GOCO not only addresses the critical land and water needs of local communities across the state, it will transform the lives of hundreds of conservation corps members," CYCA Executive Director Scott Segerstrom said. "This investment by GOCO will help develop young leaders who become first-generation college students, launch natural resource careers and, most importantly, believe in the power of service to change the world."

The Town of Pagosa Springs will use its GOCO funding to hire the SCC high school camping crew to work on the GGP facilities for two

weeks. Work will include building 140 feet of wildlife fencing, planting native species to promote pollinator and bird habitat, and planting seedlings of the federally endangered Pagosa skyrocket.

Additionally, the GGP and the Audubon Rockies will facilitate related education for Corps members. They will learn about the two organizations' histories and missions, the roles and importance of native plants and pollinators, and environmentally friendly food production practices.

To date, GOCO has invested \$9.2 million in projects in Archuleta County and has conserved more than 21,000 acres of land in the county. GOCO funding has supported Pagosa Springs' 6th Street

pedestrian bridge, the Pagosa Springs Sports Complex, Archuleta County Fairgrounds, the conservation of Catspaw Ranch and Navajo State Park, among other projects.

GOCO invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers and open spaces. GOCO's independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts, and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created when voters approved a Constitutional Amendment in 1992, GOCO has since funded more than 5,200 projects in urban and rural areas in all 64 counties without any tax dollar support. Visit GOCO.org for more information.

More snow in the forecast: Local basins increase snowpack by nearly 20 percent

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Since last week, the local basins' snowpack total has increased almost 20 percent, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

As of Dec. 11, the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins sat at 125 percent of median; last week those basins were 106 percent of median.

The Upper San Juan site does not currently have a total due to missing data, according to the NRCS, however last week the site was at 89 percent of median.

"They're probably just having some mechanical issues or a glitch in transferring the data. It happens once in a while," NRCS District Conservationist Jerry Archuleta

explained of the missing Upper San Juan Site data.

The Wolf Creek summit is 88 percent of median this week, according to the NRCS.

"This storm made a pretty good impact," Archuleta said. "Everything is in good shape."

The season is starting off well in regard to snowpack, Archuleta added.

"When you start out and you're not getting behind, like we have in the past, it really makes for a better season because you don't have to try and catch up later in the year," he said. "Being at 100 percent now, or close to it, means we don't have to do that. So, we can hopefully have above-average snowpack by the end of the year."

Local snowpack totals could also see a boost as the National

Weather Service (NWS) is calling for a 30-40 percent chance of snow showers in Pagosa Springs starting tomorrow and through Sunday.

On Wolf Creek Pass, the NWS also notes a chance of snowfall starting tonight and going through Sunday.

The NWS indicates a 20 percent chance of snow on Wolf Creek Pass tonight; that chance jumps to 70 percent by Saturday night.

Other snowpack reports

This week, the Upper Rio Grande Basin has a snowpack total of 118 percent of median; last week it was 113 percent of median.

The Arkansas River Basin has dropped 7 percent since last week, going from 120 percent of median to 113 percent of median this week.

A 2 percent increase was reported for the Yampa and White

River basins, with current snowpack totals sitting at 118 percent of median. Last week they were at 116 percent of median.

The Laramie and North Platte River basins are 115 percent of median when last week they were 107 percent of median.

A 2 percent decrease was recorded for the South Platte River Basin, with that basin dropping from 129 percent of median last week to 127 percent of median this week.

This week, the Upper Colorado River Basin is 109 percent of median, an increase from last week's total of 105 percent of median.

The Gunnison River Basin increased by 9 percent since last week, jumping from 99 percent of median to 108 percent of median this week.

chris@pagosahun.com

Water production up more than 2 million gallons this week

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

From Nov. 29 through Dec. 5 of this year, water production totaled 11.06 million gallons — more than 2 million gallons than was produced in that same time period in 2018.

According to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey, the Snowball water treatment plant produced 3.25 million gallons and the Hatcher water treatment plant produced 7.81 million gallons to contribute to that 11.06 million gallon total.

From Nov. 22 through Nov. 28 of this year, water production was

listed at just 9.50 million gallons.

In an interview on Monday, Ramsey explained he was not sure what led to the increase in total water production.

"It went up quite a bit," he said. "I'm not really sure why. I'll wait until next week to see if it's still up and we'll look into it then."

Hatcher Lake is currently 15 inches from full, or 95.37 percent full, when last week it was 20 inches from full.

Stevens Lake saw a slight increase from last week, going from 37 inches from full to 36 inches from full, or 89.29 percent full this week.

Lake Pagosa is currently 5 inches from full, or 98.19 percent full,

compared to last week when it was 6 inches from full.

Village Lake remains full while Lake Forest is currently 12 inches from full, or 90.91 percent full. Last week it was 13 inches from full.

Total diversion flows remain unchanged at 4.5 cubic feet per second (cfs), according to Ramsey's press release.

The West Fork still has a diversion flow of 3 cfs while the Four Mile diversion remains at 1.5 cfs.

River report

As of Dec. 11, the San Juan River had a reported flow of 36.6 cfs.

The average for Dec. 11, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, is 68 cfs.



Exciting News!

Your voices have been heard and for the first time in 15 years The Springs Resort & Spa is enhancing our locker room facilities! We realize there is never a good time for this type of rejuvenation, however we've taken painstaking efforts to schedule the work during our slowest time. There is a big push over the next 3 weeks, then the locker rooms will be back in service for the holiday break (December 20-January 6), and then rejuvenation

continues after the holidays.

We are confident that our guests both near and far will greatly appreciate the new Bath House when it's completed, as many guests have expressed their support and gratitude for the planned renovation.

To show our appreciation please enjoy 10% off beer, wine, and cocktails while visiting the resort 3 pm – 6 pm every Monday – Friday until the rejuvenation is complete!

Public Notice Archuleta County, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all Archuleta County offices will be closed from 11:45am-2:15pm on Thursday, December 19th to allow all county employees to attend their employee appreciation and holiday luncheon.

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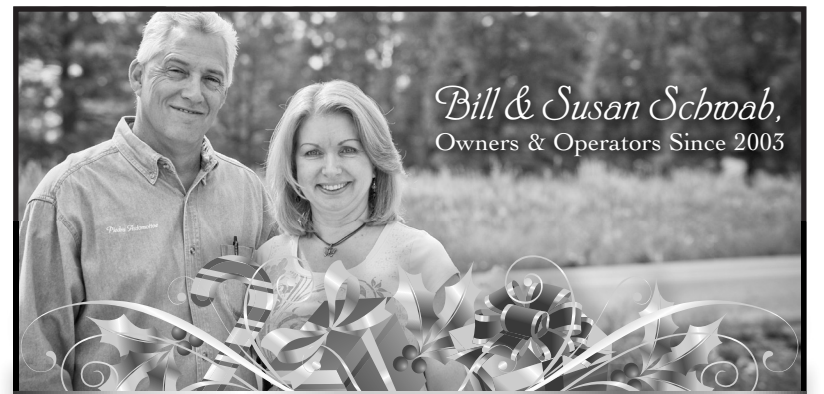
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School

Continued from front

During that meeting, Hodgson laid out to the board a variety of options, including specific dollar amounts for each, of what the district could choose to do with the full-day kindergarten funds from the MLO.

The first option was for the district to not collect the full-day kindergarten portion of the MLO, thus reducing the tax rate locally.

The second option was for the district to collect all of the full-day kindergarten funds, but reassign them to the other approved MLO uses.

The final option was that the district could collect a portion of the full-day kindergarten funds and partially reduce the tax rate.

Board decision

During the Dec. 10 meeting of the ASD board, Hodgson reiter-

ated to the board that it has the option to keep the full MLO rate of \$1.7 million and allocate the funds that would be used for full-day kindergarten to the other two uses outlined in the MLO language.

Hodgson noted that his recommendation was to return the \$242,953 to the taxpayers in the coming year and reduce their taxes.

"I think that the easiest way to look at this is that the taxpayers pay for kindergarten, it's just coming out of a different pocket," BOE member Bruce Dryburgh said. "I think we need to give it back to the taxpayers."

BOE member Bob Lynch noted that he agreed with Hodgson's suggestion on what to do with the remaining funds.

"If we kept the money we would have more, but what I'm suggesting is that instead of collecting \$1.7 million that we collect \$1,457,047

and not collect any of the full-day kindergarten," Hodgson clarified.

BOE member Dana Hayward and BOE President Brooks Lindner also added that they both believe the full-day kindergarten funds should be returned to the taxpayers.

Later in the meeting, the ASD board made a formal decision to return the \$242,953 earmarked for full-day kindergarten to local taxpayers, and the board also adopted a mill levy certification and statement of purposes resolution outlining this change.

With the district not charging local taxpayers the amount for full-day kindergarten and assessed values going up, the mills for local taxpayers will go from 5.942 mills to 4.529 mills for the MLO, according to Hodgson, making for a total tax rate in 2020 of 25.585 mills for ASD. *chris@pagosasun.com*

Broadband

Continued from front

Specifically, Visionary Communications was awarded \$466,014.50, Coulehan noted.

The news was announced to the CDC board at its regular meeting on Dec. 4 by Coulehan and was posted on DoRA's website on Dec. 5.

"I just think it's such a great win," Coulehan said in an interview. "It's such a slow process, but now we have the commitment to do this within two years. So we'll prioritize those projects and move forward from there."

According to Archuleta County Broadband Services Communications Manager Jason Cox in an interview on Nov. 19, the initial application from the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office was denied because the Colorado Broadband Deployment Board felt like one criterion had not been met for the grant.

That criterion is to provide service to underserved areas, specifically those that cannot get 25 megabytes down and 3 megabytes up, Cox explained.

"So they used the Colorado broadband map and they look up some address and they say 'Well, this is invalid because there are addresses being covered in their application,'" Cox said.

In the initial application, the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office, along with Visionary Communications, provided screenshots of areas that

would not receive sufficient service, utilizing various Internet service providers' (ISP) websites to validate the information, Cox noted.

The initial denial was appealed by Visionary because both Visionary and the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office felt they had a strong application, Cox noted.

"The address verification was called into question and whether or not we were covering already-served addresses," Cox said. "The purpose for that, intuitively, is they didn't want to fund a grant that would create a competitive situation."

On Nov. 15 the appeal process began with 10 applications appealing the board's decision, Cox noted.

'A big win'

During the Dec. 4 meeting of the CDC Board of Directors, Coulehan praised the broadband services group for its work.

"This grant would not have happened if it wasn't for that team," she said. "It was an incredibly tedious process. And when we went to the appeal process, the evidence was so overwhelming because it was household by household. Actual documentation of speeds of service and capability."

In a follow-up interview on Dec. 9, Cox clarified that the funds from the grant will be used for six wireless tower projects.

"So, it is a combination of the towers themselves and equip-

ment," Cox said.

The six projects will be done in Arboles, Chromo, up Middle Piedra near Jack's Pasture, at the Archuleta County Road and Bridge building, Radio Hill, and in Hinsdale and northern upper Archuleta County, Cox explained.

"It was a little bit of a trying process. It was very intense," Cox said. "We supplied a whole lot of labor and expertise and connections from our end which made this possible."

Most ISPs do not get the type of engagement that was provided by Cox and Visionary Communications, he explained.

"First of all, it's a big win for the county, and for Hinsdale too," he said.

The grant funds will allow for more than 500 addresses to be covered, but Cox noted that it would be more than that.

"It's good for us and our experience to get this win under our belts because it proves that we can solve our broadband problem in this county and work with the financial opportunities available," Cox said.

In an email, CDC Board President Jodi Scarpa noted that she and the rest of the CDC are proud of the work of the broadband committee, Cox and Eric Hittle.

"I hope the Town of Pagosa Springs and the Archuleta County BOCC see the work that was and will be accomplished and allow us funds to leverage in the future," she wrote.

County

Continued from front

New audit firm

At the meeting, the commissioners voted unanimously to hire a new firm to conduct the county's annual audits.

Walton explained that a committee of himself, Archuleta County Assessor Natalie Woodruff and Department of Human Services Accountant Cheryl Wilmer vetted five companies that submitted proposals and the firm Hinkle and Company earned the highest score in the committee's vetting process.

In the county's request for proposals, it lists the "mandatory elements" it requires for the audit firm:

- The audit firm is independent and licensed to practice in Colorado.

- The firm has no conflict of interest with regard to any other work performed by the firm for the county.

- The firm adheres to the instructions in the request for proposal on preparing and submitting the proposal.

- The firm submits a copy of its last external quality control review report and the firm has a record of quality audit work.

Hinkle and Company will audit the county's financial statements for the next three fiscal years (2019, 2020 and 2021), with an option to

extend for 2022 and 2023.

"The public needs to realize that there's outsiders that have no vested interest in this that are gonna give our books a good going over to make sure what we're saying is true," said Commissioner Steve Wadley.

"Even in the finance department we highly value them as someone who assists us in continual improvement in our department. The smoother it runs, the easier our job is and so on, so we don't have an adversarial relationship with them even though we might irritate one another from time to time," Walton said.

john@pagosasun.com

Wolf

Continued from front

According to the Colorado Stop the Wolf Coalition, 12 Colorado counties have publicly opposed reintroducing the gray wolf, including Alamosa, Hinsdale and Montezuma counties.

County Administrator Scott Wall suggested he could bring a resolution to the BoCC that would publicly oppose the reintroduction of wolves, to which Schaaf replied, "Other counties have done so, so I think, yeah, that's not a bad idea."

Schaaf also explained he knows ranchers in New Mexico who said wolves have negatively impacted their cattle production.

The Wolf Action Fund's website states that Colorado's last wolf was killed in the 1940s, which has thrown the ecosystem out of whack because wolves help keep the environment in a natural balance.

The website also reports that if the initiative is passed, about 20 to 30 gray wolves will be reintroduced to the Western Slope as early as 2022 and no later than 2023.

Colorado Stop The Wolf's website cites safety concerns with humans, animals and livestock, the declines in big game herds, and the possibil-

ity of diseases spreading as reasons to oppose the reintroduction.

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that he wanted to ensure any letter or resolution brought before the board was factually accurate, citing he'd seen some false information about the issue.

"I take issue with some of the propaganda. The fact that they're claiming the moose population is caused by the wolves is ridiculous, because moose population has decreased the most in Minnesota. There are no wolves and there are no grizzly bears in Minnesota and that's where we see the greatest decrease in moose populations, so that is not factually accurate, that's propaganda," Weaver said.

Maez noted it has been proposed that the wolves would be reintroduced to areas around Archuleta County.

"They're looking at our area. The southwest corner is what they're really looking at," Maez said, adding, "I don't think we need [wolves] here."

Doug Purcell, district wildlife manager for CPW, was present at the meeting and Maez told him, "I think the decision should be yours, in my

opinion," referencing the CPW.

"Well, I think you should express that," Purcell said, adding, "Cause we can be unmuzzled, but we cannot unmuzzle ourselves ... We're not to tell people how it's gonna be done, but we can give you facts that should be considered."

In a follow-up email, Wall wrote he thought a resolution would be brought before the board for vote within the next month or so.

After the commissioners' regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Schaaf told The SUN that in the 1920s, when wolves were in the Pagosa area, local ranchers got together and put together money for a wolf bounty.

According to Schaaf, one rancher claimed wolves would never get to his cattle and refused to put any money into the bounty pot.

Shortly thereafter, Schaaf explained, about 15 of that rancher's cattle were "hamstrung," meaning wolves tore out the tendons in their legs so they could no longer walk.

More information about this issue can be found at stopthewolf.org and wolfactionfund.com. *john@pagosasun.com*

Shop with a Cop

SUN photos/Chris Mannara

Cops shopped until they dropped at the inaugural Shop With a Cop event sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police Durango Lodge 8. The event took place at the local Walmart and included food from McDonald's and featured members of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office, Pagosa Springs Police Department, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Durango Police Department, La Plata County Sheriff's Office, Archuleta County Combined Dispatch and Archuleta County Emergency Management shopping with families for the holiday season. Each child received a \$150 budget for clothing and toys while paired with a local law enforcement officer.



Town's planning commission looks at affordable housing project

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

On Nov. 26, the Pagosa Springs Planning Commission conducted a sketch plan review for Archuleta County Housing Authority's (ACHA) proposed 34-unit affordable housing complex on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The project is slated to include 34 dwelling units of varying sizes (one-, two- and three-bedroom units), a clubhouse for the development's residents and new office space for the Archuleta County Department of Human Services (DHS).

According to ACHA's application for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LITHC) program — which was successful — the development will serve those with incomes that are 30 to 60 percent of the area median income.

The \$12 million project is slated to be located on 2.5 acres of land on Hot Springs Boulevard that ACHA is leasing from Archuleta County for \$1 per year, ACHA's LITHC application indicates.

In considering the sketch plans for the project, members of the planning commission and town staff congratulated ACHA on the LITHC award, noting it is "unheard of" to be successful on the first round of applying, with ACHA's Bill Simpson responding that the town, county and ACHA "really came together" and that was why the financing was approved.

ACHA's project was approved for the tax credit financing in the fall.

According to information about LITHC on the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority's (CHFA, who administers the program in Colorado) website, "Federal housing tax credits are awarded to developers of qualified projects. Developers then sell these credits to investors to raise capital (or equity) for their projects, which reduces the debt that the developer would otherwise have to borrow. Because the debt is lower, a tax credit property can in turn offer

lower, more affordable rents."

In explaining facets of the development's design and how they relate to the town's Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) and requirements for building at the site, Planning Director James Dickhoff noted that the project was one of the easiest design reviews he had done in a while and called it a flagship project.

In his presentation, Dickhoff noted that he had talked with the applicant about moving a couple of parking lots from the north side of building to the south and suggested the development may need more trees to meet landscaping and parking lot requirements.

"I do believe this project is heading off in the right direction," Dickhoff told the commission.

In addressing the commissioners, Simpson explained that the parking lots being on the north side of the buildings was a bad design and that more trees would be added.

He noted that the sketch plan review was helpful to ACHA.

Simpson told the commission that ACHA plans to start construction in the spring, with construction set to take 14 months.

Simpson also noted it is one of the largest LITHC projects in a rural area.

ACHA's Clifford Lucero told the commission that "getting to success has been difficult" and ACHA has been working on the project for years.

"This is really important to the community," he said.

In response to a question about the project's timeline, Simpson noted that ACHA is working with an experienced contractor, everyone is in place and ACHA has a pretty good handle on the cost of the project.

Commission chair Peter Adams noted that the cost of construction in Pagosa Springs is generally higher, with Simpson responding that it made ACHA and CHFA "sad" when the cost estimates were turned in.

He noted that the area is rural and

isolated, and they want to employ as many locals as possible, leading them to inflate the numbers.

"We'll make it work one way or another," he said.

Lucero also noted they were trying to make the project look as good as possible, and Simpson added the development will have energy and air ratings, as well as other "bells and whistles."

Commission member Bill Hudson noted that the LUDC was written to make the town look nice and function, but wasn't written for affordable housing and adds cost.

He suggested that maybe they could have added more units and that the planning commission may want to look at LUDC amendments for affordable housing.

Things related to the development's preliminary plans that were discussed included, among other things, the location of the playground, storm drainage, parking lots, that the development's design would help develop a sense of community, and how the development will look from Hot Springs Boulevard.

Commission member Chris Pitcher suggested that the DHS building seemed large to not have trees on the street side, and commission member Jeff Posey noted he was pleased with the way the development looks in the sketch plans and encouraged more trees.

Opened to public comment, audience member Joe Calandra asked about the length of the DHS building, with Simpson estimating that it will be 100 to 110 feet.

Calandra explained that he was asked to break up the roofline on a structure about the same size and pointed out that the DHS building will have a 100-foot metal roof.

Dickhoff acknowledged Calandra's point, and Hudson noted he liked the roofline.

Calandra responded that he just wants it to be fair across the board, and Dickhoff later noted that he could work with the applicant on

the roofline.

After further discussion on the project, the commission unanimously approved the sketch plan design with recommendations of facets that needed to be completed or considered before the project's final design review.

Later in the meeting, Calandra's project, an additional building at the site of Pagosa Craft on Goldmine Drive, was up for final design review, and the roofline was again a topic of conversation.

In presenting that design, architect Courtney King pointed out that she and her applicant had entertained the roof modulation at the request of the planning commission, stepping up the center section of the roof by 4 feet.

"So previously, that roof was one continuous roof somewhat similar to the 110-foot roof that was approved a couple minutes ago. It was requested that that continuous roofline, the tallest portion, be broken up," King explained.

After outlining more of the changes made since the project's sketch plan review, Hudson asked if there was an added cost because of the roof change, and King responded that it would cost \$50,000 to \$75,000 more.

Calandra added that, with the roof modulation, it was now viewed as three metal buildings by those manufacturing the structure instead of one, and King noted that there were two added metal frames.

Dickhoff noted that it was in compliance with the current code, and Hudson suggested that is something the planning commission needs to address.

Adams suggested that there will start to be modifications and upgrades on the buildings around this project and thanked the applicant for setting a new standard.

Other planning commissioners suggested that the change makes the project look better and expressed regret that it would cost the applicant more.

As discussion continued, the project's roofline as compared to the LITHC project was further discussed, and the Pagosa Craft project was ultimately approved unanimously.

In other business at the meeting, the planning commission approved a zero lot line setback variance on the south and west property lines at 151 St. 5th Street — the site of a proposed 12-cabin lodging establishment — and recommended that town council vacate a section of alleyway at the same site.

It was stated at the meeting that the applicant intends to create a new driveway that would access both the development and the neighboring development, with the existing alley slated to be permanently closed when work is done on McCabe Creek.

randi@pagosason.com

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Town looking at new legal counsel

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Town Council is looking into the possibility of restructuring the way it receives legal services.

At its Dec. 3 meeting, the council approved putting out a request for proposal (RFP) that includes a strong preference for providing in-person representation and "office hours" at Town Hall.

The RFP outlines that the town is looking to fill the position of town attorney with an individual or firm with qualified attorneys who would:

- Attend Council meetings (first Tuesdays and third Thursdays of the month), including Council work sessions and special meetings, as needed. In-person attendance is preferred.
- Attend meetings with Council and staff regarding legal issues, as needed.

- Provide timely response to inquiries and timely review of, or creation, of documents.
- In addition to meetings with Council, provide a minimum of one day per week (which may be broken into four hour increments) within Town Hall for 'office hours,' during which time work for the Town may be conducted.

On Dec. 3, Town Manager Andrea Phillips noted the open-ended nature of how the position

could be filled and explained that a fixed fee would be based on an estimated 15 hours per month with attorneys interested in that setup also providing an hourly rate for work over the fixed amount.

The RFP also indicates that the town's legal counsel of nearly three decades — Collins Cockrel and Cole — may be coming to an end.

"The Town's contract attorney of the past 28 years has indicated that they will not be submitting a proposal to this RFP. However, the Town may consider retaining them on an as-needed basis and will be available for certain projects and as a resource to the selected firm or individual under this proposal," the RFP states.

In the meeting, Phillips explained that legal costs for the town have been increasing over the last several years as the town is taking on more, and suggested that the attorney could do things like code

review and working with staff during office hours.

In 2010, the town spent \$32,168 on town attorney services and \$4,255 for the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID).

In 2016, while the town was working on a pipeline to pump wastewater to the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District campus, the town spent \$176,809 for the town and \$45,115 for the PSSGID — the highest amount over the last 10 years.

For 2019, the town estimates spending \$145,000 on town attorney services and \$20,000 for the PSSGID.

The deadline to submit proposals is Jan. 10, 2020, with town council anticipated to conduct interviews Jan. 27-31, 2020, and make a decision in early February.

In other business that evening: ■ See Town A14

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Sports

WRESTLING

Pirate wrestling falls to Piedra Vista, goes 3-2 at Demon Duals

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team lost a close dual to Piedra Vista High School on Friday night and went 3-2 in five duals at the Buena Vista Demon Duals on Saturday.

"We beat some guys that have beaten us in the past and almost beat some guys that beat us kind of soundly in the past, and then we won some as well," said coach Dan Janowsky. "That Piedra Vista dual was a very good dual for us just in terms of development and assessment."

David Garcia beat Pagosa's Nathan Stahr (120-pound weight class) by fall in the 34th second to begin the night.

The Pirate's Erik Wyman, at 126 pounds, lost a close match by decision after that.

"Boy, the opponent that he had is real tough, has beaten us before. He got the first takedown on us, with about maybe 30 seconds left in the first place, I felt like we

controlled the match after that," Janowsky said, adding, "When we scrimmaged him a week ago it wasn't that close. I thought that was a very good start for Erik."

Piedra Vista's Ezekiel Bejar then won by fall in just under four minutes against Pagosa's EJ Monteroso in the 132-pound weight class.

Dylan Tressler (138-pound weight class) gained the first points for Pagosa, winning by fall in less than a minute, earning six points, and making the dual score 15-6 in favor of Piedra Vista after four matches.

Janowsky highlighted the strong wrestling of Brae Bergdolt (145-pound weight class), who pinned Piedra Vista's Trey Brock in just under three and a half minutes, earning six points and bringing the score to 15-12.

Dustin Clark (160 pounds), Will Aucoin (182 pounds) and Skyler Hill (220 pounds) all won their matches for the Pirates by fall, earning a total of 18 points for the team.

Tay Barker (152 pounds), Grant

Aucoin (170 pounds) and Trevor Moore (195 pounds) lost their matches for Pagosa.

The score stood at 30-30 when Pagosa's Kaden McKee and Piedra Vista's Gage Sanchez battled at the 285-pound weight class.

"He was a pretty good middle school wrestler, but this is his first year as a high school wrestler," Janowsky said of McKee, adding that he volunteered to wrestle at the varsity level from the JV team as the Pirate roster had a blank spot at the 285-pound weight class.

"He volunteered to fill that spot, he asked if he could give it a try and I said yes," Janowsky said, adding, "I love that when a kid is willing to do that. It shows a lot of promise for down the road."

McKee got the initial takedown, even though he was battling a shoulder injury.

McKee had a moment when he nearly turned Sanchez on his back, but ultimately lost by pin in the second minute.

"If he'd have turned him to his back, then we would have won," Janowsky said. "It was our move and our hole and our kid betting on himself. I have nothing but praise for him for trying to do that. I feel like we can fix that little hitch that got him caught underneath that guy ... He volunteered and it boiled down to that moment."

Piedra Vista went up 36-30, then earned another six points on a forfeit at the 106-pound weight class as the Pirates had no one to fill to spot on the lineup.

The Pirates lost the dual 42-30. "It was an exciting dual, I had a great time watching our kids battle," Janowsky said. "It's not all about winning, especially early in the season."

The next day the team traveled to Buena Vista for the Demon Duals, where they faced Gunnison High School, Del Norte High School, James Irwin High School, Salida High School and Severance High School.

The Pirates went 3-2 in duals at the event.

Against Gunnison, the score was tied at 24 until Will Aucoin (195 pounds) and Hill (220 pounds) each had a pair of quick pins to give the Pirates six points each and the lead at 36-24.

The Pirates forfeited in the 285-pound weight class and won the dual 36-30.

The Pirates steamrolled Del Norte, winning 42-18 thanks in part to Tressler (138 pounds) pinning Kristen David in just 11 seconds.

Will Aucoin (182 pounds), Trevor Moore (195 pounds) and Hill (220 pounds) won the last three matches of the dual by forfeit and propelled the Pirates to victory.

Against James Irwin High School, Wyman, Tressler, Bergdolt, Grant Aucoin and Hill all won their matches, but ultimately the Pirates lost 46-36.

The Pirates beat Salida 42-18 as Salida had many forfeits due to empty roster slots. The Pirates lost to Severance High School after a pair of forfeits from the Pirates due to empty roster slots gave Severance the edge, winning 36-42.

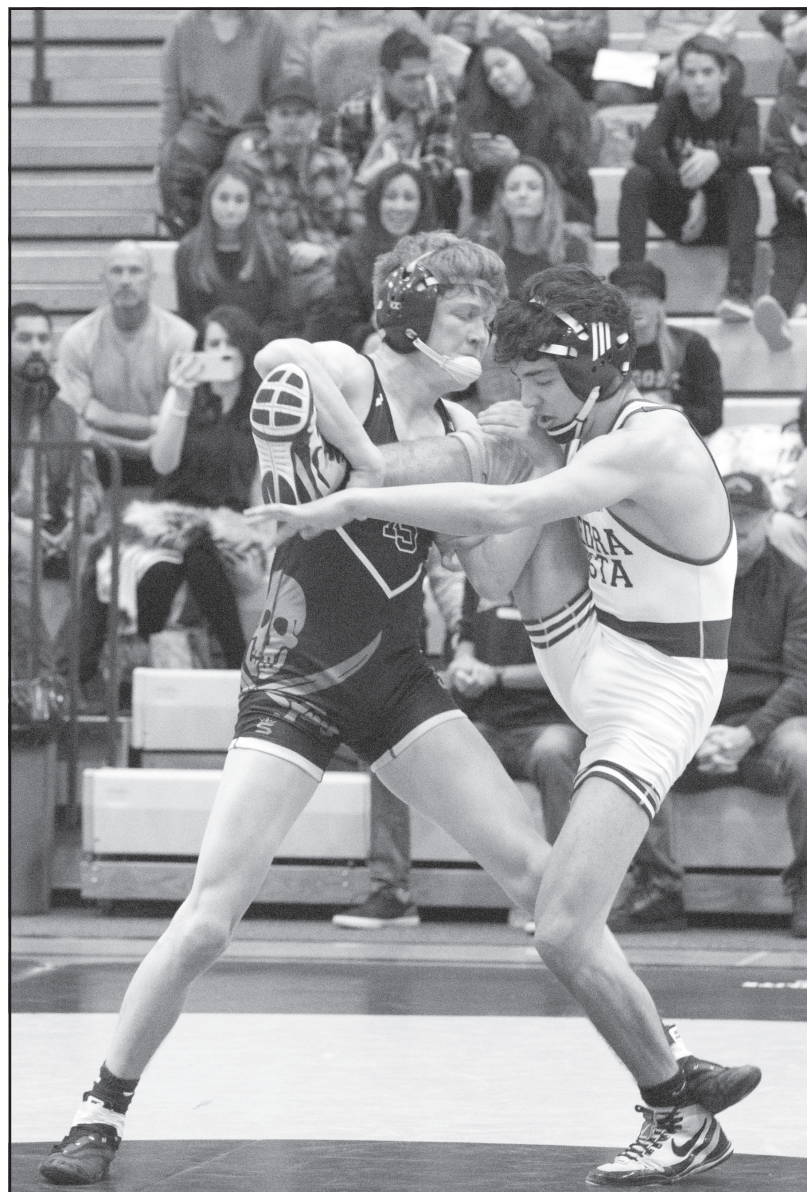
Janowsky explained that although the Pirates had many roster slots open and lost by forfeit in those matches, the varsity wrestlers who hit the mat won 70 percent of their matches over the weekend.

Janowsky noted that returning state champion Cameron Lucero will return to action this week, but Trevor Torrez's injury still needs more time to heal and he will not wrestle.

The Pirates will travel to Littleton this weekend to wrestle in the Columbine Wrestling Invitational, which begins on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 9 a.m.

"The tournament is a nice mix of 3A schools that we rarely see and a good blend of 4A and 5A teams," Janowsky said, adding, "That's a fun tournament for us, we enjoy going there."

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SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Erik Wyman goes for a takedown against Piedra Vista's Demetrio Archuleta in the season opener on Dec. 6. Coach Dan Janowsky stated that Wyman "controlled the match" after a slow start and ultimately lost a very close match. The Pirates lost the dual to Piedra Vista 42-30.




SUN photo/Randi Pierce


Pagosa's Skyler Hill looks to the ref as he pins Piedra Vista's Jacob Bartley. Hill pinned Bartley in the third minute of the match to earn six points for the Pirates in the 220-pound weight class.



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SWIM

Lady Pirates show growth in trio of meets

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

In its first few matches of the season, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates' swim team has shown growth over last year's inaugural season.

The Lady Pirates took on Salida, Durango and Farmington to open the season.

Salida

Pagosa came in second place out of five teams at the Salida Swim Meet on Dec. 4 — the team's first meet of the season.

The host Salida Spartans took first place with 185 points out of 300. Pagosa took second with 49 points.

The 2A Sargent Farmers took third place with 41 points, the 4A Woodland Park Panthers earned fourth with 14 points and the 4A Platte Canyon Huskies finished in fifth place with 11 points.

In the 200-meter medley relay, a team consisting of Lady Pirates Lynelle Bartz, Nell Taylor, Ivanna Erne and Sierra Liverett placed fifth out of seven teams with a time of two minutes, 36 seconds.

Bartz and Liverett finished fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 200-meter individual medley with times of 3:22.55 and 3:27.95.

In the 100-meter butterfly, Erne captured first place out of five swimmers with a time of 1:23.06; her Lady Pirate counterparts Emma Gantt and Taylor finished fourth and fifth with times of 1:51.54 and 1:54.85.

Liverett took fourth place out of six swimmers in the 400-meter freestyle with a time of 6:26.29.

A team of Bartz, Kali Jury, Amelia Laverty and Darian Dominguez took fifth out of 11 teams in the 200-meter freestyle relay with a final time of 2:47.33.

Bartz placed fifth out of 10 swimmers with a time of 1:38.75 in the 100-meter breaststroke.

In the 400-meter freestyle relay, a team of Liverett, Dominguez, Taylor and Erne placed third out of five teams with a final time of 5:46.03.

The meet against Salida was a great first meet for the Lady Pirates, coach Heather Miller explained in an email.

"We had some good swims for this early in the season and some simple mistakes, specifically turns, that we were able to work on quickly on Thursday," she wrote. "The highlight of the meet was the whole team encouraged and supported each other and through this we were able to get 2nd place in the meet."

Durango

Pagosa did not fare as well on Dec. 6 against the Demons, falling by a score of 250-36.

In the 200-yard freestyle, Liverett took fourth out of eight swimmers with a time of 2:38.17.

Erne showed another strong performance in the 50-yard freestyle, coming in second place with a time of 28.23.

Liverett took third place in the 100-yard butterfly with a final time of 1:33.05.

In the 100-yard freestyle, two Lady Pirates finished in the top 10 out of 18 swimmers.

Bartz finished in sixth place with a time of 1:09.58 and Gantt placed 10th with a time of 1:15.55.

In the 500-yard freestyle, Erne took third place with a final time of 6:56.30.

A team consisting of Gantt, Bartz, Liverett and Erne took third place out of nine teams in the 200-yard freestyle with a final time of 2:06.90.

In the 100-yard backstroke, Taylor took seventh out of 18 swimmers with a final time of 1:27.91.

A Lady Pirate relay team, which featured Erne, Bartz, Taylor and Liverett, took third place out of seven teams with a final time of 4:51.54.

Against Durango, Miller noted that she was able to see many improvements from the Lady Pirates following the Salida meet.

Most of the improvements were seen in turns and freestyle, Miller explained, which the Lady Pirates had worked on in preparation of the meet against Durango.

"We had some great performances by a few of the freshmen," she wrote. "Lynelle Bartz stepped up in the freestyle events which are typically not her strength, Emma Gantt found out she LOVES the 200IM and Ivanna Erne covered both sides of the freestyle spectrum being really competitive in both the 50 and 500 Freestyle events."

Farmington

The Lady Pirates dove right back into competition on Dec. 7, competing in the Scorpion Invitational. The Lady Pirates finished fourth out of six teams with 267 total points.

The Durango Demons finished in first place with 881 points, the Farmington Scorpions took second with 425 points and the Piedra Vista Panthers took third place with 344 points.

Pagosa finished ahead of the Miyamura Patriots, who finished in fifth place with 80 total points, and the Gallup Bengals who finished sixth with 55 total points.

Out of nine teams in the 200-yard medley relay, the Lady Pirates took fourth, with a team consisting of Taylor, Bartz, Erne and Liverett posting a final time of 2:22.19.

Bartz captured fifth place out of 15 swimmers in the 200-yard freestyle with a final time of 2:38.72.

In the 100-yard freestyle, three Lady Pirates captured the top three spots, with Sorcha Sweeney leading the charge, taking first place with a final time of 1:01.33.

Cheyenne Todd took second place with a final time of 1:03.24 and Olivia Gilbert took third place with a final time of 1:04.07.

A team with Liverett, Bartz, Gantt and Erne took third place out of 18 teams in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a final time of 2:04.28.

Out of 31 swimmers in the 100-yard backstroke, Bartz earned third place with a final time of 1:17.03.

In the 100-yard breaststroke, Ivory Carpenter finished ninth out of 12 swimmers with a final time of 1:49.83.

The meet against Farmington was described by Miller as being another good one for the team, but she added that she could tell the Lady Pirates were fatigued.

"They had a lot of races in a short amount of time but what really showed Saturday is their inner strength, even though they were exhausted they still went out and gave it 100% effort and some were still able to make improvements on their times," she explained.

Upcoming meets

To close out the 2019 portion of the schedule, Pagosa will travel to Adams State University to take on the

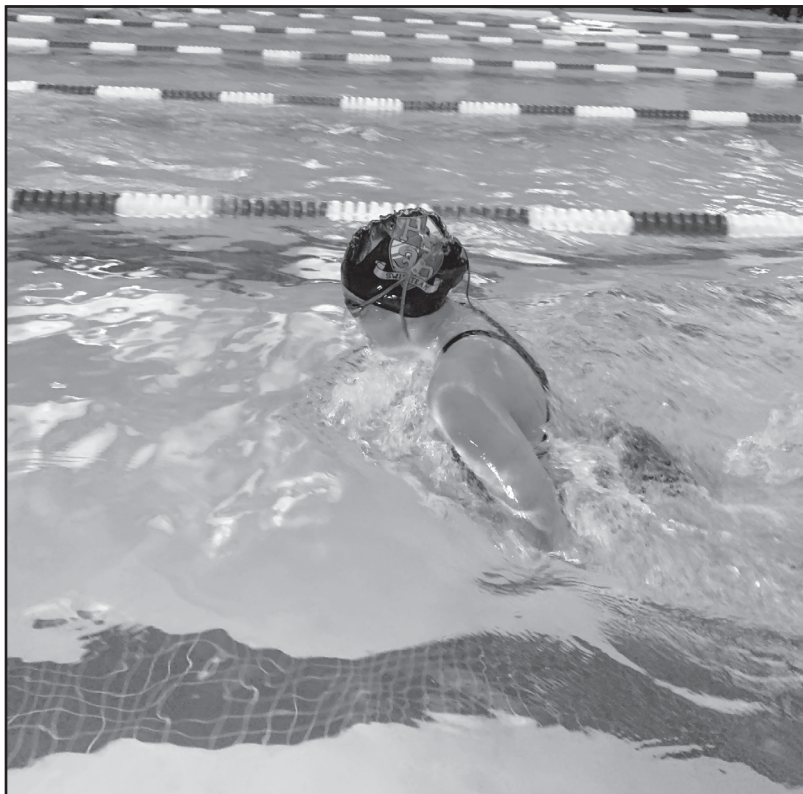


Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Lady Pirate Lynelle Bartz comes up for air during the 100-meter breaststroke at the Salida Swim Meet on Dec. 4. Bartz finished in fifth place in the 100-meter breaststroke with a final time of 1 minute, 38.75 seconds. Pagosa took second place out of five teams at the Salida meet.

Sargent Farmers on Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.

Heading into the meet against Sargent, the Lady Pirates will look to

increase their training capacity and endurance to improve performance in all races, Miller wrote.



Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week
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Swimming



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she was ready with Sharpie markers to help her teammates tattoo themselves with their events; she was also behind the starting block at her teammates' events, jumping and cheering each of them on to the finish. In her own events, she demonstrated tremendous fortitude and pushed herself outside of her comfort zone. Her goal, of individually placing in a meet is surely on the horizon. Both Coach Miller and myself are so happy to have her on the team!"

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BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates set to take on No. 1 St. Mary's Friday

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

It was smooth sailing for the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team in Saturday's season opener, with the Lady Pirates defeating the Salida Spartans 64-25.

The Lady Pirates opened their season in front of a home crowd Saturday, and this week will head to Buena Vista to take on No. 1 St. Mary's and Grand Valley, both undefeated.

"It was a good season opener," coach Wes Lewis said of the win over the Spartans. "We were careless at times in the first half, we had a few turnovers we probably shouldn't have, and no turnovers the second half, which was good."

Pagosa built a 16-5 lead by the end of the first quarter and went on to score 20 in the second quarter while allowing 11 by Salida, giving the Lady Pirates a 36-16 lead by halftime.

The Pirates put up another 23 points in the third and limited the Spartans to 4.

Each team scored five in the game's final quarter, giving the Pirates the 64-25 victory.

"Both halves I thought we missed some bunnies that we ... need to knock the rust off in that department and not miss bunnies in either half," Lewis said, commenting that the Lady Pirates improved in the turnover department in the second half.

The team logged four turnovers in the game, with all four coming in the first half.

"I thought defense was pretty good for the most part, especially when you're playing an opponent you don't have any kind of a scouting report on," Lewis commented, explaining that Salida had a lot of seniors on its roster last year and the Lady Pirates were unsure of what their opponent would look like this year.

The coach added that Pagosa needs to do a better job of playing defense without fouling, with the Spartans gaining five points from the free-throw line in 14 attempts.

Lewis also indicated the team continues to work through new facets of its play.

"We're still flirtin' around with some of that new stuff, and ... we've gotta get better at it, and I think we will at times. There were some mishaps at times on some of the new stuff, which is kind of typical," Lewis said.

The coach also touched upon the team's lack of success from the perimeter on the night, noting that Taylor Lewis and Teagan Stretton got some good looks, and Adelyn Dozier hit one of four 3-point attempts.

"It's just something that's gotta come," the coach said, pointing out

that Devin Wilson, who has graduated, took most of the team's shots from the perimeter last year, and the role is new to this year's Lady Pirates. "I think it'll come as the year goes along."

Taylor Lewis put up 18 points in the game, which she complemented with four rebounds, four assists, four steals and a block.

Hailey Griego put up 11 points for the team, as well as pulling down six rebounds, three assists, a block and four steals.

Stretton and Molly Graham followed with nine points each. Stretton also logged five rebounds, four assists and two steals in the game, and Graham notched a pair of steals.

"It was a good season opener," coach Wes Lewis said of the win over the Spartans. "We were careless at times in the first half, we had a few turnovers we probably shouldn't have, and no turnovers the second half, which was good."

Elsa Lindner contributed eight points in the game, as well as a pair of rebounds and a steal.

Dozier logged five points, including the team's only 3-pointer of the day, and also contributed a rebound, four assists and two steals.

Kori Lucero and Chantell Caldwell each added two points. Lucero also logged two rebounds, an assist and a steal, and Caldwell added a block.

Keira Torrez added a block to the team's stats, and Trista Tully and Miah Shoffner each added a pair of assists.

The team made 11 of 22 attempts from the free-throw line.

Wes Lewis commended the team for being even in scoring across the board, calling it a sign of cohesiveness that means they care about each other and the team.

Now, the Pirates will face a pair of undefeated opponents at the Buena Vista Tournament Friday and Saturday, including the No. 1 team in the state.

And while the coach noted that he would love to have more games on the schedule ahead of St. Mary's, the team is happy to take on St. Mary's regardless.

Friday at 5:30 p.m. Pagosa's Lady



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Adelyn Dozier goes for a jumper against Salida Saturday. The Pirates opened the season with a 64-25 win, with Dozier logging five points, including a 3-pointer.

Pirates will take on the reigning state champs, St. Mary's, and on Saturday will take on Grand Valley at noon.

St. Mary's is currently 2-0 on the season, while Grand Valley owns a 3-0 record.

"We'll hit it hard this week in practice and try to do the best we can to kind of try to prepare the kids for some things with St. Mary's. I think it's important to get St. Mary's. They're obviously an outstanding basketball team and two-time defending champion with ... most of their kids back ... from those two teams," Wes Lewis said, adding, "I think it's just important for us to go compete and ... keep it respectable. I think if we can be in it in the fourth quarter, I think we'll give ourselves a chance to win and that'd be great."

He added later the team needs to prove to itself it can compete with St. Mary's.

Last year, he explained, the Lady Pirates did a poor job of rebounding, which is something the team is focusing on improving this year.

"You're going to get very few

bunnies against them because they're very well coached, they're very good athletes, they've got a very good program and tradition, so, you know, you're just not going to get a whole lot of bunnies, so you've gotta make the ones you get. You've gotta make your free throws 'cause they're going to be points that'll be hard to come by," the coach said, adding that the team will also have to execute half-court defense to be successful.

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SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Teagan Stretton brings the ball down the court in the Lady Pirates' 64-25 win over the Salida Spartans in Saturday season opener. This week, the Lady Pirates will take on a pair of undefeated teams in No. 1 St. Mary's and Grand Valley.

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BASKETBALL

Pagosa defeats Salida in home opener

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

After shaking off some first-half rust, the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys basketball team exploded for 33 second-half points Saturday to earn its first win of the season over the Salida Spartans by a score of 50-35.

The first half was a tightly contested one between the Spartans and Pirates, with Pagosa holding a slim 17-13 lead at halftime.

In the third quarter, Pagosa and Salida traded scoring blows, with the Pirates scoring 20 in the quarter and the Spartans scoring 13.

Pagosa tightened things up in the final quarter, only allowing eight points from Salida and scoring 13 points themselves.

Aidan O'Donnell led the Pirates in scoring with 15 points; O'Donnell also pulled down two rebounds, dished out two assists and notched two steals.

Mitch Lewis and Mason Snarr also scored in double figures for Pagosa, with Lewis finishing with 13 points and Snarr adding another 10 points.

Lewis finished with 11 rebounds, a block and two steals; Snarr added nine rebounds, two assists and a block.

Ryan Lewis finished with five points, a team-high five blocks, four rebounds, two assists and two steals.

Kyler Hammer led the team in assists with five. Hammer also added a team-high four steals to his stat line.

Pagosa shot just 57 percent at the free-throw line against Salida, converting just 12 of 21 attempts. The Pirates turned over the ball 17 times.

In an email on Tuesday, coach Randy Sorenson explained that it was good to start out the season

with a home win.

The Pirates did a lot of good things, which is good for the team's confidence, Sorenson noted.

"We need to keep working on handling pressure and limiting turnovers and finishing better," Sorenson wrote.

Against Salida, Sorenson noted that the team gave up too many offensive rebounds in the first half and also had a scoring drought in the second quarter.

However, in the third quarter the Pirates came out and played well, Sorenson explained.

"We got into a little bit of foul trouble in the third quarter but kids came into the game and did a nice job of maintaining the lead. We had a nice fourth quarter and made critical free throws down the stretch to seal the game," he wrote.

Tournament play

Pagosa will now travel to Buena Vista to compete in the Buena Vista Tournament this weekend.

Kicking off tournament play on Friday, Pagosa will square off with the Grand Valley Cardinals (0-2 overall).

Varsity action against Grand Valley is set for 7 p.m.

Then, on Dec. 14 at 10:30 a.m., Pagosa will square off with the Gunnison Cowboys (2-1 overall).

Last season Pagosa fell to Gunnison in double overtime at the Buena Vista Tournament by a score of 50-45.

In 11 meetings against the Cowboys, Pagosa has posted a 9-2 overall record against Gunnison.

"We have two tough games this weekend and we will need to be prepared," Sorenson wrote. "We feel like these next two weekends will give us a great idea of where we are."

chris@pagosason.com



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Over two Salida defenders, Pirate Mason Snarr puts up a shot in the first half of the season opener on Dec. 7. Snarr finished the night with 10 points and nine rebounds as Pagosa went on to defeat Salida 50-35 on its home court.

DUST2 announces new board president

By Annie Sewell
Special to The SUN

2019 has been an exciting year full of changes for DUST2.

At the start of the year, we officially merged with the Wolf Creek Wheel Club to form the DUST2 Wheel Club.

We developed a five-year strategic plan for the club that includes plans for mountain biking, road biking, trail building both in town and on Forest Service land, community building and the growth and sustainability of our youth cycling program.

In addition to these things, DUST2 completed two large partnership trial projects and had six student athletes qualify for the Colorado High School Cycling League

state championships in Durango.

Most recently, DUST2 had its first board elections in November and we are very excited to announce the election of a new board president, Lance Thornton.

Thornton has always had a love of cycling and pretty much anything outdoors. After being a sometime here in Colorado the last five years, Thornton and his family finally made the move to become Pagosans this summer. Thornton and his wife, Melissa, both teach in Pagosa schools and their son, Carter, is attending Pagosa Springs High School.

Thornton has been coaching with the National Interscholastic Cycling Association and TMBRA for the past seven years and spent two years as an assistant coach

for St. Stephens in Austin. In 2013, Thornton helped form the Hudson Bend/Lake Travis cycling team that combined both area middle schools to feed the Lake Travis High School Mountain Bike team. In addition to this, Thornton spent two years on the board and as a coach.

In 2015, Thornton changed school districts and founded the Dripping Springs Mountain Bike Team (DSMBT), coaching kids from elementary through high school and established a board of directors to run this nonprofit organization. The DSMBT had four very successful racing seasons with three state champions, one state championship and constructed over 12 miles of new single-track trail in the community.

Thornton looks forward to

working with the DUST2 board of directors and creating more single-track and cycling opportunities in Pagosa Springs. The DUST2 Board of Directors is excited and grateful to welcome its new president.

Last chance to join the Christmas Bird Count

By Jean Zirnhelt
Special to The SUN

This Saturday, Dec. 14, members of our community will participate in Audubon's 120th annual Christmas Bird Count.

We will join in teams to census birds in one of the eight count zones that is part of a 15-mile diameter area of Archuleta County being documented.

Please join us in this fun, impor-

tant contribution to scientific data used to understand and predict trends in bird populations. It is the longest-running bird census in the world, and we need your help to make it a success.

This evening, Dec. 12, we will meet at the Methodist Church on Lewis St. at 6 p.m. for our final bird identification class. You may sign up for a count team at this meet-

ing. All are welcome. Audubon membership is not required, just a willingness to help us spot and identify birds.

On Saturday, participants will gather in the evening for a chili dinner and to compile our findings. For more information or to be added to a team, contact Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org or call Jean Zirnhelt at 731-2985.

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Fire board talks URA, approves budget and passes resolution to support 911 surcharge increase

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

At its meeting Tuesday, the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Board of Directors adopted its 2020 budget, discussed the Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority (URA) and voted to support an increase in a phone surcharge for 911 services.

PFPD Chief Randy Larson reported that Pagosa Springs Town Manager Andrea Phillips had requested the board nominate a representative that might serve on the 11-member URA board.

Larson reported that six special districts, which includes PFPD, will each nominate one of their board members as a candidate for the URA board and those nominees will ultimately be whittled down to one representative to represent all six special districts.

"There are people out there with the other special districts that are not real thrilled with this setup," Larson said, adding, "The town council has already approved the makeup of it, so they would have to go back and change that through resolution with the town, and I personally just don't see it happening. There were some good arguments made for it, there were some people that were absolutely anti-any-of-this from a couple of the entities."

Most PFPD board members present expressed they were not enthusiastic about being nominated to the URA board and some expressed they were not in favor of the URA as a whole.

"My personal feeling is I came from Albuquerque and we saw where urban renewal and blight and run down and affordable housing was necessary," said PFPD board member Ronald Beckman. "I don't really see where that's occurring in downtown Pagosa Springs."

"I agree," board chair John Thompson said.

"And this is just appointing someone who is gonna have to be voted against the [nominees from the] other taxing entities," board member Donald Peterson said.

Larson agreed, saying, "This is just putting a name in the hat," noting there was no guarantee the PFPD's nominee would actually serve on the URA board.

Ultimately, PFPD board vice chairman Jason Webb was confirmed as the board's nominee. Webb was not in attendance at the meeting and informally agreed to the nomination via text message during the meeting.

"I said we nominated you for the URA board if you're interested and he said OK," Peterson said.

Larson further commented on the political climate facing the URA

project later in the meeting.

"This thing got really crossways because of the fact that most of the people see it as The Springs project pushing it on the town and I understand the perception of that in the way it looked, but it—even though that may be what happened, that doesn't necessarily mean that their project will be approved. It just means that it opens that door."

Support for 911 surcharge

The board also voted to pass a resolution supporting the Dispatch Executive Management's Board's recommendation to increase the 911 surcharge, a monthly fee on phone lines earmarked for emergency services, from \$1.25 per month to \$2.25.

Beckman, who served on the dispatch subcommittee that made the fee increase recommendation to the dispatch board, explained how the subcommittee came to its recommendation.

"The thing we looked at were tax increases and mill levy increases, bed tax. In that work group we studied everything that we could find and this seems to be the most likely thing that we would be able to [do]," Beckman said.

Larson explained that local residents who move to Pagosa Springs and keep their non-local phone numbers don't contribute to local

911 surcharge revenue.

"I had a meeting with AT&T FirstNet a month ago, and I brought up the fact that we have an issue that a lot of the cellphone usage—if they come from Texas or California or Durango or wherever and move to Pagosa Springs and keep their phone number, there's some question on how that gets distributed and it's our understanding that those funds still go wherever that phone was registered in the beginning, and the AT&T people went, 'We had no idea,'" Larson said.

Budget

The board also adopted its 2020 budget.

The budget states:
• PFPD's total revenues are projected to be \$2,619,189 with about \$2.2 million coming from property tax revenue.

• With a beginning fund balance for 2020 of \$730,513, PFPD's "Total Resources" for the year are just over \$3.3 million.

• Total operating expenses are estimated at \$2,557,075, plus about \$400,000 in "Unrestricted General Reserves" and capital reserves, and a transfer to the pension fund make the "Total Expense" \$2,954,215.

• The 2020 General Fund remaining balance is listed at \$395,487.
john@pagosasun.com

Apache Street accident leads to charges for local woman

Potato truck burns and three-vehicle accident on Tuesday

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A two-vehicle accident that occurred on Friday at the intersection of South 8th Street and Apache

Street led to a local driver being charged with vehicular assault, child abuse and reckless driving, among other charges.

Multiple witnesses saw a white pickup truck driving erratically around the south residential area of 7th, 8th and 10th streets, Pagosa Springs Police Department Lt. Brooks Brown explained in an interview on Tuesday.

Specifically, witnesses observed the driver of the 1998 Dodge Ram pickup, Victoria Galvan, allegedly driving at a "high rate of speed" and honking the horn, Brown described.

"Eventually, the vehicle crashed into another vehicle at 8th and Apache, causing the vehicle that it crashed into to flip," Brown said.

Peter Martell, the driver of the flipped vehicle, a 1997 Ford F-350, was trapped for a short time until Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) personnel were able to extricate him through the top of the vehicle, Brown noted.

"The driver of the one that caused the accident had two children with her, which sustained minor bumps and bruises," Brown said.

The passenger of the vehicle that flipped did not sustain any injuries; Martell received medical treatment for a cut on his head, Brown explained.

Additionally, Martell's vehicle had two dogs in it. One of the dogs ran away following the accident, Brooks explained.

The other dog in the vehicle survived the accident, Brown added later. Brown noted that he was not sure if Galvan sustained any injuries.

"When people see things like that going on, call it in as fast as they can," Brown said. "We can get out there sooner before something like that happens."

In an interview, Martell explained that his dog, Guero, was found on Wednesday after being missing for more than four days.

"It all worked out," he said. "He wore through the pads on his feet, just from being on the road and in the snow and, you know, cold."

Other incidents

On Dec. 10 around 6 p.m. a three-vehicle accident occurred on Pinon Causeway due to a driver, Randy Roeder, running a red light.

According to Brown, Roeder T-boned one car, which then hit another car that was stopped at the light.

Roeder was cited for disobeying an official traffic control device, Brown noted.

No injuries were reported at the scene, Brown added.

Also on Dec. 10 around 6 p.m. a report was made of a commercial truck hauling potatoes on fire near mile marker 149.

"It looks like something in either the braking system or the tires got

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Dec. 24 • 5 & 7 PM — Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, Dec. 29 — Regular Services

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Merry Christmas!

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:10-11

The birth of Jesus is a wonderful story. At this time of the year it seems that many people are a little kinder and more joyful, even among the hustle of the season.

However, there is much more to the story of Jesus than a once a year event. Jesus came to change lives. Following Jesus was meant to be a life lived every day of the year in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and many other Christian attributes.

Celebrate the birth of Jesus during the season. But let us live each day the life to which Jesus calls us.

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

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Dec. 12

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners special meeting — budget adoption. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation call-in meeting. 11 a.m. Call-in number: (605) 472-5517, pass code 976576# or Chamber of Commerce, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Dispatch Executive Management Board special meeting. 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

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

Tuesday, Dec. 17

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.

Upper San Juan Health Service District regular board meeting.

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

Town boards and commissions training. 6 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Wednesday, Dec. 18

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

Thursday, Dec. 19

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners special meeting — budget discussions. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

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.

Democratic Party to hold committee meeting

By Becky Herman
Special to The SUN

The Archuleta County Democratic Party will hold a committee meeting at noon on Dec. 16 in the Visitor Center's meeting room.

There will be a report on the recent state party's executive and central committee meetings in Colorado Springs.

All Democratic party events are open to the public. Call Becky Herman at 264-2171 for more information.

Town

Continued from A9

• The town council approved the town's 2020 budget, set mill levies and appropriated funds.

• Gave the San Juan Historical Society the green light to make improvements to the town-leased structure at 1st Street and U.S. 160 for an expansion of the Pagosa Springs History Museum.

• As the PSSGID Board of Directors, approved the PSSGID's 2020 budget, set mill levies and appropriated funds.
randi@pagosasun.com

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Letters to Santa

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Hey, kids!

Send us your letter to Santa and his elves at the North Pole!
Your letter may be selected for publication in The Pagosa Springs SUN.
Please include your first name and age on your letter.

Make sure we receive your letter by noon on Friday, Dec. 13.

You can also email your letter to
editor@pagosasun.com
or drop it off at the Santa mailbox at 457 Lewis Street

SENIOR NEWS

Legal help, tax help and more coming to senior center

By Cheryl Wilkinson
SUN Columnist

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging provides legal services for seniors through the program attorney, Daniel Fiedler. Fiedler will be spending the day at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center on Jan. 23, 2020, by appointment.

Following are the legal services Fiedler can assist with:

- Public benefits and utilities shut off.
- Landlord-tenant problems, such as persons being evicted.
- Simple wills, power of attorneys, medical durable power of attorney and living wills.
- Consumer issues such as advocating for persons harassed by debt collectors.
- Emergency limited long-term Care guardianship and domestic problems, such as abuse.

Please come by or call the Senior Center office to schedule an appointment, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. (inside the Ross Aragon Community Center), 264-2167.

Tax preparation help

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will be returning to prepare federal and state income tax returns at no charge.

The 2020 dates are Feb. 22, 2020, and March 14, 2020, by appointment only. The gross income limit this tax season is \$54,000.

Please call 264-2167 for more information or

to make an appointment.

Health and wellness

The Senior Center is continuing the pilot program which expands health and wellness services to Archuleta County seniors. The program includes wellness and blood pressure monitoring or allows individual area seniors to discuss two subjects of their choice.

There is no charge for Medicare enrollees. Participant IDs will include Medicare card, photo ID and, if necessary, any supplemental insurances. No Medicaid is accepted at this time. Participants are encouraged to bring a list of their current medications.

The goal of the outreach clinic is to provide care to those who are not able to travel.

The next health and wellness date will be Dec. 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Memberships

Senior Discount Club Memberships are now offered Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Menu

Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch. If you are a senior (60 years and older), for only a \$4 suggested donation, you are eligible for a hot meal, drink and a salad prepared by our kitchen staff.

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for

\$8.50 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12 — Chicken enchilada suizas, Parmesan baked zucchini, charro beans, milk, salad bar and German chocolate cake.

Friday, Dec. 13 — Crab cakes with remoulade sauce, brown rice pilaf, seasoned asparagus, milk, salad bar and apple crisp.

Monday, Dec. 16 — Beef chili, zucchini medley, escalloped corn, milk, salad bar and cherry cream cheese pie.

Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Teriyaki salmon with tartar sauce, mushrooms with barley and brown rice pilaf, cauliflower snowflakes, milk, salad bar and banana cream pie.

Wednesday, Dec. 18 — Barbecue glazed chicken wings, mashed potatoes with cream gravy, roasted squash, tomatoes and onions, milk, salad bar and brownie.

Thursday, Dec. 19 — Sliced ham with pineapple sauce, baked sweet potato, broccoli with garlic and butter, milk, salad bar and cranberry salad.

Reservations and cancellations are required. You can make a reservation at 264-2167 by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you would like to dine in the Community Cafe at the Senior Center.

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

SAN JUAN BASIN AREA AGENCY ON AGING NEWS

Gift ideas for people living with dementia and their caregivers

By Kay Kaylor
SUN Columnist

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

The Alzheimer's Association

(AA) offers a gift-giving guide for caregivers and people living with dementia in early to late stages. Holidays can be stressful and lonely for elders and the AA suggests that careful planning can make the season safe, comfortable and enjoyable for everyone. Here are some gift ideas.

Early stages

To help people remember, the AA lists items such as magnetic refrigerator pads, Post-it Notes, a journal or notebook and a calendar featuring family photos with important dates marked. Other ideas, to help with everyday tasks,

include an automatic medication dispenser, a memory phone that stores some contacts with photos, automatic night-lights, CDs and DVDs, and outings such as a concert, sports event or a shopping trip with loved ones.

Middle to late stages

These gift ideas appeal to the senses and bring pleasant memories: a bathrobe in a favorite color or other comfortable clothing easily removed and washed, a soft blanket, scented lotion, a photo collage or album and music from earlier eras.

A suggestion from elsewhere and available at various prices is a

soft and realistic stuffed animal that moves; perhaps it could like a former pet or one the person is separated from in a care home. A similar gift would be a lifelike baby doll.

Gifts for caregivers

The AA notes that the most important gift for caregivers is free time, such as homemade coupons promising to do specific chores and gift cards for self-pampering or providing services.

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

EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

Simple winter energy saving strategies

By Robin Young
SUN Columnist

During the winter season, energy conservation is crucial since heating accounts for the greatest use of energy in Colorado homes.

Before the cold weather sets in you should perform a quick inspection of your home. Simply dampen your hand and place it in locations such as attic hatches, baseboards, corners of rooms, cracks, doors, fireplace dampers, outlets, outdoor faucets (make sure these are tightly closed and all hoses have been detached), switch plates and windows. Your hand will feel cold near a draft.

Better yet, borrow a thermal leak detector from your local county Extension office. Then seal windows, doors and other leaks with caulking, weatherstripping, spray foam or other material as needed.

Note that unless you have mechanical ventilation for your home — like with a heat or energy recovery ventilator — you can seal a home too tightly. For this reason, it is best to consult with a professional energy auditor before seal-

ing your home to any significant degree.

Some other simple strategies to improve the energy efficiency of your home in winter are:

- Set your thermostat as low as comfortable. Use a programmable thermostat to adjust temperature at night when you are sleeping and when you are out of the house. But make sure the temperature is not so low that pipes could break.
- Close the fireplace damper unless you are using the fireplace.
- Close curtains and shades at night and open them on sunny winter days.
- Have your furnace checked before winter. Regularly check furnace filters and replace them every month or so during the heating season.
- Remove any obstructions blocking heating registers.
- Seal any gaps in your ductwork with a liquid duct mastic.
- If you have single-paned windows, use a window insulator kit that can be inexpensively purchased at a hardware store.
- Install compact fluorescent lamps and string LED lights during

the holidays.

• If your hot water heater is warm to the touch, wrap it with an insulating blanket specifically designed for this purpose.

• Finally, adding insulation is a larger project, but can significantly reduce the loss of heat out of your home.

Colorado Master Gardener program applications being taken

The Master Gardener program is innovative and flexible in its outreach and works to match volunteer skills and schedules. Each year, Colorado Master Gardeners all over the state help people make the right choices for their garden care. Anyone who would like to play an active role in the education of gardeners of all ages is invited to join our Colorado Master Gardener team.

Classes typically meet once a week on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for 11 consecutive weeks. The cost of the Master Gardener apprentice training is \$170 and the Colorado Gardener Certificate

is \$530. Partial scholarships are available as well for the apprentice program.

If you would like to learn more about successful gardening in Archuleta County, be sure to call the CSU Extension office in Archuleta County today at 264-5931. To register for the 2020 Colorado Master Gardener Program, which tentatively begins Jan. 23, 2020, please go to www.cmg.extension.colostate.edu. Hard copies are accepted at the local office, too. Applications will be accepted until Dec. 15. Apply today.

Testing of dial pressure canner gauges

The CSU Extension — Archuleta County office is now offering to test dial pressure canner gauges for \$5 for Archuleta County residents. For more information, contact Terry Schaaf at 264-5931.

Save the dates

Jan. 18, 2020: Cottage Foods Class.

Feb. 11, 2020: Beef Symposium.

Feb. 12, 2020: Agricultural Financial Management Strategies.

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LIBRARY NEWS

IRA rollover can benefit you and your library

By Carole Howard
SUN Columnist, and the library staff

Did you know that you can roll over some or all of your independent retirement account (IRA) for a good cause: your library?

If you are age 70 1/2 or older and have an IRA, you have reached that milestone where you must take a required minimum distribution (RMD). The distribution may increase your taxable income and require you to pay taxes on this previously untaxed asset.

If you do not need all or part of the distribution, or it will cause unwanted tax repercussions, we hope you will consider an IRA charitable rollover to the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Foundation in support of the Ruby Sisson Library.

The IRA charitable rollover, also known as a qualified charitable distribution, allows you to gift your RMD to charity, which omits the distribution from your income and allows you to avoid paying the tax.

We recommend you consult with your financial advisor or attorney with tax-related questions. To learn more, please contact Cindi Galabota at 264-2209 or cindi@pagosalibrary.org.

Text alerts

Just a reminder that your library has a program called ShoutBomb that, when signed up, allows you to receive text messages on your cell-phone when items you requested are ready for pickup or when items are overdue. You can also use this service to text the library to renew items. It is available in both English and Spanish.

Signing up for ShoutBomb is free, though standard text rates do apply. This service will only work with phones that can receive SMS text messages and most smartphones should qualify.

To sign up for ShoutBomb, log in to your account on your computer and click the button on the left that says, "Sign Up for Text Message Notifications." A document will open up on your computer that explains how to sign up for ShoutBomb. It takes only a few minutes to sign up, but you will want to have your library card handy.

Of course, you can always speak with one of our friendly library staff and they would be happy to help you sign up for ShoutBomb.

Home-school social hour today

Stop by today, Thursday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. for a chance to visit with fellow home-school families, discuss curriculum and learning opportunities, and look through resources while the kids participate in crafts and other activities. Josie, your early literacy librarian, is eager to collect ideas on how to serve home-school families in our community and get your feedback on the value of these sessions.

Teen gaming today

Free teen gaming normally happens on Tuesdays for teens in the sixth through 12th grades, but just for December, it will happen on three Thursdays because of scheduling conflicts. Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks on Dec. 12, 19 and 26 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 13, from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session where you can enjoy video gaming on Wii and X-box 360 Kinect with your friends and family.

Teen book club tomorrow

Friday, Dec. 13, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the free teen book club, sixth- through 12th-graders will discuss "The Prince and the Dressmaker" by Jen Wang and enjoy free snacks.

Legal clinic tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 13, from 2 to 3 p.m. a free legal clinic for parties who have no attorney will take place via computer link.

Volunteer attorneys will answer questions, help fill out forms, and explain the process and procedure for legal issues in the areas of family law, civil litigation, property tax, probate law, collections, appeals, landlord-tenant law, veterans benefits and civil protection orders.

Please check in at the registration desk. This clinic takes place the second Friday of every month.

LEGO Club Saturday

Kids ages 6-12 are invited to bring your imaginations — LEGOs are provided — this Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to noon for the free LEGO Club.

Otaku Club

The Otaku (Anime/Manga) Club meets Monday, Dec. 16, from 4 to 5 p.m. Join us to watch anime, talk about manga and Asian cultures, and enjoy snacks. This free club is for those in the fifth through 12th grades.

'Growing Readers' part two

The second of a free two-part workshop called "Growing Readers Together: Play, Learn and Grow" takes place Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 4 to 5 p.m. for anyone involved in child care. You'll learn easy, fun ways to support early learning through play. Children are welcome to come also.

Participants will receive materials to keep playing and learning at home. The first five years in a child's life are crucial to your child's development. This program will explore easy ways to infuse everyday activities with literacy and science so young people are ready to read and thrive when they start school. You are welcome to attend this second session even if you missed the first.

Adult DIY

At this month's free DIY event next Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 1 to 2 p.m., you'll make inexpensive, personalized snow globe gifts using a mason jar, small plastic tree, glitter, glue and a little bit of creativity. Your snow globe can be filled with water or not. No registration is required.

Spanish conversation

Wednesday, Dec. 18, from 3 to

4 p.m., practice your Spanish with others to help you increase your fluency at this free informal session. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. Previous attendance not necessary. No registration is required.

Teen role-playing

The free role-playing game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place next Wednesday, Dec. 18, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

Computer classes

These free classes twice a month will help you learn a useful technology skill or application. No registration is required. Monday, Dec. 16, from 1 to 2 p.m. will cover protecting your privacy online as you learn how your online behavior is tracked and used. Contact Brad at the library if you would like to request a class about any computer topic.

ESL classes expand to evening sessions

Free English as a Second Language (ESL) classes have been so appreciated at your library that we are — by popular demand — switching one of the weekly sessions to the evening to make it easier for more people to participate. The new schedule is Tuesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. The classes are led by two highly experienced teachers — Joyce Holdread for the intermediate/advanced group and Ellynn

Ragone for beginners. No registration is required.

Clases nocturnas de ESL en la biblioteca

Las clases han sido tan apreciadas en su biblioteca que nosotros — por demanda popular — estamos cambiando una de las sesiones semanales de la noche para facilitar la participación de más personas. El nuevo horario es los martes de 5-7 y los viernes de 12-2. Las clases son dirigidas por dos maestras altamente experimentadas; Joyce Holdread enseñará a los estudiantes intermedios y avanzados y Ellen Ragone enseñará a los principiantes. No es necesario registrarse.

Adult education

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) accelerated GED course is available only once more in December: Monday, Dec. 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come to your library to get help from Mark with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

Free tech sessions

Drop in with your technology questions on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

Family storytimes

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Saturday from 3 to 3:45 p.m., join us for great stories, fun songs, toddler-friendly crafts, and plenty of reasons to get up and

■ See Library A17

Christmas
at Pagosa Baking Company
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EARLY DEADLINES
for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of
Thursday, December 26
Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 20
Classified Advertising,
All Categories
10 a.m., Monday, December 23
Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, December 19
*The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed
Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.*
for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of
Thursday, January 2
Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 27
Classified Advertising,
All Categories
10 a.m., Monday, December 30
Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
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Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's.*
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The Pagosa Springs Sun
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SUN photos/Chris Mannara

During the 14th annual Festival of Trees on Dec. 6 at the Ross Aragon Community Center, locals were able to enjoy the various decorations and styles of trees that were auctioned off to benefit local nonprofits the next evening. Youngsters didn't miss out on the fun, either, as they were able to meet Santa and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa while admiring the trees.

Library

Continued from A16

Both storytimes are open to babies, toddlers and youngsters of all ages to make it easier for parents to attend with their children depending on their busy schedules rather than the age of their little ones. These free sessions are an excellent way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

DVDs

"Building Wonders" is a NOVA program on engineering mysteries of the ancient world. "The Art of Racing in the Rain" is a heartwarming story narrated by the family dog, voiced by Kevin Costner. "A Discovery of Witches" features a witch and a vampire trying to find a magic book before it falls into the wrong hands. "The Farewell" tells of a family returning to China to say goodbye to their grandmother. "The Peanut Butter Falcon" follows a young man with Down syndrome who sets out on a life-changing journey. "Civilizations" is the nine-episode PBS documentary. "Native America" is PBS's four-episode, 15,000-year history. "House of Sand and Fog" stars Ben Kingsley and Jennifer Connelly.

"Beginners" is a romantic comedy. "Grizzly Man" is the true story of amateur grizzly expert Timothy Treadwell. "The Handmaid's Tale" is season three of the series based on Margaret Atwood's novel. "Luca" is a psychological thriller starring Naomi Watts and Octavia Spencer. "The Vietnam War," the PBS docu-

mentary by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, comes in two five-disc sets; volume one contains episodes one-five and volume two contains episodes six through 10. "Nowhere in Africa" is the true story of a German Jewish family fleeing the Nazis to Kenya; it won best foreign language film in the 2001 Academy Awards.

Large print

"To the Land of Long Lost Friends" by Alexander McCall Smith is a No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency mystery. "Meant to Be Yours" by Susan Mallery is a Happy Inc. romance. "The Deserter" by Nelson and Alex DeMille is a Delta

Force adventure. "Rough Seas" by Sherryl Woods contains two Molly DeWitt mysteries. "Christmas Sweets" contains shorts stories by Joanne Fluke, Laura Levine and Leslie Meier. "The Old Success" by Martha Grimes is a Richard Jury mystery.

Thanks to our donors

For their generous monetary donations, we are grateful to Traci Mullins, Susan Langston, Muriel Eason, Julie Gaylord, Madeleine Heath and Olivia Modern. For books and materials this week, we thank our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

"Discipline for me is very important. In other words, if I've done my homework, if I know what I'm doing, then I can launch rather than just flail around." — Julie Andrews, English actor, singer and author.

Website

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

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Public Notices

River Rock Estates Annexation Published Notice
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Council of the Town of Pagosa Springs, Colorado has adopted a Resolution Initiating Annexation Proceedings for Certain Property known as the River Rock Estates Annexation, said Annexation being more particularly described as follows: A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN GLO LOTS 8 AND 9, THE NORTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (N1/2 SE1/4) AND THE NORTH HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (N1/2 SW1/4) OF SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 35, NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, NEW MEXICO PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE TRACT HEREIN DESCRIBED, BEING IDENTICAL WITH THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THAT PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED UNDER RECEPTION NO. 20108477, BEING ON THE NORTH LINE OF GLO LOT 8 AND ALSO BEING THE SOUTH LINE OF THE TOWNSITE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, WHENCE THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BLOCK 65 OF THE TOWNSITE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, BEARS N.89°45'08"E., 225.34 FEET DISTANT; THENCE ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID PARCEL OF LAND THE FOLLOWING: S.00°34'15"E., 8.07 FEET; S.35.92 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 280.00 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS S.03°23'12"W., 35.89 FEET DISTANT;



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261.98 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 540.00 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS S.06°33'12"E., 259.40 FEET DISTANT;
S.20°27'03"E., 115.85 FEET;
296.74 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 460.00 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS S.01°58'14"E., 291.62 FEET DISTANT;
185.27 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1040.00 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS S.11°24'22"W., 185.03 FEET DISTANT;
S.06°18'09"W., 465.28 FEET;
41.63 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 540.00 FEET AND A CHORD WHICH BEARS S.04°05'38"W., 41.62 FEET DISTANT;
S.01°53'06"W., 110.00 FEET;
THENCE N.89°57'35"W., 255.08 FEET LEAVING SAID WESTERLY LINE AND TO THE CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF FAIRWAY LAND TRUST MINOR SUBDIVISION, THE PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED UNDER RECEPTION NO. 9901912;
THENCE N.07°06'38"W., 87.73 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER;
THENCE N.13°22'34"W., 305.94 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER;
THENCE N.07°23'06"W., 329.09 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER;
THENCE N.14°53'58"W., 134.51 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER;
THENCE N.29°40'54"W., 201.29 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER;
THENCE N.04°57'00"W., 483.02 FEET ALONG SAID CENTER OF THE SAN JUAN RIVER TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTH LINE OF GLO LOT 9 AND ALSO BEING THE SOUTH LINE OF THE TOWNSITE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, WHENCE THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF BLOCK 69 BEARS N.89°01'58"W., 592.81 FEET DISTANT;
THENCE S.89°01'58"E., 135.93 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF THE TOWNSITE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS TO THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF THE TOWNSITE PERIMETER;
THENCE N.89°45'08"E., 435.23 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF THE TOWNSITE OF PAGOSA SPRINGS AND ALSO THE NORTH LINE OF GLO LOT 8 AND 9 TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, WITHIN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO.
That, on the 7th day of January, 2020, at the hour of 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may come on for hearing at the Town Council Chambers, Town of Pagosa Springs, 551 Hot Springs Boulevard, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, the Town Council will hold a hearing for the purpose of finding and determining whether the property proposed to be annexed meets the applicable requirements of Colorado law and is considered eligible for annexation. At such hearing, any person may appear and present such evidence upon any matter to be determined by the Town Council.

TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO
TOWN COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-23
A RESOLUTION INITIATING ANNEXATION PROCEEDINGS
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE KNOWN AS RIVER ROCK ESTATES ANNEXATION AND FINDING THE PETITION FOR ANNEXATION NO. 2019-01 TO BE IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 31-12-107, C.R.S.

WHEREAS, a Petition for Annexation No. 2019-01 ("Petition") has been filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Pagosa Springs ("Town") and referred by the Clerk to the Town Council, requesting annexation of certain property to be known as the River Rock Estates Annexation (the "Property"); and
WHEREAS, the Petition contains the following:
A. An allegation that it is desirable and necessary that the Property be annexed to the Town;
B. An allegation that the Property meets the requirements of Sections 31-12-104 and 31-12-105, C.R.S., and is eligible for annexation in that:
1. Not less than one sixth (1/6th) of the perimeter of the Property is contiguous with the Town, which contiguity may be established by the annexation of one or more parcels in a series.
2. A community of interest exists between the Property and the Town; the Property is urban or will be urbanized in the near future; and the Property is integrated with or is capable of being integrated with the Town.

3. The consent of the landowners, no land included within the Property, which is held in identical ownership, whether consisting of one tract or parcel of real estate or two or more contiguous tracts or parcels of real estate:
(a) is divided into separate parts or parcels, unless such tracts or parcels are separated by a dedicated street, road, or other public way; or
(b) comprises 20 acres or more and, together with the buildings and improvements situated thereon, has a valuation for assessment in excess of \$200,000.00 for ad valorem tax purposes for the year next preceding the proposed annexation.
4. No annexation proceedings have been commenced for the annexation to another municipality of part or all of the Property.
5. The annexation of the Property will not result in the detachment of area from any school district and the attachment of area to another school district.
6. The annexation of the Property will not have the effect of extending the boundary of the Town more than three miles in any direction from any point of the Town's boundary in any one year.
7. If a portion of a platted street or alley is to be annexed, the entire width of said street or alley is included within the Property.
8. Reasonable access shall not be denied to landowners, owners of an easement, or the owners of a franchise, adjoining any platted street or alley, annexed by the Town but not bounded on both sides by the Town.
C. An allegation that the signers of the Petition comprise landowners of one hundred percent (100%) of the Property, exclusive of streets and alleys and any land owned by the Town;
D. A request that the Town approve annexation of the Property;

E. The signatures of such landowners;
F. The mailing address of each Petitioner signer;
G. The legal description of the land owned by each Petitioner signer;
H. The date of signing of each signature, which date is not more than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the date of filing of the Petition with the Town Clerk;
I. An affidavit of each circulator of the Petition that each signature is the signature of the person whose name it purports to be;
J. Four copies of an annexation map containing a written legal description of the boundaries of the Property; a map showing the boundary of the Property; a showing of the location of each ownership tract of unplatted land, and the boundaries and the plat numbers of plots or lots and blocks of platted land within the Property, and the boundary of the Town and any other municipality contiguous to the Property.
WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Town to annex said area to the Town; and
WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to initiate annexation proceedings in accordance with law.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO, as follows:

(i) The recitals contained above are incorporated as if repeated and set forth in full.
(ii) The Petition and the annexation map are in substantial compliance with the requirements of Section 31-12-107(1), C.R.S., and the provisions of the Municipal Annexation Act.
(iii) The Town Council hereby accepts the Petition and initiates annexation proceedings for the Property, situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, as described in the Petition, and incorporated herein by this reference.
(iv) The Notice attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A is adopted as a part of this Resolution. The Notice establishes the date, time and place when a hearing will be held regarding the final passage of an annexation ordinance pertaining to the Property. The Town Clerk is directed to publish a copy of this Resolution and the Notice once a week for four successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the Property, with the first publication at least thirty days prior to the hearing.
(v) A copy of the published Notice, together with a copy of this Resolution and the Petition as filed, shall also be sent by registered mail by the Town Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners, the County Attorney and to any special district or school district having territory within the Property at least twenty-five days prior to the date fixed for such hearing.
(vi) A copy of the published Notice, together with copies of the Letter of Intent provided with the Petition, the annexation map, and the concept plan for the development of the Property shall be sent by certified mail by the Town Clerk to the owners of real property within three hundred (300) feet of the boundaries of the Property, irrigation ditch companies whose rights-of-way traverse the Property, and to the mineral estate owners and their lessees of the Property.
(vii) Pursuant to Sec. 21.11.5.6 of the Town of Pagosa Springs Municipal Code, the Petition and annexation map are hereby referred to the Planning Commission for its consideration, review and recommendations at a regular or special meeting to be held prior to the date of the hearing before the Town Council. If zoning of the Property has been requested concurrent with annexation, the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing on the zoning of the Property at the same meeting. Notice of the public hearing on the zoning of the Property shall be given as provided in the Municipal Code. Adopted by a vote of seven in favor and zero against, this 5th day of November, 2019.
Published December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2019 in The

Pagosa Springs SUN.

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLICATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7 Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of November, 2019, for Archuleta County.
19C265 Lester Johnson, 22500 S. Hwy 160, Bayfield, CO 81222; Yellow Jacket Creek; Archuleta County; Woodhouse Ditch No 1: Date of original decree, 6/5/1928; Case no., CA0308; Date of subsequent decree, 10/17/02, case no., 02CW28; That the headgate of said ditch is located on the north bank of Yellow Jacket Creek, a tributary of the Piedra River, and from which creek it diverts its supply of water, at a point 1055 feet north and 1663 feet west from the southeast corner of Section 12, T34N, R5W, NMPM, from which headgate said ditch runs in a general easterly direction; Yellow Jacket Creek; Appropriation date, 5/15/1985; Absolute 1.5 cfs original, 0.125 after abandonment; Irrigation of 40 acres of land; Amount of water applicant intends to change, Absolute 0.03 cfs; Easting 289843, Northing 4122803; SW1/4SE1/4, Section 12, T34N, R5W, NMPM; New Johnson alternate point of diversion, Easting 291339, Northing 4122743; NW1/4SE1/4, Section 7, T34N, R4W, NMPM; 1400 feet from South, 1662 feet from East; Woodhouse Ditch No 2: Date of original decree, 6/5/1928; Case no., CA0308; Date of subsequent decree, 10/17/02, case no., 02CW29; That the headgate of said ditch is located on the southwest bank of Yellow Jacket Creek, a tributary of the Piedra River, from which creek said ditch derives its supply of water, at a point 951 feet north and thence 2060 feet west from the southeast corner of Section 12, T34N, R5W, NMPM in Archuleta County, Colorado, and from said headgate the ditch runs in a general easterly direction; Yellow Jacket Creek; Appropriation date, 5/15/1902; Absolute 0.5 cfs original, 0.125 after abandonment; Irrigation of 15 acres of land; Amount of water applicant intends to change, Absolute 0.03 cfs; Easting 289597, Northing 4122731; SW1/4SE1/4, Section 12, T34N, R5W, NMPM; New Johnson Alternate Point of Diversion, Easting 291339, Northing 4122743; NW1/4SE1/4, Section 7, T34N, R4W, NMPM; 1400 feet from South, 1662 feet from East; Proposed change for both structures: A request for an alternate point of diversion for the Woodhouse No 1 and No 2 Ditch to be diverted approximately 2000 feet down stream from original heading locations, original ditch head gate, point of diversion and ditch paths non-existent from stream modification, road and highway construction, map of decreed locations and Johnson Alternate Point attached to application, image of historically irrigated lands from original claim attached to application; See application for more details. Application for Change of Water Right (16 pages)
19C266 Alpine Lakes Ranch Property Owners Association and Alpine Lakes Ditch and Reservoir Company, Inc., c/o Grace Agius & Ron Smith, 17774 Hwy 84, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; For all structures: Archuleta County; Date of original decree, 11/10/00; Case no., 97CW74; Subsequent decrees, 11/15/06, case no. 04CW83, 11/07/13, case no. 12CW35; Appropriation date, 3/29/96; Central Supply Intake at Spence Reservoir; SW1/4NE1/4, Section 8, T33N, R1E, NMPM; 1900 feet west of the east section line and 2150 feet south of the north section line of said Section 8; Spence Reservoir which is filled from Spence Creek a tributary of the Navajo River and Big Branch Creek a tributary of the Rio Blanco; 1.0 cfs, Conditional; ALR Well No. 3: SE1/4NW1/4, Section 20, T33N, R1E, NMPM; 1900 feet from North, 1630 feet from West; Alluvium of the Navajo River and its tributaries; 25 gpm, (0.056 cfs) Conditional; Mesa Well No 1: Permit #49735-F; SE1/4NE1/4, Section 11, T32N, R1W, NMPM; 1750 feet from North, 500 feet from East; Alluvium of the Navajo River and its tributaries; 25 gpm (0.056 cfs) Conditional; Mesa Well No 2: Permit #53347-F; SW1/4NE1/4, Section 6, T32N, R1E, NMPM; 1600 feet from East, 2600 feet from North; Alluvium of the Navajo River and its tributaries; 24 gpm (0.054 cfs) Conditional; Alpine Meadows Well No 1: SE1/4SE1/4, Section 8, T33N, R1E, NMPM; 800 feet from South, 850 feet from East; Alluvium of the Navajo River and its tributaries; 40 gpm (0.089 cfs) Conditional; Alpine Meadows Well No 2: NE1/4SE1/4, Section 8, T33N, R1E, NMPM; 1705 feet from South, 1230 feet from East; Alluvium of the Navajo River and its tributaries; 50 gpm (0.101 cfs) Conditional; Use for all structures: Use in the central domestic water supply system for Alpine Lakes Ranch, including uses for domestic, livestock, irrigation of lawns, gardens, shrubs and trees, and fire protection purposes, irrigation through the central domestic water supply system will include no more than 3000 square feet per lot, for a maximum of 218 lots, for a total proposed irrigated acreage of no more than 15 acres; Work towards completion of project outlined in application; See application for more details. Application for Finding of Reasonable Diligence and Absolute Water Rights (9 pages)
19C267 APPLICATION FOR AN ABSOLUTE WATER RIGHT (SURFACE) AND FOR A CONDITIONAL WATER RIGHT (SURFACE), Archuleta County, Applicants: Cole and Katie Swanemyer. Please direct all correspondence to Amy N. Huff, Colorado Water & Land Law, LLC, 679 E. 2nd Ave, Unit 11B, Durango, CO 81301 (970) 403-1700; amy@waterandland.com (1) Structure Name: Swanemyer Waste Ditch (c) POD SE 1/4 S1 T32N R6W, NMPM (d) Source: wastewater, seepage, return flows and all other sources tributary to Sawyer Arroyo, tributary to the San Juan River (c) App Date: 1975 (d) Amt: 0.5 cfs, Absolute (e) Use: stockwater, irrigation, and supplemental irrigation for 75 acres (2) Structure Name: Spring Creek Ditch, Swanemyer Enlargement (a) POD: NE 1/4 SE 1/4 T34N R7W, NMPM (b) Source: San Juan River and its tributaries (c) App Date: 11-21-2019 (d) Amt: 0.5 cfs, Conditional (e) Use: Stockwater, irrigation, and supplemental irrigation for 75 acres (3) See Application for additional information. (8 pages)
THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGOING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWNERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OBJECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE until the last day of January, 2020, to file with the Water Clerk, a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or applicants attorney and an affidavit or certificate of such service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us; Danene M. Etz, Water Court Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106, Durango, CO 81301; 970-385-6181)
Published: before December 31, 2019 /s/Danene M. Etz
Danene M. Etz, Water Court Specialist

Published December 12, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Pagosa Springs Town Council will consider an Ordinance to designate the property located at 444 Lewis Street as a Local Landmark of historic significance. The Historic Preservation Board considered the applicant's request at their November 6, 2019 meeting and at that time voted 4-0 in favor of forwarding the recommendation for landmark designation to Town Council. The Planning Department will be presenting the request to the Town Council at the public hearings on the following dates:
First reading of the Ordinance on December 19, 2019 and Second reading on January 7, 2020. Both meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. Public hearings will be conducted in Town Hall located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd. A copy of the Ordinance is available for review; please contact Town Hall.
Anyone having questions or wishing to provide comments should contact the Town Planning Department at 970-264-4151 x21.
Public comments will be accepted at all public hearings. Published December 12, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of LEOLA JEAN JOHNSTON aka LEOLA J. JOHNSTON, Deceased
Case No. 2019-PR-30048
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before APRIL 30, 2020, or the claims may be forever barred.
Susan Claire Tanner
451 Lupine Place
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published December 12, 19 and 26, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

Notice of Request for Proposals/Qualifications for Town Attorney Services
The Town of Pagosa Springs, Colorado 2019 is requesting proposals from qualified law firms and individual attorneys to provide legal services to the Town. To be considered, an electronic copy of hard copies of a proposal must be received at Town Hall by 4:00 pm on January 10, 2020. A copy of the Request for Proposals/Qualifications for Town Attorney Services and any addendums can be found at the Town's website www.pagosaspings.co.gov
Published December 12 and 19, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

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County, Timber Ridge discuss Bristlecone Drive

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

The presidents of the Timber Ridge Homeowners Association (HOA) and the Timber Ridge Metro District met with the county commissioners at their Tuesday work session to discuss issues surrounding Bristlecone Drive.

The commissioners and the HOA disagree whether or not a 1,400-foot section of Bristlecone Drive should be open to the public.

County Attorney Todd Weaver explained that the easement granted to the general public in 1999 from the Timber Ridge developer gives the general public right of access over the disputed 1,400-foot section of Bristlecone.

Timber Ridge HOA president Bob Turner told The SUN Tuesday that private roads signs are still up on Bristlecone Drive.

In a previous interview with The SUN, Turner summarized the disagreement by saying the county thinks it's a public road and the HOA thinks it's private.

Both sides acknowledged the disagreement Tuesday but cordially brainstormed ways to solve some of the issues surrounding Bristlecone.

Turner explained that his two main concerns about the road were safety, like cars speeding down the road, and the cost of maintaining a road that many heavy trucks use to access the county's landfill.

"Expense is probably what's brought us here at this point," Turner said, adding, "The heavy haul [trucks] is our concern. Our roads aren't built to handle it."

Turner outlined what the county had suggested as possible solutions thus far.

"So, you guys have offered up your solution to the problem which is stop signs, radar signs and the [road] striping, which we are certainly amenable to, we're grateful for whatever we can get," Turner said. "My problem is, is it gonna work? So I would propose that we do that, but with some kind of trial period."

Commissioner Steve Wadley noted that he is the only sitting commissioner who was serving when the Timber Ridge Metro District was formed and they were given fair warning about the issues surrounding Bristlecone Drive.

"I was here when the metro district was formed. Timber Ridge was put on notice that Bristlecone was a problem and they were buying into it and I know there's always revisionist history, but they knew what they were getting, I promise you they did, and they were warned about it," Wadley said, adding, "I know the trash trucks are probably 90 percent of the problem. Has anybody reached out to the management of the trash trucks when they speed and said, 'What are you guys going to do about it?'"

"We sent letters to each of the trash companies," said metro district president David Campbell. "Elite said that they would try to keep their trucks off the best they could, the other one, At Your Disposal, didn't even respond."

Turner also explained the HOA has hired the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office to provide additional enforcement on Bristlecone Drive and that he witnessed a sheriff's deputy flash their lights at a speeding car instead of pulling them over.

"I hopped over and said, 'Why are you flashing lights if he's speeding? We're paying you guys to ticket them to slow them down,'" Turner said.

"What'd he say?" asked Wadley. "I have to live here, that's what he said," replied Turner.

Turner explained the HOA has been paying the sheriff's department for about a year and not one ticket for a commercial vehicle has been written.

"That's a conversation for the sheriff," Wadley said.

Wadley also floated the idea of installing a radar detector that takes a photo of a vehicle's license plate if someone is speeding.

County Administrator Scott Wall suggested getting Turner, Campbell, Undersheriff Derek Woodman and County Engineer Bob Perry together to outline next steps to solve the safety issues on Bristlecone Drive.

"We'll put together where the radar signs will be, and where the stop signs [will go] and then Bob and I can design the striping to make sure it meets the engineering design," Wall said. "I think I know what everybody wants to try to do, so I think we can get that done, we'll just move forward on that if that's OK."

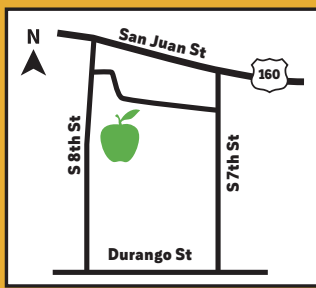


JOIN US OPENING DAY WEDNESDAY DEC. 18TH

A FULL DAY OF FUN EVENTS, GIVEAWAYS, SAMPLES & OUR ICE CREAM SOCIAL FROM 4-6 PM.

DECEMBER EVENTS	
18 WEDNESDAY 8:30 AM TO 9:30 AM RISE & SHINE, IT'S MUFFIN TIME	21 SATURDAY 2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM EASY HERBAL MEDICINE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING Part 1 - Making Herbal Vinegars and Oxymels
18 WEDNESDAY 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM GRAND OPENING ICE CREAM SOCIAL	28 SATURDAY 12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM PREVENT STRESS-RELATED AGING WITH SUPPLEMENTS
19 THURSDAY 5:30 PM TO 6:30 PM COOKING WITH COMEDIANS Food Adventures with Dr. Dean & Amanda	28 SATURDAY 2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM EASY HERBAL MEDICINE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING Part 2 - Everything Elderberry
21 SATURDAY 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM BREATH, YOGA AND ESSENTIAL OILS	29 SUNDAY 3:30 PM TO 5:00 PM HEALTHY HAPPY HOUR Snacks, Sweets and Mocktails

JANUARY EVENTS	
3 FRIDAY 5:00 PM TO 6:00 PM ECO-FRIENDLY LAUNDRY & CLEANING TIPS You Could Win a Vintage Suitcase Filled with Nellie's Clean Products!	11 SATURDAY 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM CREATING A HEALTHY GUT Easy Ways to Combine Pre and Probiotics into Everyday Meals
4 SATURDAY 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM THE 7 CAUSES OF CANCER AND HOW TO AVOID THEM Attend and Enter to Win a \$150+ Gift Basket!	11 SATURDAY 2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM EASY HERBAL MEDICINE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING Part - 4 Making Herbal Pills, Pastilles, Lozenges and Goo Balls
4 SATURDAY 1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM SUGAR DETOxing SUCCESSFULLY Practical Tips and Tricks & What to Expect	12 SUNDAY 3:30 PM TO 5:00 PM METABOLISM BOOSTING COMFORT FOOD Recreating Your Favorite Flavors
5 SUNDAY 3:30 PM TO 4:30 PM EASY HERBAL MEDICINE FOR EVERYDAY LIVING Part 3 - Making Herbal Tinctures and Elixirs	



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preview

ARTS & CRAFTS



Holiday Hoopla



See participating merchants inside • Through Dec. 15



 **Sweets & Treats** 

 **Goodman's Department Store** 

 **Happy Trails Ladies Boutique** 

Holiday Hoopla continuing through Sunday

By **Mary Jo Coulehan**
Special to The PREVIEW

What was once the Parade of Stores weekend shopping extravaganza has now morphed into the Holiday Hoopla, giving stores and shoppers more time to embrace the concept of “Shopping Local.”

The Hoopla event technically takes place for a few more days — through Dec. 15 — whereby shoppers can reap the rewards of special discounts and chances to enter the prize packages. However, remember that you can always shop local.

This year, more than 35 retail stores and restaurants are participating in the Hoopla.

To start, stop by any of the participating retail stores and sign

up and receive your Hoopla card. Keep this with you to use at the other participating retail stores and restaurants during this shopping period. When shopping, for spending at least \$10, you will be entered into drawings for special prize packages to be awarded after Dec. 15.

Different from the Parade of Stores rules, it doesn't matter whether you spend \$10 or \$100, you get one entry, not one entry for every \$10 you spend. However, the same concept remains: the more you shop, the more times you can be entered in the drawings. You can also be entered multiple times in the same store if you make multiple visits and purchases.

Also, use your Hoopla card at

participating restaurants to receive restaurant discounts for food and beverage specials. After all, we need sustenance when we shop 'til we drop.

There are many opportunities to shop local during this time frame. Many stores will be offering specials only on certain days.

How do you know how to take advantage of these specials? Check out the Holiday Hoopla pages in this week's PREVIEW.

Not only does your shopping dollar give almost three times the value of circulation by shopping local, you also support your friends, neighbors and community residents. Sometimes online shopping is just tough to beat. However, be thoughtful in your gift giving and try to send gifts from your community and support Pagosa Springs.

FBLA to hold toy distribution

By **Emma Happ**
Special to The PREVIEW

As the holiday season begins, joy and stress can fill the air. Christmastime, while it can be a joyous season, can oftentimes have a lot of financial stressors surrounding it.

In order to combat the stress, Emma Happ, Ally Ashbaugh and other student members of the Pagosa Springs High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter have set out on a mission to provide free toys to families in need. With the help of students and local

businesses, the FBLA chapter has been collecting toys to be handed out to less fortunate families.

On Saturday, Dec. 14, these toys will be provided to families in need. This student-run event will be held at Pagosa Springs High School from 2 to 5 p.m. and will be managed by volunteer members of the FBLA chapter. Because there is a limited number of toys, they will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis with two toys being handed out per kid.

So, if your family is in need of toys this year, FBLA can help.

Saturday
Coyote Moon Bar and Grill: Karaoke with Lisa Saunders, 9 p.m.

Tuesday
Pagosa Brewing Company: Open Mic, 6 p.m.

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The Liberty Theatre

Tonight! 7pm • Free Film
THE MATRIX

Starting Friday Dec. 13 - Wed. Dec. 18
7pm daily except Sun. 2pm

FORD V FERRARI

PG-13. Carroll Shelby and driver Ken Miles battle corporate interference, the laws of physics and their own personal demons to build a revolutionary race car for Ford and challenge Ferrari in 1966.

Sunday Dec. 15, 5pm • Free Film
THE GRINCH
Sponsored by Next Home

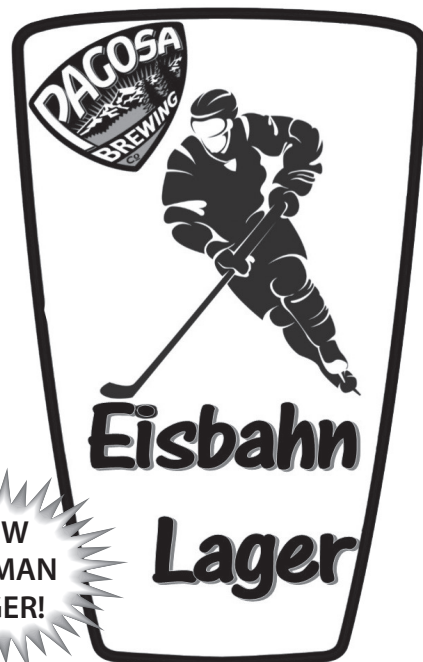
418 Pagosa Street • Call 264-SHOW
Current movies: pagosamovies.com 

For advertising or rental of the Theatre
email Phil at pagosamovies@gmail.com
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Holiday Hoopla

Support our community by attending the events and sales at these local businesses this holiday season. These owners and managers have worked hard to make this a magical shopping season for you!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Community invited to presentation of the Christmas story

By Leah Hellerich
Special to The PREVIEW

Our Savior Lutheran Preschool, at 56 Meadovs Drive, extends a cordial invitation to the community to come to the presentation of the Christmas story on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m.

The preschoolers will present the Christmas program "Silent Night, Holy Night" to their families and the community as they share the good news of Christmas through God's word and song. Because God loves us and has redeemed us, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's own Son who came to fulfill the promises of grace and forgiveness He gave to His people.

Help make a difference with giving trees

By Veronica Medina
Special to The PREVIEW

In the giving spirit of our community, there are two giving trees: one is at Ace Hardware and one is at the Liberty Theatre. These trees have tags that give the name, age and gender of the participant, as well as an item that is needed. There are children, veterans and seniors.

With your help, we will make a difference this Christmas. Please drop off the wrapped gift with the tag by Dec. 20 at NextHome RMR, 56 Talisman Drive, Ste. M.



Kid's snow boots
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Bring Home the Holiday Spirit!

30% off Christmas Decor



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20% off Games



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Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100



Merry Christmas!



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HOLIDAY HOOPLA
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 T-SHIRTS • NATIVE AMERICAN JEWELRY • FINE GIFTS
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Friday, Dec. 13 • 4-6 pm
 Enjoy wine & antipasto!
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 Sakroots & Chala bags
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 (next to Rosie's Pizzeria)
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10% OFF through Dec. 15 at all 3 locations!

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 Thursday, Dec. 5 Only
50% OFF Store-wide
regularly priced merchandise only

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Colorado Christmas Shoppe
 136 E Pagosa Street, Unit 11 • 264-1022
 In the River Center, next to the Malt Shoppe

2 p.m. - 7 p.m. only at
Made in Colorado Shoppe
 2105 Eagle Drive • 731-2264

Dec. 6, 7 and 8 — Draw for a discount at both stores!

Shop local — shop Pagosa Springs





Holiday Hoopla

Support our community by attending the events and sales at these local businesses this holiday season. These owners and managers have worked hard to make this a magical shopping season for you!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Heralds of Christmas coming Sunday and Monday

By Rick Artis
Special to The PREVIEW

The first performance of the Heralds of Christmas concert series will be held this coming Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. A repeat performance will take place on Monday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is again hosting the event. The church is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.


This year's event promises to be better than ever. A wide variety of musical numbers, featuring many of Pagosa Springs' favorite performers, will fill the hall. Seasonal favorites combined with less-traditional arrangements promise to delight the audience.

Also, this year, Noel, a local caroling quartet, will entertain before the concert. The finale will be an audience favorite, "The Hallelujah Chorus" sing-along. After the concert, everyone is invited to meet the performers during a reception in the Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

Heralds of Christmas is presented by the Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society (PSIMS). PSIMS is dedicated to music education in Pagosa Springs, providing equipment, instrument repair, private lessons and more to several of the schools in town.


This year, the schools have a variety of needs. From providing pairs of drumsticks or a series of lessons, to a set of chimes and many items in between, there are many ways that you can help. At the concert, an ornament tree will highlight a particular need. Concertgoers may select the ornament of their choice, make a donation in the amount indicated and take the ornament home as a reminder

■ See Heralds on next page



Santa Claus is coming to Goodman's!

Monday, Dec. 23
3-5 p.m.
Enjoy Cookies & Cider




BIG CHRISTMAS SAVINGS

<p>\$12.95 Leggings Buy 2 pair, get 3rd FREE!</p>	<p>Coobie Camis, Bras & Panties Buy 2, get 3rd 25% OFF Buy 3, get 4th FREE</p>	<p>Bath & Body Buy 3 of the same brand, get 4th FREE <i>(of equal or lesser value)</i></p>	<p>Candles Buy 2, get 3rd 25% OFF <i>(of equal or lesser value)</i></p>	<p>25% OFF King & Queen Pendleton Blankets <i>excluding cotton</i></p>
<p>Tony Lama Boots <i>Buy any pair, get a free backpack, while supplies last</i></p>	<p>25% OFF All Old Gringo & Lucchese Boots</p>	<p>20% OFF Men's Wallets <i>excluding Rugged Earth</i></p>	<p>Enter to win a \$100 Brighton Gift Card <i>See store for details</i></p>	<p>Gift Cards Available Free Gift Wrapping & Layaway</p>

Sale Prices Effective December 12-24

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christmas SALE

Come in each week to see what the WEEKLY SALE is!

458 Pagosa Street
Downtown Pagosa Springs
footprintspagosa.com
970-264-3668

Holiday Hoopla at Happy Trails Ladies Boutique

Free GIFT REGISTRY!
Come in & sign up to get what you really want for Christmas!

Free GIFT-WRAPPING!
Of purchases, including Gift Certificates!

WEEKLY 25% DISCOUNTS!
Available on selected merchandise to Hoopla Card Members (Excludes sale items.)

Come In & Pick Up Your Member Card!

Weekly Drawing for a Free Holiday Sweater by Berek New York!
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Dec. 2-Dec. 7 ONLY
All Jeans
Buy 2 pair, get a 3rd pair of equal or lesser value
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Enter to Win!
Gift Basket Drawing

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Drawing to be held at end of day on Dec. 15.

Must show Holiday Hoopla card for savings

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Heralds

■ continued from previous page of the difference they are making in the life of a music student here in Pagosa Springs. Donations for many of the larger items can be made as well.

Plan to join us later this week for the Heralds of Christmas. Tickets are available and can be purchased at Choke Cherry Tree and Airport Self Storage uptown, plus Bookends and the Chamber of Com-

merce downtown. Pre-purchased tickets are \$10. Should any seats be available at the door, day-of-show tickets are \$15. Plan on getting your tickets early as these performances usually sell out well ahead of time.

Shop the SUN classifieds



Holiday Hoopla

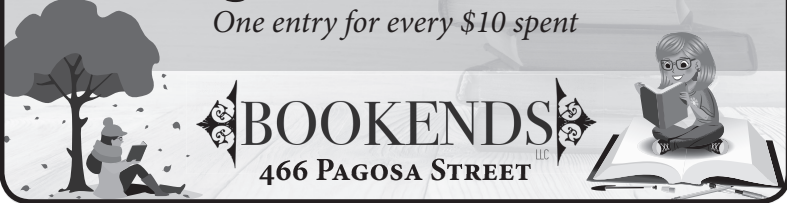
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THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

HOLIDAY HOOPLA

Enter our drawing for a **Bookends Basket** drawing will be held Dec. 16

One entry for every \$10 spent



Delivery for Christmas!



Stop in for our **Holiday Hoopla In-Store Discounts**

Now through Dec. 15

Order by Dec. 2 to insure delivery in time for Christmas. **We can make it happen!**



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Stop in for our Egg demo!



Holiday Gift Baskets Ready to Go!

Christmas
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Peace on Earth

Support our local businesses!





Holiday Hoopla

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THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



PREVIEW photo/Randi Pierce

Youngsters will have a chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, as well as tell him what they want for Christmas, at the Dec. 14 Breakfast with Santa. The annual event features a full breakfast, crafts, games, face painting for the kids, Christmas songs from high school musicians and a picture with Santa.

Breakfast with Santa set for Saturday

By Dan Burch
Special to The PREVIEW

Christmas is a time for family and tradition. The Pagosa Springs High School music department will once again host Breakfast with Santa. Many families have made this event a good way to start off the Christmas season with a great tradition.

This Saturday, Dec. 14, you and your family can come to the high school commons and start the morning with a full breakfast, enjoy games and face painting for

the kids, hear inspiring Christmas songs from our high school musicians and complete the morning with a picture with Santa.

This event is a fundraiser for the high school music department. All proceeds go towards the music department's events in the spring, including the Music in the Parks Competition.

There is a \$5 fee at the door and it covers all the morning's events. Breakfast will be ready at 8:30 a.m. and will go until 11 a.m. Make plans now to make this morning part of your Christmas season plans.

4th Annual

One-Stop Holiday Shopping Event

Saturday, Dec. 14th
10 am to 4 pm

Archuleta County Fairgrounds
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... AND MORE!

Purchases at any of our vendors qualify for Holiday Hoopla drawing entries as well!

Shoppers can enter to win a Gift Basket, full of items donated by vendors!

12 HIKER HANDOUTS²

BE A PART OF THE PAGOSA SPRINGS HOLIDAY HOOPLA

NOVEMBER 15-26
AND REPEATED
DECEMBER 1-12

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Gift Certificate Special available for purchase from Nov 15-Dec 24 2019, gift certificate may be redeemed for one year from date of purchase. Monthly memberships available, inquire at the Pagosa Wellness Spa reception

Shop local — shop Pagosa Springs





Holiday Hoopla

Support our community by attending the events and sales at these local businesses this holiday season. These owners and managers have worked hard to make this a magical shopping season for you!

THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN ENCOURAGES YOU TO SHOP AT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Funky TRUNK
CONSIGNMENT SHOPPE

\$10 OFF PURCHASE OF \$50 OR MORE
[WITH VERIFIED GOOGLE REVIEW]

Mary B. ★★★★★
We really enjoy this store. Great fun clothes. Beautiful jewelry.

More than a Great Find! When you shop Funky Trunk you support a local business & over 1,500 Pagosa consignors!

Local Jewelry, Name Brand Clothing, Happy People.
565 Talisman, Unit H, near Cafe Colorado
Monday through Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

970-731-6040 pagosafunkytrunk.com



Holiday Hoopla at The River Center

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Photo courtesy Bob Hemenger

Students from the Americana Project class at Pagosa Springs High School will be performing a concert Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. The concert will be held in the high school auditorium and is free. These fine young musicians will be playing both cover and original music as well as a couple of Christmas songs. Come support music in the schools.

From all of us at



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

And thanks for a wonderful 2019

We are filled with gratitude for all the love and support we received this year, and have many exciting plans to share it with the community in 2020, stay tuned!



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SUPPORTING LOCAL ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Holiday Church Events

All events listed in December Church Events Calendar are free of charge.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 4:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. You are invited to join our Grace family. For more information, call 731-6200.

Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m., Community United Methodist Church.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 5 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Brass will be playing at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 731-3120.

Candlelight Service. 6 p.m., Amazing Grace Community Church, 77 Navajo Circle. A classic small

intimate Christmas Eve service in a sheep barn in the countryside. For more information, contact Pastor Mark at 444-2111.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration. 6 p.m., New Thought Center, 3505 W. U.S. 160.

Christmas Eve Service. 7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church.



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Show Time 7:00PM

Tickets available at Chamber of Commerce & The Door
Adults \$17.00
Children 12 and under \$12.00

GoFundMe started for new mother, Lyme sufferer

By Ryan Bennett
Special to The PREVIEW

Funds are being raised for a local family fighting a heroic battle to maintain normalcy in the wake of neurological Lyme disease.

Shortly following the birth of her first child, Ashaya, in January of 2019, Pagosa Springs-raised Tasha Rayburn experienced difficulties that were unprecedented. There was muscle and skeletal pain, memory loss, intermittent paralysis to the right side of the body, chest pain, insomnia, high fevers, weakness and many other physical issues. Heightened anxiety and depression soon came, but Rayburn's doctors attributed it to postpartum changes.

Problems for the former honors student and intensive care unit and sexual assault nurse worsened and thoughts of suicide began to appear, but specialists and her primary care physician continued to focus on treating her for postpartum depression with prescribed medication. Her symptoms rapidly worsened and her overall condition deteriorated.

Meanwhile, the experience was taking a toll on her mother, Melina, husband Ryan, daughter Ashaya, and Rayburn's extended family and friends. In spite of her debilitating state and being in and out of the ER and countless practitioners' offices, Rayburn fought for a more accurate diagnosis. Her tenacity and research paid off as she found a doctor who suspected neurological Lyme disease and rendered the appropriate bloodwork. Rayburn was tested in Colorado and not only did she have Lyme disease, but she also had many additional infections.

While she was now armed with a proper diagnosis, her body was in such a weak state from the disease having gone undiagnosed for several months that her body was not responding to the medi-

cations given to her. Instead, she began having muscle convulsions, seizures, more frequent paralysis to the right side of her body and became bed-ridden for 18-19 hours a day.

For her to have any hope of successful treatment, Tasha would have to leave home and travel to the Sponaugle Wellness Institute in Florida, where tests revealed the severity of her illness produced double the highest reading of some tests the clinic had seen in 22 years of operation — among them was black mold.

Rayburn has been in Florida for a couple of months receiving intensive treatment — the cost of treatment, living expenses and transportation is about \$8,000/week with an estimated 20-week treatment timetable.

Prior to her illness, Rayburn was working as a registered nurse at San Juan Regional Medical Center and Mercy Regional Medical Center. Her insurance provider, however, is allegedly not covering her expenses

due to being unable to return to full-time work after her maternity leave elapsed. This has resulted in her spending her savings, extending her credit and getting loans from family.

Ryan Bennett has started a GoFundMe campaign with a goal of raising a minimum of \$80,000.

Bennett said the time was right for a campaign to raise both funds and awareness within Rayburn's extended circle, as close family and friends have had "an immense struggle" as they have watched her suffering.

"No new mother or healthcare professional should have to spend their life savings to get well," added Bennett.

There is also a fundraiser taking place at The New Sheridan Hotel on Wednesday, Dec. 18, in Telluride from 6 to 10 p.m.

To donate, go to the GoFundMe website, click on the "Search" tab, and type in "Save Tasha's Life."

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Photo courtesy Bill Hudson

Perry Davis Harper and Amy Harper rehearse with some of the children who will be doing the professional actors and musicians in the holiday performances of “A Very Perry Christmas” at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This original Thingamajig production opens tomorrow night, Friday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at pagosacenter.org or by calling 731-7469.

‘A Very Perry Christmas’ to open for seven-show run

By Bill Hudson
Special to The PREVIEW

A group of Pagosa Springs’ favorite theater artists and musicians, including actors/vocalists Perry Davis Harper, Amy Harper and Johanna Laverty, plus saxophonist and vocalist Bob Hemenger, pianist and vocalist Taryn Palmer, drummer Greg Booher, guitarist Will Spears and bassist James Kiker, will be combining their considerable talents to create “A Very Perry Christmas” on the heels of another exciting Broadway in the Mountains summer season with the Thingamajig Theatre Company.

“We’ve put together a wide range of music for this show,” said Davis Harper, who conceived the production with Thingamajig Executive Director Laura Moore and Artistic Director Tim Moore. “So there’s something for everyone, I think — dating from the 1300s, with Franz Gruber’s ‘Stille Nacht’ to the Harry Connick Jr. style ‘It Must’ve Been Old Santa Claus.’

“And we’ve got a new take on ‘You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch’ because they recently released a new animated version of that story. Bob Hemenger will be singing that one.

“We’re having a lot of fun with the Golden Age style of songs from the great old Christmas movies that our audience grew up watching. And the songs span much of the globe as well. ‘Stille Nacht’ is, of course, originally a German composition that we know as ‘Silent Night’ and we’re also traveling to Texas, Italy,

Hawaii and Ireland.”

Davis Harper will be playing an Irish-style drum called a bodhrán for the Irish song, “Christmas in Killarney.” The song list also tips a wide-brimmed hat to the American West with John Denver’s “Aspenglow” and Steve Weisberg’s “Christmas for Cowboys.”

“A Very Perry Christmas” — an original family-friendly musical showcase featuring more than 30 holiday favorites — will open at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts (PSCA) tomorrow night, Friday, Dec. 13, with a few special guests, plus a dozen young Whatchamawhozits from Davis Harper’s new children’s theater class. The show will offer a total of seven performances, running through Dec. 24.

“A lot of people have asked — and this show is definitely going to be ‘family-friendly,’” Perry explained. “One of the performances is on Christmas Eve, so we absolutely wanted a show that the whole family could enjoy. There’s something for everybody, but also come to sing along. If you feel like singing along, then go ahead and sing along, because that’s really what we want you to do — is to be part of this Christmas party.”

“We are blessed to be spending our first Christmas in Pagosa Springs,” said Harper. “Our family loves this time of year and the traditions that come with it — some passed down through the years and some we’ve established in our own home. Perry, our children, and I are excited to share our family traditions with you and yours.”

Thingamajig Theatre has two more shows in production for the 2019-2020 winter season. “A Grand

■ See Show on next page

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Photo courtesy Anjelica Gallegos

Eleven Pagosa Springs Middle School students have been selected as members of either the San Luis Valley Music Educators Association Honor Band or the Fort Lewis Honor Band. They will represent the middle school in upcoming concerts featuring musicians from many Colorado schools. Pictured are (left to right): Dennis Kholostov, John Cloward, Anne-Marie Uhrenbacher, Ariel Slead, Brooke Huddleston, Naomi Grimes, Grayson Capistrant, Isabel Galloway, Elijah Castro and Gracelyn Kiker. Not pictured is Neena Gutierrez.

Show

■ continued from previous page
 Night for Singing” is a fully produced show featuring classic songs by Rodgers and Hammerstein from famous Broadway shows. It opens on Saturday, Dec. 21, and runs through Jan. 12, 2020.

“The Texas Homecoming Revolution of 1995” features a hilarious script by playwright Jennifer Faletto that was workshopped at Thingamajig Theatre’s 2018 Playwright Festival. It takes the audience on a laugh-out-loud visit to the stalls of the girls’ restroom in a Texas high school, where all the secrets unfold. “Texas Homecoming Revolution” opens on Jan. 31, 2020, and runs through Feb. 9, 2020.

Tickets for “A Very Perry Christ-

mas” — and the other two winter season shows — can be purchased on the PSCA website, pagosacenter.org, or by calling the box office at 731-7469 (SHOW).

Thingamajig Theatre Company is an award-winning professional nonprofit theater in residence within the PSCA. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and around the world to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round. Their mission is to provide high-quality theater experiences at a low cost to our community, thereby making art accessible as well as providing a major economic driver for our tourist industry. They also provide youth — many of whom are recipients of scholarships — with

low-cost, hands-on educational opportunities to see and participate in professional productions of important plays.

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continues after the holidays.

We are confident that our guests both near and far will greatly appreciate the new Bath House when it’s completed, as many guests have expressed their support and gratitude for the planned renovation.

To show our appreciation please enjoy 10% off beer, wine, and cocktails while visiting the resort 3 pm – 6 pm every Monday – Friday until the rejuvenation is complete!

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Making the best of life

Mongo and Wench. Sounds like a gunslinger and his gun-toting side piece from the Old West. Those are also the adopted names of a couple who rode into Pagosa a few years back, infamous on the international stage of gunslingers in Cowboy Fast Draw.

As the sun set on their careers, these two found themselves as retirees, new characters in roles they never saw themselves playing. Mongo and Wench Miller have filled their new boots well and are absolutely charming.

I perused the Gunslinger's Gazette looking for "Wench" Miller. I found her, complete in costume among a motley crew of old men with bushy beards and women in full petticoat and tight-fitting laced bodices.

Among the dressed-up trollops of the Cowboy Fast Draw, Wench fits perfectly in her roll in the association. She admits that she joined just to play dress-up in crazy costumes, but ended up competing in a shooting contest. She didn't even know how to load her own gun when she came in 13th in the 2004 World Championship. She would go on to hold national titles in 2013 and 2017, winning the Worlds Ladies Shootist in 2018.

Wench and Mongo joined the Cowboy Fast Draw Organization in 2004. While in its infancy stage, the two became life members, numbers 57 and 58. Mongo would hold the position of regulator posse sheriff for 10 years.

The fast draw group stresses "Safe Friendship Rules": 1. Safety; 2. Fun; 3. Competition.

Wench's and her husband's names light up billboards and marquee. They travel nationwide from border to border and coast to coast picking up world and national awards. They are having the times of their lives and are comfortable in their new skins.

Visits to secondhand stores for the perfect costume to match her name, now her standard uniform — a gun drawing, sharp-shooting floozy.

Shirley "Wench" Miller wasn't always the scarlet woman she portrays today. She was a nurse for more than 50 years and wore the name tag "CFE, Certified Fun

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



For Shirley, life has always found comfort under a spotlight, something that isn't positioned to fade any time soon.

Fairy." She threw herself into her work, where she managed 150 employees and cared for more than 500 patients.

I asked her how her husband deals with her charismatic, over-the-top, fun-loving personality. She said that he loves her for who she is. He's an introvert and encourages

her and enjoys seeing her operate outside the lines of convention.

As an Air Force child, her life has always stretched beyond the norm. This is something that would become evident at the young age of 5. It was then that she became the first Caucasian to win a hula solo in a competition in Hawaii. For Shirley, life has always found comfort under a spotlight, something that isn't positioned to fade any time soon.

Shirley visited our little mountain community when she was 8 years old. She knew then that this was the place where she wanted to one day live. Shirley and her husband moved from Denver to Pagosa Springs in 2006. Today, she is on the board of the Loaves and Fish organization feeding Pagosa. She is the welcoming force who embraces everyone she meets with a warm fun smile.

Final brushstroke: Retired and in Pagosa. Whether holding a gun or a syringe, this is one character who makes the best of every hand dealt. She is a daddy's girl who carries his words even up until now: "We can find bad where we are, but let's find good."

Readers' comments

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Hand-drumming class set for Dec. 17

By Paul Roberts
Special to The PREVIEW

Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a free hand-drumming class at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at noon.

The purpose of the class is to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to unleash their creativity. No previous experience is necessary. Drums are provided for those who do not have one.

“For as long as I can remember, I have enjoyed the beat of drums,” said Rachel Griego. “When I was a child, I was enthralled when my parents took me to a parade and marching bands with enthusiastic drummers passed by us. As I grew older and my appreciation for music increased, I continued to love hearing drummers engrossed in their skill. Starting in junior high and going all the way through college I was a member of an orchestra. Following in my dad’s footsteps, I played the violin. In orchestra, sitting in the violin section, my ears were always focused on the percussion players. I loved the constant beat.”

She continued: “Years passed before I bought my first Native American drum and started experimenting with different techniques — mostly playing when my husband wasn’t home so I wouldn’t drive him crazy. I was thrilled to attend a couple drumming circles that were being held in towns we visited when traveling.

“About six years ago, we were in Sedona, Arizona, with our daughter who was attending Reiki Mas-



Photo courtesy Rachel Griego

Rachel Griego attends the free Tuesday hand-drumming sessions when in Pagosa Springs and they are something that she explains makes her feel relaxed and energized.

ter level training. There was a full moon one night and members of her class, along with some community members, trekked to the bottom of a huge rock cliff. My daughter and I excitedly climbed the half-mile trail to the circle of participants. Upon arrival, I was without a drum, but very soon a young man graciously gave me a beautiful drum to use. We and the group drummed for several hours under the glow of the moon. It was an unforgettable experience. Very moving. Very spiritual.

“When I found out Paul Roberts holds a drumming session at the PLPOA clubhouse I was excited to attend. We travel to Pagosa Springs at least six times a year and I have been honored to attend Paul’s group several times. For me, the hour and a half spent drumming with Paul and other folks attending is so much fun. It fills me with energy, motivating me to keep drumming, even if it is just by myself.

“Drumming has integrated itself into my life. It makes me feel relaxed, yet energized; calm but upbeat; meditative but also outgoing. I love it.”

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

Merry Christmas!

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11

The birth of Jesus is a wonderful story. At this time of the year it seems that many people are a little kinder and more joyful, even among the hustle of the season.

However, there is much more to the story of Jesus than a once a year event. Jesus came to change lives. Following Jesus was meant to be a life lived every day of the year in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, and many other Christian attributes.

Celebrate the birth of Jesus during the season. But let us live each day the life to which Jesus calls us.

Time of Services

Sunday	Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
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Wednesday	PM Worship	6:00 p.m.
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The San Juan Stargazers will study the famous Hubble ultra deep field photographs

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers' regular monthly meeting is the day after Christmas, so instead, we will meet on Thursday, Dec. 19, in the Visitor Center conference room located at 105 Hot Springs Blvd. The meeting is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. sharp. Hot drinks and goodies will be served starting at 6:30 p.m. for a holiday social time.

This month, there will again be two parts to our meeting. First, we will be discussing the wonderful StarLab — a portable planetarium that Anita Hinger, science teacher of Pagosa Springs Middle School, has been gathering money to benefit all 1,636 students of our school district.

It is an outstanding multifunctional piece of science equipment which includes programs in addition to astronomy, for weather, plate tectonics, geology and other areas. A decision needs to be made with an official minimum of 20 votes. If you are unable to be present, please call the club number or mail to the club address or email your name and vote so we can have a quorum. The people present will need to discuss and decide the timing and amount our club will contribute.

Then we will have a regular program from the series that we have been studying for two years, called "Experiencing Hubble: Understanding the Greatest Images of the Universe." It includes a written lesson and a video lecture by Professor David Meyer of Northwestern Univer-

sity. The lesson title is "The Hubble Ultra Deep Field Photographs."

The significance of these photos is that the Hubble camera was originally pointed in a direction where nothing was visible. After a long timed exposure, there appeared thousands of galaxies, indicating that there are, in fact, billions of galaxies in the universe. These are among the most famous Hubble pictures and no matter how many times a person sees them, they are astonishing and thrilling. It should be a lesson to remember.

There will also be an important planning meeting for all interested Stargazers on Monday, Dec. 16, at 10 a.m. at the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) office. The amphitheater at Chimney Rock was completed in October and I think it is beautiful and wonderful. I would like to see if we can discover a way to use it for the Night Sky Programs. There are many options and we all have to get flexible and creative. We may need to experiment and try various ideas. I would like it if Stargazers and CRIA support people could get together to brainstorm many possibilities.

We are again selling our fabulous Astronomy Magazine Deep Space Mysteries 2020 Calendar. There are exceptional photos of several classic galaxies, nebulae, a stellar nursery, a

young star cluster, a galaxy cluster, a supernova remnant and the very famous Orion Nebula photo that in itself makes it worth getting. Each photo has a detailed explanation to help you learn the basics of astronomy, so it is perfect for a student. There are notations of significant sky events and phases of the moon.

It is much easier this year to pick up a copy at the Visitor Center. Both Hillary and Rick can help you, but get yours soon as there are only four left. The cost is \$13. They are perfect to mail and they give the message everyday throughout the year that you cared enough to send such an amazing gift.

Remember that new people are always welcome at our meetings and this is a lesson you will not want to miss. I am certain that when the lights come back on, we will all be in absolute wonder. I hope you can join us for this amazing experience.

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

We welcome everyone who has an interest in learning more about our amazing universe.

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K	Z	T	E	L	A	S	E	L	O	H	W	F	G	W	P	G	Z	T	X
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M	M	C	S	A	L	E	S	A	A	S	T	O	C	K	N	M	R	V	S

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

WORDS

- AISLES
- ANCHOR
- BIG BOX
- BROWSING
- CASH
- CLIENTELE
- CUSTOMERS
- CUSTOMIZATION
- DATA
- DEMOGRAPHIC
- FORMULA
- INVENTORY
- LOSS LEADER
- MOBILE
- PAYMENTS
- PRICING
- RETAIL
- RETURNS
- SALES
- SHIPPING
- SHOPPING
- STOCK
- SUPPLY
- WHOLESALE

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 Dec. 24 • 5 & 7 PM — Christmas Eve Service
 Sunday, Dec. 29 — Regular Services

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA

Photos courtesy Sally Neel

Scene ... celebrating the season at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church's annual Christmas Tea. The event featured music, handmade goods, treats, tea, a chance to visit with others and more.





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Send us your letter to Santa and his elves at the North Pole!
Your letter may be selected for publication in The Pagosa Springs SUN.
Please include your first name and age on your letter.

Make sure we receive your letter by noon on Friday, Dec. 13.

You can also email your letter to
editor@pagosasun.com
or drop it off at the Santa mailbox at 457 Lewis Street

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

The workers hired to build Wolf Creek Pass camped on the west side with their families. Several cases of dynamite show up in this picture of the camp. Somebody must have worried about what would happen if the dynamite got tangled up with the campfires, don't you think?

Traversing the newly opened Wolf Creek Pass

When we ended last week's column, the Hersch and Hatcher motor trip over newly opened Wolf Creek Pass was stalled on top because the work crew was chipping away at an especially difficult rock barrier. The story continues:

"What were a few more days, with the semi-permanent camp, good fishing, best of cold mountain water, and big spruce trees about? Besides, it gave us a chance really to try our equipment.

"On July 26th, a messenger came to tell us the engineer would come at ten o'clock the next morning to line us up for the trip over. By this time two more cars had joined us. We were to break camp and put our car tops down, because of protruding rocks over the road. There were no hard topped cars then. During the night we had a regular down-pour of rain. A very difficult task packing up in the mud. Clouds hung heavy over the mountains, but we were all ready to roll on time. The engineer started Mr. and Mrs. Vrendenburg in front in a Ford roadster, then Mr. and Mrs. Goodnight of Monte Vista in a Buick, the Hatchers in a Velie, third in line, then the Chalmers and Cadillac last, as the heavier cars might mess up the road for the other cars — to use his words.

"While in camp, David and I walked down the narrow steep grade to the open flats below, and even when dry it looked rather hazardous as it was only a few inches wider than the camp wagon tracks. A wall of rock on one side, and straight down on the other; but the engineer assured us it was all right, for it was well packed, but for us not to drive too close together to make room for possibilities.

"We were happy to be on our way again, although it looked as if we might have another downpour any minute. We felt too, we were making history, being the first group of cars over the hill. As we were nearly a mile from our camp, on the steepest pitch, with mud slick as soap, the



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Ford stopped. The driver ran back to flag down the line of cars. We all walked down to see if there might be a rock slide, a possibility. Here they had come face to face with a wagon train, three big, loaded, covered wagons, with several extra horses leading behind each wagon, and quite a number of people in their group. These people had been camping for three weeks, on Wolf Creek, at the west foot of the pass, also waiting to

cross. The engineer had told them to wait until he gave clearance, as five cars were on their way over, and it would be impossible for either group to pass the other, excepting at certain places. As the wagon train waited in its camp, the head man's patience wore thin, and 'if the pass was to be open on July 27th — By Gar — he'd take his right and go, let come what may.' Before leaving camp, he laid in a supply of Pagosa's fire-water, and when he met our group he was all set for battle. He got out of his wagon, buckled on his revolver, and with unsteady steps, and loud abusive language, ordered all cars to back up to some place where he could pass."

Find out next week if they got across or got shot.

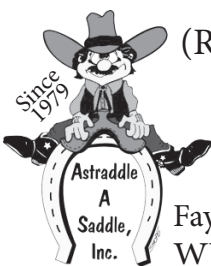
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 12

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.

Seeds of Learning Butterflies Caroling. 11 a.m., Senior Center.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. All are invited to enjoy a free hot meal in a welcoming atmosphere. No reservations are required.

Home-school Social Hour. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Stop by for a chance to visit with fellow home-school families, discuss curriculum and learning opportunities and look through resources while the kids participate in crafts and other activities. Call 264-2209 for more

information.

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

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

Christmas Globe Art Class. 1 p.m., Senior Center

Pickleball. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Xbox 360 Kinect, and snacks. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Winter Recreation Arts and Crafts Class. 4:15-5:45 p.m., Community Center. The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Nov. 22 for an arts and crafts class. The class is for ages 9-13 and class size is limited. The cost of the class is \$25 for the three-week session. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Weminuche Audubon Society: Birding 101 Class. 6-8 p.m., Commu-

nity United Methodist Church. Each class will feature different types of birds, so try to attend all three. For more information, contact Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org.

Our Savior Lutheran School Presents 'A Sola Christmas.' 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School gym, 56 Meadows Drive. The school children in grades K-9 will present their program focusing on the five solas of the Reformation.

Americana Project Concert. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. These fine young musicians will be playing both cover and original music as well as a couple of Christmas songs.

Friday, Dec. 13

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

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle ex-

■ See Calendar on page 23

Pagosa Peak Open School to present 'Coffeehouse Night'

By Alison Beach
Special to The PREVIEW

Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) is hosting a new monthly concert series called "Coffeehouse Night."

These concerts will feature local musicians and poets, and a selection of coffees, teas, cocoa and baked goods for your aural and alimentary entertainment. Please join us on Dec. 17 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for the first installment of our "Coffeehouse Night" series.

The Dec. 17 Coffeehouse will feature Leah Ballard; Alison Beach; Laurie Brinkmann; Keith Bruno and Kyle Siesser; Brinley Davis; Bill Hudson; Rica Potenz and Thomas Davenport; plus surprise guests.

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

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

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- Mrs. Claus Bakery Bake Sale
- Live Christmas music performed by our talented high school musicians
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- Silent Auction - Great gifts for Christmas



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8:30-11:00 AM
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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

You can spot these finches at the tops of firs, pines and spruces. They scramble over tree cones and hang upside down from them. Chattering and singing, in pairs and small flocks, they forage for seeds using a distinctive adaptation. The tips of their upper and lower beaks are crossed. They pry open cone scales and remove seeds with their strong tongues. They can harvest 3,000 seeds in a day. These specialized feeders reside year-round in mature coniferous forests.

Crossbills are about 5 1/4 to 6 1/2 inches long. Males are a dull red color. Females are olive-yellow. Each has dark, solid-colored wings. Immature birds are streaked and brown. Crossbills are stocky, with short, notched tails and long, pointed wings. Eleven different types reside in North America. Their appearance and vocalizations vary based on their preferred conifer species.

Crossbills may breed year-round, even in winter, if seed supplies are available. Pairs generally form for life. Females build cup-shaped nests and lay three eggs that incubate for 12 to 16 days. When the young hatch, their bills are not crossed. Both parents feed their young as the bills develop. The young are able to extract seeds independently when they are about 45 days old.

Since 1970, the red crossbill population has decreased by about 12 percent. Forest fires and beetle infestations may have influenced their decline by reducing their habitat.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminuche-audubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Guinness and others
- 5 Blueprint data
- 10 Ump's decision
- 14 Soft rock?
- 15 Bargain-basement
- 16 Symphony member
- 17 In the end
- 19 Relinquish
- 20 Calls off
- 21 Pays no mind to
- 23 CD predecessor
- 24 Dim with tears
- 25 Portray
- 28 Shootout shout
- 29 Blond shade
- 32 Buck classic "The Good _____"
- 33 Holiday spread
- 34 Noah's number
- 35 60s hunk Donahue
- 36 Southern bowlful
- 37 Florentine farewell
- 38 Will Ferrell film
- 39 Became an issue
- 40 Texting device
- 41 Sandwich bread
- 42 Cord material
- 43 Ill-tempered
- 44 Fugitive's trail
- 46 Pucker-producing
- 47 Laundry vessel
- 49 Fallon's show
- 53 "Tosca" tune
- 54 First to dunk in a WNBA game
- 56 Marilyn Monroe, e.g.
- 57 Midway, for one
- 58 Daybreak, poetically
- 59 Helvetica, e.g.
- 60 E-mail option
- 61 "Planet of the _____"

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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47	48							49				50	51	52
53						54		55						
56						57						58		
59						60						61		

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DOWN

- 1 Smart-____
- 2 Basalt source
- 3 Type of keel
- 4 Sacredness
- 5 Carve, as a statue
- 6 Terrible twos, e.g.
- 7 Slippery one
- 8 Set, in a way
- 9 Pirate's telescope
- 10 Drink served with marshmallows
- 11 Mental lapse
- 12 Miner's quest
- 13 Remick and Majors
- 18 Show the ropes
- 22 Lizard look-alike
- 25 Prevent
- 26 Before dawn, perhaps
- 27 Cook, e.g.
- 28 Pragmatic believer

- 30 "Boys Don't Cry" actress
- 31 Nonsense
- 33 Winter hazard
- 36 Like table salt
- 37 Personal magnetism
- 39 Help in a holdup
- 40 Wrinkled snack
- 43 In a nonchalant manner
- 45 Crowd's call
- 46 Drag one's feet
- 47 Street urchin
- 48 Gasoline brand
- 50 Unappetizing fare
- 51 Put on the payroll
- 52 Till stack
- 55 Soak (up)

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 21

ercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

English as a Second Language. Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Santa Claus Visits Bank of Colorado. 1-4 p.m., Bank of Colorado, 205 Country Center Drive. Come get your picture taken with Santa.

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.

Teen Book Club. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 6th-12th grade. Join us as we discuss "The Prince and the Dressmaker" by Jen Wang and enjoy snacks. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Gaming. 2:30-3:45 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Enjoy video gaming on the Xbox 360 Kinect with all of your friends and family. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Meet the Artist: Charla Ellis. 4-6

p.m., Belvedere Arts Studio and Gallery, 2363 Eagle Drive. Live music with Steve Rolig, refreshments.

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

Open Gymnastic Gym Time. 5-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Ages 5+, (younger allowed with parent). Cost is \$5 per session. Open gymnastic gym is a great time to come in and practice those special skills you are determined to learn, or just get in some extra practice time. We will play some fun games and top it off with a handstand contest. There will be supervision, but this is not a structured class. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 14

Breakfast with Santa. 8:30-11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. There is a \$5 fee at the door (\$20 maximum per family) includes picture with Santa, face painting, crafts and games for the kids. Mrs. Claus Bakery bake sale, live Christmas music by high school musicians, full breakfast and silent auction. Presented by the Pagosa Springs High School Music Department.

Meditation and Dharma Discussion. 10 a.m., Pagosa Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, Suite B-15, 70 Greenbriar Drive. All are welcome.

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Monthly business meet-

ing and annual Christmas party for members only.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Sisson Library. For kids 6-12 years old. We have the LEGO bricks, all you need to bring is your imagination. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) Toy Distribution. 2-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. The FBLA chapter have set out on a mission to provide free toys to families in need. They will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis with two toys being handed out per kid.

Family Storytime: Pop-up Cards. 3-3:45 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. It's the season for holiday messages. Create your own fun and unique cards to send out for the holidays. Join us for great stories, fun songs, toddler-friendly crafts and plenty of reasons to get up and move. Storytime a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

■ See Calendar on next page

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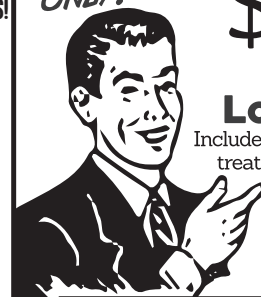
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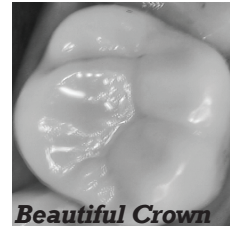
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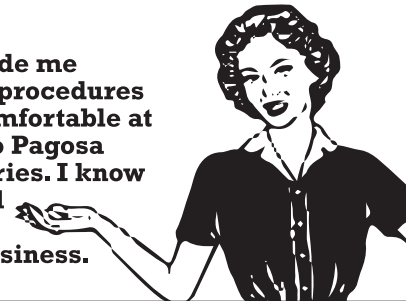
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Weminuche Audubon Society: Bird Count Wrap-up Party. 4-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church.

Christmas Concert. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church, 40 Oren Rd. Neville Peter will be performing. Christmas social and refreshments after the evening concert.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 15

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pago-sacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Heralds of Christmas Concert. 3 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door.

High Country Squares Dances. 3-5 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Richard Berry calls both Mainstream and Plus. Visitors are always welcome. For information, contact Steve Keil at stevekeil128@gmail.com or 731-0044.

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

Monday, Dec. 16

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

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

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

formation, 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.

Archuleta County Democratic Party. Noon, Welcome Center. We will hold a central committee meeting. There will be a report on the recent state party's executive and central committee meetings in Colorado Springs. All Democratic party events are open to the public. Call Becky Herman at 264-2171 for more information.

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

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Computer Class: Protecting Your Privacy Online. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Otaku. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 5th-12th grade. If you are into anime or manga, this is for you. Come and watch some anime with your friends and talk about your favorite manga.

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

Heralds of Christmas Concert. 7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Tuesday, Dec. 17

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

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

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

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

■ See Calendar on next page

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

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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

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-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Do It Yourself. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. You'll be making inexpensive, personalized snow globe gifts using a mason jar, small plastic tree, glitter, glue and a little bit of creativity. Your snow globe can be filled with water or not. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Play, Learn and Grow Workshop. 4 p.m., Sisson Library. Hosted by the Growing Readers Together Early Literary Specialists. Introducing easy ways to make S.T.E.A.M. part of everyday play. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Winter Recreation Arts and Crafts Class. 4:15-5:45 p.m., Community Center. The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Nov. 22 for an arts and crafts class. The class is for ages 9-13 and class size is limited. The cost of the class is \$25 for the three week session. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more

information.

English as a Second Language. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Our Savior Lutheran School Presents 'Silent Night, Holy Night.' 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School gym, 56 Meadows Drive. The preschool will share the joyful story of Christmas through word and song.

Bar D Wranglers. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$12 for those 12 and under. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Pagosa Peak Open School Presents Coffeehouse Night. 7-8:30 p.m., Pagosa Peak Open School, 7 Parelli Way. Featuring local musicians and poets and a selection of coffees, teas, cocoa and baked goods. Suggested donation of \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a family.

Wednesday, Dec. 18

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

Kids Kare. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. A program for children ages

3-5 years old. Includes Bible time, songs, crafts, games and more. For more information or to register, call Frank and Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email ceflitlekids@gmail.com.

Yoga Flow Class. 10-11 a.m., Community Center. Please bring a mat and a towel. For more information, call Amy at (609) 204-1998.

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

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

Jelly Beans After School Fun Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. All ages welcome. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Conversation. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. This information meet-up allows you to increase fluency by speaking with other Spanish language learners and speakers. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

■ See Calendar on next page

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Sorry, Medicaid not accepted.

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

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.

The Spouses/Family of Veterans Group. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact Dr. Sharon Carter at 398-0883 or Charlotte at 731-1025 for further information.

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, Dec. 19

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

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

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish

Hall, Lewis Street. All are invited to enjoy a free hot meal in a welcoming atmosphere. No reservations are required.

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

Christmas Party. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Pickleball. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

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

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 7th-12th grade. Xbox 360 Kinect, and snacks. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Winter Recreation Arts and Crafts Class. 4:15-5:45 p.m., Community Center. The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Nov. 22 for an arts and crafts class. The class is for ages 9-13 and class size is limited. The cost of the class is \$25 for the three-week session. Call 264-4151, ext. 232 or 233 for more information.

Friday, Dec. 20

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

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., 197 Navajo Trail Drive. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle exercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung ca-

capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

English as a Second Language. Noon-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 21

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Grand Night for Singing.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 22

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

■ See Calendar on page 29

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The turkey's therapy session

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Some of us were visiting after church, and since Thanksgiving had just passed, the topic of conversation turned to turkeys. Our neighbor had one that had become rather mean. He was telling about it and how he would never raise a turkey again.

"I've raised some turkeys," I said, "and they can be as mean as any animal there is, except maybe a rooster. Turkeys and roosters think they are the cock of the walk."

Our young 14-year-old neighbor, McKenzie, said, "We had a really mean rooster, too. But then he had a therapy session, and everything changed."

"A therapy session?" I asked. She nodded. "It all started when our turkey was young. We put him in the chicken building because he was smaller than the hens, and we didn't think he would bother them. But because of his size, all the chickens, and especially the rooster, picked on him. We were afraid they would kill him, so we ended up having to move him to a pen of his own.

"Meanwhile, while the turkey grew up, the rooster got meaner. Every time we would try to gather eggs, the rooster would attack us. We kids like to gather eggs, but we were all afraid of him. That's why my dad decided that the rooster could no longer be in the hen-house.

"So we caught the rooster, and having nowhere else to put him, we put him in with the turkey. They seemed to remember each other. The rooster immediately went on the attack, and the turkey backed away as he always had. But after a few minutes, something changed. It was as if the turkey realized his

old nemesis was no longer that intimidating. That's when the turkey attacked back.

"The two of them went at each other, and feathers started to fly, mostly those of the rooster. The fight was getting so bad that we eventually had to shut the door

McKenzie said, "No one wanted to get near him in case it was an act, and he would attack, so we went back into the house for a while. But when we came back out, he was still lying there."

to the shed and just let them work out their differences. Mom called us to dinner, so we left the rooster and turkey to themselves. When dinner was over, we came out of the house, and everything was quiet.

"We approached the door of the building that had the rooster and the turkey in it and listened, but there was no sound. We were afraid

the turkey had killed the rooster because we doubted it would be the other way around. We carefully opened the door, and the rooster, who had lodged himself up at the top of the door, fell out in a pile in the snow.

"We thought he was dead until he slowly raised his head and looked at us before dropping his head back into the snow. No one wanted to get near him in case it was an act, and he would attack, so we went back into the house for a while. But when we came back out, he was still lying there. Finally, we picked him up and put him back in the hen house for the night until we could figure out what to do with him.

"But the next day, when we went to gather eggs, the rooster didn't bother us at all. In fact, he acted all friendly-like. He has never bothered anyone since then. He's probably afraid if he does, he will have to go through another therapy session with the turkey."

I smiled. There is nothing like a good turkey therapy session to make a mean rooster nice.



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The love of reading

By Richard Gammill
Special to The PREVIEW

The workers in Cuba's cigar factories loved to read, even on the job. During the 19th century, those workers chipped in and hired a lector who for hours at a time would read aloud while the workers rolled their cigars in silence. They so enjoyed Alexander Dumas' writings they wrote the novelist shortly before his death in 1870 and asked if they could name a cigar after "Monte Cristo." That brand of cigars is still available around the world today.

That story is told in the book "Indelible Ink," edited by Scott Larson. Each chapter of this inspiring book is written by a prominent Christian personality giving a personal account of two or three books that made a significant impact upon his or her life. The titles range from familiar classics to little-known children's books.

Despite all the digital and electronic alternatives, the love of reading is making a comeback in our country. Some may occasionally read an entire book, while others (like my sister) will read 50 or more books a year.

I approached my retirement with two ambitions: occasionally sleeping in and having time for a wide diversity of reading and writing. Forget sleeping in. Since moving to Pagosa Springs five years ago, I have developed a delightful early morning routine.

I brew a fresh cup of coffee, spread butter and jam on a slice of toast and settle into my recliner for an hour or more of prayerful

A Matter of Faith

devotions and reading.

The edge of Village Lake is only 50 feet from my window and beyond it to the east is the rising sun. On a morning with broken clouds, the sun appears above the horizon and starts the day by transforming the sky into brilliant colors.

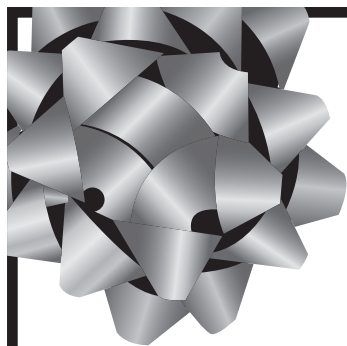
Flocks of noisy geese landing on and ascending from the lake's surface distract my thoughts. Near the edge of the water, pairs of ducks swim idly by or dive tails up for food. From springtime through the weeks of summer, I watched two families of ducklings grow from tiny balls of fur into adulthood.

I love the setting. I love my cup of coffee. I love reading. It just doesn't get any better than this.

My greatest pleasure derives from new insights and assurances I gain from God's Word, as fresh and new as the dawning day. Devotional writers — such as Oswald Chambers and William Barclay — give me understanding and application. While my body ages my mind and spirit are constantly revived and renewed. Sharing with my wife adds to the meaning and pleasure.

If I have time, I turn then, or later in the evening, to one of several books I am currently reading or

■ See Faith on next page



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 26

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, Dec. 23

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are avail-

able if you don't have one.

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

Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port

Ave. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., advanced at 10:15 a.m. For more information, call Beverly at 264-2064.

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

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

Santa is Coming to Goodman's. 3-5 p.m., Goodman's Department Store, 402 Pagosa St. Cider and cookies will be served.

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

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Very Perry Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

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

Faith

■ continued from previous page

listening to. Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard gave me vivid history lessons in their "Killing" series. Their detailed revelations of the atrocities of the German Nazis and the Japanese military during the murderous years of World War II enthrall and sicken me. John Grisham's latest novel, "The Reckoning," a gripping murder mystery, takes the reader to the Japanese WWII occupation of the Philippines and puts us on the Bataan death march. Ken Follett's masterful (and super-long) series of novels of the medieval era and of World War I and WWII immerse the reader in histories both ancient and recent.

Books such as these expand and enlarge our knowledge and experience of places and times otherwise not well known by us. Those who do not read miss the benefits. I have the privilege of frequent travel to India and other international destinations, such as my five-week trip this summer with my son and two grandsons to

southeast Asia, Tokyo, and India. Even so, I don't want to miss out on the places my reading takes me.

The book "Indelible Ink" reminded me of the enduring influence of certain well-written classic books. Open one of the recommended books, begin to read, return to it again and again — and a life is changed. "Indelible Ink" gave me a list of titles that I have known about but have never read, such as "The Brothers Karamazov" by the Russian author Fyodor Dostoevsky. Now I must get it. And I must read. And write.

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Class service projects reminds to give simply

By **Augusta Happ**
Special to The PREVIEW

Once again, the Advent season is upon us and we are getting ready to spend time with our families, cook the perfect holiday meal and, of course, shop for the perfect gifts. While we take in the holiday season, decorate our homes to perfection and wrap all those gifts, we are going along with the normal hustle and bustle of the season. What if we stopped for a moment and took in a deep breath and reflected upon the real reason for the Advent season? Jesus is coming.

For the past four years, the REM class (Religious Education for Middle School Children) at Immaculate Heart of Mary and Pope John Paul II Catholic Church Community has worked on a

community-wide service project. The REM class wants all of us to stop for a moment and think about the true meaning of the season and how can we give of ourselves without shopping for that perfect gift. Let us remember that gifts can come from the heart without cost. The REM class has hidden more than 300 stones pictured with baby Jesus within the town of Pagosa Springs. They are hidden everywhere: the local grocery stores, library, restaurants, coffee shops, hotels, gas stations and the church.

If you locate a baby Jesus-pictured stone, stop and think how you can give of yourself simply. You can help a neighbor with a simple task of getting the mail, maybe pick up trash someone has left near your parking stop or

smile at someone who is having a bad day. Remember, we are giving of ourselves and there is no need to spend money or do anything complicated. Just give simply.

Now with all these good deeds happening, the REM class would love to hear about what you did. Just drop a note to the Pope John Paul II Catholic Church Office, Attn: Augusta Happ, at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or email the Pope John Paul II RE office at ihmjp2rem@gmail. Please let us know where you found the stone and what you did. There is no need to leave your name.

The REM class would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and extend thanks for assisting in this service project. They can't wait to read the "Merry" notes ahead.

Thank you and God bless.

UUs to hear reflections on life and death

By **Dean Cerny**
Special to The PREVIEW

Have you heard the one about a Jewish philosopher, a Catholic priest and a naturalist author who meet in a bar? What would they talk about? What would they have in common? The punchline is no joke.

The Unitarian Universalist Sunday service on Dec. 15 at 10:30 a.m. will explore the spiritual thoughts of 17th century philosopher Baruch Spinoza, Father Richard Rohr and American nature writer Barry Lopez. The spiritual perspective of each of these men will be the topic

of a personal reflection on life and death given by Pastor Dean Cerny.

Our fellowship offers each individual support in our unique spiritual path and an opportunity to participate in positive social and environmental action. We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community.

A potluck will follow the service on Dec. 15 as our fellowship says goodbye to Cerny and celebrates a relationship that began in the summer of 2016. His last Sunday with us will be Dec. 22.

To schedule a private meeting with Cerny, or for further information about the Pagosa Unitarian

Universalist Fellowship, call 731-7900.

Religious Exploration (RE) classes are held on the third and fourth Sundays and continue through to May. For more information about RE, contact Anna Ramirez at afrancis@hotmail.com.

Check out our calendar of events at pagosauu.org. All of these events take place at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn onto Park Avenue, then turn into the Greenbriar Plaza, drive to the east side of the parking lot and look for the Unitarian Universalist sign, facing north.



We'll work like a dog for you!

Laura Easterling
(281) 744-5731

laura@exitrealtypagosa.com



Darlene Peterson
(970) 946-5119

darlene@exitrealtypagosa.com



EARLY DEADLINES

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, December 26

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 20

Classified Advertising,
All Categories

10 a.m., Monday, December 23

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 19

*The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed
Wednesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.*

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, January 2

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 27

Classified Advertising,
All Categories

10 a.m., Monday, December 30

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 26

*The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed
Wednesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's.*

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**
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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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Clip & mail with check or credit card number to P.O. Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or bring in to the SUN office, 457 Lewis Street. To place ad by phone, call (970) 264-2100 or 264-2100. Payment must be received by deadline. Classified deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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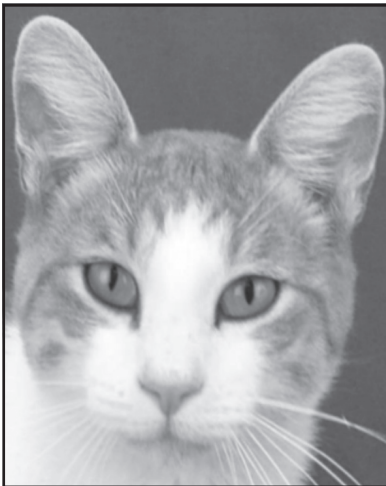
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IGGY: I'm Iggy, a sweet boy who would love to help you decorate the tree. Ribbon is one of my favorite things, so I can help wrap those presents, too! Consider me your personal elf. Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



JESSIE: I'm Jessie, an active Shepherd mix girl puppy, just 5 months old and ready to roll around in the snow. Want some company while you shovel? Maybe I can help! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



STORMY: I'm Stormy, a beautiful long-haired girl with golden eyes who would love to curl up on your lap. I can keep you nice and cozy this winter and think of the heat bill you'll save! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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OVERLOOK
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PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-SHERIFF'S OFFICE. Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the position of a Part-Time Administrative Assistant. For job description, wage and benefit details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff's Office application and resume to Undersheriff Woodman at PO Box 638, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, Fax (970)731-4800 or email to jwoodman@archuletacounty.org.

BODY WORK/ ACCUPRESSURE. HOME treatments. 30 years experience. (512)850-7144.

SIMPLY CLEAN- EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH! Housecleaning services. Call Erin to schedule a cleaning. (949)566-3906.

COMPUTER HELP IS HERE, David the IT Guy. Specializing in wifi networks, system upgrades and backups. Virus removal, remote assistance and server setup support. With 16 years of experience. Patient, reliable, affordable and insured. Call David at (970)398-5188. We are very excited to be here and happy to help. Commercial and residential services available. Thank you for your support and Merry Christmas Pagosa Springs.

ON SATURDAY, 21 DECEMBER, Tara Mandala will host our 25th Anniversary Winter Solstice Celebration. Join us as we center ourselves and open our hearts to begin the holidays, releasing our challenges from the past year and setting beautiful intentions for the upcoming New Year. Includes special dinner and guided meditation. Open to the public. We are a 25-minute drive outside of Pagosa Springs. For more information and to register: www.taramandala.org.

DETENTION COMMANDER. Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the position of a Detention Commander. For job description, wage and benefit details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff's Office application and resume to Undersheriff Woodman at PO Box 638, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, Fax (970)731-4800 or email to jwoodman@archuletacounty.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public Notice
Archuleta County, Colorado

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all Archuleta County offices will be closed from 11:45am-2:15pm on Thursday, December 19th to allow all county employees to attend their employee appreciation and holiday luncheon.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

STORE CLOSING SALE
JEM Jewelers is closing
Showcases, furniture, supplies and more for sale.
Inquire within @
135 Country Center Drive Suite C, City Market Shopping Ctr.
or call 970-731-3399.
Hurry, store closes December 31.

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THINK ELIZABETH
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FULL-TIME EMERGENCY SERVICES DISPATCHER. Archuleta County is accepting applications for the position of a Full-Time Emergency Services Dispatcher. For job description and wage details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit an application to Archuleta County Human Resources at PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, FAX (970)264-1879, or email it to rsmith@archuletacounty.org.

GIVE THE GIFT OF STRESS RELIEF. Gift Certificates now available! Eclectic Bliss Massage, 468 Pagosa Street, Suite H, Pagosa Springs, CO (309)738-5895.

BEAUTIFUL TWO BEDROOM HOUSE: January- June. \$980/ month. Furnished, all utilities paid, high speed Internet. No smoking. Text only: (970)308-1986.

RESPONSIBLE HOUSE SITTER AND PET SITTER. Also house cleaning. Stellar local references. Mary (858)329-4149.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP winter hours beginning on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 6p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Charlotte (970)903-9690.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org.

Please run ad _____ consecutive weeks beginning _____

(The Pagosa Springs SUN is published once a week on Thursdays.)

Charge for line ads — 20 word minimum

1st week: 50¢ per word

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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.

JERSEYLILYSFOOD.COM. Steak, burgers, sliders, gourmet dogs, salads and desserts at Iron Dram, Wednesday and Friday, 6-11p.m., Saturday, 4-11p.m. and Sunday, 2-10p.m.

A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 315 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD). (Last Friday of the month 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649, aa-westerncolorado.org or aadistrict18.org, or call Ed K. 946-2606 or Val V. 946-6086 or Ellen C. (214)566-5921.

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

SERVICES

ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER? Solid Rock Management offers home inspections, house cleaning services, snow removal, fire mitigation and much more! Get a 10% DISCOUNT this month by scheduling with us for any one of our reliable services. Call us today. Jason Logan, Solid Rock Builders LLC & Solid Rock Management! (970)759-3882.

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AFFORDABLE SIDEWALK AND DRIVEWAY snow removal. Ralph & Son Enterprises. (970)731-4585, mobile (970)946-1274.

RENT A MAN for all the things gals need help with. Call Handyman Dan. Prompt, reliable, professional, affordable. (719)849-8873.

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HANDYMAN SERVICES. SMALL PROJECTS. Honey do lists. Carpentry. Honest and reliable. Call Manny at (228)355-1628.

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SNOW REMOVAL- SNOW SHOVELING, raking roofs, clearing walkways, clearing decks and removing snow build-up around house. Call 264-0193.

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HOW ABOUT AN EXTRA HAND during the holiday season? Available for organizing, decorating, event preparation, cleaning. Call Lori, 946-8747.

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HELP WANTED

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for an **Inpatient RN**. The RN provides/ administers nursing care to patients in a safe, efficient, and courteous manner; follows proper nursing procedures in accordance with hospital policies and procedures; demonstrates knowledge of the principles of growth and development over the life span and possesses the ability to assess data reflective of the patient's status and interpret the information needed to identify each patient's requirements relative to his/her age-specific needs. Applicant must have Colorado RN license. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration or human resources office or downloaded at www.pagosaprimedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to Mitzie Bowman at pbowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EOE.

1ST SOUTHWEST BANK is seeking an outgoing, personable Teller with a passion for community enrichment to join our team in Pagosa. Starting wage at \$14 per hour with a great benefit package. Must possess strong attention to detail and excellent customer service skills. Go to <https://www.fswb.bank/who-we-are/careers/> for more details and to apply.

PART-TIME HELPER. Chimney and roof work. Starting pay \$15/ hour for qualified worker. (970)946-1275.

FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR wanted. Must be experienced and have a wide variety of skills, needs to pass background check and have a valid driver's license. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

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

HIPPIE CHICK MASSAGE is hiring 1 full-time licensed Massage Therapist, starting immediately. (970)946-4578.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WANTED. Pay based on experience. Must have excellent customer service and phone skills, be detail oriented and be able to multi-task. Please send questions and resume to marissa@hippsllc.com.

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK, experienced cashier. Clean, sober, good with people. Apply in person, The Malt Shoppe. No calls.

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

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is seeking full- and part-time positions in the following positions: **Snow Reporter-** Must have interactive web experience, strong organizational and communication skills. Hours 6a.m. to 3p.m., willing to work weekends. **Ski School Instructor-** Duties include teaching guests in a group setting, customer service and other duties assigned by supervisor. **Shuttle Bus Drivers-** Part time. Experienced driver looking to make extra money during Christmas, Presidents Day, MLK Jr. and Spring Break holidays. A Commercial Drivers License is not required, however pay is commensurate with professional experience and licensing. **Lift Operator-** Duties include assisting guests in loading, riding and unloading chairlifts, daily set up and routine maintenance of lift areas, snow removal and providing positive contact with guests. **Treasure Sports-** Part-time- Must have prior experience in POS system. Friendly, hard working, flexible, organized with good communication skills. **Professional Baker/ Food & Beverage-** Line/ grill cooks, bakers and baristas. **Ticket Office Cashier-** Part-time- Must have prior experience in POS system. Friendly, hard working, flexible, organized with good communication skills. **Winter seasonal positions with competitive wages.** Applications can be downloaded from WolfCreekSki.com employment page. Send resumes and applications to wolfcreekski@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.

PART-TIME BUS DRIVER. The Archuleta County Transportation is accepting applications for a part-time bus driver. For job description and wage details, visit www.archuletacounty.org, submit application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or fax (970)264-1879 or email tmccann@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

GENERAL LABORER. Help wanted- full time. Please call (970)264-5000. Pagosa Cattle Company.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS Thrift Store clerk, 4-5 days/ week, may include weekends. Cashiering and customer service; processing incoming donations, pricing, tagging and hanging inventory; must be able to lift repetitively; ability to merchandise and create displays would be a plus; must be a team player and willing to cross-train for all store duties; transportation, valid driver's license, social security card and background check required. Apply in person at the thrift store, 279 Pagosa Street (Hwy. 160 E.). No phone calls, please.

DISHWASHERS NEEDED AT THE Buck Stops Here Market and Eatery. Great way to make some extra money for the holidays. Apply within at 19 Navajo Trail Drive.

USE YOUR CAREGIVING TALENTS to help others stay in their home. Training and flexible schedule. LifeCare (970)516-1234.

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

CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at www.peoplecarehs.com. Contact Deandra at dberes@peoplecarehs.com or (970)399-8257.

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is accepting bids for snow removal. Must have parking lot clear for parent drop off by 7:30a.m. and student pick up by 3p.m. As well as clear sidewalk entry. Please send bids and letters of inquiry to Chammon@ppos.co or drop off in person at 7 Parelli Way. www.PagosaPeakOpenSchool.org.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under the "Job Postings" icon. Openings are: Elementary Teacher; Part-time Adult Wellness Instructor; Bus Drivers; Substitutes and Custodial Subs. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS & GREEN HOUSE PAGOSA have multiple positions available. No experience is required; we love to train motivated people. We offer competitive wages, a happy, friendly work environment, employee discounts and more. Please stop by Pagosa Therapeutics for an application or email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

CUSTODIAL SERVICES- PAGOSA PEAK Open School is currently accepting bids for after hours cleaning of the Pagosa Peak Open School. Approximately 15,000 sq. ft. of floors, 5 days a week when school is in session. Additional deep cleaning services during school breaks. Must have own liability insurance. Please send letters of inquiry and proposed bids to Chammon@ppos.co or drop off in person at 7 Parelli Way. www.Pagosa-PeakOpenSchool.org.

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

CLEANERS, UP TO \$15/ hour. Must be detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable. Text or call Pagosa Sparkles, LLC, (970)946-6446.

HELP WYNDHAM "PUT THE WORLD on Vacation" and make great \$\$ doing it! Now hiring Licensed and Unlicensed Sales Reps. Great benefits and amazing opportunities are right here in Pagosa. Start 2020 off right! Send your resume to erin.brown@wyn.com to learn more.

SAN JUAN SALON AND Spa is hiring licensed hair stylists, manicurists, esthetician and assistant. Busy salon. All products supplied. Call 731-3004.

FULL-TIME BOOKKEEPER. We are seeking a bookkeeper with QuickBooks and payroll experience. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

POWDER PORTRAITS IS CURRENTLY seeking outgoing sales oriented individuals to train as ski photographers. No experience necessary. Full-time weekend and holiday periods included. Ski pass, \$13/ hour plus commission, including travel reimbursement. Applicants must know how to ski or snowboard and own appropriate ski or ride equipment. Call (719)339-4212.

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

PATROL DEPUTY. Archuleta County Sheriff's office is accepting applications for the position of Patrol Deputy. Applicants must be Colorado P.O.S.T certified. For job description and wage details, please visit www.archuletacounty.org. Submit a Sheriff's Office application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or fax (970)264-1879 or email to tmccann@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

2 PEOPLE NEEDED TO help unload 20 ft. moving van. \$30 an hour, minimum pay will be \$120. Sunday December 15th. Please call Paul (970)309-5035.

YARD SALES

WE ARE DOING AN estate sale in Alamosa this Friday and Saturday, December 13 and 14, 8a.m.-2p.m. An hour and a half away, but totally worth the drive. West side of Alamosa, turn left at Craft St. (McDonald's), go straight past the High School then left on Lakewood, house #411. AEHPOS.

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

PERSONALS

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

PETS

FOR SALE- SHIBA INU PUPPIES. Registerable, very cute, friendly, \$700. (719)588-0463.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

BANK STEM CELLS FROM your own pet for use later in their life. Elk Park animal Hospital at 9572 West Highway 160 in Pagosa, can help you plan ahead for this. Call for a consultation at 731-6400.

FOR SALE

GE PORTABLE DISHWASHER, \$200 OBO. Wood stove, convection, \$300 OBO. Steve or Kathie 731-0715.

FOR SALE

WRIGHT NATURAL BAKERY. Locally owned Whole Grain Organic Bakery. Including pecan, apple and pumpkin pies. Delicious, nutritious items at Choke Cherry Tree and Made in Colorado Shoppe. wrightnaturalbakery.com. (970)812-8026.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get the dump truck special for \$375! The wood is a Pine mix. GUARANTEED to be full cords. Price is good till the end of the year. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

OAK FIREWOOD FOR YOUR warmth and memories. Custom lengths available. Please call Canyon Lee for pricing and delivery schedules. (970)880-4086.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and/ or Aspen. \$220- \$260 per cord. Free delivery in Pagosa Springs area. (970)661-3888.

ALL STAINED AND ART GLASS SALE at Big Sky Studio! All in stock sheet glass is 25% off through December 31! Call (970)731-5374 for appointment!

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-OWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

HAND BLOWN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS on sale for \$5 through December 31st at Big Sky Studio! Hand made in Pagosa Springs! Call (970)731-5374 for appointment!

AIRIEL STEAM SHOWER. Paid \$1,200, asking \$750. Call or text (970)903-4969.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

VACATION RENTALS

FOR SALE

MATTRESS BY APPOINTMENT®

50-80% OFF Store Prices

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY



Call 970-335-8315

SCOTSMAN COMMERCIAL ICEMAKER, MODEL CME 656 WE, restaurant grade, \$475. Sun transtech transmission service system, \$550. Black and Decker valve resurfer, complete with grinding stones, new condition, \$625. 1996 Corvette LSI, complete motor and transmission in computer electronics, \$3,475. Pro built by Offenhauser Ford 460, less than 100 hours (used in boat), \$1,975. Small block Chevy, 350/ 375 HP, complete, ready to install, low miles, \$1,850. (970)731-8600.

WATER TRANSFER TANKS. 275 gallons. 6 miles west of Pagosa Springs on Hwy. 160. \$200 cash. Call Kurt (801)201-2122.

WOMEN'S DIAMOND HOOP EARRINGS. Inside out design, 34 diamonds, appraisal upon request. Appraised high, will sell low. Serious inquires only. (970)903-6094

VACATION RENTALS

FOR SALE

ALL NATURAL, 100% GRASS finished beef and lamb, pastured pork, and organic free range chicken from GrassRoots Meats. Available at our warehouse on Mondays, as well as the Choke Cherry Tree and Joy's the rest of the week. www.grassrootsmeats.colorado@gmail.com. Call Lois for more information, (970)582-0166.

32" SHEARED BEAVER/ LAMB SKIN fur coat, women's size 10, in excellent condition. Paid \$4,250, sell for \$2,125. (970)731-1051.

CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE at Jann Pitcher Real Estate. Come support Pagosa Youth Soccer.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

AIRSTREAM 2007 CLASSIC LTD Santa Special. Excellent condition. \$38,000. (850)585-5718.

AUTOS

2001 FORD SUPER DUTY XLT, 3/4 ton pickup truck. 4 door, long bed, V- 10, gas powered, automatic transmission, 2 wheel drive. After-market trailer brake controller. White, interior is tan cloth. 163,650 miles. \$8,500. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St., Pagosa, (970)731-7296.

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

VACATION RENTALS

AUTOS

2013 VW TIGUAN AWD 2.0 turbo, 92,000 miles, great shape, good tires, gray with black interior, \$9,500 OBO. (970)406-1355.

1997 4X4 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE. Runs good, looks good, has good tires. \$1,900. (970)946-3762.

2005 SUBARU LEGACY. 210K miles. AWD. Bluetooth stereo/ phone. New timing belt. Very good condition. \$3,600 (970)946-8454.

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

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

LONG & SHORT TERM Rentals available. OWNERS More Properties Needed! www.NextHomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, GARAGE and carport. Core area. Long term. Pets negotiable. No smoking. \$1,400/ month plus security. (970)903-2346.

UNFURNISHED 4 BEDROOM, 2 bath modular on nice acre property. Will have to haul water or have it delivered. 2 outdoor sheds. No smoking, no indoor pets. \$1,300/ month. Sunetha (970)422-7162.

LONG AND SHORT TERM rentals. Valley View condo. \$875 per month, long term. Home & Ranch Property Management. (970)731-1554.

EATON DR. 2 BEDROOM 1 bath apartment, behind City Market. Water and trash included. No pets allowed. \$800 rent, \$800 security deposit. Call Ginni, 731-2216.

EFFICIENCY APARTMENT, NEW, connected to home. View, off N. Pagosa. No smoking. \$750 plus deposit, all utilities. Cat allowed. menergy88@gmail.com.

TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM rental needs. (970)731-8599.

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, 2 story. Master on 1st floor. 2 car garage, W/ D, unfurnished. Lakes area, walk to shopping and Recreation Center. Awesome VIEWS. Energy efficient, natural gas fireplace. (970)398-0023.

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

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH TRIPLEX. 1 car garage, \$1,200 a month. Laundry room, paved road. Close in. (970)264-9159.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, furnished/ unfurnished, ground-level apartment in home with garage parking. No smoking; no pets. \$850 including utilities. Call (970)946-7359.

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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.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

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

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE. Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza. High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

ON SITE RENTALS and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, NO STAIRS, \$400. Includes heat, AC, fiber optic internet, security system, cleaning services, and kitchen area. Uptown. (970)444-5144.

SMALL WAREHOUSE SPACE in town. 10'x15' unit with overhead door and electricity. \$80 per month. Michael C. Branch (970)769-2036.

EXECUTIVE ISUITES. Up to (2) 14x14, (2) 12x12 offices. Conference room use, fast Internet, 2nd floor, utilities, paved parking. FREE month rent with year lease. Conference room with Internet (hourly, daily rates). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

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

5,000 SQ. FT. PREMIER office, retail/ industrial. Premier Park Ave. address. Home & Ranch Property Management. (970)731-1554.

PagosaSUN.com

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

ARBOLES COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 2.54 acres. In the Piedra Park Subdivision with great views of Navajo Lake State Park. \$115,000. Possible owner carry! Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

FORMER KFC/ TACO BELL BUILDING- for sale or lease. City Market Center. Email for information (pdf) PropertyTrust@frontier.net. Broker: F. Scott Tonges, Southwest Property Trust, (970)731-4421.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

TURN KEY BUSINESS. CUSTOMER list, equipment and supplies. Call (970)731-4585 or (970)946-1275.

ANOTHER PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS is for sale. Successful 15 year old local Pagosa Ice Company is being sold because of personal health reasons. For more information, please call and leave a message at (970)731-8600. Very serious inquiries only.

PAGOSA TURNKEY BUSINESS for sale. Oxygen bar and retail shop. For more information, call (405)274-3955.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

#HUMANS OVER HOUSES

We sell a lot of Properties, it's true. Many Brokers want to talk about how awesome they are.

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Teresa Anderson "Thank you, Britney, for believing in me and helping me meet my goals! you are truly an amazing realtor!"

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Bruce Roman "Any realtor can drive you around to look. Then there's Britney ultimately she's still there way after the commission checks have been cashed and the last signature on the 900 documents at closing...She will stay by your side ALL THE WAY AND AFTER!!!"



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PROPERTY

SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPENDENT, I work for YOU! 18 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

SANTA'S AFFORDABLE SALE! Condo, 2+ bedroom, 3 bath (\$100s). Townhouse, 2+ bedroom, 3 bath, 2-garage (\$200s). Wen Saunders (970)903-0038 Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

NICE 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH with a third room for an office. All fenced 2 acres, next to Navajo State Park. \$265,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

CONEJOS RIVER FRONTAGE HOME! 3 bedroom, 3 Bath, 3-car garage in gated subdivision, has access to the Rio Grande National Forest. \$797,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

DEAL ON 35+ ACRES with national forest access. 3+ bedroom, 4 bath, fireplace, 2-garage. Multi-level generational living floor plan. Prices SLASHED- \$400s! Wen Saunders (970)903-0038 Pagosaconnection.kw.com Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

3 BEDROOM, 4 BATH HOME. 7-car garage, views of Navajo Lake and the San Juan Mountain Range. \$565,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH on 27 acres, \$310,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

PROPERTY

GREAT 5 ACRE LOT to build your dream home! With awesome mountain views. 10 minutes from Wolf Creek. With public water. \$90,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blanchoretreat@gmail.com.

FANTASTIC LOT. BUILD YOUR dream home. In Timber Ridge, 4.73 acres, \$169,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817, text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

FSBO. BEAUTIFUL, QUIET 35 acres in gated community. \$65,000, owner financing available. (970)903-2900 or (970)903-0870.

4.89 ACRES IN ASPEN SPRINGS. No HOA! Corners marked and ready for you to take ownership. \$52,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

2260 PIEDRA ROAD. 1/3 acre, \$9,000. Finance available. hoganpagosa@gmail.com.

CONEJOS CANYON RIVER FRONTAGE property in a gated community with awesome views! 3.43 acres. \$125,000. Owner carry possibilities! Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

40.0 ACRES IN A GATED COMMUNITY. Power installed in 4 locations of the property, cistern, cabin and a pole barn started. \$275,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

PROPERTY 5 ACRES with power on the corner and survey has been done. Possible OWNER CARRY! \$52,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

1.0 ACRE IN ASPEN SPRINGS AREA. Price reduced! Septic installed! Great mountain views. \$32,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

WINTER SALE ACREAGES. 107 acres (\$200s). 39+ acres (\$80s). 130 acres with 3 sides national forest! (\$500s). Private finance options. Wen Saunders (970)903-0038. Keller Williams Realty Southwest Associates.

SECLUDED 1.50 ACRES. With water tap installed. Close to Navajo Lake State Park. \$60,000. Mrs. Archuleta (970)903-2817 or text debarch to 85377. EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA.

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TOYS FOR TOTS

Here at Jim Smith Realty we want every child in Archuleta County to have a very Merry Christmas!

Jim Smith Realty is an official drop off location at 445 San Juan Street

www.pagosa-springs-co.toysfortots.com



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All Waxes
Tuning Kits
Stomp pads
30% Off!

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& Tank tops
HALF OFF!
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**20% OFF
Dakine &
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\$34.99 & up..

Winter Beanies
**20%
OFF!**

All Sale
**Tee Shirts
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IN OUR SALE ROOM

ANOTHER 25% OFF!

**20% OFF! Smith
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