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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 112 — NO. 9, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

County releases part of executive session recording

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County has released portions of an executive session recording after Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson issued a court order stating part of the recording is not protected from public release.

On May 6, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) held a special meeting in which the executive session was the only item on the agenda.

The purpose of the executive session, according to the agenda, was, "Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) - Conferences with an attorney for the public entity for the purpose of the Board receiving legal advice on the 1033 investigation."

About a week prior to the executive session, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had concluded its inquiry into 1033 Program assets given to the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) that were allegedly

■ See Recording A8



Photos courtesy Simon Fuger

Gray Wolves appeal to snow god

It appears that the Gray Wolves Ski Club has been successful in its appeal to the fictional Finnish Snow God Heikki Lunta to provide an abundance of snow. With the lack of snow prior to this week, the group gathered recently to perform various dances to honor Heikki Lunta, who was first recognized in 1970s in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. With Mother Nature holding back on significant snowfall prior to this week, the Gray Wolves felt that this tribute might help.

PSMC hit by Russian hacking

No patient data compromised

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Staff at Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) recently learned that the medical center was criminally hacked by a group purportedly sponsored by the Russian government about two years ago, though the hackers were not successful in gaining any data.

According to a press release from PSMC, "On October 31, 2019, the Federal Bureau of Investigation notified Pagosa Springs Medical Center that approximately two years ago, a group purportedly sponsored by the Russian government criminally hacked one of PSMC's "edge" network devices (a Cisco router)."

The press release explains that for PSMC, as well as most networks, the edge device is the first point of contact into the organizations information technology (IT) local network.

The press release explains that, according to the FBI, the hacking of

■ See Hacking A8

Forest Service considers land exchange proposal

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Local property owners are seeking a potential land exchange with the U.S. Forest Service.

According to a press release from the U.S. Forest Service, the land exchange proposal involves the Forest Service getting two parcels of non-National Forest System land which spans about 900 acres in exchange for 11 parcels of National Forest System land which spans about 472

acres.

The request was submitted by Kelcy Warren, who owns Bootjack Ranch, David Lindner, Robert Lindner Jr., Cynthia Sites and Will Beecherl, according to the notice of exchange proposal.

Of the National Forest System land, 176 acres are within designated Colorado Roadless Areas (CRA), according to the Forest Service's press release, and would need to be

■ See Exchange A8

Walmart files lawsuits against Colorado counties

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Walmart is suing Archuleta County and 31 other Colorado counties, arguing that the valuation of the personal property in its stores is too high.

Personal property in this case includes refrigeration equipment, food service equipment, check-out stands and warehouse equipment, among other items, according to the complaint filed on Aug 23.

Archuleta County Assessor Natalie Woodruff explained in a phone interview Monday the personal property at Walmart's Pagosa Springs store is valued at \$1.8 million and its personal property taxes for this year total \$40,621.16.

Woodruff explained Walmart is arguing the personal property should be valued at \$925,000, or about half the county's valuation.

The lawsuit was filed by Walmart's parent company, Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

According to the Archuleta County website, if a party wishes to protest their tax assessment, that protest is sent to the assessor's office. The assessor's office makes a decision regarding the protest and if a party is not satisfied with that decision, they can appeal the decision to the Archuleta County Board of Equalization (CBOE).

The CBOE is named as the defendant in Walmart's lawsuit "because they're the ones that made the decision for Walmart," Woodruff said.

Walmart stated in the complaint that, due to the almost constant use of their equipment be-

cause of long store hours and economic factors that make its personal property difficult to resell, the CBOE is not valuing that property in a way that accurately takes into account how quickly the value of that property depreciates.

"We use the personal property tax depreciation tables that are provided by the Division of Property Taxation," Woodruff said Monday. "So, they're trying to say that does not take into account the external and additional physical obsolescence typical to big box retailers in today's economy."

Woodruff stated that Walmart "has no justification for their opinion" that is stated in the complaint.

■ See Walmart A8

Lodging tax collections up

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Local lodging tax collections continue to rise compared to last year, and collections are budgeted to increase further in 2020.

According to a report from Executive Director Jennifer Green, through the first three quarters of this year, the Town of Pagosa Springs' collections are up 6.6 percent — or \$33,103 — over 2018.

While Archuleta County's collection data for the third quarter is not yet available, the county's collections

were up through the first quarter and dipped in the second quarter.

As the town's proposed 2020 budget explains, "The Lodger's Tax Fund is completely funded by a tax collected from visitors staying at local lodging establishments. Revenues derive from the Town and County lodging taxes, rates for which are 4.9% and 1.9%, respectively."

Collections by quarter

The town's collections were down 2.48 percent, or \$3,669 in the first quarter of 2019 as compared to 2018,

■ See Lodging A8



SUN photo/Shari Pierce

Roofing will be starting this coming Monday on the county's detention center, which is under construction in Harman Park. Nunn Construction Superintendent Thomas Vinci reported Wednesday that the project is tracking on schedule and, weather depending, the facility should be enclosed within the next few weeks.

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Opinion

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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11/14	56	20	-	-	-
11/15	56	24	-	-	-
11/16	58	24	-	-	-
11/17	56	20	-	-	-
11/18	59	24	-	-	-

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EDITORIAL

Are you ready for winter driving?

It seems that every year the first storms of the season are associated with numerous accidents when motorists find themselves unprepared for winter driving.

And with all of the nice weather we've had up until this week, you may not have made sure that your vehicle is prepared for winter.

Have you made certain you have adequate tread on your tires? Have you checked your antifreeze levels? Do your defroster and rear window defogger work? A flashlight and snow scraper are a must, and snowboots and a blanket should be in your auto, too. You might even consider putting a snow shovel in the car. Some people swear by having kitty litter or sand in their vehicle to give the vehicle traction.

Winter can bring a combination of slush, ice, snow and lower temperatures to our already-shorter daylight hours, creating hazardous driving conditions.

In the U.S. each year, approximately 7,000 roadway deaths and 450,000 injuries are associated with poor weather-related driving conditions.

Besides driving too fast for weather conditions, some of the leading causes of fatal roadway crashes are failure to keep in the proper lane or running off the road; driving under the influence; failure to yield the right of way; dis-

tracted driving; operating in an erratic or reckless manner; and failure to obey traffic signs and signals.

When you add talking on the phone and texting to the mix, the risk for accidents and deaths increases greatly.

Wintertime is time to slow down and allow for extra time to get to your destination. It is also a good time to share AAA Motor Club's refresher on driving in snow and ice:

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.

- Drive slowly. Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, turning — nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.

- The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to 10 seconds. This increased margin of safety will provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.

- Know your brakes. Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold breaking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm,

steady pressure on the brake pedal.

- Don't stop if you can avoid it. There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.

- Don't power up hills. Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed down hill as slowly as possible.

- Don't stop going up a hill. There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some inertia going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.

- Stay home. If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.

If you have to be out when the road conditions are less than desirable, we encourage you to slow down and allow for plenty of stopping distance for all vehicles. And, as always, put your seat belt on.

If you don't have to be out, stay home and keep off the roads. The life you save just might be your own.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

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264-8304

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WHADDYA THINK?

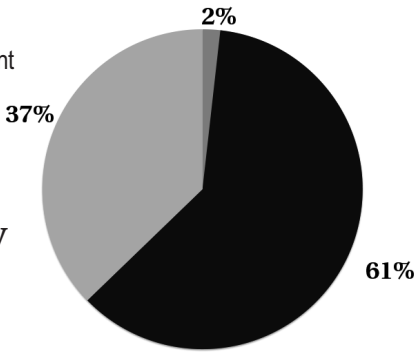
Should President Donald J Trump be impeached?

Poll results (1,010 votes)

I do not have enough information to decide. — 2 percent

No. — 61 percent

Yes. — 37 percent



Vote this week online:
Should the state change the way
personal property taxes are
assessed for businesses?
www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the December 18, 1980, Pagosa Springs SUN.

OATH OFFICE — Town Police Officer Don Volger this week received the oath of office from Town Clerk Jacquelyn Schick while other members of the police department look on. Volger's addition to the force brings the department to its full force of four regular police officers.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 22, 1929

Following the disclosure that Jose Pablo Archuleta, the Pagosa Junction youth who was shot at Juanita Saturday night and died in this city early Monday morning, was recovering from smallpox, tho no longer in a contagious stage, an investigation was made as to health conditions in the lower country. It was found that practically the entire Pagosa Junction and Juanita sections had been infested with the disease, but with no fatalities, the disease being in light form. Quarantine and other precautions were taken to prevent additional spread of the disease.

A twenty-foot break in the ditch near the New Light & Power Co. plant late Saturday night forced the use of steam instead of water power. The break will soon be repaired and water power resumed.

Mrs. Wm. Schoonover and son were released on Wednesday from quarantine from smallpox, the latter having recovered nicely from the disease.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 24, 1944

J.B. Belarde, the old maestro in the sawmill business here, has a new mill that is being erected in Pagosa Springs this week. The location is across Cade Creek west of the Belarde residence in West Pagosa. Mr. Belarde has had so much difficulty with muddy roads that he will not cut lumber at his old location, until next summer, but will keep the mill here busy all winter.

Lloyd Anderson reports seeing two gray Canadian geese on Sullenberger Lake Monday morning. First he has seen there in years.

The Lionel Belardes have new kitchen cupboards and a new back porch on their house. Loren Belarde has recently had a new back porch built on his home, and a new basement put in. Mrs. J.B. Belarde has endowed her 150 chickens with a fancy cello-glass enclosure to keep them warm this winter.

A stellar game of basketball was played by the Pagosa Buccaneers Friday evening November 17th at Bayfield. Pagosa won all three games, giving practically every player who went over to the game a chance to perform.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 20, 1969

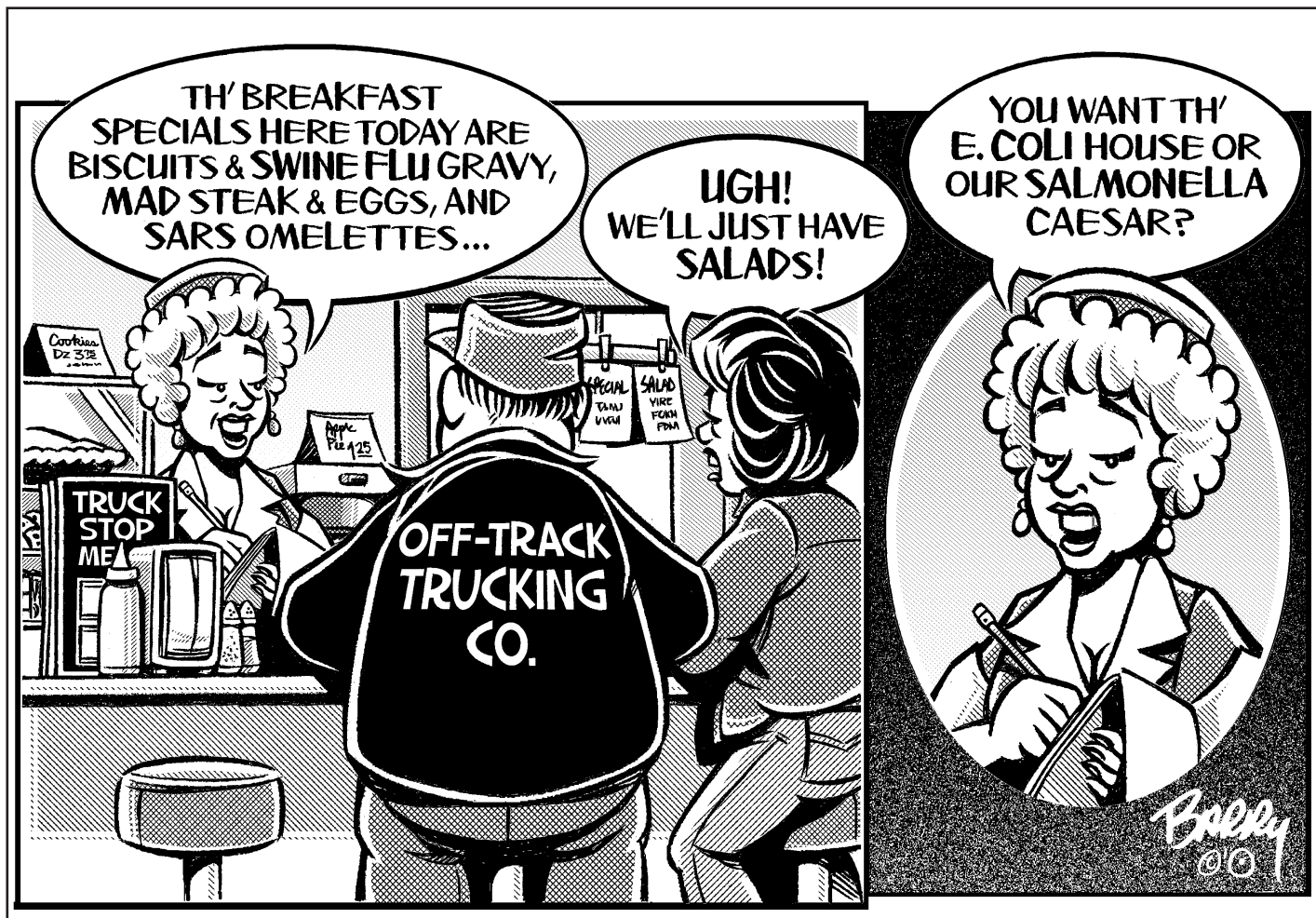
The new Pagosa Springs Elementary School is now ready for occupancy and Superintendent James Bennett said that plans call for moving into the building the weekend after Thanksgiving. The \$614,000 structure is ready for occupancy although there are some finishing touches to be added here and there. Yet to be completed is an access road and the landscaping of the grounds. Much of the furniture will come from the present elementary school, two trailer classrooms, and surplus furnishings. Mr. Bennett said that the entire move will be made in one weekend.

Total snowfall on Wolf Creek Pass may be heading for another record year. Curtis Strain, snowplow boss on the Pass, reports a total fall of 24 inches through Monday morning of this week. More has fallen since that time. The 24-inch fall to date is fairly heavy for this early in November. It brings the total fall up to Monday this year to 105 inches, a very respectable amount.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of November 24, 1994

Wolf Creek Ski Area uses its "Most Snow in Colorado" marketing technique effectively, and this ski season the claim is more accurate than ever. Wolf Creek got a jump on other regional ski areas when it opened on Nov. 4. Many ski areas to the south and some Colorado areas close to Pagosa Springs have yet to open. Wolf Creek has been advertising snow depths at the summit and at midway in excess of 50 inches while resorts in the I-70 corridor were struggling with snow-making equipment and luring skiers and snowboarders with snow depths of less than 20 inches. To date, Wolf Creek has had 11,044 people skiing and snowboarding on the mountain. With eight inches of snow in the past week, Wolf Creek reported a 57 inch base at the summit on Monday, with 54 inches of packed powder at midway — more than twice the snow than the next greatest depth at a Colorado facility (Monarch, with 25 inches). With the recent snows, 100-percent of the mountain at Wolf Creek will be open for the traditionally busy Thanksgiving holiday period.



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.

Peace of mind

Dear Editor:
I surely hope that Mr. Hardin doesn't have an emergency that requires a jet to Denver or elsewhere for treatment. As a retired Pagosa Springs EMT, I've experienced many patients being flown from the Pagosa airport for lifesaving treatment in Denver. How much is a life worth — or — a permanent disability?

Well, I guess that depends; a family member that has a stroke and needs the stroke team from Swedish Medical Center flown in on a Lear Jet; a friend that has to have treatment for a plethora of blood clots in her lungs that needs immediate treatment at Porter Medical Center; or a burn patient from a propane explosion with 3rd degree burns that needs emergency treatment at the Albuquerque burn center. These are just a few examples of lifesaving treatment that requires an airport that can handle jet traffic.

Sure we can fly to Durango by helicopter and then transfer to a jet — at the expense of over an hour of precious time. When all you have are 3 hours left (often less) for definitive treatment before you are disabled for the rest of your life — or — worse yet, dead — the additional hour becomes crucial. While the Medical Center is a huge benefit to our community — it is not the end-all for definitive care for major emergencies.

Oh — and I guess you don't remember the last 'project fire' in Archuleta County. Where do you think the air tankers landed and refueled that helped stop the fire from reaching Pagosa? Of course, our Pagosa airport.

Personally, for a cost of about \$15 per year per resident — I'm happy to pay the price so we have an airport just in case I have a family member, a friend or even a stranger, that needs lifesaving treatment that can be facilitated by our airport. How much is peace of mind worth?

Joe Bigley

GOP hoax

Dear Editor:
Is our President Donald Trump a not-so-secret Russian asset (helper)? Is there a Democrat conspiracy or coup targeting Donald? Why is Ukraine so important to Donald and Putin? No on the conspiracy, but let's try to wrap up these questions for our rightwing nuts.

President Trump says he's been harder on Russia than Obama. True in the sense of weapons but then he withheld those weapons and funds for 'dirt' on the Bidens; and that's the current impeachable offense ... remember the Russian military is attacking the Ukraine. Withholding aid for 'dirt' is now publicly attested to by NSC/State Dept. Officials who by-the-way are mostly Republicans. But while we're on the Biden's lets factoid that out for the denser wingnuts. Biden as VP was directed to work w/our Ukraine ambassador (now fired for not helping Donald dig up false dirt) to help reduce corruption. However, the Ukraine head of the anticorruption department was totally corrupt and in Russia's pocket, so Biden had him fired. What Biden senior and junior didn't think through was junior, in the same time period, took a Board position on a local company ... very stupid decision, well paid but not corrupt (research what Fortune 100 Directors are paid). The chain of events really began following the conclusion by all of our Intelligence agencies, headed by Republicans, that Russia interfered w/the Presidential election in 2016. Defending Trump, his campaign mgr. Manafort, now in jail for illegal actions representing the then Russian controlled Ukraine officials, said 'it wasn't Russia but rather Ukraine that interfered in Trumps' election.' Enter Trump, our impulsive hyper-defensive clueless Russian asset President saying, I believe Manafort so go get'em Giuliani.

But why is Putin so interested in the Ukraine? It's an old story but culturally and historically the Russian empire/state preceding their Czars till today began in the Ukraine and migrated over time to Moscow. Yes, Putin wants to rebuild the USSR and of course, he would begin with the oldest former soviet satellite state. Not to be left out our home-grown Russian asset falls in line; who knows maybe he thought there's a Kiev 'Trump Tower' in the deal?

The interesting thing about this GOP hoax is Donald's unquestionably guilty of 'dirt for aid' and their 'logical' defense is conspiracies of the absurd.

Dave Blake

Hold legislators accountable

Dear Editor:
I am a newer resident to Colorado, attracted by the natural beauty and wildlife of the area. I also am a firm believer in holding our legislators accountable for their voting record.

On Oct 31st, US House Representative Scott Tipton voted no to the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Economy Act (CORE), a bill which aims to protect some 400,000 acres of public land from resource exploration. A bill that would protect our ability to hunt, hike, camp, and ski.

I understand Representative Tipton has deep tea party roots and heavily favors government Deregulation. I also understand a "deregulation" political ideology favors the extraction industries, giving them more free rein to profit from gas and oil leases on public land. I also understand that

Tipton receives finical support for re-election from that industry. (ex: SG Interests, a Texas-based energy company and its lobbying firm) Tipton's focus on deregulation has blinded him to his responsibility of public protection.

The CORE Act represented a decade-long effort from ranchers, environmentalists and sportsmen to stop new energy development in prime wildlife habitat and headwaters for many river systems. Tipton does not represent my values of clean air, water, and land.

Suzanne Motsinger
Dolores

Respect and pursuit of a dream

Dear Editor:
Recent events in my life have given me reason to reflect on past events in my life. With great pleasure I have been able to recall many good memories.

On November 2nd I experienced my first mini stroke and spent that night and the next day in Mercy Hospital in Durango.

On November 4th came the 2nd mini stroke and I was transported to Swedish Medical Center in Denver. While in the air the flight nurse happened to ask how long I had lived in Pagosa Springs and what I had done for a living. I told the following story.

In 1972 my wife Vimmie and I purchased some 320 acres which was part of the Mitchell Swanson ranch. Mitchell's parents had immigrated to Colorado from Sweden in the early 1900's with Oscar Swanson coming on down to Pagosa Springs while Mrs. Swanson remained in Denver to work. Mr. Swanson purchased 160 acres which was 5 miles south of Pagosa Springs along what is now called the 8 Mile Mesa Road and which in those days was the road to Chama and Lumberton, New Mexico. The entire area was a vast ponderosa pine forest which provided the incentive for timber companies to build railroad tracks into various locations in order to haul the saw logs back to the plains where the lumber was needed and valuable.

Settlers and homesteaders
■ See Letters A4



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Letters

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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

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

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Town, sanitation district to hold budget public hearings

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

As part of its meeting this evening, the Pagosa Springs Town Council is slated to hold a public hearing on the town's 2020 budget.

The Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) is also slated to have a public hearing on its budget this evening.

The town council sits as the board of the PSSGID.

The town and PSSGID are scheduled to have another public hearing on Dec. 3 prior to the budget's adoption.

The meetings on both days begin at 5 p.m. at Town Hall.

The budgets can be found on the boards' respective agendas at:

<https://pagosasprings.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>.

Town budget

The Town has a total of six separate funds and each is accounted for separately, with the two largest funds being the General Fund and Capital Fund.

"For all six funds, the total expected revenue for 2020 is \$16.54 million, including prior year carryover, and the total expenditures for the six funds are \$12.96 million. While the Town is utilizing significant reserves for capital projects in 2020, the total projected year end cash reserves for all six funds are \$3.58 million. Overall, the Town continues to be in a healthy financial position," the budget states.

An agenda brief included with

the town outlines changes made based on council feedback since the proposed budget was presented in October.

Among those things that changed:

- Service organization funding was allocated through averaging each council member's suggested funding allocation.

- Sales tax revenue assumptions for 2019 and 2020 (affects General Fund and Capital Fund) were increased based on year-to-date numbers for 2019.

- A total of \$100,000 was allocated for the town's strategic initiatives — housing, broadband, and early child care and education — under the heading of economic development, with that amount to be distributed at a later date.

- The dispatch center contribution was lowered to \$265,288, which reflects the final budget amount as recommended by the board that oversees dispatch.

- A \$4,000 transfer to the Geothermal Fund from the General Fund is included for assistance with a utility assessment.

- A "Trail Planning" line item with \$5,000 was added in Capital Fund.

- A "Trail Maintenance" line item with \$5,000 was added in Capital Fund.

- A "Dark Sky Compliance Lighting Retrofits" line item of \$10,000 was added in the Capital Fund.

- An "Employee Merit Bonus" line item of \$15,000 was added in the General Fund.

- A "Parade" line item of \$10,000 was added in the General Fund

- More details were added throughout the budget in footnotes.

- A line item was added to show grant expenditures and revenues versus town expenditures and revenues in the Capital Fund.

PSSGID budget

"When adding prior year car-

ryover reserve from 2019 of \$1.12 million to the estimated annual revenue of \$1.035 million, total resources are estimated at \$2.155 million. With expenditures anticipated to total \$1,225,636 in 2020, it leaves the District with an estimated year end reserve of approximately \$928,907 going into 2021," the PSSGID budget states.

The budget also assumes a rate increase for PSSGID customers.

"From a revenue standpoint, in 2020 the District is anticipated to collect \$1,034,771, which consists of \$838,370 in Taxes and Assessments, \$73,000 in Charges for Services, and \$123,401 in grant revenues. This includes \$783,000 in monthly charges, which assumes that the District Board increases the monthly charge per the recommendations of the 2018 rate study to \$43.00/month," the budget explains.

That sewer rate increase will be considered by the PSSGID board this evening.

If adopted by the board, the rate would increase \$3 per month, from \$40 per month to \$43.

The district's budget also notes that, while fund balances remain healthy, there are concerns over the district's finances.

"While this fund balance is healthy compared to the minimum required balance of three months of operating expenditures, or \$306,409, (per Town financial policies), it is concerning that each year the District must spend into reserves in order to fund capital projects, and in some cases, operational costs. Large capital projects such as the First Street Bridge lift station project, if the GID were to fully fund it at an estimated cost of \$800,000, would nearly wipe out the entire fund balance of the GID in one year. Therefore, extensive capital projects are typically only possible with outside funding," the budget states.

BLM Resource Advisory Council to meet in Montrose

Special to The SUN

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Southwest Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet Dec. 12 in Montrose at the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, 2505 S Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401.

"The Southwest RAC is made up of local community members with diverse backgrounds and interests," said Southwest District Manager Stephanie Connolly. "This diversity provides valuable perspectives for decision-making and recommendations regarding the management of public lands within the Bureau of Land Management's Southwest District."

The meeting will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to the public, with a public comment period scheduled for 11 a.m. Individuals who want to make a statement during the public comment period are encouraged to also submit a written copy of their statement at the meet-

ing for the administrative record.

Planned agenda items for the meeting include a discussion about illegal dumping on public lands, updates on the Uncompahgre Field Office Resource Management Plan, and a proposed fee adjustment at the Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center and Museum.

The Southwest Colorado RAC meets multiple times a year in southwestern Colorado. It is one of several citizen advisory councils to BLM Colorado. Its 15 members are appointed by the secretary of the Interior and represent a broad range of public land interests, including environmental, local government, recreation, energy, livestock grazing and commercial activity. The Southwest RAC advises the BLM Colorado Southwest District, which includes the Grand Junction, Uncompahgre and Tres Rios field offices.

For more information about the Southwest RAC, please contact Eric Coulter at (970) 244-3061.

Letters

Continued from A3

could make wages by cutting the timber on their own land thereby clearing the land for agriculture uses.

By purchasing a part of history we were able to hear from Mitchell and Juanita Swanson their family's history. Mitchell's father could not speak English when he arrived in America. Across the road lived the La Varta family, with Spanish and French back-grounds. Carlos La Varta told me that his father interpreted for Mr. Swanson when going to town for supplies and that Mr. Swanson' goal was to be able to be an "American" and not a just a "Swedish American". Eventually, Swanson acquired adjacent land, cleared the land and removed the stumps with dynamite. After 6 years he finally had the house ready for his wife, had purchased a few cows and a horse. He was now ready to be a rancher. He wrote to his wife, who was still in Denver, asking her to buy a saddle and send it to him on the train. She went to Pearson Saddlery and she and the saddle came to Pagosa Springs to begin a new phase in their lives. Mrs. Swanson had worked at the Swedish Hospital in Denver for 6 years. Many immigrants came from Sweden to Colorado, Wisconsin and Michigan in that they were accustomed to forests, long winters and cold.

In 1983 Vimmie and I built the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Park on a portion of the land that we had acquired from Swanson. The Swanson family donated the original Swanson saddle to us so that the memory lives on. And it does.

I am reminded that this is what made America Great — Dedication, hard physical labor, the consistent pursuit of a dream and, the people. People who helped each other and respected each other.

Dick Ray

Scott White

Dear Editor:

It's Thanksgiving time again and living in this community, there are so many things to be thankful for, so much love surrounds us. This month began with many celebrations to honor our veterans, thankful for their service to our country and continued service to our community — that is "who" they are.

The celebrations ended with the Annual Veterans Day Breakfast, hosted by our 8th grade students — lots of good food donated by their parents, great stories shared by vets as students kept their coffee cups full. History teacher, Mr. Scott White and his dear wife coordinate this event every year — a great way

to honor our Veterans and a great way for students to experience history from those who actually "lived it".

The day before, seeing our young folks arrive with enthusiasm to decorate and set up the tables for the event is heart-warming to observe and their respect for "Mr. White" is obvious in all they do. This community is blessed to have such a devoted, admired and gifted teacher to influence our 8th graders at this important stepping stone in their lives.

So, Happy Thanksgiving to the Whites and all of those 8th grade parents and students.

And, it is obvious, they do it with love.

Patty Tillerson

~ Obituary ~

Bud (Federico Thomas) Read

Bud was born in Durango, Colo. to Rose and Tom Read on Feb. 5, 1956. He peacefully fell asleep in death on Oct. 19.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his sisters Juanita Martinez and Vitalia Carrillo. He is survived by his children Jennifer, Joseph of Pagosa Springs; Bobby from California and four grandchildren; his siblings Virginia Schmidt, Cathy Lile, Farmington, N.M.; Lea Vigil, Nancy Jones, Salt Lake City, Utah; Mary Martinez, Aztec, N.M.; Antonio Read, San Pedro, Colo.; Patty Read, Colorado Springs,

and many nieces and nephews.

Bud lived and worked in Pagosa all his life. He worked for Colorado Dream Homes for a while but other than that he had his own business that he worked hard at and enjoyed.

We would like to thank Christina Rivas, Betty Read, Charlie Martinez, Vicente Manzanares, Ricky Lovato, Karen Medina and Jon Lindberg for taking care of our brother the last three years and taking him to his doctor appointments, picking up his medications and groceries. They were there for him when he needed them.

He was laid to rest on Saturday, Oct. 26 in Trujillo in a private ceremony by his children and grandchildren. We will miss his dumb jokes, "take it easy," and his beans and green chili and tortillas.



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Ronald Sutcliffe appointed as county surveyor

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted unanimously to appoint Ronald Sutcliffe as the new county surveyor at its regular meeting on Nov. 19.

Prior to the vote, the county commissioners publicly deliberated on which of the three candidates to choose. The applicants were Sutcliffe, David Murrey and Thomas Johnston.

"The county surveyor had to resign due to some medical issues and that left us with a vacancy to fill," Commissioner Steve Wadley began. "We advertised for it, we got three people that applied for it, we interviewed 'em publicly, but haven't had the ability to talk

about the individuals and come to a consensus as if we were hiring staff, and I felt all three of the applicants were certainly qualified and any one of the three of 'em could do the job. There was one of 'em that I felt maybe a little bit more comfortable with."

The candidates were interviewed at a work session on Nov. 12, with Wadley and Commissioner Ron Maez present at that work session.

"I'd like to state that my pick on these were the ones that answered, or the one that answered the questions that we asked each and every one of 'em with clear and concise and actual backed up with solid knowledge on their experience and I can tell you right now mine wagers on the side of the most experienced one," Maez said.

Wadley made a motion to appoint Sutcliffe as the new surveyor.

"Mr. Chair, I move to appoint Ronald Sutcliffe as the Archuleta County Surveyor to fill the vacancy until a new surveyor is elected in November 2020."

The commissioners voted 3-0 to appoint Sutcliffe as the new county surveyor.

In a Nov. 1 letter, former county surveyor Dean Schultz resigned his position.

Schultz wrote, "Due to my present condition I have relocated to an area more suited for my rehabilitation and an area more accessible.

"As of November 1, 2019 I will be resigning my position as Archuleta County Surveyor. Thanks to all for the opportunity to serve the public as the County Surveyor."

john@pagosasun.com

Maez announces re-election bid for county commissioner

By John Finebrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Commissioner Ron Maez recently announced his candidacy for re-election for Archuleta County commissioner for District 2.

Maez was elected to the seat in 2016.

Maez cited his biggest accomplishments as commissioner as starting construction on the new county jail, updating the building codes, which include regulations for tiny homes, and contributing funds for a new building for the county's Department of Human Services, which secured a \$13 million building for a \$1.2 million cost to taxpayers through grants and other incentives.

Maez stated that, if re-elected, some of his goals are to build a new county courthouse and find a new facility for the treasurer's, clerk's and assessor's offices.

Speaking about the challenges of the office, Maez said, "There will always be challenges to the office, no matter who gets in here, it just doesn't



Ron Maez

matter. When you think you're at a point when you can fly steady, it doesn't happen. There's no steady to this job, there's always a constant need for somebody or someone or some entity in the county."

Maez noted he served on a handful of boards before being elected county commissioner, which included the county's fair

board, the school district's accountability committee, the firefighter pension board and the fire district's board of directors.

Maez added he earned Rookie Firefighter of the Year in 1996, Firefighter of the Year in 1998 and Officer of the Year in 2001.

Maez explained it can be challenging to illustrate to local taxpayers the importance of addressing the county's capital facility needs like a county jail.

"We were statutorily required to have a jail and even with that in mind, it failed twice at the ballot," Maez said, referencing two ballot initiatives to raise the county's sales tax to help pay for the new jail.

Maez noted that his lifelong history in Archuleta County shows that he is "truly vested in the community."

"I love this community and I will work hard for Archuleta County," he said, adding, "I live here, I'm gonna die here and I want to make it probably the best I can for my elder years as well as for the people that are upcoming in the future too."

john@pagosasun.com

Congressional candidate visits Pagosa Springs

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

On Oct. 17, James Iacino, who made stops in Pagosa Springs Tuesday, announced that he is seeking the Democratic nomination for the seat in Colorado's 3rd Congressional District.

The seat is currently being held by Rep. Scott Tipton.

"I'm running because Washington is more divided than ever. Nothing is getting done and people are extreme and not willing to work together, and the level of civil discourse is ridiculous and is tearing the country apart," Iacino said in an interview. "I felt compelled to run and serve."

Iacino later added that he does not believe that the values of Coloradans are being met by Tipton.

"It's an opportunity for us to go out and be with the folks that he hasn't been representing," Iacino said.

If elected, Iacino explained that economic mobility would be one of his goals.

"Paying people a livable wage.



James Iacino

Reducing the cost that they take home out of their paycheck that prevents them from moving up," he explained.

Additionally, health care, which Iacino described as a "huge issue in Colorado," would be addressed.

On the Western Slope, many citizens do not have a choice in regard to health care, he explained.

"I think we need to provide a public option for them to be able to have a choice if they're not covered by their employer," he said.

One of the biggest challenges facing the 3rd Congressional District is the ability to get something done, he noted.

"The level of rhetoric is so high on both sides that we're not able to find solutions to actually affect change," he said.

Iacino explained that he comes from a business background.

He added that his family has been in Colorado for 117 years, with his business being here for the last 101 years and being at the helm for the last 10 years.

"We have a lot of history in Colorado," he said.

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Wine and micro-brew tastings and appetizers to kick off the holidays!

Business

County unemployment rises to 2.5 percent in October

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

The unemployment rate for Archuleta County increased to 2.5 percent in October from 2.2 percent in September, with 7,198 people in the labor force and 180 of those claiming unemployment.

In September, there were 7,455 people in the county's labor force, with 162, or 2.2 percent, claiming unemployment.

The total workforce decreased by 257 people over the course of the month, while the number of unemployed people decreased by 18.

Looking at the October employment situation for the rest of the state, Huerfano County had the highest unemployment rate for the month at 4.3 percent, while Yuma county had the lowest rate at 1.2 percent.

The unemployment rate in Colorado decreased 0.1 percent

from September to October to 2.6 percent, according to the survey of households.

Statewide, the number of people actively participating in the labor force in Colorado increased 4,600 from September to October to 3,164,800, and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 6,300 to 3,081,300.

The national unemployment rate increased 0.1 percent from September to October, rising to 3.6 percent.

The unemployment rate, labor force participation, total employment and the number of unemployed are based on a survey of households. The total employment estimate derived from this survey is intended to measure the number of people employed.

However, nonfarm payroll jobs estimates are based on a survey of business establishments and government agencies, and are

intended to measure the number of jobs, not the number of people employed.

The business establishment survey covers about seven times the number of households surveyed and is, therefore, considered a more reliable indicator of economic conditions.

Because the estimates are based on two separate surveys, one measuring jobs by work site and the other measuring persons employed and unemployed by household, estimates based on these surveys may provide seemingly conflicting results.

From September to October, nonfarm payroll jobs in Colorado increased by 4,200 for a total of 2,791,500, with private-sector jobs increasing by 4,200 and government jobs declining by 1,100.

Over the month, the largest private-sector job gains were in trade, transportation, utilities, fi-

ancial activities, professional and business services, and educational and health services.

The largest over-the-month declines were in leisure and hospitality, and construction.

Over the year, the number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased by 36,600, total employment increased by 66,600 and the number of unemployed decreased by 30,000.

Other data that is gathered by the survey of business establishments includes private-sector average weekly hours, average hourly earnings and average weekly earnings.

Over the year, the average work-week for all employees in private nonfarm payroll jobs decreased from 33.3 to 33 hours from January to October.

Average hourly earnings increased from \$29.55 to \$30.58 during the same time period.

john@pagosasun.com

Mark your calendars for holiday events

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Special to The SUN

There are lots of activities coming up around the Thanksgiving holiday and early December. Mark your calendars now to engage in events with family and visiting friends.

The Holiday Hoopla is underway with great savings and retail therapy at stores all over the community. Take advantage of shopping local all throughout the holidays with extra savings until Dec. 15. Don't forget to get your Hoopla card at participating stores to enjoy even more savings and to be entered into the drawings for multiple prize packages after Dec. 15.

Bring the family to the downtown area on Friday evening, Nov. 29, to partake in the downtown lighting, Victorian carolers and businesses staying open late. Children can tell their holiday wishes to Santa at the Visitor Center and enjoy hot drinks and cookies. Many

stores will also be offering snacks and hot drinks as carolers entertain in the downtown area, at the Visitor Center around 5 p.m. and then end the evening around 6 p.m. at The Springs Resort.

Curtains Up Pagosa performs an enchanting version of "Willy Wonka" in the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium on Nov. 21, 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. The performance on Nov. 24 is the only matinee that will be offered and it will take place at 2 p.m. Tickets this year are only available at the door.

Art for the Animals takes place at the new Pagosa Springs Arts Council building on Navajo Trail Drive on Nov. 30. The Arts Council and the Humane Society combine to offer up a day of local artisan vendors providing unique gifts, jewelry, home décor, art and so much more. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Pagosa Springs Community Choir presents its holiday performances at Pagosa Springs

High School on Dec. 6-8. The performances on Dec. 6 and 7 are at 7 p.m. and the performance on Dec. 8 is at 4 p.m. There is no cost; however, donations are greatly appreciated.

Centerpoint Church will host its annual Main Street Bethlehem on Dec. 5-7, which includes a free 30-minute walking tour anytime between 6 and 7:30 p.m.

The annual Festival of Trees takes place Dec. 6, with public viewings taking place the day prior to the event. Vote for your favorite decorated tree produced by one of Pagosa's great nonprofit agencies. It is a magical holiday fundraiser filled with creatively decorated trees, music, food, a cash bar and lots of entertainment. Purchase your tickets for the event at the Ross Aragon Community Center.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will host multiple events throughout the holiday season, with the Christmas Tea taking place on Dec. 7. This year there will be two

seatings: 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the St. Patrick's office for \$15 per person. There will be a concert in between the seatings from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. which is free and open to the public. The second event will be the Heralds of Christmas concert with musicians from the community playing some of your favorite Christmas music. The concert on Dec. 15 will be at 3 p.m. and on Dec. 16 it will be at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at The Choke Cherry Tree, the Chamber of Commerce, Bookends and Airport Self Storage for \$10.

There are many more events taking place throughout the season. Don't forget to get tickets for Thingamajig Theatre Company's holiday schedule, check out the local religious organizations for any activities and their holiday schedules and don't forget to book your employee party at one of Pagosa's great restaurants. They book up quickly, so don't wait too long.

Small business survey shows economic impacts of Continental Divide Trail

By Amanda Wheelock
Special to The SUN

A new survey of 200 small business owners along the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) shows overwhelming agreement that protection of public lands is important to the economies of small, rural communities in the Rocky Mountain West.

The answers provided by these small business owners provide strong evidence that the CDT and the people that use it are a vital and growing part of the economic activity in towns along the 3,100-mile National Scenic Trail — and that business owners see the economic value in protecting the trail and the public lands it traverses.

Of all business owners who responded:

- 97 percent believe that protecting, promoting and enhancing public lands is important to the well-being of their community's economy.

- 88 percent have seen growth in business in their community in the last five years due to use of the CDT.
- 58 percent have seen growth in their business in particular in the last five years due to use of the CDT.

Because the CDT stays as close

as possible to the geographic Continental Divide as it makes its way from Canada to Mexico, the 32 communities represented by the respondents are predominately small, rural mountain towns. Respondents work in a variety of industries, from hotels to health care, but the vast majority own what can truly be called "small" businesses: more than half took in less than \$200,000 in gross revenues in 2018, and 92 percent employ fewer than 25 people during peak season.

"Protecting the Continental Divide Trail is vital to my business," said Caleb Efta, director of the High Lonesome 100 ultramarathon, which takes place in the Sawatch Range each summer. "People come from all over the country and world to run the High Lonesome 100, and our race can only exist because of the outstanding public lands and trails we have here in Colorado."

By focusing on small business owners in communities along the Continental Divide, the new survey provides more local, personal context to recent national studies of the booming outdoor recreation industry.

Just last month, the nonpartisan

report analyzing new state-level data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Its analysis showed that growth of the outdoor economy significantly outpaced that of overall GDP in every Rocky Mountain state from 2012-2017. In Colorado, the outdoor recreation GDP grew more than one and a half times the rate of the state's overall GDP during this period.

A report of the full survey results can be found at bit.ly/CDTbiz.

About the CDT

The CDT is one of the world's premiere long-distance trails, stretching 3,100 miles from Mexico to Canada along the Continental Divide. Designated by Congress in 1978, the CDT is the highest, most challenging and most remote of the 11 national scenic trails. It provides recreational opportunities ranging from hiking to horseback riding to hunting for thousands of visitors each year. While 95 percent of the CDT is located on public land, approximately 180 miles are still in need of protection.

About the Continental Divide Trail Coalition

The Continental Divide Trail Co-

alition (CDTC) was founded in 2012 by volunteers and recreationists hoping to provide a unified voice for the Trail. Working hand-in-hand with the U.S. Forest Service and other federal land management agencies, the CDTC is a nonprofit organization supporting stewardship of the CDT. The mission of the CDTC is to complete, promote and protect the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, a world-class national resource. For more information, please visit continentaldividetrail.org.

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Tourism board votes to help fund town trail

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Area Tourism Board (PATB) pledged \$40,000 out of its reserves to help fund a segment of the town's Riverwalk that is slated to run along Hermosa Street, through Cotton Hole Park and to the 1st Street bridge.

The board considered the request for 2020 funding at its Nov. 12 meeting.

The town, via a letter from Town Manager Andrea Phillips, requested \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The project, according to Phillips' letter, is a 10-foot-wide multi-purpose trail.

"The goal is to connect the two parks via an off-street trail and to extend the existing River Walk further east," the letter states, later adding, "Future plans include a segment that will extend underneath the 1st Street Bridge to the north with a connection to the River Center Park. It is anticipated that users will consist of visitors and residents utilizing the many fantastic amenities in the downtown area. These include, but are not limited to, the parks, river take

out/put in areas, restaurants, hot springs, etc. The trail will likely be used during special events as well."

The letter notes that parking options in the trail area are still being discussed.

To begin discussion on the matter on Nov. 12, board member Madeline Bergon, who serves as the town's member on the PATB, noted that when the PATB opted to lower its budget for infrastructure funding, the board had talked about funding bigger projects out of reserves, and asked if there was any risk in doing that.

The risk, PATB Executive Director Jennifer Green responded, is the county not approving the expenditure since anything funding out of reserves has to be approved by both the town and the county.

Bergon noted that the tourism board has healthy reserves and the trail is a chance to do something "impactful."

Board chair Shane Lucero indicated the source of the funding could be split, with some from reserves and some from infrastructure funding.

Board members Lauri Heraty and Steve Wadley both indicated

support for using reserves to fund the request, with Wadley noting the tourism money was there to be spent.

Conversation then turned to how much should be awarded to the project, with Bergon suggesting the full \$40,000.

Green informed the board that the PATB was projected to have \$345,000 in available funds in its reserves, with the balance of that fund projected to be about \$576,000.

Later in the conversation, Green pointed out that the board's stated goal for the reserves is a permanent event venue, with the reserve funding earmarked for a feasibility study and a match for grant funding.

She noted that a portable event stage up for consideration later in the meeting would be some of the research into the permanent event venue.

As conversation wound down, Bergon motioned to approve \$40,000 from reserves for the town's project, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Phillips' letter also explains the project's cost and other funding.

"The Town is currently in the final design stages of the trail and the alignment is set. The Town purchased property in 2017-2018 at the end of Hermosa Street to formalize public access to Cotton Hole Park. The total project budget is \$837,070. Of this, \$400,000 has been secured through a Colorado Parks and Wildlife State Trails grant. The Town is trying to secure local funding for the remaining \$437,070. At this time, staff is budgeting funds from as many places as possible to fund this project. Sources include the Capital Budget, Conservation Trust Funds, and Impact Fee Funds. The County will also be asked to contribute to the project. The Town will construct the trail and associated parking in 2020."

Event stage funding

Later in the meeting, the board discussed the purchase of a portable event stage — something board member Michael Whiting noted would have "tremendous advantages."

Green explained that the stage would allow the PATB to determine the need and the best location for a permanent event venue and would help the organization's odds with any grants toward a permanent facility.

Lucero suggested the larger stage would help give Pagosa Springs' events more "legitimacy."

Whiting motioned to approve an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the stage, with that amount slated to come out of reserves, and the motion passed unanimously.
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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Calls for service over week: 132.

Nov. 11 — Drove vehicle when license suspended, expired license plates, improper registration, operated a vehicle with defective head lamps, San Juan Alley.

Nov. 11 — Warrant arrest, Loma Street.

Nov. 11 — Warrant arrest, County Road 600.

Nov. 12 — Drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, Lewis Street.

Nov. 12 — Drove vehicle without insurance, failed to display registration, Colorado license plate violation, Alpha Drive/U.S. 160.

Nov. 13 — Harassment-insults/taunts/challenges, violation of restraining order, harassment by phone or computer, retaliation against a witness or victim, County Road 600.

Nov. 13 — Agency assist, Laurel Drive/County Road 600.

Nov. 13 — Agency assist, Laurel Drive/County Road 600.

Nov. 14 — Information only, Cloud Cap Avenue/County Road 600.

Nov. 14 — Improper registration, U.S. 160/Boulder Drive.

Nov. 14 — County warrant, Homestead Drive.

Nov. 15 — Information only, County Road 600.

Nov. 15 — All other thefts, USFS 629/USFS 630.

Nov. 15 — First-degree criminal trespass-theft from vehicle, all other thefts, criminal mischief, North Pagosa Boulevard.

Nov. 15 — False reporting to authorities, Aspenglow Boulevard.

Nov. 15 — Second-degree burglary, Susan's Place.

Pagosa Springs Police Department

Calls for service over week: 87.

Nov. 10 — Violation of protection order, South 8th Street.

Nov. 11 — Warrant arrest, South 8th Street.

Nov. 14 — DUI/careless driving/operated vehicle without insurance, U.S. 160.

Nov. 14 — Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Nov. 15 — Animal at large, Hermosa Street.

Nov. 16 — DUI, East Pagosa Street.

Nov. 16 — Speeding 25-39 mph over, San Juan Street.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

Nov. 7 — Aleksandar Dimitrijevic, murder 1-after deliberation-attempted, 70 months community corrections, total fines and costs — \$453.50.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Nov. 13 — Samuel D. Gardner Jr., license plates-expired, total fines and costs — \$120.50.

Nov. 14 — Brook Lynn Johnson,

criminal mischief-under \$300, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$864.50.

Nov. 14 — Zachary James Frank, harassment-repeat telephone calls, 12 months probation, total fines and costs — \$892.50.

Nov. 14 — Megan N. Hageness, disorderly conduct-unreasonable noise, total fines and costs — \$161.

Nov. 15 — Daniel B. Goodwin, seat belt not used, total fines and costs — \$98.50.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge Clayton Buchner

Nov. 6 — David Lafave, disobeyed official traffic device; signal, total fines and costs — \$111.

Nov. 6 — Jeff Haprov, unsafe backing, total fines and costs — \$72.

Nov. 6 — Baylee Beals, following too closely, three points off, total fines and costs — \$146.

Nov. 6 — Heather Baucom, animal running at large prohibited, total fines and costs — \$60.

Nov. 6 — Nicholas Selman, speeding 20-24 mph over prima facie limit, total fines and costs — \$178.

Nov. 6 — James McKinnon, animal running at large prohibited, contempt failure to appear, one day incarceration, total fines and costs — \$45.

Nov. 7 — Juvenile, marijuana prohibited, six months supervised probation, 150 hours community service, total fines and costs — \$320.

Informative.
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2100

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Recording

■ Continued from front missing.

Following the CBI investigation, Sixth Judicial District Attorney Christian Champagne determined there was no criminal wrongdoing on the part of the ACSO.

The 1033 Program is a federal program to transfer, without charge, excess military supplies and equipment to local law enforcement agencies and first responders.

On May 8, the BoCC issued a press release which outlined the following directives that, according to the press release, the BoCC “will” implement:

“1. The BoCC will notify the Colorado State Patrol Department of Public Safety that Archuleta County will no longer participate in the 1033 Program until further notice.

“2. The BoCC will direct the research of the 1033 Program protocols and insure that all conditions and stipulations of the Program are met, including the disposal of equipment and supplies that are no longer needed by Archuleta County.

“3. The BoCC will direct the development and consider adoption of a procedural policy for disposal of unwanted, expired, non-functioning equipment and supplies. This procedural policy will be codified by the BoCC into local law and will include criminal penalties for any violations.

“4. The BoCC will direct that all County Departments adhere to C.R.S. 29-1-506 that designates that an Annual Inventory of Archuleta County assets will be conducted in compliance with Colorado State Law. In addition, the BoCC will encourage all elected officials, including the Sheriff’s Office, to participate in the Annual Inventory of Archuleta County assets.

“5. The BoCC will direct the Archuleta County Treasurer, Clerk and Recorder, Sheriff, and Assessor to furnish copies of any and all accounting, administrative, financial, recorded, or assessment records to the head of the Archuleta County Finance Department, as required by C.R.S. 30-11-121.”

Open records request

On May 9, attorney Matthew H. Roane filed a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) request for a copy of the May 6 executive session recording.

On May 13, Roane received a letter from Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder Kristy Archuleta, who stated she was denying Roane’s request pursuant to Colorado state statutes regarding the BoCC not consenting to release the tape and attorney/client privilege, the attorney work product privilege and/or the deliberative process privilege.

According to Roane, based on the state statutes that Archuleta cited as reasons not to release the recording, she then filed a complaint, as required, which named Roane as the respondent.

On Oct. 14, Wilson issued a court order.

Wilson wrote, “the Court finds that sufficient grounds exist to support a reasonable belief that the BoCC engaged in discussions at the executive session that are not protected by CRS 24-72-204 ...” and ordered the county clerk to issue a copy of the recording, under seal, within 14 days for the court to review.

Walmart

■ Continued from front

The real property — the building and the land it sits on — is valued at about \$7.4 million, with about \$165,000 in taxes paid per year to Archuleta County. In 2018, the real property taxes were about \$161,000. “So, where the personal property went down, which makes sense, be-

cause you have depreciation on personal property, their real estate taxes went up,” Woodruff said, noting that most people’s real estate taxes will be higher in 2019 in Archuleta County.

Woodruff explained that, typically, every year, a local business or two will protest the valuation of their personal property in Archuleta

County. “It is still very early on in the case and the County is still assessing Walmart’s arguments,” Weaver wrote. “It appears Walmart wants to consolidate all the cases across Colorado into one case, and Archuleta County will strongly object to any such consolidation.”

“The purpose of the meeting is to talk about the appointment, the board member’s responsibilities and to see what, if any, interest there is from the various boards,” Phillips wrote in her announcement of the work session.

That work session is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 25, at Town Hall.

“Note that no decisions will be made in this meeting but we hope to get consensus on one individual who you all feel can represent you on the URA Board. We will then ask each entity to formally appoint that person by resolution at your next following meeting,” Phillips wrote.

Phillips clarified to The SUN that more than one work session may be required before the boards can come to a consensus depending on what additional information the boards require.

via letters of interest and a public process, Town Manager Andrea Phillips explained on Nov. 5.

Further details on filling the final position have not been determined yet, Phillips told The SUN Tuesday.

The council was appointed as part of the Nov. 5 resolution.

Another of the URA commissioners was appointed Tuesday afternoon, with the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners opting to appoint Assessor Natalie Woodruff to a one-year term on the URA board.

To help the special districts determine who might be interested in serving as the one person collectively appointed by the 10 districts, the town set up a work session for next Monday.

Phillips explained that the aim of the work session is to move the discussion forward and ideally help appoint the URAs commissioners by

that county departments follow the county’s procurement policy.

“Another thing that we could do, again, is adopt the procurement policy as an actual code, ‘cause then it’s a local law and any property that they receive would have to be disposed of pursuant to the code,” said Weaver.

Wall and Wadley expressed concern that sheriff’s deputies had been issued 1033 items for personal use after the sheriff’s department had kept the items for at least one year, which was allowed under the 1033 contract.

Wall said he’d like to see a code change that focused on the disposal of county items.

“If you gear it towards the disposal of assets specifically, because that to me, as a manager, I always felt like that’s our integrity. We don’t take things home, we don’t use the public’s equipment, we don’t make things our own, that’s just a hard, fast rule. There is no room for wiggle room on that. Now, say someone uses a fax machine at work, I don’t care, but somebody decides to take home equipment, I don’t care if it’s a hammer, at the end of the day, it’s theft,” said Wall.

“We still gotta have accountability on what property came to the county and how it’s being disposed of,” Wadley said. “I don’t think we can tacitly say its OK for people to sell something on a garage sale site and keep the money.”

Weaver suggested specifics for a policy update concerning disposal of county items.

“Anything, whether it comes from a grant, paid for by taxpayers, given freely by the federal government, we’ve included all that,” Weaver said, explaining that anything a public official receives through a federal program would have to be disposed of pursuant to the code.

Maez explained that he had previously asked Sheriff Rich Valdez for an inventory of all 1033 items and Valdez said no, citing that there was still an open investigation about those items.

“I mean, we can ask again to do an inventory, saying, ‘Well you objected because you didn’t want to move [the items] because it’s under investigation. [The] investigation is now done,’ Weaver said, adding, “And then we can say to the public, we asked for an inventory and the sheriff said no, and if you want to know why, you can go ask the sheriff.”

Maez added he wanted a full inventory of 1033 items so the commissioners could be accountable to the public.

“We do need to get an answer to the public and I think that’s our responsibility as commissioners,” Maez said.

During the executive session, a county staff member walked in and cautioned the group to keep their voices down, as there were members of the ACSO in the building.

“You guys need to talk a little quieter cause there’s a bunch of sheriff’s guys right out the door here,” the staff member said.

Wall offered the idea of putting out a press release.

“One of the things I thought about, if you adopted some kind of action plan that Todd could articulate ... Part of the action plan, you can notify the federal government

that the BoCC will not participate in the 1033 program until further notice ... You would investigate the 1033 procedural protocols to ensure that all the conditions and stipulations in the disposal of 1033 equipment have been followed and then finally, the county will follow the code ... for all inventory [in] compliance of state law, including the sheriff if he chooses to participate or comply,” Wall said, adding, “That might be a good thing. I think that would tell the public, ‘Hey, we take this stuff serious.’”

Weaver stated he thought Wall’s idea to release an action plan was a good one, and noted that he and Wall could put a draft together in the upcoming days.

“I think we have the opportunity now ... [to] try to fix the relationship between the BoCC and other elected

officials, particularly the sheriff’s [office],” Schaaf said.

In September, the ACSO completed its inventory of all 1033 items and submitted it to the BoCC and the county attorney.

In September, Maez and Wadley both confirmed they received the inventory and stated in separate interviews they were satisfied with the current status of the 1033 Program, in which the ACSO is only acquiring items that fill an immediate need to the county.

Exchange

■ Continued from front modified.

According to the Forest Service, the land exchange would improve “severe winter range,” provide a crucial migration corridor for elk and mule deer, as well as secure more public access for motorized use in the Valle Seco area.

“Currently, only two large areas exist that provide severe winter range within the Pagosa Ranger District: the Valle Seco area and the Chimney Rock National Monument area,” the Forest Service’s press release explains. “These areas are valuable because they provide more forage and remote habitat to escape human disturbances. The land exchange would also secure legal access on National Forest System Road 653 (Valle Seco Road), providing seasonal motorized access to National Forest System lands south of the parcel.”

Additionally, the proposal includes the modification of the CRA boundaries in the Turkey Creek and South San Juan Adjacent CRAs.

“The proposal would also allow the Forest Service to dispose of a 20-acre parcel that is completely surrounded by private land and has no legal public access, as well as dispose of seven special use authorizations and one grazing permit,” the press release states. “Approximately 26 acres within two suitable Wild and Scenic River corridors would be exchanged for a 20-acre parcel within one of the same corridors. The exchange would not impact the agency’s recommendation to Congress regarding eligibility for formal designation.”

According to a scoping letter from Pagosa Ranger District Ranger Kevin Khung, the San Juan National Forest is conducting public scoping to gather input for the early phases of planning for the land exchange proposal.

Input is being asked for so that a “thorough environmental analysis

Lodging

■ Continued from front

while county collections were up 59.36 percent, or \$17,231.66.

The town brought in \$144,195 in the first quarter and the county brought in \$46,261, totaling \$190,456, which was 7.67 percent more than was collected in 2018.

In the second quarter, the town collected \$156,795, with that quarter’s collections being up 8.46 percent over 2018. The county collected \$45,483 in the quarter, which was 18.90 percent less than in 2018.

Second-quarter collections totaled \$202,278, which was .82 percent higher than 2018.

Green’s October report for the Pagosa Springs Town Council notes that the town’s third-quarter collections — \$233,705 — reflect an 11.73 percent increase over 2018.

Green’s report states, “August 2019 reflects a huge 17.71% increase over

Hacking

■ Continued from front

PSMC’s edge device is part of a larger case involving other businesses throughout the country that were hacked in the same manner.

“While Russian hackers did access PSMC’s edge device, due to other security measures in place, the hackers were unable to move past PSMC’s firewall so there was no breach of any other PSMC IT infrastructure and there was no breach of any PSMC data (which means no breach of patient, financial or any other data),” the press release states.

According to the FBI, the press release explains, the hackers identified a vulnerability in a particular

router developed by Cisco, with that vulnerability not identified by Cisco until several months later.

“The hackers essentially cast a wide net around the world to identify specific Cisco routers. Next, the hackers employed what is known as an Advanced Persistent Threat and attempted to repeatedly and secretly login to the identified Cisco routers,” the release explains.

The FBI confirmed to PSMC that Russian hackers identified PSMC’s Cisco router in October of 2017 and cracked the router’s password in March of 2018.

At the time of the hacking, PSMC’s IT was outsourced to and managed by Synoptek, a national company

that provides managed IT services.

“Synoptek is working with the FBI to provide its IT logs and hardware configurations to assist the FBI in its pursuit of the criminal hackers,” the press release explains.

However, prior to learning of the hacking, PSMC had already increased many of its IT security defenses, including replacing all Cisco routers, the press release explains.

“Again, because of other security measures in place, hackers were not able to move beyond the Cisco router, so there was no breach of any other IT infrastructure and no breach of any PSMC data, including patient data,” the press release concludes.

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posed budget states. “The County’s portion of the lodger’s tax is estimated to be about \$273,500 in 2020, a 10.1% increase over the 2019 estimated year end amount.”

The budget document also points to factors that could lead to continued increases in the collections: “Increased regulation and monitoring of vacation rentals in both the Town limits and in Archuleta County, as well as hotels undergoing renovations, should result in additional lodging tax proceeds.”

Including a grant from the Colorado Tourism Office for the marketing of the Colorado Historic Hot Springs Loop and other miscellaneous revenue, the total revenue for the Lodger’s Tax Fund is projected to be \$985,000 in 2020.

The Lodger’s Tax Fund is expended by the Pagosa Area Tourism Board.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57154>.

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Comments should be submitted to: San Juan National Forest, Attn: Becca Smith, P.O. Box 310, Pagosa Springs CO 81147.

Khung notes that there will be more opportunities for public involvement on the analysis, but early participation is encouraged.

Those who make comments will be considered part of the public record and available for public inspection. This includes names and addresses of those who comment, Khung notes.

Khung also directs those who would like more information to call Smith at 264-2268.

Those who submit comments anonymously will be accepted and considered, but those anonymous parties will not be put on a mailing list for the project to receive more information.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57154>.

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2018, or \$11,468. September 2019 reflects a 3.39%, or \$2,257.”

Third-quarter collections have increased more than 200 percent for the town since 2007, Green’s report shows.

Green noted in an email to The SUN that the fire situation was significantly different in 2019 as compared to 2018, which may be a factor in the increase.

The county’s third-quarter data was not available by press time Wednesday.

2020 projections

2019’s increases over the prior year have led to assumptions that collections will continue to rise in 2020.

“For 2020, the Town’s portion of the lodger’s tax is expected to reach approximately \$665,000. This represents a 1.5% increase over 2019 estimated year end,” the town’s pro-

Safety (CDPS) Public Information Officer Patricia Billing clarified parts of the 1033 contract CDPS has with the ACSO that relate to selling items issued for personal use.

“Per the agreement that law enforcement agencies sign, they must request materials for a justified law enforcement purpose and with the intent of using those materials, and not with the intent of selling, trading or giving away those materials. However, there are some perishable goods that, after agencies have used them, they can dispose of those however they see fit within local and state laws,” Billinger wrote in an email.

She added in a later interview, “Someone selling a used piece of clothing or a backpack that had been obtained through the program is not necessarily a violation of the rules.”

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Broadband grant application to go through appeal process on Dec. 4

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DoRA) broadband grant application for \$466,000 submitted by the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office was recently denied; however, the Colorado Broadband Deployment Board will have a hearing regarding an appeal for that grant application on Dec. 4.

The grant would contribute a portion of a total \$717,000 project which includes matching funds from the Archuleta County Broadband Fund, Visionary Communications and Hinsdale County.

These funds would enable Visionary Communications to install six fixed wireless towers in Archuleta and Hinsdale counties.

According to Archuleta County Broadband Services Communications Manager Jason Cox, the Colorado Broadband Deployment Board initially reviewed all the grant applications received on Oct. 11.

The board took eight hours to review 20 applications submitted, Cox explained.

The initial application from the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office was denied because the board felt like one criterion had not been met for the grant, Cox explained.

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

"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 its initial application, the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office, along with Visionary Communications, provided screenshots of areas that would not receive sufficient service by utilizing various Internet service providers' (ISP) websites to validate the information, Cox noted.

"We were kind of frustrated," Cox said. "We validated all of these by hand."

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."

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

"They approved our appeal for a hearing," Cox said, adding that Dec. 4 will be the day of the hearing for the appeal.

If, following the appeal hearing, the Colorado Broadband Deployment Board determines the grant application is worthy of receiving the funds, the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office and Visionary Communications, would receive the grant funds in January, Cox explained.

Part of the reason why the entire process takes so long is because the grant application process involves a response period, Cox explained, adding that this is a time where

other ISPs can look at the applications and make a protest or make a public comment regarding the validity of the coverage questions in the applications.

In the Archuleta County Broadband Services Management Office's application, Cox noted that not one ISP levied a protest.

"For us, again, it was the first time through, so we hadn't scrutinized it at this level," he said.

In regard to the appeal, Cox explained that he believes that the application is in "really good shape."

"Because, essentially, with what they said our issue was that these addresses were already served, what we have put together are the resources to say, 'These are not served,'" Cox said.

However, Cox noted that he understands why the grant application was initially denied.

"If you were reviewing 20 applications in eight hours as a board, you're looking for any flaw," he said.

However, despite having to go through the appeal process, Cox reiterated that the project will be a "big win" for the community.

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Archuleta County sheriff training at FBI academy

By John Finefrock
Staff Writer

Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez is about halfway done with the FBI National Academy, a 10-week program in leadership, law enforcement communication, forensic science and terrorism held in Quantico, Va.

Participation in the program is by invitation only and Valdez explained he was nominated to the academy by a Colorado FBI agent.

According to Valdez, only about 1 percent of law enforcement officers nationwide make it into the program.

In addition to the nomination requirements, there are also physical requirements just to qualify for the academy, including running a mile in under 10 minutes. Valdez reported his qualifying mile time was 6 minutes, 58 seconds and is getting faster at the academy.

Valdez explained the FBI recognizes smaller law enforcement agencies like the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office as its partners throughout the country.

"The FBI recognizes that they can't do it without the local departments. Because we're the boots on the ground, we're the ones that are out there with the com-

munity, we know the community," Valdez said, adding, "They know that they need our help, recognizing that, they're like, 'What can we do to help you?' So, in return they put these trainings on to help give us the best skills, training and education that we can bring back to our organizations so we can be better leaders moving forward."

Valdez noted that in addition to law enforcement personnel from the United States, he is also in the company of law enforcement officials from Italy, Romania, Switzerland, New Zealand and Finland, among others.

Valdez stated he's learning a lot

about leadership and implementing best practices at his department and will have a few tools of the trade to bring back to Archuleta County.

He added the program is stressing the importance of social media sites like Twitter to relay information to the public and also to use as a recruiting tool.

Upon completion of the program, Valdez will earn 17 credits toward his master's degree.

Valdez explained that, in addition to the leadership, law and physical training he's receiving, it's also been a fantastic opportunity to network with other law enforcement personnel nationwide and internationally.

Asked if he's enjoying spending time on the East Coast or if he's missing Archuleta County, Valdez replied, "It's not home."

Valdez is on track to graduate from the FBI National Academy on Dec. 20.

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Nov. 21
Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, Nov. 25
Pagosa Springs Urban Renewal Authority discussion. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.
Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Exploratory Subcommittee meeting. 4 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Tuesday, Nov. 26
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Town Planning Commission, Board of Adjustments and Design Review Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, Dec. 2
Combined Dispatch Executive Management board meeting. 9:30 a.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center board room, 95 S.

Pagosa Blvd.
Tuesday, Dec. 3
Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Dec. 4-8
Archuleta School District 50 Joint Board of Education Notice of Gathering. The board will be traveling to Colorado Springs to attend the annual Colorado Association of School Boards conference.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
San Juan Water Conservancy District meeting. 5 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5.
Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular board meeting. 5:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce conference room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Monday, Dec. 9
Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors regular meeting. 5 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.
CSU Extension Advisory Board meeting. 11:30 a.m., CSU Extension office, 344 U.S. 84.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

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

Archuleta School District Board of Education work session and regular meeting. 5 p.m. work session, 6 p.m. regular meeting, Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board meeting. 4:30 p.m., Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors meeting and Board of Trustees of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund regular meeting. 6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

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

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Snow expected today and tomorrow locally and on Wolf Creek Pass

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Some snow is on the horizon for Pagosa Country, with snow showers expected today and tomorrow, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

The NWS notes that there is an 80 percent chance of snow showers today, which drops to 40 percent as the day goes on; that 40 percent chance continues on throughout tonight.

On Friday, the NWS projects additional snow, this time only a 20 percent chance of snow showers. However, by Saturday and Sunday, temperatures are expected to be in the mid-40s with sunny skies.

On Wolf Creek Pass, the NWS

notes that there is a 90 percent chance today of heavy snow; that total decreases to 40 percent continues on throughout tonight.

For Wolf Creek Pass Friday, there is a 30 percent chance of snow, with Saturday being sunny with a high of 32 degrees.

Water report

According to a press release from Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District Manager Justin Ramsey, only two local lakes have seen a change in levels since last week.

Hatcher Lake remains at 27 inches from full, Stevens Lake is still 37 inches from full and Lake Pagosa is still 4 inches from full.

Village Lake is currently 8 inches from full, or 96.3 percent full. Last

week it was 10 inches from full.

Lake Forest is 13 inches from full, or 90.15 percent full. Last week it was 12 inches from full.

Cumulative diversion flows have dropped from 6 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 4.5 cfs this week; the West Fork diversion is still adding 3 cfs and the Four Mile diversion is still adding 1.5 cfs, but the San Juan diversion has been turned off, according to Ramsey.

"We turned it off," Ramsey said. "We're not using the San Juan Plant anymore. We only use that during peak flows."

From Nov. 8 through Nov. 14 of this year, water production totaled 9.77 million gallons, with the Snowball water treatment plant producing 3.55 million gallons and

the Hatcher water treatment plant producing 6.22 million gallons.

In that same time frame last year, water production was listed at 9.08 million gallons.

From Nov. 1 through Nov. 7 of this year, water production totaled 9.60 million gallons.

River report

As of Nov. 20, the San Juan River had a reported flow of 56.9 cfs, below the average for Nov. 20 of 89 cfs, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The lowest flow for Nov. 20 came in 1957 when the river had a reported flow of 35 cfs; the highest came in 1987 when the river had a reported flow of 418 cfs.

chris@pagosasun.com

County commissioners hire vacation rental compliance firm, extend legal lot status deadline

By John Finerock
Staff Writer

At its regular meeting on Nov. 19, the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) voted to hire an outside firm to help manage the county's short-term rental (STR) program and extended the deadline to apply for legal lot status for improperly divided parcels under 35 acres, among other things.

The BoCC voted unanimously to hire LODGINGRevs, a company that, according to the proposal to the county, offers "Short-Term Vacation Rental Compliance, Hotline & Registration/Permitting" services and is based in Durango.

According to LODGINGRevs' proposal, included with the meetings agenda, the "implementation

costs" for the program are about \$4,500 and the monthly fees are about \$2,000.

The software will help streamline the permitting process (the county has a backlog of about six months to receive a new STR permit) and has a rigorous compliance component that scans if homeowners are advertising to rent their homes out without an Archuleta County STR permit.

The company also offers a 24/7 hotline to help field complaints from local residents.

County Administrator Scott Wall and Development Services Director Brad Callender expressed support for the BoCC hiring the company prior to the vote.

A LODGINGRevs rep told The SUN in a phone interview Wednesday that the system should go live

in Archuleta County in the next six to eight weeks.

Deadline to apply for legal lot status extended

The BoCC also voted to extend the deadline for residents to apply for legal lot status for improperly divided parcels of less than 35 acres.

"It's our job to help people solve problems," said Commissioner Steve Wadley, noting that some residents told him they were scrambling to meet the deadline, adding, "You know, we can't extend this forever, and this was a pretty generous offer on the county's part."

The commissioners voted unanimously to extend the deadline to apply for legal lot status for improperly divided parcels to May

31, 2020.

Other business

At the meeting, the BoCC also:

- Voted to appoint Lisa Vail and Timothy Vail to the Archuleta County Fair Board.

- Adopted a resolution closing all county offices on Dec. 19 from 11:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. so that county employees can attend the county's holiday luncheon.

- Approved a Department of Local Affairs grant application that would fund half of the remaining courthouse design costs and other related professional services.

The BoCC's next regular meeting is on Dec. 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the commissioners' meeting room at 398 Lewis St.

john@pagosasun.com

Pile burns planned for Pagosa Ranger District

By Esther Godson
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Ranger District is planning to burn slash piles this week.

Piles were generated from forest thinning, timber sales and fuels-reduction projects in areas targeted to reduce wildfire hazards to nearby private residences and other infrastructure.

Although burning could continue through the winter, these activities should not affect public

access or use of the forest. Operations typically take place after significant precipitation events and firefighters will closely monitor pile-burning activities.

Pile burning will take place in the following locations:

- Turkey Springs Forest Service Road No. 629, Cabezon Canyon (Forest Service land adjacent to County Road 917). Smoke may be visible from U.S. 160, Colo. 151 and County Road 600.

- Colo. 151 area north of Southern Ute land. Smoke may be visible

from Colo. 151 and U.S. 160.

Prescribed fire smoke may affect your health. For more information, please visit www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health.

For additional information on Pagosa Springs area pile burns,

please contact the Pagosa Ranger District Office at 264-1541.

For information on prescribed burns, wildfires and fire restrictions on the San Juan National Forest, call 247-4874 or visit the Forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan/.

Medicare and Social Security increases and revised nursing home regulations

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 trained Senior Medicare Patrol and State Health Insurance Assistance Program counselor. Information on the many aging and care concerns will be included here.

Last week, the Social Security Administration announced the 2020 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for benefits, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services increased the 2020 premiums and deductibles for Part B. The COLA will be 1.6 percent, or \$1.60 for every \$100 of Social Security benefits. The standard Part B premium will increase from \$135.50 to \$144.60, or a 6.7 percent increase. The deductible for Part B will change from \$185 to \$198, or a 7 percent increase.

For some fixed-income Medicare beneficiaries with limited assets, not counting a residence or one vehicle per person, help with premiums is available. The county Department of Human Services takes applications for Part B premium help, otherwise known as the Medicare Savings Program.

Phase 3 of revised nursing home regulations

Nov. 28 is the final date for implementing the revised nursing home regulations, initiated with Phase 1 in 2016. Phase 3 includes rules for new programs, such as the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) program and compliance, ethics and training programs. In another change, nursing homes must create an infection preventionist role for at least one person, with participation in the quality assessment and assurance committee. More details are available online.

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

Park Avenue gas leak takes hours to repair

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A main gas line on Park Avenue was accidentally struck during construction on Nov. 15, prompting a nearly four-hour repair, according to Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) Deputy Chief Karn Macht.

The incident was caused when a backhoe worker was working on a sewer line and struck a 4-inch main gas line around 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 15, Macht explained.

The break was a "1- or 2-inch slice" in the line, Macht described. The main was fixed by 8:14 p.m. that night, Macht added later.

"Because it's a main feeder line, the concern was clamping off and shutting off that line would

discontinue service to, Black Hills estimated, about 1,000 homes," he said. "In order to keep people from not losing heat, what they did was they did a bypass. So, they had to dig a trench on both sides of the split and then do a bypass before they could mitigate it."

According to Macht, immediate neighbors to the line break had to be evacuated, but the surrounding area homes had the PFPD putting shelter in place, if necessary.

"Even though there was a pretty heavy smell of mercaptan, it wasn't actually an explosive gas at that point," he said.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Sports



SUN photo/Chris Mannara

Two Pirate soccer players earned all-conference honors for their contributions on the pitch this season. Will Villalobos, left, earned first-team all-conference honors and E.J. Monterroso, right, earned second-team all-conference.



SUN photo/Chris Mannara

Two Lady Pirate seniors earned postseason honors for their work on the volleyball court this season. Elsa Lindner, left, earned honorable mention all-conference honors for the Intermountain League and Teagan Stretton, right, earned second-team all-conference honors.



Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Paden Bailey

Football



Favorite subject: Math
Comments from PSHS football coaching staff: "We would like to nominate Paden Bailey for this week's triple impact athlete of the week. Words can't express the impact that this individual has had, not only on the high school football team, but on the entire Pagosa Springs High School as well. Paden is and always has been a leader, making those around him feel valued and inspiring them to improve as an athlete and a person. As a freshman and sophomore,

even the upperclassmen looked up to him. He helped build the football program by sharing his love of the game with others. On the field, Paden demonstrated hard work and dependability. He was the 'playmaker'; we wanted to put the ball in his hands. Time after time, he kept a drive going by giving second effort and making big plays when needed. It has been an honor to coach Paden. He is loved and respected by his teammates, but most of all by his coaches. Paden, we appreciate you and will miss you."

RECREATION NEWS AND COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Youth activities, classes and programs offered

By Darren Lewis
 SUN Columnist

The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Dec. 20 for youth basketball ages 9-12.

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

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

Winter recreation arts and crafts class

Registrations are being accepted through Nov. 22 for an arts and crafts class held at the Community Center.

Registration can be completed at the Community Center.

The class is for ages 9-13 and class size is limited. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. This class is a three-week session running from Dec. 3 through Dec. 19.

The cost of the class is \$25 for the three-week session.

Time 4 Tots registration

Time 4 Tots is a new program offering toddlers ages 2-3 time to socialize and participate in fun hands-on activities. Parents or guardians must be present and involved. We will have singing, music, reading, crafts and plenty

of free play.

Classes are available Mondays from 11 a.m. to noon or Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Monday classes will run Jan. 6, 2020, through Feb. 10, 2020. Tuesday classes will run Jan. 7, 2020, through Feb. 4, 2020. The cost is \$20 for the class.

After the Bell program

This is a new after-school program designed for kids ages 9-12 to come to the Community Center gym and participate in different physical educational games. We will be burning off some energy

■ See Recreation A12

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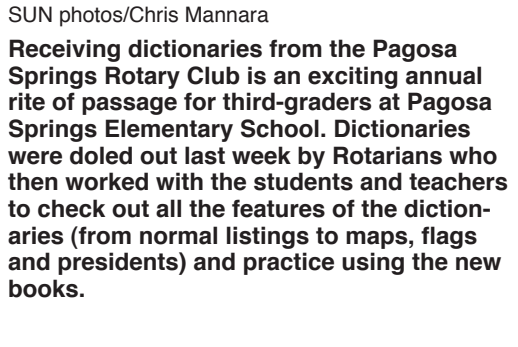
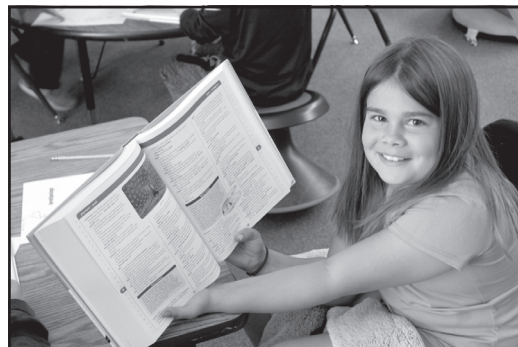
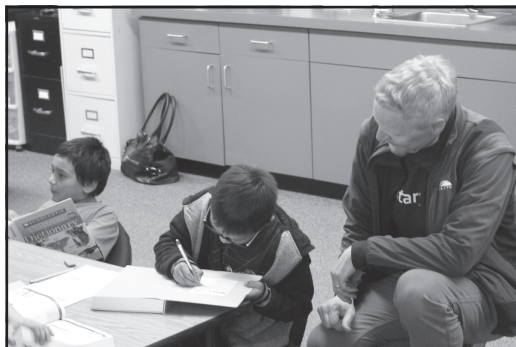
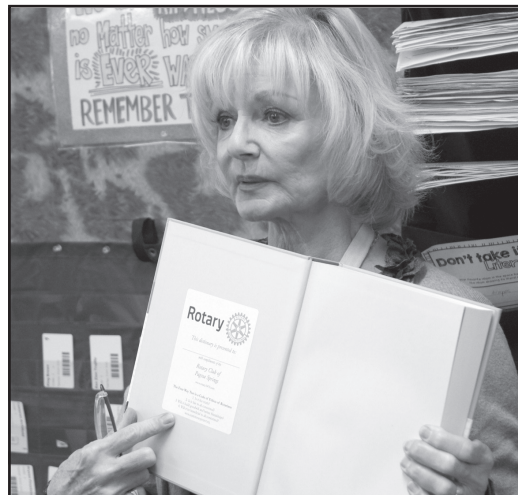
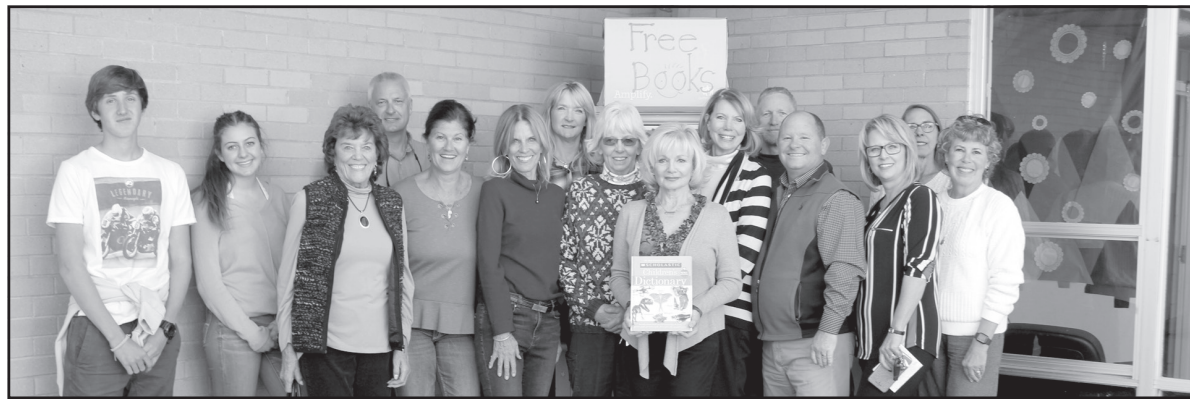
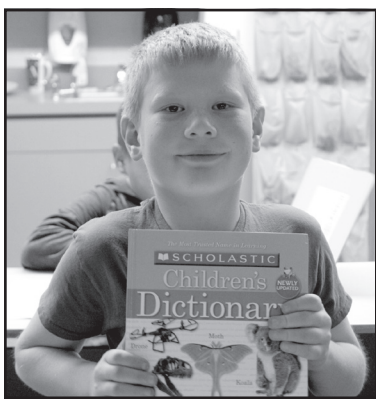
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Education



SUN photos/Chris Mannara
Receiving dictionaries from the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club is an exciting annual rite of passage for third-graders at Pagosa Springs Elementary School. Dictionaries were doled out last week by Rotarians who then worked with the students and teachers to check out all the features of the dictionaries (from normal listings to maps, flags and presidents) and practice using the new books.

Recreation

Continued from A11
 after a long week of school.

The program runs Jan. 10, 2020, through Feb. 7, 2020. The program will be held every Friday from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center.

Also, if interested, bus 17 stops at the Community Center for those elementary students participating in the program.

The cost is \$20 for all five Fridays involved. Deadline for registering for this program is Jan. 8, 2020.

Open Gymnastic Gym Time

Open Gymnastic Gym Time is to 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.

The open gym is for ages 5 and older. Younger children are allowed with parents.

Open gym will be held Fridays, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Nov. 22, and Dec. 6 and 13, in the Pagosa Springs Middle School mat room.

The gym is open to children ages 5 and older, with younger children allowed with parent.

Registration/waiver is taken by the instructor at class time. The cost is \$5 per session.

Fitness room

The fitness room is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The cost is \$2 per day, \$10 per month or \$80 per year.

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*"Blow, blow, thou winter wind
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 As man's ingratitude;
 Thy tooth is not so keen,
 Because thou art not seen,
 Although thy breath be rude."*

Ingratitude is as harsh as the winter wind. In Luke 17 Jesus healed ten lepers. One, a Samaritan, came back praising God. He threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him. Jesus asked, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" Possibly some wanted to get home to their family as fast as possible. Others may have wanted to go to the priest so he could verify they were clean and could return to society.

They may have had good reasons for leaving quickly but there is always time to be thankful.
 Thanksgiving is a good time to remind us to be thankful every day. Let us be thankful daily, to God and those we encounter. Thanksgiving leads to "thanks" living.
 -Dorman Diller

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School district to look into HVAC and fire alarm upgrades, discusses superintendent search

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

An engineer will be hired by Archuleta School District (ASD) to look into specific costs for HVAC and fire alarm upgrades at Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) in an effort to potentially secure a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant.

At a special meeting of the ASD Board of Education (BOE) on Nov. 19, ASD Superintendent Linda Reed explained that a new air-handling unit at PSMS without air conditioning would cost \$656,650.

Reed noted the district did not have a price for an air-handling unit with air conditioning.

An upgrade to the fire alarm system at PSMS would be \$130,000, Reed noted.

"We feel it's important to include that because, as I think we've mentioned in the past, as far as the BEST grant is concerned, safety is their No. 1 priority," she said.

Reed added that ASD Maintenance Director Steve Voorhis indicated that PSMS would be the priority for these projects.

"With the board's permission,

we would like to engage an engineer to give us a quote that we would then take forward and move forward with the BEST grant, because it is a very short timeline," she said.

Reed noted that RTA Architects, which has worked with the district previously, is ready to assist the district in this process.

According to Reed, the BEST grant application process opens on Jan. 2, 2020, and closes on Feb. 24, 2020, at 4 p.m.

"It seems like a no-brainer to me," BOE President Brooks Lindner said. "I don't know why we would not go for this, being a necessary item."

The motion to approve that the district move forward with engaging with an engineer to get more accurate information about the cost and scope of these projects was approved unanimously by the board.

Other business

Also at the special meeting, the board heard a summary of comments from various stakeholder groups as part of the ongoing superintendent search process.

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Colorado consultant, Dr. Norman Ridder, gave a recap to the board of the various comments received from administrative staff, students, parents and teachers within the district.

Comments from these various stakeholder groups addressed things such as the biggest challenges facing ASD and characteristics they would like to see in a new superintendent.

On the agenda for the special meeting, it notes that the board "may move into executive session" pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) 24-6-402(4)(e) and (f) to discuss superintendent interview procedures, determine interview procedures and a compensation package.

Before moving into executive session, Ridder gave reasoning as to why he wanted the board to have the session in the first place.

"I'm asking for the development of the interview questions in executive session because we have internal candidates and I would see that as an unfair advantage," he said.

Later, Ridder added that the interview questions do not have to be "locked in."

"Because it's done in executive session, we're going to have to watch so we don't violate anything there," he said.

As the board was getting ready to enter into executive session, Lindner made a motion that the board move into executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(e) and (f).

That motion was seconded by BOE member Bob Lynch; however, no vote was taken by the board to enter executive session.

"Motion has been moved and seconded. The board will now move into executive session," Lindner said. "I want to repeat what we always do before we go into executive session. There will be no decisions made by the board in executive session. There will be purely discussion and review of information."

According to Colorado Open Meetings Law, the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the board is required to enter executive session. Along with the board and Ridder, Reed also attended the executive session.

Upon returning from executive session, Lindner noted that no decisions were made.
chris@pagosasun.com

Two local movers and shakers work to increase the quality of child care and education in region

By Ursula Hudson
Special to The SUN

Back in 2011, Pagosa Springs local Michelle Carpenter was immersed in the limitations of being an early childhood educator living in an isolated mountain town.

From scarcely fulfilling her child care certification requirements with the limited training options available in the region to attaining her master's in educational leadership and policy studies through the University of Denver's distance program, the obstacles she faced were — and still are — standard for all educators in the rural Southwest.

Through the extensive data Carpenter collected for her master's program capstone project, her research revealed that most early childhood education (ECE) professionals in rural Colorado struggled to retain their certifications due to the shortage of geographically accessible continuing education courses.

All licensed child care providers in the state of Colorado are required to accumulate 15 continuing education hours annually in order to keep their certification. At that time, virtually all trainings had to be attended on the Front Range, in the areas that could most efficiently serve the largest populations of educators and caregivers. ECE workshops and conferences have always been regularly and frequently offered in urban Colorado, and especially inconvenient to those traveling over mountain passes.

With her graduate school findings in hand, Carpenter approached the few active National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) local affiliate members to tackle the dilemma.

Lynne Bridges — Carpenter's mentor, boss at the time, executive director at Seeds of Learning and NAEYC member — didn't need



Lynne Bridges

convincing to join the task force.

Although Bridges had already been creating professional development calendars and training her staff single-handedly for five years by that time, most child care centers lacked qualified staff with the experience needed to offer in-house continuing education courses.

Bridges jumped on board and became one of five founding committee members to analyze the needs of ECE professionals in the region and devise a plan to support them.

The new team took a stab at facing the crisis and developed a plan to organize a one-day continuing education summit. They reached out to all their ECE connections, formed a conglomeration of key experts from around the state to present and hosted the inaugural Southwest Early Childhood Conference on Oct. 8, 2011.

For almost a decade now, the organizing committee has hosted an event that has changed the way that ECE providers retain their certifications in southwest Colorado and northern New Mexico's rural communities. The most recent annual conference was held on



Michelle Carpenter

Oct. 12 on the Fort Lewis College campus in Durango. It featured a full day of topic-based workshops and offered up to 7.5 professional development hours with 20 focus sessions to choose from. Over 175 educators and child care providers attended.

At each conference, presenters travel from across the country to share their expertise and build lasting connections with attendees. The organizers have partnered with a few key sponsors to offer affordable registration fees, scholarships, goodie bags, door prizes, snacks and catered lunch. Each year, a keynote speaker presents an inspiring and motivational speech tied to the topic of "fostering relationships" — an enduring theme for early childhood educators isolated in the rural southwest.

Beyond their commendable leadership in founding the conference, Carpenter and Bridges continue to make other equally significant contributions to quality ECE and child care in the southwest region.

Carpenter is a program consultant for Invest in Kids, training and coaching ECE teachers and directors across the Western Slope.

On top of her ongoing 16-year tenure as executive director at Seeds of Learning Early Care and Education Center here in Pagosa, Bridges consults with nearby learning centers to increase their quality standards and to help obtain NAEYC certification.

■ See Education A14



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Hayward appointed to school board

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

At a special meeting on Nov. 19, the Archuleta School District Board of Education (BOE) appointed Dana Hayward to fill its vacant director of District 4 seat.

The seat had previously been held by Dawn Kolpin.

Hayward was the lone person who submitted a letter of interest to the district for the seat and was subsequently interviewed by the board at the special meeting.

When asked what she felt a school board member's role was in relation to the superintendent, staff and district operation, Hayward explained that she saw the role of a school board member as being a team player.

"I think that the school board as a whole is an advisory committee to administrative direction and works with the community to understand



Dana Hayward

how the school district can best serve students and families within our community," she said, adding that the feedback is then offered back to the administrative team.

In regard to specific issues that she would focus on while on the

board, Hayward commented that the ongoing superintendent search by the district is important.

"I'm also interested in how we can best support both educators and students in our schools to feel healthy and safe and supported, which I think we're doing a good job, but we can always improve upon," she said.

Hayward later added that she was interested to see how the district could provide professional learning to educators that makes them feel valued and that they can grow in their profession.

When asked what strengths she would bring to the board, Hayward explained that she is organized and articulate as well as having an understanding of the district's inner workings due to being a former employee.

"I think that I have a good pulse on what's going on within the district both with faculty and staff as

well as students," she said. "I think that could be a really positive asset."

With Hayward being the only candidate for the seat, the board appointed her to the vacant seat via a unanimous vote.

In an email to The SUN following the meeting, Hayward explained that because she had been an educator within the district for a number of years, she is looking forward to continuing that service as a school board member.

"I hope to contribute fresh perspectives both from a community and educator standpoint as a member of the ASD leadership team," Hayward wrote, adding, "I believe strongly in the power of free, public education and know that school districts that best serve the needs of their students help them grow into informed, active citizens."

chris@pagosasun.com

Education

Continued from A13

On a semi-annual basis, the two of them join forces to offer tuition-free 14-week parenting classes to Pagosa families with young children.

Through collaboration with

their colleagues, these two local movers and shakers took a chance to confront one of the numerous limitations our rural community faces and stepped up to support our local and neighboring ECE professionals. Quality professional

development and the sense of community attained through networking with other colleagues ultimately affects more lives than revealed at first glance. These educators and caregivers are the ones responsible for teaching and nurturing our

youngest generation, who deserve the utmost quality of care.

To learn more about the Fort Lewis Southwest Early Childhood Conference held annually in the fall, please contact Bridges at 264-5513.

Nonprofits participating in Southwest Colorado Gives campaign

By Marcy Mitchell
Special to The SUN

Archuleta County nonprofits have kicked off their Colorado Gives campaign to encourage our local community to "Give Where you Live."

Spearheaded by the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado, Southwest Colorado Gives was created to inspire generosity in our community and increase online giving for local participating nonprofits.

Colorado Gives Day is scheduled this year for Dec. 10, but donors may donate early by scheduling their donation at www.swcogives.org.

This year, seven Archuleta County nonprofits are part of the Southwest Colorado Gives campaign. We are featuring two of those nonprofits this week: Aspire

Medical Services and Education, and Justice Ministries.

Aspire helps every child born in Archuleta County thrive physically, emotionally and socially by the age of 3. Your contribution provides affordable prenatal care, parenting classes, ultrasounds, pregnancy testing, STI testing and childbirth education. Pregnancy and parenting are both rewarding times, yet also can be overwhelming.

This faith-based organization provides honest and practical insights to young parents in a safe and supportive environment. It sees approximately 80 percent of all pregnant women in the county for one or more services.

In addition, Aspire's EQUIP program offers one-on-one mentoring, individual education and group classes to help parents provide a solid foundation for their child to grow emotionally, physi-

cally and socially. Free of charge, the EQUIP program is for both men and women.

Justice Ministries is a faith-based, nonprofit organization that has operated as a nongovernmental human service agency since 2010. It connects those who have a need with those who have a heart willing to serve. The mission statement is "To transform the lives of the abandoned and fatherless through lasting relationships based upon faith, hope, love and the power of Jesus Christ."

Archuleta County has a big gap with services regarding employment, homelessness and basic needs for most transients and the local community. We currently do not have an emergency shelter and enough housing for low-income families and individuals.

Pagosa Springs can sometimes experience cold and hard winters.

While many homeless people relocate to warmer states, some are stranded in our area who are living in tents and their vehicles. Your donation will help provide immediate winter kits for the homeless which includes gloves, hat, hand/feet warmers, blankets and socks.

Colorado Gives day highlights local nonprofits so you can select an organization (or several) that are close to your heart and make an impact in our local community.

Archuleta County participating organizations include: Aspire, Justice Ministries, Rise Above Violence, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association, Habitat for Humanity, Humane Society of Pagosa Springs and Sunlight Adventures. For more information, visit <http://swcogives.org>. Your support strengthens our community. We appreciate your generosity.

Literary Ladies will meet Dec. 6

By Marilyn Stroud
Special to The SUN

The Literary Ladies will meet on Friday, Dec. 6, for their annual holiday potluck at Marilyn Stroud's home at 10:30 a.m.

"A Fatal Grace" by Louise Penny is the second title in her Chief Inspector Armand Gamache mystery series that she received the Agatha Award for Best Novel. Penny has also won multiple awards for the series, including the Agatha (five times), Anthony (five times) and the Canadian Arthur Ellis award (twice). Many of her novels have been on the New York Times Best Seller list.

The mystery takes place in a fictional, rural community near Montreal where the inhabitants are like a large extended family. A female newcomer with her daughter arrives in town and, while attending a curling match on a frozen lake, is electrocuted. Armand Gamache, the investigator, returns to the village to solve the murder. His approach is casual chatting with the locals about the murder and her relationship with her daughter, her mother versus the typical police department interview. The murder takes place during the Christmas holidays.

The book is available at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

www.PagosaSUN.com

Cooperative invests abandoned funds into community projects

By Lonnie Tucker
Special to The SUN

In an effort to make good use of idle funds left abandoned by former members of La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) as unclaimed capital credits, the cooperative's board of directors has awarded 20 new Educational/Special Project Grants totaling \$150,000 to nonprofit organizations in its service territory.

In Archuleta County:

- Archuleta County Education Center — \$10,000 — tuition scholarship program.
- Archuleta School District JT 50 — \$10,000 — Star Lab.
- Chimney Rock Interpretive Association — \$5,000 — vehicle maintenance.

- Foundation for Archuleta Education — \$2,000 — STEM summer camp.
- San Juan Historical Society — Pagosa Museum — \$5,000 — building renovations.
- Upper San Juan Search and Rescue — \$5,000 — equipment upgrades.

Capital credits are LPEA's margins or revenues remaining after all expenses have been paid. Annually, the electricity payments made by members in excess of the cost to provide their electric service is placed into a patronage capital account in each member's name.

When the cooperative is able, capital credits are returned to members. The dollars become "unclaimed" after three years,



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Photos courtesy John Barry III

A crew consisting of 30 people, four of whom were Pagosa Springs locals, recently completed a 56,000-mile world sailing expedition that spanned eight years. Done in intervals, the crew faced various adventures, such as braving the weather and interacting with new cultures and customs.

World sailing expedition completes journey

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

A 56,000-mile world sailing expedition that encompassed eight years and took a team of 30 sailors, including Pagosa Springs locals, ended on Sept. 18.

The journey began on Dec. 16, 2011, as the team onboard the trimaran sailing yacht, *Avalanche*, passed under the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Calif.

It concluded in the exact same spot.

The captain of the ship, John Barry III, explained in an interview that his interest in sailing began at an early age, spurred on by his father.

Barry explained that his parents were immigrants from Ireland and his father came home from work one day with a message.

"He said, 'Listen, I don't necessarily want to teach my kids what poor kids get to learn. I want them to learn what rich kids get to learn,'" Barry said.

Barry and the rest of his family moved to Greenwich, Conn., and his father eventually joined a yacht club.

On a drive home with his father after seeing a slide show of other families' various sailing journeys at the yacht club, Barry explained that his father told him that when he retired he was going to sail around the world, among other things.

Barry added that his father asked him what he was going to do, to which he replied, "I think I'll do the same thing."

"But, he waited too long until he retired and he never did it. So, it became my project," Barry said. So, for Barry, this world sailing expedition was done in part because his father never had the chance to do so.

Among the team, four were from Pagosa, a few were from Durango and a few others were from the East Coast, Barry described.

However, not everyone on the

team had some form of sailing experience, Barry noted.

The ones who did not know how to sail had athletic abilities and some outdoor knowledge, which Barry explained was part of his criteria of who got to be on the team.

"The ocean is the most intense wilderness. It's easy to die out there," Barry described. "All I had to do was teach them how to sail. They were all bright, high energy; they were athletes."

Part of the vetting process for selecting team members involved things such as Barry being able to trust them, being brave and being physically fit.

To complete the journey, the expedition was done in intervals, Barry explained.

"It was a nonstop trip down to Cabo, San Lucas," Barry said of the first leg of the trip. "It was about 1,400 miles."

Throughout the entire journey, *Avalanche* held up very well, Barry noted.

"She's very seaworthy, very strong. I never ever felt that we were in jeopardy on this boat. And we sailed through a couple of horrendous hurricanes and typhoons," he said.

However, that 56,000-mile journey was not just smooth seas as evidenced by an incident that happened in the Southern Ocean in 2017.

The crew was sailing from the north island of New Zealand and wanted to get as far east as possible in French Polynesia, Barry described, adding that was a 3,000-mile trip.

But, due to trade winds and a looming 300-mile-wide hurricane, the crew of the *Avalanche* were forced to make a decision.

The *Avalanche* could not turn around to avoid the hurricane due to 40 mph winds and waves, he explained, adding that the boat was not going to be able to outrun the hurricane.

One of the crew members sug-

gested that, based on computer readings, there was a disintegrating corner of the hurricane, Barry noted.

"He said, 'Let's climb into the hurricane and the aft-trailing corner, get into the eye, and then back out the back of it and climb up into the upper contours and ride those contours all the way to French Polynesia,'" Barry said.

And that was exactly what the *Avalanche* did, Barry described, adding that things weren't so bad until the vessel entered the eye of the storm.

"Waves were coming from 360 degrees, 40-foot waves," he said. "It would throw us in the air and spin us like that. It would leave the water."

Even with moments like that, and looking back on the trip in general, Barry explained that everyone involved was committed from the moment the trip began.

"You have to be," he said. "We're thousands of miles from the nearest land."

There were times when Barry

questioned why he did not do things that normal retired folk do, like play golf, he explained.

"But, for the most part, no, I don't think myself or any of my crew ever mentioned giving up," he said.

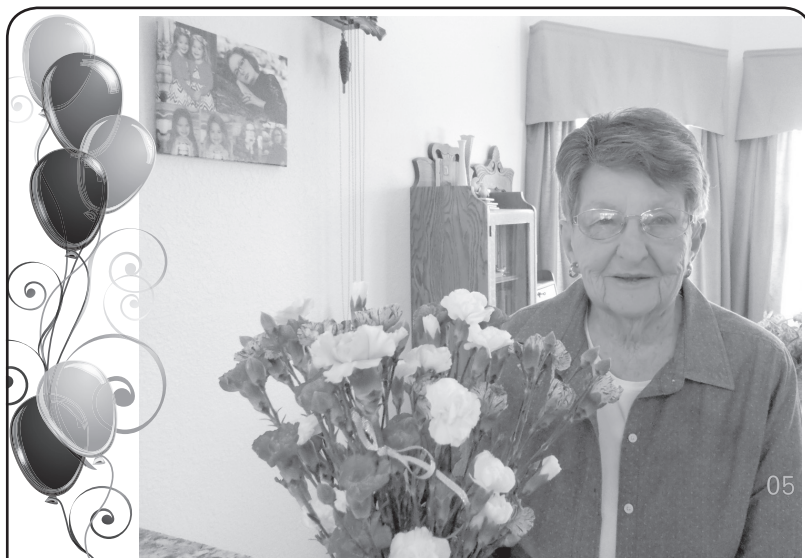
Part of the reason why Barry did not want to give up was because he wanted to fulfill the goal his father didn't have the chance to, but also because he felt a responsibility to his crew as their captain.

Other dangers faced by Barry and the *Avalanche* involved getting frozen in ice inside of a fjord in the Arctic, he described.

One of the most rewarding things about completing the journey was doing it with an all-Colorado crew, Barry noted.

"I started thinking about all the things that we went through — all the trials, the tribulations, the great times, the incredible people that we met," Barry said in describing what he felt as the *Avalanche* crossed the finish line.

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LIBRARY NEWS

In just one year, people visited public libraries more than a billion times

By Carole Howard

SUN Columnist, and the library staff

More than 171 million patrons representing more than half of the nearly 311 million Americans who live within public library service areas visited their local library more than 1.35 billion times in 2016, according to a new study using the latest available statistics.

As well, U.S. public libraries offered half a million more programs in 2016 than the year before and 113 million people attended 5.2 million programs in 2016. Also, the number of electronic materials like audio, video and e-books available through public libraries continued to grow, with libraries offering more than 391 million e-books to their patrons.

The data for these impressive results are collected annually from approximately 9,000 public library systems comprised of more than 17,000 main libraries, branches and bookmobiles in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.

Holiday closure

Your library will be closed Nov. 28-30 for Thanksgiving.

Lifelong Learning lecture

The last talk in the free fall Lifelong Learning lecture series takes place at 5 p.m. today, Nov. 21, when neuroscientist Jean Strahlendorf will discuss dementia and new clinical research that strives to reveal ways to potentially stave off its onset and progression.

Smokey the Bear exhibit

We hope you'll drop by the library to see a special Smokey Bear portrait exhibit celebrating Smokey's 75th birthday on Saturday, Nov. 23, from noon to 5 p.m. and Monday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This exhibit, which is traveling to ranger districts across the country, commemorates the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention and features the artwork of Rudolph Wendelin. He was a Forest Service employee who is the artist behind Smokey Bear.

Beginning in 1944, Wendelin became the full-time artist for the Smokey Bear campaign and was considered Smokey Bear's "caretaker" until his retirement in 1973. Smokey Bear is the longest-running public service advertising campaign in United States history, with the goal of bringing awareness to unwanted, human-caused fires in America.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 22, from 2:30-3:45 p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session where you can enjoy video gaming on Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with your friends and family.

LEGO Club

Kids ages 6-12 are invited to bring your imaginations — LEGOs are provided — this Saturday, Nov. 23, from 11 a.m. to noon for the free LEGO Club.

Tween gaming

Free gaming for fourth through eighth grades is Monday, Nov. 25, from 4 to 5 p.m. Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Teen gaming

Free teen gaming happens on Tuesdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for teens in the sixth through 12th grades. Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Teen role-playing

The free role-playing game for seventh- through 12th-graders takes place next Wednesday, Nov. 27, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

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. 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. No es necesario registrarse.

Adult education

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) accelerated GED course takes place Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 2 to 7 p.m. Come to your library to get help from Mark with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

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 move.

Nov. 27 will be a free play session. Note there will be no story-

time Nov. 23 because of the Smokey Bear exhibit.

Large print

"Blood Sky at Morning" by Jory Sherman is a Shadow Rider western. "Flight of the Hawk: The Plains" by W. Michael Gear is a novel of the American West. "A Good American Family" by David Maraniss tells the story of the author's father who was blacklisted by the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1932. "American Predator" by Maureen Callahan unveils the story of a relentless killer never as famous as Ted Bundy or Jeffrey Dahmer.

Thrillers, mysteries and suspense

"Blue Moon" by Lee Child is a Jack Reacher thriller. "The Family Upstairs" by Lisa Jewell follows a woman who learns her identity at age 25.

Novels

"Find Me" by Andre Aciman is a follow-up to "Call Me by Your Name" that became an Academy Award-winning film.

Books on CD

"Stealth" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington mystery. "Wasteland" by Terry Goodkind is book three of the Children of D'Hara fantasy series. "Olive, Again" by Pulitzer Prize winner Elizabeth Strout returns to the life of Olive Kitteridge. "The Guardians" by John Grisham is a legal mystery. "36 Righteous Men" by Steven Pressfield is a Manning and Duwai thriller. "Child's Play" by Danielle Steel follows three adult children making choices that surprise their mother. "Me" by Elton John is the autobiography of this singer/songwriter. "To the Land of Long Lost Friends" by Alexander McCall Smith is a No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency mystery. "Mosaic" by Michael C. Grumley is a sci-fi story. "Bloody Genius" by John Sanford is a Virgil Flowers mystery. "The Giver of Stars" by Jojo Moyes is based on a true story about women who bring books to people who never have had any.

Nonfiction books on CD

"Help! Someone I Love Has Cancer" by Joel Hughes offers real-life advice from a family who has experienced cancer. "Home Work"

by Julie Andrews is the second installment of the actress's memoirs, this one focusing on her Hollywood years. "Dear Scott, Dear Zelda" contains letters between F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald and a narrative by two scholars. "In Pain" by Travis Rieder is a bioethicist's memoir of opioid dependence after an accident. "The Toxic Parents Survival Guide" by psychologist Bryn Collins helps you free yourself from an emotionally unavailable parent. "Me" by Elton John is the autobiography of this singer/songwriter.

Nonfiction

"For Small Creatures Such as We" by Sasha Sagan explores Earth's marvels and how they provide meaning to our lives. "Slice of Life" by Juliara Jensen tells why it is important to your life to be close to nature. "America's Game" by Jerry Rice and Randy O. Williams celebrates the NFL's first 100 years. "Classic Krakauer" by Jon Krakauer is a collection of 10 essays on wilderness and risk. "Trump vs. China" by Newt Gingrich explores the threat of Communist China to America. "Running with Sherman" by Christopher McDougall is the story of a gentle but badly off rescue donkey who made himself and others better by his racing success. "All the President's Women: Donald Trump and the Making of a Predator" by Barry Levine and Monique El-Faizy looks as far back as Trump's childhood to explore his relationships with women.

Thanks to our donors

For books and materials this week, we thank Codie Wilson, Randall Davis and our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself." — Andy Warhol (1928-1987), American artist, director and producer who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as pop art.

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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Michael Averette
Associate Broker
205-393-0699
Michael.Averette@gmail.com



EXIT REALTY ADVANTAGE PAGOSA
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970-264-0149 www.ExitRealtyPagosa.com

FREE PUBLIC EVENT

Meet the Artist
Friday, Nov. 29 • 4-6 pm

Cheryl Crane
Glass & Mixed Media
Enjoy wine & antipasto!
Live music by Steve Blechschmidt
RAFFLE - Take home an artwork made by Cheryl.
Turkey Feather - handpainted, fused glass. \$160 value.

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Card of Thanks

Pagosa Smiles

I would like to say thank you to Pagosa Smiles for the free veteran care they provided myself and other veterans in this community. They spent hundreds of dollars on dental care for just me alone and can't imagine the hundreds more they gave to other vets over the Veterans Day holiday. Free meals and drinks and discounts are one thing, but the preventative and life saving treatments they provided for free should not go unmentioned.

Karen Jones

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Medicare enrollment help available

By Christina Knoell and Kay Kaylor
Special to The SUN

Medicare is complicated. It is important that you know your rights, options, deadlines, possible penalties and where to find the information you need.

Did you know that assistance is available in Pagosa Springs through the nationwide State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)? Trained and certified Medicare counselors are available by appointment to guide you when dealing with Medicare enrollment, questions and problems.

One of the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (SJBAAA) volunteer Medicare counselors, Katy Dëshler, will offer a free Medicare 101 class Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Ruby Sisson Library to help you get started. The class will start at 10:30 a.m. and will run until about noon. Please call Kay at 264-0501, ext. 1 to reserve your spot because space is limited.

Medicare help has been offered

in Archuleta County at the Senior Center for more than 15 years. SJBAAA is the sponsoring agency for free Medicare counseling services at the Senior Center (the west end of the Ross Aragon Community Center). On most Mondays, called Medicare Monday, counselors are available by appointment. Counseling occurs on additional days during the annual Part C and D Open Enrollment Period, Oct. 15-Dec. 7, and sometimes by phone or appointment on other days.

Please call the phone number above to make an appointment or to ask questions. Some SJBAAA counselors are also trained as Senior Medicare Patrol counselors, and they can help with possible health care fraud, errors and abuse.

Medicare eligibility begins at age 65 unless you are younger and have been on disability for almost two years. Three months before (and until three months after) your birth month you can enroll in Medicare and start making decisions about your options. Some of the questions you need to consider follow:

- Are you eligible for Medicare Part A and Part B? Do you need both?
- Do you have a retirement plan that will work with Medicare?
- Do you want a Medicare supplement (also called Medigap)?
- Would you prefer coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan or cost plan?
- Do you want a Part D drug plan to avoid a monthly penalty? If so, which plan would work best for you? This varies depending on which drugs you take.
- Do you qualify for help with Part B or D premiums?

Generally, you can enroll in Medicare online at www.ssa.gov or by calling the Social Security Administration in Durango, (888) 472-6115. If you are already receiving a Social Security check, you will be automatically enrolled in Part A and Part B, but you will need to enroll in Part D and Part C or supplements yourself. You can also find valuable information at www.medicare.gov.

If you are already on Medicare

and have a Part D drug plan or a Part C supplement, you need to review that plan each year during the Open Enrollment Period, because plan premiums and coverage of drugs change each year. Medicare counselors can help you during that time, or you can go to www.medicare.gov to review your plan.

Also, contact Medicare at (800) 633-4227 if you have not received your new Medicare card and number, since the mailings to beneficiaries have ended.

You also can sign into MyMedicare.gov to see if your card was mailed and, if so, print out an official card.

If you are receiving Social Security disability, you will probably be eligible for Medicare starting 23 months after your disability begins and will have a limited period to enroll in a Part D drug plan. It is important to know all enrollment deadlines to avoid penalties. Also, depending on your income and assets, you may be eligible for Extra Help with drug plans or Medicare Savings Programs for Part B.

SENIOR NEWS

Legal services help coming to Senior Center in January

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.

Yet another use for those pretty cards that you hate to throw away: a Christmas globe

A free one-hour art class will be held on Dec. 12 at 1 p.m.

No art skills are needed. Bring old cards if you have them or use the ones provided. No materials are needed, just come and have fun. We will be learning how to make a globe using 20 identical circles, glue and topping it off with ribbon. This is the perfect craft to teach to any young people who will be visiting with you over the holidays. Instructions will be provided to take home along with your finished globe.

The instructor will be Denise Fisk, former art teacher in Iowa.

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

2019 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, Nov. 21 — Pork posole stew, squash calabacitas, milk, caramelized butternut squash, salad bar and flan.

Friday, Nov. 22 — Turkey, broccoli and rice casserole, snap pea medley, cream of zucchini soup, milk, salad bar and cherry/peach tart.

Monday, Nov. 25 — Chicken tortilla soup, Spanish rice, refried beans, milk, salad bar and snickerdoodle cookies.

Tuesday, Nov. 26 — Lemon baked tilapia, macaroni and cheese, baked tomatoes provencal, milk, salad bar and cherry cream cheese pie.

Wednesday, Nov. 27 — Roasted turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, turkey sausage stuffing, cranberry sauce, milk, salad bar

and pumpkin pie.

Thursday, Nov. 28 — Closed for Thanksgiving.

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.

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

WILLIAM H. DREYER
8114 GLENHEATH STREET
HOUSTON, TX 77061

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 5th day of November 2015, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to:

BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 127 in PAGOSA VISTA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74884,
DOES NOT INCLUDE MH 990012350527
Account Number: R009711
Schedule Number: 569919308001

Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2015-03335
and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC
That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2014

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of WILLIAM H. DREYER for said year 2014.

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 8th day of October 2019, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property; That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 18th day of March 2020, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 24th day of October 2019

/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published November 7, 14 and 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT TAX LIEN SALE AND OF APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF TREASURER'S DEED

To Every Person in Actual Possession or Occupancy of the hereinafter Described Land, Lot or Premises, and to the Person in Whose Name the same was Taxed or Specially Assessed, and to all Persons having Interest of Title of Record in or to the said Premises and To Whom It May Concern, and more especially to:

MIKE MCCAY
P O BOX 1023
PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 8th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to:

MARK S. JESKE

the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:
LOT 558 IN ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD AUGUST 3, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74689
DOES NOT INCLUDE MH 990012350079
Account Number: R015791
Schedule Number: 589316408024
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-02963

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to MARK S. JESKE

That said tax lien sale was made to satisfy the delinquent property (and special assessment) taxes assessed against said property for the year 2013

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of MIKE MCCAY for said year 2013.

That said MARK S. JESKE on the 8th day of October 2019, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to MARK S. JESKE

On the 18th day of March 2020, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 24th day of October 2019

/s/ Elsa P White
Elsa P White, Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published November 7, 14 and 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of THERESA L. MORGAN, Deceased
Case No. 19PR30049

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado on or before March 14, 2020, or the claims may be forever barred.

CLAYTON M. BUCHNER
444 Lewis Street/PO Box 3855
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Published 14, 21 and 28, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE TO ENFORCE SELF-SERVICE FACILITY LEIN

Pursuant to C.R.S. 38-21.5-101 et seq.

DATE OF SALE: 1st Week Nov 14, 2019
2nd Week Nov 21, 2019

Description of Property: That "personal property" stored in Airport Self Storage, 201 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 in:

Unit B20 (White, Tiffany, 2323 Calle Pava, Santa Fe, NM 86505) household goods.

Unit E21 (McKain, Thad, PO Box 975, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147) household goods

Unit RV25 (Lackey, Danny, 1180 Brookshire Dr, Bogart, GA 30622) Dodge truck

Unit RV37 (Youtzy, Tom, 282 Holiday Ave., Pagosa Springs, CO 81147) trailer

DATE OF SALE: December 7, 2019
TIME OF SALE: 9:00 am
TERMS OF SALE: CASH, RESERVED
PLACE OF SALE: Airport Self Storage, 201 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

NAME OF FORECLOSING PARTY: Airport Self Storage

ADDRESS OF FORECLOSING PARTY: 201 County Road 600, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

This sale is held to enforce the rights of Airport Self Storage under a rental agreement.

Executed by: Kristie Baisdon, Resident Manager
Dated: October 29, 2019
Published November 14 and 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

NOTICE OF EXCHANGE PROPOSAL

Valle Seco 2019 Land Exchange

San Juan National Forest
Pagosa Ranger District
Archuleta and Hinsdale Counties, Colorado

Notice is hereby given that the Forest Service (FS), United States Department of Agriculture, is considering an exchange of land with Kelly Warren, Manager, Bootjack Ranch, LLC; David C. Lindner, Trustee and Grantor of the David C. Lindner Trust and the David C. Lindner Dynasty Trust; Robert D. Lindner, Jr., Successor Co-Trustee of the Robert D. Lindner Family Trust; David K. Skidmore, Cynthia A. Sites; and Will C. Beecher, General Partner, Double Springs Partnership Ltd.; acting by and through Western Land Group, Inc., under the authority of the Weeks Act of 1911 (16 U.S.C. 516 et seq.); General Exchange Act of March 20, 1922 (42 Stat. 465, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 485, 486); Federal Land Policy Management Act of October 21, 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716, 1717); Federal Land Exchange Facilitation Act of August 20, 1988 (102 Stat. 1086; 43 U.S.C. 1716).

The lands proposed for inclusion in the land exchange are summarized below. Maps and full legal descriptions are available on the following San Juan National Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/project=57154>.

The lands under the jurisdiction of the FS that are being considered for exchange are located in the following townships described as:

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Archuleta County, Colorado

Township 34 North, Range 1 East, Sections 1, 10, 11

Township 34 North, Range 2 East, Sections 5, 6

Township 36 North, Range 1 West, Sections 1, 13

Township 36 North, Range 1 East, Sections 7, 18

Township 36 North, Range 3 West, Sections 17, 20, 29

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Hinsdale County, Colorado

rado

Township 37 North, Range 3 West, Section 10

All totaling: 472.06 acres, more or less.

The non-Federal lands are described as:

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Archuleta County, Colorado

Township 33 North, Range 1 West, Sections 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Hinsdale County, Colorado

Township 37 North, Range 3 West, Section 10

All totaling: 900 acres, more or less.

Any or all of the above-described lands may be exchanged if the values are equal. If the values are unequal, either party may equalize the values by making a cash payment, not to exceed 25 percent of the value of the lands transferred, or of Federal ownership.

The Forest Service proposes to acquire land with floodplains associated with the Middle Fork Piedra River.

The Forest Service proposes to exchange lands with floodplains associated with Deer Creek, Johnny Creek, San Juan River, White Creek, and Middle Fork Piedra River.

The Federal lands have been segregated from appropriation under the public land laws and mineral laws for a period not to exceed 5 years from the date of the publication of this notice.

Persons claiming such properties or having valid objections to this proposed exchange must file their claims or objections with the District Ranger, Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest, United States Department of Agriculture, PO Box 310, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, within 45 days after the initial date of publication of this notice.

Published November 14, 21, 28 and December 5, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Notice of Public Sale to Enforce Self-Service Facility Lien

Date of Notice: Nov 21 and Nov 28, 2019

Description of Property: That "personal property" stored in High County Mini Storage, 55 Rainbow Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Unit #10, Fehrenbacher, Tye — queen bed, backpack & games

Unit #16, Martinez, Miquel — golf clubs & household goods

Unit #17, Moore, Jeffrey — miscellaneous household

Unit #24, Wilson, Chris — furniture, sporting goods & household goods

Unit #41, Garlinghouse, Bobbie Sue — furniture & household goods

Unit #44, Jones, Jermaine — furniture, sporting goods & household goods

Unit #50, McSwain, Jon — washer & dryer, furniture & household goods

Date of Sale or Disposal: December 7, 2019

Time of Sale or Disposal: 10:00 AM

Terms: Case — reserved

Place of Sale: High County Mini Storage, 55 Rainbow Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Published November 21 and 28, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

ARCHULETA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ORDINANCE 22-2019 — AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING NOISE LEVELS IN UNINCORPORATED ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO

INTRODUCED AND READ ON FIRST READING on the 1st day of October, 2019 and which was published in full on October 10, 2019 in the Pagosa Springs Sun in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado.

ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING on the 12th day of November, 2019 and ordered published by reference to title only with no amendments except the Certification page in the Pagosa Springs Sun in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado.

Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday December 3, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers to take public comment on the 2020 proposed budget for the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District. Copies of the proposed budget are available for public inspection on the Town website and in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall.

Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Pagosa Springs Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday December 3, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers to take public comment on the 2020 proposed budget and capital program for the Town of Pagosa Springs. Copies of the proposed budget and the proposed capital projects programs are available for public inspection on the Town website and in the office of the Town Clerk in the Town Hall.

Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association

Recreation Center Parking Lot Additions

Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association is in the process of finalizing the above listed project constructed by UCAL, Inc. P.O. Box 4247, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81157. Any claims against this project by suppliers, subcontractors, or others should be delivered to the project engineering firm of Davis Engineering Service, Inc. at 188 S. 8th Street, P.O. Box 1208, Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147. All claims shall be delivered prior to November 25, 2019. Any claims received on or after November 25, 2019 shall not be considered. Claim forms can be obtained from Davis Engineering Service, Inc. (Phone 970-264-5055).

Published November 7 and 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Town of Pagosa Springs

has received an application for Annexation and Zoning for property located along Light Plant Road (C.R. 119) also known as Archuleta County Parcel #69924400003 and known as the Fairway Trust Exemption Plat property.

The applicant, BWD, LLC, is requesting annexation of this 15.83-acre parcel into Town boundaries and for the property to be zoned low density residential (R-6).

The stated purpose of this annexation is to subdivide the property to accommodate 10 single family residential lots.

The Planning Commission will conduct public hearings on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 5:30pm to consider recommendations regarding the annexation and zoning applications.

The public hearings will be conducted in Town Hall located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

For more information and anyone wishing to provide comments, please contact the Town Planning Department at 970-264-4151 x221 or at cschultz@pagosapark.com or attend the public hearing. Public comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

Published November 21, 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 to forward 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 Tuesday December 3, 2019 and Second reading on Thursday December 19, 2019. 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 x221.

Public comments will be accepted at all public hearings. Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

The Town of Pagosa Springs Design Review Board

will be considering the Final Design Review Application for the Town's proposed Maintenance Facility expansion located at 703 South 5th Street, at a public hearing scheduled on December 10, 2019 at 5:30pm. The Design Review Board will make a final determination on the proposed project compliance with the Town's development standards. The public hearing will be conducted in Town Hall located at 551 Hot Springs Blvd. The public's input is very important, so please plan on attending and providing comments for the board to consider. Feel free to call the Planning Department at 970-264-4151 x225 with any questions.

Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (District)

is looking for bids for the removal of the existing 100,000 gallon Put Hill welded steel water reservoir and replacement with a 200,000 gallon welded steel reservoir. Bids shall be due by Friday January 17, 2020 and all work must be completed by September 30, 2020. Contact Justin Ramsey at 970-731-7641 or justin@pawsd.org for specifications and details.

Published November 21, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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Town and county snow removal guidelines

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

With snow in the forecast for Pagosa County, local officials are gearing up to remove that snow to allow for safer travel.

Following are snow removal guidelines for residents and business owners in the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County, as provided by each entity.

More information can be found on each entity's website.

Town of Pagosa Springs

The town plows about 30 miles of streets and roads in the winter.

The time required to clear snow and ice from roads varies depending on the conditions, including the storm intensity and duration, water content of the snow, temperature, traffic conditions and time of day. Because of those reasons, the town may not be able to plow or sand roads at the same time each day or on the day of the storm.

This year, the town is anticipating improved "solar gain" on the newly sealcoated and paved roads that should benefit the town's snow removal efforts, according to Public Works Director Martin Schmidt.

The town has adopted a designated snow route with signage, and parking along designated snow route streets is prohibited during snow events. Violators will be fined and/or towed at the owner's expense. The snow route is effective through the last snow event of the season.

Other than streets, the town removes snow from pedestrian infrastructure around town facilities and abutting or adjoining parks and trails owned or leased by the town, provided that such areas are designated by the Pagosa Springs Town Council.

Resident, business owner and snowplowing contractor responsibilities

It is unlawful to push or throw snow onto or across streets or alleys, or to put snow on any public or private property or right of way; snow must be disposed of on your own property.

It is the property or business owner's responsibility to provide snow and ice removal on sidewalks abutting their property within 24 hours of the end of snowfall. This applies when there is an accumulation of 1 inch or more.

Do not use ice melt. Damage from chemical or mechanical removal of snow is the responsibility of the adjoining owner.

Consistent snow removal and mitigating slip hazards without the use of chemicals is the best for the concrete and roads.

Trash carts should be placed in the driveway, a minimum of 5 feet behind the front of the snow berm to minimize the possibility of being knocked over. Trash carts knocked over are the resident's responsibility.

It is the resident's responsibility to remove the snow berm left from street plowing. Reasonable efforts will be made to minimize the berm left behind.

Other information

Do not park along snow routes. Parking problems are compounded by winter snow.

Parking along U.S. 160 between 2 and 6 a.m. is prohibited. This includes through downtown.

Do not attempt to stop a snowplow or obstruct its path. Plows must maintain speed for maximum efficiency.

When approaching a snowplow from the rear, travel a minimum distance of 200 feet, allowing for the scattering of sand and for abrupt movements.

Be patient. Every reasonable effort will be made to keep roadways open, and all available personnel will be on the road during major snow storms.

Ask permission before moving snow onto a neighbor's property.

Those in town with questions concerning snow removal can con-

tact Schmidt at 264-4151, ext. 251.

Archuleta County

The county plows approximately 340 miles of roads in the winter.

County roads are categorized on a priority basis and the roads with higher priorities are plowed first, such as school bus routes. Remaining roads are plowed based on priority and route efficiencies.

Snow-removal crews normally begin clearing roads at 2 a.m., but crews may not clear lower-priority roads the day of the storm. Weekend and extended-shift plowing may take place under the direction of the public works director when deemed appropriate.

Hills are sanded for safety as required.

Typically, plowing operations begin when there is snowfall accumulation in excess of 4 inches. On days without snow, crews will clean up and push back snowbanks as needed.

Under extreme circumstances, county roads may not receive same-day snow removal. Only first-priority roads will be plowed and kept open on excessive snow days.

Schedules may be interrupted or postponed due to unpredictable or unusual weather conditions, emergency situations, safety and resources.

Types of plowing operations

There are usually two types of snow-removal operations.

The first occurs during the storm and consists of passes with the plows to keep the roads open. This includes clearing a path sufficient for two vehicles to pass, and clearing cul-de-sacs enough to allow a vehicle to turn around.

The second performs cleanup and preparation for the next snowfall.

Secondary work begins when the storm subsides and consists of widening the traveled portion of the road, pushing snow back and plowing out wider areas on the roadways.

It may be several days between the first and second plowing.

Driveway and access road snow berms

Snowplowing operations may result in a berm across private driveways or encroachments to county roads. Reasonable efforts will be made to minimize the snow that is deposited in front of driveways, but berm removal is the responsibility of individual property owners.

Public Works Director Robert Perry also cautioned property owners to avoid piling snow on the left side of their driveway (as looking toward from your garage or driveway) to avoid having a larger berm.

Instead, he suggested cutting a notch 3 feet wide from the edge of the road by 30 feet long to minimize the size of the berm left behind by the plow.

Safety concerns

Children playing in the snowbanks left by the plow equipment is a major safety concern. Machines can be pushing back snowbanks at any time. Avoid tragedies and inform your children that building snow caves and playing on the berms is dangerous.

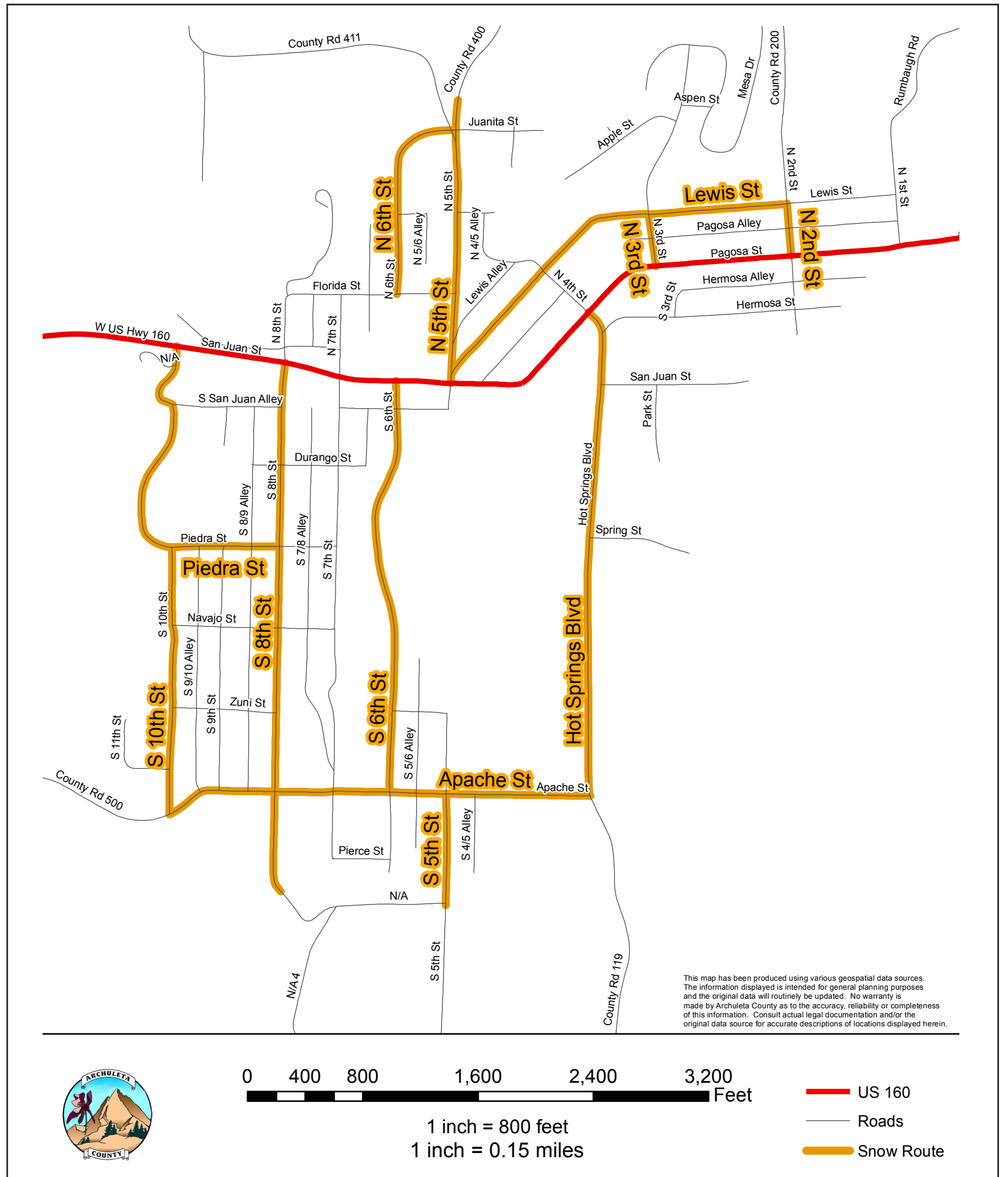
Other information

Property owners who create hazards in a public right of way, such as plowing snow off private drives, piling construction materials or timber, or placing trash carts, may be subject to prosecution per state statute.

A property owner may also be liable for any injury attributable to a hazard they have created in a public right of way.

Parking on county roads during winter inhibits plowing and is prohibited along all county roads and within any county right of way. Vehicles in the roadway during snow-removal operations will be towed at the owner's expense.

Perry noted that parking on county roads will be more strictly enforced this year because lan-



Map courtesy Town of Pagosa Springs

The above map shows designated snow routes. Parking along designated snow route streets is prohibited during snow events. Violators will be fined and/or towed at the owner's expense.

guage in the county's recently adopted Model Traffic Code makes it easier to have vehicles towed that are parked on county roads.

Homeowners and contractors are cautioned that pushing snow across a county road at any time can create hazards and are advised not to do so. Per statute, it is unlawful for any person to deposit snow plowed from a private driveway, road or other source onto county road rights of way.

Trash carts should be placed in the driveway a minimum of 5 feet behind the front of the snow berm to minimize the possibility of being knocked over. The county is not responsible for trash carts that are knocked over.

Driving safety around snow equipment

Slow down and use caution around snow-removal equipment.

Follow at a safe distance to avoid flying snow and sanding material.

Stay out of the equipment's blind spots.

Turn your headlights on. Flashing blue lights on a truck indicate an emergency vehicle and it is illegal to pass.

Use extreme caution when passing snow-removal equipment. Before you pass, honk your horn and flash your lights to alert the operator you intend to pass.

Equipment operators often work long hours under trying conditions; be a courteous and friendly driver around them.

Helpful phone numbers

- Emergencies: 911.
- Archuleta County Combined Dispatch: 731-2160.
- Archuleta County Road and Bridge: 264-5660.
- Archuleta County Sheriff's Office: 264-8430.
- Pagosa Springs Police Department: 264-4151, ext. 228.
- Town of Pagosa Springs: 264-4151.
- Road and weather information: 264-5555.
- randi@pagosasun.com

Thanksgiving issue Thursday, November 28 Early Deadlines

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, November 22

Classified Advertising

10 a.m., Monday, November 25
Too Late to Classify 10 a.m., Monday, November 25

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, November 21

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving

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

Card of Thanks

Nevitt

Thank you to all my family and friends for your support and prayers during my recent illness and surgeries. True friends are very rare and you are all appreciated very much.

Carl Nevitt

Gonzales

Thanks to Veterans of Veterans of Archuleta County for being so incredibly thoughtful and delivering wood. It was just what I needed right when I needed it. A special thank you to the two gentlemen and young man for delivering the wood and stacking it for me. I am very grateful.

Lucy Gonzales



preview

ARTS & GALLERY



Holiday Hoopla



See participating merchants inside • Through Dec. 15



 **Made in Colorado Shoppe** 



 **Terry's Colorado Home Supply/ACE** 



 **Belvedere Arts Studio and Gallery** 

Holiday Hoopla event encourages local shopping

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 from Nov. 15 to 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. Let’s get started.

First off, 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 \$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
■ See Hoopla on next page

Historic Smokey Bear portraits to go on display at Ruby M. Sisson Library

By Brandon Caley
Special to The PREVIEW

In August, Smokey celebrated 75 years at the forefront of the U.S. Forest Service’s wildfire prevention campaign. To commemorate Forest Service wildfire prevention efforts, replicas of historic portraits by artist Rudolph Wendelin will be on display at national forests across the country through the end of December.

Wendelin created hundreds of Smokey depictions that highlighted natural resource conservation and wildfire prevention. Under his representation, Smokey assumed the softer human features, ranger’s hat, jeans and shovel for which he

is best known.

The touring exhibit consists of 19 replicas provided by the National Agricultural Library. The San Juan National Forest and Pagosa Ranger District is honored to host the tour beginning Nov. 18 and running through Nov. 29. The public can view these portrait replicas at the Ruby M. Sisson Library and a select few at the Pagosa Ranger District.

The exhibit will be open at Ruby M. Sisson Library, 811 San Juan Street (corner of 8th Street and U.S. 160):

- Saturday, Nov. 23, noon to 5 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 25, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

■ See Display on page 8



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Mon-Sat 7pm • Closed Thursdays
Sunday matinee 2pm

Anna, Elsa, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven leave Arendelle to travel to an ancient, autumn-bound forest of an enchanted land. They set out to find the origin of Elsa's powers in order to save their kingdom.

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The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Subscribe to The SUN



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.

Hoopla

■ continued from previous page

shop local during this time frame. Many stores will be offering specials only on certain days. Some stores may take advantage of national programs such as Black Friday and Small Business Saturday.

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.

Downtown lighting and caroling Nov. 29

The Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce and downtown business community will be bringing back the lighting of the Visitor Center on Nov. 29 — the day after Thanksgiving. This is a perfect time during this holiday season to gather the family and come downtown for a community experience.

Victorian carolers will be roaming the downtown district from about 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. They will be around the stores until about 5 p.m., at which time they will be at the Visitor Center/Chamber and the building will be "lit up."

Surrounding businesses will also attempt to coordinate the downtown lighting at 5 p.m. Many of the parks and bridges are on timers, but we are aiming for the 5 p.m. time slot to light up our town. Come to the center, where hot drinks and cookies will be served and Santa will make his initial visit to the Visitor Center. Enjoy the carolers before they head back out into the downtown district.

Many of the stores in the historical district will be open until 6 or 6:30 p.m. so that shoppers can take advantage of any specials and enjoy the music. The carolers will close out their singing at The Springs Resort, so you can also take advantage of a warm and cozy place to gather after hitting the shopping streets.

If you have visitors or family in town, this is a perfect opportunity to show off your community with this beautiful lighting.

Terry's
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Black Friday Sales Start Now!

20% off
Sofa & Love Seat Sets
custom designed & made to order

15% off
Ornaments
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15% off
Prelit & Faux Christmas Trees
1-12 feet

20% off
Single Coffee Tables

20% off
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Mark your Calendar!
Santa & Mrs. Claus will visit Dec. 7th • 11 am -2 pm

Holiday Hours
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christmas SALE

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- Shoes & More -

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Black Friday & Small Biz Saturday Specials Open Late until 8 pm Thursdays in December! Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26	20% Pre-Order Holiday Chocolates Off Free Chocolate with Hoopla Card
<p>Lantern Dancer The Green Group LLC CONTEMPORARY SOUTHWESTERN JEWELRY Santa Fe Quality at Pagosa Prices</p> <p>Win this coral necklace set (1 entry with every \$50 purchase)</p> <p>Pick up your Hoopla Pledge Card from us and get a FREE Alloy bracelet, too! (\$11.99 value)</p>	<p>Coming Soon!</p> <p>P.S. CHOCOLATES Chocolate with Altitude PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO</p> <p>15% Off All leather journals Free wine with purchase of handpainted wine glasses</p> <p>Heartfelt Handmade art & craft gallery</p>

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HOLIDAY HOOPLA
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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!

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20% off select item
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Fri-Sat 10-6 • Sun 11-4

SWEETS & TREATS
Pagosa Street
970-264-1225 ext. 3
M-Th 10:30-4:30
Fri-Sat 10:30-5 • Sun noon-4

SAN JUAN LIFE STYLE
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W-Sat noon-6

10% OFF through Dec. 15 at all 3 locations!



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Holiday Hoopla

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Easy 'green' Thanksgiving ideas

Special to The PREVIEW

Thanksgiving is a holiday to give thanks and share special moments with family and friends. While the original Thanksgiving might have taken place during a time when food was sparse, nowadays Thanksgiving often involves excessive amounts of food, with more food ending up in the garbage than in celebrants' bellies.

Reducing waste is a worthy goal year-round, but especially so during the holiday season. And accomplishing that goal can be done without sacrificing holiday traditions.

- Use fine china when serving meals. Thanksgiving provides an opportunity to serve meals on fine china and use the silverware that has gone unused instead of disposable plates and utensils. In addition to adding a touch of elegance to meals, reusable china and silverware is less wasteful than paper plates and plastic utensils. Cloth napkins and other table linens are also more eco-friendly than paper napkins.

- Decorate using natural items. Scour the great outdoors for all-natural centerpiece materials or other items that can be turned into wreaths and garlands. Vases filled with pine cones and acorns make for beautiful, inexpensive and festive decorations.

- Shop locally and organically. When shopping for Thanksgiving

dinner, choose local produce, poultry and grains whenever possible. Resist the urge to buy more than you need as well. Skip some of the less-popular dishes that are used only to make the table seem full. Use reusable shopping bags to carry items home and reduce waste even further.

- Light candles and reduce energy consumption. During the meal, eat by candlelight and turn off lights in other areas of the home that are not in use. Rather than turning on the television, take the party outdoors and play a game of football on the front lawn.

- Have a local Thanksgiving. Start a new tradition and invite nearby friends and family over for the holiday instead of traveling long distances. According to Use Less Stuff, a resource for eco-conscious men and women, if each family reduced gasoline consumption by one gallon (roughly 20 miles), they could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1 million tons.

- Send home the leftovers. Send each guest home with some leftovers if you have any. This way the refrigerator isn't left full of items that will end up uneaten. Otherwise, donate uncooked food to a local food bank.

- Don't let recycling fall by the wayside. Remember to recycle all applicable items. Just because it's a holiday doesn't mean recycling habits should be forgotten.

Holiday Hoopla

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'Willy Wonka' opening tonight

By Dale Johnson
Special to The PREVIEW

Today is the day that Pagosa Springs gets "Wonka-Ized," as Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP) opens its four-day run of "Willy Wonka the Musical" in celebration of 30 years of community theater in Pagosa Springs.

We have been working for over two months to bring our version of this well-known story to our mountain town. It is a story for everyone.

Tickets are available at the door of our home stage at the high school. The performances will be evenings at 7 p.m., with Sunday being a matinee only at 2 p.m. Kids

10 and under get in free on Sunday if they come dressed in a costume from Willy Wonka.

Come spend a few hours with us, meet some Oompa Loompas, shake hands with Wonka and the Candy Man and Charlie; enjoy our live pit orchestra — they are fantastic. Thanks for supporting the performing arts in our town.

CUP is a giving and service organization that not only produces professional-level shows, but also acts as the support for the performing arts in our schools and community. CUP awards college scholarships plus gifts in the form of vocal, music and dance scholarships in partnership with our schools and other local teachers.

Elementary school celebrates National Kindness Day

By Aubrie Limebrook
Special to The PREVIEW

Wednesday, Nov. 13, was National Kindness Day, and Pagosa Springs Elementary School welcomed community members to come read to our students for the second year in a row.

Diverse members of our wonderful community came in to read a book about kindness to the students, and share what they did in their jobs and lives that showed kindness. It was a great learning experience for everyone involved and put a smile on everyone's face. Thank you to everyone who par-

ticipated: Jess Parsons, Dave Stene, Brittany Bedtke, Zach Leewitt, Wes Laverty, Chase Peeler, Mike Le Roux, Christina Kraetsch, Becky Deitemeyer, Nicole Cotts, John Duncan, Garry Lassman, Grant Aucoin, Wil Aucoin, Josie Snow, MegWempe, Casey Ketchum, Warren Brown, Teagan Stretton, Lyle Hoffschneider, Jared Wirth, Josh Montoya, Daniel Cabrera, Kendra Bridges, Stewart Bellina, Kelly Laner and Brian Swett.

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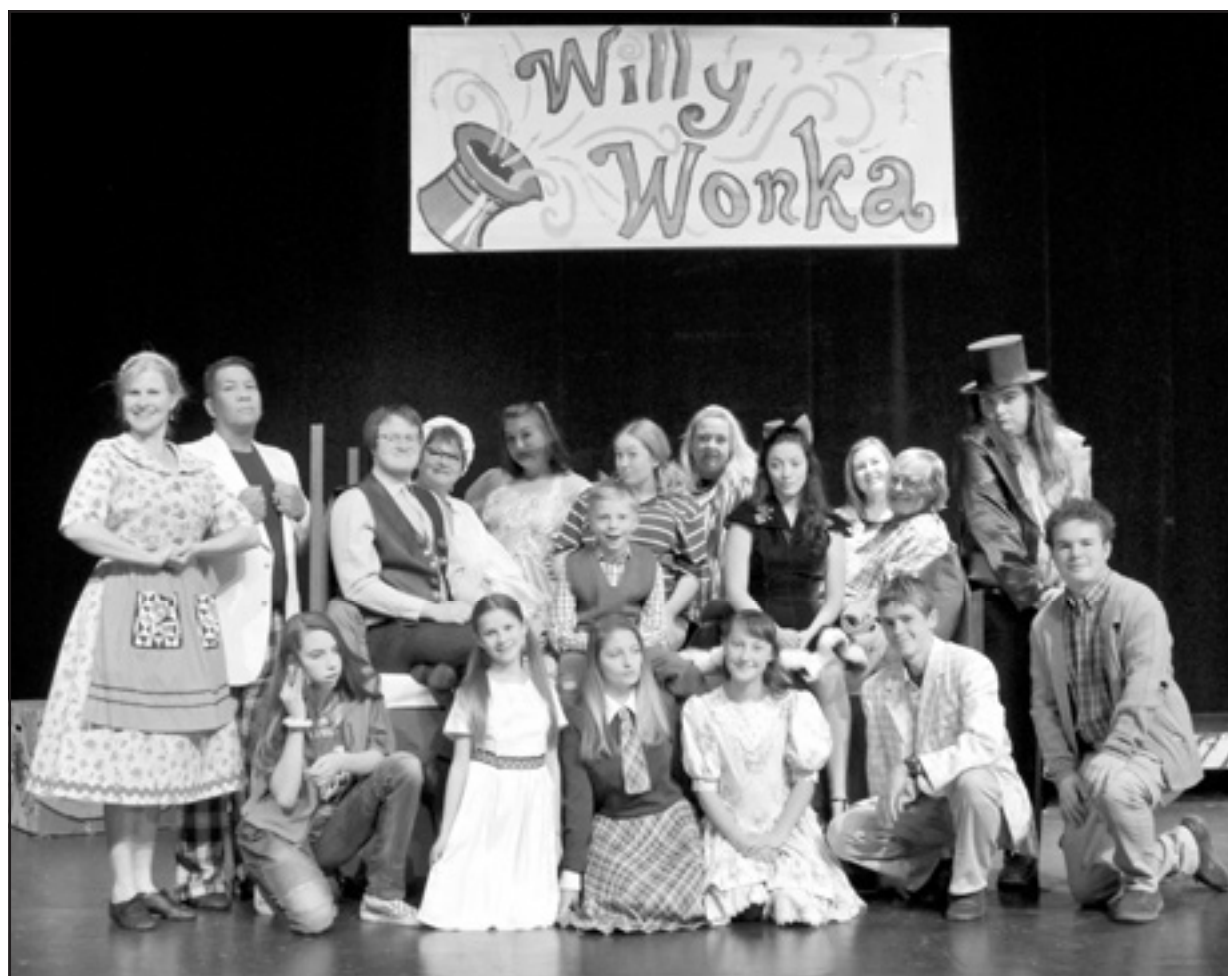


Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

Just like in the "Willy Wonka" musical, five of the candy bars recently sold in conjunction with Curtains Up Pagosa contained Golden Tickets, allowing the bearer one free ticket to "Willy Wonka." "Willy Wonka the Musical" opens tonight and runs for four performances this weekend.

Display

continued from page 2

The exhibit will be open at the Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. (corner of 2nd Street and U.S. 160) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m.

For additional information on the Smokey Bear portraits exhibit, contact Brandon Caley at 264-1503 or brandon.caley@usda.gov.

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Pagosa Springs Girls Choir Concert, 'Christmas at the Movies,' to feature local musicians

By Linda Parker
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir (PSGC) will be presenting traditional holiday choral music at its concert on Thursday, Dec. 5.

The concert, titled, "Christmas at the Movies," will be held at 7 p.m. at the Community Methodist Church and will feature local musician Beth Filliowich.

Filliowich will perform some Christmas favorites before joining the PSGC to close the concert. Additionally, vocal coaches for the PSGC, Darcy DeGuise and Jeanette Hill, will offer their vocal brilliance with some of their favorite tunes. During the concert, the audience will be invited to get into the act with the annual sing-along.

"Providing different kinds of opportunities for the girls to work directly with professional musicians like Beth, gives them a greater awareness of the possibilities that exist in careers that involve the arts," Linda Parker, director of the PSGC, said. "We never know when a spark will be created with a specific piece of music or something that is said during a rehearsal that can lead a person to a life of enjoyment in the arts. That is why we are so excited about having Beth join us for our Christmas concert this year."

"Ancora Imparo!" or "I am still learning" was written by Michelangelo in 1562 and is one of Filliowich's favorite quotes. This explains why Filliowich has continued her private studies to hone her singing and teaching skills after majoring in vocal performance at Indiana University's School of Music.

Filliowich performs a broad range of music from American standards to opera and oratorio. Filliowich has had the pleasure



Photo courtesy Beth Filliowich

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir's holiday concert will feature soprano Beth Filliowich on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church.

of singing all but one of Gilbert and Sullivan's heroines, as well as many "inas" in opera. Despina, Zerlina and Pamina are in her repertoire. Filliowich has also sung the role of the Mother in Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Filliowich is often a guest soloist at area churches and her sacred repertoire includes works by Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Vivaldi.

Filliowich has years of experience as the soprano section leader for Fort Myers Symphonic Mastersingers in Fort Myers, Fla., and the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Myers and Naples, Fla. She is a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs and Mu Phi Epsilon, an international professional music fraternity. Some of Filliowich's community

■ See Concert on next page

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11:30 am	11:41 am	11:54 am	12:05 pm	4 pm

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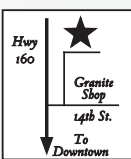


Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

Just like in the “Willy Wonka” musical, five of the candy bars recently sold in conjunction with Curtains Up Pagosa contained Golden Tickets, allowing the bearer one free ticket to “Willy Wonka.” “Willy Wonka the Musical” opens tonight and runs for four performances this weekend.



Concert

continued from previous page involvement includes performing for area fundraiser events for local churches and scholarships for students participating in 4-H and equine camps. Filliowich often performs recitals and maintains a private teaching studio.

So, dig out your favorite Hall-mark Christmas sweater, your Santa hat, get your jingle bells jingling and make plans to attend this wonderful concert of holiday music. Come spend an evening listening to the angelic voices of the PSGC and allow us the privilege of sharing this beautiful season with you. Admission to the concert is free, but your donations will be gratefully accepted. We hope to see you there.



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Meet and take pictures with Santa 3-6 p.m.

‘The Light of Christmas’ concerts set for Dec. 6-8

By Richard Bolland
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Choral Society will present a free community concert of sacred and seasonal Christmas music Dec. 6, 7 and 8.

Under the theme of “The Light of Christmas,” the 60-plus voices of your fellow Pagosans will perform such selections as “Silver Bells,” “He Is Born” and Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.”

No tickets or reservations are required for any of the performances, which will take place at the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) auditorium. Donations will be gratefully accepted in support of music scholarships for students at PSHS.

In addition to the choral selections, a select jazz ensemble will perform “Childhood Christmas Favorites” and “Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!”

This year’s Christmas concerts will perform under the direction of Dan Burch, music director at PSHS and will be accompanied by Venita Burch.

So, it’s time to plan to get your



Photo courtesy Richard Bolland

Dan Burch, Pagosa Springs High School music director, rehearses with the community choir to prepare for the Dec. 6, 7 and 8 Christmas concerts. The concerts are free to the public and will be performed at Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Christmas on and kick off the holiday season with music. The performances on Dec. 6 and 7 will

begin at 7 p.m., while the Dec. 8 performance will begin on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Displaced in my own corner

One thing about scaling down to a smaller home — all space is shared space.

Each person has his or her own things within the confines of a house: hopes, dreams, projects and clutter. All of which are held close and called sacred.

“I just want my own space, a place where I can hide away from the noise of the house.”

My son said, “You have a whole house. What about your aqua desk in your bedroom?”

“It’s next to the television. When your dad watches TV, I can’t con-

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



stuffed goose flying overhead, and a wall-mounted wild boar behind me with its mouth open ready to pounce. Then there are all those deer and elk horns, and duck and turkey feathers scattered about. I share my office with your dad’s

■ See Lane on next page

centrate on my Greek. I need a bigger space in order to spread out. I have lots of Greek books.”

“You have your desk upstairs.”

“Yes, but that desk is dwarfed by your dad’s hunting paraphernalia. There is a bearskin on the wall, a

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Lane

■ continued from previous page
gun cabinet, which is dressed in finer furs than me.”

My Sweet Al seems to light everywhere I land. For the past 12 years, I have created and written under a cloud of dead animals overhead. My friend who stayed in the loft said she couldn't sleep because there were eyes looking down at her all night. As for Al, he likes to sit up in the loft and dream about a once-served meal as he dishes up a hunting story or two.

While cleaning out a storage shed to free up some space, I ran across an old dirty buffalo hide. Al immediately asserted, “It is worth \$900. We need to drape it over the stair railing so we can appreciate it.”

My Sweet Al is still moping around over my response. Although we have learned how to co-habitat over the years, I had to give Al an ultimatum. “Either I put my foot down on that hide, or I'm kicking one.”

Moving back into peacekeeping mode, I know that it is important to be open-minded about the things of the people we love. What others find of value is paramount to them. What we do or say about it, although impactful to others, is only meaningful to us.

In the same way that I need to be surrounded by my literary and reference library, my Sweet Al needs to be surrounded by those things that inspire him. And while these “things” may only provide feel-good moments, they can be purposeful in transporting us to a place few others understand.

I don't see the need to stalk an

elk in the forest or to be able to call down birds from the heavens. But for my Sweet Al, this lifts him high in the sky then drops him into a field of dreams.

I wrote the following words 10 years ago. If only I had known then

Today, these words still ring true as I try to find some floor space that I can call my own. I'm not asking for much, just my own space to be me, a place to store all of the hopes and dreams that I carry in my heart.

just how much they appeal to my understanding of others.

“I believe that as artists and writers, we sometimes find ourselves elsewhere, untethered or even on the edge of something great. Something we may not be able to even speak about, yet with feelings that are very real.”

At the time, I was struggling to respect the creative gift that was developing within me. Today, these words still ring true as I try to find some floor space that I can call my own. I'm not asking for much, just my own space to

be me, a place to store all of the hopes and dreams that I carry in my heart. Such a double-edged sword when your partner in life is doing the same.

We do not always know the why in what others hold on to. In fact, we may be discovering things today that we didn't know we were holding on to ourselves. Things that are part of our DNA or our history, some we can't even explain, yet frustrates us about others.

It has taken me a lifetime to feel “placed” in who I am as an artist and writer. It's a place that doesn't always calculate with the practical-minded person who is trying to make sense of their own life. Suddenly, the last 60 years make perfect sense.

Final brushstroke: There is a saying, “Stay true to your art.” Maybe I made that more exclusive than I should have. Perhaps a better way of saying it is, “Be true to who you are ... all of us.” While part of our life's mission is learning how to live in the fullness of who we are, that doesn't mean we ignore or displace those who are learning to live in the fullness of who they are. Although, I am still looking for at least one undiscovered corner to call my own.

Readers' comments

Send your comment to betty@bettyslade.com.

Community news.

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'A Very Perry Christmas' set to begin Dec. 13

By **Bill Hudson**
Special to The PREVIEW

Vocalists and theater artists Perry Davis Harper and Amy Harper have successfully relocated their family to Pagosa Springs following an exciting "Broadway in the Mountains" summer season with Thingamajig Theatre Company — and here, it's already time to celebrate the 2019 holiday season.

Which is exactly what Thingamajig has in store for us, beginning on Dec. 13 with the opening night of "A Very Perry Christmas" — an original family-friendly musical showcase featuring Davis Harper and Harper and a cast of local musicians and performers including vocalist Johanna Laverty, saxophonist and vocalist Bob Hemenger, pianist Taryn Palmer, drummer Greg Booher, guitarist Will Spears and bassist James Kiker.

Also included in the cast, look for the young Whatchamawhozits from Perry's new children's theater class. And how about two or three special guests? (To be revealed when the time is ripe.)

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 'kid-friendly,'" Perry explained. "One of the performances is on Christmas Eve, so we absolutely wanted a show that the whole family could enjoy."

"I'm really excited and honored to be a part of this wonderful show," said Hemenger. "Perry has put together a truly special evening of Christmas cheer and song guaranteed to warm the heart and put

a big smile on your face!"

Unlike typical Thingamajig productions — which bring to life successful Broadway musicals at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts — "A Very Perry Christmas" is an original production created especially for Thingamajig, to celebrate the holiday season "Pagosa style."

"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 families traditions with you and yours!"

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

"A Grand Night for Singing" is a fully produced show featuring classic songs by Rodgers and Hammerstein from famous Broadway shows. It opens on Dec. 21 and runs through Jan. 12.

"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 and runs through Feb. 9.

Tickets for "A Very Perry Christmas" — and the other two winter season shows — can now be purchased on the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts website, pagosacenter.org, or by calling the box office at 731-7469 (SHOW).

Thingamajig is an award-winning professional nonprofit theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Its talented actors, directors and designers come from across the U.S. and around the world to produce musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.

The theater was co-founded in 2010 by Tim Moore, producing artistic director, and his wife, Laura Moore, both extraordinary actors and directors in their own right. Their mission is to provide high-quality theater experiences at a low cost to our community,

■ See Thingamajig on next page



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The Dickens Singers and NightSong Trio to present free Christmas concert

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

Saturday, Dec. 7, will be a festive day at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church as the Episcopal Church Women kick off the holiday season with their annual Christmas Tea, "A Dickens Christmas."

There will be two settings for the tea; the first is at 11 a.m. in the church parish hall and the second is at 2 p.m. (tickets required).

Beginning at 12:45 p.m. in the church worship space, following the first tea and prior to the second, the public is invited to a free concert presented by The Dickens Singers and the NightSong Trio. The Dickens Christmas Concert will be filled with your favorite Christmas tunes, sung and played by a sampling of Pagosa's most revered musicians. This delightful Christmas concert is free and open to the public regardless of whether or not you are attending the tea.

The Dickens Singers features a quartet of vocalists who frequently sing together and enjoy donning their Dickensian costumes every Christmas season to serenade the public and private parties. Venita Burch, soprano; Pattye Holton, alto; Perry Schjolin, tenor; and Dan Burch, bass, delight their audiences with beautiful arrangements of many favorite Christmas hymns. Their portion of this special Dickens concert will include a number of Dickens-era carols as well as other favorites that include "O Holy Night," "Carol of the Bells" and even "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer."



Photo courtesy Heidi Tanner

The NightSong Trio is slated to play several times throughout the holiday season.

The group will also be featured on Nov. 29 starting at 4:30 p.m. at the Visitor Center Christmas tree lighting, as well as at local stores and in The Springs Resort atrium. They will also provide prelude music for the upcoming Heralds of Christmas concerts at St. Patrick's,

Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. and Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

■ See Concert on page 30

Thingamajig —

■ continued from previous page 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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Buy Sees candy and help support Our Savior Lutheran School

By Pennie DeClark
Special to The PREVIEW

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

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

We will be selling on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. outside of City Market and Wednesday Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. outside of City Market. If you have any questions or would like to place a large order, please contact Pennie DeClark at 903-3242.

All of the proceeds raised benefit the children at Our Savior Lutheran School. We have been serving the children of Pagosa Springs from all denominations for 25 years, providing exceptional education opportunities, with small classroom sizes, in a safe and loving, Christ-centered environment. We currently offer two preschool classes and kindergarten through eighth grade, and have almost 90 students enrolled this year. Thank you for your support.



Photo courtesy Pennie DeClark

Our Savior Lutheran School is kicking off it's annual fundraiser of selling Sees candy just in time for Christmas.

New Thought topic: 'The Benefits of Gratitude'

By Lisa Burnson
Special to The PREVIEW

"Acknowledging the good that you already have is the foundation for abundance." — Eckhart Tolle.

All are welcome to join the New Thought Center (NTC) for Inspirational Living this Sunday, Nov. 24, at 10:30 a.m. as we present "The Benefits of Gratitude." We will dis-

cuss the physical and emotional benefits that occur from having a gratitude practice.

Also on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., we invite all who enjoy writing in the company of others to join our writing group for "Stories To Tell Us."

We welcome people of all religions, genders, cultures and races
■ See NTC on next page

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UUs to consider ‘What’s a Heaven for?’

By **Pauline Benetti**
Special to The PREVIEW

Essentially, all civilizations, around the globe and over the millennia, have envisioned some form of an afterlife: a “heavenly realm” by many different names with many different characteristics, wherein the “soul” or “spirit” or the non-corporal equivalent resides when a person’s life in the corporal world ends. Merlin Wheeler’s program this Sunday was inspired, he said, by a quote from Robert Browning: “Ah, but a man’s reach should exceed his grasp, or what’s a heaven for?”

The program will explore how various cultures — from ancient Mesopotamia to modern religions, from the Far East to Mesoamerica — have envisioned an afterlife and the beings that inhabit it.

Then, Wheeler will offer a strictly personal, and perhaps somewhat heretical, speculation on how these spiritual beings who inhabit “heaven” experience their realm.

This program taps into two of the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism: acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth within our congregation, and a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

Wheeler has been a member of the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (PUUF) since moving here in 2006 from New Mexico, where he’d lived for 33 years. He has been an occasional service leader and/or speaker at our fellowship. He currently serves on the worship committee. His other interests include whitewater canoeing, hiking and mountain biking. He spends a good deal of time each year in his

woodworking shop.

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. On the third and fourth Sundays (Dec. 15 and 22), leadership is by Pastor Dean Cerny. To schedule a private meeting with Cerny or for further information about PUUF, call 731-7900.

Religious Exploration (RE) classes are also held on the third and fourth Sundays and continue through to May. For more information about RE, contact Anna Ramirez at afrancis_@hotmail.com.

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

NTC

■ continued from previous page

to our services, where we celebrate the Science of Mind and positive thinking.

Our community of affirmative-minded people share joy, laughter and awareness of connection to spirit, and our ability to co-create a life of infinite possibilities.

We will have spirited live music.

Upcoming events

Thursday, Nov. 28, 10 p.m.: Thanksgiving Gratitude Potluck. Call NTC for more information.

About us

NTC is a New Thought center

based on fostering living a spiritually centered life and promoting the philosophies of the Centers for Spiritual Living and the Agape Centers. NTC honors all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine.

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

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

Operation Christmas Child 2019 Drop-Off Center Schedule



Monday, Nov. 18	Noon-5 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 19	10 AM-5 PM
Wednesday, Nov. 20	10 AM-2 PM
Thursday, Nov. 21	10 AM-2 PM
Friday, Nov. 22	10 AM-2 PM
Saturday, Nov. 23	10 AM-2 PM
Sunday, Nov. 24	1 PM-5 PM
Monday, Nov. 25	8 AM-10 AM

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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

NATIONAL KINDNESS DAY

Photos courtesy Renea Smith

Scene ... celebrating National Kindness Day at Pagosa Springs Elementary School on Nov. 13. For the second year in a row, community members read books about kindness to the school's students and talked about kindness.





Thanksgiving issue
Thursday, November 28
Early Deadlines

Display Advertising
 Noon, Friday, November 22

Classified Advertising
 10 a.m., Monday, November 25
 Too Late to Classify 10 a.m., Monday, November 25

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
 Noon, Thursday, November 21

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving

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An epic journey over Wolf Creek Pass

The first folks to drive over Wolf Creek Pass in 1916 made what was at that time an epic journey. I am fortunate to have an eye-witness account of that adventure graciously given to me by Marguerite Wylie.

Prior to the building of Wolf Creek Pass, folks coming from Del



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Norte and the northern parts of the San Luis Valley to Pagosa Springs crossed the Continental Divide at Elwood Pass and followed the East Fork of the San Juan River downstream to its juncture with the San Juan West Fork, and from that juncture down the San Juan Valley to Pagosa Springs.

A little review of the history of the San Luis Valley and Pagosa Country up to the time we're talking about might enlighten the picture we're trying to paint. Before we fire up our enlightener, it's good to keep in mind that almost all of the roads and highways we're using today started out as Native American trails.

We're starting in 1858 because that is when the U.S. took over the San Luis Valley and Pagosa Country at the end of the Mexican-American War. Hispanics had already scratched out a few settlements in the San Luis Valley, which at the time was part of New Mexico Territory. The most notable of those settlements were at Conejos on the west side of the valley and San Luis on the east side of the valley. I recommend that our history-lovin' readers spend a day out visiting both of those places.

As happened frequently in the frontier history of this area, the Southern Utes were threatening both of those communities. In 1858, Kit Carson was Indian agent for the Utes, Apaches and Navajos who frequented our area of inter-

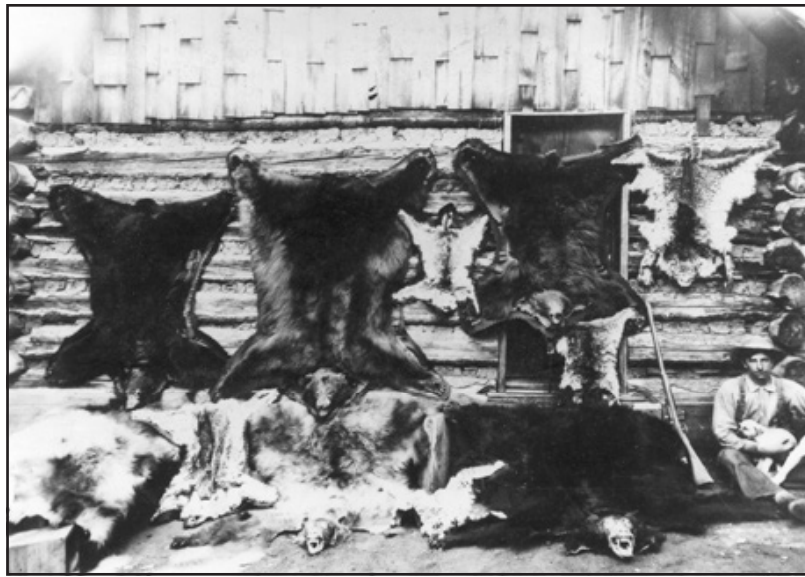


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Last week we showed you a picture of the Chapson family who lived at the foot of this side of Wolf Creek Pass shortly after 1900. This week we're showing you how the Chapson boys spent their time — hidin' out.

est. Carson, despite his diminutive 5-foot-6-inch frame, lived to dictate his life story on the frontier by shooting first and asking questions later.

Fort Garland over on the east side of the San Luis Valley was built in 1858 to house federal troops brought in to control the Utes.

Now it's time we to bring Pagosa Springs and Elwood Pass into our picture. Let's jump to 1876. By 1876, gold had been discovered in the San Juans and prospectors were trekin' through Pagosa Springs to reach the gold. The Utes were metamorphising from snarley-toothed to downright dangerous. And so the Army decided to build a fort in Pagosa Springs and call it Fort Lewis. The Army also built a wagon road to transport troops and supplies from Fort Garland to Fort Lewis. The shortest route across the rugged South San Juan Mountains was across Elwood Pass while skirting the gold mines at Summitville.

Colorado soon took over the Elwood route from the Army, maintained it and promoted it. Soon, travelers from back east on their way to California's gold bonanza crossed the San Juan Mountains

using Elwood Pass. That route served its purpose until an act of nature, known as the flood of 1911, convinced the state highway higher-ups to look for a new route across the Silvery San Juans. Come back next week to learn about the origin of Wolf Creek Pass.

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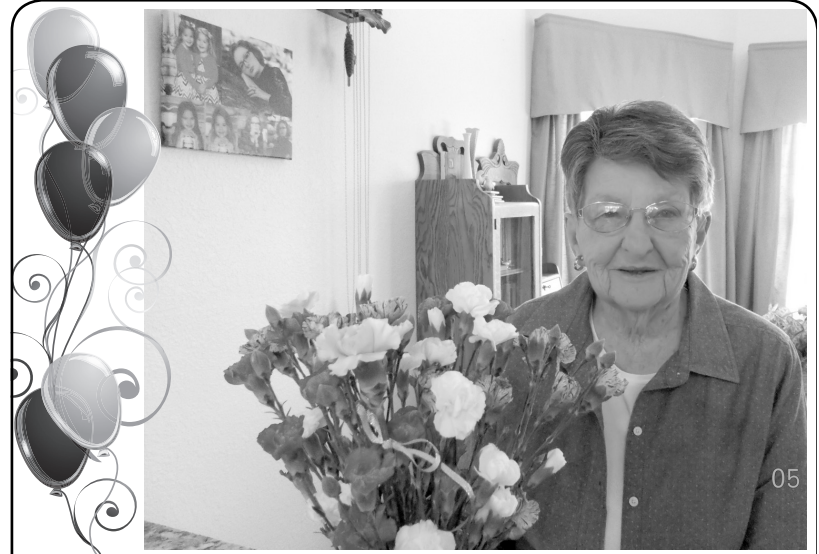
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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Nov. 21

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.

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

Russ Hill Wreath Bazaar. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Two sizes are available. The standard wreaths, about 25 inches wide, are \$35. Extra large wreaths which are about 45 inches wide, are \$70. Each wreath will be decorated with pine cones and a bow that can be selected from several colors. Wreaths can also be customized with special bows and other embellishments for an additional charge. Table arrangements can be created by custom order. Both walk-in and phone orders can be placed Monday through Friday through Dec. 9. Call 264-4538 for more information and to place your order.

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

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

Loaves and Fishes Free Community Lunch: Thanksgiving Dinner. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Hall, Lewis Street. Loaves and Fishes and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will be serving an early Thanksgiving dinner. All are welcome to this free community meal.

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

Hand and Foot Card Game. 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.

PALS Accelerated GED. 2-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Earning your GED is a goal you can achieve. Ask us how to enroll in our free accelerated GED preparation course. We also offer help with college entrance exams, financial aid, tutoring and more. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Area Trails Council Board and Roundtable Meeting. 4 p.m., PLPOA conference room, 230 Port Ave. Updates on Pagosa Springs Area Trail clearing, fund raising and grants. Public is welcome to attend.

Lifelong Learning Lecture: 'Is There a Glimmer of Hope for the Treatment and Reversal of Dementia?' 5-6:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Dr. Jean Strahlendorf, a neuroscientist with a longstanding interest in degeneration of the brain, will explore some of the multiple and far reaching factors contributing to dementia. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

San Juan Stargazers. 7-8:30 p.m., Visitor Center. This month, there will be two parts to our meeting. First, we will be discussing the StarLab, a portable planetarium that Anita Hinger, a science teacher at Pagosa Springs Middle School, has been gathering money to benefit all students of our school district. She is over halfway to the \$50,000 that is needed to get this outstanding multifunctional science equipment that includes programs in addition to astronomy, for weather, plate tectonics, geology and other areas. Then we will have a regular program from the series "Experiencing Hubble: Understanding the Greatest Images of the Universe." It includes a written lesson and a video lecture by Professor David Meyer of Northwestern

University. For more information, visit www.sanjuanstargazers.org, email sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 335-8286.

Friday, Nov. 22

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community

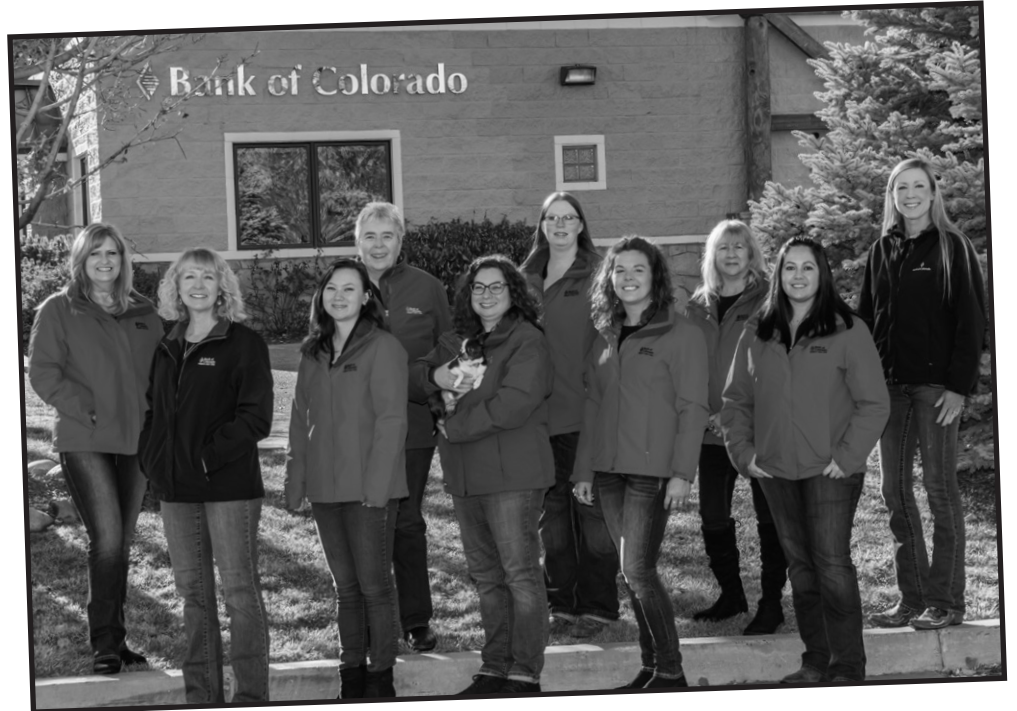
■ See Calendar on next page



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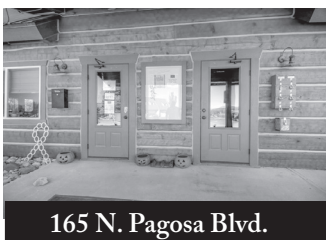
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2016 & 2018 SPIRIT AWARD, 2019 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

Russ Hill Wreath Bazaar. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Two sizes are available. The standard wreaths, about 25 inches wide, are \$35. Extra large wreaths which are about 45 inches wide, are \$70. Each wreath will be decorated with pine cones and a bow that can be selected from several colors. Wreaths can also be customized with special bows and other embellishments for an additional charge. Table arrangements can be created by custom order. Both walk-in and phone orders can be placed Monday through Friday through Dec. 9. Call 264-4538 for more information and to place your order.

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.

Literary Ladies Book Club. 10-11:30 a.m., Sisson Library. Discussion will be on "A Fatal Grace" by Louise Penny. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,

CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

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

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.

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.

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.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Saturday, Nov. 23

Meditation and Dharma Discussion. 10 a.m., Pagosa Universalist Unitarian Fellowship, Suite B-15, 70 Greenbriar Drive. All are welcome.

Crafting Club. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Com-

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Kind of tissue
- 5 Wood for model planes
- 10 Skyline obscurer
- 14 Denver's co-star
- 15 Disney mermaid
- 16 Former Italian money
- 17 In the thick of
- 18 Detect, in a way
- 19 Rush job notation
- 20 Rolling in dough
- 22 Easily read
- 24 Last-place finisher
- 25 Dismissal order
- 26 Jamaican coffee liqueur
- 29 Holiday entree, often
- 32 Diplomat's concern
- 35 Llama look-alike
- 37 Bound along
- 38 Emoticon eyes, often
- 40 Assert
- 41 Work too hard
- 43 Chair part
- 45 Cozy room
- 46 Tree-dwelling
- 48 Not quite
- 50 Certain apartments
- 54 Neighbor of Slovenia
- 56 Middle bit of a Venn diagram
- 58 Day fraction
- 59 Kind of layer
- 61 Cola starter
- 62 Additionally
- 63 Present occasion
- 64 Like Death Valley
- 65 Part of a hammer
- 66 Scornful look
- 67 Part of APR

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21				22		23				
24							25							
			26		27	28						29	30	31
32	33	34							35		36			
37					38			39			40			
41				42			43			44				
45				46		47								
		48	49							50		51	52	53
54	55							56	57					
58					59		60				61			
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

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DOWN

- 1 Knitter's project
- 2 Tiny part
- 3 Fake name
- 4 Noteworthy, as a day
- 5 Blowout
- 6 Type of ant
- 7 Tell tales
- 8 eBay party
- 9 Loyalty
- 10 Done in
- 11 Be disobedient
- 12 Like some exams
- 13 Anagram for "page"
- 21 The Kingston
- 23 Soccer score
- 25 Foul chaser
- 27 Oktoberfest instruments
- 28 Bossy remark?
- 30 Air force heroes
- 31 K follower

- 32 Walk heavily
- 33 Wander around
- 34 Realtor's event
- 36 Fancy railway digs
- 39 Sculler's need
- 42 Bar projectile
- 44 Salad green
- 47 Embellish showily
- 49 Spelling or Burr

- 51 ___ and fauna
- 52 Understood
- 53 Bogart's role in "The Maltese Falcon"
- 54 Crack, as lips
- 55 Actor's quest
- 56 ___ and for all
- 57 Zig or zag
- 60 Wallet bill

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**

munity Center. Join us for creativity, crafting and sharing ideas. This will be a time to bring your creativity, projects in progress, supplies and ideas to spend some time being crafty and connect with others who enjoy all aspects of creativity, too.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., CrossEoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 12 p.m.-5p.m., Sisson Library. Commemorating the United States Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26 and most of the collection will be on display on Nov. 23 from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Nov. 25 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the library.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-12 years old. Build wonderful creations with LEGO bricks. We've got the LEGO bricks, just bring your imagination. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Local Artisan Market. Noon-4 p.m., Wyndham Activities Building, 538 Village Drive.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

Sunday, Nov. 24

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off. 1-5 p.m., Cross-Road Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

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, Nov. 25

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off. 8-10 a.m., Cross-Road Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

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

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country.

Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

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.

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

Russ Hill Wreath Bazaar. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Two sizes are available. The standard wreaths, about 25 inches wide, are \$35. Extra large wreaths which are about 45 inches wide, are \$70. Each wreath will be decorated with pine cones and a bow that can be selected from several colors. Wreaths can also be customized with special bows and other embellishments for an additional charge. Table arrangements can be created by custom order. Both walk-in and phone orders can be placed Monday through Friday through Dec. 9. Call 264-4538 for more information and to place your order.

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, Commu-

nity Center. Maintain and improve health, strength and balance.

PALS Accelerated GED. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Earning your GED is a goal you can achieve. Ask us how to enroll in our free accelerated GED preparation course. We also offer help with college entrance exams, financial aid, tutoring and more. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Southwest Organization for Sustainability. 3:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce conference room. Everyone welcome. Call Phyl Daleske at 731-4589 for more information.

Tween Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For those in the 4th-8th grade. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Incredible Years Parenting Class. 5:30-8 p.m., Seeds of Learning. A free opportunity offered to anyone who wants to build positive relationships with their children, needs more effective discipline or would like new ideas to help their children learn and grow. This class is created for families with children between the ages of 2 and 8 years. A free dinner will be offered for the entire family and childcare will be provided at no cost. For more information and to register, call Michelle Carpenter at 946-0664 or Lynne Bridges at 264-5513.

High Country Squares Dances. 6:30-8:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. We dance both mainstream and plus with Jim Park

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page** calling. Visitors welcome. For more information, contact Steve Keil at 731-0044 or email skeil@nso.edu.

Tuesday, Nov. 26

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.

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa Street. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

Russ Hill Wreath Bazaar. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Two sizes are available. The standard wreaths, about 25 inches wide, are \$35. Extra large wreaths which are about 45 inches wide, are \$70. Each wreath will be decorated with pine cones and a bow that can be selected from several colors. Wreaths can also be customized with special bows and other embellishments for an additional charge. Table arrangements can be created by custom order. Both walk-in and phone orders can be placed Monday through Friday through Dec. 9. Call 264-4538 for more information and to place your order.

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

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

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

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

Men's PTSD Group. Noon-1:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church library. Focusing on resolving anger and conflict. Contact Vets for Vets at 507-3005 for more information.

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.

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.

English as a Second Language. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m. PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we learn the Latin stylings of the flirtatious Cha Cha. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, Nov. 27

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

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

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 ceflittlekids@gmail.com.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. 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.

Yoga Flow Class. 10-11 a.m., Community Center. Please bring a mat

■ **See Calendar on next page**

HUD Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

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

Level: Advanced

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

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

ANSWER:

Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
and a towel. For more information, call Amy at (609) 204-1998.

Thanksgiving Dinner. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center. Call 264-2167 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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, Nov. 28

Thanksgiving Day Mass. 9 a.m., JP II Catholic Church.

Friday, Nov. 29

Santa Arrives. Visitor Center. Plan to stop by for cookies and hot chocolate to kick off the holiday season.

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

Historic Smokey Bear Portrait Exhibit. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. Commemorating the U.S. Forest Service's contributions to wildfire prevention, this exhibit of artwork by Rudolph Wendelin is traveling to ranger districts across the country. Our ranger district is hosting the exhibit from Nov. 19-26.

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 capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

Meet the Artist. 4-6 p.m., Belvedere Arts Studio and Gallery, 2363 Eagle Drive. Featuring art by Cheryl Crane and music by Steve Blechschmidt.

Christmas Tree Lighting. 4:30 p.m.,

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

Saturday, Nov. 30

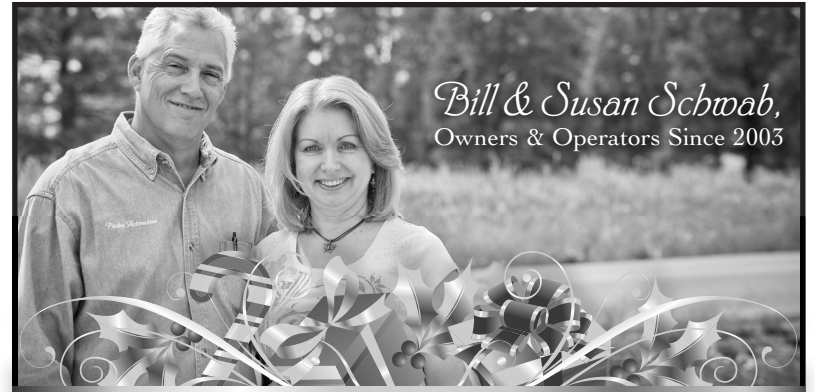
Art for the Animals. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A holiday event for local artisans offering custom creations of many kinds. Hosted by the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs and Pagosa Springs Arts Council. In addition to local artists' amazing creations, shoppers will enjoy live music, gift wrapping, holiday decorations, food and drinks.

Sunday, Dec. 1

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.

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



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Centerpoint Church
United Methodist Women
Pagosa Bible Church
Grace Church
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Pagosah Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship

Businesses

City Market
La Plata Electric Association/
Round Up Fdtn.
Subway
The Springs Resort
Crossfit Pagosa
Team Pagosa Realty
Visiting Angels
Papa Murphy's Pizza
Kroger
Jack Ellis and Work Release
Band

Community Agencies

Pagosa Fire Protection District
PSHS, Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Foundations
Empty Bowls
Domanica Foundation
Care and Share, a Feed America program

Organizations

San Juan Outdoor Club
Weminuche Audubon Society
Archuleta County Democrats
Pagosa Girls Choir
Wolf Creek Wonders 4-H Club
Mountain View Homemakers
Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs
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Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County
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The Board of Directors of Loaves and Fishes, Archuleta County, CO, a non-profit organization, wishes to thank all volunteers and contributors for making this a successful organization. Our apology if we have omitted any contributors. Thanks to All!

Eating for better mental health

By John Lough
Special to The PREVIEW

There is a growing body of research showing that the dietary choices we make each day affect not only our physical bodies (yes, that beer belly didn't just happen by itself), but can also play an important role in our mental health.

Most parents have probably observed what foods high in sugar sometimes do to their children. And while studies have failed to find a definitive link between sugar and hyperactivity, most moms will tell you that their son or daughter seems more excited and active after eating a sugary snack.

The reason for that higher activity level may not be as much physiological as psychological. Eating foods we like makes us feel better and most of us are genetically programmed to like sweet-tasting foods. This goes back to our ancient ancestors who learned that when veggies and fruits were sweet tasting, they were ripe and safe to eat. Feeding kids treats that are high in sugar makes them feel good and happy, and usually also often more active.

Importantly, recent studies have found links between food choices and mental health for both children and adults. One large-scale study found that following a diet high in processed and sugary foods appeared to increase the risk for depression. When

participants followed a Mediterranean-style diet high in fruits, vegetables and high-fiber, low-fat foods, there was a 25 percent to 35 percent reduction in the risk of depression.

Nutritionists advise paying attention to how various foods affect you specifically. If certain traditional meals leave you bloated and unhappy, you've probably made some poor dietary choices. Experts suggest making small dietary changes toward an overall diet that is now widely recognized as being healthier.

If you aren't already eating at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day, try adding one or two servings of these healthy foods to your daily diet. It can be especially effective and even easy if you start by replacing one or two high-fat or heavily processed foods. Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts and legumes are just some of the foods that can leave you feeling and being physically healthier, while also contributing to good mental health.

There's no magic diet that can ensure good mental health, but a healthy diet is a good start to improving physical health while also contributing to better mental and emotional health.

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

How to keep a pet-friendly home clean

Special to The PREVIEW

Sixty-eight percent of American households, or about 85 million families, own a pet, according to the 2017-2018 National Pet Owners Survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association.

Dogs, cats and other companion animals can be wonderful to have around, breathing energy into a family. Despite all of the advantages pets can bring, they tend to be a little messy. However, that doesn't mean it's impossible to have a pet and maintain a clean home.

Homeowners just need to take a few extra steps to help things along:

- Manage pet fur. One of the persistent issues pet parents face is fur. Grooming the pet regularly (preferably outdoors) will help tame some of its fur. Covering sofas and other places where pets like to lounge with an old sheet can contain some of the fur where it can be shaken off outdoors and laundered frequently.

- Upgrade your vacuum. You'll need a vacuum with strong suction to pick up fur, dirt, dander, feathers, birdseed and any of the other debris that can accumulate thanks to pets. A vacuum with a good brush action also can dig in deep to carpets and upholstery to really clean thoroughly, say the experts at House Beautiful.

- Pause for paws at the door. Keep a small container of water by the front door. When returning from walks, dip the dog's paws into the water and dry before entering the house. This keeps dirt (and salt in the winter) from being a nuisance.

- Get the right cleanser. Pet owners must contend with accidents. Look for an enzymatic cleanser

that will treat stains and odors so that pets do not return to the soiled area again and again thinking this is an acceptable potty location, says Modern Dog magazine. Test an area of the carpet or floor being treated for colorfastness before applying. Address accidents promptly.

- Choose the right upholstery. According to Martha Stewart Living, look for top-grain, semi-aniline leathers, as scratches are disguised on such pieces. In terms

of fabric, microfiber or microsuede are better suited to pets because the fabric is tightly woven and may be more resistant to fur and soiling.

- Launder pet items. Regularly wash bedding and other belongings that pets use. This will help tame indoor odors.

- Keep nails neat. Clipping dog and cat and other small animals' nails may help avoid scratches on furniture and floors. If you do not feel comfortable doing it, take the animal to a groomer.

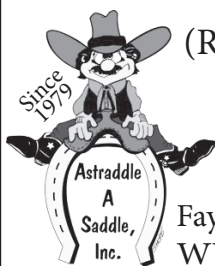
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Simple ways to incorporate more fruits and veggies into your diet

Special to The PREVIEW

Parents imploring their children to eat their fruits and vegetables is a nightly occurrence at many dinner tables. Reluctant youngsters may have a seemingly innate resistance to vegetables, but parents should stay the course, as the importance of making fruit and vegetables a routine part of one's daily diet is hard to overstate.

Children might be seen as the most resistant to fruits and vegetables, but reports indicate they're not alone.

A 2017 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that just 12 percent of adults in the United States are meeting the standards for fruit consumption as established by the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which are determined by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Even fewer people (9 percent) are meeting the standard for vegetables.

The picture is somewhat better in Canada, where the Canadian Community Health Survey, 2017, found that 28.6 percent of Canadians age 12 and older report consuming fruits and vegetables more than five times per day. However, that figure steadily declined since 2015. That's unfortunate, as fruits and vegetables have been linked to a host of health benefits.

Why eat fruit and vegetables?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture notes that fruits do not contain

cholesterol and are naturally low in fat, sodium and calories. In addition, fruits contain a host of essential nutrients, including potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin C and folate, that are historically underconsumed. Similarly, studies have shown that vegetables, which also are great sources of vitamins and minerals, can help people reduce their risk for a variety of conditions, including heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancer.

How can I include more fruits and vegetables in my diet?

Routine is a big part of many people's lives, and some may find it hard to change their dietary routines. But people who aren't eating enough fruits and vegetables likely don't need to completely overhaul their diets in order to include more fruits and vegetables.

In fact, the American Heart Association notes that the following are some easy ways for people to

sneak more fruits and vegetables into their diets:

- **Breakfast:** When sitting down for a bowl of cereal, add some bananas, raisins or berries to your bowl. When making eggs or breakfast potatoes, add chopped up onions, celery, green or red bell peppers, or spinach.

- **Lunch:** Forgo sandwiches in favor of fruit or vegetable salads at lunchtime. If you must have a sandwich, top it off with vegetables like cucumbers, sprouts, tomatoes, lettuce and/or avocado.

- **Dinner:** Replace less healthy side dishes with fruit or vegetable salads, and don't forget to include steamed vegetables, even frozen ones, on your dinner plate every night. Add chopped vegetables, such as onions, garlic and celery, when creating soups, stews or sauces.

A few simple strategies can help people eat more fruits and vegetables and reap the many rewards that such foods provide.

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A talk about a cello

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

It was only the third day of the school year, and Stephen came in late to math, the last class of the day. He was huffing and puffing as he lugged in a cello in a case that was heavier than the cello itself.

“Do you play the cello?” Mr. Davidson, the teacher, asked.

“Yes,” Stephen replied. “I’m sorry I’m late. I hope you won’t mark me tardy. It’s a long way from the orchestra room, and it’s impossible to hurry with something this big.”

“Couldn’t you just leave it in the orchestra room and get it after school?” a girl asked.

Stephen shook his head. “I normally would, but I have a cello lesson right after school, and I don’t have time to get back to the orchestra room and make it to the lesson on time. So I had to run get it and bring it here so I can leave immediately after class is over.”

“Why did you choose to play the cello?” a boy asked.

“I love the sound of the cello the most of all instruments,” Stephen replied.

“It would have been easier to

choose something like a flute,” the boy said. “You could haul a flute around with no trouble.”

The students started teasing Stephen about his choice in instruments and how big it was. Stephen just smiled and took the good-natured ribbing. But it seemed to annoy Davidson.

“All right, everyone,” Davidson said. “I, too, think that the cello is one of the best sounding instruments. In fact, I like it enough that I am not only going to forgo Stephen’s tardy, but I am going to give him five extra bonus points for the day for his good taste and for his diligence in practicing and taking lessons.”

A girl pulled a clarinet from her backpack. “How about bonus points for a clarinet? I practice diligently and take lessons, too.”

“I might consider a few points, but hauling around a clarinet does not compare in dedication to a cello,” Davidson said.

“I used to play the cello,” Sally said. “Can I get an extra five points, too?”

“You used to play it?” Davidson said. “Why did you stop?”

“I quit,” Sally replied. “It was too

hard to haul around and practice.”

“Quitting just because it was hard should be a negative five points, not a bonus,” Davidson said.

“Did you ever play an instrument, Mr. Davidson?” one of the students asked.

Davidson nodded. “It just so happens that I love the cello, as well. When I was your age, I practiced it for an hour every night.”

“Do you still play?” Stephen asked excitedly.

“No,” Davidson replied. “I must admit that I wasn’t the most talented musician, and my family begged me to stop practicing.”

“So you quit, too?” Sally asked with a snicker.

Davidson turned to her. “I didn’t quit. It is true, like I said, that my family begged me to stop, but I didn’t quit.”

“So what happened that you don’t play anymore?” Sally asked.

“When I continued to practice, despite my family’s pleas, my cello disappeared, and I never saw it again.”

And then Davidson said in final, “That’s why, lucky for you, I teach math and not music.”

Stay safe when stringing holiday lights

Special to The PREVIEW

Lighting displays are one of the many things that help make the holiday season a special time of year. Often, awe-inspiring, holiday lighting displays present a perfect opportunity for communities and individuals to showcase their festive sides.

Safety should always be a priority when stringing holiday lights both inside and outside a home. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) notes that, between 2009 and 2014, fire departments in the United States responded to an average of 210 home fires that started with Christmas trees per year. Lighting displays strung on home exteriors also can pose safety risks if homeowners do not exercise caution.

Fortunately, various strategies can help homeowners safely decorate their homes’ interiors and exteriors this holiday season.

- Choose a fresh tree. The NFPA recommends celebrants who prefer natural Christmas trees choose ones with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched. Dry trees are more likely to catch fire than freshly cut trees. Adding water to the tree stand each day will keep trees fresher longer. When placing the tree, avoid placing it too close to heat sources, making sure it is at least 3 feet away from fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.

- Check all lights before stringing them. All lights, including those going on trees inside a home and those being strung outside, should be inspected prior to being strung. Look for any worn or broken cords and replace any defected lights.

- Employ the buddy system. When stringing lights, always work

with at least one other person. This makes it safe for homeowners who must climb ladders to string lights on especially tall trees and/or on their home exteriors.

- Avoid working in inclement weather. The weather during the holiday season can sometimes be unpleasant or unpredictable.

■ See Lights on next page

Happy Thanksgiving!

Shakespeare wrote:

“Blow, blow, thou winter wind
Thou art not so unkind
As man’s ingratitude;

Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.”

Ingratitude is as harsh as the winter wind. In Luke 17 Jesus healed ten lepers. One, a Samaritan, came back praising God. He threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him. Jesus asked, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?”

Possibly some wanted to get home to their family as fast as possible. Others may have wanted to go to the priest so he could verify they were clean and could return to society.

They may have had good reasons for leaving quickly but there is always time to be thankful.

Thanksgiving is a good time to remind us to be thankful every day. Let us be thankful daily, to God and those we encounter. Thanksgiving leads to “thanks” living.

-Dorman Diller



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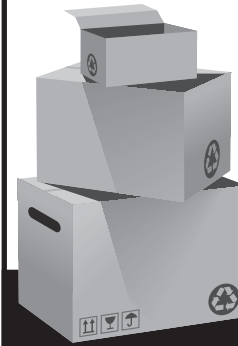
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Modifications can make driving safer for seniors

Special to The PREVIEW

Driving provides an almost unrivaled level of independence. The ability to travel beyond a neighborhood or even one's hometown without a chaperone is probably what excites new drivers so much and makes them eager to get their licenses and cars. Senior drivers also may define their independence by their ability to drive. Few things diminish senior dignity and independence faster than losing the ability to drive.

Despite popular misconceptions, seniors are some of the safest drivers around. The experts at Hartford Auto Insurance indicate that the number of accidents involving older drivers actually decreases as age increases. It's the risk factors like medical conditions, medication usage and reduced physical function that increase the risk for accidents and injuries involving older drivers. Thanks to technology and some other well-designed devices, seniors may be able to continue driving longer than the aging drivers of years past.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, a nonprofit research and education association, says roughly 90 percent of seniors don't take advantage of simple, often inexpensive features that can greatly improve safety and extend their time behind the wheel. Here are some considerations.

- **Cushions and seat pads:** Cushions do more than just alleviate hip and back pain while sitting. Cushions and pads can raise drivers up and improve their line of sight over the dashboard. Swivel pads can make it easier to enter and exit the car as well.

- **Adaptive cruise control:** This feature can adjust speed automatically to maintain a consistent space between vehicles.

- **Adaptive headlights:** These headlights, also known as steerable headlights, can improve visibility by changing the direction of the light beam with the movement of the steering wheel.

- **Pedal extenders:** Extenders help short drivers reach the pedals while maintaining a safe distance from the steering wheel and poten-

tial airbag deployment.

- **Hand controls:** Whether one has sensory changes in the feet from surgery or a medical condition, adaptive hand controls can move the "pedals" up to the steering column.

- **Blind spot warning and other sensors:** Today's cars can be equipped with any number of sensors that can detect oncoming traffic, cars to the left or right of the vehicle, items or cars behind the vehicle when reversing, and even if the vehicle has drifted out of the lane. These are all great safety features for any driver, but may be especially helpful to seniors.

- **Parking assist:** Parking assist technology can steer the vehicle into a space with little input from the driver.

- **Voice control:** Avoiding distractions and keeping hands on the wheel is enhanced by voice controls, which can be set up to do things like turn on the radio or adjust climate control.

- **Convex mirrors:** Special mirrors increase the field of vision.

Seniors have many tools available to make driving safer and more comfortable, which can prolong their years behind the wheel.

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Lights

■ continued from previous page

Check the forecast before stringing exterior lights to ensure Mother Nature won't pose a threat. Avoid hanging lights if the forecast predicts wet, icy or windy conditions that can make ladders unstable.

- Turn lights off when going to bed and/or leaving the house. Interior and exterior holiday lights should not be left on when no one

is home or everyone inside is sleeping. If left on overnight or when no one is home, lights may contribute to fires that damage homes and may even prove fatal.

Holiday lighting displays help make this time of year special. Following some simple safety procedures when decorating with lights can ensure everyone enjoys a safe and happy holiday season.

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Signs children might be victims of bullying

Special to The PREVIEW

Despite the best efforts of educators and parents, bullying is a problem at many schools. According to StopBullying.gov, an official website of the United States government, as many as one in three American students say they have been bullied at school. And the problem is not exclusive to the United States, as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research report that at least one in three adolescent students in Canada report being recent victims of bullying.

Bullied students often suffer in silence. As a result, the onus is on parents to learn the signs that a child is a victim of bullying. Such signs are not always easy to recognize, as StopBullying.gov notes that the most common types of bullying are verbal and social. Physical bullying happens less often, so kids who are being bullied may not exhibit physical symptoms like bruises or unexplained injuries, which are common indicators of

physical bullying.

By learning the common signs of bullying, parents are in better position to recognize when their children are being bullied, whether that bullying is physical, social or verbal.

Signs of bullying

There are many signs of bullying and kids may not exhibit them all. In fact, StopBullying.gov notes that some bullied children exhibit no warning signs. So, in addition to learning these signs of bullying, parents can make a concerted effort to communicate with their children every day, asking youngsters about how their day went and if they encountered anything that adversely affected their mood.

Signs may include:

- Unexplainable injuries.
- Lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics or jewelry.
- Frequent headaches or stomach aches, feeling sick or faking illness.
- Changes in eating habits, like suddenly skipping meals or binge

eating. Kids may come home from school hungry because they did not eat lunch.

- Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares.
- Declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school.
- Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations.
- Feelings of helplessness or decreased self-esteem.
- Self-destructive behaviors, such as running away from home, harming themselves or talking about suicide.

Parents are urged to report any concerns about bullying to educators immediately, as research indicates bullying can lead to or worsen feelings of isolation, rejection, exclusion and despair. Bullying also can lead to or worsen feelings of depression and anxiety, which can contribute to suicidal behavior.

Learn more about bullying and how to combat it at www.StopBullying.gov.

Concert

■ continued from page 14

The NightSong Trio is an instrumental ensemble consisting of Jessica Peterson on flute, Heidi Tanner on violin and Sally Neel at the piano. The trio was formed in 2013 to occasionally play for church services at St. Patrick's. They quickly discovered that they not only enjoyed playing together, but their musical association filled a particular need each felt to play the more challenging classical music. Since that time, they have been featured at special services at St. Patrick's, such as Christmas Eve, Holy Week and Easter, as well as for solo concerts, Heralds of Christmas concerts and as guests of Sunday Night Unplugged.

The trio gets together every Thursday morning to rehearse for two and a half hours.

"This time is almost sacred to us," said Sally Neel. "The three of us have become close friends over the years and the music we make together always gives us a special joy that cannot be replicated anywhere else."

Their beautiful arrangements include some of your favorite Christmas carols such as "Deck the Halls," "What Child is This," "The Holly and the Ivy," "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" and others. Listen carefully and you will hear the sounds of a little bird singing a verse of "Angels We Have Heard on High."

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The concert is free, though donations that will be given to local charities

are welcome and encouraged.

This is the first time the two ensembles have collaborated and these musicians are looking forward to serenading their audi-

ence with their musical gifts. The concert will also include a few sing-alongs, so come prepared to start your holiday season with the glorious sounds of Christmas.

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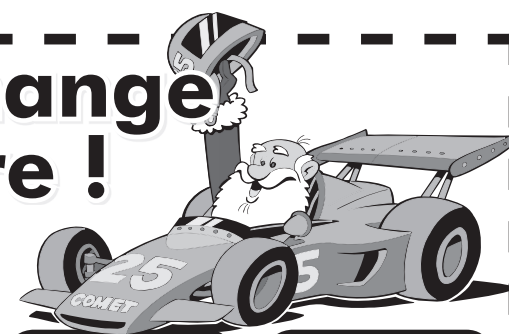
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SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and/ or Aspen. \$220- \$260 per cord. Free delivery in Pagosa Springs area. (970)661-3888.

THE TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS, Colorado is soliciting Qualifications and Proposals from qualified general contractors to provide preconstruction and construction services for the new Town Shop Facility to be constructed in Pagosa Springs. For more information please go to the Town website at: www.pagosasprings.co.gov.

LOGS FOR SALE. Great for firewood. \$40/ ton. 1301 Cloman Blvd.

ANGELA'S FLOWERS FOR YOUR custom Thanksgiving centerpieces. 731-1183.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27TH STEAK NIGHT. Thanksgiving closed. Friday, Saturday and Sunday dinner specials! Scandalously delicious food at the Iron Dram Whiskey Bar.

AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. www.al-anon-co.org.

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!

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.

A.A. PRINCIPLES BEFORE PERSONALITIES GROUP meets at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Tuesday 7p.m. Big Book Study (closed); Thursday 7p.m. Discussion (open); Questions (970)245-9649, www.aa-westerncolorado.org or www.aadistrict18.org; Ken or Charlotte (970)903-9690.

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

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.

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JUNK IN YOUR YARD? Construction cleanup and hauling off debris. Call Eric 946-2061.

PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC, GROUP of detail oriented, trustworthy, reliable cleaners. Starting at \$20/ per hour. Text/ call **KIM**. (970)946-6446.

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LINDA'S HOUSECLEANING SERVICE. Call Linda to schedule a cleaning. (970)946-7665.

HELP WANTED

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is taking bids on cleaning the school. If you are interested, please call Anette at (970)731-3512 or stop by at 56 Meadows Drive.

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT. Seeking detail oriented individual with general bookkeeping and computer knowledge. Position available immediately. Please send resume and requirements to papagosa1124@gmail.com.

LINE COOK NEEDED for breakfast and lunch during weekends at Two Chicks and a Hippie. Apply within, bring resume.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE seeks part-time Pastry Cook. Sundays and Mondays and more hours during peak times. Will train a qualified person. Great supportive environment. Please send resume to Contact@alleyhousegrille.com or visit Erika Tuesday- Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m.

PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME DRIVER position available. Class A CDL. Drug test required. Call Mike (970)749-4797.

RETAIL LIQUOR STORE needs reliable, dependable sales clerk to train to be assistant manager. Raise after training. Closing shift (to 9p.m.), some lifting required. Must have good attendance record. PU app at PLAZA LIQUOR downtown.

PROPERTYHQ IS SEEKING INDEPENDENT contractors for snow removal this winter. Drivers must have liability insurance and equipment. Call (970)335-8268.

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 tmcann@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

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.

HIPPIE CHICK MASSAGE is hiring 1 full-time licensed Massage Therapist, starting immediately. (970)946-4578.

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 BOOKKEEPER. We are seeking a bookkeeper with QuickBooks and payroll experience. Please submit your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

DISABLED MALE DESIRES RELIABLE caregiver for personal care, homemaking, health maintenance. 8a.m.-3p.m. Monday through Friday, part time, \$11-\$15 per hour. Nonsmoker. Spanish speaking welcome. Bienvenida de habla Hispana. (970)903-7585.

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

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WINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER is accepting applications for Director. The ideal applicant will be director qualified for a large child care center. The center is located in a newly remodeled building that will serve approximately 50 children ages 1-5. For more details, go to: <https://wingsearlychildhood.org/>. Please send your resume to acecmanager@gmail.com.

THE ARCHULETA COUNTY EDUCATION CENTER is accepting applications for a bookkeeper with QuickBooks experience. The ability to maintain accounts payable, receivable, and general ledger through financial statement production as well as general administrative skills are required. This position would start at approximately 10 hours per week and have the potential to grow into other areas of responsibility. Please send your resume to acecmanager@gmail.com.

WINGS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER in Pagosa Springs, CO, is now accepting applications for the following positions: Lead Teachers and Teacher Assistants serving children ages 1-5 years. Background check required. Salary based on qualifications and experience. Full job descriptions are available at www.wingsearlychildhood.org. If you are looking to start or continue a rewarding and financially competitive professional career track at a progressive Reggio Emilia-inspired early childhood education center, please submit an introductory letter, resume, letters of recommendation and three current references to janet.santo78@gmail.com by November 30, 2019.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT- PRN. Axis Health System is recruiting for a Medical Assistant to join our integrated care team at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare. Responsibilities include assisting with patient care and procedures, phone communications and managing patient flow. Experience in a primary care setting and proficiency with electronic health records is preferred. Apply online and see a detailed job description at <https://axishealthsystem.bamboohr.com/jobs/>. Axis Health System offers competitive salary and benefits, and a 401(k) plan. EOE.

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

MAILROOM POSITION OPEN IMMEDIATELY. Must be able to lift 50 pounds and stand for long periods. Two days per week, Tuesday and Wednesday. Possibility for growth and additional days and responsibilities. Email resume to helpwanted@pagosasun.com, drop resume to, or fill out application at, The Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street. Qualified applicants will be contacted. No phone calls.

MULTI-SKILLED CARPENTERS NEEDED, year round work, must be reliable. Call or text Eric at Porter Mountain Homes (970)844-0330.

GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITY. Come join our team for a fun and fast paced career as a chairside dental assistant. Paid vacation, holidays and dental benefits. Will train right candidate. Pay range is \$14-\$20/ hour. Please send resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

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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 tmcann@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

ALL ABOUT YOU DAY Spa is hiring Cosmetologist/ Nail Tech/ Massage Therapist. Weekends and Colorado license a must. Call (970)731-3391.

PART-TIME DRIVERS WANTED. No CDL needed. Clean driving record and flexibility is a must! Team player attitude. Pay based on experience and performance. Stop in at 135 Country Center Drive, Ste. D.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS Thrift Store clerk, 4-5 days/ week, may include weekends. Assist with donation pick-ups and deliveries and process incoming donations; must be able to lift heavy items and lift repetitively; must be a team player and willing to cross-train for customer service; 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.

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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.

PART-TIME HELPER. Chimney and roof work. Starting pay \$15/ hour for qualified worker. (970)946-1275.

THE JUNCTION RESTAURANT is taking applications for line cooks. Please apply in person.

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: Superintendent of Schools; Worksite Wellness Fitness Instructor; Bus Drivers; Substitutes and Custodial Subs. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

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GREAT GRASS HAY. Small bales, \$7 per bale. Barn stored (970)264-5266 or (970)946-5265.

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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!

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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!

BUNK BED, ALMOST NEW. Originally paid \$1,000, now \$500 to you. (970)398-9136.

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.

GEMEINHARDT SILVER FLUTE. Model 25P#L88551, with case and cleaning kit. In great condition, \$750. Call Barb (970)731-0883.

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.

TAKAMINE ACOUSTIC ELECTRIC GUITAR, G series, hard case, like new, \$425. Ikea desk, 4 section, file cabinet storage, \$275. LED kind grow lights, jumbo illuminator UFO veg and flower cycle, like new, \$450 for both. (970)507-0594.

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.

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PREDATOR GENERATOR, 8,750 WATT, 420cc engine, electric start, less than 30 hours, \$475. Scotsman commercial icemaker, model CME 656 WE, restaurant grade, \$500. Double glass door commercial freezer, 34x59x67, \$100. Sun transtech transmission service system, \$575. Black and Decker valve resurfacer, complete with grinding stones, new condition, \$650. (970)403-4169.

HALF PRICE INTERIOR WALL PAINT. Benjamin Moore Premium "White Down" eggshell. Like new condition, \$100/ 5 gallons. Retail \$229/ 5 gallons. 4 pails available. (970)264-0002.

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2 LARGE LATERAL FILE DRAWERS, made by HON. 19x30x28-1/2 high. Engineered for high activity office use; weighted, rugged inner steel grids, faux wood tops. Almost new. \$200/ each. (505)946-8359.

AUTOS

2001 FORD SUPER DUTY XLT, 3/4 ton pickup truck. 4 door, long bed, V- 10, gas powered, automatic transmission, 2 wheel drive. Aftermarket trailer brake controller. White, interior is tan cloth. 163,650 miles. \$8,500. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St., Pagosa, (970)731-7296.

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.

SEALED BID- SIX (USED) Michelin X Sno-plus 14.00R24 motor grader tires. Tires can be inspected at Archuleta County Public Works Department. All bids will remain unseen until closing of sale, which highest bidder will be contracted with pick up information. Minimum bid of \$500. A bid will be chosen the 1st of December. If any further questions, you can contact Mike Torres at (970)264-8412.

2017 SUBARU OUTBACK 3.6R automatic, 32,000 miles fully loaded, Azure blue exterior and pearl leather interior. Original owner, \$29,500. Call (970)264-1660.

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ROOM FOR RENT ON 3 acres in Aspen Springs. \$500 a month, includes utilities. Call (970)507-0594.

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PROPERTY

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Bird of the Week

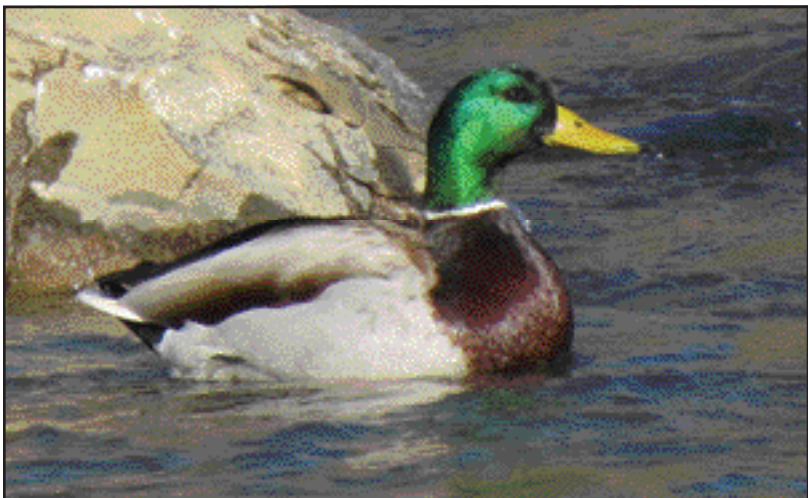


Photo courtesy Ben Bailey

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

The mallard (*anas platyrhynchos*) is a dabbling duck of both the northern and southern hemispheres. This species is the most familiar duck to people, being the ancestor of most strains of domesticated ducks. They are known to frequently interbreed with indigenous wild ducks, thus polluting genes and possibly causing the extinction of pure species like the American black duck, pin-tail and Mexican duck.

Males have a distinctive yellow bill with a black tip, an iridescent green head, white neck ring and a body of pale gray. The female has brown speckled plumage, a mottled orange/black/brown bill, orange legs and a dark eye stripe. Both sexes exhibit an area of iridescent blue speculum on their wings, noticeable in flight. They have a wingspan of 32-39 inches and fly up to 60 mph.

Their habitats consist of marshes, ponds, lakes, wooded swamps and rivers with preferred water levels of 3 feet or less. Mallards are omnivorous. Their diet consists mainly of plant material-roots, seeds, stems, grains and even tree seed, but they also consume crustaceans, small fish, frogs, mollusks, earthworms and insects.

Pairs are formed in October/November. Following migration in early spring, both choose the nesting site. Eggs (eight to 13) are incubated by the female for 26-30 days. One brood per year is produced.

A characteristic of the mallard is its noise. The notable loud quacking comes from the female. The male produces a softer quack with undertones of whistling, especially during mating season. The mallard population in our northern hemisphere Pagosa Springs appears to be stable due to their adaptability.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminuche-audubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

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