



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 110 — NO. 30, THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018

High winds, downed power lines spark fires

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

Archuleta County emergency personnel and Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) personnel responded to three wildfires over the course of the week, with all the fires involving power lines and high wind.

Esccondido Fire

Archuleta County Director of Emergency Management Mike Le Roux explained that one fire started near mile marker 30 on County Road 500.

He explained that the call came in at around 4:30 p.m. on April 12.

Le Roux stated that La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) power

lines were blown down due to the high wind in the area at the time.

The lines landed in a grove of cottonwood trees, sparking a fire.

“The reporting party that called it in, he was a property owner, and he kept us on the line to say that the fire was starting to spread out of the trees,” explained Le Roux. “We mobilized from here, and started heading down that way. We called for mutual aid from Los Pinos Fire, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the PFPD.”

He added that members of the Archuleta County Road and Bridge Department responded to the fire, as well.

Le Roux explained that the fire

■ See Fires A8

SJWCD legal counsel resigns, board requests extension of time to consider new directors

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) has requested additional time from the court to respond to the appointments of two potential board members.

According to court documents, the request to delay Candice Kelly’s and Bill Hudson’s appointment to the SJWCD board of directors was made due to “unforeseen circumstances, including the forthcoming resignation” of SJWCD’s legal counsel, Kent Holsinger, of Holsinger Law LLC.

Holsinger, along with Alyson Meyer Gould, also of Holsinger Law, filed for a motion for extension of

time with the Sixth Judicial District Court in Archuleta County on April 12.

Additionally, Holsinger’s forthcoming resignation caused the SJWCD’s regular board meeting on April 9 to be canceled.

“The Court’s March 28, 2018 Order relied on said meeting date with respect to its objection deadline date of April 23, 2018,” the motion by reads.

The March 28 order is in reference to a Feb. 14 motion made by the SJWCD requesting to postpone consideration of appointment of Matt Roane to the board.

Within the March 28 order, the

■ See SJWCD A8

County hopeful about courthouse case, court security grants tabled again

By Avery Martinez
Staff Writer

The county attorney seemed hopeful about the litigation surrounding the courthouse evacuation Tuesday, but the court security grants were tabled yet again.

Todd Starr, Archuleta County attorney, explained that he had spoken with Colorado Attorney General Cynthia Coffman and the talks had been good.

Starr discussed the future of the court security grants and litigation at a meeting of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) on Tuesday morning.

“And I will say that I feel incredibly encouraged,” Starr said, adding that this was the “best conversation I’ve had with anyone with the courts in at least three years.”

The Colorado Attorney General’s Office was not available for comment by press time Wednesday.

Starr explained that he had no reply from the Colorado Attorney General’s Office about a “communication” sent last week in regard to the court security grants.

Starr said that at that point he decided to call the attorney general directly.

The conversation with the attorney

■ See County A8

“The real winner of this award is the community and residents that Pagosa Springs’ newspaper covers.”

— Gov. John Hickenlooper



Photo courtesy Thomas Cooper/Lightbox Images Photography

The Pagosa Springs SUN staff receive the Service to the First Award during Governor’s Luncheon at the Colorado Press Association convention last Friday in Colorado Springs. Pictured, left to right are, SUN Reporter Avery Martinez, SUN Editor Terri House, Gov. John Hickenlooper, SUN Assistant Editor Randi Pierce and SUN Reporter Chris Mannara. Not pictured from the SUN’s reporting team is Marshall Dunham.

The SUN receives Service to the First Award

By Terri House
Staff Writer

Gov. John Hickenlooper presented the Colorado Press Association’s (CPA) 2017 Service to the First Award to The Pagosa Springs SUN staff Friday.

The presentation was made in front of nearly 400 journalists at the association’s annual convention held in Colorado Springs.

“This year’s winner shows you don’t have to be a big organization to make an impact or have a large newsroom to keep the government accountable and residents informed,” Hickenlooper said.

The judge of the contest commented, “This is a community newspaper that is doing it right. In a blog written by the CFOIC executive director, he said the paper has: Diligence, knowledge of the law and a devotion to watch-

dog journalism. Three necessary ingredients to keep government officials accountable and the public informed.”

According to the CPA website, the Friend of the First honor is annually one of the CPA’s most contested awards, and goes to a newspaper media organization that focuses on the First Amendment’s guarantee of a free press,

■ See Service A8

Pagosa attorney honored with Colorado Press Association’s Friend of the First Award

By Terri House and Avery Martinez
Staff Writer

Prior to Gov. John Hickenlooper’s presentation last Friday at the Colorado Press Association (CPA) convention, The Pagosa Springs SUN’s editors Terri House and Randi Pierce took the stage to present the Friend of the First Award to Pagosa Springs resident and local attorney Matt Roane.

The Colorado Press Association’s website describes the Friend of the First award as “a person in the State of Colorado who is a passionate advocate of First Amendment rights, freedom of the press and open government. Awareness

of First Amendment issues isn’t limited to efforts by the press; it is strengthened by the actions of people in local communities, in public or private organizations, in local or state government.”

“If we are ever going to participate in local government in a meaningful way, we need to have access to public documents.”

The SUN’s editors nominated Roane for the award after following his work in the community and witnessing him advocating for local citizens.


“When I moved to Pagosa Springs, I discovered a government that was small enough and personal enough that I could seemingly involve myself and help craft our collective path in a positive manner. I knew town council members by name. I saw

■ See Award A8




Photo courtesy Thomas Cooper/Lightbox Images Photography

Pagosa Springs resident and local attorney Matt Roane speaks to a crowd of nearly 400 journalists during the Governor’s Luncheon at the Colorado Press Association convention last Friday in Colorado Springs. Roane received the Friend of the First Award for being a passionate advocate for First Amendment rights, freedom of the press and open government.



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Opinion

EDITORIAL

WHADDYA THINK?

Guest editorial

Colorado Journalism Week News matters

The most recent round of layoffs at the Denver Post led to that paper's editorial board publishing a rebuke of its hedge-fund ownership, which on Sunday, April 8, became a page 1, above-the-fold story in The New York Times. The Post's editorial, which ran under the headline, "News matters; Colorado should demand the newspaper it deserves," was courageous and serves as a rallying cry for journalists around the country and in our own state who fear for the future of their profession. And more importantly fear for the future of our democracy if the newsroom cuts the industry has seen over the past quarter century — when one in every four positions disappeared — continue.

News organizations now find themselves thrust squarely in the middle of a public debate over the value of news and the role newspapers play in the communities they serve.

The power of community newspapers is often best demonstrated when journalists hold our public officials accountable and demand that government business be conducted openly and transparently. According to industry research, about 85 percent of what could be called "accountability journalism" is produced by newspapers.

In turn, news organizations must hold themselves accountable to standards of fairness, objectivity and accuracy to earn and retain the trust of readers.

In addition to fulfilling that watchdog role, newspapers also serve their communities when they publish stories that would go untold unless reporters pursued them — stories that shed light on compelling issues such as drug addiction, poverty and crime, stories that provide readers with information about how their taxes are being spent or how a bill in the state legislature will affect their health care options.

And then there are those human-centered stories that reveal the fabric of our communities — stories about the teenager born to an immigrant family who overcomes great odds to earn a full-ride college scholarship; the cancer survivor who sets out to climb every 14er in Colorado.

This list of stories simply highlights the content journalists produce every day in communities across Colorado — communities lucky enough to still be served by a local newspaper. And the question I find myself asking, especially during Colorado Journalism Week, which is dedicated to Colorado's working press, is this: If not for local journalists, who would be writing these stories?

It's a question that reinforces the value of community journalism. Newspapers exist to inform and educate citizens about what's occurring in their local communities, and on our best days, the stories we tell ignite change and spark public debate.

This week, we honor the people behind the bylines — the journalists who work tirelessly to uncover the truth and report on it because it's what they do and what they do matters — as well as the copy editors and photographers and videographers whose collective work is seen in every edition of our newspapers.

So when you read this column and find yourself feeling grateful for your community newspaper, send the publisher, the editor or your favorite reporter an email thanking them for what they do. More importantly, you can also show your support for journalism by reading the paper, paying for a subscription, taking out a classified ad and supporting the advertisers who recognize the newspaper as the best means for generating commerce in local communities. News is not free, but it's worth every penny.

Lisa Schlichtman

Lisa Schlichtman is editor of the Steamboat Pilot & Today and president of the Colorado Press Association Board of Directors.

Will you still use Facebook given the security problems?



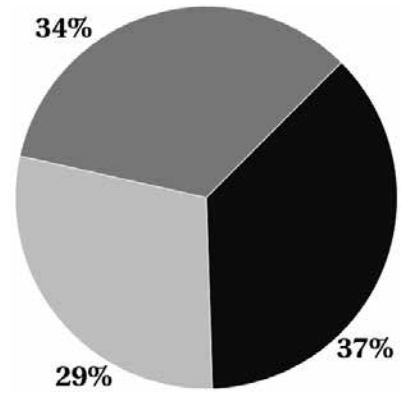
Phyl Daleske
"I don't even have a computer, so I don't do Facebook."



Timothy Balmer
"I always knew Facebook was selling our information, and so I never put up personal information."



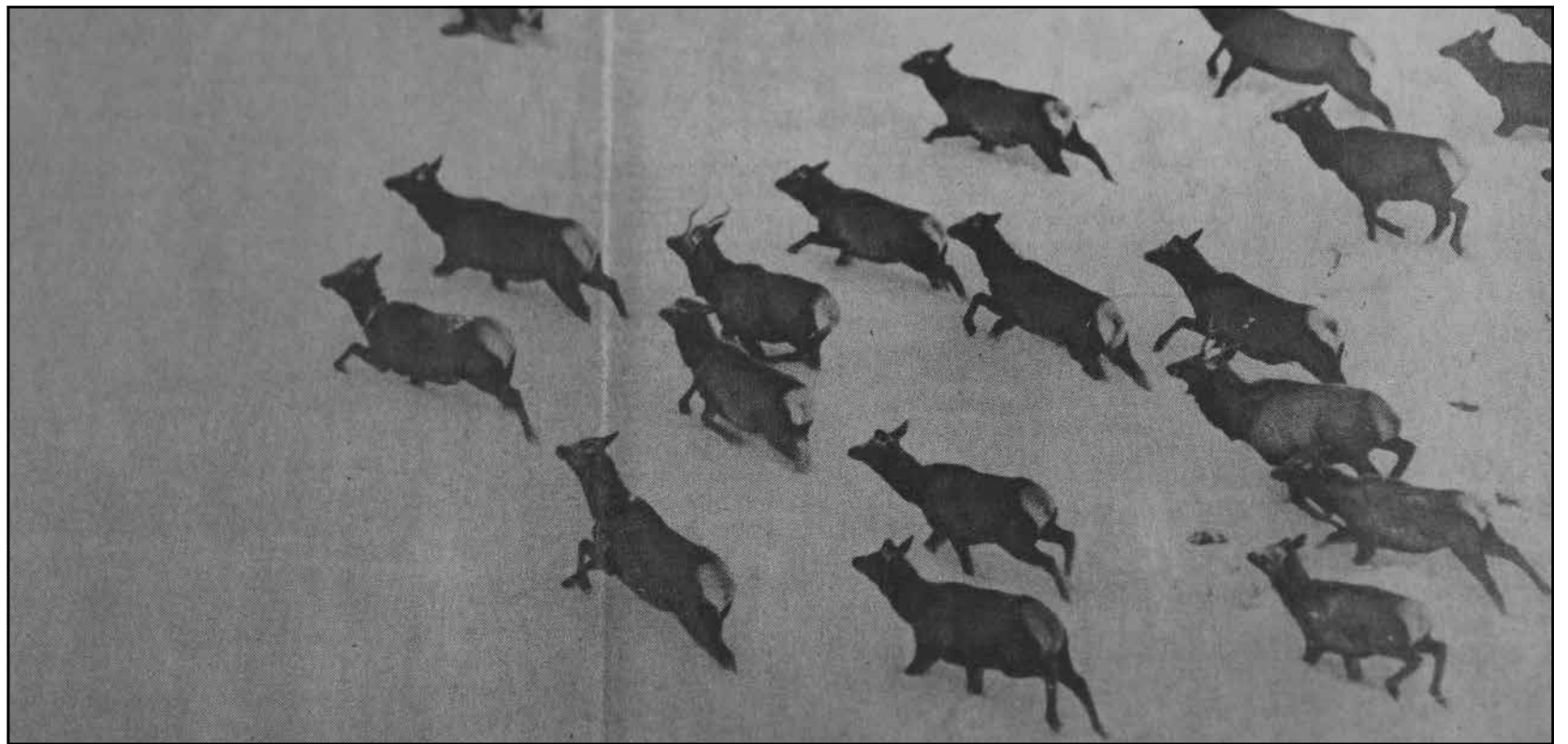
Casey Ketchum
"I'm not a big Facebook user anyway."



Poll results (186 Votes)
Yes — 37 percent
No — 29 percent
I have never used it — 34 percent

This week online: Should the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association purchase the golf course?
Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Feb. 13, 1975, Pagosa Springs SUN. ELK IN THEM THAR' HILLS — Elk counts by a helicopter by the Game and Fish Department indicated that elk herds this winter are on a comparable size basis with last winter. The elk all appeared to be wintering well and were in good condition. There were some large concentrations and many smaller herds of elk visible from the air. Counting conditions were not ideal, with many bare spots on southern exposed slopes.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 20, 1928

The Alva Patterson and Jas. Fowler cattle, which were wintered in this vicinity, were started Tuesday for the Patterson ranch on the Weminuche for the summer.

Atty. V. C. McGirr, who spent the winter with his wife and daughter at Pacific Beach, Calif., returned this week.

Wm. Bartlett today leased the Wm. Kinghorn tailor shop, and will be ready for business the first of the week.

Chas. Smith and Walter Wilson, of the Hersch Merc. Co. sales force have purchased a Star Six couple from the Durango agency.

A three-hole golf course on the mesa north of the Max Mickey home is attracting a number of local enthusiasts.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 23, 1943

Since the opening of the trout season here two weeks ago, more anglers continue to line the banks of the San Juan through town each day and nice catches are reported every day with the youngsters about town having the best of the "weight catch" story. A few tourist fishermen have already begun to put in appearance and indications point that the season here will be good as usual.

The John Webbs went to the Grimes ranch Tuesday and on the way home, got their car stuck in the mud. George Kleckner pulled it out with the tractor, and not far from home, the Webbs' car again became mired. Mr. and Mrs. Webb walked the rest of the way home, leaving the car to be extricated Wednesday.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 18, 1968

Lake Navajo waterline will be 38 feet higher this year than originally announced by the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau said that after recent meetings, and studies, the water elevation is now to be 6028 for the season. The Bureau had said water level would be 5990 feet. This announcement is good news for the Arboles Recreation Area. This means that the boat ramp will be much more usable, boat docks, concessions, and other facilities will also be available and the recreation area would be a very popular place this summer. The rise in elevation also assures those using the Arboles Recreation Area much more surface area on the lake that will be in Colorado. This means that there will be almost four miles of the lake in Colorado.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of April 22, 1993

The concept of developing a scenic and historic by-way through the southwestern portion of Archuleta County as discussed Tuesday during the county commissioners regular meeting. Nathan Winder, representing the Southern Ute Tribe, said the Southern Ute and Jicarilla Apache tribes are continuing their pursuit of a roadway that in part would encompass county road 500 in order to link Dulce, N.M., with Ignacio. The project's long-range plans call for the entire roadway to eventually be paved. Under terms of a 1974 agreement between the Southern Ute Tribe and the county, that portion of the road lying between Arboles and the New Mexico border north of Dulce, would be maintained by Archuleta County, Winder said.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO USPS 418-340 PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
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| Best Sports Photograph | Best Website-Weekly-Multimedia |
| Best Advertising Special Section | Best Advertising Campaign |
| Second Place | |
| Best Health Care Ad | Best Classified Page(s) or Section(s) |
| Best Automotive Ad | Best Newspaper/House Ad Promotion |
| Best Restaurant or Dining Ad | Best Use of Color in an Ad |
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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
4/11	68	29	-	-	-
4/12	63	34	-	-	-
4/13	43	27	S	T	T
4/14	55	25	S	T	T
4/15	61	23	-	-	-
4/16	63	33	-	-	-
4/17	51	26	-	-	-

Pagosa Springs
603 S. 8th Street
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What if it was you? Or your family?

The men and women of the Pagosa Fire Protection District respond to over 600 calls per year.
Most calls are handled by volunteers.

The PFPD budget is primarily funded by a 4.067 mill levy with a state mandate of .5 mills for a volunteer pension fund. We are left with 3.567 mills to provide services to the public.

The PFPD is seeking an increase in the mill levy of 3.783 mills to provide funds necessary to serve our community.

First priority will be 24/7 firefighter staffing, volunteers will still be needed and used. Firefighters will be recruited locally.
A schedule for equipment replacement and maintenance will be established.
A contingency reserve fund will be created.



- Structural fire engine - \$450,000+
- Wildland fire engine - \$375,000+
- Aerial apparatus \$950,000+
- Structural protective clothing - \$1,600+
- Self-contained breathing apparatus \$7,000+
- Extrication tools - Jaws of Life - \$25,000-40,000



What this investment in your fire department will cost:

On a \$300,000 home, the small increase in annual assessed value property tax would amount to \$6.81 per month.
For a \$200,000 home it would be \$4.54 per month.

Note: Assessed value is less than retail value.

This is a small monthly investment in order for the PFPD to properly serve you.
These are necessary improvements.

Every **✓ VOTE**
COUNTS!

Qualified voters will receive a ballot in the mail.
Please vote YES on ballot issue A and return your ballot to
Fire Station 1 on North Pagosa Boulevard before 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8.

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.

LPEA election

Dear Editor:
When I moved to Pagosa 18 years ago, one new experience among many, was the understanding that my electricity came from a cooperative and not a mega public utilities corporation and that I had a vote in electing members to the Board of Directors of that coop. I learned that from LPEA's publication Colorado County Life (CCL) where I also learned that the CEO of LPEA at that time believed that coal was the only reliable way to produce electricity, something like "If it ain't broke don't fix it." His opinion about renewable would have, I think, put that concept into the science fiction realm.

Following a CEO change, it was not too long before CCL began to talk about renewable energy and this month announced that the graphics for the Green Power program, which allows members to apply their money to Voluntary Green Power projects, have been updated. Wonderful ... but not enough. Still LPEA buys the overwhelming majority of our power from Tri-state (a coop of coops) which derives most of its power from a failing coal plant and which limits the amount of renewable energy that its members can provide to us.

In a democracy when people

don't like the path leadership has taken, they vote leadership out. That opportunity is ours — now. Ballots for the election of directors to the LPEA Board should be in your mailbox today — Thursday. You will note that Kirsten Skeehan is running against the incumbent who has held that office for 12 years, second only to the director with 27 years. Just as the realities of energy are changing so must those who make decisions in that field change if we are to go forward. Incidentally, Kirsten election will also increase the number of women on the 12 person board to 3, another area where change is called for.

I believe that Kirsten's election will help to bring about significant change. Kirsten's experience is wide and varied. In the community, she is co-owner of Pagosa Baking Co for 17 year and has been a board member of several NPOs. In the military she gained a BS in Resource Management from the US Naval Academy and experience in intelligence, information system and worldwide secure communications as a naval officer. In her civilian career she managed the construction of a major computer center, oversaw the transition to distributed computers and managed multiple operational and support staffs while earning an MBA from George Washington University.

All of this experience will serve Kirsten well as a LPEA director as she focuses on her 3 priorities: rate, supply and grid security, all of which require diversification of our portfolio of energy sources. To accomplish that we must re-establish the relationship with Tri-State as other coops have done — a task which the current Board seems unwilling or unable to set itself to but one that Kirsten will take on. Vote — your Right and Responsibility.

Pauline Benetti

Vote Skeehan

Dear Editor:
The La Plata Electrical Association (LPEA) is the company providing electrical energy to Pagosa Springs, it's the company to whom you pay your monthly electrical bill. But since it is an electrical coop, we're not just customers of LPEA, we're members. Our electrical coop has a board of directors

and we, the members or the coop, elect the board of directors. The LPEA board has been notoriously sluggish about moving toward more efficient, affordable, sustainable and cleaner electrical energy, and some of their decisions made in the past, decisions like signing a contract with Tri-State Energy that could cost LPEA as much as five-hundred million dollars (that's \$500,000,000.00 of your dollars) over 32 years, is one of those bad decisions.

But with every board of directors election the members of the our electrical coop elects to the board members who are better informed and concerned about our electrical energy and its security, and look to the future to find that clean, affordable, safe, sustainable energy for you and me. Bad decisions like the contract with Tri-State Energy (essentially electricity's 'Moby Dick' with us tethered to it like a collective 'Ahab') need to be revisited and renegotiated.

That's why I am voting Kirsten Skeehan in the upcoming LPEA Board of Directors Election. Kirsten's background in business as partner in the Pagosa Baking Company, her long history of community service including Rotary and as a volunteer driver for the Cancer Society, her service on the Archuleta County Housing Authority Board of Directors, her Bachelor of Science degree in Resource Management and her service to our country as United States Naval Officer with training in global intelligence work makes her a perfect candidate for the LPEA board. Kirsten knows the challenges facing our electrical infrastructure are an ongoing job day in and day out. She knows that the decisions we make today will effect generations tomorrow, and decisions we made in the past need to be reconsidered today. Along with the growing number of like-minded members or the LPEA board, Kirsten will help guide LPEA to new, smarter, safer and more efficient plans for our electrical energy now and in the future.

That's why I am asking you to join me in voting for Kirsten Skeehan to the LPEA Board of Directors. Your ballot will be arriving around April 18th. Don't miss this important opportunity to help

LPEA move safely and wisely into the future.

John Egan

Vote Formwalt

Dear Editor:
Bob Formwalt has served on the LPEA Board with distinction, honesty and integrity for 21 years. He has been instrumental in keeping our service reliable and our rates within reason. Additionally, Bob has been a valuable voice of reason over the years when the Co-op has gone through turbulent times. He has served us well and should be re-elected.

Ken Fox

The other side

Dear Editor:
I have been reading 'the rave reviews' short term rental owners have been giving themselves in the Letters and thought I'd present 'the other side'.

Like the latest writer, we also live in San Juan River Village. It has been home for well over thirty years. We have enjoyed interacting with our neighbors and we have looked out for each other, but it doesn't feel like a neighborhood anymore.

My old dog and I dodge speeding traffic and I cough on the ensuing 'dust clouds' of which much of their particulate matter remains lodged in our lungs. Once, when a car came barreling down the hill, I asked the driver if they "might please slow down through the neighborhood," and she snapped, "we are leaving tomorrow (.) so you won't see us again."

If SUN letters allowed photos I could present many overflowing trash dumpsters — one with 6 'extra' bags on the ground and crows all over it. I had spoken with those owners and the trash services to no avail. The ravens, raccoons and wind spread the trash throughout the neighborhood. Residents have to pick it up as the trash services will not.

The water, sewage systems and roads are taxed by the droves of renters, but the year round working-class and retired residents must pay for the infrastructure improvements.

At the river I regularly find fish-
■ See Letters A5

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Topics to be discussed:

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- Forest health and effects of drought**
- Rangeland and effects of drought**
- FSA programs**
- Wildlife and drought**
- Weeds and drought**

Saturday, April 21
9 am to 1:30 pm
Archuleta County Fairgrounds

Lunch will be served
no reservation required



Sponsored by the Archuleta County Farm Bureau, the CSU Extension and Archuleta County Weed Specialist

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:

PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

e-mail: editor@pagosasun.com

or fax: (970) 264-2103

All letters must:

be 500 words or less

be signed by the author, unless emailed

include the author's phone number and address

be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday), email submissions are preferred

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.

CAR WASH AND BBQ FUND RAISER



Car wash and BBQ by donation for Pagosa Springs High School Prom

Saturday, April 21st • 10 am to 1 pm
MudShaver Car Wash @ 950 Rosita Drive

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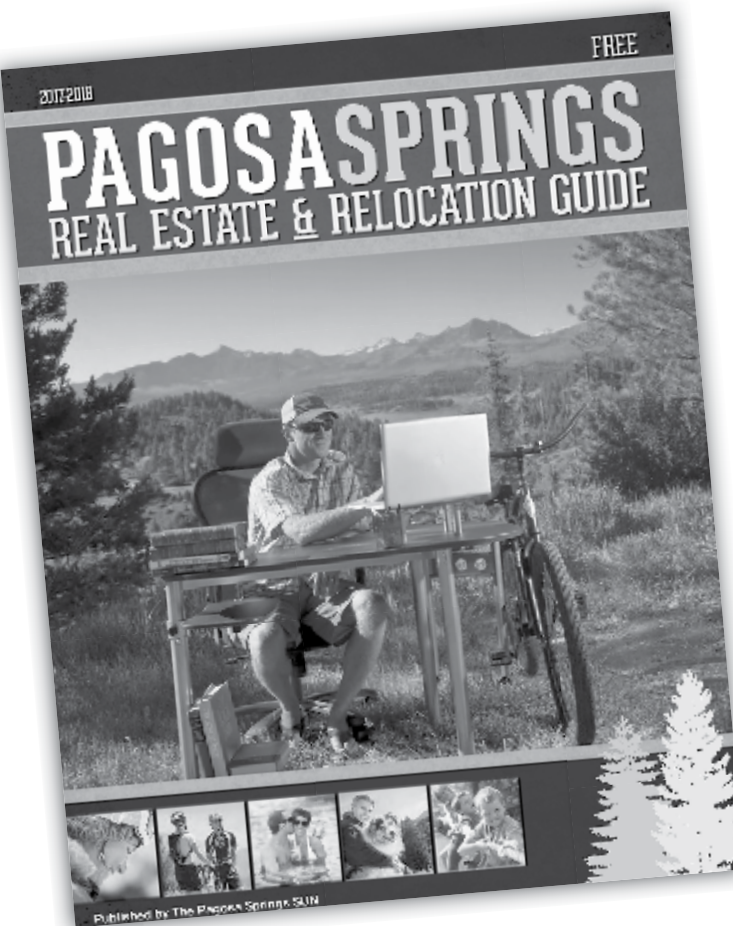
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PAGOSA SPRINGS REAL ESTATE & RELOCATION GUIDE



Space & Copy
Deadline
April 27

Overview

Sections of the guide highlight Pagosa Springs' Business and Economy, Education, Health Care Resources, Real Estate and Construction, Leisure, Active Adults and Getting Settled, making it a useful tool for businesses and families looking to relocate to our beautiful part of Colorado.

Distribution

18,000 copies of the Relocation Guide will be distributed by the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, area businesses, on newsstands and in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN. Distribution will begin mid June.

A digitally enhanced version will be online at **PagosaSUN.com**

Call to place your ad today!

The Pagosa Springs SUN • 970-264-2100

Letters

■ **Continued from A4**
 ing line with hooks, lures and bait attached, wrapped around river-side rocks and bushes. My dog got a large fishing lure lodged in her paw, which someone carelessly left on the ground. I regularly pick up micro and larger sized trash around the pond; and just today discovered a cut Christmas tree in the irrigation ditch. Renters frequently speed about on ATVs, often with young children on their laps. The noise and fumes compete with birdsong and fresh air. Every winter at least one car slides off the road, avoidable when driving at respectful speeds. Renters often leave outside lights on all night and sometimes for days after they've left, until the cleaning crew comes through to hopefully turn them off.

Property owners witness and suffer through many mindless actions, against which we are powerless. There have been renters who fill coolers and freeze stocked fish from the pond, where signs read, "one fish limit per day."

Realistically, renters cannot be expected to act as neighbors as they are not neighbors — but they do stay in neighborhoods.

Before considering them innocuous, please imagine what it would be like to live next to rotating groups of vacationers instead of actual neighbors.

We are quite aware that the only constant is change; and in our almost 40 years here, we have seen a lot of changes. In our humble opinion, STRs are not a positive change.

Addie Greer

Support PFPD

Dear Editor:

You received your Notice of Election to Increase Taxes from the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) in the mail last week. PFPD is requesting a 3.783 mil increase in their tax rate, from 4.067 mils to 7.85 mils. This would essentially double the amount going to operations and allow PFPD to double the number of full time fire fighters on station at Fire House #1 so that they have 24/7 coverage on call.

I want to try to put that increased cost into perspective. PFPD's mil levy was set at 4.684 mils in 1992 and was subsequently

reduced in 1998 to 4.067 mils, its current level.

I moved here in 2002 and built a house in 2003 — so I am going to talk about what has happened since I started paying property taxes on my house. In 2004 property values were apparently in a down-turn that continued until 2006 — my property taxes went down 7% (all numbers rounded) from 2004 to 2006. 2007 saw properties increase and my taxes went up 43% from 2006 to 2010. During that same period (2004-2010) the amount going to PFPD increased 34%. 2011 saw the next decrease and my taxes dropped 58% from 2010 to 2014 and PFPD's share dropped 52%. 2015 saw the next 'up' period start and from 2014 to 2017 my taxes went up 50% and PFPD's share went up 32%. Overall, my taxes, and PFPD's share, are both down 14% since 2004.

The population of Archuleta in 1992 was 5,888 and projected for 2018 it will be 13,107, more than a 120% increase. More than twice as many people logically also means twice as many structures for them to live in and for PFPD to be responsible for protecting.

While my home value as determined by Colorado goes up and down, its replacement cost, according to my homeowner's insurance, keeps going up — my premium has seen a steady increase since 2004, up 108% — more than doubled. Since we do not live in a flood plain, there is no significant chance of an earthquake, and we do not have tornados or hurricanes hitting us — essentially I am insuring my house against a fire. The insurance company will pay for replacing my house and belongings if destroyed by a fire (after depreciation). In 2004, PFPD's share of my property tax was 40% of my homeowners' insurance premium. In 2016, its share was 15%, so, even if doubled it would still be less than a third of my insurance cost. The chances of losing my house to a fire are decreased substantially with a 24/7 crew of full time firefighters at Station #1. Augmented by our volunteer firefighters, they will try to keep my house from burning down.

Please join me in voting for this mil levy increase for the Pagosa

Fire Protection District. It's time to do this.

Jim Huffman

Pruitt problem

Dear Editor:

According to the US Constitution, Congress — and in particular, the House of Representatives — is invested with the "power of the purse," the ability to tax and spend public money for the national government.

When Chairman Scott Pruitt of the EPA wantonly wastes federal tax dollars, it's the responsibility of Congress to check that abuse. This isn't a case of "you really should object." This falls into the category of a sworn responsibility to uphold the Constitution.

Has Scott Tipton joined the chorus of Representatives who are calling for Secretary Pruitt to resign? He has not. It's his job to do so. He is shirking his responsibility by ignoring the glaring abuses:

- Outrageous security expenses which (with travel) are nearly \$3 million
- Massive Raises for two Oklahoma cronies (Greenwalt — \$57,000; Hupp — \$28,000) — funds taken from the Clean Water Reserves set aside to assist Americans whose drinking water has become contaminated.

• First class tickets and security for venues like Paris, Rome, Morocco, Disneyland, the Rose Bowl.

The few EPA staffers who've tried to rein in the abuses have been demoted or placed on unpaid administrative leave. The President, who is embroiled in his own emolument violations, is uninterested in ethical breaches on the part of his cabinet members.

In the absence of any effort on the part of the agency or the president to spend tax dollars responsibly, all Congressmen need to act, to protest, to call for accountability.

Congressman Tipton — Where are you? It's time to join your colleagues — Democrat and Republican — who are taking their responsibility seriously.

It's outrageous that Scott Pruitt is perfectly willing to spend excessive taxpayer dollars for his own paranoia and to benefit his friends while simultaneously tossing out

protections for our air and water.

Kathy Muth

Earth Day

Dear Editor:

Earth day is right around the corner. April 22nd. Here's a thought to ponder ... Every single piece of plastic that's ever been made will be here forever. That's right, I didn't make that up and it's not fake news. Plastic doesn't biodegrade or go "away" — It simply breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces, "microplastic" that ends up in our oceans and waterways and ultimately into the food chain. The world is simply drowning in plastic needlessly.

Recycling is the answer that most people think of, but in reality only about 9% of plastic used is ever recycled and a very tiny % of that is ever made into anything else. The rest is, well you guessed it, here forever.

I've got a few suggestions we might consider .

First , next time you are in a restaurant or café, simply ask for no straw please. If you really need to drink through a straw , there are stainless steel reusable straws you can buy at many stores.

Second, ... bottled water. Don't get me started. My suggestion is a refillable stainless steel bottle .On average they cost about \$10 . Our tap water is probably better than what's in that plastic bottle and think of the money you would save in a year. Filter it if you think that's necessary , but be aware that

■ See Letters A6

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Obituaries

Samey Espinosa

Samey Espinosa joined his son Donnie Espinosa on March 22. He passed away at Four Corners Nursing home in Durango, Colo.



He was born in Leadville, Colo., to Frank and Connie (Atencio) Espinosa on Aug. 22, 1946. He grew up in Mintern, Colo., where he was later laid to rest.

Samey, known as "Sam," loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing were his favorite, along with spending time with his family and friends.

Samey survived by his ex-wife, Mary Espinosa, of Pagosa Springs Colo.; his three sons and one daughter; Frank Espinosa (Eva), of Arboles Colo.; Paul Espinosa (Leah), of Durango, Colo.; Clarence Espinosa, of Pagosa Springs, Colo.;

and Jennifer Sutherland, of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; and grandchildren Samantha, Michela, Brecken and Trenton Espinosa, Lainey, Larissa and Mia Espinosa, Dillion and Colton Espinosa, Blailand, Kyler and Landon Espinosa, Janae and Clayton Sutherland.

Our father was known as one of the strongest men we have ever known. He truly had nine lives, and lived each one to the fullest. He will be truly missed by everyone.

Eddie Lee Montemayor

On March 23, 1988, Eddie Lee Montemayor was born into the world in Satanta, Kan. He was born to parents Mari Montemayor and Jose Montemayor. Eddie would grow to be the eldest of nine children.



Eddie was beloved by all

who met him. He was loving, caring, compassionate and kind. The most beloved quality was his very unique laugh. Anyone who knew him knew this laugh; it's the first thing that comes to mind when thinking of Eddie. The second thing that comes to mind are his children. Eddie leaves behind a daughter, Mariah Montemayor, 10, and a son, Izayah Montemayor, 1. Eddie's children were and forever will be his world.

Eddie was a big family man; he loved his mother, father and nine siblings with every ounce of his being. Eddie was always there no matter what or who needed him even if he had his own challenges going on in his life.

Sadly, Eddie Lee Montemayor was taken from this earth to join our Heavenly Father on April 10. Eddie is survived by Mari Montemayor (mother), Jose Montemayor (father), Daisy Montemayor (sister), Ryan Montemayor (brother), Ray Montemayor (brother), Bryan Montemayor (brother), Brandon Montemayor (brother), Durrant Montemayor (brother), Joshua

Montemayor (brother) and Corina Montemayor (sister).

Eddie's services were on Tuesday, April 17, from noon to 8 p.m. and Wednesday, April 18, at 10 a.m.

Louis Orland Trujillo

May 20, 1943 — April 9
Louis Trujillo, 74, longtime resident of Arboles, Colo., passed away on April 9.

He is survived by his wife, Servelia (Montoya) Trujillo; sons Ron and Mark Trujillo, and Richard Garcia; and daughter Jill Shaull.



Please join us in honoring him. Services will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Farmington, N.M., on April 21. A rosary will be given at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Mass at 11 a.m. Reception to follow.

Letters

Continued from A5

plastic leaches harmful substances into your beverages. Think about that case of water sitting in a hot warehouse somewhere before it's shipped to your store. More info on that subject is available at plasticpollutioncoalition.org.

Now my last big suggestion is to get in the habit of bringing your own reuseable bag to the store. A couple of reuseables might save the average family 5-10 plastic bags a week. That adds up.

I urge us all to do just a little for our planet.

Reuse/refuse/recycle
We have become a careless society of disposable convenience ... Our planet is not disposable.

Open your eyes. Out of sight shouldn't be out of mind.

Summer Phillips Pierce

Lose investment

Dear Editor:

My husband, Randy and I, purchased a lot in Chris Mountain II in 2007 with the intention of building our retirement home in Pagosa Springs. We were told water and sewer would go in first, followed by gas and electric.

We paid the Water Tap fee in full, when PAWSD decided to charge 12% interest once the water was put in.

Here it is 10 years later. We are still waiting for electric, we cannot afford to pay the huge fees for bringing it in to our lot, while pay-

ing PLPOA fees yearly, and water/sewer fees quarterly for not one drop of water usage.

Now, we read that the 8 million dollars initially funded for development, since the developer never paid, has dwindled to \$500,000 to be redirected to others. Why was their not a bond for this development?

We were sent letters from "vulture" investors offering us from \$700 to \$1200 for our property. We paid well over that and 14K for water tap fees.

My husband is a custom stair builder, carpenter by trade, who planned on doing much of the work himself. Now, we are at the age where this will not be possible. If there are others out there that got stung, maybe we should get together to see if anything can be done.

We cannot afford to lose this much of an investment at our age.
Lynn Richert

On happiness

Dear Editor:

Something saved by my husband, which I believe is pertinent to today's political climate around the country. Written at an earlier time when our democracy was in jeopardy, it is titled, "If You Are Unhappy."

"Once upon a time, there was a non-conforming sparrow who decided not to fly south for the winter. However, soon the weather turned so cold that he reluctantly started to fly south. In a short time ice began to form on his wings and he fell to earth into a barnyard, almost frozen. A cow passed by and crapped on the little sparrow. The sparrow thought it was the end. But, the manure warmed him and defrosted his wings. Warm and happy, able to breathe, he started to sing. Just then, a

large cat came by and hearing the chirping, investigated the sounds. The cat cleared away the manure, found the chirping bird and promptly ate him. Hmmm. Warm and happy living in the manure ... There is a moral to this tale, but I leave that to your thoughts. There is always hope.

Know you are loved always, of course.

Patty Tillerson

Obituaries

Local obituaries are printed free in The Pagosa Springs SUN and can be submitted to:

PO Box 9
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Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Cards of Thanks

Moats

Sophie and I want to thank everybody that stopped by the house, brought cards, food, sent cards in the mail, called on the phone, and stopped us on the street and in stores. All of the kindness, compassion and words of wisdom, have been really helpful during our loss of our son, Michael.

Again, thank you so much.

Danny and Sophie and family

Wessels-Halverson/Wessels

We are so thankful for the wonderful support and prayers from all the friends and family that were received during Bailey's hospital care during the month of March. It's such a comfort to know you are here. Also, it was a gift to learn that your loved one can hear you even though they are in a coma.

Bailey Wessels-Halverson and Karen Wessels

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VOTE

BALLOTS IN THE MAIL APRIL 17TH

Business

CHAMBER NEWS

Help is available to make your business beautiful

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

Spring isn't just for spring cleaning our homes; our businesses need that extra touch to keep our appearances appealing and inviting to customers.

The Chamber, the Town of Pagosa Springs and Region 9 Economic Development District all have beautification opportunities for you. Two colorful, easy enhancements to your businesses are related to Mother Nature's gift — flowers.

The Chamber is in the final stage of our annual Pagosa Pride hanging basket program. We are sold out of the stunning 16-inch baskets and there are still some beautiful 12-inch baskets available.

The easiest way to order these specially grown baskets is to visit the Chamber website at www.pagosa-chamber.com. Click on the Hanging Basket Program display and simply order your flowers. This popular program brings colorful flowers to the entrances of businesses and homes all over Pagosa.

The other beautification effort is the return of the very successful bicycle program hosted by the tourism committee. Metal bicycle planters are placed all around town at businesses. The recipients can plant or decorate the bicycles any way they want, changing decorations or flowers to correspond with the summer holidays or just nurturing your flowers to grow more beautifully throughout the summer.

This year, there will be 30 bicycles available at no cost to the businesses and nonprofit agencies through the lottery system. Signs with the business/organization name will be attached to each display. The best designs will be recognized on the town's website and social media pages and participants will be com-

peting for beautification awards to be held toward the fall season.

In addition, an interactive scavenger hunt to locate the bikes will be launched again in early June. Locals and visitors search for each bike display for the chance to win various prizes from area businesses. Completed scavenger hunts will be returned to the visitor center for a spin of the prize wheel. Last year, over 300 scavenger hunts were completed. Enter the adopt-a-bike lottery by May 4 either online at <http://bit.ly/2018bikeplantersignup>, by stopping by the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center or by calling 585-1200.

Business or organizations can also get involved in the community by joining the 2018 beautification campaign. Volunteers will be organized for various cleanup and planting efforts throughout the town on May 12, with a free barbecue at the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership site in Centennial Park beginning at noon.

Winners of the bike planter lottery will also be announced during the event. This is a time to initiate a community project with your group or family and to get involved on May 12 to be part of this annual community initiative to beautify Pagosa Springs.

Main Street Beautification Program

The next program is a loan program offered through Region 9. It is called the Main Street Beautification Program. The purpose of this loan program is to encourage businesses and property owners to invest in revitalizing the exterior of your business. Projects can range from new signage to new windows, paint, parking lot improvement or paving, cleaning of awnings and even landscaping, just to name a few.

This is a loan program, but the interest rates are low, being prime plus 2 percent fixed for five years and then it will float annually thereafter. The loan generally stays at a term of seven years. If you are in need of more extensive exterior improvements, but just haven't had the resources to improve your facility, this may be the program for you as you can amortize the investment and there is also no prepayment penalty.

Region 9 also has other loan programs if you need some interior work done to your business or new equipment purchases. Contact the Chamber for more information or new Business Resource Specialist Brian Rose at Region 9 at 247-9621.

Just remember, a good first im-

pression is important for business attraction. There are simple ways to create an inviting ambiance and more extensive options such as the loan program to keep your business' appearance in good shape. However, all of these programs are designed to help you attract customers to your doors. Once inside, great customer service, a good product and business acumen will keep your customers coming back. For more information about any of the programs mentioned in this article, please contact the Chamber at 264-2360.

Membership news

We have two new businesses to welcome to the Chamber family this week, Pagosa Play Place and Thursday night rodeos run by Burris and Sons Bucking Bulls LLC at the Western Heritage Event Center rodeo grounds.

Our renewals this month include Bank of the San Juans, Ears 2 U Hearing Aid Center, El Rancho Pinoso, High Country Fishing Charters, Jody Brown Agency/Farmers Insurance, Pagosa Springs Nordic Club, Source for Pagosa Springs Real Estate, San Juan Water Conservancy District and The Hub. Our regional members include TierraWools, Durango Coca-Cola and Capital Business Systems.

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Casino to host Non-Profit Money Booth on May 24

Special to The SUN

Ten nonprofit organizations from La Plata, Archuleta and San Juan counties will compete for their share of over \$10,000 on May 24 at Sky Ute Casino Resort in the 19th annual Non-Profit Money Booth.

Since 1999, when Sky Ute Casino Resort held the first Non-Profit Money Booth Event, over \$350,000 has been given to local charities to support a variety of worthy causes.

A reception will be held in the Events Center from 6 to 7 p.m. to honor the selected organizations and present each with a \$500 check. Then, the action will get underway at 7 p.m. when a representative from each organization will enter the money booth for 45 seconds to grab as much cash as they can.

Applications are now available at www.skyutecasino.com. All applications must be turned in no later than 5 p.m. on May 4 to be considered for admittance into the event.

For further information or to have an application faxed or emailed, contact Marketing Coordinator Tracy Leppert at (970) 563-1752 or tracy.leppert@skyutecasino.com.

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SJWCD

Continued from front
court reviewed SJWCD's request to postpone Roane's appointment to the board and ultimately denied SJWCD's request, appointing Roane to the board.

Further, in that motion, Stacy Thompson was also appointed to the board.

In closing within the March 28

order, the judge explains that they had delayed ruling on Hudson and Kelly's appointment to the board until after the April 9 meeting.

"If the Board objects to the appointment of either of these individuals, the Board shall notify the Court on or before April 23, 2018," the March 28 order reads.

Per the order, if the courts re-

ceived no objection on or before April 23, Hudson and Kelly would be appointed to the board by the court.

"The next regular Board meeting is June 11, 2017. [sic] The SJWCD Board requires time to search and interview new counsel, as well as to notice the next meeting date, so SJWCD can convene and conduct its business," SJWCD's motion for

extension of time states.

The extension of time will not hinder SJWCD's operations, the motion for extension of time goes on to note.

"Therefore, SJWCD requests additional time to and including June 25, 2018, to discuss the applications and file any support or objections it may have with the respect to the appointment of Candice Kelly and Bill Hudson," the motion for extension adds.

On Monday, Sixth Judicial District Court Judge Jeffrey Wilson granted the district's motion for extension of time.

Even though the district's motion to the court stated that the next regular board meeting would be in June, the water district's website indicates, "There will be a regular board meeting on Monday, April 23, 2018, at 6:00 pm at the District's office located at 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Agenda pending."

Holsinger's resignation

In an email from SJWCD chairman John Porco to The SUN, Porco explained that while Holsinger has resigned, he will continue to work with the district until it fills his vacancy.

"Mr. Holsinger has resigned. However, he will stay on to deal with unfinished issues until we hire new counsel and transfer our files and cases to that new counsel. The search is underway," Porco wrote.

Porco noted that he had asked Holsinger to file the motion for extension of time.

When asked if he had notified the rest of the SJWCD board of his filing, Porco responded by saying, "No, I did not. Since the meeting was canceled and the deadline was predicated on the original meeting date, it was

logical to request the extension and I have heard no complaints except for one Director."

Porco then provided The SUN with a copy of Holsinger's resignation letter.

Holsinger's letter of resignation begins with him crediting the SJWCD board for their efforts as volunteers.

Holsinger also recognized the struggles that SJWCD has experienced over the past year.

"While I believe most people understand that additional water storage is essential in Colorado's arid climate, a small cadre of detractors is working to deprive the community of this additional water and seeking to undermine, if not abdicate entirely, the SJWCD. Their vitreole [sic] has been particularly directed to former board President Rod Proffitt," Holsinger wrote. "I have had the honor of working in private practice, for members of Colorado's congressional delegation in Washington, DC as well as serving as Assistant Director to Colorado's Department of Natural Resources. Never before have I seen such unwarranted attacks as those levied against SJWCD and its board members."

Despite SJWCD defending its water rights and attempting to further its mission, Holsinger noted that defending against these attacks has "come at a great cost to SJWCD and has detracted from the work we signed on to do."

"Recently, the Court appointed new board members without the opportunity for SJWCD to consider, discuss and act upon their merits. We urge SJWCD to file a Motion to Reconsider such action. If the Court denies it, we urge SJWCD to appeal to protect the integrity of the appointment process," Holsinger goes on to explain.

Holsinger goes on to explain that there have been questions raised about oaths of office for the new board members.

"The Governor just signed a law updating oaths of office for conservancy districts. No longer will the conservancy district oath contain an admonition against board members contracting with their respective districts. This will not change, of course, the requirements to act in the best interest of the district, to disclose any potential conflicts and to recuse oneself from any action on such matters," Holsinger explained.

House Bill 18-1138 was signed by Gov. John Hickenlooper on April 2 and takes effect following the expiration of the 90-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly, which will be in August.

Proffitt resigned in January after the board ended a contract with Proffitt for services with the district in September, which was a violation of his sworn oath of office.

Holsinger went on to express his thoughts on the hiring process for a consultant for SJWCD.

"We have also raised concerns with the proposed process to hire a consultant in that it would run afoul of your bylaws and potentially your governing statute. We urge SJWCD to act in accordance with its governing laws and bylaws in the selection process. Of course, all board action must be properly noticed and acted upon with a quorum in a public session," Holsinger clarified.

The letter further states, "We hereby tender our resignation and pledge to smoothly and efficiently transfer SJWCD files to new counsel. In the meantime, we will take necessary steps so as not to prejudice the interests of the District or its water rights."

County

Continued from front
ney general Monday also included Archuleta County Administrator Bentley Henderson, Starr noted.

The talks, according to Starr, were better than in the past.

Starr explained that this meant a conversation between the county and the courts was in the future.

"I expect to receive a response to my settlement ... which was a 'let's talk settlement' ... by the end of this week," Starr said.

However, the two grants that started this conversation were tabled again at Tuesday's regular meeting of the BoCC.

The two grants are for the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) and are reimbursement grants awarded to the ACSO from the state. These grants are reimbursement of expenses in the ACSO's obligation to provide court security, Henderson explained to the BoCC on March 20.

Due to specific wording in regard to the time, place and reason of the evacuation, Starr has continued to express concern that the grants could be used against the county in the lawsuit against Sixth Judicial District Court Judge Jeffrey Wilson and State Court Administrator Christopher Ryan.

"The bottom line is the court se-

curity grants are going to be tabled one more time. I would have an expectation that by May 1 we can take action," Henderson said.

One of the grants, Commissioner Michael Whiting explained, was simply a reimbursement for funds spent in the ACSO's obligation to provide court security.

At the April 3 BoCC meeting, the commissioners made it clear to Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez that the tabling of the grants was not an easy decision, but made because it could put the costly case (if lost) in jeopardy.

Starr said at the work session Tuesday that the response he was awaiting will not address the ACSO court security grants, but will address the future of the reoccupation of the Archuleta County courthouse.

Henderson further explained that many people must look over the security grants to ensure that they will not threaten the case against the court.

The talk with the attorney general also led to new information, as Henderson also told the BoCC that a response was expected from the courts about what was necessary for them to reoccupy the courthouse building.

Henderson explained that a "circular argument" has surrounded the

courthouse.

The county does not want to spend money on the courthouse if the courts won't return, and the courts won't go in if the county doesn't spend money on the courthouse, Henderson explained.

Starr stated that, hopefully, the jam would be resolved.

"I guess all I can say is stay tuned, in the next couple days, next couple hours, we ought to make some real progress on the real issue," Starr said.

Starr also mentioned that the attorney general did not seem worried about the court security grants and that as quickly as possible the grants would be dealt with.

"I believe that within the next week to 10 days," Starr told the BoCC, "[Henderson] and I will be making a trip up to Denver, and working out, if we do this then you'll reoccupy that."

Henderson told the BoCC these discussions were post-improvement, not an immediate reoccupation of the building.

"We will still have a dispute as to the immediate need, but even that may not be as much of a dispute," Starr said.

Starr mentioned that there had been good language and vocabulary used in talks with the attorney general.

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Fires

Continued from front
was bordered by the San Juan River to the south.

"We had it 100 percent contained by about 10:30 p.m.," Le Roux said.

More than 1,200 members of LPEA were sporadically and temporarily impacted Thursday due to high winds throughout the region.

LPEA spokesperson Indiana Reed wrote in an email to The SUN, "While initial outages were the result of wires clashing and wind-blown branches disrupting the lines, as the winds increased, LPEA's power lines were brought down. Though details have not been confirmed at this time to LPEA, a downed line along Archuleta CR 500, which impacted 340 members, did spark a fire."

Personnel continued to monitor the site throughout the week, with the fire being officially called out Wednesday afternoon.

Edith/Chromo Fire

The PFPD responded to a fire on Thursday afternoon off of County Road 391.

According to PFPD Capt. David

Montoya, the fire occurred when wind blew a cottonwood tree over into a power line, sparking a fire.

He stated that the fire grew to be the size of two acres, and, after being deemed controlled, was placed into monitor status.

He explained that the fire wasn't officially deemed extinguished until Monday.

In addition to the PFPD, members of the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Dulce Fire Department all offered mutual aid.

Montoya added that there was a group of smoke jumpers in the area who also assisted with the fire.

Bootjack Fire

"At approx. 10:40 this morning, a tree fell onto some power lines near Boot Jack and started a small grass fire," wrote Archuleta County Undersheriff Tonya Hamilton in a press release Tuesday. "By 11:14, Archuleta County Emergency Operations, the Pagosa Fire Protection District and La Plata Electric had the fire controlled and the power line shut down. There was also a privately owned tender on scene

helping (extinguish) the fire."

Archuleta County Deputy Director of Emergency Management Christina Kraetsch estimated that the fire burned a patch that was 50 yards by 50 yards, and added that the fire was right next to the highway

As of Wednesday, the fire was still in monitor status.

"When the wind is blowing like this, we tend to see many downed trees, power lines, roofing material being ripped off structures and other dangerous incidents," wrote Hamilton. "If you know of a tree that's close to power lines that appears to be rotted, leaning or old, La Plata Electric can look at it to assess the danger and they can cut it down if need be."

Concludes the press release, "When calls such as this come in, please stay at home and keep your phone, iPad or radio with you for updates. Also be aware that if we are dealing with power lines down, chances are very good that traffic will be stopped and/or diverted for safety reasons."

No fire bans had been put in place by press time.

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Service

Continued from front

including, but not limited to, fighting the threat of censorship in America, overcoming uneasiness with regard to press credibility, combating government secrecy at all levels, and instilling in the public an appreciation of its need as well as its right to know.

"In the past year, the newspaper has uncovered questionable actions of a local board, including calling out inaccurate or misleading representations in district court filings, reporting on inappropriate board member appointments, and noting bylaw changes that were never officially adopted," Hickenlooper said.

He continued, "They have uncovered illegal meetings held via email, as well as host of executive session problems, including illegal meetings being conducted, decisions being made in secret session, and failure to make audio recordings of meeting."

"Their reporting has helped inform the community of questionable, ethical and potentially illegal activity which impacted a mill-levy vote and how the entity operated."

"And that's all from just one government body — a water conservancy district."

Hickenlooper continued, "In other coverage, they have exposed a school district holding meetings outside of meetings. They ensured a charter school's budget was properly approved with a second vote as the hearing had not been [noticed]. They reported improper meetings by the Historic Preservation Board as well as the homeowners association board, both of which were conducting meetings via email. The publication informed its readers on improper hiring process of a school director and they were able to get the recordings of a fire board executive session released, which prompted the fire board members to thank the paper for bringing the procedural error to their attention."

"In another case, they got another executive session recording for a charter school. The paper questioned how a closed-door meeting could have been called for legal advice when no attorney was present. And why was the owner of the charter school building allowed to participate? Because the board and the building owner discussed a possible \$4.7 million deal."

"After publishing the story about the charter school holding an illegal executive session and posting the

audio of the executive session online, residents and groups came forward refuting statements made in that session. The paper printed more stories about those misrepresentations and an editorial. Other groups have thanked the paper for exposing the misrepresentations."

"With its staff of three reporters, Pagosa Springs SUN staff have held government of all kinds and sizes accountable for conducting public business where it belongs — in public. And while it's my honor to give The SUN this award, the real winner of this award is the community and residents that Pagosa Springs' newspaper covers."

"I present to you the winner of the Colorado Press Association's 2017 Service to the First Award, The Pagosa Springs SUN."

After presenting the award and posing for photos with SUN staff, he continued his speech, saying, "There has never been a greater need than now for what you do."

CPA's CEO Jerry Raehal said, "The Pagosa Springs SUN is one of the premier watchdog journalism publications in the state, not just this year, but every year. They are a paper we encourage other members to emulate."

Award

Continued from front

county commissioners at the grocery store. I felt heard when I stood up and spoke in a meeting. And I could drive down the street and see decisions having immediate and real impact on me and my community. And that is when and why open government became such an important principle to me," Roane wrote in response to SUN questioning for the nomination.

Roane's advocacy for the principle of open government includes citizen access and involvement in the governmental decision-making process.

One example was when Roane sought for a referendum measure to be placed on the ballot so that the citizens could vote on whether such an economic game-changer as a big-box store would be allowed into the community.

"I was tremendously proud of the role these citizens took in actively crafting a law that advanced their vision for this town rather than simply accepting the vision of a few select leaders," Roane wrote.

In 2012, Roane advocated for a local group known as Friends of Reservoir Hill, who opposed the commercialized development of the downtown park. He drafted legislation and, at the polls, the residents of Pagosa Springs adopted the measure by a large majority, preventing the development of

Reservoir Hill.

Roane has also been a constant advocate of the Colorado Open Meetings Law (COML).

In 2010, he sought public release of a county commissioners' executive session recording based on the appearance of discussing impermissible topics and making formal decisions behind closed doors. He obtained in-camera review of the recording and subsequent public release of the same.

In 2015, he sought public release of a town council executive session recording because the council conducted negotiations with its contract adversary behind closed doors in violation of COML. He obtained in-camera review of the recording and subsequent public release of the same.

"If we are ever going to participate in local government in a meaningful way, we need to have access to public documents," Roane wrote. "We need to hear leaders' thoughts and opinions. And we need to be able to stand up and express our own thoughts and opinions back to them."

He further wrote, "I believe governments use the threat of financial ruin to tilt the playing field and discourage citizens from challenging them."

To even out the playing field and facilitate access to the courts, Roane helps to minimize the financial threat by representing clients on a

contingency basis, meaning clients do not pay his legal fees unless they win, resulting in no net charge to the client.

"It's not every day that you find an attorney who puts defending the First Amendment and standing up for open government before his wallet and his ego — someone who puts his community and open government first in his actions," wrote House in the nomination.

The judges for the Friend of the First Award wrote, "Matt has shown through his actions that he is a passionate advocate of open government and the First Amendment."

"He is fighting to keep government accountable because he cares."

Roane told The SUN that the CPA award had an impact on him, saying, "It reminded me that there is a tremendous amount of good that can be created simply by showing up, listening and then sharing with the community."

Roane added, "The press is a critical component of the concept of open government. If you don't report, we don't know, and soon, we don't care."

In nominating Roane, The SUN wrote, "He was acting as a private citizen, working to right several wrongs, and that is why we believe Matt Roane is a true 'Friend of the First.'"



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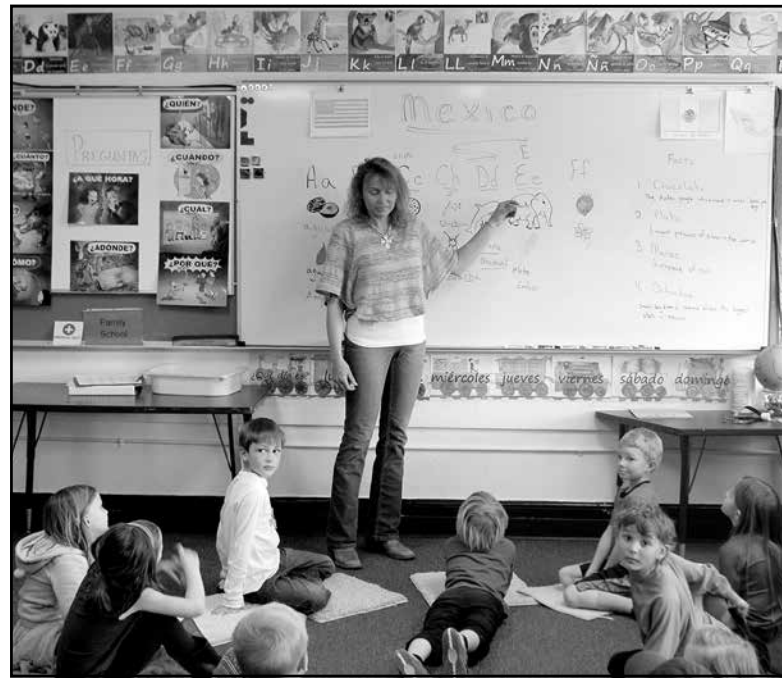
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Education



SUN photos/Chris Mannara
Members of the Archuleta School District Board of Education, along with Superintendent Linda Reed, take a tour of Pagosa Family School on April 10. Guided by Jane Parker, the school's coordinator, the board, along with Reed, were able to observe students in Spanish, art and other classes.



School board decision nullified following records request

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

It was the conversation that wasn't when the board reconvened following an executive session held during the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education regular meeting on April 10.

On the agenda for the meeting, was "Superintendent Evaluation and Contract Negotiation," stating that the BOE would be entering executive session "pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) to continue the Superintendent's evaluation and to discuss a potential contract addendum."

Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 24-6-402(4)(f) allows a local public body to enter into an executive session for the purposes of discussing "Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting." During the April 10 board meeting, BOE member Brooks Lindner made a motion to enter into executive session.

"Mr. President, I move that we go into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) to continue the superintendent's evaluation and to discuss a potential contract addendum," Lindner said, addressing board president Greg Schick.

Following a unanimous vote, the board then moved to an executive session.

Reconvening the meeting back into public session, Schick explained that while no decisions had been made during the executive session regarding ASD Superintendent Linda Reed's contract, there were discussions about an extension of two years to Reed's contract.

However, no salary had been determined for Reed's contract extension as ASD had not completed its budget process, Schick noted.

He then asked for a motion to that effect. Lindner made that motion, which passed unanimously.

C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) states that "no adoption of any proposed policy,

position, resolution, rule, regulation or formal action" except regarding executive session minutes, can be taken in executive session.

On April 16, The SUN requested the portion of the recording in which the BOE reconvened the meeting back into public session.

Statute states that, "Minutes of any meeting of a state public body shall be taken and promptly recorded, and such records shall be open to public inspection."

ASD Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett wrote an email to The SUN indicating that she had conversations with ASD attorneys regarding the issue.

"I conferred with our attorney and because there was no official recording of the reconvening of the meeting the motion and vote are null and void. So, this item will be added to our next month's school board agenda," Bennett wrote.

Later, Bennett explained that the executive session had been recorded, just not the portion where the board reconvened the public session.

"They just stopped the recording at the end of the executive session and didn't get the reconvening of the regular meeting recorded," Bennett wrote.

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College classes to be offered at Pagosa Springs High School

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

According to a white paper provided by its president, Pueblo Community College (PCC) has proposed to offer classes at the PCC Pagosa Springs site.

Pagosa Springs High School is the site for PCC in Pagosa Springs.

Archuleta School District (ASD) Superintendent Linda Reed explained during the ASD Board of Education's regular meeting on April 10 that PCC President Dr. Patricia Erjavec had provided ASD with the white paper in the middle of March.

A white paper is a government report that gives information or proposals on an issue.

The white paper provided by Erjavec details proposed academic programming at the PCC site in Pagosa Springs, Reed explained.

"The white paper outlines certificate programs that they will provide, the timeline and responsible

parties, transfer courses, program promotion, their guided pathway system and support literature regarding this system," Reed said.

PSHS Principal Sean O'Donnell, along with Reed, reviewed the white paper and its details.

"We believe that it is a good thing for our students, so they're going to be beginning implementation of some of the courses in the fall," Reed added. "And then they have a projected timeline out for next fall and then beyond."

O'Donnell added that PSHS is starting with the "low-hanging fruit" in terms of courses offered.

"Things that we currently have that we can offer for PCC credit. So, I mean, a lot of it's current courses that we have," O'Donnell said.

PSHS is currently focusing on working with PCC to bring more career and technical education courses for its students, O'Donnell added.

These PCC courses are intended for students to build a pathway

toward a credential, O'Donnell further explained.

"We have not had as close a working relationship with PCC in the past as I would have liked, so I appreciate Dr. Erjavec and her team for reaching out to us last fall and coming and meeting with us and, really, taking a proactive stance in supporting our students," Reed said.

Additional information

Also in the white paper is a list of programs desired by PSHS and the availability of those courses in the near future.

Some of these programs include, but are not limited to:

- Medical assistant.
- Certified nurse aide.
- Building trades.
- Structural welding.
- Wildland firefighter: Basic.
- Wildland firefighter: Red card.

The only courses that would be available at the start of fall 2018 are building trades, structural weld-

ing and both wildland firefighter courses.

There were also classes listed that could be possibly started in the fall of 2019.

These classes include: certified nurse aide, phlebotomy and EMT: basic.

Medical assistant, hospitality, culinary and automotive are all classes that are to be determined.

"The ability to offer the following programs will depend upon the availability of credentialed instructors and the necessary facilities equipment," the white paper reads.

Further, in the white paper PCC lists a timeline as well as responsible parties for the progress of the project.

The timeline lists a variety of evaluations of staff, curricula and course schedules.

If all goes well, by July 2018, students of PSHS will be able to enroll in PCC courses for fall of 2018.

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Archuleta County school ratings released for state testing

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

According to final district performance framework ratings, Archuleta County schools feature multiple categories that have either "does not meet" or "approaching" ratings.

These ratings do not include scores for Pagosa Peak Open School.

The frameworks, provided by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), look at the academic achievement and growth at the elementary and middle school levels for the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) test.

Ratings also include Pagosa Springs High School in the CMAS, P-SAT and SAT tests.

Additionally, postsecondary and workforce readiness were also measured for high school students in Archuleta County.

Elementary school ratings

Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES) had "does not meet" ratings for nine categories within

academic achievement.

In CMAS-English language arts, students who were English learners, free/reduced-price lunch eligible, minorities or had disabilities all fell under the "does not meet" rating.

According to CDE's scoring guide, this means that each of those groups fell below the 15th percentile.

As a whole, the student group for the English language arts CMAS test has an "approaching" rating.

This means that PSES is at or above the 15th percentile but below the 50th percentile.

For the math and science portions of the CMAS test, PSES was overall again rated "approaching."

The same student groups that were rated "does not meet" in the CMAS English language arts test were also rated in that same category for the CMAS math test.

In CMAS science, the only student group who was rated "does not meet" were English learners.

As a whole, PSES received an "approaching" rating for both academic achievement and growth.

In academic growth, PSES has

an "approaching" rating in most every category for the CMAS English language arts and math tests.

English learners are the only student group who received a "does not meet" rating for academic growth.

Middle school ratings

Academic achievement at Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) was collectively met with an "approaching" rating.

Students who were English learners, free/reduced-price lunch eligible, minorities or had disabilities all fell under the "does not meet" rating for the CMAS English language arts test at PSMS.

For the CMAS science test, PSMS received a "meets" rating for all students.

This means that PSMS is at or above the 50th percentile but below the 85th percentile.

In academic growth, PSMS received a "meets" rating.

Minority students at PSMS were given an "exceeds" rating for CMAS English language arts.

CDE's scoring guide explains that an "exceeds" rating is given for

academic growth when the median growth percentile is at or above 65 percent.

High school ratings

Collectively, Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) was given an "approaching" rating by the CDE for academic achievement, as well as for academic growth.

Specifically in academic achievement, on the science and math portions of the CMAS test, all student groups received a "meets" rating.

In academic growth, PSHS had a collective "approaching" rating, as well as six individual "meets" ratings spread among CMAS math, PSAT to SAT evidence based reading and writing and math tests.

In regards to postsecondary and workforce readiness, PSHS received a "meets" rating.

This rating is calculated by CDE using a variety of criteria such as SAT evidence-based reading and writing and math scores, dropout rate, matriculation rate and graduation rate.

Archuleta School District Superintendent Linda Reed and Assistant Superintendent Laura Mijares were not available for comment on these ratings.

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Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, April 19
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting, 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

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

Friday, April 20
Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors regular meeting, 4 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Monday, April 23
San Juan Water Conservancy District regular board meeting, 6 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5.

Tuesday, April 24
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session, 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Joint town/county work session. Noon, Archuleta County 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.

Upper San Juan Health Service District regular board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical Center, 95 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, April 25
Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation work session, 11 a.m., First Southwest Bank conference room, 249 Navajo Trail Drive.

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

Tuesday, May 8

Archuleta School District Board of Education special meeting, 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School library, 309 Lewis St.

Friday, May 9

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors school tour with the Colorado League of Charter Schools, 12:30 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

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

Community news.

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Outdoors

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With spring appearing in every corner of Colorado, residents and visitors will soon see an abundance of new life, including young wildlife. Many birds and mammals give birth this time of year, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) advises that, if you see young wildlife, leave them alone.

Now through June, newborn wildlife may be found in backyards, along trails, open spaces or, in some rare instances, in parking lots.

CPW receives numerous calls each year regarding young wildlife that has been "abandoned" by adult animals. And, in pet-friendly Colorado, many humans are tempted to "help" a young animal by picking it up or trying to feed it. Well-meaning people sometimes bring baby wildlife to rehabilitation facilities or to CPW offices, but that's the wrong thing to do. There is simply no substitute for their natural parents.

Wildlife experts want people to know that it is quite normal for adult animals to leave their young alone in a safe place while they go search for food. And, in the case of baby birds, people are quick to deem them abandoned, though, in most cases, they are just learning to fly and are likely very near their nests.

"Baby mammals are scentless in order to prevent predators from finding them," said Janet George, senior terrestrial biologist for CPW. "When humans touch these animals, they leave behind a scent their adults will not recognize or may even fear. This can result in true abandonment of healthy offspring. It is best for people to leave them alone."

Because birds do not have a highly developed sense of smell, baby songbirds can be picked up

and moved out of harm's way or placed back in their nests if absolutely necessary. Raptors, however, are a different story; great horned owls and other raptors are territorial and have been known to fly directly at humans seen as a threat to their young.

Deer fawns found in backyards are frequently brought to wildlife offices. They have not been abandoned, so do not touch them.

If you do encounter young wildlife on the trail or in your yard, leave the animal where it is and be careful to keep pets out of the area. Use binoculars to quietly view the animal from a distance. It's important not to get too close to the animals, nor linger near them, as human proximity and time spent in the area may make the wild parents afraid to return.

If 24 hours pass and the parent does not return, or a young animal appears sick and weak, it is possible the newborn was abandoned or the parent may be unable to return due to sickness or death. In this instance, concerned citizens should call the nearest CPW office. The agency has teams available to determine if an animal truly needs aid and the ability to safely transport it to a certified wildlife rehabilitation center if necessary. Never move an animal yourself.

In addition to potential harm to the animal, there is a potential for harm to humans. Handling wildlife poses risks, including disease transmission of rabies, distemper or other illnesses. Wildlife can also carry fleas that might subsequently spread disease to humans or pets.

Finally, it is imperative for Coloradans to understand that there is a vast difference between wildlife and domesticated animals. It is illegal to feed or own most wildlife in Colorado, so despite best intentions, "adopting" a wild animal rarely leads to good outcomes.



Photo courtesy Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Many birds and mammals give birth this time of year, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife advises that, if you see young wildlife, leave them alone.

Hand-fed animals with no fear of humans are rarely returned to the wild due to their lack of survival skills. Licensed wildlife rehabilitators are trained to use methods that will give a wild animal the best chance of surviving upon release.

CPW asks people to call the agency or these rehabilitators to ensure the best outcome for animals.

For more information on living with wildlife, visit <http://cpw.state.co.us/Learn/Pages/Livingwith-Wildlife.aspx>.

DUST2 Youth Cycling Team adds competitive high school team

By Janine Emmets
Special to The SUN

DUST2 is excited to announce its upcoming 2018 season. The team will look a little different this year, as we will be adding a Pagosa Springs High School team.

The high school team will be competing in the Colorado Mountain Bike League, which is part of the National Interscholastic Cycling Association. High school students will have the opportunity to race against other students from high schools across Colorado.

We will be offering a weeklong summer program for fifth- through eighth-graders during the week of July 23-27. The fall team program will start Aug. 1 and go through Oct. 18. Seventh- through 12th-graders will be practicing together and ninth- through 12th-graders will be eligible to race with the Colorado League in four regular-season races starting at the end of August.

Fifth- and sixth-graders can also participate in our fall program that will be tailored to them, focusing on skill-building and riding rather than racing.

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Forest roads and campgrounds statuses

By Elizabeth Reid
Special to The SUN

To protect road surfaces and for public safety, forest roads are seasonally closed to wheeled motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles operating on snow. They are open to nonmotorized uses, including bicycling, hiking and horseback riding. Roads will remain closed until most of the road surface can withstand traffic without damage. An open gate does not give permission to damage roads. Damage is defined as: ruts 1 inch deep or deeper on gravel roads, or 4 inches deep or deeper on native surface roads. Do not go off roads, except to park adjacent to the road on dry ground.

Roads

The following road statuses were released on April 13.

- Black Mountain, No. 661, closed.
- Blanco River, No. 656, closed.
- Blue Creek, No. 012/Big

Branch, No. 664, closed.

- Buckles Lake, No. 663, closed.
- Burns Canyon, No. 649 (to second gate), open.
- Burns Canyon, No. 649 (above second gate), closed.
- Castle Creek, No. 660, to Opal Lake Trailhead, closed.
- Castle Creek, No. 660, to Fish Creek trailhead, closed.
- Chris Mountain Road, No. 681, open.
- Devil Creek, No. 627, to State Wildlife Area, open.
- Devil Mountain, No. 626, closed.
- East Fork, No. 667, closed.
- East Toner, No. 637, open.
- Echo Canyon, No. 029, closed.
- Eight Mile Mesa, No. 651, closed.
- Falls Creek Road, No. 039, closed.
- Fawn Gulch Road, No. 666, closed.
- First Fork, No. 622 (main gate), closed.
- First Fork, No. 622 (gate at

Sheep Creek), closed.

- Fourmile Road, No. 645, closed.
- Jackson Mountain, No. 037, closed.
- Jack's Pasture, Road No. 746, open.
- Kenney Flats, No. 006, open.
- Lefthand Canyon, No. 024, closed.
- Lower Piedra to campground, No. 621, closed.
- McManus, No. 633 (at Plumtaw intersection), closed.
- Middle Fork, No. 636, open.
- Monument Park East, No. 630, closed.
- Monument Park West, No. 630, closed.
- Mosca, No. 631, closed.
- Nipple Mountain, No. 665, open.
- Nipple Mountain, No. 665 (above Echo Canyon), closed.
- Plumtaw, No. 634, closed.
- Poison Park, No. 644, closed.
- Price Lakes, No. 731, closed.
- Snowball, No. 646, open.
- Snow Ranch, No. 628, open.

- Trail Ridge, No. 639, closed.
- Turkey Creek, No. 647, open.
- Turkey Springs, No. 629 - Lower/Middle Gate, closed.
- Turkey Springs, No. 629 - Upper Gate, open.
- Valle Seco Upper, No. 653 to private property, closed.
- West Fork, No. 648, closed.
- Williams Creek, No. 640 (from gate to lake), open.
- Williams Creek, No. 640 (to Palisades HC), closed.
- Wolf Creek Road, No. 725, closed.

Campgrounds

The following campgrounds are estimated to open on May 4:

- Blanco River Group Campground,
- Cimarrona,
- East Fork,
- Lower Piedra,
- Palisades,
- Teal,
- Ute,
- West Fork and
- Williams Creek.

Bring your used gear to the Retro Metro Kids-Safe Routes To School bike swap

By April Rossetti
Special to The SUN

Do you have a bicycle hanging around collecting dust that you don't want anymore? Are you looking to purchase a bicycle or gear at an affordable price so that you can get outside and do some pedaling?

If your answer was "yes" to either of those questions, come out to the Retro Metro Kids (RMK)-Safe Routes To School Bike Swap on April 21 at Pagosa Springs Elementary School.

What?

Bike and gear swap (sale) open to the public. All gear that is bike-related is welcome. No electric or motorized bikes, please.

When?

Gear check-in: April 20 from 1:30 to 6 p.m.
Bike swap (sale): April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Unsold gear pick-up: April 21 from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

Where?

Pagosa Springs Elementary School, 141 S. 10th St.

Who?

RMK is Archuleta School District's Safe Routes To School Program that is designed to provide opportunities for children to learn how to walk and bike safely.

This first-ever RMK-SRTS bike swap is an opportunity for community members to purchase and/or sell affordable used bikes and/or gear to promote healthy lifestyles in Pagosa Springs.

How?

Bring your new and used gear to Pagosa Springs Elementary School on April 20 from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Fill out a form and equipment tags, choose a price for your equipment, then place it on the floor for the sale.

Visit the swap on April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to shop yourself.

Pick up any of your unsold gear from the swap on April 21 from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

Checks for sold items will be picked up by sellers in the main office at Pagosa Springs Elementary School during the school week.

Stephanie Connolly named new BLM Colorado Southwest District manager

Special to The SUN

Stephanie Connolly has been selected as the new district manager for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado's Southwest District. Connolly will report to Colorado on May 29.

"Stephanie brings an impressive background in management and leadership experience," said BLM Colorado Acting State Director Greg Shoop. "We are very lucky that she's bringing her knowledge, skills and abilities to Colorado."

"I first experienced Colorado in 1988 as a volunteer ranger for the Flat Tops wilderness. I am

excited to return. I look forward to working with the communities and partners who make the BLM Colorado Southwest District one of the nation's premier BLM offices," Connolly said. "The landscapes, culture and people of southwest Colorado truly are remarkable."

Connolly has been the BLM Wyoming High Plains District manager since 2009 and has performed a number of high-profile temporary assignments, including acting Wyoming associate state director, acting deputy assistant director and senior advisor to the BLM director.

She began her career in the U.S.

Forest Service in 1991, working in a variety of positions in Utah and Nevada. She also worked for Washoe County, Nev., as a project coordinator before joining the BLM in 2003 as an associate district manager. She served as the Cottonwood Field Manager in Idaho in 2007 before making the move to Casper in 2009.

The Southwest Colorado District manages 2.7 million surface acres in the Uncompahgre, Grand Junction and Tres Rios field offices, and encompasses 7.3 million acres of public mineral estate.

Connolly will fill a position previously held by Joe Meyer, who retired in 2017.



Stephanie Connolly

April is Pet Safety Month: Make sure your pets are part of your evacuation plan

By Bill Fortune
Special to The SUN

During the month of March, the Red Cross provided comfort and care to 238 people in response to 88 events.

As a reminder, April is Pet Safety Month. Never let your pets be the reason you do not evacuate under threatening conditions. Include your furry family members in your disaster preparedness planning. Remember, if it's not safe for you to stay in your home during an emergency, it's not safe for them either.

Consider including supplies for your pet in your emergency kit. Be aware that many hotels and shelters

do not accept animal guests, other than service animals. The Red Cross partners with local animal shelters to provide a safe place for your pets in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Take time to download the free award-winning Pet First Aid App to get critical disaster pet care tips on your smartphone, available on the Apple App Store and Google Play

Store. Red Cross also provides Cat and Dog First Aid Online Training to learn the basics of providing first aid care for your cat or dog. Visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class.

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Sports

BASEBALL

Pirate baseball logs three wins in two games

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate baseball team strung together three wins in unique fashion over the last week — by only playing two games.

With two wins in two games against the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers and a forfeit win over the 4A Sierra Stallions from Colorado Springs, the Pirates now hold an 8-5 overall record and 2-4 mark in the Intermountain League (IML).

"It was really nasty out there. I mean, it was so windy and cold," coach Jim Fait said Tuesday about the trip to Cortez. "Man, it was just, it was a tough day to play ball, but we won two one-run games, which we haven't done in a long time."

The first of those one-run wins came in 8-7 fashion Friday afternoon.

The Pirates scored a trio of runs in the third inning to take the first lead in the back-and-forth affair, but the Panthers scored one in the third and three in the fourth to take a 4-3 lead.

The Pirates countered with four runs in the top of the fifth to regain the lead, 7-4.

The scoring continued in the bottom of the inning with the Panthers scoring another run.

Both teams notched another run in the sixth inning, leaving Pagosa with an 8-6 lead heading into the game's final inning.

But, not content to go down without a fight, the Panthers scored another run in the inning and threatened to tie the game with two outs.

With Shane Miller pitching in relief for Hunter Bailey, a Panther base runner made it to third base with two outs, Fait recalled.

"And he was pretty fast; that kid was pretty fast on third base. And [Shane] threw a wild pitch, and Zach Haines was behind the plate and got the ball at the backstop and threw a perfect strike to Shane, and the kid was out at home," Fait said. "Or, it would have been a tie game. So, that's really how game one went down."

Bailey threw 103 pitches in six and one-third innings for the Pirates in the game, allowing three earned runs on eight hits and one walk while striking out eight.

Miller pitched 11 pitches to close out the game.

The pitchers combined to give up 11 hits.

"He pitched a great game," Fait said of Bailey. "And then, on the other side of that, the hitting, ... Tanner Evans went 3-for-3 and did

a great job."

Evans' performance included a double.

Liam Doctor recorded two hits, a stolen base and scored a run for the Pirates, while PJ Bailey and Keaton Laverty each knocked a hit and scored two runs.

Eric Huddleston notched a hit and scored a run, Jesse Laverty tallied a hit, and DJ Day scored a run.

Pagosa committed three errors in the game, while the Panthers erred five times.

The second half of the doubleheader that evening took on a different flavor, with a 2-1 final score.

"It was a pitching duel," Fait said, noting that PJ Bailey threw a complete game for the Pirates with 89 pitches.

The Panthers put up their only run of the day in the third inning, while Pagosa didn't score until the fifth.

With a 1-1 tie heading into the sixth inning, Day lined a double to right field to score Keaton Laverty, Fait relayed, which turned out to be the game-winning RBI.

After the Panthers failed to score in the bottom of the inning, Fait explained that the umpire questioned the coaches about continuing the game with the sun setting before ultimately calling the game over due to darkness.

The Pirates tallied six hits in the game, led by two from Hunter Bailey.

PJ Bailey and Day (the double) each notched a hit and recorded an RBI, while Keaton Laverty notched a hit, a run scored and a stolen base.

Evans also recorded a hit in the game, and Doctor scored a run.

In his complete-game performance, PJ Bailey allowed one earned run on two hits and three walks while striking out nine.

During the second game Friday, it was learned that Saturday's home game against the Stallions had been canceled due to a transportation issue on the part of the Stallions, with the game being credited to Pagosa as a forfeit win.

Fait noted Tuesday that he was OK with the cancellation because the game likely would not have helped Pagosa in the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI), which helps determine postseason seeding.

The Pirates now have only six games remaining, including four league games.

Heading into this weekend, the Pirates sit third in the IML and are back in the conversation.

"Now it's up to us to finish the year out strong," Fait said. "You know, we've got two doubleheaders against league opponents, and pretty equally matched teams. Hopefully, we can get a couple wins in Monte and then go to Centauri and get a couple wins."

Alamosa, who holds a 6-0 league mark and 8-4 overall record, is currently first in the IML.

Bayfield follows with a 5-1 IML record and 8-5 overall record.

Centauri and Monte Vista also hold 2-4 IML records, with Centauri owning a 6-7 overall mark and Monte Vista sitting with a 3-10 overall record. Cortez sits at the bottom of the league standings with a 1-5 IML tally and 2-7 overall

record.

"I look at the league schedule, and if we can go 6-4 and win the next two doubleheaders, sittin' solid third place in the Intermountain League, I think we'll be fine," Fait said looking forward.

The top two teams out of each district advance, with the rest of the 32-team bracket decided based on RPI.

As of Monday, April 16, Pagosa was the No. 26 team in the RPI.

Also as of Monday, Alamosa was No. 9, Bayfield was No. 23, Centauri was No. 27, Monte Vista was No. 43 and Cortez was No. 50.

The state bracket is scheduled to be released on May 9.

This Saturday, Pagosa will continue its tour around the IML and its quest for league wins by traveling to Monte Vista for a doubleheader against that town's iteration of the Pirates.

And, with a winning streak in their pockets, the Pagosa Pirates are excited.

"They are really, really excited," Fait said, adding, "I'm trying to focus with them that, hey, we worry about Monte Vista, then we go from

■ See Baseball A14

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TRACK



Photo courtesy Justin Cowan

Michael Wedemeyer shows his war face during the triple jump at the Pine River Invitational last weekend. Wedemeyer placed first in the triple jump with a distance of 41 feet, 6.5 inches — a personal record.



Photo courtesy Justin Cowan

Cade Cowan reaches for the stars during the long jump at the Pine River Invitational last weekend. Cowan placed third, jumping a distance of 19 feet, 9.25 inches, putting him in the top 18 for Colorado 3A.

Pirates to participate in Aztec Invitational this weekend

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate track team participated in the Pine River Invitational in Bayfield on Saturday, with several members of the team showing improvement.

The girls' team placed sixth out of 13 teams, while the boys' team placed seventh out of 13 teams.

"I feel pretty good about a lot of

different performances. There were a lot of [personal records], more than we've ever had in the past," remarked coach Connie O'Donnell. "It's really cool that kids keep improving."

O'Donnell explained that, on Tuesday, the Pirates were supposed to travel to Durango to participate in a meet, but that it had been postponed due to weather concerns.

The following results are from the Pine River Invitational.

In the 100-meter, Lady Pirate Mackenzie Wedemeyer placed fifth with a time of 14.13 seconds.

River Pitcher placed seventh with a time of 14.26 seconds.

In the 800-meter, Emma Heidelberg placed third with a time of 2:31.03, which is her new personal record.

In the 1,600-meter, Ivory Carpenter placed ninth with a time of 7:32.79.

In the 3,200-meter, Megan Greenly placed second with a time of 14:06.51.

"I was really impressed with Megan Greenly. It was her first meet this season," O'Donnell said. "She got second in the 2-mile and ran a really good race. She also shocked us, because she's been working on high jump, but never competed in high jump before, and she cleared the first

■ See Track A15

SOCCER

Pirates get forfeit win, beat Cortez, rematch against Alamosa set for Tuesday

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Riding three straight wins, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate soccer team now finds itself second in the Region 5 standings for the 3A classification.

Coming off of a win against league opponent the Bayfield Wolverines on April 10, Pagosa was scheduled to square off with the Center Vikings on April 13.

The Vikings were forced to forfeit the match against the Pirates because they did not have enough players due to injury, illness and eligibility. Athletic Director Marcie Ham clarified in an email to The SUN.

On Tuesday, the Pirates traveled to Cortez to face off against the Panthers for the second time this season.

Earlier in the year, on April 3, Pagosa defeated Cortez at home by a score of 1-0.

Cortez

As they say, history repeats itself and the match against Cortez was

no different as Pagosa defeated Cortez by a score of 1-0 in overtime.

Coach Scott Galabota explained in an email that, because of the windy conditions, the Pirates were focused on a possession game with controlled passes on the ground.

Because the wind was blowing straight across the field, the weather also affected crosses from the wings, Galabota added later.

When it came to adjusting their game plan to fit the windy conditions, Galabota thought the Pirates did a great job.

"The girls executed this game plan wonderfully, moving to get open for passes, finding seams and masterfully controlling possession," he wrote.

Alannah Gallegos and Morgan Thompson were noted by Galabota as being the driving forces for Pagosa against Cortez.

"They directed possession in the middle and their movement helped to facilitate possession on both sidelines. Those two girls, along with Senior Alyssa Lewis, took the majority of our shots," Galabota added.

More praise was given to Bri Linzalone, who "shined on defense," as Galabota described.

"Her speed and field vision allowed her to stop most Cortez attacks before they could gain any steam. On one of Cortez's corner [kicks,] Bri and keeper Diana Scott

each stopped excellent shots close to the goal," Galabota explained.

The lone goal for Pagosa came in overtime, Galabota noted.

A foul on a Cortez player on the outside corner of the Panthers' penalty box gave Pagosa a direct kick, Galabota described.

"Bri launched a wonderful ball to the far side of the goal which deflected off a Cortez player into the goal," Galabota described further.

Linzalone was also nominated by Galabota as player of the game for her "acute defensive awareness" and tough play.

The Pirates finished the game with 22 shots on the Cortez net.

Lewis led the team with seven shots, and Gallegos and Thompson both added five each.

Nicole Bartz also fired off two shots of her own.

Hailey Griego, Linzalone and Sarah Ross all added one shot apiece.

Scott saved two shots on goal, recording her third shutout of the season.

With the win, Pagosa moves to 5-5 on the season and 3-2 in league play.

Cortez falls to 2-8 on the season and 0-7 in league play.

As of Monday, Pagosa was ranked 33rd out of 61 teams in the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) standings for the 3A classification, which help determine postseason

seeding.

Upcoming games

On Tuesday, Pagosa will travel to Alamosa for a rematch against the Mean Moose.

Pagosa lost earlier in the season, on April 6, to Alamosa by a score of 1-0.

Alamosa is currently first in the Region 5 standings with a 7-1 overall record and a 3-0 record in league play.

Alamosa also had a top-five spot in the RPI standings as of Monday, sitting No. 5.

Varsity action against Alamosa is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

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Baseball

Continued from A13

there. I don't want them looking down the road to Centauri at Centauri or something else."

That excitement showed through at Monday's practice, the coach explained, with four Pagosa Pirates hitting balls over the fence in live batting practice.

But, to be successful, Fait explained that the team has to not commit errors, which could come back to bite them against a good team.

"So, we keep the walks to a minimum, keep the errors to a minimum and hit the ball, we're going to be fine, because our pitching, our pitching's pretty strong right now ..." Fait said, "between Hunter, PJ and Shane, and then we have Keaton, also. We have, I feel, strong pitchers, and our team ERA would reflect that."

Pagosa's team ERA is 2.43, while the team's batting average is .348.

The Pirates-versus-Pirates doubleheader is slated to start at 11 a.m.

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SUN photo/Chris Mannara
Surrounded by her parents, Athletic Director Marcie Ham and track coach Connie O'Donnell, senior Pirate Keena Murphy signs her National Letter of Intent on April 12 to continue her track and field career at the University of Nevada. Murphy plans on participating in discus.

Track

Continued from A14
 two heights right away.”

In the 300-meter hurdles, Amy Jones placed eighth with a time of 56.05.

In the 4x800-meter relay, the girls' relay team, consisting of Greenly, Megan Foster, Carpenter and Peyton Khung, placed fifth with a time of 13:20.37.

In the girls' high jump, Greenly placed eighth with a height of 4 feet, 4 inches.

In the long jump, Heidelmeier placed sixth with a distance of 14-6.5, which is her new personal record.

Pitcher placed seventh with a distance of 14-6.

In the triple jump, Pitcher placed second with a distance of 31-8.75, a personal record.

“River Pitcher is getting closer. She's ranked in the low 20s for triple jump,” O'Donnell said. “We just have to get her down into the top 18 somehow.”

In discus, Keena Murphy placed first, throwing a distance of 121-11.

In the boys' 400-meter, Cade Cowan placed fifth with a time of 52.50, a personal record.

Irving Pina placed seventh with a distance of 53.89, a personal record.

In the 3,200-meter, Jack Foster placed sixth with a time of 11:52.98, also a personal record.

Tate Hinger placed seventh with a time of 11:57.20.

In the 300-meter hurdles, Aidan O'Donnell placed sixth with a time of 48.22, a personal record.

Cam Hinger placed eighth with a time of 48.68, a personal record.

“We have two freshman boy hurdlers, and they just get out there and compete,” O'Donnell said. “Aidan placed and Cam was close to placing, but they were also racing against seniors, and hurdling is technique thing, and it takes a long time, but they looked really good over hurdles.”

She added that, as far as freshmen go, both Aidan O'Donnell and Cam Hinger are in the top ten in the state for hurdles.

The boys' 4x400 meter relay team, consisting of Michael Wedemeyer, Pina, Aidan O'Donnell and Isaac Munoz, placed third with a time of 3:35.91.

“I'm really impressed with Isaac Munoz,” remarked O'Donnell, explaining that he was the only freshman in the fast heat for the 100-meter and 200-meter.

She explained that, although he didn't place, he ran in a heat that consisted of mostly seniors.

“As a freshman, being able to compete with them, that's pretty impressive,” O'Donnell explained. “He'll just get faster, because boys tend to do that.”

The boys' 4x800 meter relay team, consisting of Tate Hinger, Jack Foster, Gabe Heraty and Mitch Lewis, placed third with a time of 9:17.67.

In the high jump, Aidan O'Donnell placed seventh with a height of 5-2, a

personal record.

In the long jump, Cowan placed third with a distance of 19-9.25, and Michael Wedemeyer placed fifth with a distance of 19-4.5, a personal record.

“Cade Cowan finally got some good jumps that weren't wind restricted, so now he's in the top 18,” O'Donnell said.

In the triple jump, Wedemeyer placed first with a distance of 41-6.5, a personal record.

“Michael Wedemeyer is now in the top 18 for triple jump. He got his PR, and that was really fun to watch,” explained O'Donnell.

Nolan Kay also achieved a new personal record, placing ninth with a distance of 37-8.5.

O'Donnell added that the team would be doing a plyometric workout during the week, which is also known as jump training.

This Friday and Saturday, the Pirates will travel to Aztec to participate in the B&B Aztec Invitational.

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Triple Impact Student-Athlete of the Week

Morgan Thompson
Soccer

Favorite subject: Chemistry

Comments from coach: “I would like to nominate Morgan Thompson as the triple impact player of the week. She is a leader on and off the field. She puts in 100% effort into practices and is always looking to improve her skills and help the players on her team improve their skills. She is focused and determined in school, at practice, and during the games.”

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Colorado Guys and Gals Country Hoedown

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Our Savior Lutheran School's annual Colorado Guys and Gals Country hoedown wasn't just a fundraiser, but also a chance for the community to have a night of dinner and dancing, country style. With live music from popular regional band The High Rollers, a silent auction and brisnet dinner with all the fixings, it appeared a good time was had by the event's attendees.



Tourism and rentals could bring data to help better understand the community economics

By Avery Martinez
Staff Writer

Jennifer Green, the executive director of tourism for Pagosa Springs, gave a report on her data gathered from hypothetical scenarios of tourist activity in the Pagosa Springs area at the joint work session of the Archuleta Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and the Pagosa Springs Town Council on March 27.

In an interview with The SUN, Green explained that she created the scenarios after a request came from the town and county to find out how many rooms, vacation rentals and lodgings were actively used on an average night.

"The reason I put this together," Green explained, "[is that] various members of town council and the county commissioners had been asking, what is our occupancy?"

She added, "We talk about the number of vacation rentals, things like that, and they hear housing crisis — so how full are we?"

Green explained that the question of how "full" the collective rooms around the county are is not an easy question.

"We don't necessarily have the data to answer that 100 percent, but no other community really does, either," Green explained.

Green then created several estimates of data to try to determine the total lodging tax and occupancy for both the town and county.

Green's 'guesstimate' data

Green explained that getting information and data from private businesses was difficult, so she created estimates based on what information was available to her.

So, Green further explained, she had to hypothesize and estimate the numbers and prices used.

Green explained that she had done another report in the past, before Pagosa had vacation rentals, and that her hesitation to produce this report was simply because there is no certain number of vacation rentals active in Pagosa and the surrounding area.

Green further explained that they did not know how many of the vacation rentals were even paying lodging tax.

The town self-collects lodging tax, Green explained; however, the county gets a check from the state. "We don't have visibility into the individual payees," Green said.

Two assumptions

Green explained that, because of the limited data available to her, she had to make two assumptions.

"The first assumption, is the number of rooms we have," Green said.

During her presentation to the BoCC and town council, Green had mentioned that, often, getting information on vacancies and occupancies is extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible.

Green mentioned, however, that third-party organizations can help to gather this kind of data.

She said that she was not as concerned with vacation rentals as with the number of vacation rentals paying lodging tax, because that is how she is able to determine the amount of occupancy.

Amount of occupancy formula explained

Green explained that she gained this amount by starting with lodging tax collections and then got total sales by dividing out the tax rate, and then the total sales possible, and from this process found the occupancy.

"The second assumption was the average daily rate (ADR) [for a room]," Green said.

She explained that by dividing the daily rate into the total sales of rooms to get an idea of the ADR.

"The ADR changes by day, by week, holidays, special events and you look at all the different properties, plus factor in the vacation rentals ... so, how do we hone in on what the ADR is for the community?" Green noted.

Green explained she looked to the Rocky Mountain Lodging Report and saw that Durango's ADR, based on however many properties were reporting information, came to \$139.01.

"I'm pretty sure Pagosa's a less expensive market," Green said.

Green explained she started with using Durango's ADR as an assumption for scenario one, and "then just came up with a guesstimate for vacation rentals," to get total room count.

Green said that for scenario two, she lowered the ADR to \$120 a night, and lowered the number of vacation rentals assumed to be paying.

"Again, not sure how accurate these numbers are, and I think I was quite clear to the town and county that ... I'm just trying to come up with an answer for you to show you what it could look like," said Green.

Findings

Green's report found that, in scenario one, occupancy for the town was at roughly 46 percent, while the county was nearly 22 percent.

Scenario two, however, found the occupancy to be at 56 percent for the town, and 45 percent for the county.

Green explained that she found scenario two slightly more correct since it was "closer to how it feels in the community."

In the second scenario, findings for July were at 85 percent occupancy, December close to 60 percent and March 66 percent.

Green explained this, the second scenario, seemed closer to how busy the community was in certain months, Green explained.

"Whereas the first scenario it just did not mesh up with what July, I think that one came out to be ... at 70 percent, that seems too low for the month of July," Green said.

Third-party options

"What I found in digging into

this a bit more is there are third-party companies that provide these reports ... " Green said.

Green noted that some of these third parties were companies such as the Rocky Mountain Lodging Report.

From these types of companies, Green explained, it is much easier to gather actual data, as hotels and businesses are more comfortable with sharing that information with a third-party company.

"It just takes four properties to report for [the third-party] to be on [the Rocky Mountain Lodging Report]," Green said.

Green said that, for example, Durango only needed four properties to report to be in the report.

"So, you can't say that the numbers that Durango's getting is accurate, but at least it is coming from a third party. So it's perhaps viewed more so," Green said.

Green explained that currently only two properties reported their information in the Pagosa area. Chains usually provide the information, said Green, and there are only two chain properties in town.

"But, we would need at least four to get Pagosa on those reports," Green said.

Green also explained that these numbers and questions began to

combine themselves with other questions around the community.

Green identified several cross-over concerns, such as, are people coming to town to shop or just passing through?

From the research on lodging tax, which tells the number of people staying here and how long, Green was able to identify other concerns to be answered for data.

The data could also answer questions about visitors, availability and revenue, Green noted.

Five questions to find answers for

Green explained that out of her findings, five had been identified as the most pertinent to be answered.

"I'm realizing there's no one data source that is going to answer this, so we just need to prioritize what the questions are we want to have answered," Green said, "And then figure out which source makes the most sense."

First and most important, Green explained, is what percentage of our sales tax comes from locals versus tourists.

Second, Green noted, was in marketing and where to market to.

"The availability of data has evolved so much in the last couple

■ See Economics A18

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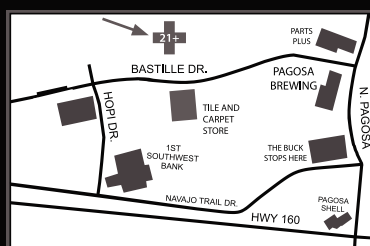
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preview

ARTS & LIFE

Denim Day

Wednesday, April 25



Wear jeans for a purpose on April 25

By Ashley Wilson
Special to The PREVIEW

On April 25, you will notice businesses around Pagosa Springs participating in Denim Day, which means employees pay \$5 (all proceeds go to support victims in Pagosa Springs) and get to wear jeans to work.

This is all in support of community education around sexual violence. Sexual violence is an under-reported crime due to the stigma victims often experience. The most important thing you can do if someone discloses is to believe them. Too often, victims are asked what they did. When, in reality, there is no excuse for abuse and rape.

Denim Day this year is on April 25. Rise Above Violence is hosting a walk around main street to show support for victims and survivors of sexual violence. Please join us at noon at the bell tower (Lewis and U.S. 160) to share who you wear jeans for.

For the past 19 years, the Denim Day campaign has been held on a Wednesday in April in honor of Sexual Violence Awareness Month. The campaign was originally triggered by a ruling by the Italian Supreme Court where a rape conviction was overturned because the justices felt that since the victim was wearing tight jeans, she must have helped her rapist remove her jeans, thereby implying consent. The following day, the women in the Italian Parliament came to work wearing jeans in solidarity with the victim.

The Denim Day campaign was developed by Peace Over Violence in response to this case and the activism surrounding it. Since then, wearing jeans on Denim Day has become a symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault.

In this rape prevention education campaign, we ask community members, elected officials, businesses and students to make a social statement with their fashion by wearing jeans on this day as a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual assault. This year's Denim Day is April 25. See <http://denimdayinfo.org/about/> for more information.

In light of Denim Day and what it stands for, it can seem overwhelming that one in three women will experience some form of sexual violence in their lifetime or that one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives. See <https://www.nsvrc.org/statistics>.

But, the good news is that prevention is possible and it's happening. Individuals, communities and the private sector are already successfully combating the risk of sexual violence through conversations, programs, policies and research-based tools that promote safety, respect, and equality.

By promoting safe behaviors, thoughtful policies and healthy relationships, we can create safe and equi-



Photo courtesy Rise Above Violence

On April 25, you will notice businesses around Pagosa Springs participating in Denim Day, which means employees pay \$5 (all proceeds go to support victims in Pagosa Springs) and get to wear jeans to work.

table communities where every person is treated with respect. We are in a watershed moment.

With the country focused on this very important issue, we have an unprecedented opportunity to improve understanding and change behaviors. The time to rally communities and the broader public is now.

Rise Above Violence would like to join you and the community as being part of this change for Pagosa Springs. Rise Above Violence youth prevention programs focus on respect, healthy relationships and understanding consent. These are important conversations to have with the young people in our community — really with all people in our community — so that we can change the conversation. Rise would love to focus less on crisis response and more on prevention and promotion of healthy relationship values. Raise your voice in our community around these issues. Silence is what perpetuates the problem.

Rise Above Violence is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that services victims and survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and other violent crimes in Archuleta County. For 24/7 crisis support, please call 264-9075 to talk with an advocate. If you or someone you know needs help dealing with violence, please call.

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Sunday
 La Taqueria San Juans: Live Music, 11 a.m.

Wednesday
 La Taqueria San Juans: Live Music, 6 p.m.



Photo courtesy D'Ann Artis

Carson Grose, high school senior, will be featured as a xylophone soloist at this Saturday's seventh annual Band-O-Rama and will be accompanied by the Pagosa Brass Quintet. The concert starts at 7 p.m. and is free to the public at the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. The doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Band-O-Rama set for Saturday at 7 p.m.

By Heidi Tanner
Special to The PREVIEW

The seventh annual Band-O-Rama is here. This Saturday night, April 21, brass will be blowing, drums beating and woodwinds and strings singing beginning at 7 p.m. at the Pagosa Springs High School auditorium.

The Band-O-Rama concert is hosted by the Pagosa Springs Community Band, which will be playing during the evening, but you will also be treated to concert band music performed by Pagosa Springs Middle School's sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade bands and Pagosa Springs High School's Jazz and Concert bands.

This year, Band-O-Rama will feature high school senior Carson Grose as the soloist. Grose has played in the percussion section of the Pagosa Springs Community Band since 2016, when his family moved to Pagosa Springs from Texas. In addition to percussion, Grose is an accomplished pianist

and sings in the choir at Pagosa Springs High School.

In November 2017 Grose was the pianist for Curtain's Up Christmas show "Elf Jr.," a key position in the pit orchestra as the pianist is the anchor for the show's music ensemble. This spring, Grose was the sole percussionist for Pagosa Springs High School's production of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," which had him playing a multitude of different percussion instruments through a complex show.

Grose has the distinction of having auditioned for and been accepted in to both All State Choir and All State Band.

Dan Burch, music director at Pagosa Springs High School, related that only one other student in the history of our high school has achieved this honor.

High school students across the state of Colorado compete for the opportunity to play in these top-notch bands and choral groups and **See Band on next page**

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Eye health awareness: Check your ocular health at April 28 9Health Fair

By Constance d'Angelis
Special to The PREVIEW

Did you know that the leading cause of blindness worldwide is cataracts?

Cataracts are the most common cause of vision loss for individuals over the age of 40. In fact, according to Prevent Blindness America, there are more cases worldwide of this lens-clouding condition than glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy combined.

Cataracts are opacities or blind spots in the lens of the eye that progress dramatically as we age. More than half of all Americans older than 65 have cataracts to some degree. Cataracts take

months, or even years, to fully form, resulting in blurred vision and, if left untreated, they can result in blindness.

Since 2000, cataract prevalence has climbed 22 percent. Other ocular maladies have also risen. The incidence of macular degeneration has increased by 25 percent, diabetic retinopathy by almost 90 percent and glaucoma by 19 percent.

Dr. Jon Zissman, OD, is providing free vision screenings. Come to Pagosa Springs High School April 28 from 7 to 11 a.m.

The Pagosa Springs Town Council will proclaim its support of 9Health Fair at its meeting today, April 19.

There will also be eyeglass recycling through Lions Club at the

health fair. Imagine you could help a child read. Increase community health and wellness and make a real difference by bringing your used eyeglasses.

Come to the high school on April 28 between 7 and 11 a.m. There will be a minimal cost blood test panel for \$35, free screenings and education opportunities.

Lifesaving tests and assessments are a great way to ward off potential problems.

Volunteers have a special time and date set aside for their tests and some vouchers are available, too.

We need greeters, volunteer today. Contact Constance: text/call (813) 373-8004 or email 7LawsofHealth@gmail.com.

Band

continued from previous page
the competition to get in is stiff. Grose is recently returned from All State Band held in Greeley at the University of Northern Colorado from April 5-7 and said the experience was very rewarding.

At this Saturday's Band-O-Rama concert, Grose will be playing "The Log Cabin Blues" by George Hamilton Green on the xylophone.

Grose will be accompanied by the Pagosa Brass Quintet, which is the Pagosa Springs Community Band's featured small brass ensemble. The quintet's players are Larry Elginer and Larry Baisdon on trumpet, D'Ann Artis playing horn, Dan Burch on trombone and James Kiker playing tuba. The xylophone is a fun percussion instrument and the piece will be enjoyed by listeners of all ages.

The Pagosa Springs Community Band and all the members of our

student bands look forward to playing for you at Band-O-Rama this Saturday, April 21. This is a free concert. However, donations will be accepted with gratitude and a receipt can be provided to you for tax purposes.

Proceeds collected from this concert are shared equally between the Community Band, the Pagosa Springs Middle School

Music Department and the Pagosa Springs High School Music Department. Your donations will help to build a stronger music education program in our Pagosa schools. Thank you in advance for your assistance and we look forward to seeing you at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, at the high school auditorium. The doors open at 6:30 p.m.

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Photo courtesy Kristin Morehouse

The Pagosa Springs Destination Imagination team Seven Wheels on an Empty Bus is Cody Caler, Ella Hemenger, Becky Thompson, Megan Greenly, Alethea Barrows, Madi Milburn and Maddy Stewart. The team is one of two who earned a spot at Global Finals. The teams will be holding a community dinner theater on April 23 to raise funds for the trip.

Global-bound Destination Imagination teams announce Monday dinner performance

By Kristin Morehouse
Special to The PREVIEW

Archuleta School District is advancing two Pagosa Springs Destination Imagination (DI) teams to Global Finals, which will involve 17,000 participants in Knoxville, Tenn., the third week in May.

Pagosa students are working together to raise money to send the

two teams — Seven Wheels on the Empty Bus and Bombulum Draconis — to Global Finals. The first of several fundraisers will be a community dinner theater held in the high school commons on April 23. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with performances beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Please come have dinner with us and share in the skits produced by our students. One is a musical

drama and the other a comedic ballad. You will be able to see team-made props, computer gadgets and have a chance to talk with students who are involved with DI.

Please come join us in food, fun, music and laughter as we send off the 10 students headed to Global Finals with their beautiful voices, ukulele and a 15-foot farting dragon named Stanley.

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Photo courtesy AI Myatt

Brandon Caley from the Pagosa Ranger District helps his young visitors understand the complexity of forest health at last year's Earth Fair. This year's Earth Week Fair is set for Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the PLPOA Clubhouse.

More Earth Week ahead: Earth Day Fair and March for Science this weekend

By Pauline Benetti
Special to The PREVIEW

Earth Week 2018 has been a very busy week with participation from a variety of community organization and local businesses — a Lifelong Learning Lecture at the Library, a Pagosa Earth Community discussion on social and environmental justice, the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership (GGP) Environmental Film Festival, Unitarian Universalist trash pickups, San Juan Outdoor Club hike and the Mountain High Gardeners annual exposition.

But, we are not through yet. Today there will be a Loaves and Fishes lunch at noon at the Parish Hall served by Southwest Organization for Sustainability and later, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Chamber

of Commerce conference room, a discussion of the winter issue of Yes Magazine, which is about building an economy that benefits everyone. Finally, there are the big events of Saturday, the Earth Week Fair, and Sunday, the Earth Day March for Science.

Earth Week Fair

Saturday's Earth Week Fair will take place at the PLPOA Clubhouse on Port Avenue from 1 to 4 p.m. It will include displays by a number of local organizations and businesses, the exhibit of an electric car, speakers, kid events, music and food.

Among the organizations with valuable information and giveaways for you are the following: Archuleta County Weed and Pest, Audubon Rockies, CSU Extension,

Earth Community, GGP, Plastic Coalition, Rock the Vote, San Juan Stargazers, San Juan Water Conservation District, Southwest Colorado Firewise, St. Francis Wildlife Rehabilitation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, Weminuche Audubon Society and, ■ See Earth on next page

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Pagosa area model railroaders to meet in Farmington

By Joe Lemmo
Special to The PREVIEW

The Silver San Juan Division of the National Model Railroad Association will hold its spring meeting on Saturday, April 21, at the Farmington Museum, 3041 East Main St., Farmington, N.M., starting at 9 a.m.

Anyone who loves trains is invited.

The program will include clinics

on modeling roads, layout videos, updates on current activities from the Durango Railroad Historical Society and the Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad. There will be a demonstration and discussion on designing and constructing HO modules by division members.

Also included in the program will be a swap tables for paid up division newsletter subscribers, and a favorite train contest. "From

the Workbench" and "First Aid for Modelers" sessions provide an opportunity for all to bring models and questions to share with the group.

For other information, see the Silver San Juan Division National Model Railroad Association page at <https://ssjdnmra.000webhostapp.com/> or contact Joe Lemmo at 731-1590.

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 **SUN**
The Pagosa Springs

Earth

■ continued from previous page

by Saturday, there may very well be more. You will also be encouraged at the number of businesses involved in the sustainability effort.

The lineup of speakers will present in the PLPOA conference Room and include the following: Jonathon Dobson, "Solarizing a Rural School in Puerto Rico" (1 p.m.); Kirsten Skeehan and Bob Formwalt on their candidacy for the La Plata Electric Association Board of Directors (1:45 p.m.); Justin Ramsey, "Local and Regional Water Issues, a PAWSD View" (2:30 p.m.); and Bill Trimarco, "Protecting your Property from Wildfire" (3:15 p.m.). Everyone will find something that matters to them in this lineup.

Now for the kids. There will be so much to do and see: St. Francis Wildlife Rehabilitation will have Dooley the educational falcon on hand. The two Audubon organizations will host a scavenger hunt and a bird viewing area complete with binoculars and guidebooks to help with identification of birds as well as a plant planting activity. For further edification and enjoyment of the young ones, there will also be a science demo area, as well as a giant bubble demo and play area.

Finally, food and music: Enjoy a barbecue down by the gazebo or, for those who would rather not do meat, enjoy a vegetarian cooking demo by Tess Challis in the clubhouse. The music offering has something for everyone: the Brooks-i Band to accompany your barbecue experience

and both Acoustic Picnic and Jack Ellis in the clubhouse as you visit the different exhibits.

So, come on down. Bring the whole family. Learn about your part in making our planet a healthier place. Have some good food and listen to some terrific music.

Earth Day

On Sunday, after more than a week of activities, we arrive at the big day, Earth Day, and the second annual March for Science.

Last year, we had a huge crowd (Pagosa size) march from Pagosa Springs High School to the GGP amphitheater. This year, the march will form at the amphitheater at 12:30 p.m., wend its way through town and return to the amphitheater, where we will conclude with a community potluck. Everyone is encouraged to show up and bring signs, balloons, your cruiser bike (if you have one) and food to share with your neighbors.

Last year, this global grassroots movement brought out more than a million people in more than 450 cities worldwide. Thousands on the National Mall marched past the Environmental Protection Agency and to the U.S. Capitol to advocate for science to play a larger role in society — and stressed how research already ripples through a slew of issues from guns to immigration.

The message to public officials is clear — that evidence-based policy decisions are critical and science should not be ignored. The message in 2018 is the same, just louder.

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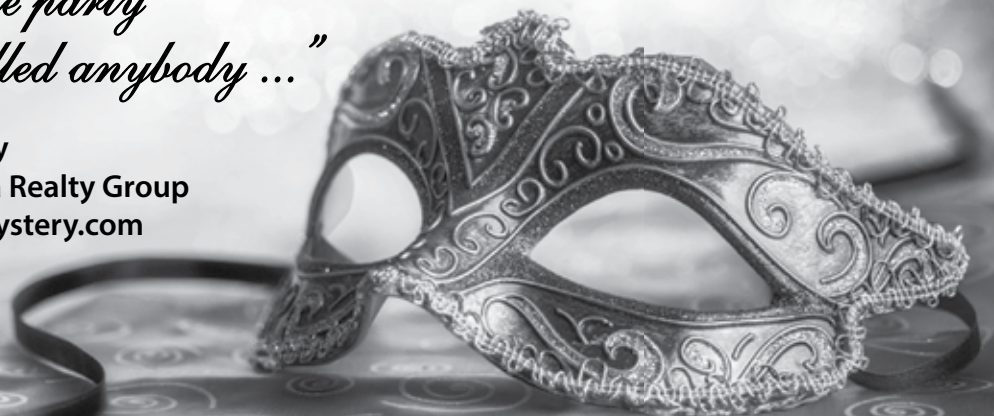
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Words are only part of the story: Hand-drumming class Tuesday

By Paul Roberts
Special to The PREVIEW

Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a free hand-drumming class at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Tuesday, April 24, at noon.

The class offers a welcoming environment that encourages fun, creativity, playfulness and connecting with others. Drums are provided for those who do not have one.

Communication takes place on levels that we have yet to fully understand. There are different channels of communication, verbal and nonverbal.

Imagine a group of people in which everyone is talking at the same time. The result would be cacophony. Verbal communication can only be comprehensible when one person speaks at a time.

Imagine a group of people in which everyone is drumming and singing at the same time. Through music, everyone in a group can communicate simultaneously.

Even just listening to music, a group of people can come into synchrony with each other.

Last month, at a Cognitive Neuroscience Society meeting, new research was reported showing that

when individuals listen to music as a group, their brain waves actually synchronize.

Research studying the interaction of the brain and music is revolutionizing our understanding of the human connection to music. Scientists have found that music stimulates more parts of the brain than any other human function. A free form of self-sustaining, revitalizing energy, music is one of our greatest natural renewable resources. Music is a health food for the brain that has enormous potential benefits in the healing arts, education and interpersonal relations.

You don't need to be a neuroscientist to appreciate something about how drumming in a group affects higher brain functioning. As soon as you try it, you become aware of the cognitive process of integrating your sound with everyone else's.

In communication, words are only part of the story. In the drumming class, participants share meaningful communication that doesn't rely on words. The drumming class provides an innovative and easily accessible approach to the benefits of music.

For more information, email banjocrazy@centurytel.net or call 731-3117. The Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse is located at 230 Port Ave.

Walk for Moms May 12 in support of Aspire

By Marcy Mitchell
Special to The PREVIEW

Prenatal care and parenting education provider Aspire (formerly THRIVE) invites Pagosa Springs community members to sign up for its new Walk for Moms event on May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon, starting at the Aspire office and going to Yamaguchi Park and back.

Participants can register online at www.aspirepagosa.org/upcoming-events.

Moms = Superheroes. Honor the champion in your life by sponsoring young moms in our community through the event. Walk for Moms will benefit the free prenatal clinic, medical services and education/classes offered by Aspire.

Registration for the event is free. All participants will receive a "goodie bag" filled by event sponsors with a complimentary event T-shirt for those who raise \$100 or more. Additional prizes will be given for teams and individuals who raise higher amounts. Furthermore, we will also have prizes for "best superhero" dressed teams, most pledges raised and best promoter through social media.

Check-in/registration starts at 9 a.m. at Aspire. The awards ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. and then the walkathon starts at 10 a.m. The route follows the sidewalk from Aspire to Yamaguchi Park and back. Various stations and fun pit stops will be set up along the path for supporters to watch and sponsors to distribute water and other items.

"We are so excited to celebrate moms and recognize the importance they make in our lives," said Marcy Mitchell, Aspire executive director. "With the help of Pagosa area businesses and local participants, we anticipate raising money to provide free prenatal care and education programs for young women in Archuleta County."

Following the event, participants are invited to a complimentary lunch and open house at Aspire, 602 S. 8th St., from 11 a.m. until noon.

For more information or to register or donate online, please visit <http://aspirepagosa.org/upcoming-events>.

About Aspire Medical Services and Education

Based in Pagosa Springs, Aspire (formerly known as THRIVE) provides free prenatal care, pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, STI/STD testing and treatment as well as prenatal and parenting education, childbirth education classes and a baby boutique.

We empower men and women in Archuleta County to make healthy life choices by providing medical services and education in a safe and supportive environment.

Aspire is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and does not receive any government funding.

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To Downtown

Stargazers to host constellation program, telescope clinic on April 26

By Joan Mieritz
Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers will hold their regular meeting on Thursday, April 26, in the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center conference room, located at 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

We will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. We start before the meeting with coffee, cocoa, tea or apple cider and time to socialize. Then there will be introductions and information about upcoming events.

Our programs will be changing. During the winter, we studied Hubble images of deep-sky objects which were beautiful and amazing. As the summer is approaching, we need to become better backyard astronomers (or I should say Chimney Rock — which is kind of our backyard — astronomers).

We are beginning a new series of lessons called “Getting to Know Our Night Sky” taught by Professor Murphy of the University of Virginia. The first lesson is on constellations, which are of interest to many people. We will have constellation flashcards available to take home for study and celestial planispheres to see how the night sky changes over time. It should be an interesting lesson with some great tools to help you actually learn the constellations.

Next summer’s Night Sky Programs at Chimney Rock will include nine Star Parties: one in May and two each month in June, July, August and September. Each month, one event is scheduled for the best time to see deep-sky objects and another one is scheduled for the best viewing of the moon and planets. These are well attended by locals and visitors from all over the U.S. and around

the world.

We are incredibly fortunate to have so many opportunities to view the amazing night sky in the darkness of Chimney Rock National Monument. You can come to our meeting to learn about becoming a volunteer.

We have five Chimney Rock Interpretive Association telescopes that need operators and you will be patiently trained on the job and thrilled by how quickly you learn. Volunteering for Night Sky programs gives an added bonus of being able to use the telescopes after guests leave and receiving personal instruction. You don’t need to know a lot about astronomy because it doesn’t take long to know more than most visitors and we constantly refer to other people who are more expert on certain topics.

There are other jobs available, too, including welcoming, crowd control for safety and helping with parking. You will work with a wonderful team of people who welcome and treasure new people wanting to learn and bask in the glorious night sky at Chimney Rock. The views of the Milky Way are literally out of this world. Come and see for yourself.

Telescope clinics are valuable considering all the wonderful telescopes sitting unused and gathering dust in the closets of Archuleta County. We are providing several opportunities starting at 6 p.m., before our regular meeting.

We are asking that you call 731-

0676 to reserve a “telescope expert” no later than April 25 (the day before the meeting). Your expert will then be waiting for you at 6 p.m. It is amazing how our telescope experts can quickly analyze problems, but if you need more time, we will figure out a way to get your scope working.

If you attended a past clinic and didn’t followed through on things needing to be done, we are forgiving and warm-hearted people and you can have a second chance. We just want to get the dust off and get the scope educating and amazing people.

The San Juan Stargazers are part of the Astronomical League, which includes clubs from all over the U.S. We have a website, www.SanJuanStargazers.com, as well as an email address, sjstargazers@gmail.com, and a club phone number, 731-0676, to help communicate with the public. Out-of-town amateur astronomers are always welcome, as well as anyone interested in learning more about astronomy. We hope to see you.

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Get your tickets now for Rotary's sixth annual Kentucky Derby Gala

By Lisa Scott
Special to The PREVIEW

In a town with lots of great parties and events throughout the year, what many have dubbed "Pagosa's best party" will be happening on May 5 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Keyah Grande Lodge. It's the Rotary Club's sixth annual Kentucky Derby Gala.

While watching the simulcast of the Kentucky Derby live from Louisville, Ky., you will be able to place your bets and cheer on your favorite horse while sipping mint juleps, dining on gourmet food, listening to live music and admiring some of the most beautiful and outrageous hats and fashion statements seen anywhere. Let's not forget that there will be men's and women's hat contests.

There will be a catered luncheon and there will be fabulous desserts. Bob Hemenger will provide a live mix of saxophone jazz and swing music that you will know and will move you to the dance floor.

Mint juleps and other libations will be flowing and betting on horses is a simple process. Of the betting proceeds, 75 percent will be returned to the winners and 25 percent will support the Rotary efforts in the community. Cash is welcome and credit cards are accepted.

And, as if these weren't enough reasons to make you want to go, you will be supporting all the good work Rotary does. All of the funds raised are put to work right here in Pagosa Springs in various programs in the community like college and vo-tech scholarships for graduating high school seniors, Feed Our Children Backpack Program, Pagosa Outreach, sponsoring four Loaves and Fishes events



Photo courtesy John Duvall

Bob Hemenger will be the featured musician at the Rotary Club's sixth annual Kentucky Derby Party. Come join in on the fun, food, entertainment, betting and live simulcast from Louisville, Ky. The event is May 5 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Keyah Grande Lodge and tickets are \$45 each and can be purchased from a Rotarian or at Exit Realty.

annually and many others.

An "adventures" silent auction will be held and will include items like hotel stays, rafting, jeep tours, rounds of golf and more.

Tickets are \$45 each and will sell out. You can get tickets from any Rotarian or at Exit Realty.

Singing "My Old Kentucky Home" with 250 Pagosans and millions worldwide, then whooping and hollering with everyone else as you watch the race on the big-screen TV is a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

The Kentucky Derby is the longest continually held sporting event in America and it is one of the most prestigious horse races in the world. It is the first race within the Triple Crown of Thoroughbred Racing, which is followed by the

Preakness Stakes and the Belmont Stakes races.

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Connecting 1.2 million members from more than 200 countries, the work impacts lives at both the local and international levels.

Pagosa club members are dedicated community members who share a passion for both community service and friendship. Becoming a Rotarian connects you with a diverse group of professionals who share your drive to give back. To become a Rotarian, please visit with a current member and visit our website, pagosaspringsrotary.org.

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Photo courtesy Lisa Nelson

Tara McElhinney, left, and Nancy Seay of the San Juan Back Country Horsemen help clean some of the tack that has been donated to the Pagosa Springs Tack Sale on May 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Archuleta Country Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall.

Tack sale invites buyers and sellers and supports trail-clearing efforts

By Lisa Nelson
Special to The PREVIEW

Trail riding season is just around the corner, so now is a good time to sell any horse or mule tack you don't use anymore or to buy some tack you might need. At the same time, you can play a role in keeping our backcountry trails open.

San Juan Back Country Horsemen is sponsoring the Pagosa Springs Tack Sale on May 5 in the Archuleta County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall. The sale will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A large collection of used tack and gear has been donated for sale to raise funds for the Wilderness Trails Forever Campaign to

clear backcountry trails clogged by beetle-killed trees on the Pagosa Ranger District. All proceeds from the sale of the donated tack collection will go to this on-the-ground effort.

The Pagosa Springs Tack Sale follows the BigGame Forever banquet on March 10 and fundraising effort that helped raise about \$29,000 for the Wilderness Trails Forever Campaign.

The Wilderness Trails Forever Campaign operates under the Pagosa Area Trails Council, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that functions as the clearinghouse of organization and coordination for trail user groups in Pagosa Springs. These groups

■ See Tack on next page



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Our years are but a sigh

When we are invited into our grandchildren's lives, we better seize the invite. We finish our days like a sigh and every moment is infinitely priceless. Those special invites are rare and I'm amazed that they still want to be with us.

Our children fit into their generation; we are comfortable in ours. But, it's our time together when our children and their children learn from us. They will carry our words and values into their generation.

Our time together might be bumpy and wild like a roller coaster ride. Our daughter called. "Why don't we go to Grandparents' Weekend at BIOLA. We will meet Spencer's film team and will tour the campus."

Our 22-year-old grandson is doing a lot of shaking and moving these days. I knew I needed to hold onto to my support stockings; there would be a lot of walking and climbing. I better double-up on my proteins and get back on the treadmill before the weekend.

To quote Jerry B. Jenkins, a writer: "The pacing of a good piece of writing is akin to a ride on a roller coaster. The highlights may be the big whoosh on the way down or the dizzying loops of the new monsters of the midway. But you'd be shortsighted to forget that half the fun is in the anticipation, that slow clacking up to the apex, where spines tingle, breathing stalls and hearts pound."

Was he talking about visiting grandchildren in college? I think so. The pacing of entering our grandchildren's lives is akin to a roller coaster ride and meeting the new monster of the midway — ourselves.

The weekend before, we made a day trip to Gunnison to see our other 22-year-old grandson in college and we entered his world. We took the scenic route from Lake City to

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



I chalked my stick, I laid down across the table and heard the slow clacking up to the apex. I spread out, my breath stalled.

Gunnison. We tiptoed across the top of Wolf Creek and jumped from peak to peak. We were on a roller coaster, up and down and meeting ourselves on hairpin curves. I was screaming, but I wasn't having fun.

When we finally arrived in Gunnison, I said, "There is no way I'm going back home the way we came. I might not even have to pretend to have a heart attack. My heart is pounding so hard I'll have to be airlifted out of here."

I felt the whoosh and dizzy loops and my spine tingled. My breath stalled, my heart pounded and that was on the trip before we arrived at Western State University Colorado. I guess that's what Jenkins was talking about.

Creede, my grandson, challenged me to a game of pool. Was I up to the challenge? I was doing good until I couldn't reach the ball. He said, "Grandma. Do it like this. Crawl up on the table, lay flat and spread out. Hold your hand flat and

run the stick next to it and lock your thumb around it and let it slide."

It took four members of the family to lift me up on the table. There was a lot of chuckling, snickering and rolling of eyes.

I chalked my stick, I laid down across the table and heard the slow clacking up to the apex. I spread out, my breath stalled. I did what I was told. A crash between ball and stick, a whoosh, the ball bounced into the pocket. I had to climb off the 10-foot-high table with the red felt, but not without a lot of cheap shots from family members. So, this is what good writing and time with grandchildren feels like. The thrill of being up in the air without any way down and annoying characters cackling is supposed to make a good story and carry my words to the next generation.

My grandson gave me a high-five, hugged and kissed me. He picked me up, jiggled me up and down and I heard my spine crack. It was the best day ever for a college student who was homesick and appreciated us coming. But for me, it was a week of recovering before my trip to California and Grandparents' Weekend with my other grandson, Spencer.

My daughter offered to pick me up at Orange County Airport for the weekend. I said, "Oh, no, while I'm out there, I want to spend time with you. I'll fly in early and spend the week before and afterwards."

The plane ticket was purchased, and plans were made. My Sweet Al and our son dropped me off at the

■ See Lane on next page

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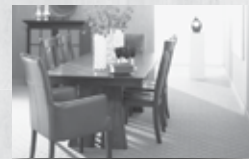
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Tack

■ continued from previous page work together to keep our trails open.

The fundraising campaign started in 2017 to address a crisis situation regarding trail access. Only 50 percent of our wilderness trails on the Pagosa Ranger District were open last year due to the overwhelming downfall of trees killed by a devastating spruce-beetle outbreak. Current crews, partners and volunteers cannot keep up with the immense task of cutting out the trails. The Wilderness Trails Forever Campaign is raising funds to hire crews this summer to clear trails in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service.

The donated items for the Pagosa Springs tack sale include a horse trailer, saddles, pack saddles,

panniers, saddle blankets, bridles, chinks, halters, saddlebags, bits and much more.

In addition, the public is invited to purchase space to sell tack and stock-related gear at this event. Selling spaces of 100 square feet and 50 square feet are available and will be discounted 50 percent if purchased by April 30. Larger items, such as trailers, can be accommodated in the fairgrounds parking lot.

Proceeds from the sales of selling spaces and concessions at the tack sale will support the annual trail work of San Juan Back Country Horsemen and help defray costs of the event.

For more information about the Pagosa Springs tack sale, please email sanjuanbchtacksale@gmail.com.



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April 29 fundraiser to support Suzi White

By Joann Howell
Special to The PREVIEW

Come join us in supporting Suzi White, Pagosa's favorite Aussie.

All proceeds will go directly to White to help her in her battle with cancer.

A benefit concert and silent auction to help White's

fight against acute myeloid leukemia will be held on April 29 from 4 p.m. until around 8 at La Taqueria, 105 Country Center Drive.

Musicians playing include the San Juan Mountain Boys and Bob Hemenger, as well as other local musicians.

For donations, please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/suziwhite> or Citizens Bank of Pagosa Springs and just ask to donate to the Suzi White Fund.

Lane

■ continued from previous page

airport in Albuquerque and drove back to Pagosa. I didn't plan on the plane having a flat tire. When does a plane have a flat tire? The other plane they had scheduled was held up for a four-hour delay in a blizzard in Philadelphia. Another obstacle would be changing planes and making the connection in Phoenix.

The scheduled flight number had been changed twice and, on the other end, our children were waiting for me. They drove from Grass Valley to Sacramento wondering what flight I was on. They waited four hours and couldn't leave without me. They could have, but didn't.

When I arrived, our daughter told me there was a change of plans. They didn't count on Spencer's car breaking down at col-

lege and we would be taking his other car to him. My daughter and I would drive from Grass Valley to LA in the red hopped-up Mustang which was the envy of his peers.

How would we get home? The bus? Yes, we'd ride the bus home. I thought buses went out with the Trailways and Greyhound Bus Line back in the '50s, '60s and '70s. Apparently not. Greyhound is long and sleek and still going strong with free WiFi and a bathroom.

When I told my friends, they couldn't believe we would take a bus all the way from Southern California to Northern California. "Take pictures. Tell us all about the adventure. We're almost envious. It's going to be so much fun." My friends also need to get a life.

We started the trip early morning and drove down California's coastline onto the campus in the

beefed-up, too-hot-to-handle '67 Mustang with a modified muffler, named "Red Meat." When we entered the campus, we were met with wolf calls from the school jocks. Is this how it feels to go back to college? I think I can handle this next generation.

Final brushstroke: David, the warring poet, penned, "We finish our years like a sigh." When I hear my grandchildren say, "Thanks for coming," and they give me a high-five, I know that special moment carries me and keeps me young. Hopefully stepping out of our comfort zones and riding the roller coaster will give them words and values to carry with them through their lives.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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BALLOTS IN THE MAIL APRIL 17TH

Show me, don't tell me

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

Writers tell their stories with words. One of the first rules writers learn is, "Show, don't tell." Good storytellers are animated.

Romance writers demonstrate love and affection through body language with a touch, an embrace or a kiss. Thrillers hold the reader in suspense with twists, surprises and danger. A shadow in the night, a scream for help or a frantic foot chase will keep readers on the edge of their seats. Murder mysteries are about evidence: a bloody crime scene with footprints, a cigarette butt found outside the window or tire tracks as the suspect peels away. A devotion gives spiritual encouragement and focuses on a childhood memory, a creative idea, or healing of past hurts.

Regardless the genre, writers engage the reader, provide an occasion to relate and perhaps touch a heartstring.

Writers possess the unique opportunity and responsibility to be real. The risk pays off when someone says, "Good job."

Readers foster a show-me mindset. They do not accept, "Because we say so." They want tangible

A Matter of Faith

proof. They relate when we open up and share our lives. They laugh and cry along with us.

An example of this mindset would be Thomas, the disciple. In the New Testament we read how he demanded verification and refused the first-hand reports of John and Peter. Regardless of what others said, he required a face-to-face encounter. His faith necessitated physical confirmation. To be convinced, Thomas needed to see Jesus, touch the nail-scarred hands, and place his hand into the gap in Jesus' side.

We never saw Jesus, but we read the Bible and believed. The prophets of the Old Testament wrote firsthand experiences. Writers shared accounts handed down by the patriarchs of faith. We read stories, which foretold the promise of a savior, and followed the lineage of Christ throughout the scriptures.

The New Testament revealed Jesus as the Savior of the world. We read about his obscure birth in a manger. We studied his parables and discovered hidden truths in those words. We wept over the pages that told of his betrayal and sufferings. We bowed our heads in repentance and acknowledged He died on a rugged cross for our sins.

Judged, ridiculed and condemned, Jesus determined the end was worth the pain and rejection. We read his final words, "It is finished."

The New Testament did not end with his death and burial, but with his resurrection and a promise of the third person of the Triune God, the Holy Spirit. We read the books written by His disciples and discovered weaved into the chapters the message of salvation. Jesus didn't tell us about salvation, He demonstrated it through His shed blood. The ultimate sacrifice.

The beloved disciple, John wrote the book of Revelation while exiled on an island. This book foretold the future of the Church, the believer and mankind. The book ended with the promise of Christ's Second Coming, when Jesus will establish His eternal kingdom as King of Kings.

There is still one more book. The Lamb's Book of Life. In this book, we will not be readers or writers, but participants. Written within those pages will be the names of all believers. It will list every good deed we did while here on earth. It will be a time of celebration and a glimpse into our future with Christ.

Because of Jesus, the story never ends.

"He who testifies to these things says, "Surely, I am coming quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" — Revelation 22:20 (NKJV).

I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

PCNT to discuss spiritual basics for toxic, troubling times

By Janie Garms
Special to The PREVIEW

Join the Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) on Sunday, April 22, as the Rev. Janet brings insight into the spiritual basics for toxic, troubling times, and rising above cynicism and hate.

As spiritual beings, we are called to support a collective consciousness of peace and justice in the world. We are here to fully be who we are and to use our blessings and resources in support of spirit's ever expanding good, not only in our lives, but in the lives of our neighbors. Our neighbors are not limited to those who live next door, but also include strangers who are different from us and may live far away.

Spirit is calling us to be more. We are to be practitioners of peace and justice in the world. When a critical mass awakens to the truth that all of life is spiritual and all are worthy and deserving of life's good, then peace and justice will become a reality for all.

Join us for a wonderful discussion to awaken that aspect of ourselves where we are open to the

universe and spirit without fear and hesitation.

About us

Unify in shifting the collective consciousness of this planet. What brings us together is much more powerful than what divides us. The Spiritual Living Center (PCNT) is establishing community and exploring all paths to the Divine.

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

We are always here for you. PCNT holds Sunday services each week at 10 a.m. at the Momentum Fitness building, 40 N. 15th St.

Request a concentrated affirmative mind treatment or obtain information by joining us, emailing PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com, calling 749-9020 or snail mailing to P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought) or our website: www.PagosaNewThought.org.

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UU topic: 'Earth Day: Our Witnessing Presence'

By Dean Cerny
Special to The PREVIEW

On Earth Day, Sunday, April 22, at 10:30 a.m., the Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will celebrate the sacred in nature.

Our "witnessing presence" of this natural divinity can enhance our spiritual growth and maybe

even guide us to more profound spiritual awareness. This witnessing presence is also the source of our passion for developing an "eco-ethic."

Unitarian Universalists pursue wisdom from the world's religions in order to inspire their ethical and spiritual life. This Sunday, we borrow from the

wisdom traditions of Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and humanism to honor the sacredness of the natural world and our deeply interdependent relationship within it.

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a caring, inclusive fellowship dedicated to spiritual growth, justice and serving the needs of our larger community. As a Welcoming Congregation, we invite everyone to share in our faith community. We cherish diversity and foster a safe environment for all.

Check out our calendar of events at pagosauu.org. All of these events take place at Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn onto Park Avenue, then turn into the Greenbriar Plaza, drive to the east side of the parking lot and look for the Unitarian Universalist sign, facing north.

Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

For some birds, long-distance migration is a dangerous but necessary journey to reach suitable habitat for raising young. Breeding grounds with rich, abundant food sources and safety from predators help ensure that vulnerable chicks will reach adulthood.

One migrant that stops briefly in Pagosa Springs is a large sandpiper called the willet. The western group of willets, which winters on the coast from Oregon south into Mexico, travels far inland to the northern plains of the U.S. and into Canada to raise their young.

The willet is a long-legged, chunky shorebird with a long, thick, black bill. Willets use their long, sensitive bill to take prey from the water's surface or in the mud.

Both sexes have lightly mottled gray-brown plumage and light throat and belly. Unlike many birds, the willet is perhaps most easily identified in flight, when it displays a distinctive bold black and white stripe along the length of each wing.

Willets were once a popular food and had almost vanished from the northern U.S. by 1900. Protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 marked the start of the comeback for this and many other bird species. This bird has been seen here at the end of April and in early May on the shores of Pinon Lake, Echo Reservoir and Lake Capote.

ESTATE PLANNING

I know that a lot of people are concerned about the costs of attorneys' services. Because of that, a lot of attorneys are quoting a fixed fee for some services. Mine are:

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Tribute to our volunteers, Earth Day fun and free books for 4-year-olds

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

As the U.S. celebrates National Volunteer Week April 15-21, we say a heartfelt thank you to our library volunteers who in 2017 contributed 1,087 hours, about one-half of a full-time position.

“Please know how much we appreciate your time, energy and enthusiasm,” said Meg Wempe, library director, of the volunteers. “We could not operate the library without you.”

Volunteers make important contributions to our small, rural library with our limited budget. They help with shelving and making sure all the books and materials are in their proper place. They help with special events. They help on the circulation desk. They help keep everything clean and spiffy year-round. And they handle myriad other assignments that need doing to help us serve you well.

Do you have a special interest or skill that could benefit the library and our patrons? If so, we would love to have you join our volunteer team. Please stop by the library to talk with Wempe or phone her at 264-2208. You will be warmly welcomed.

And there will be many benefits to you. Research continues to show that people who volunteer — especially seniors — have a dramatically increased ability to maintain cognitive function. The findings invariably show that interacting with others through work, social events or volunteerism keeps seniors engaged — emotionally and neurologically — and also helps you live longer.

Earth Day fun for all ages

Join us Monday, April 23, for a free all-ages Earth Day celebration from 4 to 5 p.m. We will paint flower pots, plant seeds and enjoy dirt dessert in our library garden.

Free books for 4-year-olds

For the seventh year, libraries across Colorado are giving a free paperback book to every 4-year-old in the state from April 9-23 as part of a special family literacy project.

Some 75,000 copies of “Groovy Joe: Dance Party Countdown” by Eric Litwin are being distributed to children statewide at local libraries, including at your Sisson Library, in either English or Spanish. The goal is to encourage families to read together every day and add new books to home libraries to ensure school readiness.

“Groovy Joe: Dance Party Countdown” is a fun book that will have little ones singing, dancing and learning math to a whole new beat.



Please come by the library or attend any program and pick up this free book for your 4-year-old youngster. Better yet, bring them in to pick up their books and see the opportunities for fun and learning that are available free at your library.

Lifelong Learning Lecture today

The third presentation in our free spring Lifelong Learning Lecture series takes place today, April 19, when Anthony Garcia from the U.S. Forest Service will tell the story of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, with emphasis on herds living in the mountains surrounding Pagosa Springs, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

These outstanding talks continue every Thursday until May 17. April 26 will bring Robin Young, who will lead a wildfire preparedness workshop to help you reduce your risk of wildfire and loss.

May presentations include Andrea Phillips, town manager, talking about local government and the town's recent and future major projects on May 3; San Juan Basic Public Health representatives discussing proper nutrition and healthy eating on a budget on May 10; and, on May 17, Andrew Gulliford, professor of history and environmental science at Fort Lewis College, reviewing the history of killing wolves in Colorado and the possibility of bringing them back to our wilderness.

We hope you will join us for these interesting and informative presentations. For more details about all the talks, please pick up a brochure at your library.

All-ages movie tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, April 20, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for a free G-rated movie suitable for all ages. Our contract does not allow us to identify the film titles in the media but you can find them listed on the activities calendars.

Kids Club Saturday

Kids Club for kids in kindergarten through fifth grade takes place this Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to noon. Each month, this new free program will feature a different theme and include book-sharing, games, crafts and snacks. March's theme is games. Please note that Kids Club is now open to kindergartners.

Teen gaming

Free teen gaming happens on Tuesdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for teens in the seventh 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 Wednesday, March 25, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Use your imagination to go on adventures and battle monsters. You can join this group any time.

DIY for adults

At this month's free DIY event next Wednesday, March 25, from 1 to 2 p.m., we'll create unique and fun ribbon bookmarks using velvet ribbon, clamps and a pair of flat-nose jewelry pliers. These bookmarks also make great lanyards to attach to your USB thumb drives so you don't lose them. No registration is required.

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ continued from previous page Spanish conversation

Next Wednesday, March 25, from 4 to 5 p.m., practice your Spanish with other Spanish-language learners and speakers at this free informal session. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. No registration is required.

Tech sessions

Drop in with your technology questions on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Note: The April 19 Tech Time is canceled.

Computer/technology classes

Join us on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. for free sessions to learn a technology skill or application. April 26 covers Transparent Language Online, which is packed full of pronunciation, speech, grammar, writing and vocabulary lessons accessible from your computer, smart phone or tablet. Note: The April 19 computer class is canceled.

Adult education

Our PALS program — Pagosa Adult Learning Services — takes place three days a week: Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. plus Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Come to your library to get help with high school equivalency, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

Family storytimes

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. and Saturday from 9:30 to 10 a.m., join us for free great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. This is an excellent way for kids of all ages to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

Please note that both storytimes are now open to babies, toddlers and youngsters of all ages to make it easier for parents to attend with their children depending on their busy schedules rather than the age

of their little ones.

Activities calendars

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

DVDs

"Supplements and Safety" explores the hidden dangers of vitamins and supplements. "Giant" is the classic starring Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson, James Dean and Edna Ferber.

How-to and self help

"This is the Year I Put My Financial Life in Order" by John Schwartz is a guide to attaining financial security. "Debbie Macomber's Table" contains 100 original recipes from the bestselling author. "The Minimalist Kitchen" by Melissa Coleman shares strategies for paring down your kitchen to the essentials, plus efficient meal planning and cooking techniques.

Other nonfiction

"The Trump White House" by Ronald Kessler is an inside story of the White House based on access to the president and his staff. "The Manson Women and Me" by Nikki Meredith tells of the two women who murdered for Charles Manson. "The Beginning of Everything" by Andrea J. Buchanan is a real-life neurological mystery and story of reinvention.

CDs

"Accidental Heroes" by Danielle Steel is a suspense story that takes place on an airplane. "The Temptation of Forgiveness" by Donna Leon is a Commissioner Brunetti mystery.

Mysteries, thrillers and suspense

"Cave of Bones" by Anne Hillerman is a Navajo mystery featuring Leaphorn, Chee and Manuelito. "Hold Back the Dark" by Kay Hooper is a Bishop Special Crimes Unit

suspense story. "I've Got My Eyes on You" by Mary Higgins Clark is a thriller.

Large print

"Every Note Played" by Lisa Genova features a concert pianist with ALS. "Miss Julia Raises the Roof" by Ann B. Ross is a mystery. "The Punishment She Deserves" by Elizabeth George is a Lynley mystery. "The Bishop's Pawn" by Steve Berry is a novel exploring what really happened the day Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. died. "Little Bighorn" by John Hough Jr. is a western.

Other novels

"The Female Persuasion" by Meg Wolitzer follows a college freshman whose life is changed when she meets a pillar of the woman's movement. "A Nantucket Wedding" by Nancy Thayer tells of the complications when the grown children of

■ See Library on next page



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Wolf Creek Christian Writer's Network to host Durango writer Saturday

By April Holthaus
Special to The PREVIEW

The Wolf Creek Christian Writer's Network is hosting CJ Alderton for a writing workshop on Saturday April 21, from 10 a.m. to noon at Crossroad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave.

Questions and discussion will follow.

Serving as pastor for Patrick

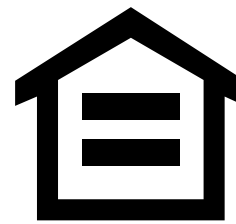
Crossing Church, chaplain for Durango Fire and Rescue and president of the Durango Celtic Society, Alderton manages to find time to write a daily blog titled "Graceful Notions" that reaches people around the world.

Winner of the 2016 Grand Prize for the Durango Arts Center 10-Minute Play Contest with "Aengus and D'Arcy on a Bench in Dublin," Alderton also wrote

the 2017 summer show for the Henry Strater Theatre titled "The Legend of Danny Boy." It involved members of the Patrick Crossing Celtic Band. Alderton plays guitar and helps with vocals for the band.

He and his wife, Jan, live in Durango. Together, they published a children's book titled "Sam The Mailbox." Alderton is presently working on a book that dramatizes the Stations of the Cross.

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Library

continued from previous page
an engaged couple meet each other. "Miller Varley 300" by Frank Miller is a fictional retelling of the Battle of Thermopylae. "Breakfast at Tyranny's" and "The Terror Beneath" are Doctor No stories.

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Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library's website. Use "Quick Pick," the discovery tool that lets you sample movies like you would music.

Thanks for our donors

For books and materials this week, we thank Marilyn Falvey, Jeff Versaw, Bob Burt and our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

"We are continually faced with great opportunities brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems." — Margaret Mead (1901-1978), American cultural anthropologist, author and speaker.

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 <https://pagosalibrary.org>.

SUDOKU

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

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Fun By The Numbers

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

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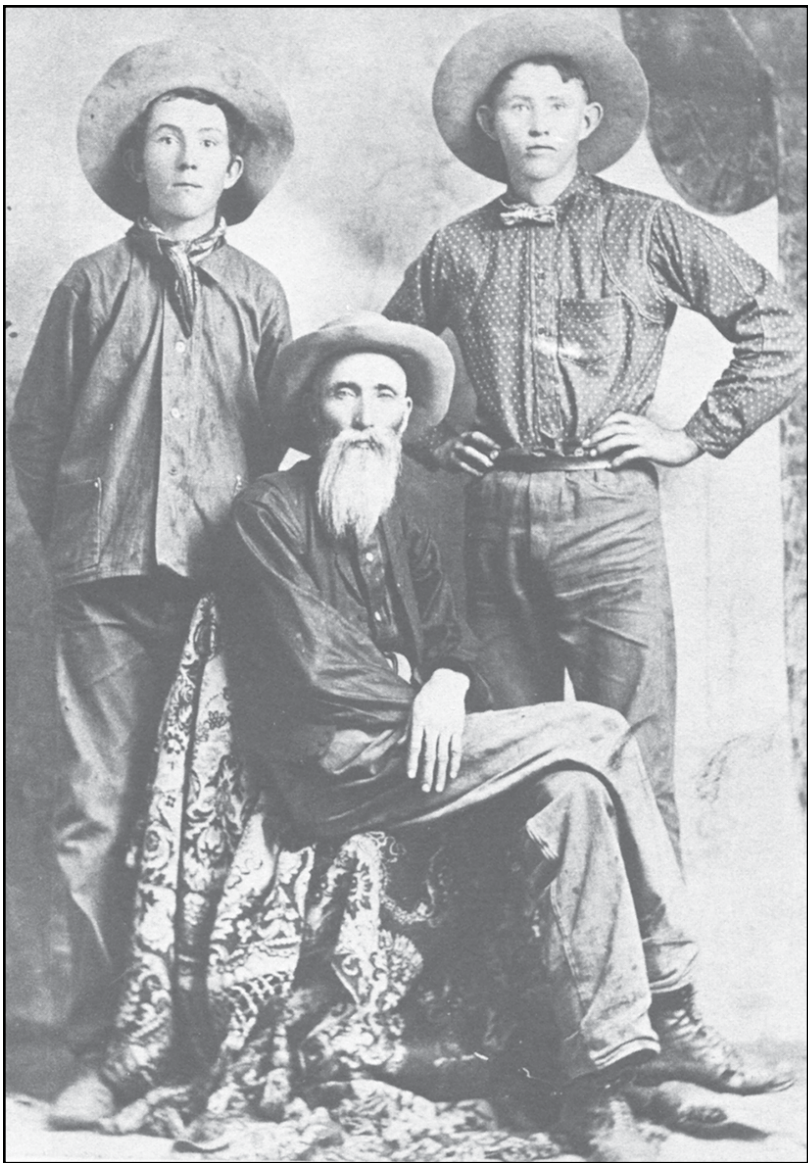


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

The twin brothers John and James O'Neal are pictured here. The other O'Neal pictured here may be Fount O'Neal, a Civil War veteran. The O'Neals were among the cattlemen involved in the fight for control of the Archuleta County government.

Bullets, ballots and bloodshed continued

We continue with the story of bullets, ballots and bloodshed, which describes the creation of Archuleta County, a long struggle to establish law and order.

In his waning years, long after leaving Archuleta County, school teacher John Taylor wrote his memoirs, which are on file in the Denver Museum of Natural History. As far as I know, Taylor was not kin to the teacher John Taylor many of us know in our generation.

Hidden in the earlier John Taylor's memoirs is the story of his involvement in the so-called riots connected with the 1887 county commissioner election.

"In the southern part of the county was a voting precinct known as the Archuleta precinct. (Motter: This would be Edith today.) Here, over a hundred Mexicans from New Mexico were voted to hold their gang in power. All of this enraged the settlers who were engaged in the cattle business. Chas. Loucks, E.T. Walker, Judd Hallett, Wm. Dyke, John Dowell, Jake Dowell, Robert Chambers, Charles Chambers, Maurice Willit, Siegel Brown, Frank Cooley, James and Dock Gililand, John and James O'Neal, Mr. Whitaker, Judge Price



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

and his two sons, and some 50 others, including this writer, organized the People's Party of which I was elected chairman and we began a bitter four-year fight to gain possession of the government of the county. The state administration and the courts were against us.

"Three precincts in the county we carried Pagosa and Edith precinct with large majorities to gain which I and the above named men worked night and day, but 300 illegal votes polled under the supervision of the Archuleta brothers and Martinez defeated us. They worked to have me removed from the school ever one of their wives and children were with me. This gang even paid a Mexican to kill me, he met me on the bridge one night, knife in hand. I carried a walking stick with which I struck him on the head, he fell and rolled into the river, he swam and came

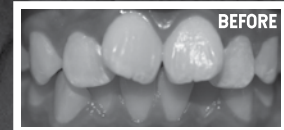
■ See Past on next page

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Thistle identification: They all have purple flowers

By **Ethan Proud**
PREVIEW Columnist

There are five species of thistle on the Colorado Noxious Weed List, and there are many native species that do not require treatment. Four of the five noxious thistles are biennials and can be treated with herbicides or dug up for effective control.

Canada thistle is a perennial and spreads from its roots. Mowing or hand-pulling plants is not effective unless it is done aggressively. Mowing the thistle every two weeks at least will exhaust the root reserves, but each cut will trigger new growth and if the mowing is lax, the plant will quickly take over.

Tips to identify thistle species:

Musk thistle is the most prevalent List B noxious weed in Archuleta County and can be found on nearly every county road. It has white leaf margins and highly dissected leaves and may grow between 3 to 7 feet tall. Musk thistle has one terminal bloom at the end of each stem and may have five or more blooms per plant. The stem bends under the weight of the bloom and gives it the nickname of “nodding thistle.”

Plumeless thistle has not yet been recorded in Archuleta County and has a very similar appearance to musk thistle, but its blooms do not nod and are urn-shaped. The stems are covered in spiny wings. Plumeless thistle and musk thistle may hybridize.

Bull thistle also has an urn-shaped flower receptacle, with spiny bracts. Its leaves are more dissected than either musk or plumeless thistle and are a deep forest green and are very hairy on the surface. It does not produce as many seeds as musk thistle and is less aggressive, but can be found growing in the same environments.

Scotch thistle has been reported in Archuleta County, though it is not prevalent. It can be distinguished easily by its size; plants may grow in excess of 10 feet tall and the leaves may be 20 inches long. The leaves are a blue-grey color (almost like sagebrush) and are hairy. Stands of scotch thistle can be too thick for livestock or

Extension Viewpoints

wildlife to navigate through.

Canada thistle is the only perennial noxious thistle species in Colorado. The plants may grow from 1 to 4 feet tall and have lance-shaped leaves that may be slightly dissected or entire. The underside of the leaves is often lighter than the top. The flowers are much smaller than other noxious thistles and are often only 1 inch long and are a lighter purple, or lavender, compared to other noxious thistles. A colony of Canada thistle is typically only a few individual plants, connected by the roots. Chemical control is the most effective option.

The color of the flower is not a good identifying feature. All thistle flowers (in the genera *carduus*, *cirsium* and *onopordum*) can range from white to purple, though some species have white flowers more frequently than others. Knapweeds, teasel, dames rocket, loosestrife, bouncingbet and burdock all have purple flowers.

If the thistle you find in your yard lack the characteristics above, then you may not have a noxious weed and treatment may not be required. Native thistles fill a niche in the ecosystem and are part of the native environment. If you need help identifying a plant, take a picture or, preferably, a sample to the county weed and pest or Extension office.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests. For more information, please contact Ethan Proud at 264-6773 or email at eproud@archuleta-county.org.

Seed potato orders

Orders are now being taken for Colorado-certified seed potatoes from the San Luis Valley. There are red, white, blue and pink varieties for \$1 per pound.

They will be ready to pick up

May 9-11. Please call the CSU Extension office to place your order.

4-H paper clovers

Through April 22, buy a paper clover for \$1 at Tractor Supply and help our 4-H youth attend leadership events through the 4-H Paper Clover Campaign.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are now being offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 pm. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling the Extension office at 264-5931.

We will also attempt to schedule classes on additional dates with five or more registrations. Cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. The type of first aid information provided will vary by the needs of the audience.

More about CSU Extension

CSU Extension is your local university community connection for research-based information about natural resource management; living well through raising kids, eating right and spending smart; gardening and commercial horticulture; the latest agricultural production technologies; and community development.

Extension 4-H and youth development programs reach more than 100,000 young people annually.

CSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

CAUTION!

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Once a Tree, LLC

Past

■ continued from previous page
out at the old bathhouse. I walked into the old courthouse, those commissioners were in session and I invited the man who planned the deed to come out and settle the matter in any manner he wished but he did not function although afterward he killed two men and a woman. Charley Johnson, Durango's criminal lawyer, cleared him,

though each was a cold blooded murder.

“The next May we had a school election and won out over the Mexican gang 15 to 1, and I taught the following year and had much pleasure in the work and was offered good pay to teach at Durango, Lake City, Silverton, and Telluride but preferred to stay where I was and fight ...”

Continued next week.

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Peggy Bergon, manager

Dana Ford, dispensing optician

Rachel Rohrer, dispensing optician/testing



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Next senior health and wellness event Wednesday

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The Senior Center has a pilot program expanding 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.

The next health and wellness event will be Wednesday, April 25.

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.

Clinical assessment will be provided by Tabitha Zappone, FNP-C.

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

Medical alert system

Medical alert monitoring systems are available for seniors. We can help you get set up with a system and assist with the monthly service charges or, if you already have a system in place, we can help supplement the monthly service fees.

Please call 264-2167 for more information or to sign up.

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging: Pine Ridge survey

By Kay Kaylor

I advocate for residents at Pine Ridge and BeeHive Homes as the part-time, long-term care ombudsman for Archuleta County. Federal and state laws protect residents to promote quality of care and quality of life.

The Pine Ridge health department annual (not exact) survey was completed March 22. Surveyors found four deficiencies, all in nursing, and Pine Ridge's Plan of Correction deadline was April 11. The plan must include not only corrective action, but also must identify residents who might be affected by the same deficiencies and must describe how the home will monitor its performance. Pine Ridge must follow the completion and compliance deadlines.

When I visited Pine Ridge March 22, the staff expressed satisfaction

Senior News

with the overall survey because no residents complained (all were interviewed) and the deficiencies, or tags, were in one department.

The four tags, based on a sample of 18 residents, follow: failing to ensure cleanliness and grooming for two dependent residents; failure to ensure one resident (of seven observed) was free from a significant medication error (involving insulin); failure to maintain infection control for one resident of one reviewed, regarding the changing of dressings; and failure to develop and implement policies and procedures related to pneumococcal immunizations for one of five residents reviewed. The 26-page report gives details of the relevant laws, observations and interviews.

The 2018 survey will be available for the public. The 2016 report, involving three tags, may be found on medicare.gov, Nursing Home Compare, which gives Pine Ridge a five-star rating. Reports are also provided in the Pine Ridge lobby notebook.

For further information, you may call me at 403-2164 or send an email to ombudsman2@sjbaaa.org.

Memberships

Senior Discount Club memberships are 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 \$5 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, April 19 — Beef pot roast, gravy, green peas, cornbread with butter, milk and salad bar.

Friday, April 20 — Chicken enchiladas, charro beans squash calabacitas, milk, salad bar and snickerdoodle cookie.

Monday, April 23 — Ham, French toast, baked apples with cinnamon, spinach and Mandarin orange salad, milk and salad bar.

Tuesday, April 24 — Turkey stuffed peppers, potato and leek soup, Italian bread, milk and salad bar.

Wednesday, April 25 — Beef cheeseburger with whole-wheat bun, sweet potato fries, creamy coleslaw, milk, salad bar and strawberries with bananas.

Thursday, April 26 — Hot chicken salad, roasted broccoli, zucchini medley, milk, salad bar and peach cobbler.

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

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

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Sherpa Real Estate welcomes Michael Hamblin to the team as our new associate broker!

Michael has a career background of both ground and emergency medical services. He has been working diligently as a Paramedic locally since arriving 7 years ago. He was raised in Cleveland, Ohio, but has been firmly entrenched in Pagosa Springs since he fell in love with Southwest Colorado on vacation. Michael and his wife are raising their daughter to enjoy the things they love about Pagosa, especially the myriad of outdoor experiences.

Supported by an experienced team at Sherpa Real Estate, and a diverse skill set, Michael is ready to assist in your real estate endeavors.

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, April 19

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

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

Open Paint Sessions. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time. Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. Call 731-1590 for more information.

Pagosa Earth Community Discussion. 3-5 p.m., Chamber of Commerce. Discussion of social, environmental and economic issues.

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

Lifelong Learning Lecture. 5 p.m., Sisson Library. We will hear from Anthony Garcia, a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Forest Service. From his talk, "Above the Tree Line, a Story of Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep," we will learn about the biology and ecology of the bighorn sheep with emphasis on herds living in the mountains surrounding the Pagosa Springs area. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Com-

munity United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Information Presentation. 5:30 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Meet the fire chief, learn about the upcoming vote for Board of Directors and the proposed mill levy request. Call 731-4191 for more information.

PSHS Volleyball Program Coed 4s. 6-8 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Open gym during the month of April. Tuesday and Thursday nights. All skill levels welcome. You may come as a team or individual. Must be in high school or older to play. There is a \$5 admission each night, and all proceeds support the Pirate Volleyball Program.

Friday, April 20

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

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

Free Screenings. 10-11 a.m., Senior Center. San Juan Basin Public Health screenings on total cholesterol, triglycerides, blood pressure checks, refer-

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Musher's transport
- 5 Chatter indiscreetly
- 9 Incite
- 14 Honey bunch?
- 15 White House worker
- 16 Nilla product
- 17 Word after gray or play
- 18 Harbor vessel
- 19 Cover story?
- 20 Order
- 22 Wearable wares
- 24 Sign-making aid
- 26 Small wooded hollow
- 27 Be silent, in music
- 30 Deli offering
- 32 In a lather
- 34 Destroyer, in Navy slang
- 38 To ___ it mildly...
- 39 Lessen the value of
- 41 It's next to nothing
- 42 Boil
- 44 Blood feud
- 46 Tuxedo, at times
- 48 Admiral's command
- 49 Bumpkin
- 52 Warning word
- 54 Come apart
- 56 California valley
- 60 Windmill part
- 61 Overdue
- 63 Insect stage
- 64 Stocking stuff
- 65 October stone
- 66 Urban blight
- 67 Early anesthetic
- 68 Tuesday in Hollywood
- 69 Ultimatum ender

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60							61	62				63			
64							65					66			
67							68					69			

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- 2 Former Italian coin
- 3 Type of keel
- 4 Determined (upon)
- 5 Tend to the turkey
- 6 Authorized seller
- 7 Brouhaha
- 8 Complain loudly
- 9 Give and take?
- 10 Richard Boone TV role
- 11 Ardent
- 12 Yankee's foe
- 13 Food for whales
- 21 Kind of case
- 23 Typewriter roller
- 25 Autopsy subject
- 27 Soldier's lullaby
- 28 Fluish feeling
- 29 Give as an example
- 31 Aware (of)
- 33 From that time
- 35 Sheep shelter
- 36 Part of a pot
- 37 Straight, at the bar
- 40 Statue support
- 43 Potter's pedal
- 45 Planetary path
- 47 Candle ingredient
- 49 100 kopecks
- 50 Like a new candle
- 51 Impudent
- 53 "Hello, My Name Is Doris" star
- 55 Turn
- 57 Pick through
- 58 Creative work
- 59 Finger, in a way
- 62 Jungle swinger

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

C	A	P	S		A	S	S	A	Y		B	R	A	G		
E	P	I	C		S	W	A	G	E		L	A	T	E		
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T	E	R	N		M	E	R	R	Y		E	A	S	Y		

Deadlines*

Display advertising: Noon, Monday

Classified line ads (regular categories): 10 a.m., Tuesday

Classified line ads (Too Late to Classify): 3 p.m., Tuesday

Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

Letters to the editor: Noon, Tuesday
(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
(50 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

Articles: Noon, Monday
(email to editor@pagosasun.com)

*Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.

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Subscribe to The SUN

Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

rals and translations for Spanish speakers.

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

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

Retro Metro Kids Safe Routes to School Bike Swap. 1:30-6 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. Gear check-in. Bring your new and used gear to the elementary school. Fill out a form and equipment tags, choose a price for your equipment then place it on the floor for sale.

Movie. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Morgan Freeman narrates this documentary about the mating rituals of these flightless birds of Antarctica. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Turkey Hunting Seminar. 3-6 p.m., CSU Extension Office. The seminar will cover turkey biology, hunting strategies, hunting equipment, calling, laws, regulations and safety. Participants need to register on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website at: <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/120702>.

Saturday, April 21

Farm Bureau Presentation on Drought. 9 a.m., CSU Extension office.

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

Earth Day Disc Golf Fundraiser. 10 a.m., Cloman Park. Call 731-4081 to sign up or for more information.

Wolf Creek Christian Writer's Network. 10 a.m.-noon, CrossRoad Christian Fellowship, 1044 Park Ave. We will be hosting CJ Alderton for a writing workshop. Questions and discussion to follow.

Retro Metro Kids Safe Routes to School Bike Swap. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School. Bike swap sale. Pick up your unsold gear from 2:30-6 p.m.

Kids Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids in K-5th grade. Each month will feature a different theme and will include snacks, games, crafts and book

sharing. The theme for April is games. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Earth Day GGP Plant Giveaway. 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Education Dome. Plant starts to clear the air in your home of pollutants.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Information Presentation. 11:30 a.m., Station 7, County Road 382, Chromo. Chief Randy Larson will make a presentation about the mill levy increase and will answer all your questions. Beverages and sandwiches will be served. Call 731-4191 for more information.

Earth Day Fair. 1-4 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. With Southwest Organization for Sustainability.

Turkey Hunting Seminar and Mentored Hunt. Those interested in participating in the hunt must fill out one of the online applications at: <http://cpw.co.us/learn/Pages/Outreach/Women.aspx> or <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Outreach/Youth.aspx>.

Pagosa Springs Community Band Seventh Annual Band-O-Rama. 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. Featuring our middle school and high school bands along with the Community Band. The evening is filled with concert band and jazz band music. Donations will be accepted. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

La Plata-Archuleta Cattleman's Banquet. Sky Ute Event Center. The banquet will feature a prime rib buffet, a silent auction, a live auction of a quilt and dancing to a live band. Tickets are available at Basin Co-op in Durango, Valley Feed and Supply in Gem Village, Wells Fargo Bank in Ignacio and the Bank of Colorado in Pagosa Springs. For more information, call Barbara at 247-2816.

Sunday, April 22

Turkey Hunting Seminar and Mentored Hunt. Those interested in participating in the hunt must fill out one of the online applications at: <http://cpw.co.us/learn/Pages/Outreach/Women.aspx> or <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/Outreach/Youth.aspx>.

Earth Day March for Science. 12:30 p.m., GGP Ampitheater. The march begins and ends at the ampitheater. There will be a community potluck; bring food to share. Free giveaway of plant starts.

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, April 23

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

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

Line Dancing. 9:15-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Beginners at 9:15 a.m., Advanced group at 10:15 a.m. Call Beverly for information at 264-2064.

Medicare Mondays. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Senior Center, Area Agency on Aging office. For benefits, explanation, questions and assistance for enrollment regarding Medicare parts A, B, D and supplemental policies.

■ See Calendar on next page

WHO WANTS COFFEE??



New and Exclusive at the Humane Society Thrift Store!

Durango Roasters small batch ground coffee

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Coffee sales support the Humane Society Animal Shelter. Give yourself and the shelter animals a lift with coffee from the Humane Society!

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Willie's Reserve Drawing

Any purchase qualifies you to have the chance at over \$300 of Willie's swag!
Put your name in any time between Friday April, 20th and Sunday April 22nd.

Incredibles Candy Bars & Capsules
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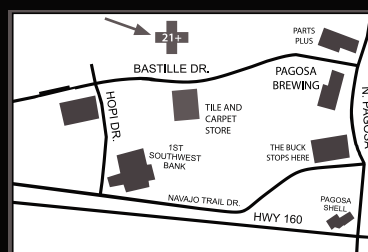
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

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

Adult Education. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Earth Day. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. All ages. Join us to celebrate Earth Day. Paint flower pots, plant seeds and enjoy dirt dessert in our library garden. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Destination Imagination Dinner Performance Fundraiser. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School commons area. Archuleta School District is advancing two Pagosa Springs Destination Imagination teams to Global Finals in Knoxville, Tenn. Students are working together to raise money to send the two teams to the competition. There will be a community dinner theater with performances beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come have dinner with us and share in the skits produced by our students. One is a musical drama and the other a comedic ballad. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 24

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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.

Future Business Leaders in America (FBLA) Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School music room. FBLA invites the community to participate in its spring blood drive. Donors can make an appointment online at www.blood-hero.com. Contact Sally Riggs at sriggs@pagosa.k12.co.us with any questions.

WHIPS (Women Helping in Pagosa Springs). 11:30 a.m., Boss Hogg's Restaurant. The cost is \$12, and everyone is welcome. RSVP to 946-1895.

Hand-Drumming Class. Noon, PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts

for a hand-drumming class. All are welcome. Hand drums will be provided for those who don't have one. For further information, email banjocrazy@centurytel.net or call 731-3117.

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

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

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

PSHS Volleyball Program Coed 4s. 6-8 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Open gym during the month of April. Tuesday and Thursday nights. All skill levels welcome. You may come as a team or individual. Must be in high school or older to play. There is a \$5 admission each night, and all proceeds support the Pirate Volleyball Program.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we learn the versatile rumba. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, April 25

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

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. All ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Free Blood Pressure Checks. 10:30 a.m., Senior Center.

Wellness Clinic. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Senior Center. Held by Tabitha Zappone, FNP-C.

Denim Day. Noon, Bell Tower, Lewis St. Join Rise Above Violence for a walk around main

street to show support for victims and survivors of sexual assault. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Use your voice to support survivors in our community.

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

DIY: Ribbon Bookmarks. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Create unique and fun ribbon bookmarks using velvet ribbon, clamps and a pair of flat-nose jewelry pliers. Finish by attaching charms, trinkets or vintage earrings to the clamps. These also make great lanyards to attach to your USB thumb drives so you don't lose them. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Conversation. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. This information meet-up allows you to increase fluency by speaking with other Spanish language learners and speakers. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

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, April 26

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

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

Computer Basics: Transparent

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Language Online. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Packed full of pronunciation, speech, grammar, writing and vocabulary building lessons, Transparent Language Online provides you with a complete, language learning solution. Accessible from your computer or smartphone/tablet. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

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

Lifelong Learning Lecture. 5 p.m., Ruby Sisson Library. Talk by Robin Young, CSU extension director for Archuleta County. An important discussion about what you can do to protect yourself and loved ones in the event of a wildfire. Young has an extensive background in forestry and fire, and she can help you plan to reduce your risk of wildfire and loss. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

PSHS Volleyball Program Coed 4s. 6-8 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Open gym during the month of April. Tuesday and Thursday nights. All skill levels welcome. You may come as a team or individual. Must be in high school or older to play. There is a \$5 admission each night, and all proceeds support the Pirate Volleyball Program.

San Juan Stargazers. 7-8:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce. We are beginning a new series of lessons on "Getting to Know Our Night Sky," taught by Professor Murphy of the University of Virginia. For more information, go to www.SanJuanStargazers.com, email sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 731-0676.

Friday, April 27

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

Independent Living Skills Classes. 9-10:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church. For adults with disabilities looking to develop skills to live the lives they desire in their com-

munities. These classes will be interactive, informative and fun. For more information, contact Ruthie Uhl at 903-5880 or email ruthie@swilc.org.

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

Literary Ladies. 10:30 a.m., Sisson Library. We will be discussing the book "When Everything Changed." Check with the library for availability of the book. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

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

Push-Up Challenge. 6 p.m., Crossfit Pagosa. Fundraiser challenge to push up victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. For more information, to register or to donate, visit: <http://www.crowdrise.com/2018push-upchallengeoriginal>.

Jeremiah Johnson. 6-8 p.m., Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Jeremiah Johnson is known as a rising prophetic voice in our nation. We welcome all who would like to attend. Child care is provided.

Saturday, April 28

9Health Fair. 7-11 a.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Get a whole battery of tests for a minimal cost of \$35, free blood pressure check, other screenings and education.

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

Meditation and Recorded Dharma Talk. 10 a.m., Unitarian Universal Fellowship, 70 Greenbriar Drive, Suite B-15. All are welcome.

Crafting Club. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Community 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 con-

nect with others who enjoy all aspects of creativity, too.

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

Jeremiah Johnson. 6-8 p.m., Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Jeremiah Johnson is known as a rising prophetic voice in our nation. We welcome all who would like to attend. Child care is provided.

Sunday, April 29

Jeremiah Johnson. 10 a.m., Restoration Fellowship Church, 264 Village Drive. Jeremiah is known as a rising prophetic voice in our nation. We welcome all who would like to attend. Child care is provided.

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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OVERLOOK
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KIP'S GRILL AND CANTINA will be closed for our spring cleaning April 16 through the 26th. We will reopen April 27th at 11a.m. Thank you Pagosa for all your support.

FUNKY TRUNK CONSIGNMENT SHOPPE. Accepting consignments for women and children 2T-12 years beginning April 16, Monday- Friday, 2-6p.m. at our new location, 565 Talisman, Unit H (near Cafe Colorado). Watch for our grand opening in May. pagosa-funkytrunk.com.

BENEFIT CONCERT AND SILENT AUCTION. 4 p.m., La Taqueria San Juans. A benefit to help Suzi White's fight against acute myeloid leukemia. Bands performing will be San Juan Mountain Boys and Bob Hemenger, as well as other local musicians. For donations, visit <https://www.gofundme.com/suziwhite> or Citizens Bank of Pagosa Springs.

2006 TOYOTA TUNDRA SR5. Gentleman's pickup. Matching cap, 2-way glass door tailgate, V8 with automatic transmission, power almost everything. AM/FM- CD- cassette radio, good tires. Only 134K miles; very nice condition. Must sell- priced for quick sale at \$11,900. Call Don 398-1370.


MOVING SALE AT 235 Nutria Circle. Household, some furniture, reloading equipment, tractor tools. April 20th and 21st, 8:30a.m.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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.

A.A. PAGOSA SPRINGS GROUP. 234 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 7p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD). (Last Friday of the month 6p.m. potluck, 7p.m. birthday speaker meeting.) Questions, contact (970)245-9649, aa-westerncolorado.org or aadistrict18.org, or call Ed K. 946-2606 or Val V. 264-2685 or Ellen C. (214)566-5921.

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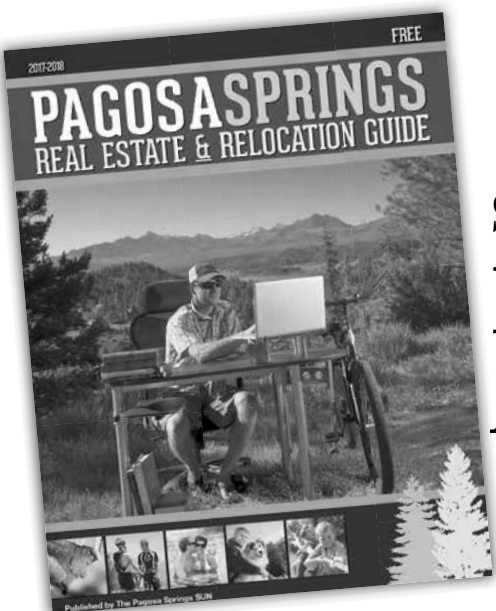
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Distribution

18,000 copies of the Relocation Guide will be distributed by the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce, area businesses, on newsstands and in one edition of The Pagosa Springs SUN. Distribution will begin mid June.

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Insurance Requirements

Westward Inc.
Call (970) 264-0913

Blueprints

Have your plans drawn now.
Don't wait 'til spring.
Be ready to start your house,
barn, garage or deck on time.



Call Rick
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**Landscaping
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SERVICES**

Construction Cleaning
Move Outs
Security Checks
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575-588-9349

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CONTAINERS**

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PROOF**

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IT!**

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OR USED

8X20 CARGO CONTAINER SPECIALS
RENT OR RENT TO OWN WITH AS LITTLE AS
\$500 DOWN FOR NEW AND \$375 DOWN FOR USED!
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Specializing in:
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Call Jeff • 970-507-0208

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HOUSEKEEPING POSITIONS AVAILABLE full time. Flexible schedules and competitive wages. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr.

LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME Home Health Physical therapist. Centura (Mercy Regional Medical Center) is looking for a dynamic, fun and caring individual with experience to join our home health family! If you want to work for an award winning organization with caring coworkers that go above and beyond then apply online, <http://careers.centura.org>. ID# 127399. EOE, M/F/D/V.

CARETAKER WITH PAY ON small 8 acre organic farm on the river. Private loft apartment, newly furnished, includes all utilities, wi-fi, Direct TV and laundry facilities. No tobacco users, pets? Need references. Salary negotiable. Leave message on (970)264-6577 and we will call back.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR 1. Archuleta County Public Works is accepting applications for the position of Equipment Operator I. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for details. This is a FT position with excellent benefits. Wage \$15.69/hour. Submit application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

LABORER AND GENERAL EXCAVATION workers needed. (970)585-1021, ext. 1, leave message.

PEAK DELI IS HIRING line cooks. Grease free, shift meals. Energetic, upbeat people who are looking for long term employment, potential for management. Please apply in person, no calls.

SAN JUAN HOMES HIRING skilled tradesman and laborers for year round work. 40+ hours a week. Top pay for qualified applicants. Tile and carpentry exp. preferred. Contact Erik at (970)889-7337.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER EMS is looking for motivated **PRN and/or Full-Time Paramedics**. We are seeking candidates with varying levels of experience that value providing safe and compassionate care, with integrity and transparency in a just culture. We provide exceptional BLS and ALS services to our community of over 1, 800 square miles. Shifts vary and wages are competitive. Every employee is hired to make significant contributions to the organization. Minimum current certifications in order to be considered for employment: Valid driver license, National Registry/ Colorado Paramedic certification, ACLS, PALS, BLS for Healthcare Providers (AHA). For more information or a detailed position description, please email connie.cook@psmedicalcenter.org. Applications may be picked up at PSMC registration or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

SECRETARY NEEDED. LOMA LINDA Metro District. Part-time, \$25 an hour. Call 264-1434.

DOES ANYONE WANT A CAREER NOT JUST A JOB? No experience necessary; will train the right person to be a chairside dental assistant, a profession that is marketable around the world. If you're willing to learn, desire to work and have a great attitude, we'll do the rest. Please send your resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

HELP WANTED

SEASONAL WEED AND PEST TECHNICIAN. Archuleta County Colorado is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Seasonal Weed and Pest Tech. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for job details. This is a full-time seasonal position. Wage \$14.47/ hour. Submit application and resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR CDL truck drivers with minimum of 1 year experience-experienced in forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Home at night. Send resume to: PO Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, CO 81157 or email pagosaland@pagosa.net.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS is under new management. Now accepting applications from happy, enthusiastic people. Colorado MED badge required. Please email your resume to: employment@jandjinc.net.

FULL-TIME COOK NEEDED. Must have experience. Please apply with Kevin at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

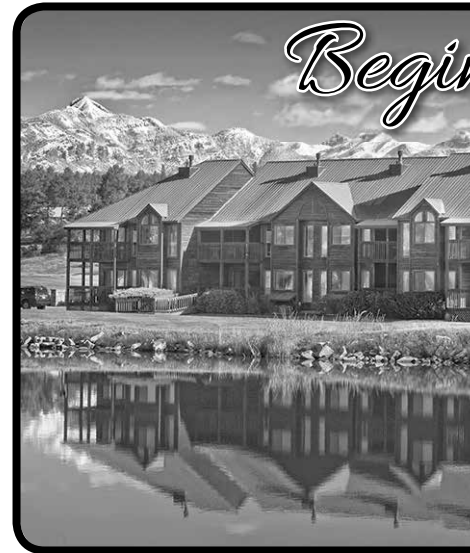
DULCE INDEPENDENTS SCHOOLS. Dulce, New Mexico. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. The Dulce Independent School District is seeking applications for the following positions for the 2018-19 SY. POSITIONS: Elementary Instructors, Middle School Instructors, High School Instructors, Educational Assistants. QUALIFICATIONS: NM teaching license. Teaching experience: Minimum of 3 years in NM (preferred). Reasonable degree of computer literacy ability to works with students with special needs. SALARY: As per board approved salary schedules for 2018-19. APPLICATION PROCEDURES: **Submit applications at www.dulceschools.com - Job Opportunities Frontline Education.** Application packet should include: Complete DISD application, letter of interest, current resume, copy of NM teaching license, official post-secondary transcripts; (3) employment or education references; satisfactory completion of background investigation. APPLICATION DEADLINE: **Until filled.** SUBMIT APPLICATION TO: Debbie.Manzanares@dulceschools.com or Jessica.Valdez@dulceschools.com; (575)759-2905, PO Box 547, Dulce, NM 87528. **All applications will be screened. Selected applicants will be invited for an interview, INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.** The Dulce Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, religion, age, sex marital status or handicap in compliance with federal and state laws.

VISITING ANGELS IS SEEKING an experienced HR Specialist to join our dynamic fast paced team. FT with benefits. Must have at least 1+ years in a human resource position. Must demonstrate knowledge in the field of HR with experience in recruitment, interviews, retention, reporting, and all facets of labor relations. This dynamic individual will be excellence focused, personable, hands on and a team player. Qualified candidates, Send resume to adminpagosa@visitingangels.com.

LANDSCAPING. Be part of the team that's making Pagosa beautiful. Qualifications: Desire to do great work; transportation. Call Buck at 946-0996.

NOW HIRING PART-TIME DISHWASHERS. Please apply within at The Buck Stops Here Market & Eatery.

HELP WANTED



Begin Your New Career!
in Vacation Sales with Wyndham.

We are looking for **Tour Guides** to introduce our product to our guests and also **Sales Reps with an active Real Estate license.**

Face to Face Sales, leads provided
Excellent Compensation
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Training Classes will be held in May, just in time for Summer!

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To learn more about this amazing opportunity
contact Erin Brown at 731-8922
or erin.brown@wyn.com

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a full time **Patient Financial Services Manager.** The Manager is responsible for planning, developing, and leading the administrative and clinical support functions that contribute to the capture, management, and collection of patient services revenues from all payers for all hospital, clinic, ambulance, and professional services. The Manager, PFS has responsibility for revenue cycle including, compliance with third party contract terms, denials management, health system billing and collections, (including hospital, clinic, ambulance and professional), patient financial assistance, health information management as it relates to billing and coding, and regulatory compliance in conjunction with the appropriate compliance professionals. Minimum of 5 years of proven, progressive experience in healthcare revenue cycle management. Experience in both physician and hospital revenue cycle is ideal and preferred. Must have experience in reimbursement strategy. Strong knowledge of federal and state collection laws, third-party payer and regulatory requirements. Strong communication and interpersonal skills with a high degree in professionalism in dealing with staff at all levels. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration and the human resources office or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

ASSISTANT MANAGER POSITION for motivated food and beverage professional. Bartending, cocktail and food serving experience a plus. Pick up applications and drop resumes at Taqueria San Juans in City Market Center, 135 County Center Dr., Suite A.

SKILLED CRAFTSMAN AND HELPERS NEEDED. Excellent Pay DOE. Send all inquires to info@fullertonworks.com.

CNA CLASS STARTING JUNE 4th. Free class courtesy of Pine Ridge. Full-time positions available. Alternating weekends off. Starting pay, \$12 an hour and benefit package. Apply at Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa.

NOW HIRING KITCHEN ASSISTANT manager. Previous cooking experience, knife skills, quality and quantity control, ordering, works well with others, cares about healthy food choices. Also hiring team associates for deli area. Old Town Market and Deli. Call (720)600-1212.

LABORERS NEEDED. GOOD PAY. Full-time, (970)403-2228.

NOW HIRING

Dreamscapes is now hiring qualified Landscapers for our busy 2018 summer.

Looking for motivated, career minded individuals that don't mind working hard and have a desire to create Beautiful Landscapes.
Year around work and top pay for qualified applicants.



Please email resume to
Landscapepagosa@outlook.com
or submit application in person at 38 Vista Blvd.
Questions: Call 970-403-5219

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER is looking for a full time **Lab Assistant.** The Laboratory Assistant is a model of professionalism and excellence in customer service to both internal and external customers of the laboratory. This position provides routine and specialized clerical and secretarial assistance including; correspondence, filing, compiling and distributing information, doing data entry, generating reports, and assisting the Laboratory Manager as well as other administrative duties. This position will also work closely with departmental staff members to provide clerical support for operations. Works under direct technical supervision and performs waived complexity tests in accordance with standards established in the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) and/or appropriate agency protocol (COLA). Records and participates in evaluation of Quality Control for tests conducted. Performs all work in accord to the mission, vision and values of Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Applications may be picked up at hospital registration and the human resources office or downloaded from www.pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org. Applications and resumes must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

SALES ASSOCIATE. Must pass a background check. Apply at Sears, 2800 Cornerstone Dr.

CURRENTLY SEEKING QUALIFIED CAREGIVERS and CNAs to join our Awesome team! Incentives, flex scheduling, bonus program, paid mileage, paid training that is innovative and amazing! Now paying \$13 to \$15 per hour. Visiting Angels, 2018 Leader in Excellence award winner! Not just a job, it's your future! Apply at visitingangels.com/southwestcolorado.

3R RANCH: HIRING FULL-TIME ranch hand and landscape maintenance. Year round employment. \$14 an hour. (970)264-5160, leave message.



NOW HIRING

Pagosa Springs Sonic Drive-In has immediate openings. All day and evening shift positions.

APPLY ONLINE @
SONICDRIVEIN.COM/JOBS

THE BUCK STOPS HERE is looking for a part-time bartender for the upcoming busy summer season. Great atmosphere while serving up Pagosa's freshest cocktails. Please apply within.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT has the following job openings with complete descriptions located on the website www.mypagosaschools.com under District/ Job Openings tab. Elementary Special Education Teacher (2018-19), High School Special Education Teacher (2018-19), Elementary Half-Time Stepping Stones Teacher (2018-19), High School Asst. Cheerleading Coach (2018-19), High School Asst. Track Coach for Jumping, District Maintenance Technician, Sub Teachers, Sub Cafeteria Staff, Sub Bus Drivers and Sub Custodial. For more information, contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at www.peoplecarehs.com. Contact Nick at nickh@peoplecarehs.com or (719)778-1956.

LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT lawn and garden care person. Must be hard working, dependable and have own transportation. Please call Sheri at (970)403-6490.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The award-winning Pagosa Springs SUN is looking to expand its sales and creative staff.

Are you the right person? Do you have ...

- ... the ability to multi task and meet deadlines?
- ... excellent customer service skills?
- ... organizational skills?
- ... accurate spelling and grammar skills?
- ... a desire to work with local business owners?
- ... sales experience?
- ... Adobe InDesign and Photoshop experience?

Submit your resume to helpwanted@pagosasun.com or drop off at 457 Lewis Street. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls.

(970) 264-2100 • www.PagosaSUN.com
457 Lewis Street

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

AUTUMN TENEYL DESIGNS IS HIRING! We are currently hiring an administrative assistant and sales reps. Job responsibilities include customer support, shipping, inventory management, special orders, and sales. Must be well organized, well spoken, proficient in typing, Excel, Word, Dropbox, QuickBooks a plus. Please apply at our career page https://www.indeedjobs.com/autumn-teneyl-designs/_hl/en_US or submit resume to studiomgr@autumnteneyl.com. (970)264-1044.

HELP WANTED: NEEDING FRAMERS/siding installers. Call Conrad Medina (970)749-4144.

FAMILY ADVOCATE. The Archuleta County Human Services Department is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Family Advocate. This is a full-time, non-exempt position with excellent benefits. Minimum starting salary 18.48/hour DOQ and experience. Job description and application available at www.archuletacounty.org. Submit application to Human Resources, PO BOX 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, fax (970)264-1879 or email to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

YARD SALES

GARAGE SALE, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, April 20-21, 7a.m.-noon. 710 Twin creek Circle. Hammered copper round dining table and 4 iron chairs, TV, DVDs, CDs, tools, microwave, dishes, baskets, home decor, comforter, blankets, rugs, towels, jewelry, clothes, shoes and boots (men's and women's) and miscellaneous.

TOOLS, CONSTRUCTION TOOLS, automotive tools, air tools, welder, compressor, central vac, metal cabinets, wood cabinets, plow truck. Everything must go. 9a.m.-2p.m. Saturday. 150 Aztec Drive.

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

SATURDAY, 226 CLOUD CAPT. Garage sale, 8a.m.-2p.m. Power tools, chainsaw, weed eater, tables, western art, black powder rifle, snowblower- needs repair, hunting tree stand with climber, lots more.

MOVING AND GARAGE SALE. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 8a.m.-5p.m. Bring money. Furniture, \$50-\$200. Tools, household items, some winter tools. 21 Fiesta Place.

HUGE RESTAURANT YARD SALE. Farrago Market Cafe. Saturday, 9a.m.-1p.m. 175 Pagosa St.

PERSONALS

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

WANTED

IS IT TIME TO CLEAN your freezer out? Bring your meat and fish to the Wildlife Park to feed the animals. 11a.m.-4p.m. Feeding time is 2 p.m.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

PETS

AKC REGISTERED ROTTWEILER PUPS. Both parents on premises. Serious inquiries only, \$1,200. (970)507-1154.

FOR SALE: 2 PURE bred black and white border collies. Female, \$150 each. Dan (719)849-8873.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR SALE

HONDA 7.5 HP 4 STROKE, outboard motor, \$550 OBO. (970)903-7135.

CLEARANCE MATTRESS SALE. UP to 50-80% off store prices. Sets starting at \$150. Call (970)335-8315.

1 MAN PONTOON BOAT. Jacks Plastic Pontoons, with electric troller, force fins and oars. Anchor with rope, \$650. (970)731-2401.

FILL DIRT 15 TON dump truck, \$125. Landscape stackable shot rock, 200 plus rocks, \$800. Delivered in core area. (970)946-6262.

ANTIQUÉ WARDROBE, 1800s, hand carved, \$800 OBO. Beer making supplies: glass carboys, bottles, capper, miscellaneous. Call (970)946-5021.

YOU NEED TO TASTE IT to believe it! Grass-Roots Meats offers 100% grass fed and grass finished beef and lamb, Berkshire pork and free range organic chicken. Check out this month's special: www.grassrootsmeats.com. For more information, call Lois (970)582-0166.

TWIN BED WITH ROLLOUT twin trundle with mattresses \$150. Pine crib with Serta mattress, excellent condition \$100. Folding portable crib with mattress \$50. LL Bean baby sled with pad \$50. Bowflex with leg extension attachment \$150. Elliptical trainer \$100. Floor drill press \$150. Contact Lisa 264-4668.

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.

2 OCEAN KAYAKS, sit on top with 1 dry hatch, deep well, paddle and seats. \$400 each. (970)731-9490.

SELL YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or consign it- only 15% today. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

ROCKY MOUNTAIN INFRARED SAUNA. Durango model, 2-3 person. Asking \$2,500. 731-2488.

HIGH QUALITY, LIKE NEW or gently used. 46" Enduro Cub Cadet riding lawnmower \$1,400; Stihl weed whacker, harness, visor, ear protection \$300; small chest freezer \$50; high-end Yamaha CD player with Onkyo tuner and amplifier \$600; Mini Max ban saw \$1,600; Woodpecker router table with Porter Cable motor +3 router/ bases/ extras \$1,400; perfect American Brilliant-Cut crystal (many rare collector pieces priced individually); 12" belt sander \$800; air compressor \$150; 40 Bessie clamps all sizes \$1,500; large wooden garage storage piece with many drawers \$1,300; Honda pressure washer \$400; 3 large antique (1908) oak hardware cabinets \$1,250 each; Brother printer/ fax/ scanner, WiFi \$150. (970)731-3597.

FOR SALE

ASPEN TREES
12' & Up
Delivered
and Planted

\$75.00

719-588-5529
970-618-7636

THESE ITEMS PRICED TO SELL! 28" Craftsman 28" snowblower, \$350, excellent condition; yes, \$350. Snowboard/ ski rack, \$50, never mounted, brand new! Second floor, escape ladder, \$25, new in box, never used. 3" hitch with a 2-5/16" ball, \$15. 2 whole house dehumidifiers: \$150 each or \$275 for both! Hardly used. Excellent equipment in excellent condition. Call or text (928)853-5221.

RECLINING CHAIR, EXTRA LARGE, medium brown leather, great condition, \$395. Couch, dark brown leather, 2 sides recline, great condition, \$475. Pictures to text if you like. 946-4983.

TIRES: 4 USED AND 1 new. 35x22.50x17, Nitto Grapplers. Good condition, \$1,000. Call 946-5415.

TELESCOPE, MEADE ETX-90 EC Astro telescope, with lots of accessories including Autostar controller, eyepieces, filters, tripod and case. \$200. (970)946-1606.

NEW TORO 22" LAWN MOWER/ Kohler engine. Bosch 12" sliding compound miter saw with stand. (970)844-0155.

FIREWOOD SALE! Get the DUMP TRUCK SPECIAL now for \$300. 2 cords of Pine mix, only while supplies last. Can still get 1 cord for \$175. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

LA-Z-BOY QUEEN ANNE SOLID cherry 4-poster queen bed and matching nightstand by Kincaid, \$795. Metal antiqued trundle bed, new mattress, \$225. Excellent condition, leave message (970)749-8022.

SKIDSTEER 2014 CATERPILLAR 226 B3. Excellent condition, no leaks, runs great, new tires. Everything works, \$26,500. 264-0269, (520)241-1198.

TRIANGLE CUSTOM MILLING. All your custom milling and log needs. (970)398-0739, trianglecustommilling.com.

AUTOS

2012 LEXUS RX-350. Excellent condition, 67,500 miles, black leather heated/ cooled seats, 2 new sets of tires winter/ summer, 2 transferable extended warranties, pre-owned certified. Must see! Loaded. \$25,000. 946-4578.

2002 CROWN VICTORIA, LIKE new, 50K miles, leather, \$6,500. (970)507-0184.

IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR CDL truck drivers with minimum of 1 year experience-experienced in forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Home at night. Send resume to: PO Box 4490, Pagosa Springs, CO 81157 or email pagosaland@pagosa.net.

HIRING EXPERIENCED AND LICENSED PLUMBERS, and plumber helpers. (970)946-7096, leave message.

LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED cabinet maker in all phases of custom woodwork. CNC operating experience is a plus or we will train. Call Tim Brown Construction, (970)946-2768.

PART-TIME DETENTION OFFICER. Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a part-time Detention Officer. Starting wage is \$18.48/ hour. Visit www.archuletacounty.org for position description or submit application and resume to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

REPORTER - THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN is seeking qualified candidates. Must demonstrate aptitude for, and commitment to community newspaper journalism. Candidates must be prepared to handle deadlines, cover breaking news, report on sports and government and write features. Position is 15 to 30 hours a week. Send cover letter including salary expectations, resume, references and clips to Reporter Position, The Pagosa Springs SUN, PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or hand-deliver them to the paper at 457 Lewis St. Emailed submissions are acceptable (helpwanted@pagosasun.com). The Pagosa Springs SUN, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.

PAGOSA LIQUOR HIRING CASHIER. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

KITCHEN HELP, MORNING AND afternoon shifts. No experience necessary. Flexible schedule and competitive wages. Apply in person, Pine Ridge Extended Care, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs. EOE

PAGOSA SPRINGS GOLF CLUB is hiring Pro Shop Staff, Golf Cart Attendants, Bartenders/ Servers, Short Order Cooks and Beverage Cart Operators for the upcoming season. Excellent working hours. Must apply in person. For information, call (970)731-4755.

ALLEYHOUSE GRILLE, 214 Pagosa St. Hiring experienced Line Cooks. Full- and part-time hours. Great starting pay. Pay increases based on performance. Apply with Chris Colvito Monday- Thursday.

ELEVATION HEAD SHOP looking for a part-time position. Experience not needed but preferred; willing to learn. Apply in person, 510 San Juan St., downtown next to Subway.

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF needed for busy Real Estate office. Call (970)946-1877.

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

LANDSCAPERS. FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME. (970)403-2228.

CONCRETE CONNECTION IS LOOKING for dedicated employees to help with all phases of concrete. Must have references. Call (970)749-4976.

WANTED FULL-TIME and part-time RN/ LPN/ EMT for day and night shift. Housing and competitive wages offered. Please contact Lindy Stone at (575)588-7350 LStoneCV@yahoo.com for more information.

HIPPIE CHICK MASSAGE is hiring 2-3 additional Licensed Massage Therapists for our busy summer season. Must give an excellent massage. Great pay, working environment and flexibility! Call Shannon (970)946-4578 hippiechickmassage@gmail.com.

264-2100

Classifieds

264-2100

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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 your insurance deductible
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Must mention this ad for savings!

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

1967 EL CAMINO. 350 motor, 350 turbo, 4 speed, chassis done, ready for paint. \$9,500 OBO. (970)507-0260.

2009 CAN AM MOTORCYCLE SPYDER GS roadster SE5. 17,000K. Beautiful bike. Garaged, excellent. \$8,975. (501)209-1234.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

1997 FLEETWOOD ELKHORN 9T cabover camper. Always stored indoors. All appliances in good working order. Asking \$6,000. (970)264-1286, leave message.

2015 KEYSTONE COUGAR 333 MKS 36 ft. 5th wheel, like new. Comes with platinum extended warranty and RV cover. Located in Pagosa Springs. Price reduced \$38,500. (See on Craig's List and RV Trader.com.) Call (580)651-4011.

1999 FORD SEA VIEW 32' 12' slide out. 32,000 miles. \$13,500, OBO. 946-6083.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM rental needs. (970)731-8599.

NICE CONDO ON LAKE Pagosa. 2 bedroom 2 bath, furnished or unfurnished. Includes lakeside deck, garage, washer, dryer, kitchen appliances, natural gas. Long term lease. 1st month and security deposit required. No pets, no smoking. (303)929-8860.

DOWNTOWN 8TH STREET. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, granite countertops, garage and sun deck. \$1,600/ month, all utilities included. (318)347-6100.

RV SPACE ARBOLES. Close to lake, conveniences. Quiet, private driveway, 50 amp service. Water, sewer, pet OK. \$500/ month. Skip (970)946-6647.

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH APARTMENTS for rent, unfurnished. 2 miles from downtown, quiet, private location. Utilities included in rent: water, electric, propane and trash. \$1,100/ month, first and last month due at signing of lease, security deposit \$500 due also, will be returned if no damages. NO pets. Contact Beth at (970)903-0966.

HOUSES FOR SALE

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 www.NextHomeRMR.com

970.731.5515
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 www.ThatOrangeDog.com

Every office is independently owned and operated

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

New office hours
 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Monday thru Friday

Come see Leslie and Carol to talk about our low income subsidized housing options.

Accepting applications for 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom apartments as well as for elderly housing units

Archuleta Housing Corporation
 Office is located at
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FATHER AND DAUGHTER MOVING to Pagosa. Looking for a place to caretake in exchange for rent or part of rent. I want something in the country, I have horses and outdoor dogs. Many references available both local and distant. Call John (970)903-1926.

LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)731-4344 or sunetha.com.

TEAM PAGOSA REALTY GROUP needs Long Term Rentals. Demand is high right now. Please call (970)731-8599 and ask to speak to Laura for information.

CUTE 2 BEDROOM CABIN. 8 miles out of town, \$1,100. Washer/ dryer/ dishwasher included, 1 dog. Available May 1. (970)731-2010.

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STORAGE SPACE IN TOWN. 10x15, \$75/ month. Michael Branch (970)769-2036.

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OFFICE SPACE ON CORNERSTONE near Sears. 1,100 sq. ft., 4 offices, break room, waiting room, bathroom, utilities paid. (928)863-3818.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

FOR LEASE, BUY OPTION available. Silver City, 2,300 square foot building, \$1,000 per month, Edgewood, old 66 frontage, acreage, \$125,000 cash, Angel Fire acreage, \$400,000 contract, Philipp Merillat (505)500-7345.

HOUSES FOR SALE

SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPENDENT, I work for YOU! 15 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.com.

FSBO 5 BEDROOM, 3 bath, 3,800 sq. ft. home on 5 acres. Incredible views near Echo Lake. \$329K. Hoganpagosa@gmail.com.

NEW TO MARKET FSBO. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, 2-car garage on quiet cul-de-sac with Pagosa Peak views. Built in 1995, this home has 1,545 square feet of living and 440 square feet of garage. Hot water baseboard heat. New high efficiency boiler installed in 2017. All new flooring and appliances in 2015. Close to national forest and lake. Shown by appointment. \$255,000. (970)946-6917.

1,840 SQ. FT., 2 BEDROOM, 2 bath plus loft, 2-car garage. Selling below appraisal; asking \$295,000. Zoned commercial so can be used as a business as well as residential. 5 minutes from City Market. For more information, call (559)475-9068.

CUSTOM CRAFTSMAN HOME. 522 Cloud Cap Ave. 4 bedroom 3 bath, 3,260 sq. ft. \$569,950. View on zillow.com Realtors welcome. (970)946-7147.

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HOUSES FOR SALE

PROPERTY

BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY FOR SALE by owner. Lot 98-99. \$19,900. Sewer, water, electricity. 199 Sam Houston Blvd. 81157. (505)414-1604, (505)249-6250.

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