PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 111 — NO. 13, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018

Crash claims one life east of town

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

A truck headed westbound on U.S. 160 early Sunday morning drove off the road and struck a tree, resulting in one fatality and injuries to several juvenile passengers.

In the early morning hours of Dec. 16, Richard T. Yake, 33, was driving a blue 2016 Ford F-150 pickup truck westbound on U.S. 160 at milepost 154 with six passengers, according to an email from Master Trooper Doug Wiersma of the Colorado State Patrol (CSP).

The six passengers consisted of Holly L. Buffington-Yake, 33, also of Cortez, and five juveniles, the youngest aged 6 and oldest aged

■ See Crash A8



Youngsters from Seeds of Learning entertain senior citizens at the Silver Foxes Den at the Community Center. The songs were led by Seeds volunteer and substitute teacher Mr. Dave and his ukulele. The children even shared handmade gifts with the seniors.

Police respond to alleged assault on school director

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

On Dec. 17, a 911 call was made from Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) regarding an alleged assault on School Director James Lewicki.

The initial call, placed at 11:58 a.m. was from Lewicki himself, and he explained that he had a "distraught parent who just struck the principal," according to recordings provided by the Archuleta County Combined Dispatch Center.

These recordings were provided to The SUN along with a dispatch incident report in response to a request made by The SUN on Dec. 18. In his initial call, Lewicki de-

■ See Assault A8

This fox looks longingly for a meal in a local neighborhood. Colorado Parks and Wildlife warns the public of the dangers of feeding winter wildlife, including the possibility of running into law enforcement, as feeding is illegal in Colorado. Man-made foods can kill wildlife.

Court dismisses appeal in Village case, road access on the horizon

By Randi Pierce

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit has dismissed a pair of appeals in a case involving a land exchange for the controversial Village at Wolf Creek.

According to a court order from Dec. 11, an appeal by the Village's developer, Leavell-McCombs Joint Venture (LMJV), was dismissed, as was a conditional cross-appeal filed by a number of conservation organizations.

The dismissals came due to jurisdiction, with it also tying in that the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is anticipated to file a record of decision soon that would grant a road easement over forest service land to LMJV's original inholding to provide year-round access.

The appeals at the center of last week's order are part of a lawsuit filed by a number of conservation organizations — Rocky Mountain Wild (RMW), San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council, San Juan Citizens Alliance and Wilderness Workshop — that, in 2017, nullified a 2015 land exchange between LMJV and the USFS.

That land swap would have allowed the conveyance of approximately 177 acres of privately held land to the Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) in exchange for approximately 205 acres of National Forest System land managed by the RGNF. The land exchange would create a private land parcel of approximately 325 acres extending to U.S. 160 and would accommodate yearround vehicular access to the site.

The U.S. District Court order setting aside the land exchange determined the USFS violated the National

Environmental Policy Act and other statutes, that the USFS interpretation of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) was contrary to law, and that conservation measures imposed did not meet statutory requirements.

Road access and a continued battle

Adding to the matter, earlier this year, LMJV asked for a road easement to its original inholding, which would grant the access LMJV states it is entitled to under ANILCA.

A draft record of decision granting that access was released in July, with the final record of decision expected in early 2019.

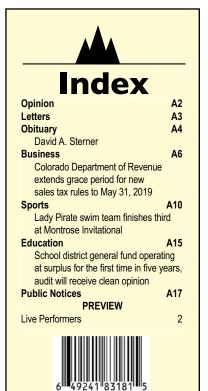
"On May 30, RMW learned of LMJV's new access application and, on June 1, it moved to dismiss both the LMJV's appeal and its conditional cross-appeal in favor of a remand for further agency consideration," the court order reads. "LMJV opposed RMW's motion on the merits and also claimed that it was untimely."

Last week's Court of Appeals order, though, granted RMW's motion, bringing out a variety of emotions for the Village's opponents and developers.

For LMJV, that dismissal was not surprising, though it does bring some disappointment.

"Unfortunately, from our standpoint, it looks like the land exchange, currently, is off the table," said Dusty Hicks, the local project manager, who pointed out LMJV took the time and money for the land exchange because it is the better, more environmentally

■ See Village A8



Firefighters respond to structure fire, two semi incidents Tuesday

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

A Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) crew responded to a fire and two separate semi incidents on Wolf Creek in the early morning on Tuesday.

Later that day, Capt. David Montoya of the PFPD spoke with The SUN about the events.

The PFPD responded with five different apparatuses and three officer vehicles, as well as seven volunteers and seven paid firefighters, according to Montoya.

The same crew responded to all three events, according to Mon-

"Busy morning it was for that whole crew," Montoya said.

Structure fire

At around 5:55 a.m., a call went out for a possible structure fire in the Deer Trail area.

The location of the fire was actually in the Squirrel Drive area, according to Montoya.

Montoya confirmed that the structure was on fire and was a storage shed.

"It was totally destroyed," Mon-

The cause of the fire is still being determined, Montoya explained. The PFPD is investigating the

fire, but is not believed to be suspi-

cious, according to Montoya. Semis

Before the PFPD had a chance to clear the structure fire, a page was sent out for a semi rollover with

■ See Incidents A8



Students performing in Kathy Faber's kindergarten Christmas program on Dec. 5 put on a show for friends and family with renditions of holiday classics while also doing their best reindeer impressions.

Opinion

EDITORIAL

Christmas wishes from our community leaders

There is perhaps no time of year when more people are more aligned in heart, mind and spirit than at Christmas.

No matter what your religious beliefs are, this is a time for family and friends, giving, fellowship and kindness toward your fellow man. With the spirit of Christmas in the air, we invited local leaders to

share their Christmas wishes for the community.

Greg Schulte, board president for the Upper San Juan Health Service District, the body that oversees and stewards Pagosa Springs Medical Center, shared his wish: "On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the Pagosa Springs Medical Center, our Christmas Wish for the community is good health! We wish you all good health so that you may enjoy family and friends and all the wonderful things our area has to offer! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

"I wish that everyone's dreams come true" is Pagosa Fire Protection District Board President John Thompson's short and simple Christmas wish for our community.

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger shared his Christmas wish: "My Christmas wish is that people in our wonderful community would be blessed with love, joy, peace and kindness this season and throughout the year. God bless.'

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners Chair Steve Wadley wrote, "I want to see continued prosperity for our county. As I reflect on the events that have transpired in Archuleta county this past year, I think of the tragedies that our community has suffered. I hope 2019 will be free from such events. Pagosa should always be a special place, a vibrant community, with enthusiastic volunteers."

County Commissioner Ron Maez added, "I wish for unity of all the people to come together as one to work for the future of our community in Archuleta County."

County Commissioner Michael Whiting wrote, "Mely and I wish everyone a peaceful and joyful season. Feliz Navidad."

The message of Christmas is one of joy, hope and peace on Earth. There is no denying the spirit of love and hope that spreads throughout the community at this time of year.

We mean it, as everyone does, when we wish you warmly a merry Christmas.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Archuleta County Commissioners

Michael Whiting (R) 264-8305 Ron Maez (R) 264-8303

Pagosa Springs Town Council Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger, ddvolger@gmail.com

Matt DeGuise, mdequise@pagosasprings.co.gov Madeline Bergon, mbergon@pagosasprings.co.gov Tracy Bunning, tbunning@pagosasprings.co.gov Nicole DeMarco, ndemarco@pagosasprings.co.gov Mat deGraaf, mdegraaf@pagosasprings.co.gov

Whaddya Think?

Do you believe in Santa Claus?



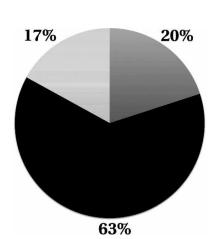
Liana Vega "Yes. I want a Game Boy."



Lilly Vega "Yes. I want a kitchen set."



Carlie Bridges "Yes. I want a Hatchimal."



Poll results (338 Votes) Yes — 63 percent No — 20 percent Once upon a time — 17 percent

This week online: What is your New Year resolution? Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



are, left to right: Robert Peters; Charla Ellis, who is assistant coach; Bradley Marquez, John Wilger, JoJo Sorenson, Kitzel Laverty and John Kennedy.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 21, 1928

What are known as the Mooney cabins and lots on the former Springs property have been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. C.M. Van Pelt, thus restoring the property to its original entity.

Following next Monday night's show, the Liberty theatre will be closed until the return of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. Rumbaugh from Denver, where for about three months the former will represent Archuleta, Hinsdale and Mineral counties at the Colorado General Assembly.

Among the college students who have already arrived home for the Christmas vacation are Carl Nossaman from the state university at Boulder, and Misses Hilda Swanson and Louise Crowley from the state teachers' college at Greeley.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 24, 1943

The city school board and present faculty of the Pagosa Springs Schools are greatly hurt over the display of distruction at our local school grounds that greeted them Monday morning. The first class graduating from the present school building planted two nice spruce trees as their help in beautifying their new school lawn. Sunday night these two trees suffered the destruction attack of idle vandal hands. Both were practically ruined by cutting out the tops.

The school heating system has been fixed so when school opens again after the Christmas vacation no one will suffer for the lack of heat. A part for the boiler that had been ordered and was installed Saturday. It was tried out Monday with very satisfactory results.

50 years ago
Taken from SUN files of December 19, 1968

The Forest Service this week announced plans for the development of the Chimney Rock ruins area. The plans include three major development stages. The first stage calls for the reconstruction of the road from U.S. 151 to the ruins area and the construction of a picnic area on top of the mesa. The second stage calls for the determination of proper excavation of Indian ruins in the area and reconstruction of the road from the picnic area to the ruins area. This stage provides for the excavation and stabilization of the ruins and interpretative signing. The third stage calls for a parking area at the top near the ruins and further development. Ranger Bob Newlin said this week that the road into the area would eventually be an oiled road.

25 years ago
Taken from SUN files of December 23, 1993 KPAG/KRQS is still on the air, having avoided a blackout with a last-minute payment of a utility bill last week, but the future of the station is still in jeopardy as debt and ownership questions continue to plague the operation. Last week, past-due power bills put the station on the brink of a shutdown, but a drive organized by a group calling itself "Friends of the Radio Station" offered help, and management came up with the \$3,000-plus needed to keep electricity flowing to transmitters. Station manager Harvey Twite said the station made payments on the bill but could not reduce the past-due amount to an acceptable level. The problems at the station stem from several changes of ownership, and a final change which put the stations under the control of the State of California.



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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.

Moral and patriotic compass

Dear Editor:

What sort of moral and patriotic compass does a Trump supporter

have, if any at all. Trump's fixer attorney, Cohen, described his illegal actions as being part of a "cult." The owner publisher who routinely paid off abused or used women to keep them quiet has admitted guilt. General Flynn has also pled guilty to lying to hide Trump's alleged Russian collusion. And, of course, there's the Russian spy who was in league with the NRA to assist Trump's election, as was Papadoupoulos, Manafort, Gates, Russian Nationals, etc ... etc ... etc. Not to forget Secretary Pompeo lying about the conclusion of his ex-agency, the CIA, regarding the murder of Kashoggi by the Saudis. What evil, what lack of morals, what total dishonesty this President inspires in people. Knowing all the above, 39% of Americans, in supporting Trump, ignore all they profess regarding morals, values, ethics, integrity, ideology, work ethics and religion ... go figure.

We know factually now what was suspected. If Trump isn't re-elected, he might well be going to jail, and there's a darn good chance he'll follow his son. And yet, the House GOP has still got their pants in a knot over Hillary, forgetting Ivanka and Jared's misuse. Never fear, we still have the 39% of Americans completely and blindly willing to demand the continued destruction of America's current and future well being ... must not have any children, grandkids, hmmm ... go figure.

Talk about disconnects. The GOP is gonzo about a southern border wall while knowing Donald employs undocumented workers at his resort

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters

PO Box 9, Pagosa Springs,

editor@pagosasun.com

be signed by the author, unless

be received by The SUN by noon

on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday), email

Letters will be limited to two per

If necessary, only one letter in

Letters quoting other people

be published.

support of a political candidate

or issue will be printed each edi-

must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will

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include the author's phone

submissions are preferred

month per letter writer.

or fax: (970) 264-2103

All letters must:

be 500 words or less

number and address

from readers.

CO 81147

Please submit to:

you know. America doesn't negotiate with terrorists who kidnap, but at America's request Canada arrested the CFO of one of the world largest telecommunications companies (Chinese). Trump tweeted she was a good bargaining chip in trade talks. Beginning with Presidents GWH Bush through Obama, we have recognized that wetlands are vital to all, repeat, all our health. Not Trump. he wants to destroy them for resort development and he opened millions of acres in Alaska to allow their destruction by energy companies. Yes, we are currently dependent on carbon-based energy; but all efforts should be put into alternate sources. Did you know the Federal Department of Agriculture and Department of Energy has profitably, repeat, profitably, funded energy development for years. Not now, as Donald has suppressed their related funds so America is not doing squat in R&D but China, well they 're go-

and golf clubs ... they're cheaper

... and then, there's our 39% ... go figure.

Dave Blake

Judge the results Dear Editor:

Mr Ashworth's letter last week was a perfect example of the alternate reality the right wing media and their subscribers reside. The bubble of FOX, Brietbart and Republican talking points, unsubstantiated accusations and inaccuracies. There is so much to debunk in his statements, 500 words could not do it justice. So, let's judge the results.

First, the only significant legislation the Republicans have passed was the 2017 Tax Scam. Results; ballooning deficits and increasing debt. Historically the debt to the GDP hovered around 40%. It's now at 78% and due to the tax cut will reach 152% by 2048. Just paying the interest on that debt will be almost equal to the payouts for Social Security. These numbers are from the Congressional Budget Office. Guess what Republicans want to cut?

Second, curtailing regulations. This administration has made cutting regulations that protect our air, water and land a high priority as pay back for the Kochs and fossil fuel industries for election donations. Results; a pullback on the Paris Climate Agreement, waste being dumped in the waterways, drilling leases in environmentally sensitive areas and the sell off of public lands. The administration's own Climate Report paints a dire picture of the costs of not acting to prevent further warming. Also, pulling back on banking regulations will inevitably lead to another economic bubble, where taxpayers will be expected to bail out the of-

fending institutions. Third, tariffs. Results; loss of market share for US farmers, increased cost for raw goods for US manufacturers and increased prices for US consumers. Have you noticed the grocery bill lately. Tariffs can be a legitimate way to insure fairness in trade policies, but they need to be imposed in well thought out ways, not at the whim of a uninformed president.

Fourth, the Middle East. The neocons in this administration are preparing for war against Iran. Results; US troop strength has increases dramatically in Syria and other Middle Eastern countries and we're backing the murderous regime of Saudi Arabia in it's war with Yemen. War is expensive (see deficit) and the biggest reason for the immigrant and refugee problems the whole world is experiencing.

Lastly, rule of law. Results; This Administration is the most corrupt in modern times with the Trump family acting like a mob family. They continually attack law enforcement and the media, sell influence and set policies that enrich themselves, cozy up to dictators around the world and have diminished US influence with our allies. Trump and his family have played loose with the law for decades and corporate media failed the US electorate by ignoring his record and past misdeeds. There is a lot more to come out about this as the Mueller investigations continue and investigators follow the money.

So, I agree with Mr. Ashworth that we should judge the results, not the spin.

Dave Butcher

Sign up for alerts Dear Editor:

"Have yourself a merry little Christmas.'

That was the greeting I chose for my 2003 Christmas photo card. The photo depicts a small store-bought Christmas tree on a stone wall with the remnants of a fireplace behind it - all that was left of my burneddown cabin. Only the tree is green. Everything else is charred.

In October 2003, the Cedar Fire tore through San Diego County. There were 15 fatalities. Over 3,000 structures — including my mountain cabin — were destroyed. 273,000 acres burned.

In October 2017, another California fire — the Tubbs Fire — resulted in 22 fatalities.

The November 2018 Camp Fire in California resulted in 86 fatalities; 25 are still missing.

Wildfires are burning hotter and faster, and Colorado is not immune. A drier climate, history of fire suppression policies, more recreation, and more homes built in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) contribute to the probability that fires like the 2002 Missionary Ridge Fire and the recent 416 Fire are the new norm.

Fires that burn hotter and faster are prone to result in more fatalities. Archuleta County is wrapped in forests with homes built in the WUI - many with just one-way in and one-way out. Talk about a recipe for potential disaster. We have it.

There are many ways to mitigate your property from fire loss, but what about the loss of your life? Your family's lives? Your neighbors'





In the case of the Tubbs Fire and Camp Fire, communications broke down on several levels. Many residents never received emergency alerts to evacuate. As a result, a frightening number of people died. I listened to NPR's "Burning Hotter and Faster — Reveal", an investigative program that documented numerous communication breakdowns during those fires with interviews and recorded 911 and command center phone calls. Listening to the program made me think about what could happen in Archuleta County.

If, or when, a fast-moving wildfire happens, timely evacuation is the key to saving lives. It's important to have an evacuation plan and do everything possible to receive evacuation alerts.

Fortunately, one simple action will give you a better chance of surviving a wildfire: Sign up for the Archuleta County Citizens Alert system, called Nixle.

Mike Le Roux, Director of County Emergency Operations, has done an outstanding job promoting the Citizens Alert signup. My intent is to reinforce his effort.

Signing up — during this season of giving — is the best gift you can give to yourself, your loved ones, and the entire community. Voluntary sign up is the easiest way to ensure you will receive timely lifesaving alerts when disaster strikes.

County's Citizens Alert webpage, https://www.archuletacounty.

■ See Letters A4

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Medical Center hit as part of nationwide bomb threat scam

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) was one of several Colorado hospitals to receive a threatening email last week, with that email also reaching hospitals and other facilities across the nation.

The email to PSMC, with a subject line reading "You don't have much time," was received in the late morning on Dec. 13 and threatened that an explosive device was hidden within "the building where your company is conducted" and would be detonated if "\$20'000 in Bitcoin" was not transfered by the close of business. It threatened that the bomb would cause no damwould result in "many wounded

Similar emails were received by governments, businesses and other facilities throughout the country.

"Our chief operations officer activated our emergency operations plan and they acted on the information they had at that time," explained PSMC CEO Dr. Rhonda Webb, who was away from the facility at the time of the incident. "They called the sheriff and the police chief. The email also stated that they would activate law enforcement."

Chief Operations Officer Kathee Douglas explained that PSMC enacted its plan for a bomb threat

age to the building's structure, but and, using the criteria of that plan, identified the threat as a low-level

> "It was not specific to our building or our place of business," Douglas explained. "Nowhere was a person or building named in the

> Douglas stated that, regardless of the level of threat, a complete sweep of the building is performed.

> Pagosa Springs Police ChiefWilliam Rockensock explained that, after reviewing the email and some of the security information, PSMC was given the option of sweeping the building themselves or having law enforcement do it, with PSMC

> opting to do the search itself. Rockensock said he and

Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez, who was also on scene, "determined that there was no credible threat at that point in time. Everything was cleared."

He noted it was cleared within 25 or 30 minutes.

'We did not evacuate," Webb

Webb said PSMC's firewall and IT person identified it as likely being a scam, with Douglas stating that the IP address where the email originated was traced to Russia.

Webb noted that PSMC has a clearly defined operations plan for a number of different scenarios, with the most commonly enacted plan being for adverse weather.

randi@pagosasun.com

Obituary

David A. Sterner

David A. Sterner, age 62, of Sidney, formerly of Merna, passed away on Dec. 12 at the Sidney Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Dec. 17, with burial will be in the Merna Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Esther Sterner Memorial Scholarship Fund, Merna Fire Department or the donor's choice. Online condolences may be left at www. govierbrothers.com.

David Allen Sterner was born on Nov.17, 1956, in Callaway, Neb., to Marvin and Esther (Murray) Sterner. He graduated from Anselmo-Merna High School in 1975. He attended Kearney State College,

receiving a bachelor's degree in science. After graduation, David taught science for several years. David moved to Wray, Colo., to live with his uncle Louie, where he sold fire protector equipment. David then worked for 20-plus years as the manager of numerous landfills throughout Nebraska and Colorado, with 17 years working at

the Lexington Area Landfill. He then moved back to Colorado, where he managed the Archuleta County landfills in Pagosa Springs, Colo. While in Colorado, he met his soul mate, Susan. At the time of his death, David was employed by Downey Drilling doing water-well photography throughout Nebraska and Kansas.

active in the local fire departments and the Rotary club. David was always a warm and caring person who liked to help family and friends in any way possible. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, four-wheeling in the mountains, spending time with his nephews and great nieces and collecting "David's treasures." David always had a smile on his face while wearing his signature bib overalls and colorful shirts. He was known to have candy in his pockets for the little ones. David was the life of the party and always ended conversations with, "Sure glad you got a chance to see me." David was funloving and lived life to the fullest.

David is survived by father Mar-Through the years, David was vin Sterner, of Broken Bow; two brothers, Ed Sterner, of North Platte, and Clifford (Jeri) Sterner, of Merna; special friend Susan Nossaman, of Sidney; her two daughters, Lauren Felts-Salazar and daughter Sophia, of Taos, N.M., and Liz Daniels and son Ethan, of San Antonio, Texas; three nephews, Tim (Jen) Sterner, of North Platte, Terry (Colleen) Sterner, of Merna, and Travis (Wynne) Sterner, of Merna; seven great-nieces and nephews: Jacob, Dalton, Jase, Sienna, Judd, Maggie and Devin; seven aunts and uncles; 19 cousins; and numerous other family and friends.

David is preceded in death by his mother, Esther, uncles Louie Murray, Steve Jorgensen and Cecil Price, aunts Eunice Price and Virginia Peterson, and his grand-

Letters



■ Continued from A3

org/569/Citizens-Alert. Read then scroll to the bottom to sign up. Fill in six data fields. You're signed up. Your information is confidential.

Count your blessings that we have a Citizens Alert System. Sign up. Then have yourself a merry little Christmas — or whatever holiday you choose to celebrate. Cynda Green

'Pagosa Peace Wreath'

Dear Editor:

Thank you for reminding us that December 14th is Bill of Rights Day, and for publishing the text of the articles in this week's paper.

In 2006, the "Pagosa Pea Wreath" made international news as a symbol of peace, and of freedom of speech. My husband and I put up the conifer bough peace symbol, decorated with lights, as a Christmas decoration. Our homeowners' association immediately informed us we were in violation of a subdivision sign regulation, even though that regulation does not address Christmas decorations. The board of directors overstepped the authority of the committee that is

Birth

The following is the November birth with parents from Pagosa Springs as reported by Mercy Regional Medical Center:

Hadley Taylor, Courtney Vechart and Jeffrey Johnson, 6 pounds, 8 ounces, 4:34 p.m., Nov. 10.

Parents are invited to submit photos of their baby and an official announcement to editor@ pagosasun.com to be printed in the newspaper.

supposed to enforce the covenants, and told us, "Do not think that your First Amendment rights apply."

Well, we knew our First Amendment rights did apply, and so did the thousands of people from near and far who phoned, wrote and emailed us in support. To our friends and supporters, thank you again. We were and are grateful not only for the support for us personally, but to learn that so many people, close to home and around the world, feel very strongly about freedom of speech, and desire peace on earth.

We continue to do what we can to bring peace to the neighbourhood. The peace wreath is up again, as it is every year, a joyful light in these festive times.

Lisa Jensen

Bring wolves back

Dear Editor:

As a retired biology teacher I recently attended the wolf symposium at Ft. Lewis College in Durango. The large crowd in that gymnasium included college students, Native Americans, wildlife experts, elderly people, cattlemen and biologists.

Far-sighted ecologists did reintroduce wolves to Yellowstone Park. The result was a remarkable transformation of that ailing ecosystem. The elk population had reduced the vegetation so much that many other species had disappeared. The wolves reduced the elk population, resulting in a near-miraculous change in the population of plant eaters such as beavers. Plants once again grow in abundance along the rivers and forests.

Wolves are ancestors of our beloved dogs. They form loving families in the wild.

Yes, Disney's Three Little Pigs sto-

ry features a big bad wolf. That story was strong anti-wolf propaganda. My own daughter memorized that entire book by age three.

Yet actor Robert Redford once stated that there is no documented case of a single human being killed by a wolf in North America.

Now biologists hope to bring wolves back to Colorado.

The symposium offered two opposing sides: cattle ranchers vs. wildlife biologists. Both sides presented their news.

Apex predators like wolves perform a vital role in maintaining nature's balance. Wolves would be beneficial in our Colorado forests. Native American tribes consider

them sacred.

Wolves may be big, but they are not bad. We should bring them back. We can once again live more in harmony with nature, not against it.

John T. Ponter

Sour grapes

I am appalled at the complaints from "sour grapes" Rob Keating. June Madrid has been employed by Archuleta County since 1985. And was elected county clerk and recorder in 1989 and started her job in 1990.

The statements that Rob Keating made were not well thought out or researched as well as ego driven.

June did not deserve any of this. For Mr. Keating to compare himself to Sheriff Valdez, in stating that he knew he should've had nearly the same amount of votes as Sheriff Valdez.

This is embarrassing for him and laughable. So he believed everybody that he asked," are you voting for me for Sheriff of Archuleta County, even though I have no experience whatsoever."

Apparently all those people

he asked said yes. Was he being naïve? Or did he actually think he had a chance?In the era that we are currently in, disrespect, false statements, and oh my feelings got hurt, not to mention delusional thinking.

I believe June Madrid is owed an apology.

My two cents. Merry Christmas and Happy Healthy New Year.

Terri Pritchard

Lasting love

Dear Editor:

I pray this season is bringing to all, the joy and love that will "lift" us up as we welcome another New Year. Lasting love cannot be bought, it is made in heaven. Tangible gifts and free to all who accept it.

ness in our hearts as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, son of God, with thankfulness and praise.

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9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.



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8:15 AM — Contemporary Sunday Service, Dec. 23 11 AM — Traditional Sunday Service, Dec. 23 5 & 7 PM — Traditional Christmas Eve Service Candlelight and Carols, Dec. 24

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County approves 2019 budget

Finance director discusses jail costs and tax trends

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved the county's 2019 budget at a special meeting on Dec. 12.

Larry Walton, the county finance director, gave two presentations at the meeting, one about significant trends and their impact on budget decisions, and the other presenting the 2019 budget.

2019 budget

"First, a quick recap of what we're going to do today," Walton said when introducing the 2019 budget presentation.

The BoCC, according to Walton's presentation, would look at three resolutions relating to adopting the budget, appropriating sums of money and setting mill levies.

A proposed 2019 budget was presented to the BoCC on Oct. 9 and was available online and at the county clerk's office, among other locations, Walton explained.

"This final budget has changes, and we're going to consider the changes," Walton said, adding that the presentation would be looking at those changes.

Walton's budget presentation began with the justice system ballot issue.

"Of course, the elephant in the room, it always has to do with the justice system ballot issue," Walton

"The 2019 Proposed Budget was built, assuming that the Ballot Issue did NOT pass," the presentation reads.

Walton explained that this assumption was not out of pessimism, but that it is easier to adjust for a ballot item if it passes than if

As such, assumptions for the budget included, according to the presentation:

• A jail being built, without sheriff or dispatch offices.

• "The Jail would be built at approximately the size previously recommended, based on current numbers of inmates, segregation needs and population growth projections.'

•\$14 million is the assumed cost of the jail, financed by certificates of participation (COP), "with lease payments of \$857,500/year for 20

Walton explained that in order to make that possible, the rest of the budget was constrained.

Those constraints included, according to the budget presentation:

• Limiting funds for new personnel and other expenses to about \$150,000, "equal to 1/2 of 1% of total budget.'

• Beginning in 2020, "a portion of the Property Tax Mill Levy currently allocated to Road & Bridge would have to be reallocated to the General Fund."

The final 2019 budget is based on updated information, according to the budget presentation.

"The cost of the Jail will be \$13 million (not \$14 million), but is still financed by a COP," the presentation reads.

The COP debt service reserve will be paid out of cash "at about \$852,000," according to the budget presentation, and the annual lease payments will be around \$830,000 for 25 years.

"We will be using some of our Justice System Capital Fund to pay the debt service reserve that is required in trying to keep the cost down," Walton said.

Twenty years was not an available option based on the county's cash flow, according to Walton.

The "Justice System fund balance" will cover initial lease payments, the debt service reserve fund and a contingency fund, according to the presentation.

"The Jail dominates discussion of the County's Capital Replacement needs," the budget presentation reads.

The jail is the largest project with the "most pressing need" and has the most "efficient means of financing," according to the presentation.

"Therefore, this budget includes financing of the Jail project," the budget presentation reads.

A new jail is expected to last, at minimum, 40 years without requiring expansion over a period of 20 to 25 years, according to the presentation.

Walton explained that, basically, from 2007 to 2018, the county capital spending, if not financed, was over \$20 million.

In 2019, the \$2.6 million has nothing to do with the jail or capital replacement years, Walton explained.

"At \$13 million, the Jail is only 18% to 20% of the total, but is still the largest single capital project of the County over that time period," the budget presentation reads.

Greg Schulte, the interim county administrator, mentioned that until the BoCC makes the decision to go forward with COP financing, "we will not receive that revenue until such time that occurs.'

"The \$65.8 million in Capital costs is a LOW estimate," according to the presentation, because it is unknown what the costs will be of a courthouse, sheriff's office or Department of Human Services space.

The county cannot "cash fund" the entirety of the \$65.8 million in capital needs, according to the budget presentation.

"The County has determined (over and over again) that it can succeed in cash funding as much as \$52.8 million of capital needs ..." the presentation reads.

Other updates to the 2019 budget include revenue numbers updated based on the most recent trends, unexpected expenses for 2018 being rolled into 2019, proposed expenses and employee additions, and budgeting for the Western Heritage Event Center being modified, according to the presentation.

Sales tax revenue for 2019 is assumed to have 2 percent growth over 2018, and the property tax revenue projection was lowered 1.5 percent, according to the pre-

Solid waste fee revenue is assumed to be 3.5 percent growth in the 2019 budget, according to the budget presentation.

Highway Users Tax Fund revenue is now showing a 15.3 percent decline over projections in the draft 2019 budget, according to the budget presentation.

Other additions include vacation rental revenue and school resource officer grant funding from the school district, according to the presentation.

The total revenue across all funds is \$27.6 million in the final 2019 budget, according to the budget presentation.

However, these individual revenue accounts only resulted in a net increase in revenue of \$1,652, according to the presentation.

County department heads and elected officials collectively requested 24 new employees "at \$1.4 million" for the first years' wages/ benefits, according to the presen-

Elected officials and department heads also requested around \$838,300 for items including equipment, supplies, facility repair and others, according to the presenta-

"This sum would equate with adding about 2.5% to the total budget of the County," the presentation reads.

The total for requested additions was \$2,239,300, according to the budget presentation.

10%

■ See Budget A7

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I've bought and sold a fair amount of property over the past 35 years and worked with numerous Realtors in the process. By far, the recent sale of my land holdings south of Pagosa Springs has been my best real estate transaction experience. This sale was handled by Mr. Lee Riley of Jann C. Pitcher Real Estate. Lee guided me through all the steps, from

property evaluation to final sales contract — without a single hitch. Within days after the property listing, I had multiple offers on the 60-acre parcel. Efficient, pleasant and easy to work with, instant and timely communication along the way, knowledgeable to the finest detail,

Lee has been the "professional' to work with.

Lee was nothing short of fantastic. We've bought lots of houses and this experience far exceeded all of them. Lee's professionalism and effort is unparalleled. - Ken and Carrie Leroux

Randy and I want to thank you for providing us with good old-fashioned customer service. Every time we had a question or concern on the sale of our vacation home you provided ease of mind for both of us ... We can see why you're an award winner in your market. - Randy & Ruth Henkes

Absolutely wonderful and very professional from start to finish. Lee is incredible at his job and so are the employees there. They are always right on top of everything. Flawless! - Joseph & Diana Rainer

Lee is an amazing agent who always answers his phone and has a team always available to assist. He makes your real estate goals a priority. I definitely felt like my agent had my best interest in mind.

Lee Riley did a great job in helping us to sell our home. Lee's action-oriented style, communication skills and willingness to go the extra mile made all the difference. When we thought we had lost our buyer, Lee found a friendly way to continue the conversation. This ultimately led to a sale with a happy seller and a happy buyer. —Brian Camastral

Very professional. I knew what to expect ahead of time and was kept informed at every step of the way. One of the smoothest closings/ sales I've been involved in!

We've been involved with two purchases with Lee, and now a sale. His advice was right on target, and he took care of many details that we feel went above and beyond the call of duty. We really appreciate his no nonsense, get-it-done approach.

When I talked with Lee in passing about what I was looking for **he went** out of his way to find it. I needed specific budget and requirements and he met them all. My daughter is so excited to have her own room finally and a puppy! A special thank you to Lee for making this happen at the perfect time and price!

Rich and Lynne

Darlene Craig



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Business

Colorado Department of Revenue extends grace period for new sales tax rules to May 31, 2019

Special to The SUN

Colorado Department of Revenue Executive Director Mike Hartman issued the following statement regarding proposed sales tax rules to implement the U.S. Supreme Court's South Dakota v. Wayfair decision and destination

"As part of our rulemaking process to implement sales tax rules for in-state and out-of-state retailers, we have heard from legislators and the business community, and the Department of Revenue agrees it is important for the state to take the time to get this right.

"As such, the department is extending the

automatic reprieve for Colorado businesses and out-of-state retailers to comply with the emergency rules from the current March 31, 2019, deadline to May 31, 2019. We will evaluate the need for another extension as May 31 nears. This additional time will give the state legislature an opportunity to find innovative solutions to streamline and simplify our sales tax collection laws in accordance with the wishes of the residents of Colorado.

"Despite the automatic reprieve, the department requests that businesses with the sophistication and capability to collect and remit sales tax on Internet sales based on where the good or service is being delivered do so as 2019, enforcement deadline. The department has upgraded its systems and processes to make compliance as simple as possible. We will continue to engage the business community to address their remaining concerns.

"This is an opportunity to simplify sales tax for all parties: for businesses that collect and remit sales tax, for customers who pay it and for those of us in state government whose obligation it is to carry out the tax laws passed by the state legislature. No one desires a streamlined and simplified sales tax collection and compliance system more than the Department of

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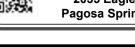
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e imposed and could reduce earnings on this account.







Major changes to state liquor laws go into effect starting Jan. 1

Special to The SUN

As of Jan. 1, 2019, consumers will be able to buy full-strength beer at grocery and convenience stores in Colorado that previously sold 3.2 percent beer due to new state liquor laws passed in 2016 by the Colorado General Assembly.

"These new regulations are some of the largest, sweeping changes to the state's liquor laws since prohibition," said Patrick Maroney, Liquor Enforcement Division director. "The Liquor Enforcement Division has worked with our stakeholders, licensees and local partners to educate and inform those impacted by the liquor law changes about what they can expect in 2019. Since 2016, we have identified how the new regulatory framework will affect manufacturers, wholesaler, retailers and consumers in Colorado."

The changes to state liquor laws in Colorado were part of an industry regulatory transformation beer over 0.5 percent sold at retail liquor-licensed drugstores (groapproved by the state legislature in 2016 (SB16-197) and expanded on with additional legislation passed in 2018 (SB18-243). The changes to the governing enforcement laws of the liquor industry in Colorado are complex and affect a variety of activities concerning the manufacturing, selling and purchasing of beer. Other areas affected by the new laws include deliveries, cost of goods sold, the age of employees, purchasing and distribution practices, license types, ownership, tasting, distance restrictions and public consumption.

While the modifications to liquor laws are significant for the liquor industry, consumers may also experience changes to how and where they purchase beer in Colorado. Some of the changes to the new liquor laws affecting consumers include:

sumers will be able to purchase at licensed retail liquor stores or

locations that previously sold only 3.2 percent beer. New retailers may also begin selling beer after Jan. 1, 2019, as long as they derive at least 20 percent of their gross total sales annual revenues from the sale of food items for consumption off their premises.

Wholesalers and manufacturers cannot deliver beer to grocery stores until after midnight on Dec. 31, 2018; consumers may see empty shelves and areas in stores before New Year's Day as retailers prepare for the change. Consumers can purchase beer over 0.5 percent at grocery and convenience stores starting at 8 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2019.

Where consumers can buy wine, sake, malt liquor and spirits has not changed. Changes to recent liquor laws only affect beer sales. Malt, vinous or spiri-Starting on Jan. 1, 2019, contuous liquor may be purchased

cery stores with LLDS license and an attached pharmacy, permitted to sell all types of alcohol).

The new law does not allow consumers to purchase beer at a self-checkout without assistance from and completion of the entire transaction by an employee of the licensed retail location. Lower percentage strength

beer (3.2 percent beer) may still be available in Colorado after Jan. 1, 2019, as retailers may want to offer this option for consumers and as the market demands the product. However, there is no mandate that retailers sell beer 3.2 percent or less.

After Jan. 1, 2019, employees have to be at least 18 years of age to handle alcohol. The age to purchase alcohol has not changed and remains 21 years and older.

For more information, visit www. colorado.gov/pacific/enforcement/liquor-sb16-197-sb18-243.

CHAMBER NEWS

Keep it local by purchasing Pagosa Perks

By Mary Jo Coulehan **SUN Columnist**

Pagosa just celebrated our shop local program by hosting the annual Parade of Stores shopping extravaganza. Congratulations to the winners of the shopping sprees: Kim Laverty, first place; Winonah Stevens, second place; and Lisa Jensen, third place. We also want to thank all of the people who thought to keep their dollars local and support our merchants here in Pagosa

Another way that you can continue to support businesses in Pagosa is to give Pagosa Perks dollars. Perks are local "checks" that act just like cash or a cashier's check. It is guaranteed so your business doesn't have to worry about the check bouncing.

Any business could accept the check as it is just money in your account just like cash. As a purchaser of the Pagosa Perks, you can give a range of values. We will make out smaller amounts so that the recipient can spend them in various places or we can make a larger denomination check.

Give these Perks to friends, teachers, employees, volunteers or, really, anybody. It leaves the decision of what to purchase in the hands of the recipient. As the gift giver, you may think that the perfect gift is a new clothing item or massage or restaurant meal, and you may be right. However, the recipient may just want to buy some gas or groceries or pay their electric bill. Or they may want to

that clothing item that they have theirs on how they want to spend the Pagosa Perks.

As a business, please treat these certificates as cash or a cashier's check. Do not turn them away. You are turning away revenue if you do. Just deposit them as you would checks. Even if you don't accept checks, take these Pagosa Perks and deposit them. They are money to your business.

The Chamber will be sending out reminders to the businesses about how to handle Pagosa Perks and what they look like. This is not a new program. Pagosa Perks have been around for over 15 years and they're still working and keeping money in Pagosa Springs at local businesses. If you would like a poster to put in your window that states "Pagosa Perks are Accepted Here," we would love to give you one.

If you have a large order of certificates for employees or a large number of friends, please contact the Chamber so that we can arrange preparing these checks for you in a timely manner. If you're struggling with what to get someone as a holiday, birthday or thank you gift, give the gift of local -Pagosa Perks.

Chamber board of director voting

Please do not forget to vote for three out of the six candidates running for the 2019 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Casting the ballot is the responsi-

take the family out for a meal or buy bility and privilege of the owner or designated manager of the busiset their heart on. But the choice is ness. There is only one ballot per business allowed.

We have had a very good response to this year's voting process so far. Thank you to those businesses that have voted.

The candidates running for the Chamber board this year are: Selena Touchstone, owner of High Altitude Closet and Elevation Head Shop; Kevin Metzler, owner of Wilderness Journeys Pagosa and Pagosa Rafting Outfitters; the Rev. Leighton McKeal, pastor of Community United Methodist Church; Veronica Medina, human resources manager for The Springs Resort and Spa; Katie McCalley, owner of Springs Chiropractic; and Shelly Cox, co-owner of Riff Raff Brewing and Riff Raff on the Rio.

It is a tough decision this year and any of the candidates would be qualified to represent our business community. Find out more about them from the Chamber website at www.pagosachamber.com. Click on the voting button. You can then cast your ballot or click on the link that will give you more biographical information. Click on the download from this link and the document should come up. If you have problems, please contact the Chamber.

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Informative. The Pagosa Springs SUN

264-2100

5 p.m. on Jan. 4, 2019.

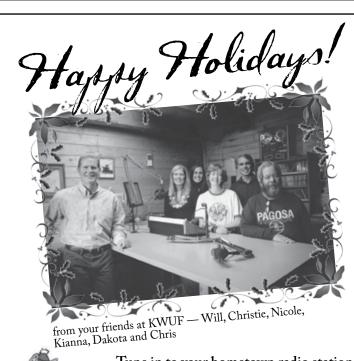
Membership news

We have quite a few businesses joining this week as Chamber Archuleta County Education Center and Hart Construction rejoin-

New to the Chamber membership is Orkin Pest Control and 4 Corners Business Partners.

Our renewing members this week include the Cabins at Hartland Ranch, Good Earth Meds, and Precision Autobody and Collision. Our nonprofit agencies renewing are the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership, the San Juan Outdoor Club and the Creede Repertory Theatre.

Don't forget to get your nomination form in for Citizen, Volunteer, Small Business and Non-Profit of the Year. The forms are available on the Chamber website at www.pagosachamber.com. Located under the Chamber and Community listing, just click on the 2018 Community Award Nominations to access your form. Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Jan. 4, 2019.



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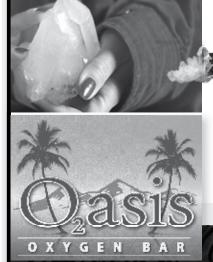
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Commissioners approve mineral rights lease

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

The Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC)

approved the leasing of county mineral rights at their meeting on Tuesday. This item is a proposed lease of County mineral rights (oil & gas) with Southland Royalty

Company, LLC," the agenda for the Dec. 18 meeting reads. "The Southland Royalty Company actually initiated this action, I want to say about five or six months ago, and they approached Archuleta County with the idea of leasing our

terim county attorney, said. Starr also mentioned that, "frankly," he was not sure if "we knew we were in possession of."

mineral rights," Todd Starr, the in-

On June 6, 1939, Walter Za-

briskie sold real estate to the BoCC interest and was asked to present for \$85, according to a staff report by Interim County Attorney Greg Schulte and Starr.

"The County-owned land is located in the southwest portion of Archuleta County east of Arboles along County Road 500," the report reads, adding that the county owns both the surface and mineral rights of the property.

Southland Royalty Company has executed oil and gas leases with "lands to the north," according to the report. The lands to the south of "Trujillo Road is Southern Ute tribal land" and are leased to Red Willow Production Company.

With the help of locals in the community, "we were able to make sure we negotiated a commercially reasonable rate," Starr explained.

Another individual expressed

a proposal, "and receiving none, that we would go forward with this item on the agenda," Starr explained.

Starr did not know if the mineral lease timeline is the same as other leases in the area.

'We went to a lot of effort to make sure we got — we went back to Southland on at least two different occasions to improve the terms of our agreement so that we were commercially reasonable,"

Commissioner Michael Whiting asked if the public had been notified, stressing transparency.

Starr did not believe the neighbors had been contacted about the lease; however, "before Southland undertakes any development of the mineral interest, they will have to comply with the land use regulations and at that point the neighbors would receive notice."

Whiting asked if feedback could stop the oil and gas devel-

"Absolutely," Starr said.

Whiting later asked if there was a reason the county was leasing the rights instead of selling them.

"I'm not aware of a particular reason we're doing that, except for the fact that we were approached with a lease offer," Starr said.

Commissioner Ron Maez moved to approve an oil and gas lease agreement and associated documentation with Southland Royalty Company for Archuleta Countyowned property as identified and pursuant to the terms specified in the lease and lease documents.

Whiting seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. avery@pagosasun.com

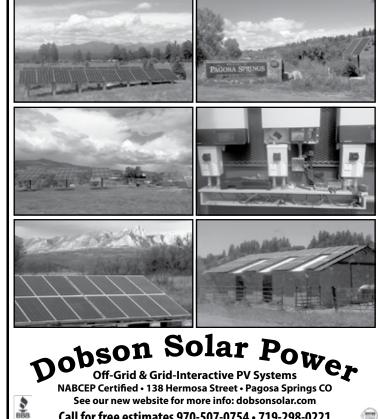
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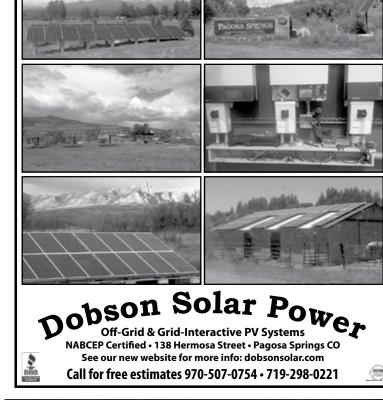
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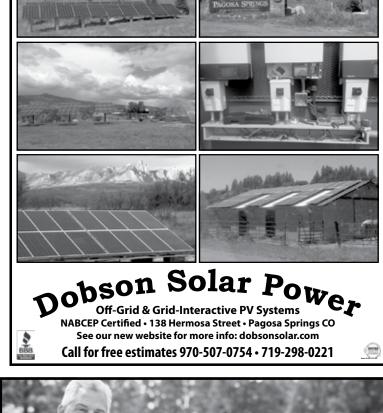
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Water conservancy district approves budget for 2019 largest total within the 2019 budget that revenues will be \$78,775, with Anticipated 2018 year-end ex-

By Chris Mannara

Staff Writer

The San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) Board of Directors formally approved its budget for 2019 at a meeting on

The budget shows a beginning balance of \$150,659 for 2019 and

total available resources being \$229,434.

As of Dec. 12, total revenues for 2018 were listed at \$77,456, and that amount is expected to remain the same at year-end.

The district is anticipated to have \$250,708 on hand at the end of 2018. Within the revenue section, the

falls under the general property taxes section. That line item totals \$70,789, which is a slight increase over 2018's amount of \$68,041.

The majority of line-item expenses for SJWCD do not total over \$5,000. Those that do include \$7,000 for audit expenses, \$12,000 for legal and \$12,000 for support services.

penses for an audit total \$2,656, while year-end expenses for legal fees are \$33,375. Year-end expenses for support services total \$13,696.

Total expenditures budgeted for 2019 come in at \$78,775, while anticipated year-end expenditures for 2018 total \$99,739.

chris@pagosasun.com

Budget

■ Continued from A5

"The County determined that it could only afford an expense increase ... of about \$173,000 for both the new Personnel and Other costs," the presentation reads.

Some budget notes included that the assumptions for the basic budget are realistic, no staff was laid off, fund balances "are sustainable at legally required levels for at least 10 years in all funds," and existing reserves were maintained, according to the presentation.

Commissioner Ron Maez moved to approve the 2019 budget, with Commissioner Michael Whiting seconding the motion. It passed unanimously.

Significant trends

Walton also gave a presentation over significant trends and their impacts on the 2019 budget. He began this presentation discuss-

"We'll start with the one that people know the most about, which is sales tax," Walton said.

Walton explained they would be taking a quick look at the trends in sales tax from 2007 to the projected totals for 2018, and the 2019 budgeted totals.

2007 was selected due to the ease of information available after that date and the time frame for research available, Walton confirmed.

Looking at the county sales tax, an odd "blip" occurred in 2010 when monies determined to be owed to the county on a state audit were conveyed to the county, Walton explained.

In 2011 to 2013, the sales tax was "not so great," he explained.

But, the sales tax began to take off between 2014 and 2017, around the same time that retail marijuana was "coming into our economy," Walton explained.

The next year saw the introduction of a super center, "whose name we all know," Walton explained.

"The year after that is the first full year of both retail marijuana and the super center, and the growth was very steep in that period of time after the time when that occurred," Walton said.

However, it then began to drop, Walton explained.

"And then it began to drop off when, you might say, the market was trying to find its equilibrium," Walton said.

Projections for 2018 showed about 2 percent growth, according

"It's a considerable slowing of growth, for next year we're projecting zero growth," Walton said, explaining that meant it was projected to be flat based on trends that the county has followed

For property tax, in the same period, in 2008 and 2009, "it went up, even though the recession was already in process," Walton

explained. There was a bit of a delay for the effects of the recession to occur in the county, leading to a peak during the recession, Walton explained.

"Then we have the huge drop that occurs ... and it bottoms out in 2014," Walton said.

Walton explained that he has had people approach him in the grocery store making comments about property tax overall not go-

"It has gone up a little bit," Walton said, adding that the Gallagher Amendment and rate of assessment going down caused some effect, and that residential is only one part among many.

After data of property and sales tax, Walton explained these are the "core and the foundation of the county's budget."

Other forms of revenue, such as grants, can fluctuate and have other costs associated, Walton explained.

"During the recession it went down, and it looks like it's climbing up quite steadily," Walton said of the core taxes, adding that before the special adjustment in 2010 it was higher previously.

Which "sounds great," however, it "equates to about 1 percent growth per year," he added.

What affected whether that was good or bad is how quickly the dollar's purchasing power changes, according to Walton.

In the trends presentation, he notes that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has changed significantly in the past 13 years.

"This means that the 'purchasing power' of \$1 dollar has declined 24 cents between 2006 to 2019," the trends presentation reads.

This was equal to a 24 percent decrease in the purchase power of \$1, Walton explained.

"Now, we're going to equate that back to these other core revenue changes," he said. Between 2011 and 2018, sales

tax went up by about \$2 million annually in "raw dollars," according to Walton. "It went up about \$1 million in

purchasing power equated over this period of time," Walton said, adding it looked as though that would decline.

Looking at property tax, it seemed bleak, Walton explained. "Cost to do the same thing, really, is going up," Walton said.

When the two graphs displaying the trends were combined they showed "different pictures," Purchasing power did not "bot-

plained, adding that "and when we did bottom out it was considerably worse than the dollars would otherwise indicate.' He added, "If we factored out that special adjustment in 2010,

tom out" until 2014, Walton ex-

we're really almost at historic lows of revenue in core tax in sheer dol-Several years showed modest

gains for the county; however, they soon went flat. Walton mentioned.

"Superficially, Revenue appears to have completely recovered from the recession and almost reached the levels of the pre-recession boom," the presentation reads.

On average, the core tax revenue

has grown about 1 percent annually, and the cost of goods and services have grown about 2 percent per year, according to the trends presentation.

Plans to cope with the loss of purchasing power include keeping operating costs lower than projected revenue, "aggressively" controlling spending, deferring capital replacements and maintenance, and using unanticipated revenue to "catch up" on capital replacement and maintenance, as noted in the trends presentation.

Current capital replacements included the jail (\$13 million to \$14 million), courthouse, sheriff's office and a space for the Department of Human Services, all of which have unknown costs, according to the trends presentation.

Capital replacements, which have been identified as needs for the years 2020 to 2029, total "at least" \$29.8 million, according to the trends presentation.

Those capital needs include roads and bridges (\$18.3 million), dispatch (\$225,000), solid waste (\$5.6 million), airport (\$670,000) and fleet (\$5 million), according to the presentation.

"Capital Replacement Current & Pending Total: \$42.7 million," the trends presentation reads.

Walton added that to address those items would likely be "millions more than that."

Commissioner Ron Maez added that the clerk and recorder's office needed to be thought of, as well. avery@pagosasun.com





Village

Continued from front

friendly option further from the ski area and wetlands.

"The appeal's dismissal leaves in place the lower court's ruling that the Forest Service's analysis of environmental impacts associated with up to 8,000 people living on top of Wolf Creek Pass failed to pass muster with numerous federal laws," said Travis Stills, an attorney with Energy & Conservation Law representing the conservation organizations.

Hicks noted that the previous court decision ruled against the USFS process and basically instructed the agency to "go back and get it right."

For the road access alternative, he explained, there has to be a new final biological opinion issued due to the lynx falling under the En-

dangered Species Act, and LMJV and the USFS will have to "unwind the land exchange" through a real estate transaction.

"We can still make it happen," he said, explaining that a case involving the development that was filed against Mineral County determined that LMJV is entitled to wheeled access.

He added LMJV will continue to work with Wolf Creek Ski Area as the development's plan progress, and the developers will "make sure it is done in the best way for southwest Colorado."

But, when development could occur is still a moving target, Hicks indicated, with LMJV having no control over the federal agencies involved and the project's opponents likely to file a lawsuit in regard to the upcoming record of

decision, as well.

"We are still waiting for the Forest Service to conduct an open, transparent and inclusive analysis of the environmental impacts associated with this enormous commercial development," said Tehri Parker, executive director of RMW. "The Forest Service needs to do a new analysis that is not tainted by the backroom maneuverings for LMJV and honestly looks at the true impacts and all options for addressing the developer's request for access.

The groups have also pledged "continued scrutiny of the Forest Service's compliance with its legal obligations and will encourage efforts by the agency to rebuild public trust in its review process," according to a Dec. 12 press release.

Hicks noted that, if the upcom-

ing decision is challenged in court, because it will involve the same environmental impact statement and the courts are well-versed on the project, which has gone on for over 30 years, hopefully the process

can be sped up. "Hopefully this'll be the last law-

suit we have and we can move forward with development," he said. But, if the decision is challenged

in court, he indicated LMJV will

have no control over the process the USFS used and will just have to hope the USFS "got it right."

He added that ANILCA is very defensible in court. randi@pagosasun.com

Incidents

■ Continued from front

possible fire involved, Montoya explained.

Cpl. Blake Hancey of the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) described some further details of that incident in an email Wednesday.

Around 7:25 a.m., a 2011 Freightliner semi tractor trailer carrying a load of potatoes "was traveling at excessive speeds and therefore lost his brakes," Hancey explained in the email

The vehicle was driven by Juan R. Perez, 51, of Miami, Fla., according to Hancey's email.

"It is believed the driver was having problems with his brakes and speed prior to the upper truck ramp, and I don't believe it was his intent to take the lower ramp," Hancey wrote in the email.

In the area of milepost 160, the semi rolled a quarter time near the entrance to the lower truck ramp, hitting multiple delineator posts and a sign, according to the email.

The semi slid across all lanes of traffic, hitting the guard rail and, according to the email, this caused a complete road closure for around 50 minutes

Perez sustained "various broken bones" and was transported to Pagosa Springs Medical Center (PSMC) by ambulance, "but was in stable condition."

The same PFPD personnel

to the scene of the semi rollover, according to Montoya.

After arriving on the scene, "we determined there was no fire," Montoya explained.

The driver was able to selfextricate, Montoya added.

"The driver was cited for careless driving, driving an uninsured vehicle and failed to comply with DPS Rules and regulations," the email reads.

"While we were on that call still, a report came in of another semi at mile marker 163 that was smoking brakes and a problem," Montoya

By the time that the PFPD arrived at the location of the second semi, "he had also rolled over the truck and was partially off the road, off an embankment," Montoya explained, adding that the brakes were smoking.

Master Trooper Doug Wiersma of the CSP provided additional information.

At around 8:25 a.m., near milepost 163, a 2007 Freightliner TT and flatbed loaded with steel building components experienced brakes overheating due to overuse, according to an email from Wiersma.

The truck was driven by Howard D. Dial, 27, of Deberry, Texas, according to the email.

The truck failed to navigate a

moved from the scene of the fire right curve when the trailer and truck rolled on the highway, according to the email.

The vehicle exited the left side of the roadway, "where the trailer collided with a large overhead sign post" and both units rotated around the post, according to the

"The extent of the damage was quite a bit, to where it actually completely ripped the cab of the semi off the chassis," Montoya said. "And it was laying approximately about 80 feet from the chassis of the vehicle ... actually on a frozen pond."

The fiberglass cab left the chassis and continued on, traveling down an embankment "with the driver inside" and stopping approximately 35-feet off the highway, according to the email.

Dial was able to self-extricate, Montoya mentioned.

The second eastbound lane was blocked, and after a short closure during recovery efforts, traffic was allowed to continue, according to the email.

Fluids were leaking on the ground, according to Montoya, and CSP's Hazardous Materials Team was called.

Dial was transported to PSMC with minor injuries and was cited for careless driving, according to

avery@pagosasun.com

Assault

■ Continued from front

scribed the situation as "volatile" and requested an officer immediately.

At the time of the call, Lewicki thought that the individual who assaulted him was outside of the building and may have been leaving the parking lot.

In addition to the parent allegedly assaulting Lewicki, the school director also raised concern over a perceived threat.

"But I have a father of the mother who just struck the principal that may be volatile," Lewicki stated.

However, Lewicki noted while on the phone that the father was not at the school, but Lewicki requested, "presence from an officer immedi-

According to the dispatch report, law enforcement was dispatched to the school on Dec. 17 at 11:58 a.m.

After law enforcement arrived on scene, another 911 call was made from Lewicki at 1:18 p.m.

In that call, Lewicki noted that he had a "potential" threat to the school. He also noted that no law enforcement was on campus at the time, but

he requested an officer be present. Lewicki went on to explain in his second call that Lt. Brooks Brown with the Pagosa Springs Police Department had been at the school

"about an hour ago." Specifically, Lewicki stated that he requested School Resource Officer James "Bubba" Martinez from Pagosa Springs High School, but that Martinez could not be sent to PPOS as he was "busy doing

Lewicki reiterated that this was the same situation that he called about initially and that the individual was not on campus.

"I'm in a soft lockout position right now and I'm the guy at the had already left the scene and, as of front door and that feels a little bit the interview, Brown noted that the

peculiar," Lewicki said. "I could use some presence."

en route to PPOS.

But, at 1:45 p.m., another 911 call was placed by Lewicki.

any minute."

Lewicki again stated in this third call that he needed an officer im-

The dispatched call summary states that Brown, who is referred to as "PD2," stated, "there is no active threat at this time.'

The call summary goes on to state that the "Principal wants extra patrol around the school PD2 will do extra

In addition to Brown's patrolling, another officer would be asked to do some, as well

on Dec. 18, Brown explained what exactly the situation involved. "There was an upset parent due

ing at school. And the parent just pushed the principal, the director, over there," Brown explained.

details to what led to the conflict as the students are juveniles.

Brown noted that the alleged assault on Lewicki involved a push and no punches were thrown and no injuries were reported.

According to the dispatched call summary, at 1:41 p.m. an officer was

"I called over 10 minutes ago because of a potential threat. Do you have somebody coming?" Lewicki asked. "I'm not sure why it's taken this long. I need an officer at the building. It's a potential threat. Nobody in my parking lot right now, but I could have somebody pull in at

patrol."

In an interview with The SUN

to some conflict the kids were hav-

Brown could not provide specific

"Just a shove is my understanding," Brown said.

situation regarding the case was still

The incident took place while school was in session and it happened in the entryway outside of the school, Brown described.

"Right now, it's still kind of ongoing as far as whether charges are going to be pressed or not going forward," Brown added.

In a separate interview on Dec. 18, Lewicki offered some comments on the situation.

"We had an incident and the procedure I went into was just a lockout procedure for a couple of hours. Kind of a soft lockout to make sure everything was OK," Lewicki said. "And, I did make contact with law enforcement and they were very helpful. And we're through it and we're all good."

Lewicki confirmed that his initial call was to 911 to get an officer at the school as a presence.

"There was never any danger or anything like that," Lewicki said.

When asked if the parent struck him, Lewicki stated that he would rather get advice from legal counsel before commenting.

PPOS Board President Ursala Hudson in an interview on Dec. 18 confirmed that she was notified of the incident but declined to com-

Lewicki provided a copy of an email that was sent to parents of PPOS students at the end of the day "Dear Parents, Yesterday, we went

into a 'soft' lockout due to what I perceived as a potential for a possible threat. "The students were never in any

"Local law enforcement was very When Brown arrived, the parent helpful with a presence during the

chris@pagosasun.com

■ Continued from front

13, according to the email. Buffington-Yake was not wearing a seat belt and was riding in the front right seat, according to a CSP

press release dated Dec. 17. Around 1:15 a.m., the truck "drove off the right side of the road, striking a tree, before rotating into a fence. The vehicle did not roll,"

according to the CSP press release.

Buffington-Yake was ejected from the vehicle and "died at the scene," according to the email.

Yake was able to self-extricate from the vehicle through the driver's door, according to a Dec. 17 press release from the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD).

Yake was uninjured, according to the email from Wiersma.

"Most of the juvenile occupants of the truck were not wearing seatbelts either, resulting in injuries from minor to serious," the email

from Wiersma reads. Two males, aged 9 and 10, and a female, aged 12, sustained serious injuries, according to the CSP press release.

Two females, aged 6 and 13, "also un-seatbelted, escaped with minor injuries," according to CSP the press release.

"Only the 9 year old male was seatbelted," the CSP press release "PFPD firefighters were required

to use hydraulic extraction tools to remove the back driver's side door in order to access patients trapped inside the vehicle," the PFPD press release reads.

When the door was removed, the patients were quickly removed and transferred to ambulances, according to the PFPD press release.

That PFPD release indicates that six occupants were transported via ground ambulance to Pagosa Springs Medical Center.

via helicopter and fixed wing to different hospitals for further treatment," it notes. Multiple agencies within the county responded to the incident

and assisted, according to the CSP press release. "Drugs, alcohol, and excessive

"Three patients were transferred

speed are not considered factors in this crash, which is still under investigation," the CSP press re-

The CSP extends "our deepest condolences to those affected by the tragedy," according to the press

"This crash once again tragically underscores the importance of wearing seat belts and we believe its outcome may have been completely different had all occupants been properly buckled," the email reads.

While seat belt use rates are at a high across the nation, "thousands" of lives are lost each year due to not using seat belts, according to the email.

In many crashes, "like this one" seat belt use is "usually the dividing line between life and death," according to the email.

"The Colorado State Patrol continues to urge both drivers and passengers to take two seconds to buckle up every trip, every time, no

exceptions," the email reads. avery@pagosasun.com

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject

to change.

Thursday, Dec. 20 Pagosa Springs Town Council meeting. 5 p.m., Town Hall council

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

bers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 2 **Archuleta County Board of County** Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis

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

Lewis St. Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board. 5 p.m., Town Hall conference room, 551 Hot

Springs Blvd.

Sunday, Jan. 6 San Juan Water Conservancy District work session. 1:30 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5.

Tuesday, Jan. 8

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

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session — facilities discussion. 10 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

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

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

Town Planning Commission, Board

of Adjustments and Design Re-

view Board. 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Town of Pagosa Springs Parks and **Recreation Commission.** 5:30 p.m., Ross Aragon Community

Center, 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Pagosa Fire Protection District **Board of Directors meeting and Board of Trustees of the Pagosa** Fire Protection District Firemen's Pension Fund regular meeting. 6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa

Blvd. Wednesday, Jan. 9

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation regular board meeting. 5:30 p.m., Chamber of Commerce conference room, 105 Hot Springs Blvd.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

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

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

Thursday, Jan. 17 Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation

District regular meeting. 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave. Tuesday, Jan. 22

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

Town Planning Commission, Board

of Adjustments and Design Review Board. 5:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. Upper San Juan Health Service District regular board meeting.

5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Medical

Center Great Room, 95 S. Pagosa

Blvd.

Wednesday, Jan. 23 Archuleta County Planning Commission regular meeting. 6 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

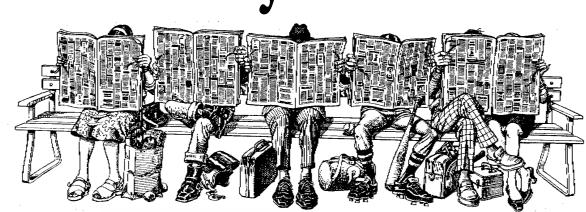
Pagosa Springs Town Council meet-

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

Thursday, Jan. 24

Tuesday, Jan. 29 **Archuleta County Board of County** Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis

Thursday wouldn't be Thursday without ...



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Celebrate 2019 by participating in First Day Hikes at Navajo State Park

By Colorado Parks and Wildlife Special to The SUN

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is pleased to welcome a new year by once again participating in First Day Hikes. Over 30 events are scheduled in state parks across Colorado on New Year's Day as part of America's State Parks First Day Hikes initiative.

CPW invites you to ring in 2019 by spending your day outside at a Colorado state park.

"Since 2012, state parks across

healthy lifestyle choice, while at the same time remind the public that outdoor recreation can be enjoyed year-round."

Navajo State Park's First Day Hike will be the Visitor Center Trailhead to Windsurf Beach, Lake View Loop beginning at 9 a.m. Participants should meet at the Navajo State Park Visitor Center. The hike is considered easy with a length of 2.8 miles. All ages are welcome. Bring a water bottle and wear weatherappropriate clothing and footwear. Refreshments will be served at the

the program. This year, visitors can look forward to enjoying hikes and walks at more than 25 participating state parks. Visitors participating in First Day Hikes will be able to start the year off on the right foot by spending the day in some of Colorado's most spectacular nature.

Hikers can expect to enjoy winter landscapes with striking views and, in some parks, benefit from the company of a knowledgeable state park guide. Hikes will range from fun walks to more challenging 6-mile hikes throughout the park, and even to the challenge. Many parks will

over 133,000 miles throughout the country on the guided hikes. Many others hiked state park trails throughout the day, taking advantage of the resources America's state parks have to offer.

This year, begin your new year by creating a connection to nature in a Colorado state park. Spending time outdoors is good for the body and mind, and has the ability to lift moods and leave us feeling more creative. With a variety of hikes in ability level and length, First Day Hikes are the perfect activity to begin your year

Colorado and the nation have ofon the right note. Remember to dress Visitor Center. an 11-mile hike if you are feeling up fered hikes on Jan. 1 to encourage First Day Hikes was created to for the winter weather with lots of offer everyone an opportunity to also be providing light refreshments individuals and families to begin layers, and to bring water and snacks the New Year with a rejuvenating begin the new year rejuvenating to warm up after your winter advenfor the journey. and healthy hike at their local and connecting with the outdoors ture. All hikes are free of charge, but Whether planning to particiat a state park close to home. state park," said Crystal Dreiling, visitors must possess a valid annual pate in a First Day Hike, reserving or daily parks pass to participate. Trinidad Lake State Park manager. After joining the national proa spring campsite or scheduling gram in 2012, each new year has In 2018, nearly 55,000 people "Led by park staff or volunteers, hunter education courses, you can 200+ Guns For Sale First Day Hikes encourage outdoor seen growth in the number of Colorang in the new year with First start your 2019 outdoor adventures Day Hikes, collectively hiking exploration and enjoyment as a rado state parks participating in by visiting cpw.state.co.us.

Forest service updates road closure information

By Brandon Caley

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.

The road list has been updated as of Dec. 18.

- Black Mountain, No. 661, open. • Blanco River, No. 656, open.
- Blue Creek, No. 012/Big Branch, No. 664, closed.
 - Buckles Lake, No. 663, open.
- 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,
- Devil Creek, No. 627 to State

In August 2015, Coloradans

across the southwest part of our

state experienced both shock and

anger as the Animas River turned

yellow, the result of the Environ-

mental Protection Agency (EPA)

accidentally releasing millions of

gallons of toxic mining waste from

widespread downstream. The EPA

promised to make the individu-

als, businesses and communities

impacted by the spill whole, and I

have continued to work to ensure

catastrophic reminder of the risks

that abandoned mines pose across

than 50,000 mines that were aban-

doned before the era of modern regulations, 23,000 of which are

located in Colorado. Much like the

Gold King Mine, many of these

abandoned mines were never suf-

ficiently cleaned up, have no current

responsible party and release pollu-

were opened long before the enact-

ment of the nation's environmental

and land management laws and

have no existing responsible par-

Since these abandoned sites

tion into surrounding watersheds.

the entire western United States.

The Gold King Mine spill was a

Across the West, there are more

the agency fulfills this promise.

The impact of this spill was

the abandoned Gold King Mine.

Wildlife Area, closed.

- Devil Mountain, No. 626, open.
- East Fork, No. 667, open.
- East Toner, No. 637, open. • Echo Canyon, No. 029 (Nipple
- Mountain), open.
- Eight Mile Mesa, No. 651, closed. • Falls Creek Road, No. 039, closed
- Fawn Gulch Road, No. 666,
- closed. • First Fork, No. 622 (Main Gate),
- First Fork, No. 622 (gate at
- Sheep Creek), open.
- Fourmile Road, No. 645, open. • Jackson Mountain, No. 037,
- open. • Jack's Pasture Road, No. 746, open.
 - Kenney Flats, No. 006, closed.
- Lefthand Canyon, No. 024, • Lower Piedra to Campground,
- No. 621, closed.
- McManus, No. 633 (at Plumtaw intersection), open.
- Middle Fork, No. 636, open.
- Monument Park West, No. 630,

ty, it has fallen

to the federal

government

to perform re-

mediation. In

1997, the Bu-

reau of Land

Management

(BLM) and

(FS) started to

remediate the

abandoned

mines locat-

ed on federal

lands, often in conjunction with

a tremendous amount of work

remains and the price tag to re-

mediate every abandoned mine in

the U.S. is estimated to be a whop-

ping \$50 billion. Federal agencies

estimate that \$80 million to \$85

million is already spent annually on

mine remediation, so if this process

continues as is, it will not just be

slow, it will also be an extraordinary

burden at the federal, state and lo-

from the Gold King Mine spill, it is

that the status quo is unacceptable

when it comes to cleaning up aban-

doned mine sites. There are many

If we have learned anything

cal levels for years to come.

While progress has been made,

state and local municipalities.

• Monument Park East, No. 630,

- Mosca, No. 631, open. • Nipple Mountain, No. 665,
- Nipple Mountain, No. 665
- (above Echo Canyon), closed.
- Plumtaw, No. 634, open.
- Poison Park, No. 644, open.
- Price Lakes, No. 731, open. • Snowball, No. 646, closed.
- Snow Ranch, No. 628, open. • Trail Ridge, No. 639, open.
- 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), open.
- Wolf Creek Road, No.725, closed by snow.

Campgrounds

Good Samaritans are part of solution to abandoned mine cleanup

 $The following \, camp grounds \, are \,$ all closed:

• Blanco River Group Camp-

good Samaritan groups — sports-

men's and environment groups,

as well as mining organizations

tise, financial ability and desire to

conduct successful remediation at

abandoned mines. Unfortunately,

good Samaritan groups are often

discouraged from taking on these

important projects because of

federal clean water and liability

Abandoned mines threaten wa-

ter quality and the environment in

Colorado, so Senator Cory Gardner

and I have been working for several

years to develop legislation that

would create a Good Samaritan

pilot project to remove hurdles that

have prevented good Samaritan

groups from taking on abandoned

mine remediation projects. We

introduced the latest version of

the bill, the Good Samaritan Reme-

diation of Orphan Hardrock Mines

Act of 2018 (H.R. 7226), on Dec. 6.

This bill would authorize the EPA

to establish a seven-year Good

Samaritan pilot program, under

which the EPA will administer up to

15 good Samaritan permits to carry

out projects to remediate historic

mine residue at orphan mine sites.

mitting requirements to ensure

H.R. 7226 includes strong per-

regulations.

that have the technical exper-

• Bridge.

ground.

- Cimarrona.
- East Fork.
- Lower Piedra.
- · Palisades. Teal.
- Ute.
- West Fork.
- Williams Creek.

For additional information on travel management, road openings and to pick up a Motor Vehicle Use Map with specific information on Forest access roads, contact the Pagosa Ranger District at 264-2268 or stop by and visit us Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., currently located in a trailer at 180 Pagosa St.

Current information on other seasonal Pagosa Ranger District road closures is available at: http:// www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan. Click on the "Forest Road Conditions" link located on the right side of the page under the "Quick Links" box.

The next round of road closures will be Dec. 21 unless resource and safety considerations warrant an earlier closure.

potential Good Samaritan groups

have the expertise and financial

ability needed to responsibly take

tion can be granted, the Good Sa-

maritan group must make earnest

efforts to identify if there are existing

responsible parties for the mine and

if one is identified, the permit would

be denied. The Good Samaritan

group must also provide detailed

plans for the project, including a

work schedule, a health and safety

plan and a specific contingency

plan if downstream waters are im-

pacted by an unplanned discharge

of hazardous substances. Should

the Good Samaritan group break

any of the terms of its permit, it will

face all liability under current law.

that has been made toward finding

a solution to help cleanup aban-

doned mines across the West and

look forward to continued work

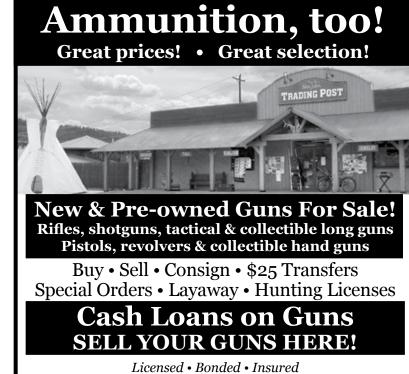
The Pagosa Springs SUN

264-2100

I am confident in the progress

Additionally, before any applica-

on remediation projects.



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- Bridal & Family lewelry



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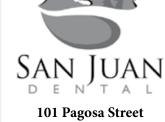
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Sports

Swim

Lady Pirate swim team finishes third at Montrose Invitational

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Competing in the junior varsity portion of the Montrose Invitational, the Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate swim team finished in third place out of eight teams.

Specifically, Pagosa finished with 60 points at the conclusion of the invitational.

The host, the Montrose Indians, captured the top spot in the JV portion of the meet with 94 points.

In addition to Montrose and Pagosa, the Grand Junction Tigers, Fruita Monument Wildcats, Gunnison Cowboys, Glenwood Springs Demons, Moffat County Bulldogs, Delta Panthers and Aspen Skiers all competed in the invitational.

Coach Heather Miller explained in an email to The SUN her reasoning behind having the Lady Pirates swim in the JV portion of the meet.

"I wanted to give the Swimmers a better chance of being able to swim again in the finals section also with the times they had in Durango and Farmington they were well slower than the 'cap time' so that was where I thought they fit best," Miller wrote.

Of the seven teams that placed in the 200-yard medley relay preliminaries, one Lady Pirate team placed fourth.

That team, which included Nell Taylor, Emma Heidelmeier, Valeria Monterroso and Mackenzie Wedemeyer, finished with a time of 2 minutes, 34.93 seconds.

Lady Pirate Cheyenne Booth Monterroplaced 10th out of 10 swimmers in the 200-yard freestyle preliminaries with a time of 3:07.48.

In the 100-yard individual medley preliminaries, Monterroso led the pack and finished first out of eight swimmers in the preliminaries with a time of 1:30.64.

In the preliminaries for the 50vard freestyle, Wedemeyer took a second-place finish with a time of place d 32.65, while Heidelmeier came in fifth with a time of 34 40

In the finals for the 50-yard freestyle, Wedemeyer took top billing with a time of 30 54

In that same event, Heidelmeier and, in the finished seventh with a time of finals for 35.62.

Taylor took third place out of six swimmers to finish in the 50-yard butterfly preliminaries with a time of 42.03.

In that same event, Monterroso finished sixth with a time of 45.02.

Favorite subject: Math

Comments from coach Dan

Janowsky: "Eric is an ideal rep-

resentative of our team and our

school. He is a tireless worker,

completely unselfish, and totally

committed to doing his best at all

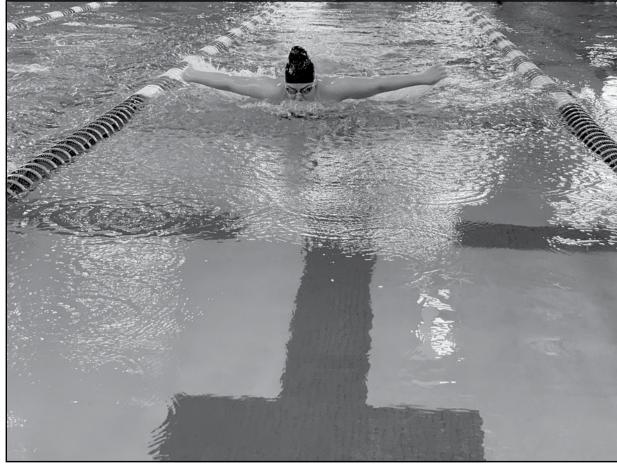


Photo courtesy Heather Miller

Lady Pirate Valeria Monterroso navigates the waters during the 50-yard butterfly event at the Montrose Invitational. The Lady Pirates competed in the invitational from Dec. 14 to Dec. 15 and placed third out of eight teams in the junior varsity rankings.

In the finals for the 50-yard

a time of 44.6 and so placed fifth with a time of

For the 100-yard freestyle, Darian Doming u e z seventh in the preliminaries with a time of 1:23.55,

that event,

Dominguez placed fourth with a time of 1:20.62.

Taylor found herself placing fifth out of six swimmers in the 500-yard freestyle preliminaries with a time

times. As one of the lightweight

wrestlers on our team we can

always count on him to get our

team off to a great start with his

consistent intense effort. Win or

lose, our team gains momentum

from his fighting spirit."

In the finals for that same event, butterfly, Taylor finished fifth with Taylor took fourth out of six swim-

"I wanted to give the

Swimmers a better chance

of being able to swim

again in the finals sec-

tion also with the times

they had in Durango

and Farmington they

were well slower than

the 'cap time' so that was

where I thought they fit

best," Miller wrote.

of 8:14.3. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, a Lady Pirate team consisting of Booth, Sydney Kohler, Heidelmeier and Liberty Bonin placed fourth in the pre-

liminaries

with a time

mers with

a final time

of 2:29.39. In the finals of that same event, that same Lady Pirate relay team again finished fourth with a time of 2:27.09.

In the preliminaries for the 100-yard backstroke, Wedemeyer finished the highest of the three Lady Pirates who competed and placed with a 14th-place finish with a time of 1:44.32.

Heidelmeier placed first in the preliminary run for the 100yard breaststroke with a time of 1:26.87.

In the 400-yard freestyle relay preliminaries, a team with Wedemeyer, Monterroso, Taylor and Dominguez took second place with a time of 5:32.04.

Another Lady Pirate team, in the same preliminary event, placed sixth with a time of 6:24.4. That team consisted of Booth, Cata Aguilera, Ivory Carpenter and Bonin.

In the finals for the 400-yard

freestyle relay, the team consisting of Wedemeyer, Monterroso, Taylor and Dominguez, again, placed second with a final time of 5:25.85.

The relay team with Booth, Aguilera, Carpenter and Bonin finished fifth with a time of 6:20.24. Miller explained that she

thought that the Lady Pirates did really well and showed significant improvements at the Montrose Invitational. Those improvements, ironically, came at the detriment of the

team due to the team competing in the JV portion of the meet, Miller noted. "The JV events have a time cap on them, which means if you

swim faster than the time you don't get to swim in finals," Miller explained. Despite those restrictions, the Lady Pirates' focus on their starts,

turns and finishes paid off, but work is still left to be done, Miller added. In addition to those comments.

Miller added that the Lady Pirates cut down on their disqualifications, only having two.

Breaking the waters in the new year

Following an extended break, Pagosa will be back in action on Jan. 11, 2019, at 4 p.m. to compete against the Durango Demons.

This will be the second time that the Lady Pirates will have competed against the Demons, with the first one coming on Dec. 7.

For this meet, Pagosa's swimmers will look to improve on their starts in both individual and relay competitions, Miller explained.

chris@pagosasun.com

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Wrestling

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BASKETBALL

Pirates capture two wins in Montrose, Wolf Creek Classic returns this weekend

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

It was a weekend of nail-biters and heartbreakers at the Montrose tournament for the No. 26 Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys basketball team; however, Pagosa was able to come away with two tightly contested wins and a tough overtime loss to wrap up the tournament, pushing their overall record to 4-2.

Palisade

Pagosa kicked off tournament play on Dec. 13 by knocking off the 4A Palisade Bulldogs (6-3 overall) by a score of 41-36.

The matchup against Palisade was close through and through, with Pagosa holding a 17-13 lead going into halftime.

At the end of the third quarter, Pagosa held a 25-20 lead and both teams ended the fourth quarter scoring 16 each; however, Pagosa still held on for the victory over the Bulldogs.

Mason Snarr led the charge in scoring for the Pirates, tacking on 13 points while also adding seven rebounds, three assists, a steal and

Ryan Lewis was the only other Pirate to finish with double-digit scoring against Palisade.

Lewis added 12 points, four rebounds, an assist, steal and a block.

Mitch Lewis finished with eight points, seven rebounds, three assists and a steal.

Jesus Pacheco added another six points to go along with five rebounds, four assists and a teamhigh five steals.

Cade Cowan rounded out the scoring with two points; he also added a rebound and an assist.

Pagosa shot its best mark from the free-throw line against Palisade, converting 11 of 12 attempts, good for a 92 percent conversion rate.

The win against Palisade was a good team win overall that involved several players contributing, coach Randy Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN.

Specifically, Sorenson noted that the Pirate defense was solid by holding the Bulldogs to only 36 points the entire game.

Montrose

As if Pagosa didn't get enough overtime action at the Buena Vista tournament after a double-overtime matchup against Gunnison on Dec. 7, the Pirates again found themselves in double overtime against the host 4A Montrose Indians on Dec. 14. However, Pagosa found itself

on the right side of the box score this time around as they bested Montrose 49-43.

At half, the Indians held a slim

20-18 lead, and, going into the fourth quarter, Montrose's lead was only 26-22.

offense came alive, scoring 14 points to Montrose's 10.

Tied up at 41 after the first overtime, another period of play was needed and Pagosa scored eight points and limited Montrose to two

ing department against Montrose with 16 points while also adding three rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Snarr had himself a night against Montrose, ending with 11 points, eight rebounds, an assist and a

Mitch Lewis finished with eight points, six rebounds and a steal.

Both Cowan and Ryan Lewis finished with six points each, with Cowan tacking on an assist and a steal, and Lewis adding 10 rebounds, a steal and an assist.

the scoring with two points.

Echoing his statements from the Palisade game, Sorenson again described the win against Montrose as a good one that Pagosa pulled out against Montrose on the Indians' home court.

"It was another game where we got contributions from several players," Sorenson wrote.

Roaring Fork

Unfortunately Pagosa could Montrose tournament as the team

The Rams maintained a 23-18 advantage over Pagosa going into the third quarter and, despite Pagosa outscoring the Rams 26-22 in the final two quarters, it just

Three Pirates finished with double-digit scoring totals, with Snarr again leading the team with

bounds. Mitch Lewis finished with 13

bounds, five assists and four steals. Pacheco added another 12 points with three rebounds, three

Cowan and Ryan Lewis added three and two points, respectively, with Ryan Lewis adding three re-

and steal to go along with his three

Pagosa finished a dismal two of nine from the free-throw line, good

In the fourth quarter, Pagosa's

to steal a 49-43 victory away. Pacheco led the way in the scor-

career-high six blocks.

Aidan O'Donnell rounded out

Against Montrose, Pagosa shot 73 percent from the free-throw line.

not complete a clean sweep of the fell in a heartbreaker to the Roaring Fork Rams 45-44.

wasn't enough.

14 points.

Snarr also added seven re-

points to go along with four re-

assists and two steals.

bounds and an assist. Cowan ended with a rebound

for only 22 percent.

team and they have a good Coach. They have a good big kid and

Rams defeated the Pirates in a heartbreaker 45-44.

guards that are quick and can shoot the basketball," Sorenson explained.

Falling behind early was prob-"Roaring Fork is an athletic lematic for Pagosa as the team could not get themselves over the hump, Sorenson pointed out, also adding that they could not score effectively and the Pirates' defense was not as good as it has been.

"Overall it was a good weekend ■ See Pirates A12



Photo courtesy Justin Cowan



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Ryan Lewis finds a clear lane to the hoop during the Pirates' game on

Dec. 15 against the Roaring Fork Rams at the Montrose tournament.

Lewis finished with two points to go along with three rebounds. The

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Wrestling

Pirates fare well at tough Warrior Classic

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School wrestling team had five finishers in the top 10 of their respective divisions, with the team finishing first of all 2A/3A teams at the Warrior Classic Invitational in Grand Junction last weekend.

"That's the toughest tournament on our schedule," coach Dan Janowsky said. "Arguably including the state tournament — maybe, maybe not — just kind of depends on what weight you're in."

Forty teams from across the nation, including teams from Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico and even South Carolina, competed at the Warrior Classic last weekend, according to an email from Janowsky.

Many state medalists from across the area compete against each other at the Warrior Classic, Janowsky explained.

"To place is a real honor," Janowsky said, adding that sometimes a person has to be at a tournament to see the level of competition.

In all, five Pirates placed in the top 10 in their divisions. Of those five, three placed in the top three in their divisions.

Dylan Tressler placed second in the 120-pound division with a final tally of five wins and a single loss.

"I would say that Dylan, really probably had the best tournament of any of our wrestlers," Janowsky said, adding that Tressler is a tough wrestler and former state placer.

The coach also noted Tressler is no pushover.

"He showed, to everybody there, that he has taken his skills ... up another notch or two above where he left off last year, and he was wrestling some very good competition," the coach said.

Tressler's highlight from the day, according to the coach, came in the semifinals when he wrestled against an athlete from Wyoming.

"And that was just a real intense battle," Janowsky said, adding later he was very proud of Tressler's performance in the finals.

Cameron Lucero placed second in the 145-pound division, ending

his day with a tally of 4-1. The coach added that Lucero was "impressive and dominant all

the way up to his final match." In his final match, Lucero found

himself in positions somewhat unexpected, the coach explained.

Cameron had a great tournament," the coach said.

James Thomas finished third in the 132-pound division with a final



Photo courtesy Stacia Aragon

Pirate Cameron Lucero wrestles against an opponent at last weekend's Warrior Classic in Grand Junction. Lucero placed second in the 145-pound division with a 4-1 record.

tally of 6-1.

"He got a lot of points for us," Janowsky said of Thomas.

Other than falling to his opponent in one of his final matches, the coach explained that Thomas was "perfect outside of that."

Thomas likes a "good fight" and is very powerful, the coach added. Two other Pirates placed in the

top 10 in their divisions. Ian Reinhardt placed sixth in the 170-pound division, rounding out his matches with a final tally of three wins and three losses.

Of Reinhardt, Janowsky said, "170-pounds was a tough weight, and he beat some tough guys and wrestled well throughout.

Reinhardt's improved performance was no surprise, according to the coach, "because he's been showing progress all along."

Several other Pirates took to the mat during the Warrior Classic.

Connor Aragon finished sixth in the 182-pound division, finishing with a record of 3-3.

"That's a huge win for Connor

personally," the coach said. The coach added that Aragon's matches were close matches, and he was able to score in the late

"I feel like he made some big strides..." the coach said, adding it year in a row over some highly

In the 113-pound division, Erik Wyman finished with a tally of 2-2.

E. J. Monterroso, in the 126-pound division, finished with three wins under his belt and two

Ethan Evans, in the 152-pound division, walked off the mat with a tally of 1-2.

In the 160-pound division, Paul Farrah finished with a tally of 1-2. Caleb Janowsky, wrestling in the 195-pound division, finished with three wins and two losses.

Skyler Hill, wrestling in the 220-pound division, walked away from the mat with two wins and two losses.

Both Wyman and Caleb Janowsky were one round away, according to the coach, who said, "they both lost one-point matches."

Part of the job now was to improve, so that the next one-point match was in Pagosa's favor, the coach explained.

"I think that after that tournament we have a clear path to improvement," the coach said.

The Pirates placed 45 points ahead of the closest 3A/2A competition, he added.

'Because there are so many upper division schools in the tournament they award a trophy to the highest placing 'small school' (3A/2A) which we won for the 2nd was a good tournament for Aragon. ranked 3A/2A schools," the coach

wrote in the email. He noted in the email that all the wrestlers contributed to the team point total.

Out of 40 teams competing, there are "maybe" 15-20 small schools, he added.

One of the advantages of a bigger school is being able to fill out a team, since there is a larger pool of students to pull from, the coach explained.

"However, an individual from our school — we believe — can go with anybody from any school, regardless of size," he said.

"Fun to see our teams name up there all tournament long and solidly ahead of 2nd place 'small school' Eagle Valley," the email

The coach noted that the team has some work to do on sticking to the competition throughout the matches and the finals.

Other teams admired the Pirates, according to the coach.

Future tournaments

The home dual originally scheduled for Wednesday against Durango High School was canceled due to a low number of Durango athletes, indicated Athletic Director Marcie Ham. That dual will not be rescheduled.

The Pirates will now take a break from competition until January 2019, with their first action of the new year set to be a home dual against Bayfield High School on Jan. 10, 2019.

avery@pagosasun.com



DEADLINES

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, December 27

Display Advertising Noon, Friday, December 21

Classified Advertising, **All Categories**

10 a.m., Monday, December 24

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 20

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, January 3

Display Advertising Noon, Friday, December 28

Classified Advertising, **All Categories**

10 a.m., Monday, December 31

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters Noon, Thursday, December 27

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's.





Two Nordic ski trails are open, events announced an up-and-back trail which gains skis and the other on classic skis.

By James Dickhoff Special to The SUN

Happy holidays from the Pagosa Nordic Club (PNC). There are currently two trails groomed for skate skiing with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing, and both have great snow conditions.

The Wolf Creek Ski Area is grooming Alberta Park, with approximately 6 km of trails groomed. Access Alberta Park from the east end of the parking lots, then ski down to the meadow. Speed control is necessary for the descent down to the meadow.

PNC is currently grooming 5.5 km at Fall Creek, located 2 miles east of the overlook hairpin curve on Wolf Creek Pass. Fall Creek is

■ Continued from A11

explained.

and the kids played well. They play

unselfishly and they play well as a

team. Every game we have played

this year has been close," Sorenson

wins and losses comes down to

free-throw percentage, Sorenson

The return of a classic

Subtle differences between

Making its return to Pagosa for

the first time since the 2015-16

season, the Wolf Creek Classic will

800 feet in elevation during the 5.5 km assent.

Nordic ski trails are groomed specifically for Nordic skiing use. Fat tire biking, snowshoeing and walking can damage groomed Nordic ski trails; thus, the following multiuse trails are recommended for these uses: Wolf Creek Road, Lobo Overlook, East Fork, Jackson Mountain, Reservoir Hill and the Turkey Springs recreation areas.

PNC is hosting the first race of the Southwest Nordic Race Series on Jan. 5, 2019. This event is the Pagosa Nordic Skiathlon Race that includes a 20 km competitive race, 6 km youth race and kid K.

The competitive and youth races include two legs: one on skate

mark Pagosa's first home games of

Starting tomorrow at 6:30 p.m.,

The last time Pagosa squared off with Eaton was in the Final 4 of the

Eaton is currently coming off

On Saturday, Pagosa will close

of a 81-71 loss to the No. 1 Kent

out the Wolf Creek Classic against

the No. 5 Colorado Springs Chris-

the Pirates will face off against the

2013 3A state tournament, a game

No. 15 Eaton Reds (5-2 overall).

the season.

Pagosa won 56-33.

Denver Sun Devils.

This is the same Nordic ski race format that our USA gold medalists, Jessie Diggins and Kikkan Randall, won at last year's Olympics. Loca-

scheduled for Jan. 12, 2019, and is

PNC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, 100 percent volunteer organiza-

tian Lions (5-0 overall).

uled for 6:30 p.m.

gosaathletics.com.

explained.

tion will be announced based on snow conditions. Also, the first Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinic of the season is

an excellent clinic for never-evers, beginners and intermediate Nordic skiers. Some of Pagosa's best Nordic skiers will be teaching skate skiing and classic cross-country skiing techniques that will improve your skiing and make these activities even more enjoyable.

■ See Nordic A13

Tipoff against the Lions is sched-

"We play two more really good

teams this weekend in the Wolf

Creek Classic. We will have to

play our best basketball of the

year to have a chance," Sorenson

cludes junior varsity game times

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BASKETBALL

No. 5 Pagosa set to host No. 2, No. 4 teams at Wolf Creek Classic

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The No. 5 Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirate basketball team improved to a 4-1 record over the weekend with wins over Manitou Springs and No. 8 Lutheran at the Lutheran Invitational in Parker.

The Lady Pirates opened tournament play with a 45-33 win over the Manitou Springs Mustangs, earning them a game against the Lutheran Lions the next day.

"It was kind of a tale of two halves," coach Wes Lewis said of the win over the Mustangs.

Pagosa started the game strong, jumping out to a 14-4 lead by the end of the first quarter.

The Lady Pirates went on to score 21 points in the second half, but gave up 20 points to the Mustangs.

The team continued to be on part with the Mustangs in the third, with each team scoring only three, and Pagosa outscored Manitou 7-6 in the fourth quarter.

"We got in severe foul trouble," Lewis said, noting that, by halftime, all four guards had at least three fouls. "To say the least, we were in foul trouble.'

To pull out the win, Lewis explained it was a matter of limiting Manitou's possessions and taking up time when possible.

"We kind of had to take the air out of the ball" and get through it,

Lewis also noted that, when Manitou drew fouls, they were shooting fouls, whereas many of Pagosa's drawn fouls were not.

When the Lady Pirates did make it to the free-throw line, they were

time, making seven of 17 attempts.

But, overall, Lewis was pleased with the win.

"It was a good team win. Adelyn Dozier had a good game, Molly Graham had a good game, so we're starting to get some production from those kids coming off the bench. So, that was nice to see."

Devin Wilson and Hailey Griego each finished with 12 points in the game, with Wilson also logging four rebounds, an assist and two steals. Griego added four rebounds, five assists, one block and three steals.

Graham contributed nine points, six rebounds, two assists and two steals.

Taylor Lewis and Adelyn Dozier each tallied five points in the game, with Lewis also contributing four rebounds, one assist and one block. Dozier added two rebounds, two assists and three steals.

Elsa Lindner put up two points in the game, as well as six rebounds, an assist, a block and a steal. Teagan Stretton had one rebound and one block.

The next day, the Lady Pirates took on the No. 8 Lutheran Lions on the Lions' home court and, in the end, walked away with a 50-48.

"It was a good win for us. Lutheran's, they're pretty darn good," Wes Lewis said.

The coach explained that the Lady Pirates were in control most of the game, staying seven to 10 points ahead of the Lions for most of the second half.

Then, with the Lady Pirates up by seven with a minute to go, the Lions cut that lead to five with a pair of free throws.

"There's 10 seconds to go in the

successful only 41 percent of the game and we're still up five and Devin Wilson got fouled pretty hard and had to come out of the game," he explained.

But, with Stretton and Dozier having fouled out, the coach explained the choice was made to put a junior varsity player in.

"It was a tough situation to put her into," he said.

The Lions finished with what the coach called a "desperation three" at the buzzer, but it left them two points short.

"To get a win against a quality opponent like that at their place, that was a good win," he said.

In what Wes Lewis called her best game as a varsity player, Lindner logged 12 points, six rebounds, two blocks and two steals.

Griego followed with 11 points, three rebounds, three assists, one block and two steals.

Wilson scored nine in the game, also pulling down three rebounds, having two assists and stealing the ball twice.

Graham logged six points in the game, rebounded the ball three times and had two assists.

Taylor Lewis scored five, had four rebounds, three assists and

Stretton added four points, three rebounds, one assist and one block.

bounded once and had one assist. Pagosa was successful 60 percent of the time from the free-throw line, making 12 of 20 attempts.

Dozier scored three points, re-

This weekend, the Lady Pirates will host the return of the Wolf Creek Classic and will continue to face some of the top 3A teams in the state.

"I really love our schedule. I know it's packed and we're playing most of the teams ranked in the top 10, but I love that about our schedule," the coach said, adding that there are no nights off on the schedule for the Lady Pirates.

The four teams slated to appear in the Wolf Creek Classic — Pagosa, Eaton, Colorado Springs Christian and Roaring Fork — have a combined record of 22-2 so far this

Roaring Fork, who own a 7-1 record, and No. 2 Colorado Springs Christian, who own a 4-0 record, will open varsity action at the Classic with a 2 p.m. game Friday.

At 5 p.m., Pagosa will take on No. 4 Eaton, who hold a 7-0 record.

The coach explained that having a balanced scoring attack makes it hard for the opposing teams to pick out one or two kids to target.

"I think they look forward to the challenge," he added, noting that the team didn't represent itself well against St. Mary's, but felt like it redeemed itself against Lutheran the following weekend.

Now, he noted, there are two more challenges right in front of the team.

Lewis characterized the Eaton Reds as a man-to-man team with a tall post player over 6 feet.

"They're well coached and they play really hard and play really fast, and they're physical," Wes Lewis said, adding that the team just has to continue to play its game to be successful.

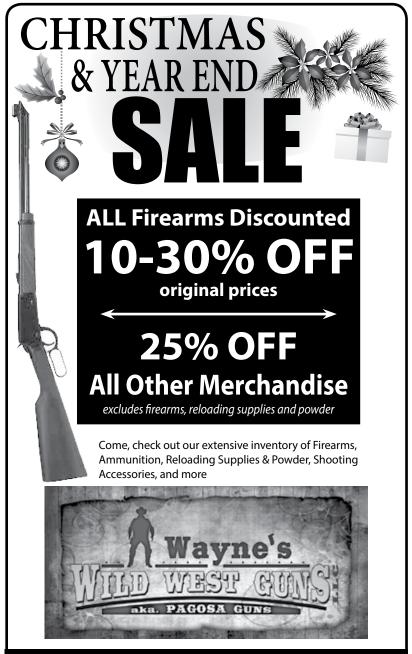
Then, on Saturday, Eaton and Roaring Fork will play at 2 p.m., with Pagosa taking on Colorado Springs Christian at 5 p.m.

The Colorado Springs Christian Lions have also defeated Lutheran this season, 52-40.

"It's going to be a great weekend of basketball with a lot of quality opponents coming to town and we're excited to have the Wolf Creek Classic back," the coach said.

The full schedule, which includes junior varsity game times and locations, for the Wolf Creek Classic can be found at www.pagosaathletics.com.

randi@pagosasun.com



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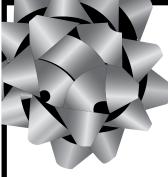
Nordic

■ Continued from A12

tion with a mission "To enhance winter recreational opportunities in Pagosa Springs by maintaining accessible groomed winter trails for skate skiing and classic crosscountry skiing for all ability levels and to encourage and promote the use of these winter trails through education, marketing and events."

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for groomed cross-country ski trails and you can find current cross-country ski trail grooming reports, trail maps, activity and event schedules at PagosaNordic.com. PNC relies on annual club memberships and sponsorships to cover expenses associated with providing groomed Nordic ski trails. All local ski shops offer rental gear, so grab your skis and we'll see you out on the trails.



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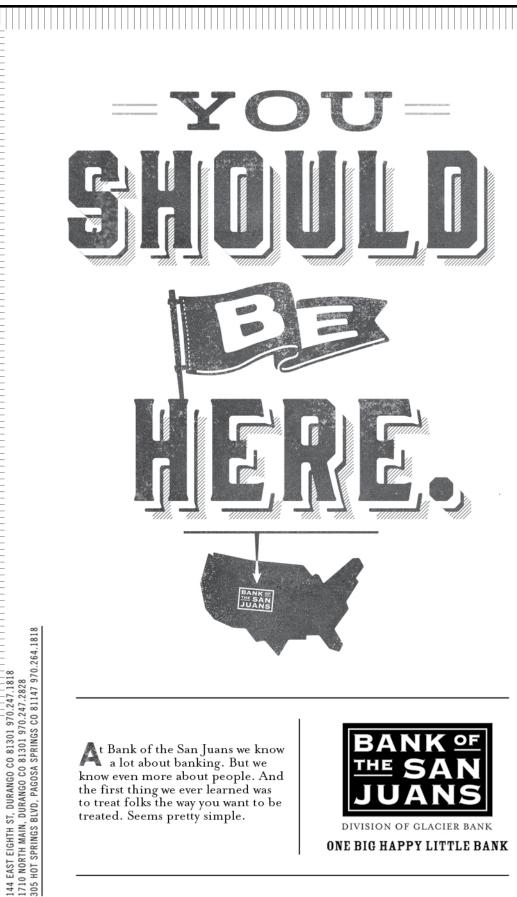


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County burn permits still required, 2018 permits expire Dec. 31

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

Burn permits across the county are still required, even though snow has fallen, and will expire on Dec. 31.

The Archuleta County Office of **Emergency Management outlined** the requirements of a burn permit to burn, as well as safe burning practices, in an email from Christina Kraetsch, deputy director of emergency operations.

Since April 2017, ordinance No. 18-2017 for the Regulation of Open Burning in the unincorporated areas of the county has required "everyone who plans on burning in the County regardless of the jurisdiction to obtain an open burn permit," the email reads.

Even though snow is on the ground "and it is a good time to burn," rules and regulations, as presented in the terms and condi- Ordinance will be issued and may tions of the burn permit, are required to be followed to protect the safety of county citizens, according to the email.

The permit costs \$10, according to the email.

Jasmin Wampler, secretary/ receptionist with the Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD), gave some further information on burn permits and their expiration.

"A burn permit is good for the rest of the calendar year, like if they get one for this year, that's good until Dec. 31," Wampler said.

Once a burn permit has expired, it is not able to be used. A current burn permit is required at the time of a burn, Wampler noted.

Wampler confirmed that there is no grace period for burn permits.

"Citations for noncompliance of the burn permit and County

result in penalties," the email reads. Wampler also described the

process for obtaining a new burn

"Now, what usually happens is that the people that get them every year, they come in January to renew their burn permits," Wampler said.

Permits are available at the PFPD Administrative Office at 191 N. Pagosa Blvd. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, according to the email.

Wampler explained the process of obtaining a burn permit.

"They just have to come in, and fill out their application form," Wampler said, adding that signatures and initials on the applications were necessary for PFPD

Once completed and a burn permit obtained, that permit is valid for the rest of the calendar year, she added.

The burn permit application is also available online at the PFPD website, www.pagosafire.org/permits-fees, Wampler mentioned.

If a resident lives out of the area, or is out of town, the permit application can be downloaded, filled out, then mailed to the PFPD with a check payment, she explained.

After receiving the check and application, the PFPD can mail, email or fax the applicant a copy of the burn permit, Wampler explained.

"But, as long as we have the application form filled out then we are good to issue them a burn permit," Wampler said.

"We encourage fire mitigation and property clean up but ask that it is done in a responsible and safe manner," the email reads.

avery@pagosasun.com

Future of county's proposed OHV ordinance depends on public interest

By Avery Martinez

Staff Writer

One commissioner and county staff members hosted a meeting to discuss a proposed ordinance for off-highway vehicles (OHVs) on Dec. 6.

According to an advertisement, the public meeting was "To Discuss a Proposed Ordinance for Off-Highway Vehicle Use on CERTAIN County Roads for Access to the Nat'l Forest...

In September, a proposed ordinance for establishing OHV routes and regulating the operation of OHVs in unincorporated parts of the county was denied on a 2-1 vote by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). For forward with this." more information, see the Sept. 20 edition of The SUN.

Commissioner Ron Maez spoke with The SUN about the Dec. 6

"The main topic of discussion was Aspen Springs," Maez said, adding later it surrounded the use of OHVs in that area, as well as "the Blanco Road," County Road 600 and

Several people contacted Maez about the possibility of revisiting the OHV topic, and "seeing if there could be a possibility" of Maez presenting the idea at a BoCC work session, he explained, "... to see if the commissioners were interested in moving

He added he did not know if the other commissioners were contacted.

"We had several people in the audience; it was pretty close to a packed house," Maez said of the meeting.

There were "interjections" that were negative and positive at the meeting, he explained.

Maez also mentioned that the change in BoCC members for 2019 had an effect.

"Realizing that with Commissioner-elect Alvin [Schaaf] to come in, it would probably be something more suited for him to weigh in on it as well," he said.

Maez explained that, after dis-

cussing the topic with county staff, "and communication, through staff, from the other commissioners," it was decided "that it was probably better suited that we wait."

He added that more information would be gathered, and part of that process involved the Aspen Springs

"Staff would like to reach out to them—if we decide to move forward with this," he said.

When asked what the next step would be in the OHV process, Maez responded, "The next step would be — it all depends on whether it's going to be brought up by the public to us again to see if we pursue on this or not."

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The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

Calls for service over two weeks:

Dec. 3 — Under investigation, Dutton Drive. Dec. 3 - Harassment-strikes/

shoves/kicks. Bastille Drive. Dec. 3 — Information only, Canyon

Circle. Dec. 3 — Harassment-strikes/ shoves/kicks, drove vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, criminal mischief, violation of restraining order, firstdegree criminal trespass-other intent,

Dec. 4 — Mental health-protective custody, Homestead Drive.

Dec. 4 — Under investigation,

no insurance in possession. Hills Circle.

Acorn Drive. Dec. 5 — Domestic violence, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, false imprisonment, Great West Avenue. Dec. 5 — Under investigation, Jack

Rabbit Road. Dec. 5 - Warrant arrest, Great

West Avenue.

Dec. 5 — Enforcement of fire bans. Summit Trail/Ward Court.

Dec. 5 — Unlawful ownership of vicious dog, Summit Trail/Ward Court. Dec. 6 — Second-degree burglary,

harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, Homestead Drive. Dec. 6 — Violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, County

second-degree criminal trespass,

Road 600 - Agency assist, County Road 411.

Dec. 7 — Harassment-strikes/ shoves/kicks, Great West Avenue.

violence, harassment-repeated communications invade, Aspenglow Boulevard.

public place, second-degree burglary, impersonating a peace officer, stalking, enticement of a child, Port Avenue.

Drive/U.S. 160.

misdemeanor, Colo. 151.

Street.

mental operations, reckless driving, disregarded stop sign at through highways, Bonanza Avenue/Lake Street.

160/North Pagosa Boulevard.

order, Handicap Avenue.

taunts/challenges, criminal mischief, County Road 600.

man Drive.

Pagosa Boulevard.

owner operated or permitted operation of vehicle without liability insurance, U.S. 160/Alpha Drive.

Dec. 12 - Violation of bail bond condition-misdemeanor, violation of restraining order, Loma Linda Drive.

adult/juvenile-injury, harassmentstrikes/shoves/kicks, third-degree assault-simple assault, Crockett Circle. Dec. 13 - Criminal mischief, Vista

Dec. 9 — Information only, Pike

Dec. 10 - Obstructing govern-

Dec. 10 — Warrant arrest, U.S.

Dec. 11 — Criminal mischief, Pines Club Place.

Dec. 11 — Expired license plates,

Dec. 12 — Crimes against at-risk

Boulevard. Perry Drive.

Dec. 7 — Stalking, domestic

Dec. 10 - Harassment-insults/

Dec. 11 - Agency assist, Talis-

Dec. 11 -Warrant arrest, North

glary, Deer Trail.

Dec. 13 — Fraud in effecting sales,

Dec. 8 - Harassment-follows in

Dec. 9 - Fourth-degree arson-

Dec. 10 — Warrant arrest, Pagosa

Dec. 10 — Violation of restraining

man Drive.

Dec. 11 - Agency assist, Talis-

Dec. 11 — Second-degree bur-

Dec. 15 — Trespass warning, Homestead Drive. Dec. 15 — Agency assist, South

6th Street. Dec. 15 — Third-degree criminal trespass, possession of drug para-

phernalia-penalty, Vista Boulevard. Dec. 16 - Harassment follows in public place, domestic violence, U.S. 84

Dec. 16 — Agency assist, Ebony Court. Dec. 16 - Agency assist, U.S.

Dec. 16 — Warrant arrest, Country Center Drive.

Dec. 16 — Violation of restraining

order Flintlock Place **Town of Pagosa Springs Police** Department

Calls for service over two weeks: 190. Dec. 3 — Theft, Cornerstone Drive. Dec. 3 — Missing property, South

Dec. 4 — Trespass warning, Pagosa Street. Dec. 4 — Information only, Pagosa

Dec. 4 — Careless driving, U.S.

West Avenue. Dec. 5 — Hit and run/failed to report accident, U.S. 160. Dec. 5 - Harassment, Corner-

Dec. 5 — Agency assist, Great

stone Drive. Dec. 7 - Shoplifting, Aspen Village Drive.

Dec. 7 — Trespass warning, Talis-

man Drive. Dec. 7 — Shoplifting/trespass warning, East Pagosa Street. Dec. 8 — DUI/violation of protec-

tion order, East Pagosa Street. Dec. 8 — Information only, U.S. Dec. 11 — Second-degree assault,

Dec. 11 - Reckless endanger-

Talisman Drive.

ment, South 8th Street.

Dec. 12 — Warrant arrest, Eaton

Dec. 13 - Criminal mischief. South 6th Street.

Dec. 14 — Theft, East Pagosa Dec. 15 — Third-degree assault,

South 9th Street. Dec. 15 — Warrant arrest, South 6th Street.

- Warrant arrest, South Dec. 15 6th Street. Dec. 16 - Traffic/driving with revoked license, Aspen Village Drive. Dec. 16 — Agency assist, U.S. 84.

Dec. 16 — Theft, Pagosa Street. Dec. 16 — Agency assist, Flintlock

Street.

Justin P. Fay

\$163.50

\$413.50.

Dec. 16 - Warrant arrest, 15th

Pagosa Springs Municipal

Court: Judge D. Brett Van Winkle No report. **Archuleta County Court: Judge**

Dec. 5 - Nolan Z. Stretton, speeding 5-9 over limit, fines and costs -Dec. 5 — Selby M. Tunnell, seat

belt not used, fines and costs -\$163.50. Dec. 5 — Timothy B. Peterson, seat belt not used, fines and costs

Dec. 5 — Alexandore Devine. speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs - \$339.50 Dec. 5 — Leandre E. Maestas,

driver's license-not in possession, fines and costs - \$113.50. Dec. 13 - Michael S. Beckley, reckless driving, fines and costs

Dec. 13 - Segio G. Alaniz, careless driving, 10 days jail, fines and costs - \$118.50. 6th Judicial District Court:

Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

No report.

Publisher's Notice

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The Aspen House Board of Directors would like to extend a

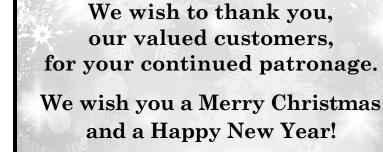
matched those funds. Every one of you have truly made a significant impact in the progress of making Aspen House (a local home for adults with

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again purchased the tree and Tim Brown Construction who again

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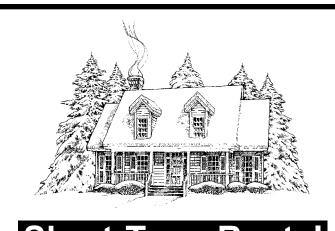
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Education



Members of Archuleta School District's board of education and administration team, along with members of the mill levy override committee for ballot issue 5A, celebrate their victory in the polls at last week's school board meeting. Mill levy override funds will be used by the district to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and staff; fund full-time school resource officers for safety; fund full-day kindergarten; and provide required funding for Pagosa Peak Open School to increase staff salaries, supplement full-day kindergarten and improve school safety.

School district general fund operating at surplus for the first time in five years, audit will receive clean opinion

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

As is customary, the 2017-18 fiscal year audit report was presented to the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education at a work session on Dec 12.

Tim Mayberry, from Holscher, Mayberry & Company LLC, attended the work session and explained that ASD as a whole would be receiving a clean opinion this year.

Mayberry went on to say that financial information for Pagosa Peak Open School's (PPOS), ASD's lone charter school, is also includ-

that they had to include," Mayberry

Within the total net position line item, ASD is running a deficit of \$16 million and PPOS is in the hole \$643,000.

"And that is because of the PERA [Public Employees' Retirement Association] pension and now the new PERA retiree health liability that we have to report," Mayberry explained. "It does not affect how you operate. As long as you make your contributions as they come due, there's nothing you can do about having that liability."

Mayberry noted that he under-

but governmental and county standards require that the liability numbers are reported. There are a couple of districts

around the state that are not in the hole regarding the PERA liability, Mayberry mentioned. "It's a unique situation primar-

ily where they have received a **BEST [Building Excellent Schools** Today]-funded building and they did not have to issue debt against it," Mayberry explained.

In its general fund, ASD has total revenues of \$8.3 million.

"The one piece that we have to go ahead and fix still is we have a es, so there's obviously something in there that isn't quite matching yet," Mayberry explained. In its general fund, ASD roughly

has a seven-and-a-half-month reserve at the end of the year, Mayberry indicated.

After a brief overview of the remainder of the audit, ASD Finance Director Mike Hodgson also pointed out some financial highlights.

ASD's general fund for the fiscal year of 2017 had been operating at a deficit of \$50,625; however, a surplus of \$745,977 in the fiscal year of 2018 eliminated the deficit entirely.

After five years of deficits, this is the first surplus for ASD, according

Charter school discusses hiring process for new director The cost of leadership

The salary range for candidates should be based on experience, Wilson noted.

Initially salaries ranging from \$58,000 to \$68,500 were discussed by the board.

Other ideas differed slightly, from \$55,000 to \$65,000.

PPOS Board President Ursala Hudson even suggested extending the maximum salary range to \$80,000 to see who PPOS gets as an applicant.

"To me, the right \$80,000-ayear person will do the work of 10 \$40,000 a year people with less noise and confusion," Weiler said, adding, "You don't get to the top of the pyramid cheap."

However, just because a candidate shows promise at a different school does not always mean that will always translate to PPOS, Daffron responded.

Paying the candidate enough money to attract them to PPOS and also looking for demonstrable results from the candidate to increase their pay were items of note pointed out by Daffron.

According to PPOS Business ■ See Director A16

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT announces the vacancy of Director District Two (2). Candidates must live within the boundaries of Director District Two (2). Legal descriptions of the Director Districts are available at www.mypagosaschools. com under the "School Board" tab, or by contacting the County Clerk's office. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be considered for the vacant school director position needs to submit a letter of interest by 3 pm on Friday, December 21, 2018, to the District Office at 309 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs; by email, rbennett@pagosa.k12.co.us; or by mail to Executive Assistant Robyn Bennett, PO Box 1498, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. The letter of intent must address the following: 1. Why do you want to be on the Board? 2. Do you plan on running for the position once your term expires in November of 2019? 3. What is your philosophy of education as it relates to serving on the Board?

The Board of Education plans to conduct interviews at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

ed within the audit. stood that there might be some \$5,700 loss in that next column, disagreement as to whether or not "We had that last year, it's just to Hodgson. designated grants fund, grant revthis was the first full operating year that liability should be reported, enue needs to match grant expenschris@pagosasun.com

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

At the Dec. 13 work session of the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) board of directors, more discussion was held regarding the process surrounding the hiring of a new school director, co-director positions and salary ranges.

Current School Director James Lewicki announced his resignation in an email to The SUN and in a letter to parents on Dec. 1.

Lewicki will finish out this school year and not return to PPOS in the fall of 2019.

During the meeting, one of the first topics discussed by the PPOS board was the list of school director duties and responsibilities.

"I think, ultimately, it serves its purpose for us to get a job posted with a job description. And then we can refine our questions and things like that through the interview process," PPOS Board Secretary Ashley Wilson commented.

One asset that PPOS has, and should highlight in its search for its next school director, is the fact that the school is "real grass roots," Lewicki added.

of people, that's a pretty cool they are hired is for staff to see them thing," Lewicki said.

PPOS's School Accountability Committee (SAC) could also be involved in this process, PPOS board member Bill Hudson added.

when the final selections are made dates, there often is a meet-andfrom the PPOS hiring committee, Wilson added.

"My personal hope is that we post now, it's open until February, the beginning of February we accumulate, contact people and make decisions by March," PPOS Treasurer Mark Weiler noted.

committee, Hudson, Weiler and Daffron all agreed that they felt comfortable with him being a major part of the hiring process.

Lewicki responded by saying that it would be fine for him to be involved in the shaping of the plan, but would recuse himself from the actual hiring process, especially if there was a candidate internally linked to PPOS.

One process that potential PPOS "In terms of the founding group teachers have to go through before

work with kids, Lewicki explained. That process could also be applied to potential school director

candidates, Lewicki suggested. Depending on how it goes in The SAC's involvement could be regard to narrowing down candigreet process with families as part of the interview process for a new school director, Lewicki added

> PPOS would like to have the job made available before the Christmas holiday so people can have a chance to take a look at the position

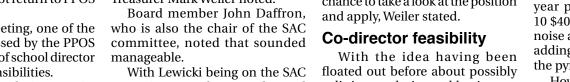
> splitting up duties and having codirectors at PPOS, Wilson explained that she had done some research

> "I feel like at this point there's

through eighth grade.

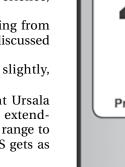
into the topic.

This idea might be something



a lot of really successful models, but probably not for the place that we're currently at," Wilson stated.

to revisit when PPOS is fully established and has its full capacity of students from kindergarten

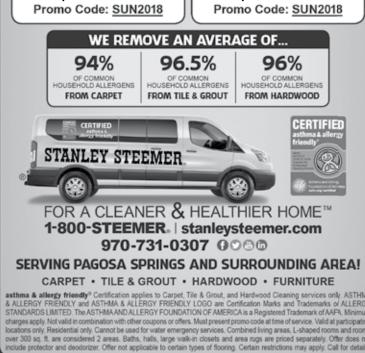


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Celebrating Christmas

Celebrating the Christmas spirit with songs and smiles, kindergarten students from Kathy Faber's class perform in a Christmas program











School district receives \$150,000 grant for school safety

By Chris Mannara

Archuleta School District (ASD) has been awarded with a grant worth \$150,694 to use toward interoperable communication hardware for communication systems between schools and first responders.

The grant, known as the School Access For Emergency Response (SAFER) grant, provides funding for not only interoperable communication hardware, but software, maintenance and training, according to an email dated Dec. 14 from SAFER Program Manager Austin

Those communications allow for "seamless" communication between existing school communications systems and first-responder communications systems, Geddis' email notes.

The Colorado Legislature allocated \$4,857,354 in funds for the 2019 SAFER grant program,

Geddis' email also adds. Other school districts that were awarded with funding from the SAFER grant program include: Montrose County, Adams 12, Durango, Montezuma-Cortez, Del Norte, Sheridan, Pueblo City Schools, Norwood, Primero,

Lamar and Cherry Creek. "We got everything we asked for. So, this will allow us to com-

Director

Manager Chenni Hammon, there

are no plans to increase the school

revolves around PPOS's saying

that it would match its salaries to

Archuleta School District (ASD),

According to Hammon, \$68,500

is "step nine" on the salary schedule

for an elementary principal at ASD.

However, Lewicki noted that the

Another thing to keep in mind

director salary next school year.

■ Continued from A15

Hammon noted.

municate in an emergency with 911 not having to use the phone," ASD Superintendent Linda Reed explained in an interview with The SUN. "It's going to give us a really nice safety feature that we haven't had before."

Reed added that ASD is thrilled to have received the grant and is looking forward to using it and increasing the district's communication with law enforcement.

In a smaller district, those interoperable communications make life easier, Reed described.

"It's just another step in keeping our kiddos and our staff safe,"

Reed said. While there isn't necessarily installation of microwave towers needed for this project, a tower computer will need to be

installed, Reed explained. "Part of the grant was actually the provider put together what it was that we would need to make it happen," Reed explained.

Currently, Reed is in the process of corresponding with legal counsel to craft an agreement, she explained.

"The folks that are going to do the work for us are ready to go. We just need to find out when we're going to get the funding and get the agreement signed," Reed said.

roles of school director at a charter

school and principal at an elemen-

tary school involve different duties.

be developed for PPOS's salary

schedule in the future, Hammon

That step system will need to

After more ancillary discussion

on school director compensation,

Bill Hudson suggested that the

potential range could be \$55,000

chris@pagosasun.com

chris@pagosasun.com

School district request for reconsideration of school rating approved

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Archuleta School District's (ASD) request to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to reconsider Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS) preliminary rating has been recommended and approved, according to both a letter from the CDE and ASD Superintendent Linda Reed.

At a regular board meeting of the ASD Board of Education on Dec. 11, Reed's superintendent's report noted that ASD had requested that the high school's rating be upgraded from "improvement" to "performance."

Reed later confirmed in an interview on Dec. 13 that ASD's request had been formally approved on

When preliminary school rat-

ings were released by the CDE in late August, PSHS was calculated to be on an improvement plan, which is a decrease due to participation.

The CDE describes this rating as, "Decreased due to Participation indicates the plan type or rating, was lowered one level because assessment participation rates fell below 95 percent in two or more content areas. Parent refusals are excluded from the calculations used for this descriptor. According to a State Board of Education motion, schools and district will not be held liable for parental excusals.'

In a letter dated Dec. 10 from CDE Commissioner of Education Katy Anthes, the CDE "does recommend approval of the district's request for PAGOSA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL to be Performance Plan: Low Participation."

The reason given behind the CDE recommending this rating, which includes another low participation distinction, was explained

"So, there was not low participation, there was miscoding, but lowered, despite ASD having tested they have to do that. So we tested, I think, I don't want to say 100 percent, but pretty darn close," Reed

What ASD had to do to be considered performance involved a couple of options, Reed noted.

"And they said the best way to do it was to explain that we have had very high participation over three years and then put the numbers in for last year and then they did a calculation," Reed said. "So we tested all of the kids, but they can only do that designation, low participation, based on why we requested consideration."

When ASD was notified of PSHS's initial preliminary rating of "improvement" the district went back and looked and discovered a coding mistake, which is what caused the participation rate to be all the kids, Reed explained.

"So, CDE, you can request reconsideration, under several categories," Reed said. "They suggested the best thing for us to do was to say we have had very high participation in the past and so asking that they would average the last year with the two years prior to that."

When you do that, the only rating CDE can give, if approved, is a performance plan with a low participation rate.

"And really, they said that was the best thing to do," Reed explained.

chris@pagosasun.com

October 2018 sales tax higher than 2017, September lower

By Avery Martinez Staff Writer

The sales tax information for October and September 2018 have been released, showing that sales tax collections came in higher for October, and lower for September, than the same months in 2017.

October

The sales tax information for October of 2018 shows collections coming in at about 11.5 percent higher than October of last year.

That 11.5 percent, according to Archuleta County Finance Director Larry Walton, is about \$92,393 higher that October of last year.

The gross amount of the October sales tax was \$894,584.58. The town's share was \$445,851.79, according to a report issued on Dec. 13 by Walton.

"It should be noted that October of 2018 included extra payments (by taxpaying entities that make 13, rather than 12 payments per year)," the email reads.

Because those payments were not made in October 2017, the comparison between October 2017 and October 2018 "is distorted," according to the email.

"If we back out the extra payments (\$86,765.78) then October 2018 is still higher than October 2017, but only by 7/10ths of 1% (\$5,627.22)," the email reads.

issue doesn't "materially affect the year to date (January through October) comparison," according to the email.

"Year to date revenue is 4.07% (\$333,571) HIGHER than the same period last year," the email reads. The October report lists the fol-

lowing categories as being up for October of 2018 compared with the same month last year. Revenue generated from retail

increased 9.5 percent, which is \$401,523. Real estate and rentals category

was up by 5.6 percent, or \$12,955. Construction increased 12.9 percent, or by \$18,776.

Accommodations and food service industries increased by 1.9 percent, or \$27,982.

The October report lists the following categories as being down for October 2018 as compared with October of 2017.

Manufacturing decreased by 15.4 percent, or \$57,534.

The information category decreased 3.5 percent, or \$9,388.

The "miscellaneous" category listed a decrease of 4.3 percent, or The "other services" category was

down by 3 percent, or \$3,777.

September

The sales tax information for

However, the October payment September of 2018 shows collections increased 7.4 percent, which is came in at about "6/10ths of 1%" lower than September of 2017.

> That "6/10ths of 1%," according to Walton, is about \$5,164 lower than September of last year.

> The gross amount of the September sales tax was \$924,426.56. The town's share was \$ \$459,435.78, according to a report issued on Dec. 13 by Walton.

> Year to date revenue is about 3.26% (\$241,179) HIGHER than the same period last year," the email reads.

The September report lists the following categories as being up for September of 2018 compared with the same month last year.

Revenue generated from retail

\$281,558.

Real estate and rentals category was up by 5.3 percent, or \$11,495. Construction increased 15.5 per-

cent, or by \$19,949. Accommodations and food service industries increased by 1.5

percent, or \$20,573. The September report lists the following categories being down for September 2018 as compared with

September of 2017. $Manufacturing\, decreased\, by\, 13.7$

percent, or \$45,389. The information category de-

creased 3.9 percent, or \$9,448. The "miscellaneous" category

listed a decrease of 2.9 percent, or

Card of Thanks

Aspen House

The Aspen House Board of Directors would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to friends and the community for the generous show of support at the 2018 Festival of Trees event. The generosity of all those who participated truly exceeded our hopes.

Special appreciation is extended to Ramona Tschaar (who drove all the way back from Texas to design,

decorate and enter the tree), the Community Center staff, all the festival volunteers and, of course, the bidders - Jack and Claudia Rosenbaum who again purchased the tree and Tim Brown Construction who again matched those funds.

Every one of you have truly made a significant impact in the progress of making Aspen House (a local home for adults with disabilities) a reality. Thank you, Pagosa!

Aspen House Board of Directors

Subscribe to The Pagosa Springs SUN

added later.

LIBRARY NEWS

Hold service for books and other materials handy system for patrons

By Carole Howard

SUN Columnist, and the library staff

Many patrons love the hold service available at your library that allows you to reserve books and other materials when they are checked out to others. But you may not know that you can freeze, or suspend, your holds at any time. This tool can be helpful when you are traveling, and may be especially useful to you during the busy holiday season.

The best part is you do not lose your place in line. When your hold is thawed, or released, you go right back in to the same place in your hold line; you do not go to the end of the line.

To freeze your holds online, first log into your account. On the left side of the page, click on "Titles on Hold." A list of all items you have on hold will appear. If they are not currently in transit, you can freeze the hold until you return from your travels or are ready to receive your hold again. To freeze your hold, click on the button that says "Freeze Hold." Choose the date to thaw and resume the hold again and then click "Freeze Hold." The freeze will begin immediately.

Of course, you can always speak with one of our friendly library staff and we would be happy to help you freeze your holds at any time.

Library closures

Your library will be closed Dec. 24 and 25 for our staff to celebrate Christmas with their families and friends, and again Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for New Year's.

Notary service available

Just a reminder that your library now offers a notary public service for anyone who needs something notarized. The cost is \$5 per notary. This service is available on a parttime basis. To schedule a notary, please call the library at 264-2209.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 21, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for a free all-ages gaming session where you can enjoy video gaming on Wii and Xbox 360 Kinect with your friends and family.

Teen book club tomorrow

Friday, Dec. 21, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the free teen book club, sevenththrough 12th-graders will discuss "Warcross" by Marie Lu and enjoy snacks. Stop by the library to pick

Hey teenagers, have you ever

wanted to know more about being

prepared in an emergency? Maybe

you want to be a firefighter or an

EMT? Then the My Preparedness

Initiative, or MyPI program, is just

emergency preparedness program

that educates teens to not only help

themselves, but also those around

2013 and has since been imple-

mented in numerous states, with

Colorado being the 18th state to

adopt it. Since its inception, MyPI

has received multiple national

awards in youth preparedness from

administering this program and

am looking forward to educating

Archuleta County teens in disaster

preparedness. The teens will re-

ceive 21 hours of both classroom

and hands-on education in order

Part of the teaching will be CERT

(Community Emergency Response

Team) training. The areas covered

include: disaster preparedness, fire

safety and utility control, disaster

medical operations, light search

I have recently been trained in

FEMA and other agencies.

to be certified.

AED usage.

they have learned.

MyPI began in Mississippi in

MyPI is a youth disaster and

By Robin Young

for you. And, it's free.

them in emergencies.

SUN Columnist

up a copy.

Kids ages 6-12 are invited to bring your imaginations — LEGOs are provided — on Saturday, Dec. 22, from 11 a.m. to noon for the free LEGO Club.

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. Note there will be no

Adult education

Our free PALS (Pagosa Adult Learning Services) takes place on

Free tech sessions

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

Family storytimes

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. Both storytimes are open to babies, toddlers and youngsters of all ages to make it easier for parents to attend with their children depending on their busy schedules rather than the age of their little ones.

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. We look forward to seeing you at your

"Betty Ford First Lady: Women's Advocate, Survivor, Trailblazer" by Lisa McCubbin is a biography. "Tao Te Ching" by Lao-Tzu is a new translation of the original Chinese

EXTENSION VIEWPOINTS

guide to living a better, kinder. gentler life. "American Prison" by Shane Bauer recounts the author's firsthand experience with for-profit prisons in America. "Churchill Walking with Destiny" by Andrew Roberts is a biography. "American Dialogue" by Pulitzer Prize winner Joseph J. Ellis explores what Jefferson, Adams, Madison and Washington might think about the major issues we face today.

"The Big Fella" by Jane Leavy is a biography of Babe Ruth. "American Like Me" by political activist America Ferrera contains the stories of 31 people living between two cultures in our country. "Invisible" by Stephen L. Carter is the forgotten story of the black woman lawyer who took down America's most powerful mobster. "The Complete Guide to American Safaris" is a Fodor's guide to game parks, tour operators and lodges in South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda and Victoria Falls.

Short stories

"The Best American Short Stories 2018" is a collection of short fiction chosen by Roxane Gay and Heidi Pitlor.

Large print

"A High Sierra Christmas" by William W. and J.A. Johnstone and "Adobe Moon Wyatt Earp: An American Odyssey" by Mark Warren are westerns. "Mojave Showdown" by L.J. Martin is a Ned Cody western.

Thrillers, mysteries and suspense

"The Other Wife" by Michael Robotham opens with a son finding a strange woman crying at his father's hospital bedside. "The Enemy of the People" by W.E.B. Griffin and William E. Butterworth IV is next in the Clandestine Operations series. "Betrayal at the Buffalo Ranch" by Sara Sue Hoklotubbe is set in the Cherokee community.

Other novels

"Of Blood and Bone" by Nora Roberts is a post-apocalyptic tale of terror and magic. "Chosen People" by Robert Whitlow is an international legal drama that unfolds after a terrorist attack near the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

CDs

"Desperate Measures" by Stuart Woods is a Stone Barrington thriller. "Look Alive Twenty-Five"

by Fern Michaels is a Sisterhood mystery. "Unsheltered" by Barbara Kingsolver takes readers back to the time of Charles Darwin. "The Mueller Report" by Jason O. Gilbert is a comedic look at what the special counsel has collected on President Trump. **Programmed Nooks**

by Janet Evanovich is a Stephanie

Plum mystery. "Safe and Sound"

We have nine free Nooks and three free tablets programmed for your e-reading pleasure. The eight adult e-readers contain either fiction or nonfiction bestsellers. The four youth e-readers contain books for children, juniors and young

Downloadable e-books

Current New York Times bestseller downloadable e-books are being added regularly to our free 3M Cloud Library. Access them by clicking on the 3M Cloud Library icon on the home page of our website. While there, browse through a multitude of other adult, juvenile and children's books, both bestsellers and classics in many genres.

Downloadable films

For your viewing pleasure, we offer IndieFlix, a free streaming movie service that gives you unlimited access to more than 7,500 award-winning and popular independent shorts, feature films and documentaries from more than 50 countries — on your device, PC or Mac, with no apps needed.

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

Thanks to our donors

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

Quotable quote

"Get energy from younger people. I try to play golf with younger people, the fitter the better. I think you tend to take on the characteristics of the individuals you spend the most time with. Doing activities with young, healthy people has a way of making me rise to their level. The best traits of young people their optimism, curiosity, alertness and energy — are contagious." — Gary Player, South African professional golfer widely considered one of the greatest golfers ever.

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.

Public Notices

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2018-011

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given to the following described Deed of Trust On September 20, 2018, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records Original Grantor(s) Richard Isaac

Original Beneficiary(ies) ABN AMRO Mortgage Group

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt Ditech Financial LLC Date of Deed of Trust July 10, 2007 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust July 25, 2007

Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 20706550 Original Principal Amount \$185,750.00 Outstanding Principal Balance \$142,111.63
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby

violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interes when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof. THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN

notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have bee

LOTS 6, 7 AND 8, BLOCK 14, AMENDED ASPEN SPRINGS, SUBDIVISION NO. 3, COUNTY OF ARCHULETA, STATE OF COLORADO. Also known by street and number as: 331 Evergre Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF

THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST. NOTICE OF SALE The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of

Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public

auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 01/17/2019, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law First Publication 11/22/2018

Last Publication 12/20/2018 Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sur

IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED; IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR

SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

www.coloradoatto rneygeneral.gov Federal Consumer Fir P.O. Box 4503

1300 Broadway, 10th Floor

DATE: 09/20/2018 Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee in and for the County of

Archuleta, State of Colorado By: /s/ Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee The name, address, business telephone number and bar ation number of the attorney(s) repres

legal holder of the indebtedness is: Erin Robson #46557 McCarthy & Holthus, LLP 7700 E Arapahoe Road, Suite

230, Centennial, CO 80112 (877) 369-6122 Attorney File # CO-18-803565-LL

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose. ©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised

Published November 22, 29, December 6, 13 and 20, 2018 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

DISTRICT COURT, ARCHULETA COUNTY, 449 San Juan Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 **BARBARA ROTUREAU**

DILLER, AS PUBLIC TRUSTEE OF ARCHULETA

Robinson & Henry, P.C. Boyd A. Rolfson, #40035 Kavla A. Banzali, #50294 1975 Research Parkway, Suite 100 Colorado Springs, CO 80920 Phone: 303.688.0944 Fax: 719.599.5569 kayla@robinsonandhenry.com Attornevs for Plaintiff SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file to the attached Complaint. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you within the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 21 days after such service upon you. If service of the Summons and Complaint was made upon you outside of the State of Colorado, you are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after such service upon you. Your answer or counterclaim must

be accompanied with the applicable filing fee.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the Complaint in writing within the applicable time period, the Court may enter judgment by default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint without further notice. This is an action affecting the real property described in the Complaint and is a proceeding in rem as well as a proceeding in personan

DATED this October 12, 2018. Robinson & Henry, P.C. By: /s/ Boyd A. Rolfson Boyd A. Rolfson, #40035 Kayla A. Banzali, #50294 Attorneys for Plaintiff

This Summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4, C.R.C.P. as amended. A copy of the Complaint must be served with this Summons. This form should not be used where service by publication is desired.

WARNING: A valid summons may be issued by a lawyer and it need not contain a court case number, the signature of a court officer, or a court seal. The plaintiff has 14 days from the date this summons was served or you to file the case with the court. You are responsible for contacting the court to find out whether the case has been filed and obtain the case number. If the plaintiff files the case within this time, then you must respond as explained in this summons. If the plaintiff files more than 14 days after the date the summons was served on you, the case may be dismissed upon motion and you may be entitled to seek attorney's fees from the plaintiff. Pursuant to C.R.C.P. 121, Section 1-26(7) a copy of maintained at the offices of Robinson & Henry, P.C. and will be made available for inspection by parties or the Court upon request.

Published December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2018 and January 3, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO Court Address: 449 San Juan Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Phone Number: (970) 264-8160 WILLIAM H. WATTERSON

SAMUEL DEAN STEWART: and ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS ACTION. Duke Eggleston, #24965 Eggleston Kosnik LLC

Durango, CO 81301 E-mail: deggleston@e-klaw.com Case Number: 2018CV30096 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

PLAINTIFF WILLIAM H. WATTERSON TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: SAMUEL DEAN STEWART and ALL UKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to

appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court.

If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the complaint without further notice

This is an action to quiet the title of the Plaintiff in and to the real property situate in Archuleta County, Colorado. more particularly described as follows: Lot 44 of Block 15 in Amended Aspen Springs Subdivision No. 2, according to the plat thereof filed for record June 15, 1971 as Reception No. 74503, all in the office of the

Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado Respectfully Submitted this 27th day of Nove Published in The Pagosa Springs Sun First Publication: December 6, 2018 Last Publication: January 3, 2019 **Eggleston Kosnik LLC**

/s/ Duke Eggleston Duke Eggleston, #24965 556 Main Ave. Durango, CO 81301 (970) 403-1580

Published December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2018 and January 3, 2019 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*. **COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION**

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2018-012 To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard

to the following described Deed of Trust:

On October 8, 2018, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records Original Grantor(s) STEPHEN D. SEWELLAND ROBBIN L. SEWELL

Original Beneficiary(ies) UNITED COMPANIES FUNDING, INC. Current Holder of Evidence of Debt Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as trustee for UCFC MH1 Trust 1998-1

Date of Deed of Trust August 21, 1997 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust August 28, 1997

Page No.) 97006313 Original Principal Amount \$55,255.95 Outstanding Principal Balance \$38,424.62 Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby

notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. LOT 23, BLOCK 24, ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION

NO.4, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER IN AND FOR ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO. Also known by street and number as: 381 WEASEL DRIVE, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147. THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF

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

THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY

n said Deed of Trust. THEREFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 02/07/2019, at the Archuleta County Treasurer's Office at 449 San Juan St.

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law. First Publication 12/13/2018

Last Publication 1/10/2019
Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED:

IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38 38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH. THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS

Colorado Attorney General 1300 Broadway, 10th Floor Denver, Colorado 80203 (800) 222-4444

w.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau P.O. Box 4503

lowa City, Iowa 52244 (855) 411-2372

DATE: 10/08/2018 Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee in and for the County o Archuleta, State of Colorado

By: /s/ Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee The name, address, business telephone number and ba registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is

Barrett Frappier Weisserman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711

Attorney File # 00000006821573 The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose

Published December 13, 20, 27, 2018, January 3 and 10, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

County Court Archuleta County, Colorado 46 Eaton Dr./PO Box 148 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PETITION

FOR CHANGE OF NAME Public notice is given on 12/7/18, that a Petition for a Change of Name of an Adult has been filed with the Archuleta Court.

The Petition requests that the name of Melanie Kristy Arzu be changed to Kristy Archuleta. /s/ Cheryl Mulbery Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

Published December 13, 20 and 27, 2018 in The Pagosa District Court, Archuleta County, State of Colorado Court Address: 449 San Juan Street, P.O. Box 148

Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 Tel. 970.264.2400 Village Pointe Property
Owner's Association, Inc.

Loretta Lee Diann E Amick Coreen E Kinnear Case No.: 2018CV30081 Attorney for Plaintiff: Christopher B. Conley Hayes, Johnson & Conley, PLLC 700 South 21st Street Fort Smith, AR 72901 Tel. 479.242.8814

Diann E Amick

Email: chris@hjclegal.com Atty. Reg. No.: 51651 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO TO THE FOLLOWING DEFENDANT(S):

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear and defend against the claims of the complaint filed with the court in this action, by filing with the clerk of this court an answer or other response. You are required to file your answer or other response within 35 days after the service of this summons upon you. Service of this summons shall be complete on the day of the last

publication. A copy of the complaint may be obtained from the clerk of the court. If you fail to file your answer or other response to the complaint in writing within 35 days after the date of the last publication, judgment by default may be rendered against you by the court for the relief demanded in the

complaint without further notice. This is an in rem action of judicial foreclosure on your timeshare interest(s) located at Village Pointe Condominium for failure to pay assessments to Village Pointe Property Owner's Association, Inc. The lega

description for your real property is below. Plaintiff Attorney: Christopher B. Conley, Attorney at Law, Reg. No. 51651, 700 South 21st Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

Defendant(s) / Legal Descriptions Exhibit A

Matter Amount Village Pointe Condominiums PHASE III Property Owner: Diann E Amick and Coreen E Kinnear Unit Number: 7531

ıilding Number: 6 Unit Week Number: 10

in that property which is described as a parcel of land being a portion of Parcel B, Third Replat of South Village Lake, recorded as Reception No. 130304, in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder, Archuleta County, Colorado. The property is described as Village Pointe Phase III as recorded in Plat Filed No. 238A-F under Reception No. 179324 in the Office of the County Clerk and Recorder for Archuleta County, Colorado and is subject to that Second Supplemental Declaration and Third Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants and Interval Ownership for Village Pointe Condominiums
Phase III recorded November 21, 1990, Reception No 176323 Book 315 Page 350

Together with a vested remainder over in fee simple absolute, as tenant in common with the other owners of all Unit Weeks in the described Units in Village Poin Condominiums in that percentage interest determined and established by said Declaration for the above

described real estate Lien Amount: \$7,260.42 Published in the Pagosa Springs Sun First Publication: December 20, 2018 Last Publication: January 17, 2019 Christopher B. Conley Hayes, Johnson & Conley, PLLC 700 South 21st Street Fort Smith, AR 72901 Atty. Reg. No.: 5165 Published December 20, 27, 2018, January 3, 10 and 17, 2019 in The Pagosa Springs SUN.

LEGAL NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT

Sand Bench Vegetation Management Project Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest Hinsdale County, Colorado

A Draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significan npact is available for the Sand Bench Vege Management project north of Pagosa Springs, CO. The Responsible Official is Kevin Khung, District Ranger. It is the Responsible Officials intention to select the Proposed Action Alternative for this project. The proposed action and dying trees on up to 2,800 acres, improvement harvest on 500-700 acres to promote mature-closed canopy forests, and fisheries improvement work or North Fork Sand Creek. The Environment Assessmen and the Draft Decision Notice are available on-line at http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54246. For more information about the project contact Matt Tuter

The Sand Bench Vegetation Management project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218 subpart A and B. Objections will only be accepted from those who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project during scoping or other designated opportunity for public commen accordance with §218.5(a). An objection, including attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, email hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the appropriate reviewing officer within 45 days of the date of publication of this legal notice. It is the objector's sibility to ensure timely filing of a written objectio

with the reviewing officer. Objections should be submitted in writing to the Reviewing Officer, Kara Chadwick, San Juan Forest Supervisor, Mail to: Kara Chadwick, San Juan Public ands Center, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, CO 81301 Electronically mailed objections must be submitted in an email message, plain text (.txt), Word (.doc or .docx)
Portable Document Format (.pdf), or Rich Text Forma (.rtf) file formats. Email to: r02f13admin review@fs.fed ıs Fax to: 970-385-1538. Hand Deliver to: the San Juar Public Lands Center between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm (Mountain Time) Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The objection must be in writing and meet the content requirements at 36 CFR 218.8(d). Al ections are available for public inspection during after the objection process.

Published December 20, 2018 in The Pagosa Springs

and rescue, CERT organization, disaster psychology, terrorism and CERT, and other hazards. Teens will also be certified in CPR and Technology aspects will be covered as well, including ham radio, NOAA Weather Radio, smoke alarm maintenance, smartphone apps and the use of social media in disasters. Students will also be involved in an exercise to test what The final component that each student must complete in order to graduate from the program is to complete a community service project titled "Prep+6." In this project, each participant must help prepare an emergency supply kit

LEGO Club on Saturday

teen gaming Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

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 from Mark with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Note there will be no PALS

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11

library. Se habla espanol. Nonfiction

Applications being accepted for MyPI Program for youth The more prepared a community is when the disaster strikes,

emergency situations.

the instruction of the course. This class will be held Ian. 18-20, 2019, at the Extension office. There is an application to fill out and space is limited, so please visit our Facebook page, CSU Extension Archuleta County, to download the application. You can pick up an application at the Extension office,

plications is Jan. 9, 2019.

and an emergency communication plan for both their own family and six other households. This Prep+6 will greatly increase the number of homes in the county that are

work gloves, a safety vest, a first aid kit and more. Colorado State University (CSU) Extension is partnering with the Office of Emergency Management, the Pagosa Fire Protection District, Archuleta County Sheriff's Office

too. The deadline to turn in the ap-

more aware and better prepared in When students have completed all portions of the program, they receive a backpack filled with emergency tools such as a hard hat,

and other local experts to assist in

the more resilient it will be when the disaster is over. Be a part of the

MyPI program.

Beekeeper program The Colorado Beekeeper Associate Program is a comprehensive seven-week course being offered on Tuesdays starting Jan. 8, 2019, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuition and

fees are \$300 for the non-volunteer and \$120 for the volunteer track. Visit our Facebook page at CSU Extension-Archuleta County for more information and download an application, or pick one up at the Extension office. Applications

are due by Jan. 2, 2019.

CPR and first aid classes CPR and first aid certification classes are offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling the Extension office at 264-5931.





Sunny skies on Saturday made for a beautiful day of ice fishing at Echo Lake. According to AccuWeather, there is a 30 percent chance for snow during the day on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday with a 63-64 percent chance on Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Snow water equivalency levels cause for concern

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Lake levels have again shown small changes across the board, according to a press release by Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) District Manager Justin Ramsey.

Lake Hatcher has risen from last week's total of 55 inches from full to 51 inches from full this week.

Stevens Lake saw a slight drop from last week as it now is 138 inches from full, compared to last week when it was 136 inches from full.

Lake Pagosa and Lake Forest totals remain the same from last week at 29 inches from full and 8 inches from full, respectively.

Ramsey's press release indicates that Village Lake has fallen 8 inches from being at full last week.

However, Ramsey clarified in an email that he does not believe that total is accurate.

"I think this may be an error in the equipment, we are looking into it. There really should be very little change at Village Lake we have not put water in or taken water out of Village in the last seven days," Ramsey wrote.

Total cumulative available lake water for treatment and delivery this week is at 70.7 percent, and last week it was at 71 percent.

Total diversion flows are currently at 6 cubic feet per second (cfs), compared to last week's total

Mile diversion flows are producing 3 cfs of water.

Last week the Four Mile diversion only had a flow of 1.5 cfs.

Again, Ramsey's press release notes that Four Mile diversion flows are inconsistent due to fluctuating river flows and ice.

"It's up a little bit now because it's been warmer," Ramsey said of the Four Mile diversion flow. "So, we're getting more runoff. The river is flowing a little higher."

On the morning of Dec. 17, Ramsey even indicated that the Four Mile diversion had flows of

"I'm saying 3 because it is going to vary, even throughout the day. At night it's going to drop down; in the daytime it's going to go up," Ramsey said.

From Dec. 7 through Dec. 13 this year, water production totaled 9.66 million gallons.

Contributing to that total, the Snowball water treatment plan produced 2.87 million gallons and the Hatcher water treatment plant added another 6.79 million gallons.

Last week, collective water production totaled 8.61 million gal-

Last year from Dec. 7 through Dec. 13, total water production was listed at 10.94 million gallons with the Snowball plant producing 2.59 million gallons and the Hatcher plant adding an additional 8.35 million gallons.

Speaking on the 1.05 million Both the West Fork and Four gallon increase from last week to

this week, Ramsey explained that it was strange to see.

Last week, PAWSD noticed that a lot of water was being used and thought that could be attributed to a leak; however, after searching, no leak was found, Ramsey explained.

"And then the water dropped back off again," Ramsey said.

Whether it was more people in town using water or something else, Ramsey could not pinpoint a concrete answer to the increase in water production.

Snow water equivalency

This week, snow water equivalency (SWE) totals remain unchanged from last week, staying at 4.5 inches.

The SWE median, however, has gone from 8.1 inches last week to 8.9 inches this week.

The median and averages are based on data from 1981 through

Precipitation has risen from 9.2 inches to 9.5 inches this week, while the average went from 12.2

inches to 13.5 inches. In regard to the SWE and precipitation levels, Ramsey stated that he is getting more nervous

every week. "I mean, we're definitely low. Again, if you look at the numbers, one good snowfall and we're above average," Ramsey said. "I don't want another year like last year, but hopefully, it will start snowing

chris@pagosasun.com

Local snowpack levels drop 6 percent, raising slight concern

By Chris Mannara Staff Writer

Of the eight basins with snowpack data reported by the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), local basins have the lowest collective percent of the Dec. 19 median.

The San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River basins are currently 62 percent of median. Last week those same basins were 68 percent of median. The next lowest basin as of Dec.

19 is the Upper Rio Grande Basin, which sits at 66 percent of median when last week that basin was 77 percent of median. The Gunnison River Basin is

87 percent of median this week, compared to last week's total of 93 percent of median.

Another drop in snowpack was recorded for the Laramie and North Platte basins, with a collective total of 105 percent of median this week; last week the total for those basins was 116 percent of median.

At the Yampa and White River basins, current levels total 108 percent of median. Last week, snowpack levels at those basins

were 117 percent of median.

The Upper Colorado River Basin has a snowpack level of 109 percent of median. Last week, that total was 117 percent of median.

The Arkansas River Basin and South Platte River Basin both have snowpack levels of 116 percent of median.

Last week, the Arkansas River Basin had a total of 131 percent of median, while the South Platte River Basin was 128 percent of median last week.

The Wolf Creek summit, located both within the local snowpack totals and the Upper Rio Grande Basin, is 69 percent of the Dec. 19 median and 24 percent of the median peak.

The Wolf Creek summit was 81 percent of last week's median and 24 percent of the median peak.

Snowpack levels could drop even more over the next few days, as the extended forecast provided by the National Weather Service (NWS) predicts no snow for Pagosa Springs through Sunday,

The NWS does, however, note that on Saturday, Wolf Creek Pass has a 20 percent chance of snow during the day, and that percentage

chance extends into the evening.

"Mostly, we just need more snow. Let's hope this storm that's supposed to come in right around Christmas is going to bump that snowpack level up. We just keep dwindling," NRCS District Conservationist Jerry Archuleta said of local snowpack levels.

There is a level of concern in regard to these snowpack levels, he noted.

With the snowpack being so dismal last year, our storage in our reservoirs is low already, so we're really hoping for a decent snowpack to kind of, bump those reservoirs back up," Archuleta said. "We're still in exceptional drought if you look at the drought monitor."

There is a long way to go and that can cause concern when snow water equivalency numbers do not increase, Archuleta explained.

"And if you look at the snowpack now compared to last year, it's a lot better and it's not that great," Archuleta said.

This time of year, however, is not usually when the NRCS gets too concerned with the snowpack

'We're definitely watching it and we'd like to see it higher, but, you know, it's still early," Archuleta said.

There is still the rest of December, January, March and April to monitor snowpack levels, with the snowpack normally peaking in April, he noted.

"Now, if we're at this same level in January, then yeah, we start to get more concerned and start looking how we're going to deal with what we might have this summer," he said. "I'd say right now we're concerned but not super anxious, but if we don't improve over the next month or so, then, yeah, definitely start getting more concerned."

chris@pagosasun.com



The Pagosa Uke Jam play a Christmas concert for the residents at Pine Ridge Extended Care facility on Sunday, Dec. 16. Musicians included Jeanette Bean, Joan Rodger, G. Margiotta, Maureen Margiotta and Teddy Finney. The residents enjoyed an old-time sing-along of Christmas songs.

Trustworthy. The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



Why and how ABS brakes work

By James R. Van Liere Special to The SUN

Because winter officially arrives tomorrow and snowy and icy roads are inevitable, a discussion on the theory behind automatic braking systems might be in order.

This is not a highly technical explanation of the electrical and mechanical systems involved in an automatic braking system, but a simple discussion of the principles of why automatic braking systems work.

An automatic braking system is based on two concepts from the world of physics, namely, the coefficient of static friction (CSF) and the coefficient of dynamic friction (CDF), sometimes called kinetic or sliding friction. To better explain these two con-

cepts in the real world, I imagine most of us at one time or another have tried to slide a heavy box across a floor. As you probably noticed, it takes more force to start the sliding process, but once the box starts to slide, it becomes much easier.

The reason for this is that the CSF must be overcome to start the box to move, but once it starts to move, it becomes easier because the CDF comes into play.

Of course, the above example is assuming a "dry" surface between the box and the floor; however, if the surface between the two objects is lubricated, i.e., the floor is covered in oil, then the coefficients will change to reflect this condition. Unfortunately, this CSF is a hindrance when sliding boxes, but works well when trying to stop a moving vehicle.

Another example of these two coefficients coming into play is trying to get a toboggan to slide with three or four people on it. The toboggan does not move until

someone gives it a small shove to overcome the static friction factor, then the dynamic friction factor takes over and away you go.

Hypothetically, and by the numbers, if the CSF is 0.5 and the CDF is 0.3, then the force to start sliding a 100-pound cardboard box on a dry concrete floor is 0.5 times 100 pounds equals 50 pounds, and the force to keep it sliding is 0.3 times 100 pounds equals 30 pounds. Of course, these figures would change if the surface in the example above were lubricated.

Quite obviously, there are many combinations of different materials sliding relative to one another, and the various surfaces may have different degrees of roughness, all of which leads to many values for these coefficients.

As an example, a car tire on dry asphalt has a CSF in the range of 0.5 to 0.8, with an average value of approximately 0.72. For the same tire on ice, the values for the CSF range from 0.15 (the lowest I have seen) to 0.40.

These values will depend on the tire tread, the condition of the tire and the actual condition of the ice. (As a rule, after driving in the mountains in all kinds of inclement weather for 60 years, I have found that traffic always moves as fast as the vehicle with the baldest tires.)

Now, how does all this theory apply to an automatic braking system (also known as ABS)? Years ago, before the advent of ABS, people driving on snow and ice learned how to "pump" their brakes, which essentially meant alternating applying and releasing the brakes so that the vehicle would slow down gradually without sliding. In essence, they were using the CSF. Of course, this took practice, and some were better at it than others

Automatic braking systems

improved upon this "pumping" method by using a computer to apply or "pump" the brakes about 15 times a second. By doing this, the computer is taking advantage of the CSF and not letting the tires slide, thus, not allowing the CDF to

come into play.

The downside to ABS, if one can consider it a downside, is that they may be noisy. Years ago, when automatic braking systems were installed on vehicles, a few people were killed using this new braking system. They did not realize noise from automatic braking systems was a normal thing and took their foot off the brake pedal. Of course, they now had no brakes and crashed.

The point is: when using ABS brakes, you should continue to stand on the brake pedal and hold the steering wheel straight until the vehicle comes to a stop. If the road has steep crown, the vehicle may tend to slide slightly sideways, but this is nothing to worry about (unless you are sliding off a cliff). For the most part, automatic braking systems will keep the vehicle in a straight line, unless you turn the steering wheel. In this case, the vehicle will tend to turn.

If your vehicle has an automatic braking system and you have never really used them in an emergency or on a gravel, asphalt or concrete road, or on a snow-packed or icy road, I suggest you try them out on these various surfaces at low speed (say about 20 mph) in a non-traffic area. By doing this, you will develop a feel and know what your braking system will sound like and will not panic if an emergency situation

I hope that this simple article has been of value, that you now know a little bit more about ABS, and will not end up in a ditch on some lonely road.

DICIOLEMANS & ARMS & AR

Letters to Santa



Letters to Santa



Just in time for the holiday season, The SUN teamed up with Santa and his elves to help deliver letters to the guy in the big red suit, with the promise we could share those Christmas wishes with our readers, as they were written.

Dear Santa,

Can I please have a 1,000 pack of Yugio cards and a onyx bluetooth PS4 controller Hori please Santa. Thank You!

Love, Josiah

Dear Santa,

even if this is the first time Ive written in a while I hope this letter finds you well. I realy hope that my family and friends get everything they could ask for. please try to get every little thing even if its a new camera for mom or a big tractor for Dad or a million lego sets for Elliot. As for me, I would love a set of calico critters and I would enjoy a new harry potter lego set. How are things at the north pole? We are going to leave out some cookies, milk and carrots for you and the raindeer. I wish you and your raindeer a verry merry chistmas trip!

Your sincerely, Lillian

Dear Santa,

How are you and elves? How is Mrs. Claus? I'm hoping for some new lego for Christmas I hope my family will get the things that they wish for too. We will leave you cookies and milk and a surprise for the reindeer

Love, Elliot

Performers

Thursday Riff Raff downtown: Dustin Burley, 6 p.m.

Wednesday Riff Raff downtown: Robin Davis Duo, 6 p.m.

I have been a very good boy. Here is my Christmas list: 1. web shooter; 2. for Dad Hugs, Kisses, Back Rubs, Back Scratches; 3. Cat; 4. Nap for Mom.

Chael, age 5

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl. here is my Christmas list: 1. unicorn; 2. pony; 3. oats.

Haven, age 2

Dear Santa,

I wish for pokemon cards.

Thank you, Kit, age 7

How was your day at the North Pole? What are you going to do for Christmas? I was wondering if your Elves are small as babies.

For Christmas I would like Minecraft Legos and a wooden car to paint and I would like a remote control drone and a remote control car that is 2 ft long and 3 ft wide. Also, I would like a remote control

airplane and a toy for my brother Asher AND a dinosaur toy. Also could you bring me another toy Christmas tree — I broke the glass one from last year — maybe this one could be plastic.

I have been good this year. I like to play with my brother and I helped decorate the Chrismas tree.

Thank you Santa, Griffin, 6 years

Dear Santa.

I want a mini four wheeler. I want a hot wheel set.

Love, Noah, age 5

Dear Santa,

I want some black leggings size 8, I want a pair or black boots size 1, I want Littlest Pet Shops, my own water color set. Thank you Merry Christmas

Sencirly, Chloe, age 9 Dear Santa,

I have been a vary good girl. Here is my chrismas list. 1. I would

■ See Letters on next page





Limited Release: Two Squealers/Guest



OPEN WEEKDAYS 11a & WEEKEND BRUNCH 10a-2p 970-731-BREW (2739) PagosaBrewing.com 118 N. Pagosa Blvd. (200 yards off Hwy 160)



WEEKDAY HAPPY HOUR 3P-6P!

Subscribe to The SUN



Letters

■ continued from previous page

like a Baby Barbie Doll with clothes. 2. and a stick horse.

Shayla, age 7 1/2

Dear Santa,

Please. I would like 2 Pegusus. Love, Lieve, age 6

Dear Santa.

I would like a mp4 ples. Love Daniel, age 6

Dear Santa,

I would like a pokemon krads. Love, Kanoa, age 5

Dear Santa,

I would like a paw patroller please.

love, Dalton, age 5

Dear Santa.

I would like a hors weth saddle and bridle and a rider.

Love, Jaylee, age 6

Dear Santa,

I would like a baby doll please. Love, Mia, age 5 Dear Santa,

I would like a LOL ConfettiPop please.

Love, Athena, age 4

Dear Santa,

I would like a ifonten Lego nrfgun Blis xbox zbox intendsrih dorbul Babcitin ps4 ipad cputr uesve plevse

Love, Sam!, age 6

Dear Santa,

I woule like a go- mr and a

Love, Braylonm, age 5 Dear Santa,

I would like a babe dol.

Luv, Leon, age 5

Dear Santa,

I would like a JoJo hen bow, and shoes, wig, jacket and shirt.

Scarlett, age 6



Aquaman

Through Jan. 2 - Rated PG13

Arthur Curry learns that he is the heir to the underwater kingdom of Atlantis, and must step forward to lead his people and be a hero to the world.

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Dear Santa,

i woule like a Kool Kucomputer Love, Talon, age 6

Dear Sannt

I would like a gamen toy Love, Jose

Dear Santa,

I woul liek a ril cumeomputer with charger or DJ Saki iPad and a rain bow crown that lights up.

Love, Isabella

Dear Santa.

I would like a Moono please Love, Mendy, age 5

Dear Santa,

I would like a crown with a ranbo.

Gia, age 6

Dear Santa,

I have been good because I have hep mie dad. I will work on help mie mom Next, I would like glod PS4 and ulexu. Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Clayton

Dear Santa,

I have been good because I love my family. I will work on my brothers present First I woulb like a Htchable Next I would like a eash oulc flakedress. Thank you Santa Your friend, Ruby

■ See Letters on next page







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Letters

■ continued from previous page

Dear Santa.

I have been good for helped because help. I will work on listening facmily. First would like wrking. Next I would like something

Thank you your friend, Jacob Dear Santa,

I have been good because I been helpeng my family clean The house 2. I will work on helpeg my sister walk. Frst, I will please like A big LOL Surprise. Next, I will please like A Big makeover doll head.

Your friend, Kiana

Dear Santa,

I was good because help my mom help my mom and my bab. First, I would like a Skoodr. Next, I would like a fingerling. Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Kyleah

Dear Santa.

I have been good because I help my parents win thay needed help First. barbie deam house and barbiie accessories Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Shiloh

Dear Santa,

I been good for helping my mom. I will work on listening and working hard. First i would like some thing for my brother. Next I would like a action figur

Your friend, Leon

Dear Santa,

I have been good because I help My dad clean. I will be nice to my brother. First I would like a hover board. Next I would like JoJo clothes.

your friend, Mia

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa.

I have been good because helped my mom. I will work on been grd. 3. First, would like a rosh An do. Next I will like shauk lus.

Your friend, Adam

I have been good because I help my mom. I will work on helping my friends. First, I would like a now bike. Net, I would like a now brbee. Thank you Santa

Your friend, Lilabeth

Dear Santa,

I have been good because I love my family and friends. I will work on to help my friends and family. First I would like a ginea pig, next I would like a Dodge Ram. Thank you Santa.

Your friend, Chloe

Dear Santa,

I have been good because I have

helped my mom clean the house. First, I will work on being nice to my sister. Next, I would like some doll clothes. Next, I would like a dig stuffed unicorn. Thank you Sanka. Your friend, Brooke

Dear Santa,

I hope your having a good time at the North Pole. anyways this what I want for Christmas please, LOL surprise pets, lil sister, and Under wraps. More stuff for Chritmas please is the Minecraft story mode. 2. Last Krew Plushies. Thank You.

From Eliana

From Dewayne

Dear Santa,

could you please bring me a pet reindeer? I would also like a phone and a dirt bike and some new shoes, and nintendu switch.

Dear Santa,

What I want for chritmas is a LOL doll and a LOL suprise house, a new tablet, American girl dolly and a dream camper. Hope you are haveing fun. Chritmas is my favorite holidy. I hope you like cookies and milk. Have a great Chritmas.

Love, Claire

Dear Santa, This christmas I would like a fingerling, a magic puppy book, and a sketch book.

From Bella

Dear Santa Clouse

I Love christmas It's my favrite haliday. I am so excited for Christmas because I love snow. I mean everybody does right? It's not just about presents it's about enjoying that haliday and having lots of fun that's what it's about. Here is my presents list. What I want for Chistmas is a raindeer sweater and a Nintendo switch. You can give me the other suprises that you want to get me.

Sincerly, Eliyanuh

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas I I cant wait for you to come! I want a tablet and a phone please:

From Katie

Dear Santa,

Santa I hope you are doing good and I want an iphone ten and a game.

From Quentin

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa merry christmas a good day. This is what I want for Christmas. I would like the movie Ready Player one. Also a little sketch book. Another thing I want is a really good Christmas.

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From Kane

Dear Santa,

I hope you come to my house. It's going to be the best Christmas because it is my birthday. You can give me alot of stuff on my birthday. We are thankful for all the presents you give me. I love Christmas. I'm so exited. I would like a phone. Merry Christmas

from: Elmer

Dear Santa,

I hope you have a good trip. I would like an "Elf on the Shelf." I would also like a PSP game and an XBox. If I may, I would like a tablet so I can play games.

From Adrian

Dear Santa,

I would like a weimaraner for Christmas. My little sister would like a stuffed animal that would keep her busy. Merry Christmas!

From Evie

Dear Santa,

I want for Christmas Naruto blankent and a Naruto cards and Narute games. Thank you for every thing.

From Ethan

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa, I've been pretty good this year!!! This year all I want is a new trampoline Please!!! Thank you santa I hope you like my cookies!!!

From Amari

Dear Santa,

What I would like for chrismas is a l.o.l suprise house and a phone. I would also like a pet lizard and some Barbie dolls and some teacher suplies. And also a Barbie camper and house are elfes real? And some sparkle fingerlings

■ See Letters on next page



56 Talisman Ste 8-K upstairs, above the Choke Cherry Tree Open Wed-Sat 9-5 • 970-731-GUNZ (4869)



Letters.

■ continued from previous page

pleace Merry Chrismas Santa.

From Darria

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa how are you doing What I want for Chirstmas is a new gaming computer with a mouse and a Led lights keybord. And a new tv to put in my room. Also a gaming chair that goes in my room. From Brandon

Dear Santa,

I can't wait for you to come Santa. What I want for Christmas is a drone and "Elf on the Shelf." I Also want a remote control truck. I want a tablet that has Minecraft. From Edgar

Dear Santa,

How are you? I hope you're good. I hope you bring lots of gifts. But I would like a great Christmas!! From Jagger

Dear Santa,

Thank you for all you do. I know it is probably really hard to go down all those chimnys giving presents. Speaking of presents. I would like a new fishing pole I would also like a new rain jacket. I hope you do not forget my house.

From Garrett

Dear Santa.

Hi Santa how are you doing can I have a hover-board, two xbox controller's for a Xbox one, a rollercoster Lego set, a gravity drone, a phone, fornite game cars, overwatch disc merry christmas Santaclous!

From Bryson

Dear Santa,

I want a new nerf gun and a RC-CAR and VRhead set.

From Vinny

Dear Santa,

I'am happy that you are coming I would like a tablit I would like a Elf on the shelf. I would also like a lol I hope you make it to my house. I still think your real. make it please From Viktory

Dear Santa.

I would like for christmas a mintendo swich and the game called Hungry Hungry Hippos and a elf on the shelf.

From Katie

Dear Santa,

What I want for christama's is a kids motercycle from Walmart and a toy horse from Trakor Supple that has the Black and a white heart on it's hand. Conner would like a knife and Samuel would like a remote control truck.

What else that I want is an elf on the shelf with a camo shirt and pants and shoes with it to. My Dad would like a tool that is reallly impor and my mom would like a vacation from school. Also have a Marry christmas Santa and the elf's too!

Love Hope

Dear Santa,

I thenk I'v bene gode thes yew Santa. A Xbox like, a new dirtbike and a good time. I hope you have a good time.

Love, Liam Dear Santa,

This year I am wishing for a woolblanket, time with my family, also a fun trip. Last, but not least, good friends to play with. That is everything I want this year.

From, Hannah

Dear Santa.

I am wishing for sonictoy becus I mack mi wishing list. Also, I wish for a Fortnite toy. My family is happy, making snowmen. I also am hoping for lots of presents and my family to be happ forever.

Sincerely, Katrina

Dear Santa.

How was your day? I had a great one! OK, let's get down to business. What I want or Christmas is an LOL Suprise bigger suprise, a Nintendo Switch, and a Pokemon let's go evee. Merry Christmas!

Samanta

Dear Santa,

I think I have been good this vear. I would like a hoverboard and a good New Year I would also like to have an electric scooter.

thank you santa

From Summer

Dear Santa,

I think I have been bad/good this year. I want skates. That will be all for now. Im in [address redacted, but we passed it on to Santa].

from Trinity

Dear Santa.

I have been good fou this year, so I want a robot as big as a 5 block tower, and a Nintendo Switch.

Love: Tv

Dear Santa,

What I want for Chrismas is a Nintendo Switch. Also, I want a Dfence symbol. Third, I want a peaceful basketball hoop. Fourth, I want a apple watch. Thanks Santa. Say Hi to Rodelph for me!

From, Cole

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I want a hoverboard, 4 wheeler, a robot Dead pool, a computer that I can play scary games, and a iphonxr. Merry Christmas!

from, Noah

■ See Letters on next page



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Letters

■ continued from previous page

I think I've been good this year. I'm wishing for a robot mapper to keep my house clean. I would like a baby puppy. Also, I would like a baby pig. Also, I would like 3 feet of snow in town.

Love, Autumn

Dear Santa,

I dont really believe in you. But I want a hoverboard. Next, I want a dirt bike. Then I would like some snow. Last I really want new pajamas and a iphone XS max. That is all I want for Chrismas,

from Tristan

dear Santa,

I would like a Iphone Xr for christmas and would like to spend time with my family and dog and with my uncle. Dear Santa, Merry Christmas

Sincerely, Jonathan.

Dear Santa,

I think I've been good this year. I want my family to wear Christmas pjs. I am looking forward to building a snowman. I also want squishys. Thank you, Santa Merry Christmas

Sincerly, Sydney

Dear Santa,

I want a Deadpool toy and my family to be Happy and a Huver bord. Merry Chistmas.

From, Nathan

Dear Santa,

I think I have been okay this year. I would like for my mom to be healthy. I would also like a pet turtle and a trip to Hawaii. The last thing I would like would be a Broncos Jersy and hat. Merry Christmas.

Love, Karen

Dear Santa,

I think I have been good this year. I'm wishing for a gameboy like my brother's! I would like to go see my grandma again. I would like to see my baby cousin. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely, Liana

Dear Santa,

I think I have been good this year. I hipe I get the iPhoneX so I can talk to my friends. Second, I want a drone so I can spy on people. Also, I want want a Xbox1, so I can play fortnite with my friends. I'd also like a Go pro to take videos of me skiing.

Love, Ryan

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I am wishing for a hoverobard, and lots of candy. I would also like to be able to call my Dad to say Merry Christmas, and I would like for my family to be healthy and happy. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Love, Riley

Dear Santa,

It's me Ellie, I think I've been okay, but not great. This year I would like a gymnastics bar, a computer, some candy, and a safe trip to Fort Collins. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love, Ellie

Dear Santa,

I think I have been on the good list this year. I wish my brother has a safe trip on the plane. I would like to spend time with my family. I also wish that I have a cozy sweater. I would also wish for a pet fish. Have a good Christmas!

From, Lotus

Dear Santa,

I think I have been okay this

year. I want a hoverboard and a dirtbike. Also I would like a phone and a gymnastics bar and a healthy family and a good Christmas.

Love, Kiana

Hey Santa,
Here are some tings I want for christmas. First, I want a panda stuffie. Second, I want a Nick foles jersey. Third, I want a Star Wars VR set. I also want my chirstmas to be white. That's all I want.

Sincerely, Reese

Dear Santu,

I think i hav been good this yere. I want a xbox for my room, a nintendo swich with a game, a computer and for it to snow a foot. Sincerely Emmanuel

Dear Santa,

I would like cnetic saind, a bean bag chair, LoLs, LoL house, putty and a new out fit. Now you know what I want for Christmas.

Love, Isabelle

Dear Santa,

These are the things I want for christmas. I want a gaming keyboard, and a mouse, a giant candy cane, a new snow board, new gloves new snowpants, bean bag chair, nentendo switch (if you can get me one). Those are the things I want for Christmas.

Love, River

Dear Santa,

I want V-bucks and a fortnite skin. Then I want a dirtbike. Then I want five bucks. That"s what I what.

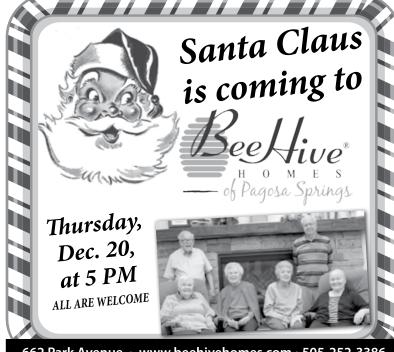
Your Friend, Angelo

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy so I hope I get a lot of presents as in a fishing rod and a bike and a snow board

■ See Letters on next page





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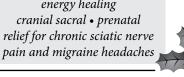
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Letters.

continued from previous page and a yoyo.

Your Friend, Ashton Dear Santa Clous,

I want to be in football I want cookies with sprikles a pair of New Jeanns, thare is a new spider man movie that I want I could use some New shoes thare are som New Jordans that I want

your frien Jermaine

Dear Santa,

I would really like a baby huskie. Could I have the whole collection of Dark Dairys. Can I have some new games for my new xbox 360. Some new snow pants too. I hope you bring me all my gifts

Your friend, Navely

DEAR Santa,

This year I don't really have anything really. special on my Christmas List. I want it to be a Surprise. but here are some ideas Dark diares not so Graceful ice princess and a video camira too.

Your friend, Molly

Dear Santa. I want a hover board for Christmas I also want a rifle for Christmas. I also wnant some new shoes

and I could use some new sweaters for Christmas. your friend Landon

Dear Santa, I want a track and a 22 and I also I want a fourwheeler. Thank you for the elf santa also thank you for the presents.

Your Friend, Luke Deapr Santa Clauc,

I have been really good thes year Id like a car, candy, artsupires, big truck basket ball and leg sas.

Dear Santa.

Love Henry

I have been good this year I would like to see my dad because i have not seen him in six years. Have a Merry Christmas.

Love Malachi

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I want a LoL container, a hoverboard, LoL dolls and a knife.

Love Aubrianna

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year! want a scooter, a game called monoply, candy, a sled, a amazon card and a computer. I tried my best this year.

Love Erick

Dear Santa,

I've been good this year I want these 5 things; puppy, xbox, ipod, good christmas, and to see my dad. Hope you have a good Christmas! Love, Aven

Dear Santa,

Thank you for giving all of the kids presents. what I want is a pet rat, another kitten like dark vater, but brown, so dark vater is not lonely. A new coloring book with new markers. Thank you Santa.

Love, Ivy

Dear Santa Claus,

I have been really good this year! This year for Christmas I would like some Star Wars pajamas, a Lego set called Cruising Adventures, a Lego fire staition, and a Lego hospital. You don't have to get me all of thsi stuff but, I would like it if you did!

Sincerely, Gianna

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year! I would like to get an ipad, Paint, Small unicorn, paint book, toy puppy, dolls, but thats not all I would like for Christmas I need new socks, a new pink jacket and also I want junie B. Jones Books. That is all I want for Christmas.

Love, Giselle Dear Santa,

It has been a year full of changes and new friendships. This year I want something very badly its a PS4 with fortnite on it. I've also been very good. Thank you for all the presents too. Merry Christmas.

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year. I hope you can get me the things I want here they are a yellow lab, a labtop, a nintendo switch. These are the things I want for Christmas. I also want Joy for my family too. Plus unlimited wishes.

Love Gage

love Weston

Dear Santa Claus,

I have been very good this year! Santa Claus can you bring me a hoverboard with led, a camera, Christmas book, and a Gopro?

Love Luis

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year. want 3 wishes and new shoes. These are teh things I want for Christmas.

Love Angel

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I would like a King Charles Spaniel from the humane society. I also want all of the animals that don't have a home to have a merry Christmas. My Mom will not let me have a really expensive hotel lego set so maybe you will get me one though. I would love it if I could go to Universal Studios. Thank you

■ See Letters on next page





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Letters.

continued from previous page

and Merry Christmas!

From, Carrington

Dear Santa Claus,

I have been really good this year. This year I want a brown Anole, a Thor action figure, a trip to Universal Studios, and a Thor Ragnarok lego set. Also, would you like hot chocolate with your cookies or milk? Let me know if you can. It would be awesome if you could get me these things.

Sincerely, Tameron

Dear Santa Claus.

I have been good this year! First, can you bring me a computuer for my desk please. Next, can you please bring me a colorful snowboard and helmet. Then, can you please bring a kids moving car. Last, can you please give me a new niece named Ann. I hope you enjoy the cookies and fire!

Love, Jessica

Dear Santa.

I have been really good this year. I want a black lab, ipod, 4 pixel Labtop. These are the things I want for Christmas.

Love, Elliott

Dear Santa.

I want a R/C Jeep ford bronco. I need new sheets. i want a neon hoodie Also. I want a book about all the animals in the world. The next thing I want is a Gopro and drone. I hope you have a happy Christmas.

Love Colby

Dear, Santa Claus,

I have been very good this year. I would liek a camera, a big jacket and a harry potter books.

Love, Layla

Dear Santa,

I've been good this year. I would like a blutooth hover board, a camera, dancing robot, and a computer. Well that's it.

Love Kynzlee

I have been really good this year. I only want one thing and that thing is a toy claw machine I finaly put up a tree and this time i will make ookies and milk.

Love Kai

I have tried my best this year. I would love to see Ke'Lond for Christmas. I don't think you're going to get that to work but I would love that. Could you try to go to McKinney TX before Pagosa Springs CO because I want my old stocking back. Just one last thing before you go can you put in my stocking if you go hohoho? I hope you enjoy the cookies and milk.

From Anderson

Dear Santa,

I have been good this year. I want a set of ramps for my tech decks. I want a stunt scooter olso want an electric dirt bike. I olso want a big R.C. car.

Love. Jackob

Dear Santa,

How are you? Thank you for delivering the presents to all the children. How do you diliver so many presents in one night? I do not want a certain thing for Christmas I just want anything, I hope I was not naughty. I hope I get to eat litle smokies for Christmas.

Your friend, Ward

dear Santa,

Hi how are you today. I hope you come to town. Santa I need some more Star Wars stuf also some Mincraft stuf and a remote car Santa can you get me a xbox Santa how old are you Santa are elfs real. Santa do you have a slay that can fly with raindeer

your freind, Briggs Dear Santa,

Haw are you doing? Merry Christmas. I have a question for you. What is your favorite cockiey flavor? Please bring back a note of all the questions that I asked you. something I wnat for Christmas is a Rescue Runt. Haw are the elves doing? Haw is Mrs. Clause doing? I hape you have a great Christmas!!!

Your frined, Brook

Dear Santa,

I bet you are very busy right now. Is rudolph really real? I hope you have a good Chirstmas. What I Whant for Chirstmas is a dog.

Love, Amon

Dear Santa

Hi my name is Antonio what is it like over there? Can you give me a new phone. You must be busy over there. How can you go all over the whole world one night. That is amzing! I love Christmas can you go to my house first I can't wat intil it is Christmas!

Love, Antonio Dear Santa Clause.

Hi, how are you? How are your reindeer doing? I love my elf Two, he escaped! I hope he comes back soon. For Christmas I want a wolf stuffy. I have not been a good boy, but I'm going to change my day around.

Your friend, Levi

■ See Letters on next page



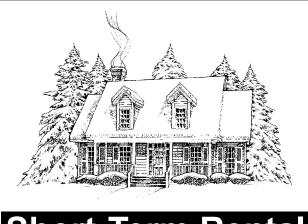


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Letters

■ continued from previous page Dear Santa.

Merry Christmas. How are you? I love you? I can't wait for Chistmas! It's fun! I would like a toy robot and a patoto clock Thank you.

Love, Kylie

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi how are you? I wish for 3 hamsters. I hope you have a good Christmas. I mostly want to have a good Christmas. I wand a Phone So When I get secerd I can call my mom or dad. I want a watch phone. Mostly I don't want to be mean to my family. When it's Christmas I'm going to thank you for giving me lot's of presents.

Your friend, Paisley

Dear Santa,

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa how are you? Buddy my elf is so funny today he hid in our little pom-poms it was so funny! Thank you for bringing our family a cute cute puppy! We love her so much! But since she is little she is bitting everything! When we got her I was so excited! Then I saw Buddy's note and I screamed!

Your friend, Brynn

Hi, how are you doing? I am doing great! How are your elves? For Chistmas I would like season charms for my backpack. What are some of your elves names.? Where is

the first place you stop on Chistmas

eve? I hope Chistmas goes well. Love, Avery

Dear Santa Claus,

Hi Santa Claus how are you. I would like a present that is fun to play with in my bed at night be for I go to bed.

Love, Brie

Dear Santa,

hi Santa I wot tois for ckrismis I am Srre for beg bad.

Love, Baylee

Dear Santa,

I wut a Frtninte Gap ween hook pees. i so a mome bil pees. I sone wut a el of crt pees. I o sone wut a ir pees

Love, Bixby

Dear Santa, Santa

Love, Carlie

Dear Santa,

did you have a good sumer. We red a funny storey of you. a lot of peepl say you are fake but I donet Love, Olivia

Dear Santa,

Santa I wish I had a plel tht is a yuncon.

Love, Callie

Dear Santa,

Rc bote and i wut a dog. did you have a gud sumre satu I wute a get snack.

Love, Ty

Dear Santa,

I wish I cood git mi one fone mi

one gismon. fire me anb noah I wunt mi one mack up. I wunt min eersprst.

Love, Camellia

Dear Santa.

Deyr Santu can i git a swich. and a chrlr fu a swich and a litl bit of clofs and I will like miy tofry teteth Love, Oliver

Dear Santa,

Dear santa Claus I want for Christmas is mackup and a doll baby a cow boys glab For Christmas is a snow boots and a warmshirt keep me warm and a bike for Christmas and a dog for Chrimas and a 100 Slime and a cool skate bord like a froven skate bord and a competer and a teder like a snowman and a froven dress like eelsa and anna and a doll eraser and a elca marekers and a elsa norebook and a game anda fake doll. and a lot of pretty dress anda barbies house and a lot af book and a lot or candy for the hole tiers familes and a blank papers and a lot of poke'mons cards.

your Freind! De'mia Dear Santa,

I want a nitendo 2DS. and I have bin very good this year. I also want a coler fole big bike. I also want a chrampleyn. I also want a nerf gun. I also want a smoball shoter. I also want a blancket of the Bronckos.

■ See Letters on next page



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Stop #	Bus Stops	MORNING ROUTES				AFTERNOON ROUTES					
этор і		Rte 1	Rte 2	Rte 3	Rte 4	Rte 5	Rte 6	Rte 7	Rte 8	Rte 9	Rte 10
1	Rio Grande Savings & Loan		8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM
2	City Market Bus Stop		8:04 AM	9:04 AM	10:04 AM	11:04 AM	12:04 PM	1:04 PM	2:04 PM	3:04 PM	4:04 PM
3	Navajo Trail & Hopi		8:07 AM	9:07 AM	10:07 AM	11:07 AM	12:07 PM	1:07 PM	2:07 PM	3:07 PM	4:07 PM
4	Prospect & Lyn	7:11 AM	8:11 AM	9:11 AM	10:11 AM	11:11 AM	12:11 PM	1:11 PM	2:11 PM	3:11 PM	4:11 PM
5	Bonanza Ave @ Vista Blvd	7:14 AM	8:14 AM	9:14 AM	10:14 AM	11:14 AM	12:14 PM	1:14 PM	2:14 PM	3:14 PM	4:14 PM
6	Lakeview Estates	7:17 AM	8:17 AM	9:17 AM	10:17 AM	11:17 AM	12:17 PM	1:17 PM	2:17 PM	3:17 PM	4:17 PM
7	Pagosa Springs Medical Center	7:20 AM	8:20 AM	9:20 AM	10:20 AM	11:20 AM	12:20 PM	1:20 PM	2:20 PM	3:20 PM	4:20 PM
8	Wal-Mart (eastbound)	7:24 AM	8:24 AM	9:24 AM	10:24 AM	11:24 AM	12:24 PM	1:24 PM	2:24 PM	3:24 PM	4:24 PM
9	AspenVillage/Cornerstone/Boulder Dr	7:25 AM	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	11:25 AM	12:25 PM	1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM	4:25 PM
10	Harman Loop (Wells Fargo)	7:27 AM	8:27 AM	9:27 AM	10:27 AM	11:27 AM	12:27 PM	1:27 PM	2:27 PM	3:27 PM	4:27 PM
11	Ruby Sisson Library	7:31 AM	8:31 AM	9:31 AM	10:31 AM	11:31 AM	12:31 PM	1:31 PM	2:31 PM	3:31 PM	4:31 PM
12	So. 8th & Piedra	7:32 AM	8:32 AM	9:32 AM	10:32 AM	11:32 AM	12:32 PM	1:32 PM	2:32 PM	3:32 PM	4:32 PM
13	So. 8th & Apache	7:33 AM	8:33 AM	9:33 AM	10:33 AM	11:33 AM	12:33 PM	1:33 PM	2:33 PM	3:33 PM	4:33 PM
14	Town Hall / Senior Center	7:35 AM	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM	11:35 AM	12:35 PM	1:35 PM	2:35 PM	3:35 PM	4:35 PM
15	Post Office	7:36 AM	8:36 AM	9:36 AM	10:36 AM	11:36 AM	12:36 PM	1:36 PM	2:36 PM	3:36 PM	4:36 PM
16	Hot Springs (east side of street)	7:37 AM	8:37 AM	9:37 AM	10:37 AM	11:37 AM	12:37 PM	1:37 PM	2:37 PM	3:37 PM	4:37 PM
17	River Center	7:39 AM	8:39 AM	9:39 AM	10:39 AM	11:39 AM	12:39 PM	1:39 PM	2:39 PM	3:39 PM	4:39 PM
18	2nd Street @ Hwy 160	7:40 AM	8:40 AM	9:40 AM	10:40 AM	11:40 AM	12:40 PM	1:40 PM	2:40 PM	3:40 PM	4:40 PM
19	N. 4th Street & Lewis Street	7:41 AM	8:41 AM	9:41 AM	10:41 AM	11:41 AM	12:41 PM	1:41 PM	2:41 PM	3:41 PM	4:41 PM
20	Methodist Church	7:42 AM	8:42 AM	9:42 AM	10:42 AM	11:42 AM	12:42 PM	1:42 PM	2:42 PM	3:42 PM	4:42 PM
21	Archuleta Housing - N 6th St	7:43 AM	8:43 AM	9:43 AM	10:43 AM	11:43 AM	12:43 PM	1:43 PM	2:43 PM	3:43 PM	
22	Archuleta Housing - N 7th St	7:44 AM	8:44 AM	9:44 AM	10:44 AM	11:44 AM	12:44 PM	1:44 PM	2:44 PM	3:44 PM	
23	N. 8th Street & Rosita	7:45 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	3:45 PM	
24	Eagle Drive @ Majestic	7:48 AM	8:48 AM	9:48 AM	10:48 AM	11:48 AM	12:48 PM	1:48 PM	2:48 PM	3:48 PM	
25	Giant Gas Station (Piedra Rd.)	7:50 AM	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM	3:50 PM	4:50 PM



Mountain Express Transportation

Letters

■ continued from previous page

I also want pjs. I also snow pants. I also want a smart watch. I also want a netendo swich. I also want a book. i also want a colering set. and a laptop. and a Fly Guy book. for Christmas.

Your friend, Daniel

Dear Santa claus,

Dear Santa claus for cristmas I want a bike and a X-box-one-X with a shelf to pit my X-box-one-x and Fortnite with minecraft games. I also want a ipad and an iphone. With a wifi box and I also want a pupy named oliver. and I also want some snow gear with some hunting gear and some pokemon. 20 big packs of GXS in all of thos pokemon packs with some clothes and some socks and a hat.

love Quincy

Dear Santa Claus,

I whant a tablet. I whant a Banana. I want a elf toy a good time whith my family. I whant a new T.V. a trip to New York City. I whant to see my Nana. a Bunch of wood so I can Bild a tree house. some alone time. I whant dad and me time mom and me time.

Your frind Avery

Dear Santa Claus,

Dear Santa Claus I want a elf on a Shelf for Christmas and a lot of books and sum time whith my famlye for Christmas and sum addedus and i was bing nise. And a new tablit for chritmas and alot of close for christmas and a ball for christmas. And a trip to lost vagas and yootole for christmas. And a baby fish for christmas. And a barby for christmas.

Your friend Ivette

Dear Santa Claus,

I have bin good this year. for christmas I want 200' bollers. And toy laber geene, famle. And a tadlet, and a ps4 pokemon.

Aurion

Dear Santa Claus,

I wish I what a what a noow bicke and a noow TV and a noow book and a noow bed. Aad a noow home and a noow friend and a noow dog and a tablit. And a noow baby and a noow scooder. And a hav bin good and I what a noow tois. And a noow game. and i all sow what a noow set and a betet christmas.

Your friend, Charmayne

Dear Santaclause,

I ahve been a very good boy. I want a fat boy bmx bike for christmas. thank you for giving me presents from all they other years. I want a Drit bike for chrstmas. Iwant a tropy cart for chrstmas. I

PERM, CUT, & SET \$85
MEN'S CUT \$18-YOUTH CUT \$15
HEADLINES
by Carmen 264-2548

want new Dirt bik gear. I want a new scooter. I want a dog. I want a fishing pole.

Your frend, Riley

Dear Santa Claus,

I'v ben good I Whnt a 6 inich TV. a new dreser, 2 PS4 1 xbox 3 fortnite games. 12 Month of Xbox Live. I wish for a dog bed dog food dog toys and dog trets for my dog. 3 lite up concholers 5 bones big ones food. I wish of 6 mileh dolers. and a bemx bick shall. 10 inch Play houes I has to be Plastik and Dors.

Caleb

Dear Santa Claus,

I was good I what for christmas is a bike a bed and a tablet a new back pack. I what a Tv in my room. I what a cumputer and a phon and a hors toy.

Your friend Jimena Dear Santa Claus,

I think I have bin good this year. What I whnt for Christmas is a new scraching book, and a pair of snowbord boots that are blue and pink, and a scooter, and new lago pipol that go with my lago hous, and pokymon stufftanumools I whant Buwer, Lit in, Steemy. One last thing a stuftanamools of Blitsin.

Love, Delaney

Dear Santa Claus,

This is wat I wunt for Christmas. I would like a ordmentI would like a elf on the shelf. May I have a beneboo ples. I would like pinut mm's pleas. That is what I would like for Christmas ples. I would a haer set to. I would like a unicorn ples. Thank you. I would like a Cristmas hat to. That is what I whunt for Cristmas pleas. I would like some erasers pleas. I would also like some clrd pensls pleas. That is all I whunt Cristmase pleas. Thank you. Your friend, Veda

Dear Santa Claus,

What I whant for christmas is a droun thut I can cintroll. I will leve cookeys and millk for you and leve kandey for me and tucker. Will that was a nice tallk see you later santa claus bye. But Befor I go see you at the museum and see you on the tran to.

Love Emily

Dear Sata,

I want a drone, Poke'Mon cards, rc car and a cute puppy and one of your elfs. I will give you some cookeis and milk evein if I like milk. I want a GX and EX of Charzared and MegaEx Charzared and my lengindary faverit Poke'Mon card and I will give you more cookeis and more milk and some hot coca because when it is a cold morning it will be warm not cold.

Closing, sincerely your friend,

Dear Santa Claus,

I have been very good this year and for Christmas I would like new snow globe, ring and make up kit. Next, I would also like a new note book, rock and socks. Then, I would also like a lot of markers and pencils. I would also like a scrching book, a elf on the shelf, a new sled with breaks and a big rope handel. I would also like a poster of presints and your elfs. I would also like a mat that says merry Chistmas for my room.

Sincerely, Corinna Dear Santa Claus,

I have been good this year. I woad like a gming PC. A biger mouse pad. And a gming chair pleas. I will make you cookeis for Christmas. They will be suger cookis with frosting on top. I love Christmas for ever and ever.

Your friend, Jayden Dear Santa Claus,

I want toothless slepers and my to front teeth and how to train your dragon toys and socks and twizlers and sweatpants and how to train your drago T-shirts.

Your frield, Treyson

Dear Santa

I want a gray robot named boxer. Also, some boxing gloves. a dog and, my own iPhone with a charger. From Eathon

Dear Santa,

I want two teddy bear's, one to be four feet to jump on and an eight foot one, to jump on. Also, I want a blanket for my teddy bear's. Last, I want a indtendo switch to play fortnite.

Love: Logan

y See Letters on next page

Christmas Services Schedule

8:15 AM — Contemporary Sunday Service, Dec. 23 11 AM — Traditional Sunday Service, Dec. 23 5 & 7 PM — Traditional Christmas Eve Service Candlelight and Carols, Dec. 24

Community United Methodist Church • 434 Lewis St.





Should these be the last words I post on our cyberspace bulletin board, these are the words on my heart:

UNLESS Jesus is on the front-burner of my life, I will never get hot for Jesus but stay lukewarm.

UNLESS Jesus is on the front-burner of my life, I will never know what it is like to live with passion and compassion.

UNLESS Jesus is on the front-burner of my life, the words of Paul,

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." Galatians 2:20 will not be a personal reality.

UNLESS Jesus is on the front-burner of my life, I will never win the war over the lust of the flesh, the pride of life and the devil.

UNLESS Jesus is on the front-burner of my life, I will never know Jesus in His fullness or know how to make Him known.

PETER, THE LORD'S SCRIBE

from "Dear Everyone" dated November 30, 2018 on

www.StretcherBearers.com

Letters.

continued from previous page

Dear Santa,

I want to get the Benfo Geek I want it because is fun to build and I want to have a nother battle with my men. But from star wars.

Love Brandt

Dear Santa,

What I would want this year is super smash brothers for my nintendo switch and afart gun. and a email please cun you get me that stuff.

From: Alan

Dear Santa,

I want a car that can go on walls like thats on Amozon. A big tank you can get in. I want a nidno switch 8 so I can play with my famley. I want a grlu so my famley can have a peegee back ride, I want a robot, a robot that can do any thing. and a waho so I can telerport to schoole. I wnat a puppy since my dog dide.

From South

Dear Santa,

I want a 8 foot teddy Bear. Because I can hug on it my wol life. LOL surprpse so I can play with my teddy Bear. teddy Bear 1,0000 foot teddy bear. a Hiking BarBie doll. My life doll roadio. My life doll Hiking.

From Kelsey

Dear Santa,

What my first thing I want is a Amarkin girl doll looseona. I am going to use her so I can red her book and so I can become an astronaut. Next thing I want is a mermaid taill I am going to use it so I can practis being a mermaid. My last thing I want a dog bed so I can use it for my dog.

Sincerely B.C.

Dear Santa,

I want a girl pug for christmas because I already have a boy pug so my boy pug can play with the girl pug. Second, I want a horse because I really want to ride it. Next, I want a 8 foot teddy bear. Almost, I want a tent so I can go to sleep in

my back yard with my best friend. Last I want a Amarican girl doll becuase my two other Amarican girl doll can play with my new one. Love, Laken

Dear Santa,

Would you please give me a robot cat anb a nerf gun Thank you From Dakota

Dear Santa,

I want all the Nerf guns in the world becuse Nerf guns are awesome alaso a Really Rad Robot. finally a wubble bubble

From John

Dear Santa,

I want a hamster I can play wih it plus I hav 4 pets and I tak car of them. I want a mermaid tale because Im goinng to practice for swiming and I love mermaids. I want a new teddy Bear because I bon't hav one and I hav every stuf animal. I want a unicorn beb sheet I love unicorn and threr magical and it will make slep better.

Love Ann

Dear St. Nike.

I have ben very good this year. & I would like a gopro this year. Also a paare of flofy P.j's a snow bord. Skeas. A blaket. A pilow

Sinserly Celeste

Dear Santa,

I have een very good this year. This is what I want for Christmas.
1.) Phone. 2.) My whole family. 3.) Peace in Pagosa (peace sign) That is what I want for Christmas.

John

Dear Santa,

I Have been very good this year, Just Ask Mr. Wolford. I would realy like a Huverboard Next A good christmas and my friend's. Thank's Santa

Love Neveah

Dear Santa.

I been a good girl this year and this is what I would like. I would like a Hoverboard and for my family I will like all of us to get along and for pagosa Springs I would like everyone to have a great time.



Neveah

Dear Santa,

I was really good this year. (1) I want a romote control Lamborghini (2) A dinner with the whole family and desert. (3) For everyone to Sincerely, Tristan

Dear Santa Clause,

I was good this year I was ????/o this year I want a gumball machin and a mincraft xbox game and a laptop and a bendy hat and a note book and a last thing sharpi's.

Sincerly Tyrell

Dear Santa,

I have been very good this year and I mean very good this year you can even ask Mr Wolford. this is what I want 4 wheeler. 100 squshies, tangle pets, Rescue Runts, fuzzy wubble, Flip, a, zou. I want my family to stop working. I whant pagosa to have an aquarium. Thank you Santa

Love Peyton

■ See Letters on next page

JIM GARRETT

❖ ATTORNEY ❖
Pagosa Springs & Southwest Colorado

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igarrett@rosewalker.com



May you find joy, peace, hope, and love in this season!

Join us to learn more.

Time of Services

SundayBible Class
AM Worship9:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m.WednesdayBible Study7:00 p.m.

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



Dorman Diller, Minister



You are invited to join Grace in Pagosa this Christmas Eve as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

MONDAY, DEC. 24 4:30 PM

Pagosa Springs High School Auditorium



Spirit of the holiday: Preschoolers visit Silver Foxes Den

By Terri Hardeman

Special to The PREVIEW

Cherubic faces and angel voices entertained senior citizens as classes from Seeds of Learning visited the Silver Foxes Den at the Community Center this week. The children sang Christmas songs and shared handmade gifts with the seniors.

Three-year-olds from Miss Lyndsey's Dragonfly classroom visited on Tuesday. Four-year-olds from Miss Becca's Ladybug classroom visited on Wednesday. On Thursday, the 5-year-olds from Miss Ruby's Butterfly classroom completed the visits. The songs were led by Seeds valued volunteer and substitute teacher Mr. Dave and his ukulele.

Lynne Bridges, Seeds executive director, reported that the preschoolers have visited the senior center during the Christmas season for the past 16 years. Before the current facility was built at 7th and Apache streets, the young children walked from their education center on Hot Springs Boulevard to the Community Center for the



Youngsters from Seeds of Learning again visited with senior citizens this year, for the 16th year, greeting them with Christmas songs and homemade ornaments.

visit. Nowadays, the preschoolers enjoy the trip on Mountain Express Transit.

Prior to their visits, the children made Christmas ornaments for the senior citizens with cardboard, ribbons and glitter. Teachers at Seeds plan the event to help their young students understand the importance of giving and remembering others during the holidays. The concept was realized as young children presented their gifts to the seniors and wished them a Merry Christmas.

Seeds of Learning is a nonprofit, high-quality early care and preschool education center in Pagosa Springs. If you are interested in learning more about the center, please call 264-5513 or visit www. growingseeds.org for more information and a tour of the center.

and a real tool belt (that is my size).

Daddy said he gave you a key to our

house so you can come in. Have a

Your Friend-Logan, 4 years

Love, Ryan, age 3

Alexa, age 6

I want a paintbrush, please,

'cause I lost a paintbrush. I want

something ... uh ... I want Wreck it

Ralph with the girl, please. Thank

My mom ses that im a gud gril

and i want for ckrimis for slimeball

paprse and 12 Kinder surprise eggs

and raglre 2 flarp a green and a

you for finding my socket.

Dear Santa,

peike.

safe trip and be careful.

Thank you Pagosa Springs for supporting me in my 3rd year of

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allpurposestorage193@gmail.com

Letters

continued from previous page

Dear Santa.

I have been very good this year Just ask Mr. Wolford I would realy like, 1. a bike 2. miny Forwheeler 3. a toy pupy 4. batman toy 5. clothes 6. basketball

Sincerely Ruben

Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year. And this is what I want for Cristmas, 1) I want a snow board with boot, 2) for my family I them to sill get paid and have to stop working, 3) and for Pagosa I want more snow. And so that is all I want for Cristmas Sincerly, Tyler

Dear Santa.

i have Bin vare good i will wont a womse for my mom a car for my dad and i will like Lps — Litteis petshop and exesmeas for lps.

From Sierra Dear Santa slNicholos,

I have been good and I want a mountain bike becasue my friends have mountain bikes. I also want my family to be, to get together. Pagosa Springs needs some things like a water park or a paint ball park. Love, Uriall

Dear Santa,

I was good this year and this is what I would like a morph board for christmas. I would like for my family to have a fun filled christmas. And finally, I would like Pagosa to have a lot of SNOW!!!!

With Respect, Tacen

Dear Santa.

I have been good this year. And this Is what I would ike please 1) I want a gopro please. 2) I want my family to stop stressing out please. 3) I want the people to be kind in Pagosa. that is what I want for

Chrismas please.

Alexis

Dear Santa,

I have been very good just ask Mr. Wolford. I whould like ... 1 A mountan bike and 2 a new mack up kit. 3 and a new notebook. I allso want pagosa to be a beter place.

Love Leela

Dear Santa

I have ben varey good this year and I wod like a gopro a pare of flofey P.J's

By Celeste

Dear Santa.

How are you? I think I'm on the good list because I'm kind to others and I help my parents. This year I want a karoake machine and I want one of those fashion designer kits and books for my american girl doll. My brother would like a truck that you can ride on. I'm making you a peppermint brownie and a treat for the reindeer.

Love Kailey, age 8

Dear Santa,

How are you reindeer? Are they ready to fly? How are the Elves? I have been good and Bungee and Kashmir have been too. For Christmas I woule like a robot. Hotwheels



Happy Holidays

to our customers and team!

We will be closed on Christmas and New Years day. Regular Tuesday schedules will be picked up on Wednesday, and the rest of the week will be pushed back one day.

Your friends,

At Your Dispose 970-731-4892





Holiday Church Events



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

Saturday, Dec. 22

Candlelight Holiday Service. 6 p.m., Pagosa Community New Thought, 40 N. 15th St. Become fully present in the wonder and higher meaning of the season of light and love.

Sunday, Dec. 23

Contemporary Sunday Service. 8:15 a.m., Community United Methodist Church.

Traditional Sunday Service. 11 a.m., Community United Methodist Church.

Monday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Mass. 4 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church (JP II). Christmas songs will be sung half an hour before Mass.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 4:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. You are invited to join Grace in Pagosa as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. 731-6200.

Traditional Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m., Community United

Methodist Church. Candlelight and carols.

Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Family service with Holy Eucharist. For more information, call 731-5801.

Candlelight Service. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Community gathers at 4:30 p.m. All are welcome. Bring a treat to share.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. 6 p.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. For more information, call 731-3120.

Candlelight Service. 6 p.m., Amazing Grace Community Church, 77 Navajo Circle. For more information, contact Pastor Mark at 444-2111.

Traditional Christmas Eve Service.
7 p.m., Community United
Methodist Church. Candlelight
and carols.

Christmas Eve Service. 7 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church. Lessons and carols. Holy communion. All are welcome.

Classical Christmas Music. 7:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

For more information, call 731-

Christmas Eve Service. 8 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Candlelight Eucharist service with choir and orchestra. For more information, call 731-5801.

Christmas Eve Mass. 8 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church (IHM). Christmas songs will be sung half an hour before Mass.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

Christmas Day Mass. 9 a.m., JP II.

The Nativity of the Lord. Pagosa
Catholic Community family
Mass.

Christmas Day Service. 10 a.m., Amazing Grace Community Church, 77 Navajo Circle. Christmas morning devotional. For more information, contact Pastor Mark at 444-2111.

Tuesday, Jan. 1 New Year's Mass. 9 a.m., JP II.

Trustworthy.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



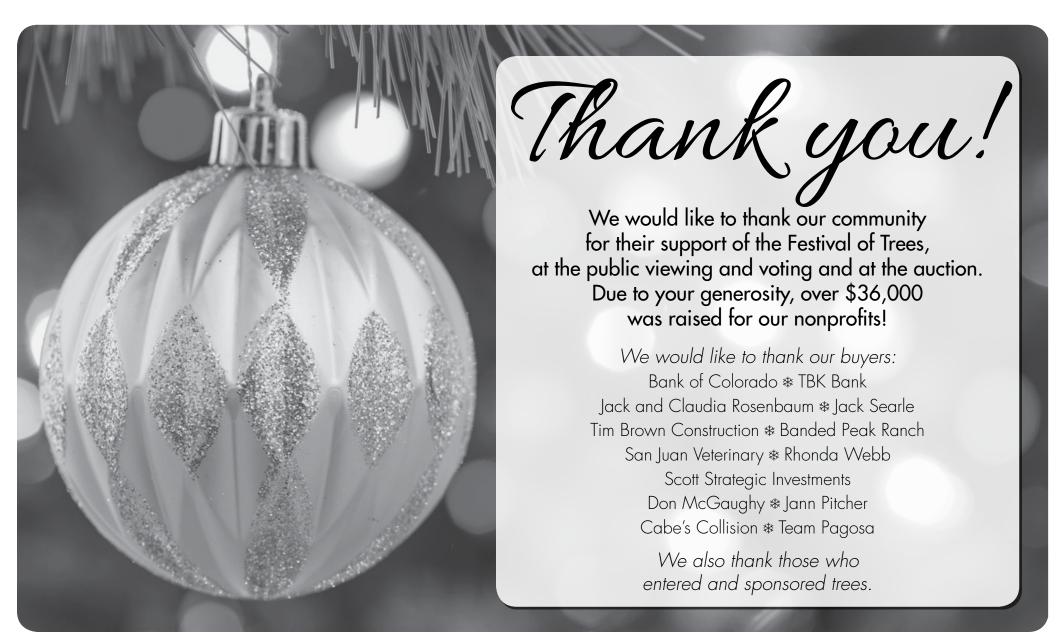




Photo courtesy Dale Johnson

Max Miller, Robert Neel and other cast members perform in "Les Miserables" in 2011. Miller, Neel and five other Pagosa Springs High School graduates and Curtains Up Pagosa alum will perform the "We'll Be Home For Christmas" benefit concert at 6 p.m. Saturday at Pagosa Springs High School.

CUP announces Saturday's 'We'll Be Home For Christmas' concert

By Dale Johnson Special to The PREVIEW

Dan and Venita Burch, in partnership with Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP) and students of the performing arts, are excited to announce the "We'll Be Home For Christmas" concert to be held this Saturday, Dec. 22, in the Pagosa Springs High School (PSHS) auditorium at 6 p.m.

The concert is a brainchild of Venita Burch, who wanted to bring together performing arts alumnae in Pagosa for a benefit concert with funds raised to go toward vocal scholarships for students.

We have gathered seven of Pagosa's finest PSHS graduates who over the years have spent hundreds and hundreds of hours performing on stage in shows, productions, concerts and other events. They are

Your source for community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100 not only local high school graduates, but graduates of high school musicals, one-act plays, one-act competitions and CUP productions. They are talented veteran performers of the highest caliber who are performing and giving back to their school and community so that other students can receive the gifts of vocal lessons and music.

Performing on Saturday evening will be Gustavo Palma, Kaitlen Smith, Hayley Mitchell, Robert Neel, Crissy Ferguson, Brooke Hampton and Max Miller. The program will include favorite Broadway show tunes plus songs of the season.

Tickets will be available at the door: \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 5-10. All proceeds will be held and distributed as voice scholarships for select students.

Take some time to enjoy a delightful concert with our extraordinary former students and help us pay it forward to new generations of students of the performing arts.

HUD Publisher's Notice



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Most people are concerned about the costs of attorneys' services. Because of that, a lot of attorneys are quoting a fixed fee for some services. For estate planning, mine are:

WILL FOR A SINGLE PERSON \$500.00
WILL FOR A COUPLE \$750.00
CODICIL (minor changes to existing will) \$250.00
BENEFICIARY DEED \$200.00

This is not an online offer. We will meet personally to discuss your personal needs and desires.

We will work together until your Will is what you want. It may or may not include a trust depending on what you need. This is not a fill-in-the-blank form for your will. It is a custom document prepared for you. It does not matter how many relatives you have or how you want to divide your estate. And, we will discuss alternatives, a Beneficiary Deed, for example, for your real estate, charitable gifts, and alternatives for other property.

You will also receive medical and financial powers of attorney, a Living Will/Advance Directive, and instructions for you to fill out a form for your burial needs -- all with complete instructions and prepared by a practicing attorney, not someone in a cubicle somewhere that may or may not have the experience to create a will that is suited to you.

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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Marion Bienvenu plays
Jo March, a
young writer
striving to get
her work published. Catch
Bienvenu
in action in
"Little Women:
the Musical"
at the Pagosa
Springs Center for the Arts
through Jan.
20.

CHRISTMAS * And HAPPY NEW YEAR May you enjoy all the delightful

May you enjoy all the delightful sights and sounds of the season!

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Call 970-731-4554 to schedule your appointment coloradohearingaid.com/pagosa-sun-2/

'Little Women' to open Friday

By Tess Wisher Special to The PREVIEW

For the second of two openings at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts this month, Thingamajig Theatre Company is opening "Little Women: the Musical."

This classic tale, originally written by Louisa May Alcott, tells the story of Jo March and her three sisters — Beth, Meg and Amy — as they grow up amidst the American Civil War.

Originally published in 1869, the novel was met with great success, despite the fact that Alcott begrudgingly wrote the novel at the request of her publisher. The characters in "Little Women" are openly based on people in Alcott's life. Her three sisters take the stage as Beth, Meg and Amy, while Alcott portrayed herself as Jo. The connection was so prominent, readers at the time would often refer to Alcott as "Miss March" or "Jo" and Alcott would not correct them.

The production, directed by Dennis Elkins, distills the sisters' story down to its essence, accompanied by a beautiful score and a long string of wonderful ballads that give a glimpse into the thought processes of these characters.

Unlike other musicals, like "Legally Blonde" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie," "Little Women" is a push for naturalism where you live with characters in their, albeit slightly romanticized, lives without the glitz and glam of showstopping chorus numbers. But that does not mean this musical is any less showstopping. What

Community news.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100

makes this musical worth seeing is the touching connection the music makes with the lives of these young women.

Marion Bienvenu plays Jo March, a young writer striving to get her work published. Bienvenu's beautifully strong voice soars as she takes on some of the most powerful musical pieces in the show: "Astonishing" and "The Fire Within Me."

This is not the first time Bienvenu has taken on the Thingamajig stage with such fire and drive. Bienvenu also starred in "Hairspray" as Tracy Turnblad, but the role of Jo gives Bienvenu the chance to show depth of character not often highlighted in shows like "Hairspray."

All of the sisters have these very real struggles with trials of life in 19th century New England.

"Little Women" is a beautiful story of a family that has something for everyone. You will fall in love with the March family as they play and grow throughout this adventure story.

If you'd like to see "Little Women" at Thingamajig Theatre, the show will be playing through the Jan. 20. For tickets, visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW (7469).

Thingamajig Theatre is a professional nonprofit 501(c)(3) theater in residence within the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts producing musicals, comedies and dramas year-round.



970.731.3700 | 95 S. PAGOSA BLVD | pagosaspringsmedicalcenter.org | 🖡

PAGOSA SCENE.

St. Patrick's Christmas Tea

Scene ... at the St. Patrick's Christmas Tea. In what has become an annual tradition, the Women of St. Patrick's recently held their Christmas Tea. The event was so popular in previous years that two services were held this year, complete with tea, a variety of pastries and a chance to visit with others.



















PAGOSA SCENE . . .

A VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUS

PREVIEW photos/Randi Pierce

Scene ... visiting with Santa Claus at the Visitor Center. Santa has been dropping by at the Visitor Center on Saturdays to meet and greet Pagosa's youngsters, as well as to hear their Christmas wishes. Santa will drop by again this Saturday from noon to 2 p.m.











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 Steller's jay.

Bold, intelligent, inquisitive and noisy are some of the adjectives used to describe this bird. Steller's jays are common in western coniferous forests and often are seen ascending a tall ponderosa by hopping from branch to branch on long, strong legs. The black, crested head which transitions into a bright blue body makes this year-round resident unmistakable. A closer look reveals fine black barring on the blue tail and wings. White streaks above and below the eyes and down the forehead can give this bird a fierce look.

An omnivore, this jay will eat seeds, insects, berries, nuts, unattended picnic food and even eggs and nestlings of other species. Peanuts are a real treat. In fall, they will quickly empty sunflower feeders, carrying off the seeds to store for winter. The extraordinary memory which allows these and other birds to locate this stored food in winter gives the term "bird brained" a whole new meaning.

The Steller's jay is an expert mimic and can imitate dogs, cats, squirrels, birds and even machines. Look up the next time you hear the scream of a hawk and you might be surprised to find that a Steller's jay just played a trick on you.

For information on local bird-watching events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.

Experience the gift everyone can share at hand-drumming session in January

By Paul Roberts Special to The PREVIEW

Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a free handdrumming class at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019, at noon.

The class offers a welcoming environment that encourages fun, creativity, playfulness and connecting with others.

As an integrally harmonizing aspect of earlier societies, musical involvement was all-inclusive, a gift for everyone to share.

Music is a unique medium for evoking emotion, imagery and memory. As an important resource for emotional stimulation and expression, participation in musical activities can vitalize the body and mind, providing a highly pleasurable means of achieving a sense of meaning, coherence and

Music provides an ideal channel for raising the quality of our lives. Creating positive states of well-being, through music, we can build social networks, energize our lives, promote health and mutual caring, humanize our communities and institutions, and prepare ourselves to cope with an increasingly technologized world.

The hand-drumming class is an opportunity to develop a one's innate sense of musical expression. Designed as an opportunity for people of all ages to unleash their creativity, the drumming class is a family-friendly activity. No previous experience is necessary. Drums are provided for those who do not have one.

For more information, call 731-3117. The Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse is located at 230 Port Ave.

The Weekly Crossword

17

45

65

32

ACROSS

- 1 Get cracked
- 5 "Have some"
- 8 Indy entrant
- 13 Overdue
- **14** Not up
- 16 "Dreams from My Father" author
- 17 Old-time outburst 31
- **18** Mysterious character
- 19 Hand-dyed fabric
- 20 Bond villain Goldfinger
- 22 Smother
- 24 Stable sound
- **25** Mistake in print
- 26 Conference site
- 28 Sprawling story
- 31 Enter the picture
- 34 Sandy hill 36 Like sushi
- 37 Climbing plant
- 39 Hopeless feeling
- 41 Sun follower?
- 42 Symphony
- member
- 44 Lean
- 45 Flock members
- 47 Go-between
- 49 Becomes fond of
- 51 "Laugh-In" co-host
- 55 Brought in, as crops
- 57 Cashless deal
- **58** Studio sign
- 59 "National Velvet" author Bagnold
- 61 Malarial fever
- **62** Determined
- **63** "How!"
- 64 Pinochle play
- 65 Decorative jugs
- **66** Con's confines
- **67** Culturally showy

DOWN

1 Fresh from the shower

2 World Court city, with "The"

26

27

47

63

42

3 Video game pioneer

49

- 4 Family tree
- 5 Something to lend
- 6 Problem drinker, e.g.
- 7 Like some professors
- 8 Sci-fi droid
- 9 Computing device
- 10 Boat with two hulls
- 11 Radiate
- **12** Autumn tool
- 15 Rip off
- 21 Penny pincher
- 23 Obesity
- 27 High-pitched voices
- 29 Horse's stride
- 30 Out of whack
- **31** Top spot
- 32 Ship's front
- 33 Get through

67

64

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- **35** Accompany to a party
- 38 Revel noisily

43

- 48 Chemical salt
- 40 Scenic view
- 43 Totally gone
- **46** Jesus, for some
- **50** Joanna of "Growing Pains"

by Margie E. Burke

28

- 52 Make a bet
- 53 Legally of age
- 54 Down-and-out
- 55 Nozzle site 56 From scratch
- **60** Place to hole up

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:



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Dutch Henry Born: Wild West legend

We closed last week's column about the second battle of Adobe Walls in the midst of a colorful description of the attacking Indians as provided by William "Billy" Dixon, who was trapped in the old fort along with a young Bat Masterson, Dutch Henry Born and others.



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

Continuing with Dixon's description: "Scalps dangled from bridles, gorgeous war-bonnets fluttered their plumes, bright feathers dangled from the tails and manes of the horses, and the bronzed, half-naked bodies of the riders glittered with ornaments of silver and brass. Behind this charging host stretched the Plains on whose horizon the rising sun was lifting its morning fires. The warriors seemed to emerge from the glowing background."

Leading the Indian force estimated at more than 700 strong was Comanche Chief Quanah Parker. The reader needs to know

Leading the

Indian force

estimated at

strong was

Comanche

Parker.

more than 700

Chief Quanah

that Indian war leaders earned their leadership positions by winning battles. Parker was respected by all of the Plains tribes for his fighting prowess. The buffalo hunters also respected him. Parker was the son of a white woman, Cynthia Ann Parker, who had been kidnapped as a small girl from the home of a pioneer family south of Dallas. He was the best

known of the

Indian leaders during the Red River Indian War, which tied up three frontier armies before the Indians were defeated at Palo Duro Canyon in the Texas Panhandle.

The aforementioned Dixon ended the second battle of Adobe Walls with one of the most spectacular



Photo courtesy John M. Motte

This building from Pagosa's past, known by oldtimers as the Dyke House, still remains. The name Dyke comes from Archuleta County's first sheriff, William Dyke, who ranched in the area. The building served as a stop for the train, which ran between Pagosa Junction and Pagosa Springs. The building also served as a general store and post office. It served into the 1930s. I suspect it was last operated by the Stanley Belmear family, but, if you know better, I'd like to hear about it. This building is a few miles west of Pagosa Springs in the Aspen Springs area, on Stollsteimer Road.

gunshots ever made. The initial Indian attack almost carried the day. The Indians were close enough to pound on doors and windows of the buildings with their rifle butts;

so close that the hunters' long-range rifles were almost useless. They were fighting with pistols and Henry and Winchester leveraction rifles.

After the initial attack was repulsed, the hunters were able to keep the Indians at bay with large-caliber, long-range Sharps rifles. The hunters suffered four casualties, three on the first day. Fifteen Indians

were killed so close to the buildings that their bodies could not be retrieved by their fellow warriors. On the third day after the initial attack, 15 warriors rode out on a bluff nearly a mile away to survey the situation. Already renowned as a crack shot, Dixon

took aim with a Big Fifty Sharps, either 50-70 or 50-90, and cleanly dropped a warrior from atop his horse. Seeing their fellow warrior killed from such a distance apparently so discouraged the Indians they gave up the battle. The Indians had a black bugler who was said to have been killed by Dutch Henry.

Next week we'll continue by looking at Dodge City, Bat Masterson and "Hanging Judge" Isaac Parker through the eyes of Dutch Henry Born.

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St. Patrick's Christmas Eve services to offer classical tradition and beauty

By Sally Neel Special to The PREVIEW

If you have ever watched a royal wedding or a service held in the Washington Cathedral, you may have been in awe of the glorious music, the beautiful vestments and the holiness of the service itself.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church carries on these traditions as it offers its glorious Christmas Eve services. The church will be decorated with the beauty of Christmas, candles will glow, the Christmas Gospel reading will be proclaimed, and an orchestra and choir will lead the singing of carols.

At 5 p.m., families with small children, along with others who appreciate the opportunity to worship at the earlier hour, will gather for the family service and Holy Eucharist. The service will include special music offered by youth pianist Grace Wiersma. The Rev. Douglas Neel will offer a special sermon directed towards the younger members of the congregation.

"This service is a wonderful combination of traditional worship and the wonders of childhood," said Neel. At 7:30 p.m., classical Christmas music, provided by the NightSong Trio (Jessica Peterson on flute, Heidi Tanner on violin and Sally Neel at the piano), flutist Kathy Wadenpfuhl, Sarah Dorian (cello), Graham and Claudia Dorian (violin), and Briggs Dorian (viola), along with baritone soloist Robert Neel, tenor soloist Dale Scrivener, soprano Anita Jo Lenhart and the choir of St. Patrick's who will fill the church with music of quiet beauty. Please arrive early to enjoy this beautiful preservice music.

At 8 p.m., the organ and instrumentalists will announce the great procession of the choir and clergy into the church as the congregation joins in singing "O Come, All Ye Faithful." This service is a traditional service with carols, choral anthems, sermon and Holy Eucharist, punctuated with the candlelight singing of "Silent Night."

On Christmas Day, at 10 a.m., worshippers will gather for a quiet but lovely celebration of Christ's birth with a homily by Doug Neel, Holy Eucharist and carols.

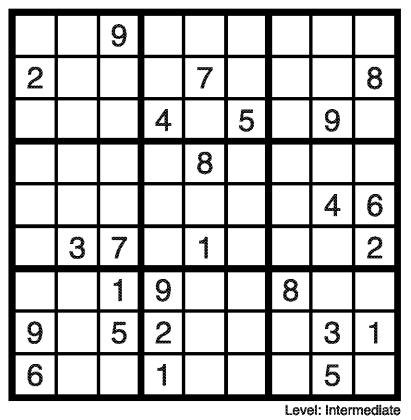
The community is invited to attend these services and all other services at St. Patrick's, regardless

of your religious or no-religious affiliation. "In God's House, at God's Table, all are invited to be fed." You are encouraged to arrive early for Christmas Eve services.

St. Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Sunday morning services of Holy Eucharist are offered weekly at 8 a.m. (no music) and 10 a.m. (with music). For more information about St. Patrick's and its ministries, call 731-5801.



SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles?
Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

PCNT to hold holiday candlelight celebration

By Lisa Burnson

Special to The PREVIEW

All are welcome to join Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) and the Rev. Janet Wyrick for a holiday candlelight service on Saturday, Dec. 22, at 6 p.m. Our topic will be: "A Metaphysical Interpretation of Christmas."

We will have live music, and light refreshments will be served. Let's join together in becoming fully present to the higher meaning of this season of light and love.

Christ's birth is the kiss of eternal love.

The Saturday candlelight service will be lieu of our regular Sunday morning service. We will resume regular Sunday services on Dec. 30.

Meditation circle

Our weekly meditation will be canceled Dec. 19 and 26 due to the holiday. Please join us on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019, at 6 p.m. for a special New Year's meditation.

Upcoming events

Events include "Tea and Chi Solstice Celebration" on Dec. 21, "Miracles, Mysteries and John of God" on Jan. 3, 2019, "Manifestation Miracle" on Jan 4 and "Dream Board" workshop on Jan. 12. Please contact PCNT for more information.

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

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

More information

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, mail P.O. Box 1052 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052, or call (505) 604-5031. Find us on Facebook (Pagosa Community of New Thought) or our website, www.PagosaNewThought.org.

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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:RAWSNA

UU candlelight service set for Christmas Eve

By Dean Cerny

Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship warmly invites you to experience our honoring of the season's turn from darkness to light, from despair to hope.

Unitarian Universalism is a religious faith that attempts to honor the diversity of spiritual traditions that shape our world views. The winter solstice is the touchstone for many of the seasonal celebrations surrounding this cosmic event.

We invite you to join us for a social hour followed by a candlelight

service on Christmas Eve. The social hour will begin at 4:30 p.m., with a light food and beverage offering. Feel free to bring a treat to share.

The candlelight service will follow at 5:30 p.m. On this most sacred of evenings, our service will be a contemplation of the interplay of light and darkness in our universe, as well as in our interior being.

Please note there will be no Sunday morning service on Dec. 23. We will resume our Sunday morning service on Dec. 30 at 10:30 a.m.

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.

For further information, see pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

The heart of the Christmas message

By Richard Gammill Special to The PREVIEW

A familiar idea declares that some people see a glass as half full and others see it as half empty. Outlook determines perception.

Similarly, some see any situation as the best that could be done; others see it as not good enough.

Politicians are expert at playing this game. No matter what one party does or proposes to do, the other party claims it is the wrong thing to do or it simply won't work. Or, it benefits the wrong people. Or, it is too expensive. Or, something. When do we hear, "That's a great idea—let's work together on it and make it happen"?

This critical spirit brings harm to the family. Children complain, "No matter what I do, it is never good enough." Parents complain, "These kids are never satisfied. They think money grow on trees."

A simple New Testament phrase offers a solution: "Honor one another." It is an easy concept to put into practice: "Good effort!" "I appreciate you." "You look great." Such phrases honor the person and elevate the relationship.

Thirty years ago, the best-selling book "One Minute Manager" proposed this practice: catch someone doing a good job and commend them for it. In other words, honor them as a person and for the work

A Matter of Faith

they do.

Our nation has just witnessed the memorial services of former president George H.W. Bush. Tribute after tribute pointed to the president's skill at honoring both those who worked with him as well as those who opposed him. When the Soviet Union collapsed, Bush's diplomatic skills helped prevent the massive chaos that could have resulted. Bush promoted and signed the American Disabilities Act (ADA) that honored the millions of disabled Americans who had felt ignored and pushed to the margins of society. In his single term, Bush helped his beloved country be a "kinder, gentler" society.

In his 1989 inaugural address, Bush said, "I have spoken of a thousand points of light, of all the community organizations that are spread like stars throughout the nation, doing good."

He repeated the idea in his 1991 State of the Union address when he said: "We have within our reach the promise of a renewed America. We can find meaning and reward by serving some higher purpose than ourselves, a shining purpose, the

EXCAVATION WORK THAT MAKES THE GRADE

illumination of a thousand points of light. And it is expressed by all who know the irresistible force of a child's hand, of a friend who stands by you and stays there, a volunteer's generous gesture, an idea that is simply right."

The result is Points of Light, an international nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to engaging people and resources in solving serious social problems through voluntary service. Each year, Points of Light mobilizes millions of volunteers through affiliates around the world in approximately 250 cities and partnerships with thousands of nonprofits and companies.

Why did Jesus say, "It is more blessed to give than to receive"? Giving — in its thousands of forms — is a way to honor one another. Giving elevates the humanity of those who give and those who receive. Responsible, thoughtful giving has lifted millions out of poverty, restored health to the diseased and dying, brought hope to the despairing, freed nations from the grip of tyranny. Honoring one another is the essence of civilized behavior.

The heart of the Christmas message is this: God honored mankind when He gave His only Son who went to the Cross, there to die that all who believe might live. On the Cross, God did the very best that could be done. It is up to His followers to do as He did and honor one another.

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Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Dec. 20

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

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

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

Christmas Party. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center

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

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

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

Our Savior Lutheran Christmas Program. 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School gym. The elementary children will be presenting a Christmas program on the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Christmas Carol.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Dec. 21

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

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

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

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

Teen Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for snacks and discussion of "Warcross" by Marie Lu. Stop by and pick up a copy. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Eaton High School.

Boys' Varsity Basketball. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Eaton High School.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Little Women the Musical.'7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Based on the 1869 classic of the same name written by Louisa May Alcott, "Little Women" is the ultimate tale of sisterhood told through four sisters living and growing in the Civil War era. This heartwarming musical will have sisters, mothers, brothers and fathers captivated by these young women. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 22

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

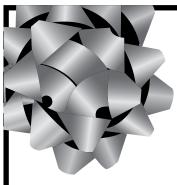
Meditation and Recorded Dharma Talk. 10 a.m., Unitarian Universal Fellowship, 70 Greenbriar Drive, Suite B-15. All are welcome.

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 connect with others who enjoy all aspects of creativity, too.

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

Santa at the Visitor Center. Noon-2

■ See Calendar on next page



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Preview Calendar

continued from previous page p.m., Visitor Center. Come see Santa and tell him what you want for Christmas.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Little Women the Musical.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Based on the 1869 classic of the same name written by Louisa May Alcott, "Little Women" is the ultimate tale of sisterhood told through four sisters living and growing in the Civil War era. This heartwarming musical will have sisters, mothers, brothers and fathers captivated by these young women. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Girls' Varsity Basketball. 5 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Colorado Springs Christian High School.

Curtains Up Pagosa Presents 'We'll Be Home For Christmas' Concert. 6 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium. The concert brings together performing arts alumnae. The program will include favorite Broadway show tunes plus songs of the season. Tickets will be available at the door. Adults \$10 and children 5-10 \$5.

Boys'Varsity Basketball. 6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Wolf Creek Classic. Pagosa vs. Colorado Springs Christian High School.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Christmas Carol.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 23

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Christmas Carol.' Noon, Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents

'box.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. "box." is an autobiographical journey of cleaning house after loved ones die and when those of us who are left must choose what to keep and what to shred. The easy solution is to dump stuff in a box and deal with it later, but, when "later" comes, we still agonize with the leftovers in a comical way. This 70-minute one-man play, performed without intermission, demands ransoming our lives from the boxes tucked away under the bed, back of the closet, down in the basement and up in the attic. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Monday, Dec. 24

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. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

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

Total-Body Conditioning. Noon-1 p.m., Community Center. Total-body exercise class using the court and basketballs. Bring a mat.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 26

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

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.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for great stories, fun songs and plenty of

reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Little Women the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Based on the 1869 classic of the same name written by Louisa May Alcott, "Little Women" is the ultimate tale of sisterhood told through four sisters living and growing in the Civil War era. This heartwarming musical will

■ See Calendar on next page



to our customers & friends during this season of faith and love for one another.

Merry

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Homespun Comforts



Call today to schedule your appointment 946-4673 or stop by our showroom 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. B-6



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

have sisters, mothers, brothers and fathers captivated by these young women. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thursday, Dec. 27

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

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

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

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

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Christmas Carol.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

San Juan Stargazers. 7 p.m., Visitor Center. Hot drinks will be served before the meeting. Our program for the evening is the famous Hubble image of the Crab Nebula, which is the aftermath of a supernova witnessed around the world in 1054. For more information, go to www. SanJuanStargazers.com, email sjstargazers@gmail.com or call 335-8286.

Friday, Dec. 28

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

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

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

Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Li-

brary. 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A Christmas Carol.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 29

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

hingamajig Theatre Presents 'Little Women the Musical.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. Based on the 1869 classic of the same name written by Louisa May Alcott, "Little Women" is the ultimate tale of sisterhood told through four sisters living and growing in the Civil War era. This heartwarming musical will have sisters, mothers, brothers and fathers captivated by these young women. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 30

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'A

Christmas Carol.'2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. This Christmas classic adaptation comes as close to the original book by Charles Dickens as you can get. With a majority of the text coming straight from Dickens' pen, Dennis Elkin's adaptation stays true to the book while highlighting Scrooge's forgotten humanity. For more information and tickets, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

High Country Squares New Year's Celebration Dance. 2-4 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. It's a fun and a wonderful time for all. Come a few minutes early, if you can, to say hello and to help set up. Everyone is welcome (locals and visitors). Snacks and refreshments are always available at our mainstream and plus dances. Our

nationally recognized caller Jim Park is a treasure to experience. Square dancing is not just healthy, it's beautiful. Join us. We look forward to sharing squares. For additional information, visit www.HighCountrySquares. com, or contact Steve Keil at 731-0044 or Jim Park at 731-9910.

Pagosa Uke Jam. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. All levels welcome. Come sing and share in the fun. Instruction for beginners provided.

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

Monday, Dec. 31

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. Call 264-0501, ext. 1 to make an appointment.

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

Caregiver Support Group. 11 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The meeting is led by Elaine Stumpo, regional director of the Alzheimer's Association.

Total-Body Conditioning. Noon-1 p.m., Community Center. Total-body exercise class using the court and basketballs. Bring a mat.

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

Informative.

The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100



EARLY DEADLINES

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, December 27

Display Advertising Noon, Friday, December 21

Classified Advertising, All Categories

10 a.m., Monday, December 24

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 20

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.

for The Pagosa Springs SUN issue of

Thursday, January 3

Display Advertising Noon, Friday, December 28

Classified Advertising, All Categories

10 a.m., Monday, December 31

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 27

The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, January 1 in observance of New Year's.





Encore performance of Elkins' 'box.' at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts this Sunday

By Carole Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Because of the huge popularity of the show when it played here in October, Dennis Elkins' "box." returns to the Thingamajig Theatre Company stage at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts this Sunday, Dec. 23, at 7 p.m. for a onenight-only encore performance.

This biographical solo play written and performed by Elkins resulted in standing ovations and rave reviews by audiences at Thingamajig's Playwrights Festival in October. Among the reactions: "Brilliant." "Deeply incisive." "Alternating very funny and hugely sad." "A special treat to see such first-class acting in our little mountain town."

Elkins' "box." focuses on the psychological trials in our lives associated with packing and unpacking boxes—literally and figuratively. We follow Elkins through major events in his adult life including his mother's death, his son's overdose, coming out of the closet and leaving academia.

It is an intensely moving and intimate portrayal, even comedic at times. The colors red, blue and green play an important role in the show, representing organization, order and compartmentalization as we pack and move from location to location in our lives.

Tickets for "box." are available at pagosacenter.org or by phoning 731-7469. If you purchased a Thingamajig season ticket with festival pass but did not see "box.," your season ticket is good on Dec. 23.

Before coming to Pagosa, the opening section of "box." debuted in a workshop in 2012 in Vancouver, Canada. The full play premiered in February in Savannah, Ga., and was performed in March in Elkins' home town of Elkhart, Kan. Elkins then took the show to Seattle as well as London, England, and Cape Town, South Africa. After the Pagosa performances in October, "box." played at the United Solo Festival in New York City.

Over the eight years that Thingamajig has brought professional theater to Pagosa Springs, Elkins has impressed both locals and outof-town visitors with his brilliant acting, keen directing and remarkable versatility. He starred in significant dramas including "Red," "A Picasso," "A Few Good Men" and "Proof"; played major roles in musicals like "Cabaret," "Hairspray" and "Sister Act"; and earned laughs in comedies like "Lend Me a Tenor" and "Tuna Christmas." This summer, he directed the musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

This Christmas, he is directing "A Christmas Carol" and "Little Women, the Musical."



Photo courtesy Zach Burke

Dennis Elkins' "box." returns to the Thingamajig Theatre Company stage at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts this Sunday, Dec. 23, at 7 p.m. for a one-night-only encore performance. This biographical solo play written and performed by Elkins resulted in standing ovations and rave reviews by audiences at Thingamajig's Playwrights Festival in October.

Elkins spent 25 years in the academic theater arena, including a five-year tenure as head of the theater department at Fort Lewis College. He made a name for himself in other major venues including the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, the Utah Shakespearean Festival, the Single Carrot Theatre in Baltimore, Md., and the Clarence Brown Company at the

University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He also directed "Comedy of Errors" in 2017 and "The Merry Wives of Windsor" last summer at Albuquerque's Shakespeare on the Plaza.

Elkins' current home base is the South Harlem area of New York City, where he divides his time between acting, directing, teaching and writing.







He came for all in the family

The mere flicker of a candle may be our brightest light this holiday season. In the midst of the shortest days and the longest nights comes the light to light up the life of man.

I heard a woman say, "This will be a ridiculous Christmas, half of our crazy family are druggies and the other half are religious fanatics. We are renting a house in Arizona for a week so that the family can unite and be together."

Between the Bible-thumpers and those getting high, there are sure to be a lot of sparks if not bonfires ignited. But, "Judge not, lest you be judged" (Matthew 7:1). Every family has a crazy aunt or a weird second cousin. We are no exception.

Al's family always bemoaned Uncle Earl coming for the holidays. He drank himself into a drunken stupor, and Al's mother and aunt griped the whole time. As a young bride, new to the family, I questioned, "Why do you invite him? You say he always ruins your holiday. Why would you put up with him?"

"He's family, it's the holidays and we don't want him to be alone."

Really? I don't think it is any secret that holidays and family are often akin to oil and water. Yet each and every year, family members excitedly plan their two-week vacation time — with family.

I was taken aback recently during my weekly prayer group video conference. The son of one of the attendees had popped in to the room to say "hello." He had just driven six hours to return home on



Betty Slade



his college break. The first words from his mother's mouth were, "You need a haircut." He immediately disappeared to his room and we didn't see him the rest of the night.

When I heard his mother say that, I chuckled and asked myself, "Why would she say that?" But, then I realized that I have said similar things to our children and grandchildren. They stop by to see us and I will comment on their hair or their latest tattoo.

"We've got to do something with your hair. You say your new color is peanut butter and jelly? What possessed you to do that? That brown and purple looks awful."

When one of my grandsons stopped by to visit, I said, "You got another tattoo? That looks terrible."

Although I'm not proud to admit it, I've said many things in judgment at one time or another. And yet, our children and grandchildren still stop by to see us. Why do we say what we say when they just want to touch home for the holidays?

I'm sure family members brace themselves knowing what they are going to face coming home. For college kids, the dorms are closed and they need a place to land before the next semester. They're homesick or just want a homecooked meal or want to see friends.

Years ago, I remember hearing an interview with Lionel Richie. He said that he kept his old college apartment long after his college days and even after he became famous. With the chaos and demands of his career, he needed a place where he could come and be reminded of who he was before fame. It was an honest place; it was home.

What is home during the holidays? A time and place where mothers cook up their favorite recipes. Maybe an aunt or brother will come by and insist on setting up a new puzzle in the middle of the living room. It is also a time to learn of what's important to a next generation; to see their new purple hair or their latest tattoo.

The reality of the holiday season is that it is about a light that came into the world to give life to man. As for ourselves, we cast shadows on this joyous time and on each other with our judgment.

Final brushstroke: I don't think it was by lack of design that Jesus would come into the world on the shortest and darkest days of the year. It is probably not too out of reach to think that he would come at a time when we would be focused on anything but Him. Thankfully, the Light of Jesus shines through and beyond all that otherwise has our attention.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@ bettyslade.com

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Stargazers to study Crab Nebula on Dec. 27

By Joan Mieritz

Special to The PREVIEW

The San Juan Stargazers will hold their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 27, in the Visitor Center conference room located at 105 Hot Springs Blvd. It is the beautifully, well-lit building on the San Juan River. The meeting will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Hot drinks will be served before the meeting begins.

Our program for the evening is the famous Hubble image of the Crab Nebula, which is the aftermath of a supernova witnessed around the world in 1054. It was recorded by Chinese, Japanese and Arabic astronomers and by monks in monasteries around Europe.

There is a rock art panel in Chaco Canyon that indicates it was seen by the ancient Puebloans, most likely including those living here at Chimney Rock.

We extend a special invitation to all Chimney Rock Interpretive Association members to join us. I want to share here the most important information we will discuss about supernova is that we are quite fortunate that there is no star anywhere near Earth that is likely to go supernova in at least the next 10,000 years. That is a comforting fact which adds to an amazing program.

Also we will need to consider on Thursday night that we are looking for a new location to hold our meetings. If you have an idea of a possible location, please check it out and share it with the group. This will be our last meeting at the Chamber, so we will need a new place by the fourth Thursday of January. A suggestion was made that we try for a location in the

■ See Stargazers on next page





Tax help, legal document preparation to be offered in 2019

By Cheryl Wilkinson

PREVIEW Columnist

VITA will be returning to prepare federal and state income tax returns at no charge as part of the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

The planned dates are Feb. 23, 2019, and March 16, 2019, by appointment only. The gross income limit this tax season is \$54,000. Please call 264-2167 for more information or to make an appointment.

Free legal document preparation

The San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging will provide legal services for seniors through the program attorney, Daniel Fiedler. Fiedler will be spending the day at the Pagosa Springs Senior Center on Jan. 25, 2019.

Following are the legal services Fiedler can assist with:

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

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

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging: News from CMS

By Kay Kaylor As the part-time long-term care

Stargazers _

■ continued from previous page

When you are packing up holiday decorations, notice the location of stored telescopes. It seems almost all families in Pagosa have at least one. As soon as we are settled in our new meeting location, we will begin having telescope clinics so that you can learn how to use it and perhaps share that enjoyment with others. It is something to prepare for and look forward to this spring.

The San Juan Stargazers are part of the Astronomical League, which includes clubs from all over the U.S. We have a website, www.San-JuanStargazers.com, as well as an email address, sjstargazers@gmail.com, and a club phone number, 335-8286, to help communicate with the public.

We welcome everyone who has an interest in learning more about our universe.

Senior News

ombudsman for Archuleta County, I advocate for residents at Pine Ridge, a 24-hour extended care home, and BeeHive, an assisted living residence. Federal and state laws protect residents to promote quality of care and quality of life.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the oversight agency for hospitals and nursing homes, for example, offers a newsletter titled "Medicare Learning Network Connects." Although it mostly contains technical information and training for providers, here are a couple relevant items.

Dec. 2-8 was National Handwashing Awareness Week. As the flu season peaks between December and February, it is important for staff and visitors at long-term care homes to remember that "practicing hand hygiene is a simple and effective way to prevent infections." Residents are vulnerable to debilitating illness and cleaning your hands can even prevent the spread of germs resistant to antibiotics.

CMS announced on Nov. 30 new efforts to ensure adequate staffing to protect residents. "For example, facilities with higher nurse staffing levels tend to have fewer resident hospitalizations."

To help address staffing issues, CMS will use frequently updated payroll-based data to identify and then provide state survey (inspection) agencies with a list of nursing homes that have a significant drop in staffing levels on weekends or that have several days in a quarter without a registered nurse on site.

The agencies then will be required to conduct surveys on some weekends based on this list. If surveyors identify insufficient nurse staffing levels, the facility will be cited for noncompliance and required to implement a plan

of correction.

Enjoy the holiday season. For further information, you may call me at 403-2164 or send an email toombudsman2@sjbaaa.org.

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

Menu

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

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$8.50 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

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

Thursday, Dec. 20 — Braised beef with gravy, cream of broccoli soup, potato salad, milk, salad bar and cherry cobbler.

Friday, Dec. 21 — Grilled chicken, linguini with basil and pistachio pesto, Irish carrots, spinach with tomatoes, milk, salad bar and lemon cream pie.

Monday, Dec. 24 — Closed for the holidays.

Tuesday, Dec. 25 — Closed for the holidays. Wednesday, Dec. 26 — Closed

for the holidays.
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Closed for

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Closed for the holidays.

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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INDEX

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JOHNNY: Meet Johnny! This handsome boy has a love for life and can't wait to find his forever home. At 10 months old this big goofball would love to find a human to help him with his basic commands and give him plenty of exercise. Johnny loves to play and doesn't seem to know how big he is so, older kids are best for this silly guy. Call the shelter today to learn more about Johnny! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.



ASPEN: Hello, I'm Aspen! I am a fun loving kitten looking for my forever lap! I love playing with my sisters and getting lots of attention from all the people here at the shelter. Come spend some time with me today! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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EARLY DEADLINES for The Pagosa Springs SUN Thursday, December 27 edition. Classified advertising, all categories, 10a.m., Monday, December 24. Display advertising, noon, Friday, December 21. Legal advertising, articles and letters, noon, Thursday, December 20. The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. To place your ad, call (970)264-2100, or stop by our office at 457 Lewis Street.

ON FRIDAY, 21 DECEMBER, Tara Mandala will host our Winter Solstice Celebration. Join us as we center ourselves and open our hearts to begin the holidays, releasing our challenges from the past year and setting beautiful intentions for the upcoming New Year. Open to the public. We are a 25-minute drive outside of Pagosa Springs. For more information and to register: bit.ly/solstice18-tmp2.

SNOW TIRES. MICHELIN ICE-X 16". Set of four. Only used one season. Paid \$500, asking \$150. (970)903-8716.

LOCALS ONLY: BUY ONE gift certificate, get the 2nd 50% off now through Christmas! Hippie Chick Massage 946-4578.

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THE MUSIC SHOPPE has moved and expanded with more stock and space. Now carrying the Alvarez line of guitars. Come see us at 1501 W. Hwy. 160 in front of Pagosa Pines RV Park. (970)903-9875.

1,500 SQ. FT. GARAGE APARTMENT available March 1. Entire property is 13 acres, gated. Beautiful space, furnished, storage. 1 horse considered. Beautiful property in the Meadows. \$1,500 plus utilities. Horse additional dollars. Terri (970)946-3183.



looking for a loving, understanding home where I can be the wonderful dog I am meant to be. Have room in your heart for a darling guy? Come meet me today! Adopt from the Humane Society 731-4771.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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. 315 N. 2nd St./CR 200- Snowball Rd. Sunday 10a.m. (OD); Monday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (C-BB); Tuesday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (CM); Wednesday 7:30a.m. (OD), noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD); Thursday noon (OD), 5:30p.m. (ON); Friday noon (OD), 7p.m. (OD); Saturday 7:30a.m. (OD), 5:30p.m. (OD),

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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FAMILY PORTRAITS, PROPOSALS, WED-DINGS, ETC! I am an established photographer in Texas and will be in Pagosa Springs part time! This December/ January, if you would like to schedule a session, contact me at (512)422-2803 (text or call) or info@ dianamlottphotography.com. You can see my work at www.dianamlottphotography.com.

AUTHENTIC ADOBE CONSTRUCTION: Dwellings. Solar greenhouses. Kiva fireplaces. Bancos. Adobe stepped walls. Garden walls. More! Energy efficient "Rocket mass heaters." Other earth building methods available. Highly experienced "master" earth builder: David. 264-4923.

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WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother- in- law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

ATTENTION FORMER A&O AUTOMOTIVE customers: By popular demand, I'm back and offering honest quality repairs. For estimates or appointment, call Reuben at (970)317-4377.

NEED HOME IMPROVEMENTS OR repairs to your home? We do it all from frame to finish. Custom job accepted. 10 years experience. No job too small. Submit your request for a quote today: (931)994-7333 (local)

HOUSE PAINTING INTERIORS. 20 years experience, reasonable rates, free estimates. Call (970)317-5234. Asencion Paint Company

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SNOW REMOVAL FROM DRIVEWAYS, roofs, walkways. Tractor with blower and truck with plow. Call now for scheduling. 946-2061.

LOCAL MOVING SERVICES. Reasonable and reliable, 946-2061.

DIRECTIONAL DRILLING, SEPTIC SYS-TEMS and gravel hauling. 12 yard dump truck. (970)507-0142.

OVERWHELMED BY HOUSEHOLD CLUT-TER, kitchen and closet chaos? I can help! Personal organizer and house cleaning services. Call Donna, (970)903-0870

TIRED OF THE MUD? We gravel driveways. Reasonable rates. Call J.D. for a free estimate. (970)903-7091

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DON'S TREE SERVICE. ISA Certified Arborist RM-7738A. Don Sinkey 946-3931.

HOME REPAIRS, IMPROVEMENTS: Decks. Masonry. Tile. Carpentry. Painting. Drywall. Plaster. Adobe. Rocket mass heaters. More! Honest, well experienced craftsman. David, 264-4923.

VRBO SERVICES, LOCAL REPRESEN-TATIVE. Occupancy enforcement, trash management, emergency repairs. Don Sinkey

HOUSE PAINTER, DRYWALL. NO job too big or small. 37 years experience. Free estimates. Bryan (808)868-1193.

CLEANING, CARETAKING & WINTERI-ZATIONS for residential, vacation rentals, and seasonal homes. Call Absolute Cleaning & Home Management. Professional and Insured! (970)946-8501.

SEPTIC AND GENERAL EXCAVATION services, J4 Construction (970)946-1036.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/ sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/ operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222, www.riverstoneminerals.com.

HEALTH SERVICES

ADVANCED HEALING MASSAGE. Holistic health management, keeping your body strong, mentally, emotionally, and physically. Ask about the "Staying Healthy With The Seasons Massage Club." By appointment only. 25+ years experience. Call (970)779-0185.

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS Wellness Center. Chiropractic, acupuncture, craniosacral, massage, water therapy in the hot springs. Auto and sports injuries. 1/2 hour \$60 and 1 hour \$120 treatment. (971)221-4797, hotspring-

HELP WANTED

HIRING CARPENTERS WITH EXPERIENCE from frame to finish. full-time year round work. Tim Brown Construction. (970)946-2768.

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.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR. Archuleta County accepting applications for the position of County Administrator. Visit www. archuletacounty.org for details. This is a FT position with excellent benefits. Salary-\$94,266-\$131,976. 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.

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<u>Classifieds</u>

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

SUPPORT AIDE OR CNAs needed for Pine Ridge Extended Care. Able to work in a fast paced environment. Starting pay \$14/ hour. Under new management. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Next class starts January 7.

CHARTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR/ PRINCIPAL. Pagosa Peak Open School seeks energetic, visionary leader for Project-Based Learning school, to guide school into third year of operation, 2019-2020, and beyond. Minimum five years classroom/ administrative experience; preference for PBL experience. Salary: \$55,000-\$70,000, DOE. Send application, cover letter, resume, three references to Ursala Hudson, uhudson@pagosapeakopenschool.org. Position open until filled. No phone calls please. Visit pagosapeakopenschool.org.

HIRING EXPERIENCED AND LICENSED PLUMBERS, and plumber helpers. (970)946-7096. leave message.

AT YOUR DISPOSAL has a FT opening for a driver with a CDL Class B or higher. We offer a great place to work with Healthcare, 401K plan and some overtime each week. Starting wage for the right candidate is \$17 per hour. Please call or come by our office 731-4892 and 128 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND GREEN-HOUSE PAGOSA are looking for happy, enthusiastic people to join our budding business. We are willing to train the right candidate if you're committed to being a part of this continually growing industry. Please send a copy of your resume to employment@jandjinc.net along with a copy of your Colorado M.E.D. Badge.

WOLF CREEK REALTY is interested in adding an experienced and successful Realtor. Excellent opportunity for a thorough, detail oriented Realtor in a well established office. Additionally interviewing for an experienced broker who currently is or is interested in becoming qualified as a managing broker. Great downtown main street location. Contact Eddie Ring (970)759-8032.

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is seeking an Assistant Teacher/ Advisor 30 hours week to support the Lead Teacher and teach a small group specials class on a daily basis. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to PPOS School Director jlewicki@ppos.co or drop off at school 7 Parelli Way.

HELP WANTED FULL TIME. Must be able to work weekends and nights. Apply at Silver Dollar Liquor Store.

SEEKING SNOW SHOVELERS FOR 2018-2019 snow season. \$15 per hour. Call T&T Enterprises, (970)759-9317.

PAGOSA PEAK OPEN SCHOOL is looking for a Lead Teacher/Advisor for 2nd/3rd grade classroom: An elementary educator teaching all subjects in a project-based charter school with a strong educator collaborative. The PPOS Lead Advisor is responsible for creating an innovative learning environment that fosters confidence, high academic achievement, and the joy of learning through meaningful work. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to PPOS School Director jlewicki@ppos.co or drop off at school.

PEAK DELI IS HIRING line cooks. Grease free, shift meals. Energetic, upbeat people who are looking for long term employment. Please apply in person, no calls.

HELP WANTED

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.

JOURNALIST - THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN is seeking qualified candidates for a reporter position. Must demonstrate aptitude for, and commitment to community newspaper iournalism. Candidates must be prepared to handle deadlines, cover breaking news. report on sports and government and write features. Position is 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.

EARLY DEADLINES for The Pagosa Springs SUN Thursday, December 27 edition. Classified advertising, all categories, 10a.m., Monday, December 24. Display advertising, noon, Friday, December 21. Legal advertising, articles and letters, noon, Thursday, December 20. The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. To place your ad, call (970)264-2100, or stop by our office at 457 Lewis Street.

FULL-TIME EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DEPUTY. Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for a full-time Emergency Operations Deputy. Starting wage is \$17.03/hour DOQ. Visit www.archuletacounty. org for position description or submit application and resume to rsmith@archuletacounty. org. Archuleta County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HOMESPUN COMFORTS is hiring for spa service technicians. Experience a plus but not required. Desire to work and learn in a fast paced environment. Background check, valid driver's license and neat professional appearance required. Please pick up application at 301 N. Pagosa Blvd. Unit B6. Monday through Friday, 9a.m.-5p.m.

DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED. Are you friendly, detail oriented, kind, compassionate and enthusiastic? Join the best office in town! Earn pride and a living wage. Our team is looking for an excellent candidate for a full time or 3/4 time position. Must be computer literate and have chairside experience. Compensation commensurate with experience level. Please email resume to ericmsmith2003@ aol.com.

CAREGIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. No experience necessary. Must be caring and compassionate. Visit us at www.peoplecarehs. com. Contact Devina at devinab@peoplecarehs.com or (719)320-9925.

FULL-TIME LPN OR RN POSITION at Pine Ridge Extended Care. Apply in person, 119 Bastille Dr. Under new management.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS. Give yourself the gift that keeps on giving, a career as a dental assistant professional. We are not just a general dental practice. Our patients come in with unhealthy, unattractive teeth and leave the same day with a healthy, beautiful smile and a changed life. Be a part of our team and help us deliver this transforming dental service. Please send your resume to denprac@yahoo.com.

HELP WANTED

DO YOU WANT LIFE changing work? Become a Visiting Angel caregiver and have a fulfilling career with the #1 in home care agency! We are now hiring PT in home aides in Pagosa. We offer a supportive culture, professional training, along with awesome pay, killer incentives, and a bang up bonus program! Apply today at visitingangels.com/ southwestcolorado. We are in the business of 'a better life'! Join us!

HIRING COOKS, WAIT STAFF, dishwasher, hosts, bus people for a new restaurant. Please come by At Your Disposal at 128 Bastille or Cafe Colorado to apply. Opening by January 1st 2019.

LINE COOKS & DISHWASHERS. Pagosa Brewing seeks full and part-time team members for brunch, lunch and dinner. Applications at 118 North Pagosa Blvd. and online. No phone calls.

FAMILY COURT CASEWORKER- Southern Ute Tribal Court. Responsible for providing guardian ad litem, special advocacy, parent coordination and mediation services as assigned through court appointment and supervisor. Responsible for assessing cases and writing court reports regarding custody and other elements of children's best interests. Review job qualifications and apply online at: https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/jobs/.

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.

FULL- AND PART-TIME POSITIONS available. Apply in person at The Malt Shoppe, 124 E. Pagosa St.

LIFECARE IS NOW HIRING compassionate caregivers to do skilled and non-skilled inhome care in the Pagosa Springs, Durango and Cortez area. We take joy in caring for our clients. We offer flexible schedules and paid training. Call or visit us at (970)516-1234 or www.lifecare-inc.com.

FRONT DESK POSITION. Dental knowledge a plus, good computer and personal skills. Bring resume to office. King Campbell, DDS, 228 Village Dr.

ROSIE'S PIZZERIA IS LOOKING for a fulltime kitchen cook. Must be available to work nights and weekends, be 18+ and have a valid driver's license. Pizza cook experience, food handler's card, and food ordering experience a plus. Please apply in person at 100 Country Center Drive, Suite C.

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

NOW HIRING PARAPROFESSIONALS at GOAL Academy High School in Pagosa Springs. We offer competitive wages and employee benefits. Please apply online at www.goalac.org. For more information, call (877)776-4625, ext. 027.

GRANTS COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER.

30 hours a week. Pagosa Peak Open School is seeking an experienced grant writer to join our team. Duties include: PR for all school communications, website maintenance, seek new funding opportunities and deepen existing funding relationships. Email resume and letters of interest to chammon@pagosapeakopenschool.org or drop off at 7 Parelli Way.

PERSONALS

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

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.

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.

LIVESTOCK

ELKTRACE RANCH & B&B now offering short term and long term horse boarding. Stall with large runs, paddocks with shelter or pasture available. For more information, please call (970)731-5868.

FOR SALE

PIANO, VIETNAM TABLE AND chairs, washer and dryer. (970)731-0808.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$175 cord/ pine. Can be delivered for additional charge quoted by destination. Can fill all orders, large or small. Call or text Blake at (970)749-4566.

SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE. (970)317-4933.

4 YEAR OLD GE DUAL fuel stove, white, self cleaning, convection, 5 burners, \$250. (303)378-1185.

2- 60 LB. PROPANE TANKS, pigtails with changeover, regulator, \$250. Call (303)378-1185.

STAIN GLASS EVERYTHING. Big Sky Studio of Pagosa December sale. 25% off everything. Gifts, glass, tools, supplies. Beginner glass class makes a perfect gift. Call 731-5374.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

WARN WINCH 8,000 LB., with receiver mount/ carrier, Jeep mounting plate, 3/8" wire rope, fairlead, control, 12,000 lb. snatch block, \$400. Call Bill (970)398-0103.

26" ELECTRIC START CRAFTSMAN snow blower, just like new, \$500. Call 731-1916.

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.

NEED FIREWOOD? Get 1 cord ponderosa pine split and delivered for \$250. Loads are guaranteed to be full cords. Contact FIRE&ICE flrewood and snow removal services. Contact Dan (970)582-0006.

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FOR SALE





ALL NATURAL, 100% GRASS finished beef and lamb, Berkshire pork, and organic free range chicken from GrassRoots Meats. Available at our warehouse on Mondays, as well as the Choke Cherry Tree and Joy's the rest of the week. www.grassrootsmeats.colo@gmail.com. Call Lois for more information, (970)582-0166.

KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS, SINKS, FAUCETS. Lot of them. If interested, call for more information (970)731-5345.

LIVE ANYWHERE! TINY LIVING. Vintage 1976 Winnebago Brave, renovated to adorable tiny home on wheels! ONE OF A KIND! Approximately 90K miles on 440 Chrysler engine; they don't make them like this anymore. \$15,000 OBO. Text (970)903-2339.

LIGHT TRUCK CHAINS, for about 31" tires, set of 4, never used, \$100. Call Bill (970)398-

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

36" CRAFTSMAN ELECTRIC START snowblower; new \$2,000, will sell for \$600, runs great. 2013 Chevy Cruise, book value, \$7,400, sell for \$3,800, 32+ MPG, good shape. 946-3762.

BEEF, GRASS-FED. No hormones, no junk or feed lots. Raised on grasses, water and Colorado Sunshine. "Healthy as an Elk." Selling quarter and half beefs (970)946-4657.

Classifieds

264-2100

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

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - DRY FIREWOOD available. Call for details (970)946-1625.

LARGE 4'X6' WHITE JETTED bathtub with 6 jets. Excellent condition, complete with faucet. \$400 OBO. (970)759-8189.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2010 KUBOTA RTV 900. 4X4, diesel with angle snowplow. \$8,500. Low hours, newer tires with chains. (970)903-7585.

AUTOS

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

2006 CHEVY IMPALA SS. V8 engine, 148,000 miles. \$6,000 OBO. Fun car. (970)731-1383.

1998 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4, clean, runs great, clean/ good tires, \$2,200. 1995 Toyota 4Runner, runs good, good tires, \$1,800. 946-3762

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

4 BEDROOM CONDO FOR RENT on the river. New construction, one level, easy and perfect location downtown, \$2,500/ month. Please call (970)903-1084 to take a look.

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store.

STOP RENTING and invest in yourself. Call local Loan Officer Carrie Blue (949)683-4646 and become a homeowner! Virtually all programs offered: down payment assistance, 100% financing, FHA, USDA, conventional, jumbo, VA- we do it all. CBlue@afncorp.com NMLS: 177666.

NEWLY REMODELED MANUFACTURED HOME in Vista. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with shed. Nice yard. \$1,100 per month. Call Jeff (970)946-1485.

2 BEDROOM 1 BATH APARTMENT for rent. \$1,100/ month, includes utilities. NO smoking, NO pets. (970)903-0966.

MORRO CIRCLE. 3 BEDROOM, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage, wood burning stove. New carpet, new paint. No pets allowed. Lake Hatcher area. \$1,450. (970)731-2216.

LONG & SHORT TERM Rentals available. OWNERS More Properties Needed! www. NextHomeRMR.com (970)507-8655.

DOWNTOWN STUDIO UNIT, 8TH St. Granite counter tops and patio. All utilities included \$800/ month. (318)347-6100.



All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any

advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

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UPTOWN OFFICE 970.507.8655 56 Talisman Dr. Ste. 7 www.NextHomeRMR.com



DOWNTOWN OFFICE 970.731.5515 402 Pagosa St. Ste. 7 www.ThatOrangeDog.com

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 703 San Juan St., Suite 205 (970) 398-1860

1 BEDROOM PARTIAL FURNISHED apartment for lease on 5 acres in Meadows 1, \$900/ month plus same deposit. Available February 5. Includes all utilities, 1 vehicle under carport, washer/ dryer. Horse boarding available. Smoke free. Prefer no pets. (970)946-3290.

BEAUTIFUL TWO STORY, 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath home (2.500 sq. ft.) with incredible views available for rent. Horse property fenced with barn and 4 acres just minutes from town. \$1,900/ month. Call (970)749-4000.

FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM HOUSE. Fenced yard. Utilities included. Fast internet, TV. W/D. 1 pet. January- May, \$980/ month. TEXT only

LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)459-4411 or sunethaproper-

TPRENTALS.COM FOR LONG TERM rental needs. (970)731-8599.

1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH on Lewis St. in old town, \$900 per month, N.S./ small pets considered. (970)819-2381.

NO SMOKING, NO PETS! Nice bedroom for rent in a 3 bedroom home. \$525/ month, includes utilities. 264-0826.

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

DOWNTOWN OFFICE RENTALS in the Historic Metro Hotel above the Liberty Theatre. Single and 2 room suites available, \$200 and \$300 with utilities included. Jacque 264-4237 office or 946-7636 cell.

FOR LEASE, 2,350 SQ. FT. building. Large parking lot on a corner lot, formerly known as The Outfitter Department Store and the Pizza Hut Restaurant, facing highway 160 in Pagosa Springs. \$2,500 a month. Call for more information, (970)759-0310.

HIGH COUNTRY MINI STORAGE. Most sizes available. Paved, lighted, security. Behind The Outfitter. Call 264-9142.

GORGEOUS REMODELED RETAIL SUITE at Talisman Plaza. 1,250 sq. ft. with front and rear doors. Available immediately. Seth Furtney (970)385-5547.

ON SITE RENTALS and portable storage containers available for delivery. Rodent proof, the best storage around at Let's Store It. 731-0007

STORAGE GARAGE ON HERMOSA St. \$200 a month plus utilities. (970)946-2728.

PRIVATE OFFICES WITH MODERN HVAC, from 120 sq. ft. to 600. In the same building as Ramon's. (970)385-5547.

STORAGE UNIT IN TOWN. 150 sq. ft. with electricity included. \$80 month. Michael C. Branch (970)769-2036.

NICELY FURNISHED OFFICE, TALISMAN Pointe, Unit D-4. Reception area and three smaller offices and one large office. Access to parking front and back. 820 sq. ft. \$850/ month. Michael C. Branch (970)769-2036.

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE. Locate your business in Pagosa's busiest shopping center. Country Center/ City Market Plaza, 900 square feet office or retail space.

High traffic area with abundant parking. Common area maintenance included. For more information, please call Charlotte at (970)903-7690.

HOUSES FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE

Choose experience when selling your property! Jim Smith Realty Serving Pagosa Springs for

30 Years!

Homes • Condos

Vacant Land • Commercial

Call Jim Smith today 970-264-3200 or go to

www.ListPagosa.com

JimSmithRealty.com

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE on Hwy. 160 frontage road. 740 SF unit has two office rooms, a front entry, a small kitchenette, and an ADA accessible bathroom. Utilities and common area maintenance included in \$700/ month rent Available now Please contact Jessica at raswheeler@gmail.com.

NEWLY REMODELED: 1,200 sq. ft. \$1,000 per month. 4 offices plus large conference room, private entrance. 543 Park Ave. (970)300-9444.

HOUSES FOR SALE

SELLING OR BUYING? I am INDEPEN-DENT, I work for YOU! 15 years in Pagosa. Peggy Andrews, Independent Real Estate Broker (970)946-0473 www.peggyandrews.

LOOKING FOR A LENDER for your jumbo loan, new construction or fixer upper purchase? AFN offers all loan programs, competitive rates and excellent customer service. With 17 years experience and a direct lender, call local loan officer for all your mortgage needs: Carrie Blue (949)683-4646 CBlue@afncorp. com Website: www.afncorp.com/carrieblue NMLS: 177666.

THIS BEAUTIFUL 40 ACRE property has stunning views of Chimney Rock and the Ponderosa Pines valley. This great property has a tiny home cabin and 2013 Cougar RV. It also has a seasonal spring. Electric is already in. Priced at only \$269,000, Call Norma Garrett at Pagosa Brokers (970)264-3800 or (918)282-1956 cell. Great spot for hunters!

THIS VERY NICE THREE bedroom manufactured mobile on one acre has beautiful views. Home has been freshly painted and has 220/120 volt hook ups supplying power and water to 2 RV sites on the property, has a good well with new pump. 400 Indian Land Rd. Call Norma Garrett at Pagosa Brokers (970)264-3800 or (918)282-1956 cell. \$244,999. This home is a true gem!

HOUSES FOR SALE

CHIMNEY ROCK. OFF 2ND floor deck, oversized 2-car garage, skylights. Off grid living. 1 bedroom plus loft. (970)946-3366. \$235,000.

OWN YOUR OWN STARTER home with this beautiful large three bedroom doublewide manufactured mobile, with a large deck and backyard for your children and pets. Home has a good well and upgrades. Roof is only three years old. Great low price \$182,000. Call Norma Garrett at Pagosa Brokers (970)264-3800 or (918)282-1956 cell. Hurry, this one won't last!

EARLY DEADLINES for The Pagosa Springs SUN Thursday, December 27 edition. Classified advertising, all categories, 10a.m., Monday, December 24. Display advertising, noon, Friday, December 21. Legal advertising, articles and letters, noon, Thursday, December 20. The Pagosa Springs SUN office will be closed Tuesday, December 25 in observance of Christmas. To place your ad, call (970)264-2100, or stop by our office at 457 Lewis Street.

PROPERTY

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS, Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

SELLING OR BUYING THAT just right horse property? Call Pamela Novack, your neighbor and friend in Pagosa Springs since 1981. (970)946-0534, EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa.

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME with lots of privacy in Beautiful Meadows. This 7.67 acre property has serene meadows and plenty of trees and lots of wildlife! Beautiful area to raise a family! Call Norma Garrett at Pagosa Brokers (970)264-3800 or (918)282-1956. 115 Olympic Court. \$144,000. This is a prime spot so hurry!

QUIET GATED COMMUNITY. 2 adjoining 35 acre parcels. \$65,000 each or both for \$125,000. Owner financing available. Call (970)903-2900, (970)903-0870.

PAGOSA SCENE..

'CHRISTMAS IN PAGOSA'

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Scene ... at the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir's Christmas concert, "Christmas in Pagosa." The concert was held at the Community United Methodist Church and featured several selections from the choir, as well as guest musicians.















Ignacio, CO 888.842.4180 SkyUteCasino.com

YOU'RE A STAR IN OUR SKY!