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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 110 — NO. 20, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018

CDOT worker hit by vehicle, suffers severe injuries

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer



Olson

On Friday, Feb. 2, a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) employee was struck by a vehicle and was subsequently flown to a hospital in the Denver area with severe injuries.

Nolan Olson, 64, of Pagosa

■ See Olson A8

County planning commission to discuss vacation rentals Wednesday

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Potential changes to the county's land-use regulations regarding short-term rentals was a topic of conversation at Tuesday morning's work session of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), and are slated to again be the topic of discussion at next week's meeting of the Archuleta County Planning Commission.

That meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, in the commissioners' meeting room at

■ See Vacation A8



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Several balloons took to the waters of and skies over Pagosa Country Saturday and Sunday, with balloons like this dipping to the San Juan River and lakes. Nineteen balloons participated in the weekend's WinterFest events.

CDOT planning \$7.5 million highway resurfacing east of town

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is currently seeking bids from contractors for an estimated \$7.5 million project to resurface U.S. 160 from U.S. 84 to Treasure Falls and make other improvements.

Once a contractor is selected, the project is scheduled to begin this spring.

"This resurfacing project will be located on US 160, from the junction of CO Highway 84 (at approximately MP 144 in Archuleta County) to Treasure Falls (at approximately MP 159 in Mineral County)," states information pro-

vided by Lisa Schwantes, CDOT's Region 5 communications manager. "This project will consist of a surface treatment, patching, mill and fill work, road widening, upgrading guardrails, geohazard/culvert/ditch improvements, striping, replacing mailboxes and replacing delineators. The project will also include the construction of a chain up station at approximate MP 157 (approx 2 miles west of Treasure Falls). Three bridges within the project location will also be upgraded."

In order to help facilitate the upcoming project, the Archuleta County Board of County Com-

■ See Highway A8

County reveals more about Denver meeting

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

While an answer is not expected from the Colorado Judicial Department until late this week, more concerning last week's Denver meeting between Archuleta County representatives and Judicial Department representatives has come to light.

The information came in the form of a discussion during Tuesday afternoon's regular meeting of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), as well as a Tuesday press release from County Administrator Bentley Henderson.

The parties met on Jan. 29 to discuss the possibility of remodeling the western portion of the Archuleta County Courthouse remodeled to house the courts and probation.

In addition to the trio of repre-

sentatives from Archuleta County — Commissioner Steve Wadley, Henderson and County Attorney Todd Starr — were a variety of state officials.

Attending the meeting for the state were several people, with Judicial Department Deputy Public Information Officer Jon Sarche stating in an email to The SUN on Jan. 29: "Participants from our end of things in the meeting today were: Chief Justice Nancy E. Rice; State Court Administrator Christopher T. Ryan; Chief of Staff Mindy Masias; Judicial Department Legal Counsel Terri Morrison; Chief Justice Rice's Legal Counsel Andy Rottman; and attending from the Office of the Attorney General were LeeAnn Morrill and Grant Sullivan."

According to Henderson's press

■ See Courthouse A8

BEST Grant funding estimates presented to school work group

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

At the most recent Archuleta School District (ASD) Planning Assistance Team (PAT) meeting on Monday night, the group was presented with rough estimates for funding for its master plan regarding school facilities.

This meeting, however, was not noticed in accordance with Colorado Open Meetings Law and district policy to allow for a quorum of the Board of Education (BOE) to participate.

Three members of the BOE, Brooks Lindner, Jason Peterson and Bruce Dryburgh were in attendance at the meeting and participated in the discussion.

RTA Architects' Stuart Coppedge presented preliminary estimates of Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant funding.

Before the presentation of the figures, Coppedge summarized the meeting he had with BEST grant regional program manager for the southwest region, Anna Fitzer, on Feb. 1.

"Mostly I felt it was good news," Coppedge said.

Coppedge explained that Fitzer advised that three separate BEST grant applications be submitted for the elementary, middle and high schools.

Fitzer believed that ASD should try to get as much BEST funding for the elementary school as possible, because she felt like ASD had a "pretty legitimate shot," Coppedge explained.

The chances on the amount of funding depends on what other elementary school projects are submitted, Coppedge noted.

The clarity of the applications

is the key to the whole process, Coppedge added later.

"More than one application does not hurt your chances," Coppedge mentioned.

Every project does require a 61 percent match, Coppedge noted.

BEST would cover up to 39 percent of the project, Coppedge explained.

The BEST grant application is due on Feb. 23, ASD Superintendent Linda Reed explained.

The applications are then reviewed and go before the BEST board along with a presentation made by ASD in mid-May, Reed added.

Coppedge then noted that Fitzer explained to him that both sites for a new elementary school could be kept in play.

The two sites in question are south of the current elementary school, or on Vista property that ASD owns.

However, Fitzer explained that a site would need to be decided upon before the BEST grant presentation in mid-May, Coppedge explained.

Regarding the existing elementary school, Coppedge explained that if a new pre-K through fifth-grade school was built and ASD were to put students back into the older building, it would be considered a strike against the district in terms of BEST funding.

■ See School A8

Archuleta School District Draft Master Plan Preliminary Costs

Phase 1

Option 1

Elementary school:			
Build new pre-K through fifth-grade building south of existing elementary school	\$27,700,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$10,803,000)
Potential elementary school total			\$16,897,000
Existing elementary school: Demolish and build new sports fields on that site	\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000	
Middle school:			
Relocate sixth grade, life safety and security upgrades	\$4,400,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$1,716,000)
Potential middle school total			\$2,684,000
High school:			
Sustaining capital improvements and vo-tech	\$13,700,000		
Safety and security	\$2,300,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$897,000)
			\$15,103,000
	\$51,300,000	\$37,884,000	\$13,416,000
	Total	District	BEST

Option 2

Elementary school: Build new pre-K through fifth-grade building on Vista property	\$27,700,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$10,803,000)
Potential elementary school total			\$16,897,000
Existing elementary school: Sell or transfer	\$100,000	\$100,000	
Middle school: Relocate sixth grade, life safety and security upgrades	\$4,400,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$1,716,000)
Potential middle school total			\$2,684,000
High school: Sustaining capital improvements and vo-tech	\$13,700,000		
High school: Safety and security	\$2,300,000		
Less potential BEST Grant (39 percent)			(\$897,000)
			\$15,103,000
	\$48,200,000	\$34,784,000	\$13,416,000
	Total	District	BEST

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

District fails when it comes to Colorado Open Meetings Law

On Monday evening, the Archuleta School District (ASD) Planning Assistance Team (PAT) met with members of the staff and Board of Education (BOE) to discuss options and funding for the district's facilities.

Preliminary numbers for these improvements are in the \$48 million to \$50 million range.

For anyone who has been in our current elementary or middle schools, there is absolutely no doubt that improvements are in order.

The school board and administration have done the right thing in bringing in a group of community members along with current staff to research and discuss the district's needs. The PAT members have dedicated numerous hours these past several months in planning safety and security improvements, maintenance upgrades and exploring the possibility of a new elementary school.

The group is working diligently to meet deadlines to apply for state grants, which could fund up to 39 percent of the costs.

In addition to the PAT meetings, several open community meetings have been held to allow everyone to participate in the process.

Unfortunately, the Monday PAT meeting violated Colorado's Open Meetings Law when three members of the BOE participated in the meeting that was not noticed to the public.

According to the district's 2018 School Board Meeting Resolution, which was approved and adopted at the board's Jan. 16 meeting, "the public place for posting such notice shall be through www.boarddocs.com/co/asdco/Board.nsf, which is linked through the Archuleta School District 50 Joint website."

There was no such posting made for Monday's PAT meeting.

Where the school board is concerned, two board members are permitted to meet, but when the number of directors attending a meeting makes a quorum of the board, three in this case, the meeting must be noticed and be open to the public. Failure to do so is a violation of state law.

In this same editorial space about a year ago, we pointed out other instances of this same board violating the Colorado Open Meetings Law. We brought it to the attention of the board at a PAT meeting last year that they had not properly noticed the meeting when a quorum was present.

We don't believe that the BOE members intended to break the law. We doubt they had any idea that the meeting had not been noticed, but something in the district is broken and it is time to fix it. This district can't keep failing to notice public meetings — it can't be that hard to follow state law by posting meetings.

As we stated last year, the constraints of the Open Meetings Law may be frustrating to the members of our local boards, but it is the broader right of the public to know the workings of its government that should always come first. This is why in our role as government watchdogs we watch public entities so closely.

So here we are, and the district is moving closer to asking for the community to approve a bond. For that effort to be successful, it is imperative that the board has the trust of its constituents and abides by the law.

You can't continue to break the Open Meetings Law and then ask the public to approve a bond for millions of dollars.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

Have you had your flu shot?



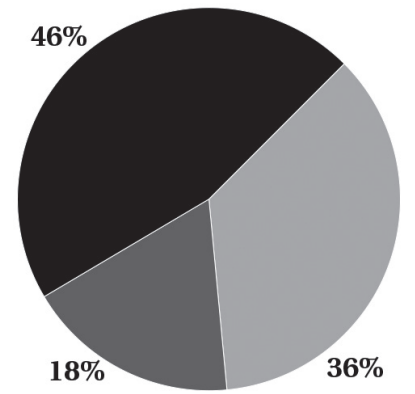
Suzanne Hall
"Yes, I have."



Michele White
"I don't believe in flu shots."



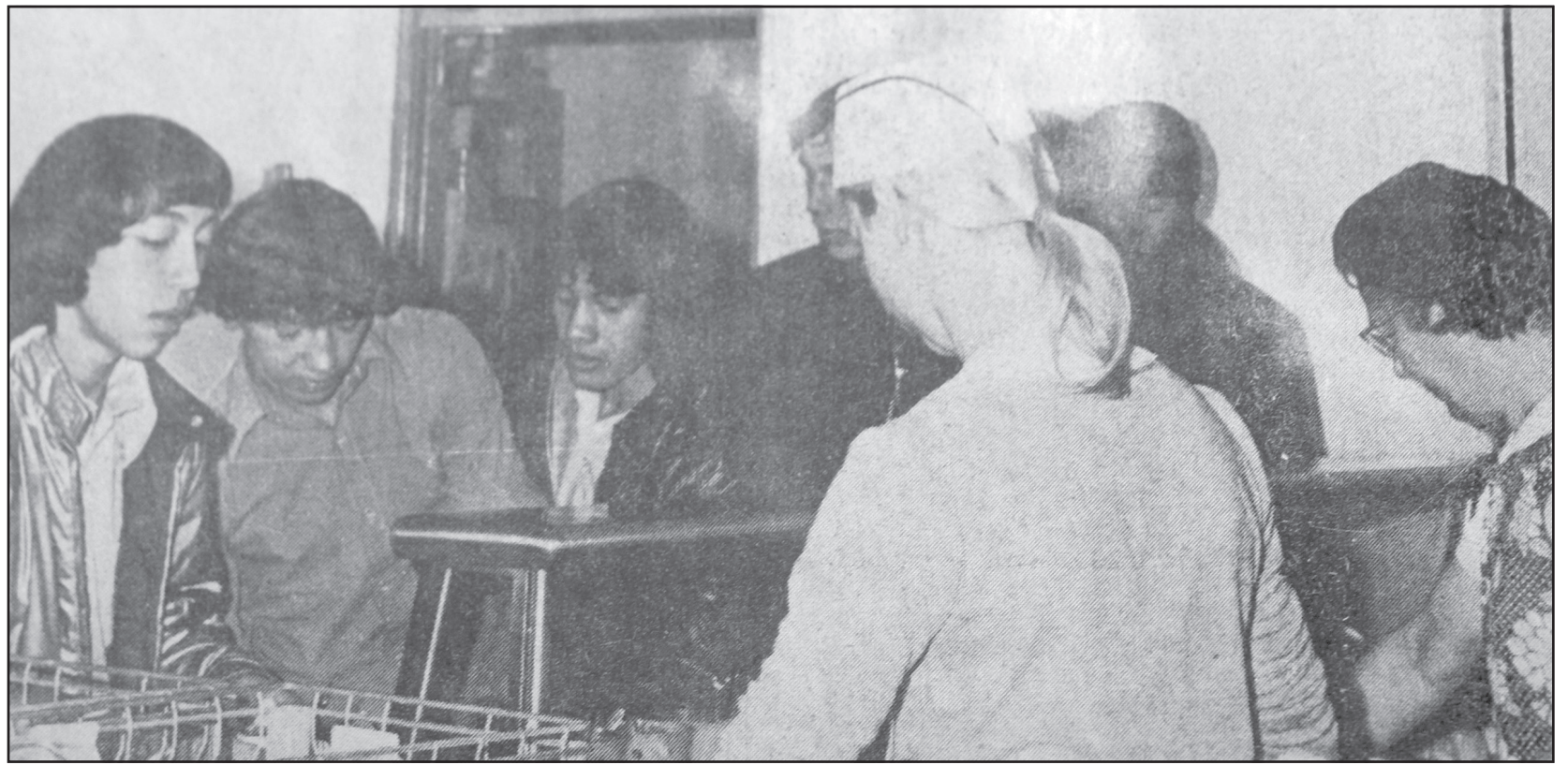
Chris Minter
"No."



Poll results (211 Votes)
Yes — 36 percent
No — 18 percent
I will not get one. — 46 percent

This week online: When will Pagosa Country see its next snow?
Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the Jan. 30, 1975, Pagosa Springs SUN. **FAST SERVICE** — High school and junior high school students enjoy the same good hot lunches that the elementary students have. However larger portions are served to the older students. The food is served out in a quick fashion and the students manage to dispose of it almost as quickly. There seem to be no poor appetites here.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 3, 1928

In this issue of the Sun will be found a notice to contractors calling for bids for the construction of the Archuleta county court house in Pagosa Springs. Plans may be seen at the office of County Clerk Johnson, and all bids must be submitted by noon on March 6th.

C.G. (Bert) Murray on Wednesday began work as brakeman on the local branch after an absence from his railroad duties of fifteen months. During that time he underwent six operations and spent 181 days in hospitals.

A real estate deal of considerable magnitude in Archuleta county was consummated Monday when Montroy Brothers, consisting of Louis and Leon Montroy, purchased what is known as the Echo ranch from Thos. S. Reavis.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 12, 1943

The current coffee ration is one pound for every six weeks. Stamp No. 25 in War Ration Book One became valid Feb. 8, and it will be good for the purchase of one pound of coffee through midnight, March 21.

Deadlines for the initial tire inspections have been set as follows: for holders of B and C ration books, February 28; for T ration operators of commercial vehicles who hold "certificates of war necessity," February 28; for A book drivers, March 31. All drivers who expect to qualify for continued use of their cars must have their initial tire inspections before the above dates. Neither gasoline ration books nor tires will be issued in the future to motorists who do not meet the deadlines.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 8, 1968

1967 was a very successful year at the Arboles Recreation Area. This was its first full year of operation and 38,770 visitors registered there. The majority of these were there during the summer months, although there is some year around travel and visiting in the area. The visitors came mainly for sight-seeing, boating, fishing, camping and picnicking. Plans and work are now underway to improve and to add to the facilities presently at the area. A concessionaire operated there this past summer and plans to construct a marina before the season gets into full swing. This marina will be a big attraction for boating and fishing enthusiasts. The museum at the visitor center is being enlarged and new exhibits are being prepared.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of February 11, 1993

Expectation turned to exasperation last Thursday when Fairfield Communities Inc. attorneys said the company would continue to withhold payment on its property taxes. The exasperation intensified Monday when Judge Robert Fussell, U.S. Bankruptcy Court at Little Rock, postponed the Feb. 8 hearing on the delinquent taxes until May 19.

The board of education approved student-exit outcomes for District 50 Joint at their Tuesday meeting, adopted a policy that will give high school seniors an option regarding the number of classes they take during their final year of school, and considered a list of tentative budget cuts for the next budget year. The district must cut more than \$300,000 in expenses to balance the next budget.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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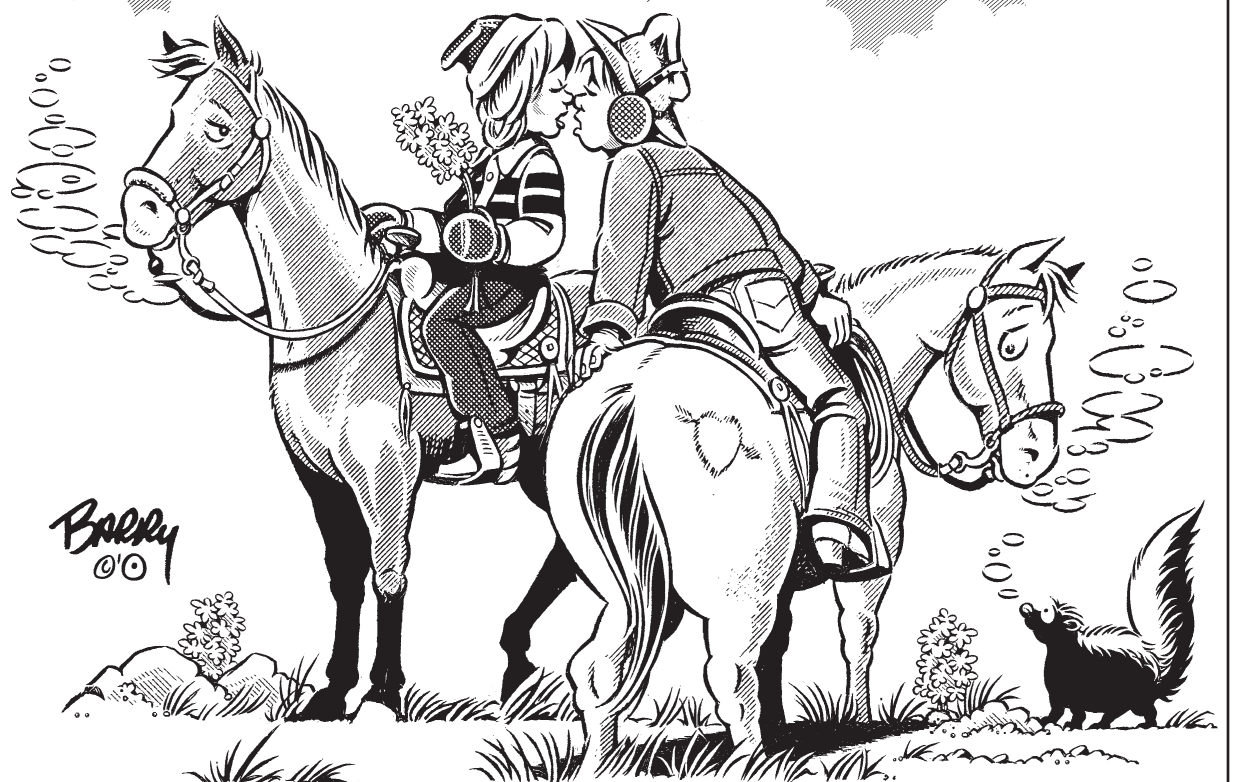


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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
1/31	50	20	-	-	-
2/1	51	23	-	-	-
2/2	55	30	-	-	-
2/3	51	24	-	-	-
2/4	50	21	-	-	-
2/5	53	24	-	-	-
2/6	46	24	S	-	T

Pagosa Springs
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Happy Valentine's Day!



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.

PLPOA tax status

Dear Editor:
I am writing in response to two recent Letters to the Editor regarding PLPOA and their IRS status. The first was from Charlotte Maier asserting that PLPOA was a 501(c)(7) and drew conclusions regarding what that meant about general public access to our recreation facilities. The second was from Jeff Maier, again asserting 501(c)(7) status, and claiming that prevented PLPOA from imposing certain restrictions on property in Pagosa Lakes.

PLPOA is not a 501(c)(7), and it has not been for at least 15 years. It is true that the original articles of incorporation from 1972 stated that was the intention. Much has changed since then not just in Pagosa Lakes and PLPOA, but also in the tax code and accounting rules as they apply to homeowners associations. Since at least 2002 PLPOA has filed as a corporation under IRS code 227. PLPOA is presently classified as a Common Interest Realty Association, which is a special kind of HOA where the association holds title to all common areas. As an HOA/CIRA filing as a corporation under 227, all income derived from members including association dues, recreation fees, late fees, etc. is tax exempt. Wyndham Pagosa is an association member, and pays association dues and rec fees. The CIRA structure allows for various types of real estate, single family homes, condos, time shares, etc. and it may be that PLPOA simply outgrew its original intent to be a 501(c)(7).

There are generally four tax codes/designations HOA's can file under, and three different tax forms: IRS code 227 (as an incor-

porated HOA, form 1120), IRS code 528 (as an HOA filing form 1120-H), or as either a 501(c)(4) or a 501(c)(7) (both non-profits filing form 990). The latter two designations are very rare for HOAs, 501(c)(4) is a social welfare organization, and 501(c)(7) is a club or recreational facility. There are even more obvious distinctions but PLPOA's CIRA structure fits neither.

PLPOA's Declaration of Restrictions, bylaws, rules and regulations, zoning, etc. have nothing to do with whichever tax status PLPOA and its auditors choose to file under. Except and unless that governance structure contradicts the tax code. There are clear requirements in either 501(c) non-profit designation that would prevent PLPOA as it currently exists from filing as one, which is why we don't and haven't for a very long time, if ever.

I would urge any PLPOA member interested in these issues to go to the PLPOA website, log in or create an account if you haven't, and take a careful look at the many documents there. The IRS filing status is listed in the notes section of each annual audit. We have audits going back to 2002 and monthly financials back to 2006. You can also find governing documents such as Declaration of Restrictions, bylaws, neighborhood-by-neighborhood zoning, and many others. I would also urge members with questions or concerns to come to board meetings to express them, or contact PLPOA directly.

Albert Jenab
Chairman, PLPOA Finance Committee

'Just a joke'

Dear Editor:
When my former students said mean and hateful things to or about each other, their excuse was often, "It was just a joke." I explained that it was only a joke if the person they were talking about was laughing. For the president to call it "treasonous" when someone didn't clap for him is certainly not a joke. In fact, it is a chilling statement. I, for one, am not laughing.

Mary Kurt-Mason

Prescribed burns

Dear Editor:
Over the past 23 years I've watched our forest around Pagosa Springs slowly begin to die. This is occurring for many reasons including drought, warming temperatures as well as our interference with the role of fire in the forest.

The most effective way to reduce fuels and maintain forest health in large areas is fire and without frequent prescribed burns, or smaller natural fires, large devastating fires are far more likely. There is no doubt we can no longer allow all fires to burn as they would have been allowed to do before our interference however I encourage the liberal use of prescribed burns, mechanical thinning and logging to keep our forest as healthy as possible. I choose to live surrounded by the forest and accept the risks and the inconvenience of smoke from fires that are necessary for the greater good of our forest. By the way, because of the recent drought and lack of fuels mitigation, we may all find out what a devastating wildfire is all about. I hope you're prepared.

Jon Reed

Signs

Dear Editor:
A few months ago a sign was put up, by the county, at the side of all the roads making ingress to Aspen Springs. I've been told that they have also been put around other Districts, but I haven't seen them. It reads, "Archuleta County requires: 1. Septic Permits; 2. Building Permits; 3. Manufactured home permits; 4. Zoning compliance. Violators are subject to civil and criminal penalties." I'm a firm believer that a person has the right to do anything they want on their land as long as it doesn't affect the health and well-being of the neighbors. I firmly believe that item one addresses this by requiring adequate septic. The other 3 items aren't going to affect the other residence. As for the presence of the sign and the requirements listed I say this "Don't point a gun if you aren't willing to pull the trigger."

Doug Roberts

Caucus

Dear Editor:
The Colorado Republican Precinct Caucus will take place at 7 p.m. on 6 March 2018 at eight separate locations corresponding to the eight precincts in Archuleta County. The Caucus starts at 7 pm — you should plan to show up, check in, get your ballots, and see what all is going on by about 6:30.

In order to participate in your Republican Precinct Caucus, you must be registered as a resident in your Precinct not later than Monday, 5 February.

If you want to check your Pre-

cinct yourself, it is easy to do so. Just go to the County website (www.archuletacounty.org), click on 'County Departments' and then 'Clerk/Recorder's office', click on 'Elections' and then on 'Election Precincts' to see the maps — you can enlarge them to get a better look — then find your street and you should be able to identify your Precinct.

The Archuleta County Republican 2018 Precinct Caucus locations, (please note some precincts have new locations then in past years) and Precinct Committee Person Point of Contact (POCs) are as follows:

Precinct 1 — County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 398 Lewis St, (PoC) David Parker, (970) 946-9215;

Precinct 2 — United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St, Pagosa Springs, (PoC) Warren Grams; (970) 946-0269

Precinct 3 — CSU Extension Bldg, 344 U.S. Hwy 84, Pagosa Springs, (PoCs) Carl Mellberg, (970) 264-0269 NS Jesse Morehouse (970) 444-2445;

Precinct 4 — St Peter Catholic Church, Hwy 151/CR 975, Arboles, (PoCs) Molly Risinger, (970) 946-0240 and Samantha Williams, (970) 759-6785;

Precinct 5 — Pagosa Baptist Church, 10533 W. Hwy 160, Pagosa Springs, (PoC) Mason Carpenter, (970) 731-5839;

Precinct 6 — Crossroads Christian, 230A Port Ave, Pagosa Lakes, (PoC) Donald Farr, (303) 618-7422;

■ See Letters A4



ART Classes

Winter/Spring
ART CLASS
SCHEDULE
Sign-up deadline:
February 12, 2018

Beginning Drawing, 6 weeks, 2/9-3/26
Beginning Wheel Throwing, 8 weeks, 2/21-4/18
Beginning Hand-Building, 8 weeks, 2/21-4/18
Beginning Tile-Making, 6 weeks, 2/23-3/30
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Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit to:

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e-mail: editor@pagosasun.com

or fax: (970) 264-2103

All letters must:

be 500 words or less

be signed by the author, unless emailed

include the author's phone number and address

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

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

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

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be published.

The SUN reserves the right to edit letters.


Happy Birthday, Sabrina!

I made a list of the words of wisdom I wanted to give you for your 11th birthday.

It's still blank.

Maybe next year.

Love, Pampo



My heart skips a beat as my eyes fill with tears of thoughts of the future with you. Painfully waiting for the world to stop when I call you husband and you call me wife. Words and plans swirl around us as we see our lives in each other's eyes. Rescuing me my dear knight from the pains of my past. Molding me in encouragement to change the failing actions within me. Stronger more self-aware I feel at ease and for once so dearly beloved. Thank you Sir John for all you are. My knight in shining armor.

Love unending and truly happy,
YOUR TEDDY BEAR



Attend a Community Meeting with the ASD School Board Thursday, February 22nd.



The topic of this meeting is Mill Levy Overrides (MLOs).

We will present information regarding MLOs and the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers.

The location for the meeting is the Community Center.

- Noon to 1:00pm
- Lunch will be provided.
- Child care will be available.

We look forward to seeing you there.



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Obituaries

Robin Melinda Sherman Fuller

Surrounded by her beloved family, Robin Melinda Sherman Fuller died in the comfort of her home on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017, at age 62, following a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer.



Robin is survived by her husband of 13 years, Jeffrey Alan Fuller, of Show Low, Ariz., and their five children and their families: Rachel and Conrad Oliver, of Denver; Zachary Fuller and his fiancé, Kathy Ramirez, of San Tan Valley, Ariz.; Kelci Fuller, of Portland, Ore.; Anna and Kirby Elkins, of Phoenix, Ariz. (who are expecting the family's first grandchild, Keldon Elkins, due in June); and Emma Fuller, of Flagstaff, Ariz.

She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Amy and Charles Wynkoop, of Mansfield, Texas, and her ex-husband of 22 years, Patrick Sherman, of Phoenix, Ariz.

Robin was born on Dec. 5, 1955, at Clark Air Force Base in Pampanga, Philippines, to her parents, the late Col. Bob Roy and Martha Christine (Montgomery) Frisby.

Through growing up in the Air Force, Robin had the opportunity to travel to, and live, all over the world. Some of her favorite homes were in Germany; Vacaville, Calif.; and Mascoutah, Ill., where she graduated from Mascoutah High

School in 1974.

Robin graduated with her bachelor's degree in special education from University of Texas in Austin in 1977, and later earned her master's degree in professional counseling from Argosy University in 2003.

Robin married Patrick Sherman on Dec. 31, 1980, and then over their 22 years of marriage, had daughters Rachel and Anna. They lived in Corsicana, Texas, from 1980-89, and Pagosa Springs, Colo., from 1989-92, when they moved to Show Low, Ariz.

In Corsicana, Robin was very involved in community musical theater, as well as women's Bible studies. Robin taught special education in all three cities, as well as taught music in Pagosa Springs, and after earning her master's degree in professional counseling, worked as a counselor at the Women's Hope Pregnancy Center in Show Low, as well as volunteered her time offering pastoral and personal counseling. She had a passion for helping people find healing and freedom through counseling and prayer ministry, especially young women. Robin made a huge impact in the community — everywhere from counseling, fostering babies, inviting people into her home and constantly being a mother to the motherless.

In April of 2004, Robin married Jeff Fuller and gained three self-proclaimed "bonus kids" — Zach, Kelci and Emma, whom she loved dearly as her own. Over the past 13 years, Jeff and Robin served on their church worship teams, traveled and adventured together, loved kayak-

ing and camping, and created a loving, warm home for not only their family, but for friends and anyone who needed a safe haven.

Robin loved music, reading, bird-watching, cooking, hosting, worshipping, studying the Bible, women's ministry, sunsets and soaking up God's beauty in nature. She said that her most prized job in life was being a wife and mother, and sharing the hope and love of Jesus — both of which she did incredibly well, and will always be remembered for her selfless, Jesus-centered love.

Robin's family are incredibly thankful for all of the prayers and support they have received during this difficult time.

Natividad Martinez

Natividad Martinez, known to her family and friends as "Teve," passed away on Jan. 27 at the age of 95 years old. Her adoring family, four daughters, were by her side as she experienced a peaceful death.



Teve was born to the late Nemesio and Gumsida Gallegos on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 1922, in La Puente, N.M. She was the eldest of eight children and was preceded by all of her siblings, except her brother, Chris Gallegos, of Denver, Colo. She and her late

husband, Joe I. Martinez, were well known as ranchers in Trujillo and Pagosa Springs. They later located to a ranch at Ignacio, Colo., in 1960. She was truly a pioneer in Colorado and recognized for having five daughters all who attended school in Pagosa Springs. This included Mary Lalita, the twins Polly and Ruth, Bernice and Roseann. Her eldest daughter, Mary Lalita, who married Mauricio Gomez, sadly passed away in 2015. For the past 15 years, Teve lived in California, staying with her daughter. Teve was a devout Catholic, enjoying her participation with church members in Trujillo, Pagosa Springs and serving as a Carmelite at St. Ignatius Church for 40 years. Her family members gifted her Catholic memorabilia from all over the world. One of her proudest moments was seeing Pope John Paul II in San Francisco.

She is survived by four daughters, Polly Stein (husband Tom); Ruth Pedersen (husband Robert); Bernice Martinez; and Roseann Gomez (late husband) Isaac Gomez. She also has 10 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. The grandchildren are: Reese, John and Mark Gomez, Melannie Buff, Lynette McPherrin, Ryan Holoubek, Melissa Fischer, Jenai Butts, Kristen Schaefer and Shannon Gilmore.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, at St. Ignatius Catholic Church with Monsignor Leo Gomez and Father Damian de la Cruz-Nuñez presiding. The rosary will be held at St. Ignatius on Friday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m.

Obituaries

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

PO Box 9
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
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fax: (970) 264-2103
Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Brief suicide intervention training

Special to The SUN

Join us in the fight against suicide. A brief suicide intervention training (BSIT) is a great introduction on how to respond to signs of suicide for both community members and health and human services providers.

A BSIT is an introductory one-

hour "gatekeeper" training, focused on increasing awareness of suicide as an issue in the community and skills for how to respond to signs of suicide.

The training will take place at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library today, Feb. 8, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Components to the BSIT include:

- Increased awareness about suicide as a problem in the community.
- Increased skills to intervene.
- Motivational strategies.
- Resources for further help and more.

For more information, contact Gordon South, program coordinator, at 335-2091 or gsouth@sjbpublichealth.org.

Letters

Continued from A3

Precinct 7 — Restoration Fellowship Church, Ed Bldg, 264 Village Dr, Pagosa Springs, (PoC) Christine Jones, (970) 749-0208 and Bruce Jones Jr, (970) 749-9028;

Precinct 8 — United Methodist Church Sanctuary 434 Lewis St., Pagosa Springs, (PoCs) Martha Peacock, (970) 731-0884 and Tom Zilhaver (970) 903-7022.

If you are looking for additional information about local Republican organizations and events you can go to www.archuletarepublicans.org/news/ and click on whatever links are of interest.

Ronnie Zaday

Opportunity to listen to a Colorado candidate for governor

By Julie Church
Special to The SUN

Greg Lopez is running for governor of Colorado in 2018. On Tuesday, Feb. 13, Lopez

will be speaking to the Archuleta County Republican Women.

Please join us at Boss Hogg's next Tuesday at noon. Six selections of lunch will be offered for \$12 including a drink and tip.

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Town approves housing impact fee deferral program

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 6, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved an impact fee deferral program.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips presented the item to the council. "The current code allows for a ten year deferral for projects that demonstrate a 'public benefit.' Staff and Council have discussed the fact that this term is difficult to quantify and is highly subjective," reads agenda documentation used at the meeting. "In an effort to provide a more transparent and even playing field, town staff recommends that any developer be able to request a deferral of impact fees or that the

town remove the deferral program option. Staff also recommends that the Town reduce the deferral from 10 years to three years."

The documentation goes on to explain that draft ordinance 878, which addressed both deferral of impact fees and waiver of impact fees for low- and moderate-income housing projects, was discussed at the Jan. 18 meeting.

It adds that staff was directed to separate the two different issues into separate ordinances.

"Ordinance 879 removes the 'public benefit' language and allows a deferral of up to three years for any project except for a single family home, duplex, or accessory dwelling unit," reads the documentation. "Feedback

from interested parties was that it is not beneficial for someone to put a lien on their property for a project of a smaller scale such as these. Also, the town is considering waiving impact fees for low and moderate income housing in Ordinance 878 so a deferral may not be needed as well."

Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger then said he'd entertain a motion.

"I move that the council approve Ordinance 879, the first reading of an ordinance of the Town of Pagosa Springs amending the Land Use Development Code with respect to deferral of impact fees," moved council member David Schanzenbaker.

Council member Tracy Bunning

seconded the motion, which proceeded to pass unanimously.

The council also considered the previously mentioned ordinance that would allow waiving of impact fees for low-income housing, but had several issues with the wording of the ordinance, along with several additional suggestions, and instructed town staff to return with a new draft ordinance during the town's Feb. 22 meeting.

"It sounds like there's some consensus on direction on that, so we'll bring it back to you again. It'll be Ordinance 878, and it'll be for first reading again since it's just morphed so much," said Phillips. "We'll have that at your Feb. 22 meeting."

marshall@pagosasun.com

Snowpack update: Dry conditions persist in southwest Colorado

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

According to a news release, snowpack has seen minimal improvement across the state, going up from 54 percent of normal last month to 59 percent of normal on the first of this month.

The news release, provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), cites Colorado Snow Survey Supervisor Brian Domonkos, who explains that "Nearly one quarter of the almost 200 snow monitoring sites across our network recorded snowpack at the

lowest or second lowest levels on record."

The news release goes on to explain that with only one-third of the winter season remaining, a major shift in weather patterns is needed in order to make significant improvements in Southern Colorado.

As of Feb. 1, the local snowpack for the area containing the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan basins was at 34 percent of the median snowpack.

Compare that number to last year's, which had those basins recorded at 20 percent of the median snowpack.

SNOTEL sites within these basins have observed the lowest standing year-to-date precipitation at 29 percent of normal.

The Rio Grande Basin is still sitting at 31 percent of the median snowpack, which according to the news release, is the lowest in recent history.

Regarding Wolf Creek Pass, as well as Red Mountain Pass, the news release explains that these areas typically hold 5 to 6 feet of snow in early February.

However, they currently both only hold about 2 to 3 feet.

Domonkos is again referenced,

stating, "What's more concerning is the considerable number of mid to lower elevation monitoring sites that have little to no snow."

Statewide, the current percentage of median snowpack is 59 percent, compared to last year's, which was 39 percent.

The current seven-day forecast provided by the National Weather Service has no reported snowfall for the Pagosa Springs area.

The seven-day forecast for Wolf Creek Pass, however, shows a 30 percent chance for snow on Saturday morning and night.

chris@pagosasun.com

Q fever found in regional dairy distributor

Special to The SUN

A number of failed pregnancies in goats at a regional dairy prompted testing that confirmed the presence of Q fever.

Local public health officials are working with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to assess several people with known exposure to this relatively common livestock illness.

Raw milk products from the dairy are distributed

throughout the Valley, Pagosa Springs, Gunnison and Crested Butte. To date, no human illness has been identified.

The bacteria that causes Q fever primarily affects sheep, goats and cattle, but it can also cause illness in humans. Some people exposed to it never get sick, but others may develop flu-like symptoms including fever, chills, fatigue and muscle pain.

People can get infected by breathing in contaminated dust, as well as through contact with infected animal fe-

ces, urine, raw milk and birth products.

Pregnant women and those with heart conditions are at higher risk for complications. A very small percentage of people who are infected may develop a more serious chronic form of the illness.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture and San Luis Valley Public Health Partnership are also involved in helping the dairy make sure that all proper precautions and actions are taken to prevent spreading the bacteria.



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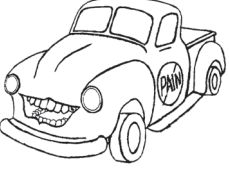
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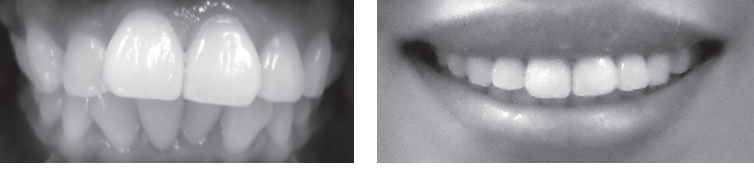


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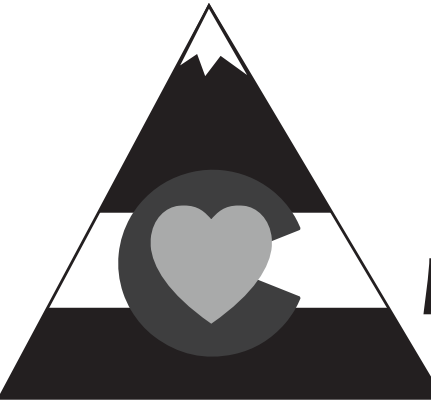
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Annual check up	\$150	Hormone pellet placement	\$250
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Business

Division of Insurance releases 2016 Health Insurance Cost Report

By Vincent Plymell
Special to The SUN

The Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI), part of the Department of Regulatory Agencies, has released its 2016 Health Insurance Cost Report.

The report analyzes the availability of health insurance, premiums, the factors that drive premiums and the trends impacting the marketplace — for both the individual and group markets. It also reports on the financial status of health insurance carriers.

"With health insurance so important to the lives of Coloradans, noting the trends and patterns is a valuable practice. And because much

of this report has year-over-year data, it allows for comparisons over time," said Interim Colorado Insurance Commissioner Michael Conway.

Highlights from the 2016 report included:
• While there are 425 health insurers in Colorado, many of which provide insurance other than major medical insurance (such as dental or vision), the top 10 largest insurers accounted for 81 percent of the health market.

• A little over half of all Coloradans had employer-based health insurance, which is close to the national figure.

• Average monthly premiums per person across individual, small group (for small employers with 2-100 employees) and large group health plans (for employers with 100-plus em-

ployees) ranged from \$317 to \$423.

• Approximately 86 percent of premiums collected for health insurance in Colorado went directly to the cost of providing health care services, exceeding the 80 percent minimum requirement under the Affordable Care Act for individual and small group plans, and the 85 percent requirement for large group plans.

• In Colorado, 45 percent of private-sector employers offered health insurance, and of that number, 48 percent self-insured their plans.

The report can be found on the DOI's page for "Insurance Brochures, Fact Sheets and Reports" — click on "Health Insurance Reports" under "Reports by DOI," and on the next page, click "Health Insurance Cost Reports."

CHAMBER NEWS

WinterFest weekend results announced

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

Even though there wasn't much snow to contend with at this year's WinterFest event, the participants and spectators came out in droves to have some fun and pretend like it was winter here in Pagosa. Nineteen hot air balloons came for WinterFest, gracing the skies, and splash and dashing in the lakes and river.

A record number of "plungers" braced the 38-degree water of the San Juan River on Saturday, Feb. 3, raising over \$10,000 collectively for nonprofit agencies in Archuleta County. Those nonprofits were: the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Pagosa Climbing Initiative, Pagosa Springs Medical Center Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cornerstone Wrestling, Four Corners Film Office, Special Olympics, Chamber of Commerce, DUST2 and Pagosa Peak Charter School.

The Pagosa Climbing Initiative won the penguin award for the most money raised and the Pagosa Springs Medical Center Foundation's "Ice Ice Ladies" won the best costuming award. We congratulate Nick Tallent, who now has the auspicious award of having plunged the most years — seven — and this year plunged for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Moving up to Reservoir Hill for the Sledz on Rez hosted by the Young Professionals of Pagosa Springs (YPOPS), the sledders dealt with less-than-perfect sledding conditions, but spectators got to view some spectacular crashes. The Best Wreck clearly went to the Albuquerque Pilot Crew (Caryn Welz, Zerek Welz and Jesse Zimmer). Caryn hit the mogul and cracked the sled in two. Luckily, she ended up with only a few bruises. The Best



Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

A record number of "plungers" braced the 38-degree water of the San Juan River on Saturday, Feb. 3, raising over \$10,000 for nonprofit agencies in Archuleta County: the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, Pagosa Climbing Initiative, Pagosa Springs Medical Center Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cornerstone Wrestling, Four Corners Film Office, Special Olympics, Chamber of Commerce, DUST2 and Pagosa Peak Charter School.

Overall sled went to birthday girl Kaylee Hensle in her birthday cake sled. The Best Team went to "Batman" sledder Tucker Ford and his dad, who helped him down the hill, and the Bruce Young/Enthusiasm Award went to Audrey Stewart representing Visiting Angels, who lit up the hill with her engaging smile and excitement. The Best Sportsmanship Award went to Young.

The Nordic Club Biathlon did have some snow and it was the youth participants who really made the day. DUST2 held a bike demo

and crepe extravaganza in Yamaguchi Park. There was no Fat Bike race this year, but a steady crowd came out to try out the fat and suspension bikes and to partake of the delicious crepes. The weather was actually very conducive to riding around Yamaguchi Park. If you weren't riding a bike, you could have been walking your dog on the Riverwalk in the Barkus Parade. Additional funds were raised for the Humane Society and participants strutted their Mardi Gras beads and decked out their pooches to be entered into the Best Costumed Canine.

Thanks also goes to the Multipurpose Ice Rink for offering free skating to the public on Saturday evening. Due to logistical problems, the balloon glow originally scheduled for that evening was canceled. Hopefully, though, the public enjoyed the facilities and an evening of fun.

Who knows what winter will

hold for Pagosa next year? But, as always, snow or no, we will hold WinterFest activities. We could not continue this event without the support of our community. This is a village-produced event.

Special thanks to the Pagosa Nordic Club, DUST2, the Humane Society and YPOPS for organizing events.

Membership news

We welcome one new member this week. It is Deni Blaisch with Heart 2 Heart Mobile Massage.

Our renewals this week are City Market, Scott Strategic Investments, Snow Country Snowmobile Tours and Third Generation Outfitters, and High Country Lodge. Our nonprofit members renewing this week are Axis Health System Archuleta Integrated Health System, Community United Methodist Church and the Pagosa Area Trails Council.

PAWSD staff receive certifications

By Justin Ramsey
Special to The SUN

Matthew deGraaf, of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), has earned his Wastewater C certification.

Shaun Wilkins, also of PAWSD, has earned his Collection 1 and Distribution 1 certifications.

Certified operators work to ensure our community has safe water. Certified operators work in various areas, such as water and wastewater treatment, water distribution and wastewater collections. These operators maintain

equipment and process to monitor and affect water as it moves through treatment, distribution and discharge cycles.

Certified operators are a crucial part of PAWSD's ability to provide an adequate and safe supply of water and to properly treat and safely discharge wastewater back into the environment.

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Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; I Corinthians 13:4-8

"Love is in the air..." It is expressed in many ways at this time of the year including giving cards, flowers, and eating out.

In I Corinthians 13 Paul gives a working description of love. "Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous, etc." If the Corinthian congregation will act in love it will heal many of their problems.

When I speak those cherished words, "I love you," my love must also be acted upon. I can practice the same qualities Paul describes in my marriage, family, and the personal relationships with the ones I love. Showing love through these qualities every day will change my life and the lives of those around me.
Dorman Diller, minister

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LEGISLATURE

Outdoor Retailer show brings business to Colorado

Gunnison and other mountain towns consistently run into a mutual problem: guests leave early because they can't acclimate to breathing in the high altitude.

When resident Roanne Houck graduated from medical school, her father asked her to do a little research to solve this dilemma. She ended up creating Acli-Mate Mountain Sports Drink, a business featured at the recent Outdoor Retailer and Snow Show in Denver.

It's a phenomenal step for such a small company; Roanne's husband, Gunnison County Commissioner Jonathan Houck, said the show has been a great boon to their business. The first day after being featured on the Denver news, sales jumped immediately.

I had the pleasure of welcoming the Outdoor Retailer show to Denver on the House floor in the Capitol, letting organizers know how grateful Colorado is for the

business and awareness they are bringing to Colorado. Outdoor Retailer's three shows in January, July and November moved to Denver this year after 20 years in Utah. The industry decided to change venues after the state government decided to support the Trump administration's plan to drastically reduce the size of Bear's Ears and Grand Staircase national monuments.

Utah's loss is our gain. Though the shows will take place in Denver, the positive effects will spread throughout the state. Front Range urban residents need the space the rest of the state offers to enjoy the outdoors. I spoke with



Rep. McLachlan's Report

so many buyers and sellers from around the world, all of whom showed great interest in the skiing, snowboarding, fishing, hunting and hiking we do in southwest Colorado. Outdoor recreation, a \$28 billion industry in Colorado, employing 229,000 people, is a perfect fit for our region of the state. It creates well-paying jobs and year-round incomes like it has done for Acli-Mate from Gunnison and Osprey Packs in Cortez.

One of the best parts about the outdoor shows is the focus on education. Every morning, buyers and sellers can attend a breakfast focusing on championing recreation as the next economic engine for rural and urban communities. They focus on consumer trends, waste in packaging and economic factors. Participants also learn how to manufacture using less water and how to address the climate change that could negatively affect their businesses. They learn about

the health benefits of their industry: the improved physical fitness, increased confidence and reduced stress they experience is a boon to Coloradans' health.

One breakfast focused on getting more women into the industry; since 2015, more than 75 outdoor company executives have committed to attract, retain and advance more women as a cornerstone strategy.

As legislators, we can continue focusing on the ideals that brought this convention to Colorado. We need to help preserve the lands we have open for hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and skiing. We will continue to emphasize the need for clean and plentiful water. We can focus on bringing small businesses to every part of the state to create strong local tax bases.

And, we can stop arguing about whether climate change is a theory, and get to work doing something about it. Snow sports need snow.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Monday, Feb. 12
San Juan Water Conservancy District board meeting, 7 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Unit 5.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session, 8:30 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 special meeting, 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School auditorium, 800 S. 8th St.

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

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

Pagosa Peak Open School Accountability Committee meeting, 6 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors regular meeting, 6:30 p.m., Station 1, Training Room, 191 N. Pagosa Blvd.

Wednesday, Feb. 14
Town of Pagosa Springs Historic Preservation Board, 4:30 p.m., Town Hall council chambers, 551 Hot Springs Blvd.

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

Thursday, Feb. 15
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District regular meeting, 5 p.m., 100 Lyn Ave.

Friday, Feb. 16
Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors work session and regular meeting, 3 p.m. work session, 4 p.m. regular meeting, 7 Parelli Way.

Tuesday, Feb. 20
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session, 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

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

Humane Society of Pagosa Springs board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Humane Society Thrift Store, downstairs, 279 Pagosa St. Open to members and the public.

Wednesday, Feb. 21
Upper San Juan Library District board meeting, 4 p.m., Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library, 811 San Juan St.

Thursday, Feb. 22
Archuleta School District Board of Education community engagement, Noon, Ross Aragon Community Center, 451 Hot

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

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

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School

Continued from front

Reed added that the new pre-K through fifth-grade elementary school would be built so that it could be expandable in the future.

Reed then explained that ASD purchased a program that allowed the district to plot where each ASD elementary student lived.

What the data revealed is that the majority of the students live on the west side of Pagosa Springs.

"There was discussion about busing and would we have to increase costs to bus all of these kids to Vista when in fact, most of those kids live there anyway," Reed explained.

Highway

Continued from front

missioners (BoCC) voted Tuesday to offer relief from portions of the county's land-use regulations in certain circumstances to help facilitate the CDOT effort.

Specifically, the BoCC voted in favor of a resolution Tuesday that

Coppedge then went into discussion on the BEST grant estimates for ASD facilities.

Estimated BEST grant funding discussion

Information regarding these preliminary fund estimates can be found in the chart accompanying this article.

Reed noted in a phone interview on Tuesday morning that these numbers are "very rough."

During the PAT meeting, Coppedge explained that he had the costs for both options regarding a new elementary school priced the

same.

"There might be a little bit of difference between the two of them at the two sites, but since we don't have to decide that tonight, that's OK, but that may bump up and down just a little bit," Coppedge explained.

Lisa Scott then asked Coppedge about Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) costs regarding both elementary school options.

"Where are CDOT costs? I mean if we had to re-do 160 at either of the locations, potentially we'd have to do it at both, is that built in?" Scott asked.

Coppedge explained that there

would allow for the installation of a temporary aggregate crushing, batching and mixing facility that "will be beneficial to both the County and to CDOT."

"For the duration of the CDOT re-paving project of Highway 160, the Board of County Commissioners will allow for temporary relief

from the specific requirements of Section 1.3.3.2 of the Archuleta County Land Use Regulations for those facilities having all applicable required State of Colorado permits and that have historically operated as gravel pits, asphalt batch plants, or aggregate processing facilities," the resolution states.

Vacation

Continued from front

398 Lewis St.

The discussion will begin the planning commission's work of reviewing land-use regulations that relate to vacation rentals.

The review is part of the planning commission's ongoing review of the Archuleta County Land Use Regulations that began after the planning commission and BoCC approved and endorsed an update to the Archuleta County Community Plan.

County Attorney Todd Starr began Tuesday morning's discussion on the topic by explaining that the county has provisions in its land-use regulations addressing short-term rentals.

Per that document, a "Bed and Breakfast" (where an owner lives) is allowed with a conditional use permit in the following zones in unincorporated Archuleta County: Agricultural Ranching (AR), Agricultural Estate (AE), Rural Residential (RR), Residential and Commercial. "Lodging Units, 3 or fewer" are allowed with conditional use permits in AE and Commercial zones, and as a use by right in Agricultural/Forestry and AR zones within the unincorporated county.

Starr noted that the BoCC had recently indicated that it was not happy with the state of the current regs, and noted that he had issued a statement in an email explaining that the current regulations would not be enforced.

Planning Manager John Shepard noted that he had never had a board refuse to enforce the code, with Starr noting he had seen it throughout the state on a variety of things.

Part of the problem, Commissioner Michael Whiting stated, is that if a use is not specified in the land-use regulations, it is not allowed, yet there are around 500 vacation rentals floating around.

Whiting noted that he didn't know the level of compliance of those rentals in terms of lodgers' tax, but suggested that a conditional use permit could help with compliance.

He also noted that he would like it to be a "local control issue" that the county should get out of and leave to homeowners' associations.

Commissioner Steve Wadley called accepting lodgers' tax on 400 short-term rentals that are not allowed under the code "hypocritical," with County Administrator Bentley Henderson saying some may be operating legally.

Whiting then further suggested that AE zoning was the sweet spot for vacation rentals by owner, and noted a shortage of hotel rooms.

Commissioner Ron Maez noted that the issue is when there are 15 people in a three-bedroom home, and explained some of the requirements of the Town of Pagosa Springs for vacation rentals within its boundaries, including a variance, business license and permission of the neighbors.

Discussion then turned to a 2013 revision to the land-use code that changed the definition of rental cabins before Shepard informed the board of the top complaints he has gotten from neighbors over the last two years:

- Occupied RVs.
- Short-term rental by room, which he noted is a boarding house (including a house that was rented out while still under construction and without having a certificate of occupancy).
- Planned unit developments, which he noted were a separate matter to be fixed later.
- Loud parties and blocking residents' access to their own homes that are adjacent to rentals.

Shepard told the BoCC he was seeking direction from the board in order to bring back meaningful recommendations.

Several ideas then surfaced regarding short-term rentals, including conditional use permits, special use permits, allowing in RR zones and more.

Shepard also noted that it's a balancing of interests, with some homeowners feeling their property value is lowered due to living next to

a hotel of sorts.

As the discussion continued, Wadley noted that the matter "has boiled to the very top of the pot," with Whiting suggesting proposed changes be brought forward as quickly as possible.

It was also suggested that the county look to other counties' regulations, such as what is done in La Plata and Ouray counties.

Land-use regulations review

The review on regulations concerning short-term rentals is part of a larger effort being undertaken by the planning commission.

On Dec. 13, the Archuleta County Planning Commission and BoCC met with county staff to discuss the county's land-use regulations and implementation of the Community Plan.

More specifically, the group focused on one table within the LUR that lays out uses by zoning district. At that meeting, Shepard explained that the first part of implementing the Community Plan is reviewing the land-use regulations, which were adopted in 2006 and amended in later years.

Shepard then noted that the last 10 years have been spent learning how it works, as well as what doesn't work, and now staff needed better direction to move forward.

Shepard then focused on Table 3, which identifies uses by right and conditional uses that are permitted in each zoning district.

In discussing the table, Shepard explained that all of the uses fall on a continuum, with one end being everything requiring BoCC approval, and the other end being things that do not require permits.

That table, along with potential amendments to it, were subsequently discussed again by the planning commission at its January meeting.

Shepard told The SUN following that meeting that the intention is to bring forward a package of proposed amendments in the spring.

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are already infrastructure costs built in.

These costs have not been completely defined yet, Coppedge added.

If the new elementary school building was built south of the existing elementary school's location, Coppedge explained that the existing building would have to be demolished.

"Because there's no more room — for the fields, for parking," Coppedge said.

Auxiliary gym

Jim Huffman then raised a question on whether or not an auxiliary gym is still included for the high school.

"No. This was doing more, remember we talked about taking care of more of what we have before we add that gym," Coppedge said.

Lindner noted that he had heard from a community member the importance of the auxiliary gym.

"It also sort of put in my mind a possible paying point with a certain segment of our community which is a pretty big, loyal, vocal segment which are our athletic participants and their families," Lindner said.

A solution to this, citing Pagosa Springs Elementary School Principal Justin Cowan, Reed explained that the auxiliary gym could be used on the weekends and in the evenings at the Vista property.

This idea was not included within these estimates as the idea had just been discussed, Reed explained.

"The thing is we do PE for every kid every day, so you got to have more space than just the typical elementary multi-purpose," Cowan said.

If two multipurpose gyms were to be built at the new PSES site on the Vista property, you might as well build one full-sized gym, Cowan added.

Additional discussion

Dryburgh then raised the question to Coppedge about what the capacity of the new elementary school would be.

"I have no idea what to do with that number," Dryburgh said, referencing the \$27.7 million price point for a new elementary school under both options.

"Because I don't know if that's for a 1,000 more kids than we got now or two more," Dryburgh said, adding later, "How many years do we think that we have until we might start running out of a room is a very good question."

Coppedge responded to Dryburgh's concerns by noting he would have those numbers on Wednesday.

Chris Pitcher then raised an issue on receiving more detail on the \$13.7 million line item for the high school. "I think we're kind of just going around in circles on this without really knowing what those numbers are," Pitcher said.

Reed responded by explaining to the PAT that the next step is to bring together a task force to go out into the community to find out what they will support.

The group would consist of upwards of 30 people, Reed added.

Brad Ash commented that the PAT group needs to educate the community on the process.

Pagosa Springs Middle School (PSMS) Principal Chris Hinger also asked for more clarification on what the \$4.4 million is for PSMS.

Primarily, the \$4.4 million consists of security upgrades to the building, Coppedge explained.

"Having these numbers that don't have details is hard," Pitcher added later.

"It just needs to be very clear why that there's less money being spent on this building is because we're supporting an overall master plan," Ash said.

"I'm just saying that the group is responsible for reporting back to the community and taking their input and making sure that whatever funds we go for, that we're addressing the greater need," Ash said.

Reed later explained the things the PAT wanted clarified from the meeting:

- What the list of 1-50 capital improvement projects are at the high school.
- The demographics and how much the new elementary school will hold.
- The analysis of the Vista property along with CDOT data.
- What the \$4.4 million will pay for regarding PSMS.

Olson

Continued from front

Springs, suffered severe injuries to his legs and head and was flown to St. Anthony's Hospital in Lakewood shortly after the accident.

Olson's stepdaughter, Tonya Hamilton, confirmed Wednesday that he is in critical condition, on a ventilator and unresponsive.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as 83-year-old Jerry Modisette, of Pagosa Springs.

He was cited with careless driving causing bodily injury.

"On Friday February 2nd at about 11:30 am, two Colorado Department of Transportation workers had a CDOT truck parked on the south side

of Highway 160 near milepost 140.4," reads a press release from Pagosa Springs Manager Andrea Phillips.

"One of the male CDOT employee's was standing in the acceleration lane filling potholes."

The press release goes on to explain that Modisette was heading eastbound on U.S. 160 and then drifted into the acceleration lane, striking Olson with the right front bumper of his vehicle.

It adds that the Pagosa Springs Police Department, the Pagosa Fire Protection District and Pagosa Springs Medical Center EMS responded to the incident.

"No drugs or alcohol are suspected," concludes the press release.

"I will flat out say, this is still way too big of a project," Scott mentioned.

Even with BEST's contribution of 39 percent, going to the community for \$35 million to \$37 million is going to be difficult, Scott added.

"I mean, I'll just say it right here. I think it's impossible. I do. That's my opinion," Scott said.

"I just want everyone to really be prepared for the amount of work it will take to convince this community that that's a worthwhile project at a good price," Scott added.

There are still two \$50 million projects, but the PAT now knows what BEST will at least consider, Scott noted.

"I want to go for as much as we can go for," Scott said, citing applying for the BEST grant. "But when all is said done, we have the option to make some adjustments to what we can go to the community for."

The process is all about educating the community, Reed added.

"You have to look at the track record of the voters in this community. They have voted everything down," Scott mentioned.

The safety and security issues could really be an emotional selling point for voters who may not have children in ASD, Lindner added.

"Not that we want to exploit that, but it's a reality," Lindner said.

Scott added that she believed that there is a real opportunity to go to the community with something that they will buy.

"We have to face that we are following a failed bond effort by the school district," Ash added.

That bond issue was proposed in 2011 and was worth \$50 million with no matching funds, Reed explained.

Ash later added that the last two failed bond issues regarding the county and school district also used committee groups.

"The difference is that they didn't listen to them. And they disintegrated. It's important that this group as a core needs to stay on track, but we're going to have to grow to reach out," Ash explained.

"It is about listening and it's about educating," Scott added. "But then it is about a very strong campaign."

chris@pagosasun.com

Courthouse

Continued from front

release, "Commissioner Steve Wadley opened with remarks about the County's desire to pursue solutions to the problem and reach some level of resolution."

In the discussion and press release, it was noted that Wadley brought up the hardships of county residents who had to drive to Durango to carry out any business with the courts, as well as the financial history and current reality of the county.

Henderson also noted that the county's representatives were clear in the meeting that the drawings presented were conceptual "and that they would probably need refinement before any final design conclusion was reached."

The space included in the conceptual plans, Henderson's release notes, is "within just a few hundred square feet of meeting court space needs as identified in a 2013 study conducted by the State Courts for court needs out to 2038."

Possible funding of the project was also discussed, with Wadley stating Tuesday afternoon the proposed funding included \$2 million from county reserves, \$2 million from an Underfunded Facilities grant and \$1 million from a Department of Local Affairs Energy Impact Assistance

Fund grant.

"Based on preliminary cost estimates a \$5.0 million dollar investment would be sufficient to effect the extensive remodel of the building," Henderson's release states. "In describing the entirety of the work, County Officials indicated that the plan, at this point, would be to gut the facility leaving nothing but floor, walls, and a roof. Construction would include state of the art mechanical, electrical, telecommunications, and security systems. The County recognized that a new roof would be necessary, and quite possibly upgraded exit systems. One of the benefits of the proposed plan would be [to] offer secure enclosed parking in the present sally port for court staff, opening up significant off-street parking for those needing to conduct business with the Courts."

Henderson's press release notes that, given the scrutiny of the building, "the County is fully aware that the facility would demand an extensive structural evaluation."

He also noted the county "readily agreed that every alternative available would be evaluated to ensure that all unconfirmed environmental concerns would be included in any evaluation recognizing that the

installation of new mechanical systems would be the most obvious approach in mitigating any perceived deficiencies."

In Tuesday's meeting, Henderson also explained that long-term monitoring equipment had been installed in three locations in the courthouse the last week of January, with ongoing monitoring being done remotely.

He noted that no abnormal readings for hydrogen sulfide had been detected since the installation.

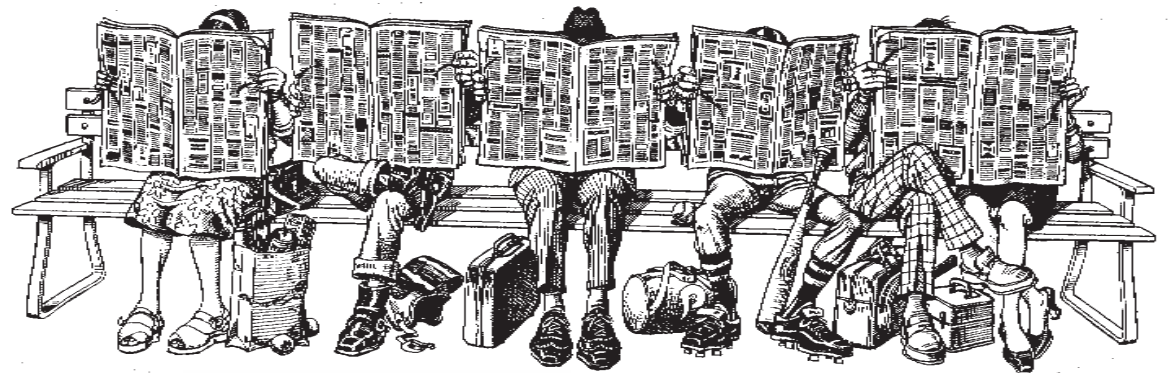
Following the update, Archuleta County Sheriff Rich Valdez told the BoCC he was frustrated that he had sent numerous letters and emails to the BoCC concerning additional space for the sheriff's office outside of the courthouse, and has presented options to the BoCC at a meeting, but that the BoCC had only come back with a motion about the courts, and no answers for him.

After responding that the county needed to deal with the court situation first, Wadley apologized to Valdez during the commissioner comment portion of the agenda, stating that he could have done a better job communicating with Valdez.

"You are certainly deserving of an answer," Wadley said.

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Schaaf running for county commissioner

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Alvin Schaaf is throwing his hat in the ring for Archuleta County commissioner for District 3.

"Change is inevitable," Schaaf wrote in a statement to The SUN about his reason for running. "I want to be a part of that change and be instrumental in moving our community forward while working to keep some of the history alive. I believe in action; setting a plan and then working toward achieving the goal. I possess common sense and a strong work ethic that will help me in this position. I am heavily invested in this community. I raised my children here. It is time for my generation to step into leadership roles in our community and stop leaving it to other people."

If elected, Schaaf states that his goals are "To support depart-



Alvin Schaaf

ment heads and assist the other elected officials in making decisions and continue to provide

quality service to the citizens of Archuleta County through fiscal accountability. I will strive to work in a professional manner to get projects and goals completed in a timely manner. I also will work with and listen to the public to better meet the needs of our community, and attempt to create better communication throughout the community."

Schaaf also wrote about what he believes are the biggest challenges facing the office.

"I believe finances have been and will continue to be one of the biggest challenges we face," he wrote. "The county needs improvements on the roads, better communications; both in the private sector and for first responders, as well as a new detention facility."

The youngest of nine children, Schaaf noted he was raised in La Plata County.

He continued, "I met my lovely wife, Terry Bramwell-Schaaf the summer of 1992. We were married in 1995 and have three wonderful children. I owned a successful masonry business for eight years before moving to Chromo 15 years ago to help on the family ranch. We have called Archuleta County home since then. I believe that giving back to the community is important. I chose to give back by volunteering. I served on the Western Heritage Community for eight years and volunteered for the local 4-H program, where my children have been active, for the past 15 years. I still volunteer at the Archuleta County Fair and have for the last eight years. Additionally, I am proud to have served Archuleta County for the past 10 plus years as an employee of the Archuleta County Sheriff's Office."

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White announces county treasurer run

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Elsa White has announced her run for Archuleta County treasurer.

White, a Republican and long-time resident of Archuleta County, wrote in a statement to The SUN concerning her reason for running, "I believe my work ethic and banking background will be an asset to the Treasurer's office. I have worked in the financial industry for 33 years, have learned how important it is to be accurate, dependable and organized, I will use all these skills to be sure the County funds are appropriately accounted for and secure as well as making the best choices in investing those funds. I have strong customer skills and plan on using those skills to help our county residents."

If elected, White wrote that her goals are to make sure county funds are properly insured and look into the best investment options for county funds.

"I feel it's very important that not only the Treasurer understand the importance of the procedures within the office but to cross train



Elsa White

other employees," she continued regarding her goals. "Make sure there are internal controls to protect the county funds and county employees."

She also noted she would like to start a network with the surrounding treasurers.

In regards to the biggest challenge facing the office, White wrote,

"The security of the County funds, with technology growing as fast as it is, making sure there are procedures in place to secure the public's funds, make sure there is no risk. Look at the cost to run the Treasurer's Office, look to see if we can save any money."

Too, White noted that new management and change could be a challenge, but that she would work "very hard" with the current employees and build a good relationship with them, as well as with the Clerk's Office and Assessor's Office, as the three offices work closely together.

"Any challenge I receive I will face head on," she wrote.

White previously worked for the Treasurer's Office for two years, she wrote, where her duties were "taking and posting payments from customers as well as the payments that came from financial institutions. I was in charge of Treasures Deeds that were requested from investors, notifying property owners of the request, post in the lobby of the court house, posting in newspaper. Filing final paperwork if treasures deed was issued."

White noted additional duties of taking deposits from other county departments, balancing weekly and monthly county accounts, and answering customer calls.

White also noted her involvement in the Chamber of Commerce, Pagosa Springs Booster Club, Eddie Oldham Scholarship Fund and Pagosa Springs Spanish Fiesta.

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Sports

BASKETBALL

Lady Pirates look to finish regular season atop IML

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates are entering their final week of the regular season with a nine-game win streak and three games remaining.

Two of those three games are against Intermountain League (IML) opponents — Montezuma-Cortez and Centauri — with the final game being against the 2A Ignacio Bobcats.

Heading into the final week of the regular season, the Lady Pirates sit first in the IML with an 8-0 league mark and 14-2 overall mark, sit fourth in the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI, which will help determine postseason seeding) and the second in the CHSAA Now.com poll.

And, as coach Wes Lewis indicated following the Feb. 2 game against the Alamosa Mean Moose, the team is still working to get better.

"There's certainly still things we can do better," he said, adding, "It's never perfect. ... I think if you go undefeated and win the state championship, there's always things you think you could've done a little better here and there, but I think we're playing better than we were before Christmas and I think we're continuing to play better, and I think we're continuing to play good defense, and it's one of the reasons we hang our hat on defense and have for the last 11 years is because we always feel like defense travels."

The Pirates will begin and end the final week of the regular season at home, beginning with another matchup with Cortez tomorrow night.

The Lady Pirates beat the Panthers 74-11 on Jan. 20 in Cortez, with Cortez now holding a 2-6 IML record and 4-13 overall record.

The game is set to begin at 5:30 p.m.

The following day, the Pirates will travel to La Jara for another game against the Centauri Falcons, who are ranked third in the RPI and fourth in the polls.

The Falcons' sole loss this season came at the hands of the Lady Pirates on Jan. 26, when Pagosa sent Centauri home with a 40-32 loss.

Centauri boasts a 7-1 league mark and 16-1 overall record.

That game, too, is slated to tipoff at 5:30 p.m.

Then, on Tuesday, the Lady Pirates will return home for one final regular-season match against the Bobcats, who own a 13-1 record.

With the games, the Lady Pirates will look to continue their win streak, which they extended in a pair of games over the last week.

Alamosa

On Feb. 2, the Lady Pirates welcomed the Mean Moose to town for a league matchup, then sending their opponent home with a 58-25 loss.

The Lady Pirates outscored the Mean Moose in all four quarters of the game: 17-4, 15-7, 16-7 and 10-7.

Lewis said he was proud of the team's defense.

"You look at the score by quarter, we (gave) up four in the first and then seven apiece the next three quarters. That's, you know, that's pretty good



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Pagosa's Taylor Lewis fights to fire off a shot during the Pirates' 58-25 win over Alamosa on Feb. 2. Lewis finished the game with eight points.

defensively," he said following the game, adding, "We talk about no double-digit quarters and obviously we accomplished that."

The team, he said, also came out strong.

"We (came) out pretty strong in the first half, putting up 17 in the first and even 15 in the second, ... that's pretty good for us and the way we try to do things and what we want to do," he said.

He noted the team didn't play as well to start the third quarter, but "got going a bit" and scored 16 in the quarter.

"I thought the kids played well, you know. Was it perfect? No, it wasn't, but ... some of the turnovers we had, they were off trying to score some fast-break points and ... So some of those turnovers, you never like one, but at least, you know, we're trying to thread the needle moving pretty fast down the court, so there's some of those turnovers we can kind of live with."

Lewis also noted the team got "big minutes" out of Hailey Griego, who started while Keena Murphy was out with an injury, and noted that Elsa Lindner gave the team "a nice spell

in the post for Morgan and Hailey a little bit, so that was nice seeing that."

The coach also noted the team was well-balanced in scoring again in the game.

"We like that," he said.

Morgan Lewis led the team with 24 points, followed by Devin Wilson with 10 (who logged three 3-pointers), eight from Griego and Taylor Lewis, four from Ada Peshlakai and two from each Adelyn Dozier and Zoe Strohecker.

The team pulled down a total of 39 rebounds in the game, led by 10 from Griego.

The team also tallied 20 assists in the game, led by seven from Taylor Lewis.

The team turned the ball over 14 times and stole the ball 11 times.

"I think Alamosa's a pretty decent team, so I think ... we played well tonight and (we're) happy with the win."

Bayfield

The following day, the Lady Pirates headed to Bayfield, bringing home a 68-20 win.

Bayfield now holds a 2-6 IML mark and 5-12 overall record.

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BASKETBALL

Pirates fall to Alamosa, upset Bayfield, final league games upcoming this weekend

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' basketball team split a pair of league games over the weekend.

The Pirates struggled in the first league matchup on Friday night against the Alamosa Mean Moose, who are ranked second according to the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) for 3A boys' basketball.

No. 18 Pagosa rebounded the next night, however, upsetting the No. 9 Bayfield Wolverines on the road.

With the split, the Pirates remain third in the Intermountain League (IML) with an overall record of 11-5 and a 5-3 record in the IML.

Alamosa

The first quarter between Alamosa and Pagosa was a close one, with Alamosa holding a one-point advantage, 15-14, heading into the second quarter.

Pagosa faltered on both sides of the ball, allowing 16 Alamosa points and only scoring six to find themselves down 20-31 heading into halftime.

The Pirates ultimately could not claw their way back, being out-scored 11-18 in the third and 8-14 in the fourth, and the Mean Moose swept the regular-season series against the Pirates by a score of 63-39, having beat them earlier in the season as well.

"Against Alamosa we evidently were not ready to play and Alamosa jumped out to an early lead. We failed to get out to shooters and they made shots," coach Randy Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN on Wednesday morning.

After the first quarter, Sorenson explained that it was pretty much downhill from there.

"Our defense was not very good the entire game and we turned the ball over too much. Alamosa is a good basketball team and you have to play better than that to have a chance," Sorenson concluded.

Mason Snarr led the team with 14 points, while Isaiah Griego had 10.

Pagosa also received scoring contributions from Jesus Pacheco, who had nine, Ty Kimsey added four, and Tyler Hammer contributed two.

Both Griego and Snarr led the team in rebounds with five each.

Alamosa currently sits in first place in the IML with an overall record of 16-2 and a 8-1 record in league play.

Bayfield

The following day, Pagosa traveled to Bayfield to take on the Wolverines for the second time in the regular season.

This time, the Pirates came out on top, defeating the Wolverines 52-47.

Three Pirates scored in double figures against the Wolverines, with Griego and Pacheco having 19 and 18, respectively, and Snarr adding 10.

Cade Cowan added three points while Mitch Lewis had two.

Griego finished with another double-double in the game, leading the team in rebounds with 15.

Ty Kimsey spread the ball around effectively, leading the team in assists with five.

Defensively, Griego led the team in blocks with five, while Lewis had one.

The win against Bayfield was a great "bounce back win," Sorenson



SUN photo/
Randi Pierce
Pirate Mason Snarr keeps his form as he looks to score against multiple Alamosa Mean Moose defenders. Snarr led Pagosa with 14 points, but Pagosa fell to Alamosa on Feb. 2 by a score of 39-63.

noted later.

"The kids came out ready to play and played much better than the night before. Our effort was much better and our defense was much better," Sorenson explained.

The team did a great job of competing and finding a way to win, Sorenson added later.

"It was a much needed win after the way we played the night before. It was a good win against a good basketball team on their home court," Sorenson wrote.

With the win, Sorenson indicated he hopes that it will be a confidence-builder as the team heads into the last portion of the season.

Bayfield currently stands in second place in the IML with an overall record of 11-6 and a 6-2 record in IML games.

Upcoming games

The Pirates will be closing out their league schedule this weekend with one game at home and the other on the road.

Starting on Friday, Pagosa will host the No. 24 Montezuma-Cortez

Panthers (10-7 overall, 4-4 in league play).

The last matchup against the Panthers on Jan. 20, the Pirates secured a 53-49 win.

Varsity action for the game against Cortez is set for 7 p.m.

Then, on Saturday, Pagosa will close out its league schedule by traveling to La Jara to take on the No. 20 Centauri Falcons (9-8 overall, 2-6 in league play).

Pagosa defeated Centauri the last time they met on Jan. 26, by a score of 52-39.

Varsity action against the Falcons will tipoff at 7 p.m.

"We have two tough games again this weekend against two quality opponents. Cortez and Centauri are both dangerous if they get to scoring the basketball. Both teams play hard and are aggressive," Sorenson wrote. "Centauri beat Alamosa on Saturday night so they will have a lot of confidence coming into the game this weekend."

Pagosa will close out the regular season at home on Tuesday against the Durango Demons (3-15 overall,

1-4 in league play). Game time is set for 7 p.m.

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Here at Citizens Bank of Pagosa Springs, we are lucky enough to call our office a home away from home. Within our bank family we would like to recognize and congratulate the promotions to our senior staff members Cindy Havens (Officer), Misti Smyth (Vice President), and Patricia Tackett (Senior Vice President). We are all very proud of you!

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SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT announces the vacancy of School Board Director District Four (4). Candidates must live within the boundaries of Director District Four (4). 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 February 8, 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 on February 13, 2018.

WRESTLING

Pirates best Wolverines, fall to Mean Moose

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team ended its regular season over the weekend, besting the Bayfield Wolverines 58-12 on Feb. 1 and losing to the Alamosa Mean Moose 42-18 on Feb. 3.

"We finished 4-1 in league and 12-3 overall," said coach Dan Janowsky. "Not to mention we actually won six team championships in tournament format."

Janowsky went on to explain that he thought the team was still wrestling well, and while it seemed that the Mean Moose had an edge on them, the dual was very close.

"There were seven very close matches," Janowsky explained. "We won two, they won five."

Janowsky admitted that the Mean Moose were a bit better than the Pirates, but pointed out that doesn't necessarily mean that'll be the case in the future.

Bayfield

On Feb. 1, the Pirates traveled to Bayfield to take on the Wolverines.

At 113 pounds, freshman Dillon Tressler got a pin against his opponent, scoring six team points.

In the 120-pound division, freshman EJ Monterroso got a pin against his opponent, scoring six team points.

At 132 pounds, freshman Cameron Lucero pinned his opponent, scoring six points.

In the 152-pound division, senior Trevor Bryant pinned his opponent, garnering six points.

At 160 pounds, junior Ian Reinhardt beat his opponent with a 15-1 major decision, scoring four points.

In the 220-pound division, se-

nior Nolan Stretton pinned his opponent, scoring six points.

Mean Moose

On Feb. 3, the Pirates hosted the Alamosa Mean Moose, which was their last dual of the regular season.

The Pirates ultimately fell to the Mean Moose 42-18, but Janowsky explained that the team score didn't reflect how tight the dual and individual matches were.

"We lost 5 by very slim margins," wrote Janowsky in an email to The SUN. "Our job is to turn those slim losses our way in the next two weeks."

Bryant beat his opponent with a pin, scoring six points.

At 160 pounds, senior Colton Castro beat his opponent with a 4-3 decision, scoring three points.

"Trevor Bryant is still wrestling well, and Colton Castro is down to his 160 weight," Janowsky commented. "He wrestled very well on Saturday."

In the 182-pound division, sophomore Caleb Janowsky pinned his opponent, scoring six points.

Stretton beat his opponent with a 12-9 decision, scoring three points.

"Nolan Stretton had a great weekend. He got a pin against Bayfield, against a kid that's a good kid and has beaten us," Janowsky said. "Then in our match over here, it was a back-and-forth battle. We found ourselves behind going into the third period, and we staged a really spirited rally and comeback. We got three, maybe four take-downs in the last period to win 12-9. It had the crowd on their feet."

Dan Janowsky added that even the wrestlers who lost still wrestled really well.



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

Sophomore Caleb Janowsky grapples with his opponent during a dual against the Alamosa Mean Moose on Feb. 3. Janowsky pinned his opponent, scoring six points.

"We just lost on the narrowest positions, margins, decisions and judgments," Dan Janowsky said. "We're still going to get better. There's two more weeks in the season left and we're going to improve."

This weekend, the Pirates will travel to Alamosa to participate in regionals, with the state tour-

nament being held the following weekend at the Pepsi Center.

On Friday, Feb. 9, action will begin at 9 a.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, action is also scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., with Dan Janowsky stating he believed that finals would be held around 3:30 p.m. that afternoon.
marshall@pagosasun.com

Super Bowl Fun Race results announced

By Julie Martinez
Special to The SUN

Wolf Creek Ski Area hosted the Super Bowl Fun Race this past Sunday, Feb. 4, with a great turnout of 68 racers from as far away as New Hampshire. Jasin Austin, of Durango, made the fastest time of 25.49 seconds.

In the Boys 6-8, Noah Bellina placed first with a time of 34.67, and Ryan Kim placed second with a time of 36.34.

In the Boys 12-14, Davis Parker placed first with a time of 27.86, Reed Kay placed second with a time of 29.52, and Andre Jones placed third with a time of 30.41.

Chris Foti placed first in the Men 26-30 with a time of 26.72.

Joe Bush placed second with a time of 29.55 in the Men 36-40.

In the Men 41-50, Cameron Parker placed second with a time of 27.27 and Daniel Filipiak placed third with a time of 28.71.

Gerard Henken placed third in the Men 51-60 with a time of 32.06.

In the Girls 6-8, Rio Myliys placed first with a time of 35.89.

In the Girls 9-11, Aubree Hampton placed first with a time of 31.61 and Kehli Bush placed second with

a time of 35.47.

Kristi Bush placed first in the Women 41-50 with a time of 29.55.

The next race in the Run Race series, the Mardi Gras Fun Race, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 11. It's free with purchase of a lift ticket and open to skiers and boarders of all ages and abilities. Medals will be awarded to the top three racers in each division.

RECREATION NEWS AND COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Open gym on Saturdays at Community Center

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

The Pagosa Springs Recreation Department is accepting youth volleyball registration for the 9-10 and 11-12 age groups through Feb. 23.

The 9-10 division will be an instructional league held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The 11-12 division will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings. The cost is \$35.

Please call the Recreation Department with any questions, 264-4151, ext. 232.

Community Center open on Saturdays

The Ross Aragon Community Center will be open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for open gym. This will continue through April 21.

Any event conflicts which would not allow a Saturday open gym will be posted in advance on the town's website, Facebook page and in The

SUN.

Please call the Community Center with any questions, 264-4152, ext. 521.

Open paint sessions

There will be a free open session for artists to bring their own supplies and work on their current projects at the Community Center on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. through Feb. 22.

Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time.

Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. No sign up is necessary; just bring your supplies and come have fun. Lemmo can be reached at 731-1590.

To register for programs online, visit the Parks and Recreation Department page at www.townofpagosaspings.com.

For more information, call the recreation office at 264-4151, ext. 232.

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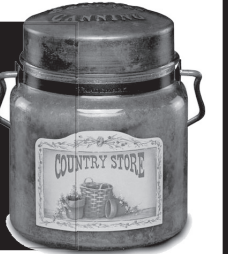
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Volleyball club competes in Albuquerque Volleytine's Challenge

By Shane Lucero
Special to The SUN

The Peaks Volleyball Club traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., over the weekend to compete in the Volleytine's Challenge hosted by Albuquerque Rebels Volleyball Club. Pagosa Peaks 15s came out strong on day one in pool play. They faced four strong teams from the Albuquerque area and ended up being the second seed in their pool and advanced to the gold bracket.

On Sunday, they entered the tournament and faced the Rebels, a strong team from the Albuquerque area. Although they fought hard, they couldn't overcome the opposing team.

"Our girls got rattled early in the first match with strong jump serves coming from the other team. Once we got out of our heads and started controlling our side of the court, things started to turn around," said co-coach Chelsea Hamilton.

The comeback surge happened a little too late and the Peaks fell to the Rebels, missing the chance to fight for the championship.

Peaks 15s went on to fight for third place. With the momentum

from the game before, Peaks pulled to an early lead.

"The girls were pushing through and playing hard. We were able to run our offense and dominated in the middle. Our defense was scrappy and not letting many balls hit the floor," co-coach Marissa Talamante commented. It was a successful tournament.

Pagosa Peaks 14s played in a strong three-team pool to start the tournament on day one. The team faced two tough opponents from the Albuquerque area. Each match was close, proving these girls were strong contenders.

At the end of pool play, the girls were seeded into the bronze tournament bracket. The team had a bye the first round of tournament play, but came out focused and won its first match of tournament play. The win placed the team in the championship match in the bronze bracket. The 14s team met a strong New Mexico team in the championship match. The girls played tough and won the match. The girls continue to push themselves and are learning and improving daily.

"We are really proud of our athletes and what they have accomplished so far this season. In larger



Photo courtesy Shane Lucero

The Peaks Volleyball Club traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., over the weekend to compete in the Volleytine's Challenge hosted by the Albuquerque Rebels Volleyball Club.

towns and cities, volleyball clubs have their own facilities where they can practice at least five times a week. This is a big advantage. Peaks VBC practices two to three times a week when a gym is available, so these athletes really have to make the most out of every practice. This

is a special group of young athletes and we are excited to watch them grow," said co-coach Shane Lucero.

Peaks 15s will travel to Phoenix over Presidents' Day weekend to compete in the Festival Fiesta Classic and the 14s will travel to Grand Junction later this month.

Cards of Thanks

Bartholomew family

We are deeply grateful for the kindness and compassion you extended to our family during this difficult time. Whether you kept us in your thoughts and prayers, or brought us food, sent us a card or came to the Celebration of Life, you have touched our hearts more than words can say.

Thank you to all those who came to help, to serve the food, or who brought food to share, buying paper goods and the ones that helped with all the preparations for the Celebration of our Dad and Papa.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for cooking for the Fish Fry. Difficult times like these remind

us of the importance of family and friends. It is greatly appreciated and will always be remembered, your thoughtfulness did so much to ease our sorrow.

Forever in our Hearts,
The family of Rick Bartholomew

Toys for Tots

Christmas has come and gone. The toys were placed under the tree. All of the children have long since rushed into the room to find gifts from the good St. Nick.

Moms and dads from all over Archuleta County were allowed to choose a couple of new, unwrapped toys to bring the miracle of Christmas to a huge number of children. Where could these toys have come from?

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community.

For the third consecutive year nearby and for the 101st year nationally, the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots has collected and distributed 1,100 toys to 340 deserving children. Barbie dolls, bicycles, scooters, trucks, race cars, speaker boxes and puzzles, just to mention a few, were selected by parents for their children.

All of the generous donations from this community are much appreciated. Without the magnanimous support from local businesses to allow drop-off boxes to be placed in their businesses, this annual toy drive would not have been the success it has become.

Our special thanks goes out to Coyote Moon Saloon, Walmart, City Market, Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), Restoration Fellowship Church, Goodman's Department Store, Tractor Supply Company, Riff Raff Brewing, Family Dollar store and Rosie's Pizzeria.

It is my great pleasure to thank our very generous corporate and individual sponsors such as AAA Propane, CUMC and Toys for Tots of Farmington, as well as a very special thanks to Rosie's Pizzeria, who for the second year opened her establishment on her night off to host a successful toy drive.

I take this opportunity to recognize several groups of dedicated

volunteers without whom this wonderful event would not have been possible. Veterans for Veterans of Pagosa Springs, Head-start of Pagosa Springs, Justice Ministries, Visiting Angels, CUMC, Pagosa Springs fire department, and three special volunteers from our community.

It will be my distinct pleasure to once again serve as the Toy for Tots local area coordinator again in 2018. I issue a couple of challenges to expand this program in a number of ways. What would happen if in lieu Marine Corps Reserve, all the members of the Marine Corps League would get behind this toy drive? Just another thought, what about a "Christmas in July toy drive" or a donation from the Marine Corps league, or pass the hat at the Marine Corps birthday dinner?

Thomas Audetat

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Caleb Janowsky
Wrestling

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Pagosa Springs Medical Center is proud to announce Dr. Bill Jordan has joined our team to launch The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at PSMC. With his addition quality, experienced cancer care is now available locally in Pagosa Springs.

Dr. Jordan is board certified in medical oncology and internal medicine. He has an extensive medical oncology career of over 45 years including patient treatment, cancer research, education, and development of cancer care centers. Dr. Jordan utilizes his significant experience and expertise to treat patients proactively.

Dr. Jordan completed his oncology fellowship and was on the faculty in Developmental Therapeutics at The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He has also served on the clinical faculty at UT Southwestern Medical Center and The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

As a long time second-homeowner in Pagosa Springs, he understands the unique challenges and obstacles to receiving cancer care in a rural area. Dr. Jordan is committed to removing those barriers and providing compassionate, high-quality care for our patients.

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Education

Youth Rise events target dating violence

By Cheryl Bowdridge
Special to The SUN

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. Most adults do not think of a teen relationship as a relationship that could be potentially abusive; yet 60 percent of our high school students at Pagosa Springs High School reported knowing a peer that is or has been in an unhealthy relationship.

Yet, the Expect Respect website reports that 81 percent of parents believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they don't know if it's an issue.

Maybe you are thinking what do we do about this? As adults, we can start by being positive relationship role models for our children and having conversations with them about the importance of healthy relationships.

Over the course of the next month, Youth Rise, an elective at Pagosa Springs High School, will run several campaigns to have open conversations and raise awareness about teen dating violence. Encourage the students who you know to participate and have discussions with them about teen dating violence. Educating our kids is the

best way to prevent it from happening to them.

Week 1: Beginning on Feb. 5 and running through Feb. 28 — Social Challenge. Follow the Youth Rise Instagram page at pshs.youth.rise and post photos of your healthy relationships there, using the hash tags #HealthymeHealthywe and #HealthymeHealthyphs and tag @pshs.youth.rise. Advanced art students will design T-shirts to raise awareness about teen dating violence, based on their experiences or perceptions of what teen dating violence can do to a person's spirit and what teen dating violence looks like.

Week 2: Feb. 12-17 — Red Flag Warning Signs Campaign. Watch for next week's article on Red Flag Warning Signs, as well as checking out what the students are doing to raise awareness about red flags in a relationship. Feb. 13 is "Wear Orange For Love Day." Wear orange to show your support for strong and healthy relationships.

Week 3: Feb. 18-24 — Pledge and Button Campaign: Students will be promoting healthy relationship pledge for their peers to sign during the week and handing out "Expect Respect" buttons

as part of an effort to raise awareness in Pagosa Springs about dating violence.

Week 4: Feb. 25-March 2 — Winners for the social challenge will be announced and Talk About Love Event. Students will host a lunchtime poster event where students can write their thoughts about healthy relationships and what they expect from a relationship.

Rise Above Violence offers 24-hour support and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault or other forms of violence, serving over 400 victims each year. Rise also works to eliminate violence through education for youth and our community. All programs and services are free and confidential, including emergency prevention education and empowerment programs.

Visit www.riseaboveviolence.org for more information or call 264-9075 to talk to an advocate today. Or, if you want to be part of the team to help those involved, volunteers for advocacy are always needed and welcomed. Our Youth Rise class is also a peer leader-trained group to help students in need of support.

Program works to alleviate hunger for Pagosa's children

By Jo Bridges
Special to The SUN

Pagosa Springs is not a community that readily accepts the notion that any of our children should experience hunger. However, it is happening and many people are trying to alleviate the situation. One effort, Rotary Clubs' Feed Our Children program, is in its seventh year of providing food for weekends to assist families who are struggling.

Currently, a majority of our elementary children qualify for the free or reduced lunch program. While this program provides essential support for children during the weekdays, the need continues through weekends. The Feed Our Children program provides nutritious food for children every weekend during the school year.

On Fridays, third- and fourth-graders in participating families collect backpacks at the school filled with food for all the children in their families for the weekend. The goal is to have happy, alert and focused children returning to classrooms on Mondays ready to learn. The intention is to supplement the wonderful work of the various church food banks by providing additional food, targeted to children's tastes, with very little preparation

needed. Involved teachers and staff are very supportive of the effort, saying that this is "... so needed. It is unbelievably important for the health, happiness and ability to concentrate for these children."

The community has been incredibly generous in supporting this effort, making clear that we all believe no child should ever go hungry. The Methodist and Episcopal churches, several realtors, as well as the Salvation Army and many individuals throughout the community, have made this project a reality by providing checks, gifts or donating appropriate food. The library hosts a collection box near its entrance, with a list of foods needed for the program. If you are interested in making a monetary contribution, you may mail a check for any amount to Rotary Community Assistance Fund (CAF) — Feed Our Children, P.O. Box 685, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Any funds received go directly to this project and are not subject to any administrative or overhead fees. This is a 501(c)3.

There is currently capacity to add additional third- and fourth-grade children to the program, so please encourage any family in need to contact the elementary school for an application. If you have any questions, please contact Jo Bridges (731-0038) or Lassie Olin (731-2927).

Goals & Accomplishments

Archuleta School District 50 Jt.

SUN staff asked representatives of publicly funded agencies in Archuleta County to individually answer a trio of questions relating to the goals and accomplishments of themselves and their agencies at the turn of the year.

Their answers will be printed in The SUN over the coming weeks. Answers are printed as received and are not edited.

Greg Schick, DVM, President of the Archuleta School District 50 Jt. Board of Education



What were your three biggest accomplishments in 2017?

1. The Pagosa Family School. It has been a great success this past year with many more students than we imagined. The PFS allows students from home school, private schools and our public schools to take classes that would ordinarily not be available to them. We now provide instruction in Spanish and Art, with plans to expand the classes they are able to take.

2. This past year we also approved a Charter School. It is now up and running. The addition of a Charter School in our community provides students with different learning needs to get a good education. It gives student and parents more options in how they receive their education.

3. We started the process of looking into the needs of the district in regards to buildings and facilities. Our district is growing and the need for more room and updated facilities is becoming urgent. We have had assessments of

our buildings and a demographic study done to get this process started. We have had multiple community engagement meetings and started a committee to help come up with options for our future building needs.

What are your three top goals for 2018?

1. The continuation of the process to determine our needs for our buildings and come to a decision on how to proceed is a big goal for 2018. We are now in the stages at which the School Board will approve an option that the PAT committee has recommended and we will continue to obtain community input.

2. We have begun the process to also look into a Mill Levy Override to hopefully increase salaries for teaches and staff. Since there is little chance that the State Legislature will be providing any increase in monies for education, we have to act locally to try to be competitive in salaries for teachers as there is a shortage of teachers in Colorado and nationwide. This

problem is only going to become worse. We have excellent teachers that deserve to receive competitive compensation.

3. The board is also committed to continuing the improvement in the education of our students in order to prepare them for entering higher education or the work force. We are trying to expand the technical skills classes that can be vital to those students who may not go directly into college or higher education.

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

As a School Board we will continue to involve the community, businesses and parents in meeting the goals that we have set. The education of our students is a community wide endeavor that as we work hard on we can be proud of and at the same time prepare our students for life after High School. The community engagement meetings we have held have been very successful and the information we have obtained has been invaluable and we will continue these meetings.

Linda Reed, Superintendent for Archuleta School District 50 Jt.



What were your three biggest accomplishments in 2017?

Our three biggest accomplishments of 2017 were tied directly to the goals we outlined in The Sun in early 2017. The first goal was to complete an analysis of our facilities and potential funding options to upgrade the facilities where necessary. Our enrollment continues to increase and our facilities are aging. We convened a group of parents, community members and staff to work with RTA Architects. This Planning Assistance Team (PAT) has met ten times since April. With input from the community the PAT has identified a master plan to prioritize the improvements required by our schools. First estimates of the cost indicate an increase of approximately \$5.00 per month per \$100,000 of assessed residential value. The district will submit applications for BEST grants from the state which would reduce that amount if the grants are awarded.

Our second goal was to improve communication with our stakeholders and our community. Beginning in October, the board began monthly Community Engagement Meetings. Meeting topics thus far have focused on facilities. Additionally, to assist with communication, we have contracted with a community member who has training and experience in communications and look forward to working with her to insure clear and consistent communication through a variety of channels.

Our third goal was to partner with private and home school students in our community. Pagosa

Family School, our private/home school partnership has been a great success and continues to attract students through an elective program that also provides after school enrichment for public school students. The board also authorized a charter school for the first time, in February, 2017. Pagosa Peak Open School opened in the fall of 2017 and serves approximately 69 students in grades K-4.

What are your three top goals for 2018?

Our three goals for 2018, in addition to completing the facilities process are the following:

- to increase vocational and technical course offerings for high school students
- to provide additional advanced studies options for our secondary students
- to increase compensation for our staff

What is your action plan to meet your goals?

In partnership with, and the generous support of, area businesses and individuals, we were able to offer Building Trades elective courses at Pagosa Springs High School for the first time in many years. With donations from area businesses, our students are learning the basics of building and are able to use tools to construct a variety of projects. The response has been so positive we are working with a community member to identify a larger facility for the 2018-2019 school year, where we can offer a more extensive offerings in Building Trades

and Wood Shop. We hope to expand in future years to offer courses that are precursors to the medical field and also restaurant and hospitality courses. In addition to the coursework, we are establishing actual summer work experience for students in the Building Trades program.

To meet our second goal of additional advanced study options for our high school students, we are expanding our work with both Pueblo Community College and Western State University to provide additional concurrent enrollment classes. These classes will allow our students to earn college and high school credits for the courses they take at the high school level, thus lessening the financial burden for many of our college bound students.

Our third goal is dependent on several things. The first is tied to a restructuring of school finance at the legislative level. We have worked with a variety of influencers at the state level to develop an equitable school finance formula that is being shared with legislators. While this formula would provide a more equitable formula for rural districts which are often at a disadvantage due to outdated formulae, the next step is for our elected officials to determine how to provide greater funding to schools in Colorado. Depending upon which study you read, Colorado ranks in the bottom quartile, at best, and the bottom 10% at worst, when compared to other states in the country. Should the state legislature not be able to come up with adequate education funding, the board is considering pursuing a local mill levy override to improve staff compensation.

Superintendent explains history of community college in Pagosa Springs

By **Chris Mannara**
Staff Writer

In recent months, there has been a push for local entities to support an effort to bring Colorado Mountain College (CMC) to the Pagosa Springs area. However, this area is currently in Pueblo Community College's (PCC) service area.

In a phone interview on Tuesday morning, Archuleta School District (ASD) Superintendent Linda Reed explained the current relationship between the district and PCC.

ASD is currently within PCC's "service area," Reed explained.

PCC would have to "release" ASD from its service area in order for another community college to come into Pagosa Springs and offer classes, Reed added.

To her understanding, CMC is outside the traditional community college structure in Colorado, Reed explained.

Reed also noted that there is no mill levy for PCC, but through information from CMC representatives, CMC's mill levy is 3 mills.

The process, as Reed understands it, is that a community says its interested in a community college locating a campus in its town.

There is a board of trustees for CMC, for example, that has to determine if the model of the community college fits the community itself, Reed explained.

The community would then have to step up and fund the process with 3 mills, Reed added.

"We are part of Pueblo Community College's service area and in order for CMC to come in, then Pueblo has to say 'You know what, we either don't feel we can serve this community or it's not a match, even though that's their service area,'" Reed added.

With that in mind, PCC would say to CMC that they could move forward and see if they could locate in Pagosa Springs, Reed added.

"We had a very, very, productive meeting with the president and her cabinet from PCC," Reed said.

The PCC representatives explained to Reed that they felt they had not done a great job serving Pagosa Springs and they wanted another chance to make it right.

"That's kind of where we are with them at this point in time. Looking at how the offerings that they have can be a match with our community," Reed said.

Reed added that they are also looking at how PCC can best support Pagosa Springs High School's (PSHS) career tech-ed programs.

"It's a rural issue. It's not just our issue," Reed mentioned.

"And, yes, we will continue to pursue other areas. And we don't have to do just PCC, that's the community college that we need to work with. We can work with other four-year universities," Reed added later.

ASD will look for a variety of opportunities for its students, Reed noted.

PCC is currently not holding

any classes in Pagosa Springs, Reed added.

Reed then provided a brief overview of the history of PCC and ASD.

ASD and PCC

Reed explained that the Archuleta County Education Center (ACEC), which was housed in what is now the Archuleta County administration and commissioners' building, had an alternative high school program.

Ultimately, more students began to choose to stay at PSHS to participate in the Pirate Achievement Center program, Reed explained.

Over time, fewer kids began participating in the programs that ACEC was offering at the time, Reed added.

ACEC then contracted with PCC to bring in an alternative high school diploma program, Reed went on to mention.

"And for a couple of years it was meeting a need and then less and less kids were participating," Reed said.

In the last year that the program was in Pagosa Springs, the ACEC sold its building to the county and ASD ultimately had only one student participating in the program, which was being held at the powerhouse by Town Park, Reed explained.

"And in fairness to PCC, they have to be able to work within their financial means, too. And they need a critical mass of students in order to offer a program," Reed said.

The program then eventually folded, Reed explained.

"The last experience that we had with PCC was actually just a year ago," Reed went on to say.

According to Reed, principals in southwest Colorado were trying to come up with a solution relating to the lack of concurrent enrollment classes, especially in math.

The solution involved a math teacher in Cortez who was concurrent certified with a masters degree in mathematics, Reed explained.

The principals then asked PCC representatives in Durango if that teacher could be the "teacher of record." Therefore, the teachers could work with that teacher and deliver a concurrent curriculum, Reed went on to describe.

PCC originally said yes to this idea and ASD began signing up students and purchasing the books for the class, Reed explained.

PCC then came back and said they could not do the program, with ASD about to begin school and the other districts in session for two weeks, Reed added later.

"So, we were left with kids that had signed up for a class, we had bought the books, they were expecting to get concurrent enrollment credit and that was pulled out from underneath us," Reed said.

From Reed's point of view, it was a very challenging thing and it was not fair to ASD students.

From what she understands, that was not the first failed attempt with PCC, Reed noted.

"I have to respect the people who work here and have those experiences, and that creates bad feelings, if you will," Reed said.

This last incident with PCC was really frustrating for ASD students as well as for the other districts, Reed explained.

chris@pagosapun.com

The Chamber would like to thank all the local businesses, individuals and organizations that participated in the High School Career Day!

Pagosa Springs Medical Center	Seeds of Learning PAWS
EMS services	The Pagosa SUN
Axxis Audio	Author Mariko Layton
Archuleta County Sheriff LPEA	Natalie Carpenter
Galles Properties	Forest Health Timber Products
Pagosa Verde	Kellie Stevens
Echo IT	Archuleta School District 50JT
Raymond's Rent-a-Nerd	Department of Human Services
Riff Raff	USFS
Springs Chiropractic	The US Army USMC
Bank of Colorado	Colorado National Guard
Pagosa Center for the Arts	San Juan College
Cabe's Collision and Customs	



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Wednesdays after 4 pm

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February 21 Crawfish \$25 <i>all you can eat</i>	February 28 Snow Crab Legs \$25 <i>all you can eat</i>
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March 7
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More than a veggie patch: Pagosa Springs Elementary School to start school garden

By **Jennifer Banks**
Special to The SUN

This spring, Pagosa Springs Elementary School (PSES) has plans to start a school garden.

PSES believes that we can enhance the future of our students through engaging them through the unique opportunities afforded by a school garden.

The garden will be focused on providing integrated, hands-on school garden lessons accomplished through experiential education opportunities, outdoor learning opportunities and summer programs. The garden will serve all students at the school to improve learning and overall wellness.

School gardens are a wonder-

Ballantine Family Fund awards more than \$300,000 in grants

By **Tracy Pope**
Special to The SUN

In 2017, the trustees of the Ballantine Family Fund awarded \$247,060 in grants to 114 nonprofit organizations in southwest Colorado, which includes Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties. The average grant size was \$2,167.

By sector, the Ballantine Family Fund awarded:

- \$2,000 to animal protection.
- \$68,500 to arts and culture.
- \$54,060 to education.
- \$27,000 to environment.
- \$64,000 to human services.
- \$17,500 to youth.
- \$14,000 to other.

By county, the Ballantine Family Fund awarded:

- \$18,500 to Archuleta County.
- \$6,000 to Dolores County.
- \$139,060 to La Plata County.
- \$61,500 to Montezuma County.
- \$7,500 to San Juan County.
- \$15,000 to other counties that support southwest Colorado, but are not physically located in our geographic region.

In addition to the totals above, the Ballantine Family trustees awarded an unsolicited \$54,000 in Core Value Grants to four nonprofits in Montezuma County.

"For 60 years, southwest Colorado has benefited from the generosity of the Ballantine Family Fund. Our community has been uplifted and supported in countless ways through the Ballantine Trustees with financial gifts to help nonprofits truly succeed in serving the region," said Briggen Wrinkle, grants manager for the Ballantine Family Fund.

For more information, visit www.ballantinefamilyfund.com.

ful way to use the schoolyard as a classroom, reconnect students with the natural world and the true source of their food, and teach them valuable gardening and agriculture concepts and skills that integrate with several subjects, such as math, science, art, health and physical education, and social studies, as well

as several educational goals, including personal and social responsibility.

If you are interested in supporting the school garden in any way, you can contact Jennifer Banks at jbanks@pagosa.k12.co.us or by calling (970) 444-2930. Donations, labor and any help are greatly appreciated. Happy gardening.

Pagosa Peak Open School awarded music grant

By **Ursala Hudson**
Special to The SUN

The Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) has recently been awarded \$10,000 to fund a music program through The Mockingbird Foundation's grant process.

The Mockingbird Foundation is an all-volunteer nonprofit founded and run entirely by fans of the band Phish, the internationally famous American rock band known for musical improvisation that was most active in the '80s and '90s. A leading grant-maker in music education for children, the foundation has now made 364 grants, including in all 50

states, totaling \$1,271,640.

PPOS was one of 16 organizations to have their financial request granted out of 1,122 inquiries requesting over \$2.5 million. This is the Mockingbird's 22nd round and the largest single round of grants in the foundation's 20-year history. Due to such high demand, Mockingbird's two-tiered application process remains one of the most competitive in the nation.

The grant will help the school purchase instruments and pay for instruction.

You can find out more about the school at pagosapeakopenschool.org.



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Outdoors

Volunteer at Chimney Rock National Monument

By Susan Yalom
Special to The SUN

I feel lucky to live here in beautiful southwest Colorado and one way to express my appreciation for this is by volunteering. I'm also lucky to have the time to volunteer in many ways. My favorite is volunteering with the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA) at Chimney Rock National Monument. I look forward to opening the season on May 15 and am usually a little sad when we close on Sept. 30.

Visitation has steadily increased since becoming a national monument in 2012, one of only a few national monuments run by the Forest Service. Our volunteers work closely with the staff of the San Juan National Forest. I'm excited about the upcoming season and hope some new volunteers can get excited, too.

Volunteers can choose one or more of a variety of activities. They can also determine their own schedule and time commitment. Sometimes I help with the early morning maintenance team that checks the trails and facilities once a week, making sure everything is safe and in good repair. Sometimes I work in the

Visitor Cabin to greet visitors and sign them up for daily tours. I have also helped at the upper parking lot, distributing the audio-tour sets and assisting visitors.

I enjoy being a tour guide, walking the two trails and talking to visitors about the archaeology and unique astronomical importance of the site, as well as its relationship to Native American culture, ancestral and present. I especially love helping with the monthly Full Moon program. Being on the ridge in the evening to watch the moonrise while listening to Native American flute music is a wonderful experience for visitors and volunteers.

There are other special events and evening programs that are planned for the summer. It requires a lot of volunteers to keep things running. I have gained many terrific friends through CRIA. That's another very important reason for continuing to participate. I'm enriched by meeting the visitors who come from many places, here and abroad. I also feel good about supporting the local community. Increased visitation adds to the local economy. One other plus: it is fun. We need you and welcome you to join us. Please watch for the upcoming open houses in

Pagosa. Come to meet volunteers and, maybe, catch the enthusiasm.

This year because so many new volunteers are needed, CRIA will host two Chimney Rock open houses to help community members learn about the exciting volunteer opportunities at Chimney Rock National Monument. The first open house will be held on Friday, Feb. 16 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Ruby Sisson Library located at 811 San Juan St. The second will be on March 16 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the EcoLuxe building at The Springs Resort and Spa located at 165 Hot Springs Blvd.

CRIA's Volunteer Training Days will take place on April 13 and 14 at the PLPOA Clubhouse located at 230 Port Ave. We are very excited for the upcoming season starting May 15 and want to encourage the community to join us.

CRIA is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that runs the daily operations and interpretive program at Chimney Rock National Monument under a Participating Agreement with the USDA Forest Service/San Juan National Forest. For more information and to view the 2018 Chimney Rock Calendar of events, visit www.chimney-rockco.org or call 731-7133.

Global Science class presents on Reservoir Hill forest-thinning project

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Jan. 18, the Pagosa Springs Town Council heard a presentation that compared the forest condition of Reservoir Hill before and after thinning operations took place.

The presentation was given by J.D. Kurz's global science class, with different students talking.

"This is the global science class. It's made up of juniors and seniors. They signed up for this class as an elective, because I assume they like science quite a bit," explained Kurz. "We felt like this topic would be relevant because Reservoir Hill is extremely important to the community."

The presentation began with one

student explaining the purpose of the project, stating that the purpose was "to determine if the forest thinning on Reservoir Hill accomplished the goal of reducing fire risk and improving the forest health."

Other students pointed out that the forest on Reservoir Hill is ponderosa pine, and that the elevation of the hill sits between 6,300 and 9,500 feet.

They pointed out that a healthy forest has trees spaced apart that allows for grasses to grow underneath the trees and for plenty of sunlight to hit the forest floor.

Other students explained that, when forests become overcrowded with trees, the forest becomes less healthy and the risk for wildfire increases.

Some talked about the creation

of the U.S. Forest Service and what the agency did for wildfires across the nation.

One student pointed out that it would be easy to use controlled burns to help optimize forest health, but pointed out that this is a bad idea due to the amount of homes in the surrounding area.

Another student pointed out that, not only do dense ponderosa forests increase the risk for wildfire, but due to the amount of the fuels in the area, the risk for longer, more catastrophic wildfires is increased as well.

A high schooler brought attention to all the amenities Reservoir Hill provides to the community, saying that the hill is "invaluable to Pagosa Springs."

The forest on Reservoir Hill was mechanically thinned on flat areas in January of 2016, explained a student, adding that sloped areas had to be thinned by hand due to machinery not being able to access sloped areas.

They pointed out that different parts of Reservoir Hill were thinned by hand in September of 2016 and September of 2017.

One student explained that, on the steep western slope of the hill,

the forest originally had, on average, 793 trees per acre before hand thinning.

After hand thinning, the steep area only had 240 trees per acre on average.

One student explained that sloped areas are still much more dense than they should be, and concluded the presentation by making a recommendation to the council.

"Sloped areas are still about five times more dense than the areas that were mechanically thinned ... our recommendation to you guys would be for you to clear more sloped areas to protect your investment for what you've already done at the top of Reservoir Hill," said one student. "We're very thankful to have a proactive town council like we have."

"I appreciate you sucking up to town council," said Pagosa Springs Mayor Don Volger as the audience laughed. "You guys did a wonderful job, in your work and also in your presentation, because I know this must have made some of you a little nervous, but you did great."

The audience then responded with applause.

marshall@pagosasin.com

Safe Routes to School : There's no such thing as bad weather as long as you're prepared when cycling

By April Rossetti
Special to The SUN

Despite this season lacking the winter weather that we are all accustomed to, the mornings and evenings are still chilly if you're traveling by bicycle. Here are a few tips to safely and comfortably commute during the winter months:

- Dress in layers (avoid cotton).
- Be visible — lights, bright clothes, reflective wear.

- Lower air pressure when roads are snowy/icy.

- Wear a buff/neck gator that can easily be pulled up to warm your face.

- Be prepared for a flat — always carry a spare tube, tire lever, patch kit and pump.

- For slippery stretches, slow down and stay loose. Brake only on the rear wheel to avoid spin outs on

slick surfaces.

- Bring water — hydration is important, even more so in winter.

Why bother?

Bikes have the ability to take a routine task, like physically getting to and from work, and turn it into whatever kind of adventure you want to have.

As a driver of a motor vehicle, look out for pedestrians and cyclists. Let's all do our part to keep our community a safe place to live, work, play and transport.

Archuleta School District's Safe Routes to School program, Retro Metro Kids, is a grant-funded program that aims to create safe, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to bicycle and walk to and from schools, elevating the cycling and walking experience for all.

Card of Thanks

YPOPS

YPOPS (Young Professionals of Pagosa Springs) would like to thank all those folks who came out to Sledz on Rez this past weekend and to the participants who, in true spirit of fun, participated in this annual event that is part of WinterFest.

There were a lot of laughs watching the homemade sleds and we are looking forward to next year already.

We especially would like to thank our sponsors, Choke Cherry Tree, Edward Jones Investment and First Southwest Bank, as well as our prize sponsors, The Hub, Pagosa Mountain Sports and Pagosa Outside.

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Town awards Rumbaugh Bridge stabilization contract

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Jan. 18, the Pagosa Springs Town Council voted to award the Rumbaugh Creek Bridge Stabilization Foundation Project to Hart Construction.

The project will cost \$248,488 and will utilize \$11,238 from the town's reserves.

Town Planner James Dickhoff presented the agenda items to the council.

"The Town has been awarded two State Historical Fund (SHF) grants, One for the historic Rumbaugh Creek Stone Arch Bridge restoration and one for the historic Water Works facility restoration," reads agenda documentation used at the meeting.

It goes on to explain that, in 2016, the town had advertised for bridge restoration proposals, but had only received one very high bid.

After discussing the issue with the SHF and the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) Water Works Committee, it was decided that combining the bridge project with a water works project would be a

better approach, the documentation explains.

"The project was combined and advertised in September 2017, however, we did not receive any bid proposal responses," reads the agenda documentation. "We believe the reason is that the project is unique and somewhat complex and most all contractor's schedules were already booked with more straight forward typical construction projects."

Following that, town staff worked with the SHF and the HPB to reach out to local contractors and discuss how to approach the next invitation to bid.

"Due to the potential the stone arch bridge may collapse before restoration work would ultimately begin, it was decided to phase the bridge project and seek bids to stabilize the bridge first in an effort to prevent its collapse," states the agenda documentation. "Phase one construction could occur between January and February 2018, when the water levels are typically the lowest and when contractors are not booked with other projects."

The documentation goes on to state that it's anticipated that

phase two of restoring the bridge as well as the water works facility restoration project would be re-bid by March 1.

It states that the invitation to bid contained multiple criteria for considering awarding the project, including methodology of construction, a safety plan, redirecting creek flows during the project, previous experience with the town and price.

"At our request, SHF has officially extended the grant funds for the bridge one year until January 2019," reads the documentation. "The Water Works grant was awarded one year later and expires in February 15, 2019."

Dickhoff explained that the town received two bids: one from Hart Construction and the other from Contracting Specialties Inc.

"Hart construction proposes a high strength shot-crete application with horizontal ground nails for both stabilization during construction for providing safety and to accommodate a stone appearance finish, damming and pumping the creek flows around the project site, tenting and heating the bridge arch area, replacing face arch stones with natural

Dakota sandstone, commencing construction within a week of award, and completing the project within 30 days, for \$240,838 base bid price plus \$7,650 in additive cost for carved and stained steel reinforced inlet and outlet slabs for a total of \$248,488," reads the documentation.

It adds, "Contracting Specialties, Inc. proposes a curved steel under arch support protection for safety, formed and injection mortar for foundation and missing stone blocks with a form liner to achieve a stone appearance, damming and pumping creek flows with and [sic] additional bleeder culvert, tenting and heating the bridge arch area, replacing face arch stones with natural Dakota sandstone, commencing construction within a week of award, and completing the project within 30 days, for \$278,000 base bid."

The town was awarded \$166,605 for the Rumbaugh Creek Bridge restoration project, and the town budgeted an additional \$70,645 as match in 2018, resulting in a total

of \$237,250.

"We had previously expected to spend \$20,000 in 2017 so the original full budgeted amount of \$257,250 was reduced by that \$20,000 amount in the 2018 budget, however, we only spend [sic] \$6,273 in 2017, leaving \$13,727 un-expended in 2017," reads the documentation.

It adds that phase one would utilize all the funding budgeted for both phase one and two.

"Thus, staff has reached out to SHF staff regarding submitting an additional grant application in April 2018 for funding phase two," concludes the documentation. "With the cost of phase one, it is anticipated phase two will cost about the same, \$250,000. For the next phase two, we can apply for up to \$200,000 with a \$50,000 TOPS minimum match for a project cost of \$250,000."

Council member David Schanzenbaker made a comment saying that he didn't recall the stabilization portion of this project costing \$250,000, with Dickhoff explaining

that he believed the original estimate to be extremely underestimated.

"Not only has the estimate aged since 2015, I feel as if it was extremely underestimated in the first place," said Dickhoff.

After discussion and taking comments from members of the audience, Mayor Don Volger said he would entertain a motion.

"I move to award the Rumbaugh Creek Bridge Stabilization Foundation Project to Hart Construction Corporation and to direct staff to initiate the project contract reflecting a \$240,838 base bid price plus \$7,650 in additive cost for a total cost not to exceed \$248,488 and to utilize \$11,238 from reserves in the Capital Fund for this purpose and amending the 2018 Capital Fund Budget accordingly," said council member Nicole DeMarco.

Council member Tracy Bunning seconded the motion, which then passed 5-1, as Schanzenbaker voted against the motion and council member John Egan was absent.

marshall@pagosasun.com

Town approves construction of seventh whitewater feature

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

On Jan. 18, the Pagosa Springs Town Council unanimously voted to engage Wolf Creek Ski Area and Riverbend Engineering to complete a seventh whitewater feature on the San Juan River.

"Over the past several years, Wolf Creek Ski Area has donated heavy equipment and operators to build six of the seven whitewater features that were planned out many years ago through public input," explained Town Manager Andrea Phillips to the council. "At this time, they are able and ready to complete the last feature, which is between the 1st Street bridge and Cotton Hole."

Phillips stated that the feature would provide challenging conditions to kayakers and tubers.

She added that the project would involve concrete as well as stone work.

"In the past, the ski area has donated a lot of the equipment and the operators. The town's covered the fuel costs as well as a pumper truck," Phillips said. "This go around, the ski area is not able to provide as much of a donation as they have in the past. They're still providing operators and assisting us with maintenance on our existing items and providing some of the equipment. However, they are asking for the town to step

up a bit more than we have on this other feature."

Phillips went on to explain that \$10,000 for construction management would be allotted, and that it would go to Riverbend Engineering.

"This was budgeted in 2017, but the feature wasn't built last year. It really is dependent on the ski area's ability and time to address it," Phillips said, adding that the funds for completing the feature weren't budgeted in the town's 2018 budget due to staff not knowing if it would be done this year.

"We were approached by Chris Pitcher, who is with Riverbend Engineering and is in contact with the ski area, and he said now would be a good time because the river's at such a low CFS flow," Phillips said. "Essentially, the total project cost would be about \$38,000 including the equipment rental, fuel, and the \$10,000 for construction management."

Phillips went on to propose a solution on how to fund the project.

"We would utilize \$5,000 that was budgeted for river feature maintenance, \$5,000 from a line item we have called 'town parks improvements' ... and then we'd need to take \$28,000 from reserves in our capital fund in order to fund the balance of the project."

Phillips reported that the work on the project could begin as soon as the project was approved by council.

"Just to put this in perspective,

the town of Durango, they budgeted \$100,000 just for maintenance of one of their features. They've spent over \$3 million on their couple of features," pointed out council member Nicole DeMarco. "This is a major donation from the ski area."

DeMarco added that she was going to recuse herself from the vote, though she did not provide a reason.

Council member David Schanzenbaker agreed that the town needs to complete the project and that he supported it, but expressed discontentment that the project wasn't budgeted for in 2018.

"We've talked about this in the past. It's frustrating because we made a policy decision in 2017 that we wanted to spend this money on this river improvement. Just because it didn't happen logistically in 2017 is no reason to not put it in the 2018 budget," Schanzenbaker stated. "We're in January and we're already dipping into reserves. I wish it wouldn't have been taken out of the 2018 budget."

Council member Mat deGraaf moved to approve allotting the funds necessary to complete the project and to engage the necessary entities to complete the seventh whitewater feature on the San Juan River.

Council member Clint Alley seconded the motion, which proceeded to pass. Council member John Egan was absent.

marshall@pagosasun.com

Scholarships available for journalism students

Special to The SUN

The Colorado Press Association (CPA), in cooperation with The Denver Foundation, is now accepting applications for scholarships from Colorado high school and college students pursuing a career in print journalism.

CPA is awarding a total of three scholarships worth \$1,500-\$2,500 each. For more information, eligibility requirements and to apply,

visit: High School: <https://denverfoundation.academicworks.com/opportunities/371>. College: <https://denverfoundation.academicworks.com/opportunities/388>.

New this year is a requirement that scholarship applicants plan to use their degrees in Colorado print journalism, either in newspapers or online.

"We want to encourage people who are going into the newspaper-

media business," said Jerry Raehal, CPA CEO and graduate of Northern Colorado University. "It is important that we have the best and brightest in the field, not just for our industry, but also democracy depends on dedicated people getting into journalism."

Applications must be received by Feb. 28.

For more information, visit <http://coloradopressassociation.com/foundation/about>.



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preview

ARTS & LIFE

'The Marriage Proposal'

Feb. 10, 16 and 17 • Pagosa Springs High School auditorium



Photo courtesy Kim Elzinga

Russian romantic comedy offers new twist in high school production

Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs High School Drama Club's production of Anton Chekhov's "The Marriage Proposal" Feb. 10, 16 and 17 takes the stage like audience members have never seen before.

"Often we try to get as many kids involved as we can and we aim for larger, more visually oriented productions," said Sean Downing, director and drama coach for the high school. "Every few years, though, I try to get a classic piece on stage, just for the lessons young actors can learn from the masters."

This year's classic piece is Russian playwright Anton Chekhov's romantic comedy "The Marriage Proposal," a one-act play filled with the irony and satire of love.

"The basic plot line is simple, as are all Chekhov's plays and those simple plot lines, simple sets, simple stories, really gave Chekhov the opportunity to explore the hilarious complexities of falling in love — in any culture, at any time," Downing explained.

The one act features only three roles, filled by Adrian Roque (senior), Skylar King (sophomore) and Roland Sanchez (senior).

"Staging only three students in a



Photo courtesy Kim Elzinga

Skylar King, Adrian Roque and Roland Sanchez rehearse "The Marriage Proposal." The one-act play opens Saturday night and will be performed three nights only — Feb. 10, Feb. 16 and Feb. 17.

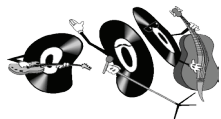
production like this is risky," Downing said, "because often the only people who come see the play are the kids' parents and that gives me about six people in the audience. But I really wanted to give a few kids the opportunity to get into the roles, push themselves to let the process, not the product, be the point of the play."

Downing continued, "These three have really explored the process of finding character (which is harder than it looks), dealing with

comedy based on reality (which is harder than it looks) and balancing their crazy lives while pursuing three demanding roles (which is harder than it looks). They have put together a play that balances satire with the serious and, in many places in the performance, they surprise me with some new discovery every night."

Chekhov wrote "The Marriage Proposal" in 1888 and it was first
■ See Comedy on next page

Live Performers



Thursday
Riff Raff Brewing Company: Robin Davis Duo, 6 p.m.

Saturday
Belvedere Arts: Steve Blechschmidt, 3 p.m.
Coyote Moon: Karaoke, 9 p.m.



Reg. U.S. Pat. Office

The Pagosa Springs SUN thanks longtime Pagosa Springs supporter Mrs. Shirley Slesinger Lasswell for the privilege of being the only newspaper in the United States to publish the 'Red Ryder and Little Beaver' comic strip. The ongoing adventures of Red Ryder and Little Beaver which began appearing in the Preview section with the December 26, 1996, edition of the SUN first ran in major daily newspapers across America from December 25, 1938 through December 4, 1963. Drawn by the late Fred Harman, the comic strips are under the registered copyright restrictions of Red Ryder Enterprises, Inc.

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By Fred Harman



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Let loose and play at weekly hand-drumming class

By Paul Roberts
Special to The PREVIEW

Join musician and music therapist Paul Roberts for a free hand-drumming class at the Pagosa Lakes Clubhouse on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at noon.

The class offers a welcoming environment that encourages fun, creativity, playfulness and connecting with others.

Performing thousands of concerts in elementary schools, I have been fortunate to combine my love for music with my love for children. Engaging children in a musical experience is like floating in a sailboat above the clouds — sheer bliss.

Children are immediately responsive to music. Music makes a child's day more fun, alive and interesting. It increases their receptivity to learning, enhances their intelligence, motor skills, and mental and physical health.

Children have an enormous ca-

capacity to be expressive. They have the ability to do something quite remarkable: play. Their wondrous world of play is full of joy, imagination, spontaneity, improvisation and creative self-expression. In this regard, children have much to teach adults.

The inner child of the adult waits for the right opportunity to emerge. The adult's childlike side is eager to let loose and enter a playful zone. It's delightful to see adults and children drumming together. Drumming offers a creative release for all ages and skill levels, from toddlers to seniors, neophytes to professional percussionists.

Soaring on the wings of inspiration, the Pagosa Springs drumming class has held 16 sessions and is going strong. Newcomers are welcome to join the fun.

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

Comedy

■ continued from previous page performed around 1890. The original play is intended to take place in a parlor or sitting room in an aristocratic Russia.

"But, the beauty of any classical piece," Downing suggested, "is that you can perform it in any cultural or economic setting. So we set it in contemporary culture. What's amazing is how little the human race changes across time and across cultures."

Performances will take place in the Terry Alley Auditorium at the high school on Saturday, Feb. 10 (a change from last week's advertised opening night), and Feb. 16 and Feb. 17.

"All three nights handily scheduled around Valentine's Day, for those of you looking for the perfect date night," Downing added.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; curtain is at 7 p.m. Prices are \$5 for students and \$8 for the public.



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Photo courtesy Bob Green

Flamenco, Granada, Spain (left); Royal Equestrian School, Jerez, Spain (right), both by Bob Green. Green will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 14 meeting of the Pagosa Springs Photography Club.

Feb. 14 Photography Club meeting: ‘Spain and Portugal’s Greatest Hits’

By Gregg Heid
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Photography Club will hold its February meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Join us for socializing at 6 p.m., followed by a brief business meeting at 6:30 p.m. The Photography Club normally meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the fellowship room of the Methodist Church.

The February Photography Club meeting will feature longtime member Bob Green. He will be doing a presentation on “Spain and Portugal’s Greatest Hits.”

Green said, “In the fall of 2016 and 2017, my wife and I spent a month total traveling through

Spain and Portugal: beginning in Barcelona, traveling through northern Spain via the Pyrenees and along the Way of St. James to Santiago de Compostela, then south to Porto and Lisbon. From there, we proceeded east to Evora, Portugal and Seville, Spain. Then, we traveled south to Gibraltar (a British territory) and finally through Granada, Cordoba and Toledo, finishing our journey in Madrid, in the heart of Spain.”

He took over 3,000 photos on these trips. His talk will examine six widely accepted principles whose exercise will lead to noteworthy, compelling images. “Spain and Portugal’s Greatest Hits” will include the top 50 photos from his travels and point out how various “rules” come into play as we view the images.

Members can bring 10-12 pictures you would like us to view and critique after her presentation on a flash drive. Longtime photographers and those just starting out are welcome.

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

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Celebrate National FFA Week with a local chicken dinner

By **Karrington Castro**
Special to The PREVIEW

National FFA (Future Farmers of America) Week is coming upon us soon, as it starts on Feb. 17 and goes till Feb. 24.

National FFA Organization organizes a theme every year for the National FFA Week. The week will consist of sponsoring the agriculture education. The FFA mission is: "FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education."

FFA in my words is a new learning experience for students who are interested in the agriculture business.

Earlier in December of 2017, our FFA chapter got the privilege of meeting two of the state's FFA officers: Cassie Franks, who is the vice president, and Dillion Roesch, the state sentinel. They really brought into perspective about getting out of our comfort zone and trying new things when they came. I believe that FFA is overlooked and thought of as just a club. It's more than that; it's about meeting new people and making a difference in the world.

This year, the theme for FFA is, "I can. We will." This message really jumps out to me and makes me realize how much you can do by yourself, but, if everyone works together, how much more we can really do and make a difference.

I, Karrington Castro, am the secretary for our FFA chapter here at Pagosa Springs High School. We all know how small our town is, so our FFA chapter is pretty small. FFA is something that I have always looked forward to. I couldn't wait to

be a part of it. As a student, I am a junior at PSHS. The FFA organization has changed me and given me different perspectives on different things. I have learned and seen new information. Most people think of agriculture as just farmers, but it is a lot more than that. Being in FFA has shaped me to be a better person and a better leader. I have learned and seen new skills that I haven't used before.

Most people think of agriculture as just farmers, but it is a lot more than that. Being in FFA has shaped me to be a better person and a better leader.

I have always wanted to be a leader in something that means a lot to me. I learned from fellow FFA leaders about being a district officer. As I heard about this, I thought about it and I am interested in running for one of the offices. Running for one of the positions as a district officer will be a new experience for me.

My FFA group has been talking about going to the National FFA Convention for a while now. This year, we are going to make it happen and we couldn't be more excited.

It isn't a easy process to get there, though. We have to raise about \$3,000 to get us to nationals. That is just the cost for one person. The convention is in Indianapolis. We would get to listen to many speakers, meet the new FFA officers of 2018 and get to see many new sites.

Pagosa Springs is a small town and many of us kids in FFA have not been far out of Pagosa. Getting the chance to go to an event this big will be a great experience for my FFA group. There are students from all over that attend the convention. There will be around 60,000 people or more. By that number, you can tell how big this is.

My FFA group has started a chicken dinner. Last year, this dinner was a big hit and many people are already asking about it. This year, we will also have fish. The fish that we will be selling are from our greenhouse that we have put together. However, there is a limited amount of fish. We do a pre-order form on how many people want chickens. We then prepare all this food for you to have a yummy dinner. You get a choice of two sides that will come with your chicken or fish. The sides that you can choose from are a bag of chips, beans or potato salad. We will have a certain date for pick up of your order. We have set a date where and when you can pick up your dinner.

The pickup will be on Feb. 17 at Ponderosa Hardware. It will start at 2 p.m. and go until 5:30 p.m. Thank you for giving me your attention.



ART Classes

Winter/Spring
ART CLASS SCHEDULE
Sign-up deadline:
February 12, 2018

Beginning Drawing, 6 weeks, 2/9-3/26
Beginning Wheel Throwing, 8 weeks, 2/21-4/18
Beginning Hand-Building, 8 weeks, 2/21-4/18
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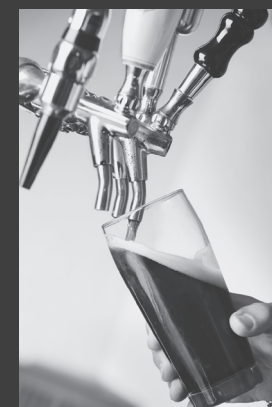
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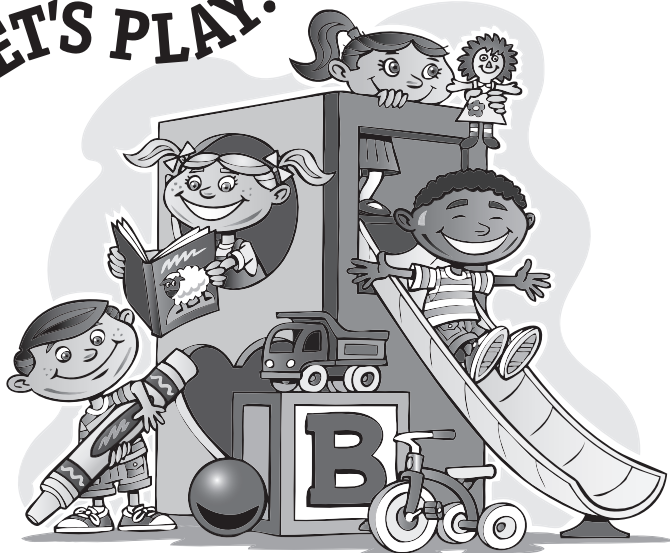


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TEAM PAGOSA REALTY GROUP



Photo courtesy Lisa Scott

Book fairs at Pagosa Springs Elementary School bring out the fun in everyone. The theme for the Book Fair being held Feb. 26-March 9 is Paws for Books Book Fair — Come, Stay, Read a Great Tale! It will be a fun time celebrating household pets.

Spring Book Fair just around the corner

By Lisa Scott
Special to The PREVIEW

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming Pagosa Springs Elementary School Feb. 26-March 9 during school hours in the school library.

Families, teachers and the community are invited to attend the fair, which will feature a special theme: Paws for Books Book Fair — Come, Stay, Read a Great Tale! This is an exciting time for students at the school and many activities at the school accompany the Book Fair as it is a fun and gratifying way to increase interest in reading for pleasure.

Parent/teacher conferences are Feb. 26, 27 and 28 and the Book Fair will be open during these after-school and evening hours. Book Fairs are scheduled to coincide with parent/teacher conference nights so there are many opportunities for busy families to visit the fair together. Students love showing their families the decorations and the books they have their eye on.

Family Night will be held March 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. The Partners In Education Committee has organized another fun evening. A delicious, nutritious and fun homemade dinner will be served and there will be many other “pet” activities.

Individuals attending the Book Fair can also help build individual classroom libraries by purchasing a book for a teacher through the

Classroom Wish List Program that is highlighted within the Book Fair.

Students visit the Book Fair with their class to preview the books for sale, especially the new releases. There are a wide variety of books and price ranges available, and there is always a huge supply of

bargain items as low as \$1.99.

Students also view the “Author DVD,” supplied by Scholastic, which features authors discussing the books they wrote with kids in mind.

The elementary school has been **See Fair on next page**

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Photo courtesy 4-H

Archuleta County 4-H Cloverbuds have started their Native American unit for 2018. They have talked about different dwellings and built teepees, as well as learned about tribal chiefs. Here they can be seen wearing custom headdresses at their last meeting. 4-H Cloverbuds is a program for 5- to 7-year-olds that prepares them for becoming 4-H members in the future. Each meeting consists of a different topic related to the theme for the year. There is still space available to join Cloverbuds; please contact Becky Jacobson at 264-5931, ext. 2 for more information.

Fair

continued from previous page
 hosting a book fair since 1982. The school hosts one book fair per semester and the proceeds are taken in the form of scholastic dollars and books for the school library. Scholastic dollars enable the school to order a vast array of educational supplies at a considerable discount. Proceeds continue to be used to “make over” classrooms with alternative student seating, area rugs,

SMARTboards and projectors. Additionally, comfortable student furniture for the library was purchased. Proceeds also assist with purchasing the meal and entertainment for the Family Night event.

The Book Fair will offer specially priced books and educational products, including newly released titles, award-winning titles, children’s classics, beautiful hardback books, interactive software and

book titles from more than 150 publishers. There are products for all age ranges and many excellent gift ideas.

The community is invited to attend the Book Fair as a shopper or volunteer during fair hours as the event is hosted in the school library and staffed by volunteers. For more questions or to volunteer, contact Lisa Scott at 264-2730 or sranch@centurytel.net.

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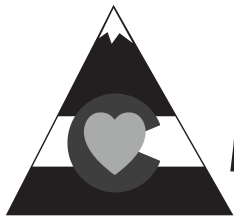
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Photo courtesy Jeff Laydon

Sisters in Song, a community women's chorus, will begin rehearsals on Feb. 27 at the Community United Methodist Church from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Community Women's Chorus, Sisters in Song, to begin rehearsals Feb. 27

By Linda Parker
Special to The PREVIEW

The Pagosa Springs Girls Choir (PSGC) is again inviting women in Pagosa Springs who love to sing and would like to perform on a concert along with the Girls Choir to come be a part of the Sisters in Song women's choir.

The community women's chorus, Sisters in Song, is in its third year of existence after two successful years of performance. The group will begin rehearsals on Feb. 27 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church. The choir will continue to rehearse each Tuesday until its performance on May 10.

This year, the Sisters in Song will perform quality choral music of songs from Broadway musicals. The concert theme is "On Broad-

way," chosen to complement the summer educational trip that PSGC will take to New York City in August.

The Sisters in Song group was formed in 2016 to give the PSGC an opportunity to sing with women in our community. At the end of the rehearsals, the ladies had enjoyed singing so much, they wanted to continue.

"I am so excited for this venture to give the girls another musical experience and the opportunity to sing with a women's chorus. It is a great experience for the girls, one that we all enjoyed," said PSGC Director Linda Parker. "Pagosa is full of wonderful musicians and I am grateful that they are willing to share their time and their talent with the girls. Music is a lifelong skill and what better way to show the girls that this is true than to ex-

perience it with women who have sung throughout their life. Most of the women are not career musi-

■ See Chorus on next page

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Fifth annual 'Over the Rainbow' fundraiser set for Pagosa Springs Girls Choir

By Linda Parker
Special to The PREVIEW

It is a special year for the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir (PSGC). This year, they celebrate their fifth year of existence.

The group is preparing to host an enchanting evening of fun, food and two-stepping for all guests at its fifth annual "Over the Rainbow: Making Dreams Come True for Young Girls in Pagosa Springs" fundraiser. As in the past, this year's festive event features a silent auction, catered dinner, live musical performances and a dance, all happening at the Ross Aragon Community Center on March 2.

Making their way through the

doors of the Community Center on this special Friday, guests will find themselves "Over the Rainbow" — a place where a love of music and song, and the help of a supportive community give the members in the PSGC opportunities to realize that the dreams they dare to dream really can come true.

This memorable evening begins with a silent auction that beckons with dazzling, must-have offerings generously donated by local artists and businesses. This year's offerings include baskets galore, gifts for moms-to-be, housewarmings, shopping sprees, family outings, the list goes on and on.

An enticingly delicious, catered dinner, will be presented and fol-

lowed closely by delectable chocolates for dessert.

The choir members, under the direction of Linda Parker and accompanied by Gwen Taylor, will join the fun with a short performance to thank their audience for their support. To complete the wonder and delight surrounding the evening, "Over the Rainbow" guests will be invited to don their ruby slippers, cowboy boots or footwear of choice and trip the light fantastic to the ever-popular dance music performed by the San Juan Mountain Boys.

"Over the Rainbow" tickets, which include dinner and entertainment, are \$40 per person. They ■ See Fundraiser on next page

Chorus

■ continued from previous page
cians, but they continue to enjoy music. Some of the ladies who sing with us tell me they haven't sung since high school, but still love singing and being a part of a choir."

Participants in the women's chorus need no prior experience.

"Only a love of music and singing are needed to be a part of this

group," Parker went on to say.

However, to help offset the cost of music, there is a \$15 fee for the choir.

"This is a short-term commitment (only 10 weeks), so I'm hoping we'll have many of our ladies come and sing," she added.

If you would like to sing in a women's chorus and perform some

great music, mark Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Methodist Church (on Lewis Street) on your calendar.

For more information, please call Linda Parker at 264-1434 or email her at singpagosa@gmail.com. You're sure to have a great time sharing your love of music with this extraordinary group of women.



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Wednesdays after 4 pm

February 14, Valentine's Day Dinner Special
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Crawfish **\$25**
all you can eat

February 28
Snow Crab Legs **\$25**
all you can eat

March 7
Frog Legs & Wings **\$25**
all you can eat

Wednesday specials include a side salad and fries

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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

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

The colorful behavior of the American dipper contrasts sharply with its drab plumage. Both male and female are stocky, dark gray birds with brown-tinged heads and are about 7 inches long. Extra feathers, low metabolism rate and extra oxygen in the blood are among their adaptations for life in cold water.

A resident of fast-moving, boulder-strewn streams of the west, the dipper is quite easy to spot now on the open waters of the San Juan River in town. Watch for it to fly low over the water and land on a rock, where it bobs up and down in constant motion.

In search of food, either aquatic insects, tiny fish or eggs, the dipper can dive into the cold water and walk along the bottom, probing under stones with its feet. It will also wade in the shallows with only its head submerged, or swim on top of the water.

Also called the water ouzel, the American dipper is Colorado's only aquatic songbird. Both sexes sing year-round and it is a real treat to hear one on a cold winter day. Susceptible to pollution and water disturbances, the American dipper is an indicator of good water quality.

Fundraiser

continued from previous page
are available for purchase from The Buck Stops Here, Goodman's Department Store and from any member of the PSGC. Tables of eight may also be reserved at no additional charge. For additional information regarding the event or tickets, call Parker at 264-1434 or send an email to singpagosa@gmail.com.

Doors for "Over the Rainbow" open at 5 p.m. Browse the incredible auction selections while listening to the music of fingerstyle guitarist Steve Blechschmidt. The silent auction runs from 5 to 7:15 p.m. A cash bar of beer and wine will be available all evening. Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m. until 6 p.m., so don't be late. At 6:30 p.m., guests will be treated to a special musical performance by the choir, who will also kick off the dance, leading the audience in the electric slide. At 7 p.m., the San Juan Mountain Boys will take center stage for music and dancing until 9 p.m.

Get your tickets now, save the date, March 2, and watch The PREVIEW for more exciting details of this incredible, fun-filled evening.

Proceeds from PSGC fundraisers are used to help provide scholarships and educational enrichment opportunities for choir members and to help with the organization's operating costs.

Community news.

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264-2100

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Saturday-Sunday from

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11:30 am	11:41 am	11:54 am	12:05 pm	4 pm



Wilderness Journeys Pagosa, Inc
970-731-4081 to reserve your ride!
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Attend a Community Meeting with the ASD School Board Thursday, February 22nd.



The topic of this meeting is Mill Levy Overrides (MLOs).

We will present information regarding MLOs and the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers.

The location for the meeting is the Community Center.

- Noon to 1:00pm
- Lunch will be provided.
- Child care will be available.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Local students win state awards for artwork

By Jenna Gannon
Special to The PREVIEW

Hailey Huddleston and Kianna Plate recently won awards at the state level for their artwork.

Plate received honorable mention in the Painting category and Huddleston received a Gold Key in the Drawing and Illustration category.

Huddleston's work will now be judged for nationals.

Here is a little bit about the art show that they were submitted to.

The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards are the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12.

In 2017, Colorado had over 6,000 pieces of art from approximately

■ See Artwork on next page

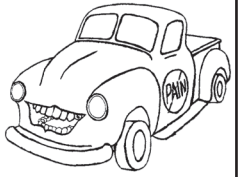


Photo courtesy Jenna Gannon

Hailey Huddleston her art piece "Wrong! Do it Again," made with cardboard and charcoal. Huddleston recently won a Gold Key award for her work in the Drawing and Illustration category in Colorado's Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Her piece will now be judged for nationals.

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Photo courtesy Jenna Gannon

Kianna Plate with her collage, "Smudge." Plate received an honorable mention in the Painting category of Colorado's Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Artwork

■ continued from previous page
2,200 students in the program. Submissions are adjudicated and selected works will go on display at the History Colorado Center in the spring of 2018. Judges look for work that best exemplify originality, technical skill and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

Students receiving Gold Keys, Silver Keys, honorable mentions, American Visions and Voices Nominations are celebrated at the exhi-

bition at the History Colorado Center and spring awards ceremony.

Gold Key works are then judged nationally by an impressive panel of creative — industry experts to receive national medals, including gold, silver, American Visions and Voices, Portfolio Silver with Distinction or Portfolio Gold Medals and special awards. National medalists will be recognized at the National Ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City in June 2018.

Chili cook-off and Bunco at Mt. Allison Grange Saturday

By Larry Corman
Special to The PREVIEW

Mt. Allison Grange is hosting a chili cook-off and Bunco party this Saturday, Feb. 10, starting at 5 p.m.

Bring a pot of chili to share. Or, just come be a judge (eat) and enjoy the company. Top chili by vote of the guests will be rewarded.

All entries will be served free of charge to the community starting at 5 p.m. We will play Bunco — a game for all ages — in which the only skill needed is to be able to roll the dice.

Donations will be accepted and there will be a bake sale (lots of Valentine's goodies) to assist local families.

For more information, email mtallisongrange@gmail.com or call Yvonne at 799-3064 or Shirley at 883-2483.

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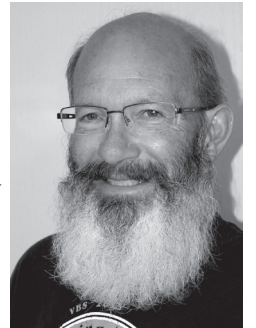
Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails; I Corinthians 13:4-8

"Love is in the air..." It is expressed in many ways at this time of the year including giving cards, flowers, and eating out.

In I Corinthians 13 Paul gives a working description of love. "Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous, etc." If the Corinthian congregation will act in love it will heal many of their problems.

When I speak those cherished words, "I love you," my love must also be acted upon. I can practice the same qualities Paul describes in my marriage, family, and the personal relationships with the ones I love. Showing love through these qualities every day will change my life and the lives of those around me.

Dorman Diller, minister



Please join us

Pagosa Springs Church of Christ

277 Lewis Street • 264-2552

www.pagosaspingscoc.com

Time of Services

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

In Search of the Lord's Way, KWUF Radio, Sunday 8:00 a.m.

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Biblical • Evangelical • Liturgical

Swallowed up by life

Are you prepared for greatness or prepared for life? Is there a difference? Yes, a big difference.

Successful people usually live a life of preparedness, trials and hard work. They roll up their sleeves and flex their earthly muscles and make it happen. But, what if life throws them a curveball?

I introduced a new book by Jerry Jenkins to our writer's group. He takes the reader on a personal and inspiring journey about his writing career.

With the phenomenon of the "Left Behind" series, 65 million books were sold. People asked Jenkins, co-author, if he felt he was destined or chosen to write the series.

"Left Behind" was the 125th book he wrote. He answered their question, "Not destined, but prepared."

He tells his story of how he loved baseball. He lived and breathed baseball and planned to play in the big leagues. His life was baseball. After two injuries, his days in baseball were over. Life swallowed up his dreams.

He said he turned one passion into another one. He knew he could write and he began to write what he

Artist's Lane

Betty Slade



knew, sports and reporting sports. He changed his goal as an athlete to become an editor for a newspaper.

From being a high school newspaper editor to writing for magazines at 15 years old, he continued to seize opportunities. He interviewed sports figures and wrote about them.

Jenkins committed his life to the Lord as a teenager, but veered away from God. It was when he sold out to God that things started to change and career breaks began to come his way.

His first break was interviewing Bob Richards, an Olympian and two-time gold medal winner in pole vault. He was known as the Parson and was the first athlete on the Wheaties cereal box. Jenkins wrote about Richards' faith.

His next big break came when he was asked to interview Hank Aaron. That interview brought

more high-profile sports figures his way.

He felt totally inadequate when the opportunity presented itself to write a book with Dr. Tim LaHaye. LaHaye was an American evangelical Christian minister, speaker and author. He wanted to write for a dual audience and have a crossover message for the general market. As a seasoned writer, Jenkins argued it couldn't be done. A writer writes for one audience. He took a chance and agreed to write the "Left Behind" series and target two audiences.

The series sold more copies than all 124 books Jenkins had previously written.

"I was prepared." His faith made him ready for success. Jenkins had learned, with a surrendered and pliable life, to move in God's spirit by faith. He turned one passion into another and lead many into his Christian faith.

No one is exempt from life. We all have bruises to prove it. Life will swallow up our dreams and hopes. One curveball changed Jenkins' direction. That change brought a life of full potential and success.

When I read a passage in Cor-

■ See Lane on next page

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Offer ends 2/28/18

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VA announces aggressive new approach for low-performing medical centers

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced steps that it is taking as part of an aggressive new approach to produce rapid improvements at VA's low-performing medical facilities nationwide.

The VA defines its low-performing facilities as those medical centers that receive the lowest score in its SAIL star rating system, or a one-star rating out of five.

The VA currently has 15 such one-star facilities: Hampton (Virginia); Harlingen (Texas); Roseburg (Oregon); Washington (D.C.); Big Spring (Texas); Denver (Colorado); Dublin (Georgia); El Paso (Texas); Jackson, (Mississippi); Loma Linda (California); Memphis (Tennessee); Murfreesboro (Tennessee); Nashville (Tennessee); Phoenix (Arizona); and Walla Walla (Washington).

The steps the VA is taking to produce rapid improvements at its low-performing facilities include:

1. Central, national accountable leadership — The VA has designated Dr. Peter Almenoff, director of the VA's Office of Reporting, Analytics, Performance, Improvement and Deployment (RAPID) Healthcare Improvement Center, to oversee improvement at each of the centers. Almenoff reports directly to Dr. Carolyn Clancy, executive in charge of the Veterans Health Administration.

2. Comprehensive analysis and identification of improvement targets — The VA is employing a new initiative, known as Strategic Action Transformation, that uses a rigorous and formal approach based on clinical performance indicators to identify vulnerabilities in each low-performing facility and set specific targets for improvement.

3. Provision of national resources for improvement — The VA's RAPID team of experts will use sophisticated statistical tools to track the progress of improvement

Veterans Corner

Raymond Taylor



against these targets and, where warranted, will dispatch a team of expert improvement coaches quickly to the medical centers to assist them in meeting the goals.

4. Accountability for results — The VA's central office will review each of the facilities quarterly and, if the facilities fail to make rapid substantial progress in their improvement plan, VA leadership will take prompt action, including changing the leadership of the medical center.

“President Trump has made it clear that our veterans deserve only the best when it comes to their health care and that's why we are focusing on improving our lowest performing facilities nationwide,” said VA Secretary David Shulkin. “We will employ tight timelines for facilities to demonstrate improvement, and if low performance persists, we will make swift changes — including replacing facility leaders — until we achieve the rapid improvements that veterans and taxpayers expect from VA.”

Services available for local veterans

Pine Ridge Extended Care Center is VA-certified, which means there are services available for our local veterans. These services have eligibility requirements and specific programs. For more information, please contact this office or Pine Ridge.

For more information

The office of the Archuleta County veterans service officer (VSO) provides assistance to qualified military veterans, and their

families, or a veteran's survivors, in applying to and in obtaining VA program assistance, benefits and claims.

This assistance is provided within the guidelines, policies and procedures established by the Colorado Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. This is a mandated program of the state of Colorado.

■ See Veterans on next page

HUD
Publisher's Notice



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

SUDOKU

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		8		3	6			

Level: Intermediate

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!

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!

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

ANSWER:

Lane

■ continued from previous page

intheans, a phrase, "Swallowed up by life," settled deep into my spirit. I was mindful we live two lives, one in the flesh and the other one by faith. The one we live by sheer might and shrewdness, and it could bring success and greatness on this earth. But true success will take us to our final destination.

When someone leaves this life behind and their time on this earth is over, people say of them, "They are taken up in death." If they are believers, the Bible says they are swallowed up by life, divine life.

Final brushstroke: It takes a life-

time to be prepared for those great moments on earth. But, as we live by faith, we are being prepared for a greater moment when we meet our maker. We who believe in Jesus will be swallowed up by His life and character, and will live in His greatness.

Readers' comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

There are so many of our friends who are facing death and the next life. I felt burdened to encourage them that they do not need to be afraid of death. They will be swallowed up by life.

The Peking Acrobats to return to the Community Concert Hall Feb. 10

By Indiana Reed
Special to The PREVIEW

The highly-revered Peking Acrobats are set to return to the Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Called a modern-day kaleidoscope of entertainment and wonder, the Peking Acrobats defy the laws of gravity and are said to leave

audiences spellbound. Accompanied by a live, exotic Chinese orchestra, the 26-member troupe of elite athletes — gymnasts, jugglers, cyclists and tumblers — performs the 2,000-year-old traditions with astounding grace and agility, and offers a fast-paced, intricately choreographed show to mesmerize all ages.

As noted by Dance Insider, "It's like watching Crouching Tiger,

Hidden Dragon LIVE, without camera tricks creating special effects. All 26 members of this troupe are amazing athletes with grace and charisma in addition to their razor-sharp precision—everything entertainment should be!"

Hailing from the People's Republic of China, the Peking Acrobats have been diplomats of their culture for decades and are ■ See Acrobats on page 30

Veterans

■ continued from previous page

For further information on VA benefits, please call or stop by the Archuleta County Veterans Service Office, located at the Senior Center in the Ross Aragon Community Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

The best way to contact me is to set up an appointment, for either at your home or in the office, so I can schedule a specific time in order to answer and assist each veteran in Archuleta County.

The office number is 264-4013, fax number is 264-4014, cell number is 946-3590 and email is ray-taylor@archuletacounty.org. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Bring a DD Form 214 (discharge) for applications to VA programs or benefits for which the veteran may be entitled to enroll, and for filing in the Archuleta County VSO office.

Always leave me a message and phone number to contact you.

Veterans' groups

The following veterans groups meet in Pagosa Springs:

- American Legion Post 108: second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

- American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary: second Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

- Veterans for Veterans: Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

- Combat Veterans PTSD Group: Every other Tuesday at noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Contact Kevin Kelly at (505) 699-0824.

- Women's Group of Spouses of Veterans: First and third Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., Dr. Sharon Carter's office. Contact Charlotte at 903-9690.

Important numbers

- 799-VETS, www.Vets4VetsPSCO.org.

- Durango VA Outpatient Clinic: 247-2214.

- Farmington VA Center: (505) 326-4383.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.: (800) 465-8262.

- VAMC Albuquerque, N.M.,

emergency notification: (800) 465-8262, ext. 5739.

- The Veterans Crisis Line offers free, confidential support to

veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends 24/7/365. Call (800) 273-8255, chat online or text 838255.

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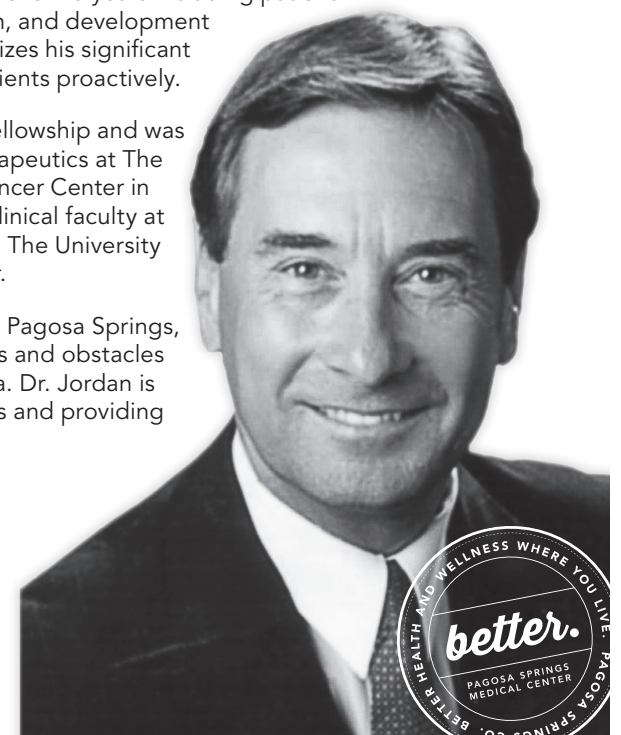
Board-Certified in Medical Oncology and Internal Medicine.

Pagosa Springs Medical Center is proud to announce Dr. Bill Jordan has joined our team to launch The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at PSMC. With his addition quality, experienced cancer care is now available locally in Pagosa Springs.

Dr. Jordan is board certified in medical oncology and internal medicine. He has an extensive medical oncology career of over 45 years including patient treatment, cancer research, education, and development of cancer care centers. Dr. Jordan utilizes his significant experience and expertise to treat patients proactively.

Dr. Jordan completed his oncology fellowship and was on the faculty in Developmental Therapeutics at The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He has also served on the clinical faculty at UT Southwestern Medical Center and The University of North Texas Health Science Center.

As a long time second-homeowner in Pagosa Springs, he understands the unique challenges and obstacles to receiving cancer care in a rural area. Dr. Jordan is committed to removing those barriers and providing compassionate, high-quality care for our patients.



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PAGOSA SCENE . . .

WINTERFEST

Photos by Randi Pierce and Jeff Laydon
Scene ... at Pagosa Springs' annual winter celebration, WinterFest. While there may be a lack of snow currently, there was no lack of activities to keep people busy Saturday and Sunday during WinterFest. Events included hot air balloon ascensions, Barkus Parade, the Penguin Plunge, Sledz on Rez, ice skating and more.





Preview Calendar

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

Thursday, Feb. 8

Mountain View Homemakers.

11:30 a.m., Community United Methodist Church. Come prepared to share your favorite thing: a book, a recipe, a housekeeping or computer tip, whatever you think is a great idea. Because everyone will want to have time, please limit your share to a few minutes. All area women are invited. Buffet lunch provided by members. Carpooling is highly recommended. For information, call Tozi at 731-3360.

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

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

Computer Basics: Microsoft Outlook. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn the basic skills needed to effectively organize your schedule and manage emails using Microsoft Outlook. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Open Paint Sessions. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time. Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. Call 731-1590 for more information.

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

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

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Com-

munity United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Lecture: Basic Suicide Prevention. 5:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Professionals from San Juan Basin Public Health will be on hand to discuss the important topic of suicide awareness and prevention. They will discuss risk factors and warning signs, barriers to intervention and additional resources. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Friday, Feb. 9

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. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

law, veteran's benefits and civil protection orders. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

Saturday, Feb. 10

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

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

Preventing Radon Problems Workshop. 10 a.m., CSU Extension office. To educate on the effects of this gas, how to test your home and what to do if elevated levels are found. For more information and to preregister, call 264-5931.

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

Pagosa Piecemakers Quilt Guild. 10 a.m., PLPOA Vista Club-

■ See Calendar on next page

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SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

The Board of Education of Archuleta School District 50 JT announces the vacancy of School Board Director District Four (4). Candidates must live within the boundaries of Director District Four (4). 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 February 8, 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 on February 13, 2018.

The Chamber would like to thank all the local businesses, individuals and organizations that participated in the High School Career Day!

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pagosa Springs Medical Center | Seeds of Learning PAWS |
| EMS services | The Pagosa SUN |
| Axxis Audio | Author Mariko Layton |
| Archuleta County Sheriff | Natalie Carpenter |
| LPEA | Forest Health Timber Products |
| Galles Properties | Kellie Stevens |
| Pagosa Verde | Archuleta School District 50JT |
| Echo IT | Department of Human Services |
| Raymond's Rent-a-Nerd | USFS |
| Riff Raff | The US Army |
| Springs Chiropractic | USMC |
| Bank of Colorado | Colorado National Guard |
| Pagosa Center for the Arts | San Juan College |
| Cabe's Collision and Customs | |



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

house, 230 Port Ave. For more information, contact pagosa-piecemakers@gmail.com.

Yoga with Charlotte. 10:15-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

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.

Chili Cook-off and Bunco. 5 p.m., Mt. Allison Grange. Bring a pot of chili to share, or just come be a judge (eat) and enjoy the company. Top chili by vote of the guests will be rewarded. All entries will be served free of charge to the community. We will play Bunco, a game for all ages where the only skill needed is to be able to roll the dice. Donations will be accepted and there will be a bake sale. For more information, call Yvonne at 799-3064, Shirley at 883-2483 or email mtallisongrange@gmail.com.

Pagosa Springs High School Drama Club Presents 'The Marriage Proposal.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. A Russian romantic comedy, one-act play

filled with the irony and satire of love. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Prices are \$5 for students and \$8 for the public.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Sunday Night Unplugged. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Charles Martinez will offer the hauntingly beautiful music of the Native American flute.

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, Feb. 12

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. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Call Beverly for infor-

mation 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.

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

Bingo. 1 p.m., Senior Center.
Tween Gaming. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For those in the 4th-8th grades. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
Adult Education. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

CPR Certification Training. 6-10 p.m., CSU Extension Office.

■ See Calendar on next page

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Half Page Ad

Buy One, Get One FREE!

For the month of **February only**, purchase a **1/2 page ad** in The Pagosa Springs SUN or PREVIEW, get the **second week FREE!**

Requirements: A minimum of 2 half-page ads must run in February 1 through 22, 2018 editions. Must be the same ad for both insertions, runs do not need to be consecutive. Business' main office must be located in Archuleta County. Offer not available for color ads. Limited to the first 10 advertisers.

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Preview Calendar

continued from previous page

Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can register by calling 264-5931.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Teen Dating Awareness Month:

Wear Orange for Love. Wear orange to show your support for strong and healthy relationships.

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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

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

Archuleta County Republican Women. Noon, Boss Hogg's Restaurant. Speaker will be Greg Lopez, who is running for governor of Colorado. Lopez is a Christian who champions conservative values. He believes in the rule of law, the Second Amendment and is against sanctuary cities.

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

Mahjong. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

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

Book Club for Adults. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join our book club for adults to discuss alternating fiction and nonfiction titles. We will be discussing "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown. Stop by the library to pick up a copy. Call 264-2209 for more information.

American Legion Post 108 Ladies Auxiliary. 4 p.m., 287 Hermosa St.

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson

Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

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

Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Feast. 5-6:15 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The Men of St. Patrick's will serve up a feast of New Orleans style gumbo and etouffee. Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 for a family. The public is welcome.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we continue West Coast swing. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Walk-to-School Wednesdays. 7:25 a.m., South Pagosa Park. Retro Metro Kids Safe Routes to School Coalition is trying to provide opportunities for the Pagosa Springs Elementary School youth to walk and bike to school safely. We walk or sometimes skip our way to school. Participants earn miles toward The Hundred Mile Club and earn an invitation to the end-of-the-year celebration.

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

Kids Kare VBS. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Har-

man Ave. This is a program for kids ages 3-5. The program includes Bible time, crafts and game time. This is a service to the entire community; all little kids are welcome. Parents are welcome to come and visit with their little ones. For more information, contact Frank and Connie Porter at (303) 901-5290 or email at CEFlittlekids@gmail.com.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Join us for great stories, fun songs, and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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

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

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Instruction. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us in this basic course to improve your ability to speak and understand Spanish. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Teen Writers. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For teens in the 7th-12th grades. Stories, poetry, graphic

■ See Calendar on next page



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Deadlines*

Display advertising: Noon, Monday

Classified line ads (regular categories): 10 a.m., Tuesday

Classified line ads (Too Late to Classify): 3 p.m., Tuesday

Legal advertising: 5 p.m., Friday

Letters to the editor: Noon, Tuesday
(500 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Cards of thanks: Noon, Tuesday
(50 word maximum, email to editor@pagosasun.com)

Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

Articles: Noon, Monday
(email to editor@pagosasun.com)

**Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.*

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
novels, fan fiction, it's all welcome. 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.

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

Beginning Square Dance. 6-7 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. A great winter dance activity. No partner needed. Call 903-6478 to register.

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

Pagosa Springs Photography Club. 6:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Join us for socializing at 6 p.m., followed by a brief business meeting. We will be featuring longtime member Bob Green. He will be doing a presentation on "Spain and Portugal's Greatest Hits." For more information, contact Andy Butler at (512) 581-1470.

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

Thursday, Feb. 15

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

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

Computer Basics: Excel. 1-2 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn the basics by creating a basic budget spreadsheet and making Excel do all the math for you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Open Paint Sessions. 1-4 p.m., Community Center. Ideas and techniques can be shared and discussed in an atmosphere of social time. Sessions will be facilitated by local watercolor artist Jeanie Lemmo. Call 731-1590 for more information.

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

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

Pi Beta Phi. 5 p.m., Ajia Restaurant. Alumnae and husbands will cel-

brate the Chinese New Year at a no-host dinner. RSVP to Carole Howard.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Osho Kundalini Meditation and DVD Discourse. 6-8 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Osho's Kundalini Meditation is 30 minutes of gentle, freestyle dance and movement, followed by 30 minutes of silent sitting. In the DVD discourse, recorded in 1986, Osho talks about experiencing inner peace in a world that seems bent on self-destruction. All are welcome.

Friday, Feb. 16

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.

Chimney Rock Open House. 12:30-1:30 p.m., Ruby Sisson Library. The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will host an open house to help community members learn about the exciting volunteer opportunities at Chimney Rock National Monument. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.

Movie. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. An orphaned science whiz is whisked into the future in a time machine. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Anti-Valentines Lock-In. 5-7 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 12-17. Permission slip must be signed by parent/guardian. An evening of games, movies and crafts. Pizza will be ordered. All participants must be in the library by 5 p.m., when the lock-in starts. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Chimney Rock Open House. 6-7 p.m., The Springs Resort, EcoLuxe Building. The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will host an open house to help community members learn about the exciting volunteer opportunities at Chimney Rock National Monument. For more

information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org or call 731-7133.

Pagosa Springs High School Drama Club Presents 'The Marriage Proposal.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. A Russian romantic comedy, one-act play filled with the irony and satire of love. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Prices are \$5 for students and \$8 for the public.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Welcome to Siberia — Now Go Home.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. The story goes: The Chamber of Commerce in a small, Colorado mountain town hosts a biannual get-together for new arrivals to what has become a thriving retirement and second-home community — a town without industry, but suddenly flourish-

■ See Calendar on next page

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
 ing due to its new arrivals, and the activities that accompany them. The event offers the newcomers refreshments, entertainment and information about the history, amenities, and character of the place. The regular host is unavailable, and suitable replacements are impossible to muster. As a result, a last-minute host is recruited, and the question becomes: How many of the new arrivals will sell their “dream home” and move back to ...?

Saturday, Feb. 17

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

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

Yoga with Charlotte. 10:15-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

Kids Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids in 1st-5th grade. Each month will feature a different theme and will include snacks, games, crafts and book sharing. The theme for February is fairy tales. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Pagosa Springs High School Drama Club Presents 'The Marriage Proposal.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. A Russian romantic comedy, one-act play filled with the irony and satire of love. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Prices are \$5 for students and \$8 for the public.

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Welcome to Siberia — Now Go Home.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. The story goes: The Chamber of Commerce in a small, Colorado mountain town hosts a biannual get-together for new arrivals to what has become a thriving retirement and second-home community — a town without industry, but suddenly flourishing due to its new arrivals, and the activities that accompany them. The event offers the newcomers refreshments, entertainment and information about the history, amenities, and character of the place. The regular host is unavailable, and suitable replacements are impossible to muster. As a result, a last-minute host is recruited, and the question be-

comes: How many of the new arrivals will sell their “dream home” and move back to ...?

Sunday, Feb. 18

Thingamajig Theatre Company Presents 'Welcome to Siberia — Now Go Home.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. The story goes: The Chamber of Commerce in a small, Colorado mountain town hosts a biannual get-together for new arrivals to what has become a thriving retirement and second-home community — a town without industry, but suddenly flourishing due to its new arrivals, and the activities that accompany them. The event offers the newcomers refreshments, entertainment and information about the history, amenities, and character of the place. The regular host is unavailable, and suitable replacements are impossible to muster. As a result, a last-minute host is recruited, and the question becomes: How many of the new arrivals will sell their “dream home” and move back to ...?

Uke Jam. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Come strum, sing and share the fun. All levels welcome.

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, Feb. 19

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. 9:30-11:30 a.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. 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.

Adult Education. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call

264-2209 for more information.
Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

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

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

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.

Men's PTSD Group. Noon-1:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Focusing on resolving anger and conflict. Contact Kevin Kelly, Ph.D., at (505) 699-0824 for more information.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Let's Dance Pagosa. 7-9 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Join us this month as we continue West Coast swing. Call Wayne at 264-4792 or go to <http://www.meetup.com/Lets-Dance-Pagosa> for more information.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Walk-to-School Wednesdays. 7:25

a.m., South Pagosa Park. Retro Metro Kids Safe Routes to School Coalition is trying to provide opportunities for the Pagosa Springs Elementary School youth to walk and bike to school safely. We walk or sometimes skip our way to school. Participants earn miles toward The Hundred Mile Club and earn an invitation to the end-of-the-year celebration.

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

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A UU invitation to the John Graves Coffee House

By **Pauline Benetti**
Special to The PREVIEW

John Graves loved a good time; he loved music, dancing, a good joke. and, if you did not know him, his demeanor might convince you otherwise. The good professor looked more the philosopher than the jokester and a smile more often than not came out a grimace. But joke he did with an absolutely straight face.

One joke that does not go away begins: How many Unitarian Universalists (UUs) does it take to change a light bulb? Of course, the answer is only funny to a UU, so our general reader shall be spared. And music, well, who here has not danced to his beat and how many here have either sung or played an instrument with his band? Graves is no longer with us, but the memory lingers vividly.

At the beginning of the new year for many years, the UU Fellowship, in lieu of one of our regular services, has hosted a coffee hour with a variety of folks sharing music, stories, jokes and general merriment. The Coffee House tradition was begun by Graves, who was our Fellowship's music director for over 20 years and one of its founding members.

Though Graves is no longer with us, this Sunday we honor his inspiring contribution to our community with a program of instrumentals, song, poems, jokes and stories contributed by those who knew and loved him. If you are one of those, please join us and, if you did not know him, come along anyway.

The Coffee House is now held in February to commemorate Graves' birthday on Feb. 19. And, of course, no Coffee House would be com-

plete without food and drink. Coffee and tea are provided and you are invited to complete the menu with something tasty to share.

Our Fellowship is about belonging and, through this sense of belonging, we each grow spiritually. Graves' part in creating this sense of who we are was enormous and we do not forget. As a Welcoming Congregation, we invite everyone to share in our faith community. We cherish diversity and foster a safe environment for all.

The Coffee House begins at 10:30 a.m. and we can be found in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn right onto Park Avenue and right again into Greenbriar Plaza, then turn left and continue around the complex until you see the Unitarian Universalist sign as it faces the mountains. Come in and join us.

You are welcome. On third Sundays, our service includes children's religious explorations. All youngsters ages 5-12 are welcome and there are no prerequisites.

For further information about the Pagosa UU Fellowship, visit pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

From puppy love to forever love

By **Jan Davis**
Special to The PREVIEW

I sat on the love seat with Mike and smiled as our grandson, Charlee, and his girlfriend, Zoey, cuddled on the couch across from us. It was fun to watch their interaction. Their heads touched as they leaned in and laughed over

A Matter of Faith

something on their cellphones. Their free hands laced together, Charlee's large and strong, Zoey's small and fragile. Puppy love, pure and innocent.

Another grandson, Braxton, joined them on the couch with his fiancé, Jordan. They plan to marry this summer. They too sat close together, hands clasped, and shared with us their wedding plans. Puppy love grew into a committed love. A commitment to love, care and cherish each other.

Mike and I celebrate 34 years of wedding bliss this May. Our love is forever. A love that passes the test of time. Through the good times and the tough ones, we stand beside each other. We still like to cuddle on the couch, hold hands and talk about our future. We are each other's best friend, greatest fan and supporter. We are better together.

This reminds me of my love

affair with Jesus. When I received Him into my heart and life, I didn't know what to expect. I was excited and full of hope. He promised me a wonderful future.

Through the rough times and trials along the way, Jesus never left me. When I became too weak to walk, He carried me. He never gave up on me and I never gave up on Him.

As our relationship grew from an adolescent love to a committed one, Jesus proved over and over his unconditional love and acceptance. He became my better half.

A smile crosses my face when he surprises me with His mercy, goodness and faithfulness. There is never a dull moment when I am in His presence. Life is wonderful, abundant and complete.

One day, He will say, "Rise up, my beloved." His eternal love will carry me over the threshold of heaven to spend eternity with Him.

Because of Jesus, I am his Bride and he is my Bridegroom.

"He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So, this joy of mine has been made full." — John 3:29 (NASB).

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Shrove Tuesday Feast and Ash Wednesday service mark beginning of Lent at St. Patrick's

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

On Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the parish hall of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (225 S. Pagosa Blvd.), the Men of St. Patrick's will serve up a Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras feast of New Orleans-style gumbo and etouffee as they mark the last day before Lent.

Festivities will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 6:15 p.m. and only cost \$5 per person or \$15 for a family. The public is welcome.

"We are breaking from our tradition of serving pancakes this year and trying something new and different," said Fr. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's. "The Men of St. Patrick's are notably good cooks and I can assure everyone of a fun evening of great food. The event is open to the public."

The next evening, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of Lent, when Christians forego the extravagances of the world in order to prepare for the most significant

events of the Christian year, the death and resurrection of Christ. During the liturgical season of Lent, people begin a spiritual pilgrimage that continues for 40 days, the same amount of time Christ spent in the wilderness following his baptism. It is a time for renewal, spiritual contemplation and cleansing.

During Lent, Neel will offer Tuesday evening classes beginning at 5 p.m., accompanied by a soup dinner in the parish hall. In it, he and participants will discuss the nature of the church in the 21st century, how it is changing and where it is going.

Each Friday evening at 5 p.m. during Lent, worshippers will be led in the Stations of the Cross in the church nave.

As always, the public is invited to attend and participate in any activities at St. Patrick's regardless of their church affiliation or beliefs.

"We hope you will find St. Patrick's to be a church of hospitality and good will. Our doors are open to all who seek," said Neel.

Sunday Night Unplugged celebrates nine years of meditational offerings

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

In January 2009, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church began a new monthly meditational service it called Sunday Night Unplugged.

"We weren't entirely sure how well this would go over, but my wife Sally and I felt that Pagosa Springs had a very spiritual quality about it. Whether it is the glorious venue of towering mountains and pines, the beautiful flowing rivers and streams, the freely roaming wild animals and soaring eagles or the people themselves who are so devotedly attracted to this amazing place, we knew that we had the basis for a very special meditational offering," said the Rev. Doug Neel, rector of St. Patrick's.

Nine years later, Sunday Night Unplugged has become a staple of our community, offering beautiful music combined with brief inspirational readings and silence on the second Sunday evening of each month. The setting at St. Patrick's provides views of the San Juan Mountains on one side and the tall pines on the other. The altar is always adorned with flowers, candles and other visually lovely objects that offer a sense of calm and beauty.

But it is the music that is that

encapsulates the ambiance of the evening. The music is not offered as a concert, nor is it a sideline or afterthought. Rather, the artists bring music that blends into the whole of the service. The music sets the atmosphere for meditation, bringing us into the holiness of the silence or readings that follow.

This Sunday at 5 p.m., Charles Martinez will offer the hauntingly beautiful music of the Native American flute that draws our hearts and minds towards the glory of creation. His handmade flutes are a spiritual extension of his offerings of original music.

A native of Pagosa Springs, Martinez grew up surrounded by natural beauty. His music evokes images of all that is mystical and lovely in creation.

The 5 p.m. meditational service lasts about one hour and is free and open to the public. St. Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

Keep up on local happenings with **The SUN.**
The Pagosa Springs SUN
264-2101

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Peter I, for one
- 5 Border plant
- 10 Call to a mate
- 14 Altar locale
- 15 Gibson garnish
- 16 Ice cream treat
- 17 Quarterback's option
- 18 Girder material
- 19 Comedienne Imogene
- 20 "Halt!"
- 21 Verse of four measures
- 23 Show fear
- 25 Dead letters?
- 26 Kind of cord
- 28 Chill out
- 33 Unrefined
- 34 Energize (with "up")
- 35 Block
- 36 Hourly charge
- 37 Stake
- 38 Look after
- 39 Chowd down
- 40 Neglected boy
- 41 Abstain
- 42 From the age of chivalry
- 44 Plow's trail
- 45 "Gosh!"
- 46 Heart line
- 47 Smelly pranks
- 52 Desire
- 55 Fashion designer Chanel
- 56 Circa
- 57 Showy flower
- 58 Unpleasant emanation
- 59 Hangman's knot
- 60 Air show stunt
- 61 Strengthen, with "up"
- 62 Dissuade
- 63 Kitty starter

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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61						62					63			

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DOWN

- 1 Last call?
- 2 Cross words

- 3 Kind of press
- 4 Answer
- 5 Inexpensive lodging
- 6 Script direction
- 7 South Beach, for one
- 8 Suffix with theater
- 9 Darkroom apparatus
- 10 Click the OK button
- 11 Knee-slapper
- 12 Enough, for some
- 13 Academic period
- 22 Personal air
- 24 Is no longer
- 26 "Beat it!"
- 27 Go on and on
- 28 Watch
- 29 Square
- 30 Mental lapse
- 31 Ballroom dance
- 32 Fund
- 34 Buddhist leader

- 37 Range of frequencies
- 38 Tex-Mex staple
- 40 Nerdy one
- 41 PETA peeve
- 43 Slight, in a way
- 44 Encourage
- 46 Bullying, e.g.

- 47 Kilt wearer
- 48 Type of list
- 49 Desktop feature
- 50 Double-reed instrument
- 51 Kind of court
- 53 Congeal
- 54 Hoopla

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

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

Subscribe to The SUN

Pagosa Community of New Thought to explore the concept of love

By Janie Garms
Special to The PREVIEW

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, we are inundated with the thoughts of hearts, cupids, cards and candy. Sometimes striving to be a part of this commercialism actually leaves one feeling lonely and sad instead of joyful and happy.

In her book "The Gifts of Imperfection," author Brené Brown defines spirituality as the following: "Spirituality is recognizing and celebrating that we are all inextricably connected to each other by a power greater than all of us, and that our connection to that power and to one another is grounded in

love and compassion."

Whether you grew up attending church each Sunday or spending Friday evenings at Shabbat dinner or hiking in the woods to commune with nature, spirituality lends itself to the understanding that everything is sacred. You are divine (love) beyond comprehension.

Come join our Sunday New Thought community with Dr. Laura Metallo as she explores the concept of love in our daily lives.

Movie/discussion

Saturday movies are postponed until spring.

About us

Unify in shifting the collec-

tive consciousness of this planet. What brings us together is much more powerful than what divides us. Spiritual Living Center of the Pagosa Community of New Thought (PCNT) is establishing community and exploring all paths to the divine.

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

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

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

San Juan Basin Public Health to offer free dental screenings, fluoride varnishes for youngsters

By Claire Ninde
Special to The PREVIEW

In the spirit of National Children's Dental Health Month, San Juan Basin Public Health (SJBPH) is offering free dental screenings and fluoride varnishes for any child age 1 to 5 years.

Kari Plante, RDH, regional oral health specialist, will be available for walk-in dental appointments at the SJBPH offices on:

- March 5, April 2 and May 7 in Durango (281 Sawyer Drive), and
- March 19, April 23 and May 21 in Pagosa Springs (502 S. 8th St.).

Walk-ins are welcome 8 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m., and children must be accompanied by an adult.

The American Dental Association recommends kids get an oral screening by the age of 1. If your baby has teeth, he or she can get cavities. It is important for you and your child to get an early start on dental care and begin good habits at a young age to prevent damage and decay later in life.

Treating cavities is important, but preventing cavities is best. Your mouth contains bacteria that feed on the sugars in the foods we eat and the beverages we drink. This produces acid that can wear away the hard, outer shell of your

tooth (enamel) and can lead to cavities.

Fluoride is a great way to protect teeth by making them stronger and more resistant to acid. It not only reduces the risk of cavities, it can even help reverse early signs of decay. Most toothpaste contains fluoride, but it's important we ingest fluoride as well as receive it topically. Dentists can apply fluoride varnishes, and fluoridated tap water also prevents cavities. Due to its success in preventing cavities, adding fluoride to tap water was named a top public health achievement in the 20th century.

All children ages 1 to 5 years enrolled in the local Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program or on Medicaid are eligible for a free dental screening and fluoride varnish, either during their WIC appointment, or at any other day and time listed above. Make sure to mention the dental screening at the front desk when you come in for your appointment.

SJBPH is a local public health agency, governed by a seven-member local board of health, serving all residents of Archuleta and La Plata counties. For close to 70 years, SJBPH has improved the health and environment of the southwest Colorado.

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It's Your Right to Know.



The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

The people behind the names: Dr. Mary Fisher

We don't have to be too observant to realize that the history of the place we live in is described by place names.

We live in Archuleta County, surrounded by the San Juan Mountains. Both Archuleta and the Juan in San Juan are the names of people relevant to our history.



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

The list of such names surrounding us is too long to repeat here. Instead, with this column I am launching a series of columns talking about the people behind local place names and their relevance to our history.

The first two columns are about public facilities well known to everyone who has lived here any length of time. I'm starting with Dr. Mary Winter Fisher and Ruby Sisson.

Our community has memorialized Dr. Mary Winter Fisher by naming part of our publicly owned health facility in honor of her service to our community. Our library name recognizes Ruby Sisson, who taught public school here for decades.

I did not personally know Fisher because she passed on before I moved here. I did know many people who knew her, many of them when they first saw the light of day because her hand delivered them as babies.

I did know Sisson somewhat because I had kids who sat in her classes.

One of the more ominous sounding place names I know of is Dead Man's Trail, which parallels Dead Man's Creek. Why Dead Man? The old-timer who told me why swears the story is true and I have no reason to doubt him. Besides, Fisher was involved in this story.

It seems that back in the day, one of the Parr brothers had a sheep camp up high in the mountains past the end of Four Mile Trail. Feeling the need of a little civilized companionship, Parr left the sheep in the hands of one of the herders and dropped down off of the mountain to spend a weekend with his family. On his way back to Four Mile Trail and the herd, Parr stopped off to say howdy to Ma Cade, living at Cade Flats at the time.

Being of the neighborly sort, Ma Cade invited him in for a glass of warm milk and some fresh cherries. An obliging Parr joined her for the repast, then allowing as how he needed to reach camp, he said goodbye, climbed on his horse and



Photo courtesy John M. Motter

Dr. Mary Winter Fisher served the health needs of this community for 33 years, starting in 1895. She passed away on Memorial Day in 1928.

headed up Four Mile Trail, past the falls, past Lower Four Mile Lake, past Upper Four Mile Lake and through a mountain pass to the sheep herd.

He made it before dark, but things were not good. When he got to camp, he felt so bad he handed the reins of his horse to one of the herders and stretched out by the fire, the moans and groans coming from behind his mustache matching the grumbling from his aching belly. As darkness fell on the mountain tops, the herders gathered around the fire, holding a parley on what to do about the boss and his woes. One of the herders pulled the can of Arbuckles coffee out of the coals of the fire and poured Parr a cup. Parr took one sip and grabbed his belly, writhing with pain. One of the herders jumped in his saddle and pointed his mustang down the trail, headed for Pagosa Springs.

"Adios! I'm a gonna fetch Dr. Mary," he shouted over his shoulder.

Fisher held the kerosene lantern while her husband hitched up the buggy and she started up the trail to Ma Cade's. Leaving the buggy at Ma Cade's, she followed the herder up narrow Four Mile Trail, unable to see the herder in the blackness, but tuned in to the clip-clop of the horse's hooves.

We'll finish this story next week.

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Fun Valentine's events coming to your library

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

There will be three special free events at your library in celebration of Valentine's Day:

- Both family storytimes next week — on Wednesday, Feb. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. and on Feb. 17 from 9:30 to 10 a.m. — will focus on hearts. Join us for free great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move.

This is an excellent way for kids of all ages to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

Please note that both storytimes are now open to babies, toddlers and youngsters of all ages to make it easier for parents to attend with their children depending on their busy schedules rather than the age of their little ones.

- Tweens and teens ages 12-17 are invited to a free Anti-Valentine Lock-in on Feb. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. We'll play games, eat pizza and enjoy an escape room challenge. Participants must have a signed permission form and must be in the library by closing time at 5 p.m. to participate.

Suicide intervention workshop today

Professionals at San Juan Basin Public Health will discuss suicide awareness and prevention in a free workshop today, Thursday, Feb. 8, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Legal clinic tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 9, from 2 to 3 p.m., a free legal clinic for parties who have no attorney will take place via computer link.

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

You also can visit checkerboard.co to access legal forms and answers to many civil legal questions.

All-ages gaming tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 9, 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.

LEGO Club

Kids aged 6-12 are invited to bring your imaginations — LEGOs are provided — this Saturday, Feb. 10, from 11 a.m. to noon for the free LEGO Club.

Tween gaming

Free gaming for those in the fourth through eighth grades is Monday, Feb. 12, from 4 to 5 p.m.



Enjoy Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks.

Teen gaming

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

Book club for adults

Our free book club for adults meets the second Tuesday of each month from 2 to 3 p.m. to discuss alternating fiction and nonfiction titles.

On Feb. 13, we will discuss "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown. Stop by to pick up a copy. No registration is required.

Teen writers group

Join us next Wednesday, Feb. 14, from 4 to 5 p.m. for our free teen writers meeting for seventh-through 12th-graders. This group's interests include stories, poetry, graphic novels and fan fiction.

Spanish instruction

Join us for this free basic course next Wednesday, Feb. 14, from 4 to 5 p.m. to improve your ability to speak and understand Spanish. No registration is required.

Computer/technology classes

Join us on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. to learn a technology skill or application. Today, Feb. 8, you will learn the basic skills needed to effectively organize your schedule and manage emails using Microsoft Outlook.

On Feb. 15, you will learn the basics of Excel by creating a basic budget spreadsheet and making Excel do all the math for you.

On Feb. 22, you will learn how to enjoy free access more than 7,000 streaming movies and classic TV shows via IndieFlix with your computer, smartphone or tablet.

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.

Adult education

Our PALS program — Pagosa Adult Learning Services — takes place three days a week: Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. plus Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Come to your library to get help with high school equivalency, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more.

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.

Large print

"Epitaph" by L.J. Washburn and "Galloway's Gamble" by Howard Weinstein are westerns. "The Grub Rider" by James C. Work is a Keystone Ranch western. "GriefWorks" by grief psychologist Julia Samuel shares case studies from those who have loved, lost and survived. "The Spectrum of Hope" by neurologist Dr. Gayatri Devi offers a new, optimistic approach to Alzheimer's and

■ See Library on next page



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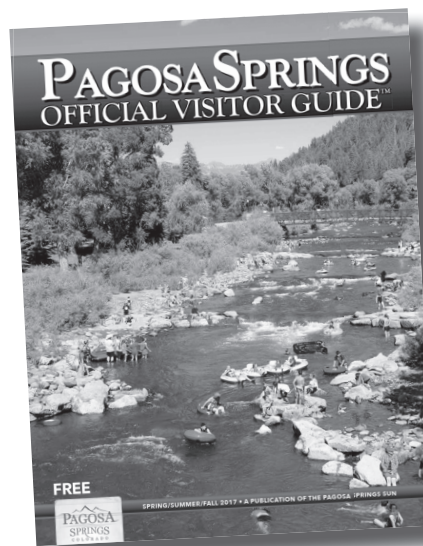


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Library

■ continued from previous page other dementias.

How-to and self help

“South America” is an Insight travel guide with detailed maps. “The Miracle of Meditation” by Ryuho Okawa combines the power of faith and the practice of meditation.

Other nonfiction

“Days Gone By” by Jorg Rubbert is a collection of photographs of small towns in the American South with a cultural history of the region’s social and structural changes. “The Oregon Trail” by Rinker Buck chronicles the history of the trail by a modern adventurer who traveled it in a covered wagon with a team of mules. “The First Congress” by Fergus M. Bordewich describes how James Madison, George Washington and other men invented the government. “MacArthur at War” by Walter R. Borneman tells of the general’s rise during World War II. “The Nazi Hunters” by Andrew Nagorski describes those who refused to allow the atrocities of the Nazi criminals to go unpunished.

DVDs

“Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lightning” is the PBS American Masters program about this great American photographer. “Japan: Memoirs of a Secret Empire” is a PBS documentary. John Le Carre’s “Smiley’s People” stars Alec Guinness. “The Rockford Files” is the complete season one. “Stranger Things” is the Netflix original series.

CDs

“Promise Not To Tell” by Jayne Ann Krentz follows two women who face demons after spending their childhood in a cult. “Need to Know” by Fern Michaels is a Sisterhood mystery. “Iron Gold” by Pierce Brown is a Red Rising sci-fi adventure. “Should the Tent Be Burning Like That?” by Bill Heavey is a collection of comedic

stories about the joys and pitfalls of hunting, fishing, family and adventure.

Thrillers and suspense

“Need to Know” by Karen Cleveland is an espionage thriller featuring a female CIA counterintelligence analyst. “The Mitford Murders” by Jessica Fellowes is the first in a new mystery series featuring the Mitford sisters.

Spanish books

“El Laberinto de los Espiritus” (“The Labyrinth of Spirits”) by Carlos Ruiz Zafon is the fourth and final novel in the Cemetery of Forgotten Books series, set in Barcelona in the late 1950s.

Other novels

“Vengeance” by Ethan and Lincoln Proud is book two in the Rebellion fantasy trilogy. “Still Me” by Jojo Moyes follows a young woman who arrives in New York to live in a privileged household.

Programmed Nooks

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 adults.

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Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library’s website. Use “Quick Pick,” the discovery tool that lets you sample movies like you would music.

Thanks for our donors

For books and materials this week, we thank Susan Melville and our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

“The worst thing about aging? Convincing my knees to straighten after a long sit. I have a chat with them. But if you make a life that gives you joy, you have no time to get old.” — Henry Winkler, actor, comedian, director, producer and author, best known for playing the Fonz in “Happy Days.”

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 <http://pagosa.colibraries.org/>.

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Acrobats

■ continued from page 17

presenting the 31st Anniversary North American Tour.

From as early as age 5, the hand-selected performers begin mastering disciplines that arose during the Ch’in Dynasty (225-207 B.C.).

According to Fu Qifeng, author of “Chinese Acrobatics Through the Ages,” acrobatics originated from the people’s daily life, drawing from their experiences in work, war and sacrificial rites. During the Warring States Period, acrobatics became widespread, and it was believed that practicing acrobatics

could steal people’s will, increase their physical strength and the accuracy of their movements.

In contemporary times, the troupe remains the largest touring attraction of its kind.

Tickets for The Peking Acrobats (\$19-\$35) are available online at www.durangoconcerts.com, by calling 247-7657 or by visiting the ticket office inside the Durango Welcome Center at 8th Street and Main Avenue in downtown Durango. Ticket Office hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All sales are final.



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Colorado Farm Fresh Directory: List your business

By Robin Young
PREVIEW Columnist

Published by the Colorado Department of Agriculture, the Colorado Farm Fresh Directory promotes Colorado farmers markets, roadside stands, u-picks, Community Supported Agriculture producers, agritourism activities and farms and ranches that sell direct to the public.

The 2018 edition is being organized, and producers are encouraged to submit their information for inclusion.

More than 100,000 copies of the publication will be distributed in June to consumers through libraries, Extension offices, farmers markets, welcome centers, chambers of commerce, home milk delivery services and other businesses. In addition, Farm Fresh will be available as a mobile app for smartphones and online at www.coloradoagriculture.com.

The fee to be included in the directory is \$25, and the listing deadline is Feb. 15. For more in-

Extension Viewpoints

formation or to request a listing form, contact Loretta Lopez at (303) 869-9175 or visit www.coloradoagriculture.com.

Radon workshop

There will be a Radon in the Home workshop Feb. 10 at 10 a.m. at the Colorado State University (CSU) Extension office.

Call by Feb. 9 and receive a free radon testing kit. The Extension office can be reached at 264-5931.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are now being offered monthly by the CSU Extension office on the second Monday and Wednesday of each month from 6 to 10 pm. Anyone needing to receive or renew certification can

register by calling the Extension office at 264-5931.

We will also attempt to schedule classes on additional dates with five or more registrations. Cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. The type of first aid information provided will vary by the needs of the audience.

More about CSU Extension

CSU Extension is your local university community connection for research-based information about natural resource management; living well through raising kids, eating right and spending smart; gardening and commercial horticulture; the latest agricultural production technologies; and community development.

Extension 4-H and youth development programs reach more than 100,000 young people annually.

CSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

International Guitar Night coming to the Community Concert Hall Feb. 15

By Indiana Reed
Special to The PREVIEW

A celebration of acoustic guitar is coming to the Community Concert Hall at Fort Lewis College as the guitar virtuosos of International Guitar Night (IGN) take the stage on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Annually, IGN's founder, Brian Gore, invites a new cast of guitar luminaries from around the world for special concert tours highlighting the diversity of acoustic guitar music.

For IGN's 18th year of touring, Germany's Gypsy jazz legend Lulo Reinhardt (grandnephew of Django Reinhardt) returns as the show's host. Performers are Calum Graham, Marek Pasieczny and Michael Chapdelaine.

Django Reinhardt left behind an indelible musical legacy, introducing and defining a passionate style of Gypsy jazz guitar that astonished music fans in the 1930s and is still revered and emulated today. Lulo Reinhardt has sustained the Reinhardt soul, speed and dexterity.

Called a "spontaneous and spirited musician," Lulo Reinhardt's journey has taken him to southern Spain in search of flamenco roots and to South America to explore various musical styles of Latin jazz. By 2002, he was ready to take his place as a bandleader, founding the Lulo Reinhardt Project. For the 2018 IGN tour, Lulo Reinhardt returns as artistic director, host and performing guitarist.

At age 24, Canadian contemporary sensation Graham has already enjoyed a career that could be the envy of most artists twice his age. The Alberta-based guitarist and singer/songwriter has released five acclaimed albums, won major national music competitions, performed at the Olympic Games in both Vancouver and London and was recently named one of the top 30 guitarists in the world.

Poland's innovative classical composer/performer Pasieczny is revered as one of the most respected contemporary composers, writing for the guitar worldwide. Holding multiple advanced degrees and welcomed as a visiting instructor at institutions throughout the world, Pasieczny has composed for and collaborated with musicians including Pat Metheny, Odair and Clarice Assad, David Russell and many more.

American guitarist Chapdelaine is the only guitarist to win first prize in the Guitar Foundation of America International Classical Guitar Competition and the National Fingerstyle Championships, considered the world's top competitions. Chapdelaine is said to have redefined modern acoustic guitar music with his technique, "soulful"

expressiveness and versatility as a composer and arranger/producer.

View a sampling of the 2018 tour at www.internationalguitarnight.com.

Tickets for IGN (\$29-\$35) are available online at www.durangoconcerts.com, by calling 247-7657 or by visiting the ticket office inside the Durango Welcome Center at 8th Street and Main Avenue in downtown Durango. Ticket office hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All sales are final.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES DISPATCHER, Part
Time. Archuleta County is currently accepting
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(www.archuletacounty.org). Minimum starting
wage \$15.69/ hour. Submit application and
resume to Human Resources, PO Box 1807,
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or fax (970)264-1879
or email to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Applica-
tions accepted until position is filled. Archuleta
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THE SAN JUAN HEADWATERS Forest Health
Partnership is issuing a Request for Proposals
to coordinate a grant funded, private land miti-
gation program in Archuleta County. Application
deadline is February 28, 2018. Information can
be requested from akimple@mountainstudies.org.
(970)387-5161.

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Tax help to return to the Senior Center on Feb. 24

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The VITA tax volunteers will be back in Pagosa Springs this year on Feb. 24 at the Senior Center for free income tax preparation for seniors.

This is generally for taxpayers with incomes up to about \$54,000.

Please call the Senior Center for an appointment, 264-2167.

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging: Examples of neglect and its results

By Kay Kaylor

As the long-term care ombudsman for Archuleta County, I advocate for residents at Pine Ridge and BeeHive Homes. Federal and state laws protect residents to promote quality of care and quality of life.

This final column of the abuse and neglect series will focus on neglect examples and their effects on residents.

The National Consumer Voice defines neglect as the “failure to care for a person in a manner that would avoid harm and pain or the failure to react to a situation that may be harmful.”

Neglect may or may not be intentional, such as a caring aide who is poorly trained and may not know how to provide proper care. Here are some examples:

- Incorrect body positioning leads to limb contractures, causing deformity and rigidity, and skin breakdown or pressure sores.
- Lack of toileting or changing of disposable briefs causes incontinence and results in residents sitting in their waste, increased falls and agitation, indignity and skin breakdown.
- Lack of assistance eating and drinking leads to malnutrition and dehydration.
- Lack of assistance with walking leads to less mobility and weight gain.
- Lack of bathing leads to indignity, poor hygiene and possible illness.
- Ineffective handwashing techniques lead to infection and possible death.
- Lack of assistance with participating in activities of interest leads to withdrawal, depression and isolation.

For further information, you may call me at 403-2164 or send an email to ombudsman2@sjbaaa.org.

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.

Senior News

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$5 each. Ac-

cess to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

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

Thursday, Feb. 8 — Beef barbecue brisket on hamburger bun, baked beans, shredded Brussels sprouts and salad bar.

Friday, Feb. 9 — Chicken a la king, dinner roll, spinach with Mandarin orange salad, green peas

and salad bar.

Monday, Feb. 12 — Salmon patty, black bean and mango salsa, Mexicali corn and salad bar.

Tuesday, Feb. 13 — Chicken and pork sausage jambalaya, okra, braised greens, salad bar and bread pudding.

Wednesday, Feb. 14 — Beef and turkey shepherd’s pie, mashed potatoes, salad bar and brownie.

Thursday, Feb. 15 — Lemon-baked salmon, brown and wild rice pilaf, orange with beet salad, snap pea medley, salad bar and sugar cookie.

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.

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