



The Pagosa Springs

SUN

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PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

www.PagosaSUN.com

VOLUME 110 — NO. 12, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2017

Aztec High School shooting victim has ties to Pagosa Springs

By Terri Lynn House
Staff Writer

Pagosa Springs resident Maxine Lattin lost her great-granddaughter, Casey J. Marquez, in the Thursday, Dec. 7, tragic shooting at Aztec High School in New Mexico.



Casey Marquez

Numerous aunts, uncles and cousins from our community also mourn the loss, including the families of LeRoy and Gary Lattin.

Marquez, 17, was a senior at Aztec High School and the captain of

■ See Victim A8

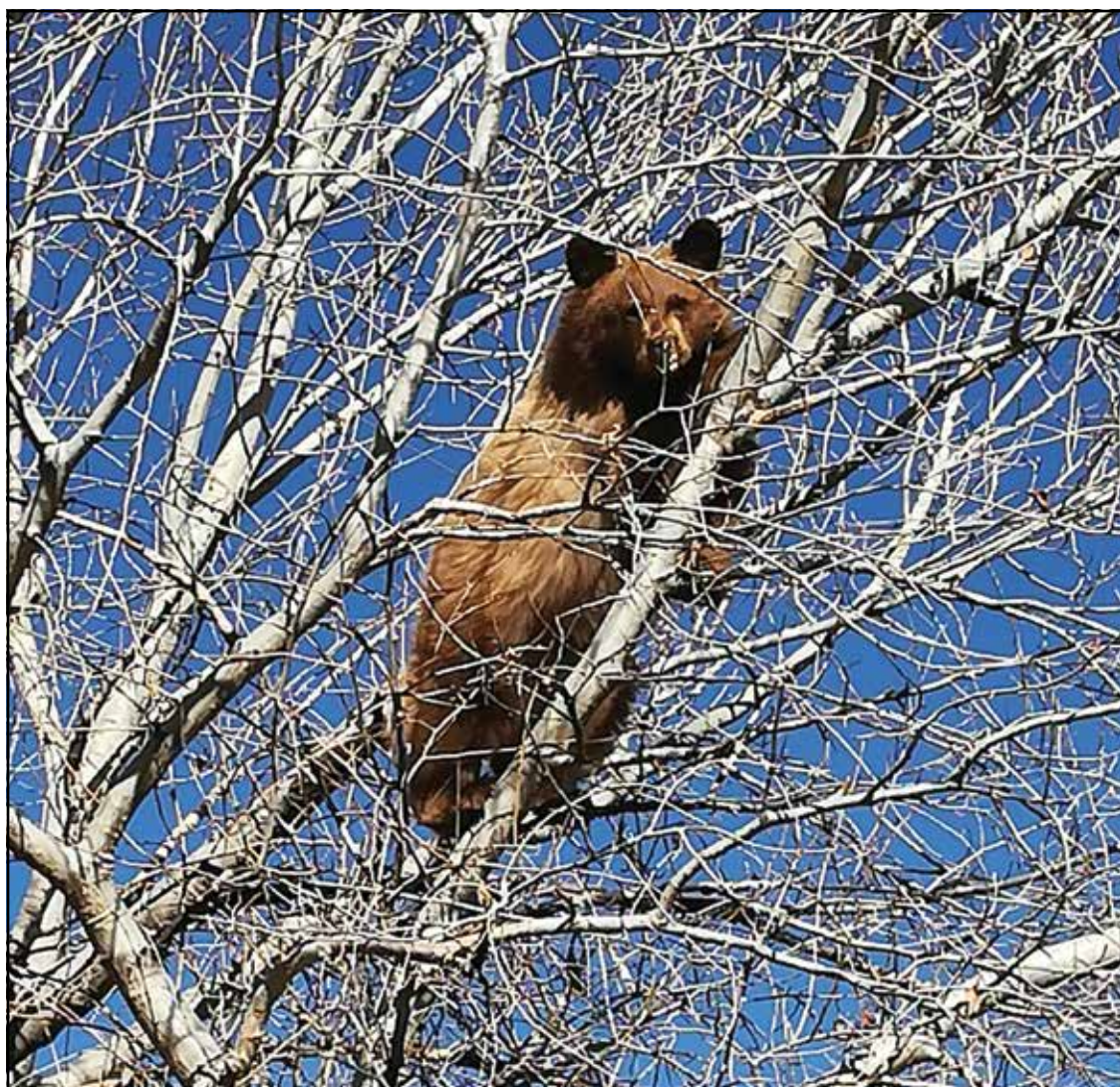


Photo courtesy Mark Meier

This bear cub was spotted feeding off a deer carcass and following it up with a nap in a tree in the Arboles area last week. Typically, bears are in hibernation this time of year, but the warm weather and lack of snow has everyone a bit confused. Mama bear was nowhere to be found.

PSSGID approves budget Will dip into reserves by \$238,141 due to pipeline issues

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs Sanitation and General Improvement District (PSSGID) approved its 2018 budget during its regular meeting on Dec. 5.

Town Manager Andrea Phillips introduced the budget to the board.

"As you know, we're planning to do some things next year to address some lingering issues from our pipeline project," Phillips said. "We do have in there some funding to address odor control. We're going to come back to you guys with more information on what that looks like."

Phillips went on to explain that there were plans in the works to do a rate study.

"We'd like to piggyback on what

PAWSD is doing in terms of reviewing their capital needs and doing a sufficiency analysis to make sure that what they're charging is covering their operational and capital needs," said Phillips, referring to the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District. "We did just get a quote on that from their contractor."

Phillips explained that the quote would be brought before the board during the PSSGID's regular meeting on Dec. 21.

"Essentially, our expenditures for all categories for the GID is just shy of a million. We're looking at \$987,301," said Phillips. "We are planning to spend into reserves, as you guys know, for the odor control and for the rate study and some of the other issues."

■ See Pipeline A8



Photo courtesy Julie Askins

This deer has second thoughts about crossing the San Juan River about 19 miles down Trujillo Road on Saturday. Area rivers and lakes have been freezing over due to recent colder temperatures, but the ice is still thin and dangerous.

Contention continues between county and courts

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The contention over the Archuleta County Courthouse continued Tuesday, with representatives of the Sixth Judicial District approaching the Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) to discuss security concerns over using the county's administration building at 398 Lewis St. as a temporary court location — only to find out that the county's offer was no longer on the table.

In beginning the discussion at Tuesday evening's school board meeting, Superintendent Linda Reed explained that, about a week previously, she had had a conversation with Eric Hogue, Sixth Judicial District administrator, about the possible use of the county's administration building as a possible temporary court facility, and she had invited him to speak to the school board about the matter.

"As many of you know, we have some facilities concerns in Pagosa," Hogue began after introducing himself and Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson. "We have temporarily relocated our courthouse to Durango, and so all of our services right

now are currently happening in Durango."

That, he said, means all court business has to be done either in person in Durango or through the mail.

"I've been working for probably the last 40 days with a realtor, trying to identify any type of temporary location that we could move our facility into. That has turned up quite empty-handed, unfortunately," Hogue explained. "There's not a lot of commercial space available in an assembly kind of fashion in Pagosa."

Hogue further explained that, per statute, the courts must be in the county seat in the incorporated municipality, with Pagosa Springs being the only incorporated municipality in Archuleta County.

Hogue then recounted that Archuleta County Commissioner Steve Wadley, on behalf of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC), had offered the courts use of the county's administration building as a temporary location.

That letter came on Nov. 2 and was a response to the courts' test

■ See Contention A8

Ash refutes Weiler's executive session comments

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

Pagosa Area Builders Committee (PABC) chair Larry Ash, speaking on his own behalf, sat down for an interview with The SUN on Monday morning to refute statements made recently by Mark Weiler.

Weiler's statements came during an executive session held by the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) on Nov. 17 in which Weiler stated the billionaire Sid Bass and Ash had supposedly corresponded to acquire money for a new building-trades building for Pagosa Springs High School.

Weiler stated in the executive

session that Bass had told Ash to get the building-trades program established and the money would be provided for the building.

Within the executive session, Weiler stated that Ash presented this information back to Weiler and when Weiler questioned it, Weiler quoted Ash as saying "from his mouth to my ears."

During the interview with The SUN, Ash stated that he wanted to "set the record straight" but he also did not want to "do any more damage."

"We did not want this to be a distraction for this program, for the high school, for any future donors,

■ See Comments A8

Area snowpack lowest in the state, chance of snow today

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

Local snowpack is currently the lowest in the state in terms of snow water equivalent, with the area including the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan River Basins sitting at 24 percent of normal as of Wednesday, Dec. 13.

According to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Laramie and North Platte River Basins sit at the highest in the state at 82 percent of normal.

The basins neighboring the San Miguel, Dolores, Animas and San Juan are also well below normal,

with the Gunnison River Basin sitting at 40 percent of normal and the Upper Rio Grande Basin at 35 percent.

The Wolf Creek summit, which is included in both the Upper Rio Grande Basin and the local basins, sits at 41 percent of today's median, and at 12 percent of the median peak.

The median peak date for the site, according to the data, is May 3.

A chance of snow, however, is in the forecast, with the National Weather Service issuing a hazardous weather outlook early Wednesday morning.

That outlook notes that, after

■ See Snowpack A8



Photos courtesy Seeds of Learning

The Butterfly class at Seeds of Learning entertains families with "The Three Little Pigs — Modernized Opera" last Thursday and Friday. This rendition of the tale included an Uber driver transporting the pigs from house to house, as well as audience participation in a dance.

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The colder, the better: Ice rink hopes for earliest opening ever



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Opinion

EDITORIAL

'From his mouth...'

J.R. Ford came forward last week as a spokesman for billionaire Sid Bass to refute statements made by Mark Weiler in an improper executive session of the Pagosa Peak Open School (PPOS) board of directors.

During the executive session, Weiler recounted the process of getting the Archuleta School District Board of Education to allow the use of its property for a potential vo-tech expansion.

Weiler described how Bass and builders' committee member Larry Ash corresponded to acquire funding for construction of a facility for the building trades program.

Weiler said, "And Sid said to him, he said, 'Get a building-trades program, we'll give you the money to build the building.' And I said, 'Are you sure about this?' and he [Ash] said, 'From his mouth to my ears.' That's good enough for me."

The recording of that improperly held executive session was released after The SUN made a Colorado Open Records Act request and pointed out that the PPOS board had violated the Colorado Open Meetings Law.

Following the request for the recording of the meeting, Weiler stated more than once that he would stand behind what he said in that improper executive session and he said that he had no problem with the recording being released.

Weiler may not have had a problem with what was said in that session, but Bass and Ford felt the need to set the record straight about what Weiler claimed.

Ford explained, "I guess, for us, we just want to make a statement that we think it's a noble cause (the new vo-tech building) but in no time has Mr. Bass ever made a commitment to fund that program in any shape or fashion."

"And that he does not know who Mr. Weiler is, nor has he spoke to Mr. Weiler or any of his representatives concerning this issue," Ford said.

The story doesn't end with Bass refuting what Weiler said. This week, Ash stopped by The SUN to set the record straight on his own behalf.

Ash said he had never met Bass, nor has he ever corresponded with him.

"I never used his name. Nobody in our committee has ever mentioned Mr. Bass's name, or any other potential donor's name," he explained. "Quite frankly, I was hoping I would not need to have this conversation with you, but Mr. Weiler has refused to step this up and make this right. With that being said, maybe I should use his own words, and 'from my mouth' to the ears of all of Archuleta County, I would like to assure everyone that I did not at anytime speak with Mr. Weiler regarding Sid Bass or any other person."

The individuals who comprise the builders' group behind the building trades program at the Pagosa Springs High School have worked hard to develop a much-needed program to benefit our students.

This volunteer group has worked quietly behind the scenes for the betterment of our community. Building is their livelihood. Reputation, character and integrity have been of utmost importance to this committee.

What was important to Ash was that, "We only hope we can contribute in the future to this and other community projects, as we have for the past seven years."

To Bass, Ford and Ash, your word is your bond. In their efforts to right a wrong, these men have been careful to put the vo-tech program at the forefront in an effort to make certain that one person's representations don't derail what is best for our students.

We understand that everyone makes mistakes, but we don't understand why someone wouldn't want to step up and right a wrong.

Bob Marley once said, "The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively."

Bass, Ford and Ash are men who have made positive things happen in our community for many years. Their reputations speak the truth.

Terri Lynn Oldham House

WHADDYA THINK?

When will Pagosa Springs see its next snowfall?



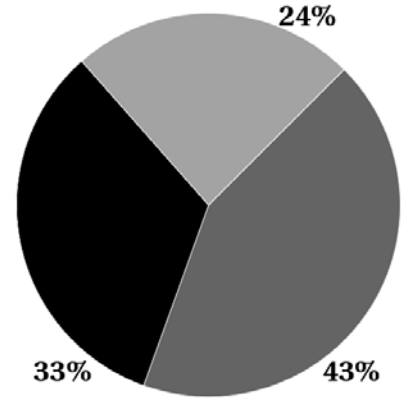
Linda Holt
"I hear it's going to be around Jan. 1."



Rob Keating
"I would say Dec. 31."



Sharon Adams
"I'll say Dec. 21."



Poll results (195 Votes)
Before Christmas — 43 percent
After Christmas — 33 percent
After New Year's — 24 percent

This week online: Do you believe in Santa Claus?
Vote at www.pagosasun.com

LOOKING BACK



From the December 3, 1970, Pagosa Springs SUN. SQUAD MEMBERS — Some of the squad members of the Pirate basketball team this year are shown with Coach Wright. They are, left to right, Coach Wright, Leroy Lucero, Henry Rivas, Tom Hyde, Ronnie Sorrels, Bob Lynch, and Leonard Martinez. All played Jayvee ball last year and are shaping up rapidly this year.

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

90 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 9, 1927

Vernon Cato of Pagosa Springs, member of the Denver University football squad, played in the game on Thanksgiving day when D.U. trounced Boulder with a 49 to 0 score.

With a flurry of snow Tuesday and the thermometer dropping to 12 or 14 below the following morning, Pagosa residents began to realize that winter is with us.

State Highway Engineer Baker of the Durango district office is making his headquarters in Pagosa Springs in preparation for several surveys for construction work next spring. We understand that \$125,000 will be available for expenditure on state highways in Archuleta county next year. Mr. Baker has been joined by Frank Dodson of Bayfield.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 18, 1942

Pagosa Springs' first wartime blackout Monday night was pronounced an outstanding success by local civilian defense officials. The town was completely dark within two minutes after the alert was sounded, with the exception of two people who seemed reluctant in obeying the wartime order. Earl Crouse, local commander of Defense Corps, stated Tuesday morning that he was not reporting the names of Monday night's offenders, but in the future, anyone refusing to obey blackout orders would be reported to the National Defense Council which would deal directly with the guilty parties. The offense carries a severe penalty.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Macht took basketball boys to Durango Saturday for the game.

50 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 14, 1967

It has been a dry winter to date on Wolf Creek Pass, according to Ernie Black, maintenance foreman there. The storm this week may change that in a hurry but to date the snow plow crews haven't been worked too many long hours. Total snowfall through Monday was only 53 inches thus far this winter. Precipitation totaled 1.43 inches and some of this was in the form of rain. This is well below the average for this date insofar as total snowfall for the year is concerned. Monday the marker at the top of the Pass showed 12 inches on the level.

A white Christmas is a definite possibility for this area now. A snowstorm moved in early Wednesday and started laying it down. By noon about six or eight inches had fallen in town.

25 years ago

Taken from SUN files of December 17, 1992

Pagosa Springs Trustees approved the annexation of lands and businesses west of the town boundaries, including Pagosa Lodge, following a lengthy special meeting Tuesday night. Following the Oct. 13 annexation of 26 parcels of land along U.S. 160 west of town that extended the town boundary to the intersection of the highway and Piedra Road, the trustees Oct. 21 accepted 12 petitions requesting annexation of contiguous properties leading from the new boundary to the lodge property.

Tuesday, voters in Pagosa Springs and within the boundaries of the service area of Archuleta Water Company approved by a 363-160 vote an inclusion of the town water system and the company's water system into the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District.

The Pagosa Springs SUN

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Date	High	Low	Precipitation		
			Type	Depth	Moisture
12/5	41	9	-	-	-
12/6	41	12	-	-	-
12/7	33	7	-	-	-
12/8	46	12	-	-	-
12/9	51	15	-	-	-
12/10	51	11	-	-	-
12/11	55	16	-	-	-

Pagosa Springs
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Letters



Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but may have been edited for content or style.

Smoky skies

Dear Editor:
Are you an outdoor enthusiast who appreciates the fresh air and fantastic views of mountain living? Do you wake up in the morning eager to get outside and enjoy it? Well, kiss that good-bye.

The US Forest Service is proposing to restructure their forest fire control methods to include significantly more prescribed forest fires in our San Juan mountains. To familiarize yourself please refer to

the Pagosa SUN article in the Outdoors section from November 30, "Public Comment Sought on Draft Analysis ..." The article includes the names of those at the US Forest Service Pagosa District to whom you can send, or better yet hand deliver, your comments about the proposed dramatic increase in prescribed forest fires around Pagosa Springs.

Their new approach to fighting fires with fires in the San Juan mountains substantially increases the acreage of forest to be burned in prescribed burns each year and it also proposes expanding the program throughout the entire calendar year. You should be gasping from disgust right about now.

Your respiratory health is apparently of no concern to the federal government though. In spite of conclusive evidence pointing toward increases in respiratory illness and disease in populations exposed to forest fire smoke the government is placing our community in the direct line of fire. Quite literally.

Take some of your valuable time today and do an internet search for the article: "Hidden Health Costs of Forest Fires and Control Burns" by Marsha Honn. Inform and arm yourself with the alarming statistics about the consequences of forest fire smoke on your health. It also contains valuable information about alternative forest fuel reduction methods which do not cause substantial air pollution problems.

The deadline for responding is December 18. That's like in the next few days. It is not coincidence that the deadline for comments is in the middle of the pre holiday crush. They hope you are too busy to have the time to be disgusted enough to respond. Go ahead, be disgusted. You deserve it. Now go put those unhappy emotions on paper and let them know they are trying to mess with the wrong Coloradoan. Pagosans love the outdoors. Pagosans save the outdoors.

Jennifer Burck

'Trickle down'

Dear Editor:
History is repeating itself with

the Republican Tax Scam close to becoming law. Returning to tax policies of the 1920's, that led to a huge concentration of wealth at the top and eventually the Great Depression, is now in our future. Welcome to the Libertarian utopia envisioned by the Koch brothers and their political arm ALEC. The Koch brothers spent over a billion dollars the last election cycle, buying Republican politicians such as Corey Gardner and Scott Tipton. They will use their extra \$millions to do more of the same, destroying our political, justice and educational systems in their quest for power and profit.

The scam is "Trickle Down" economics on steroids and a gift to the rich and large corporations. It adds \$1.5 trillion to the national debt with the tired old argument that tax cuts pay for themselves. This has been proved erroneous time and time again, most recently with Reagan's and Bush's tax cuts. The theory holds that with lower taxes, businesses will add jobs and increase workers wages. What happened when Bush lowered taxes was Corporations bought back their stock and paid higher dividends to stockholders. There were no gains at all in wages or jobs. Besides, trickle down theory puts the cart before the horse. Giving money to businesses does not create jobs, demand for products does. I learned that in Econ 101. Coal mining companies for example will not be able to create jobs with lower taxes, their product is losing demand. The desire for renewables, increased natural gas production and automation in mining is why coal jobs have gone the way of the buggy whip factory. People want clean energy and a clean environment, and just as with health care, where demand is high, jobs are created and wages begin to rise. The Republican tax scam does nothing in those areas, in fact money is cut from clean energy production, Medicare, Medicaid and the ACA. Areas where the US has the highest number of jobs being created.

When President Obama let the Bush tax cuts for the top 1% expire,

he raised his own taxes. With the Republican Tax Scam, who are the beneficiaries, none other than all the members of Congress, rich Republican donors and the Liar in Chief himself (almost 2000 lies in less than a year in office). In fact several Republican Senators said they had to get these cuts through or their donors would close their wallets. That shows where their priorities lie, certainly not with working Americans.

Their plan is to create a huge deficit and then say Social Security and Medicare must be cut. In fact Senator Rubio has already said as much. By the way, where are all you conservatives who were so concerned about spending during Obama's terms. It's weird how deficits don't seem to matter when Republicans have the presidency. Hypocrisy comes to mind or is it FOX spews ignores the issue and thus not in the sheeple's minds.

Dave Butcher

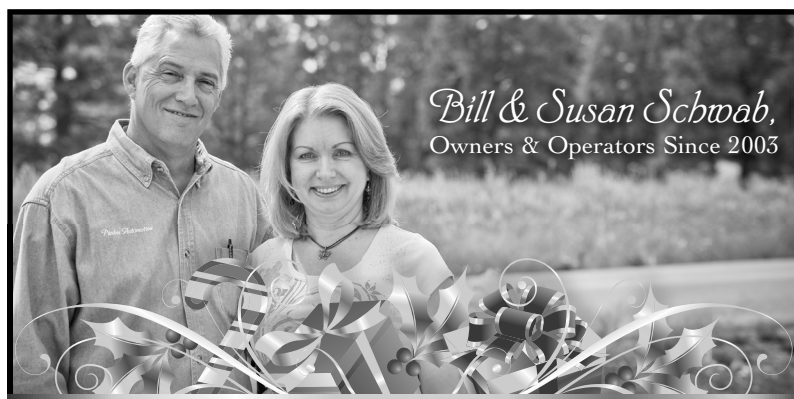
Paleo diet

Dear Editor:
If you have not yet heard of the Paleo diet, it is almost certain that you will soon. Based on my admittedly limited experience, I believe that it will be the female of your family group that will bring this up.

I respectfully direct your attention to <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paleolithic>, which will take you to a website that will tell you that Paleo man lived in the Paleolithic era. You will see a picture there of two Paleo people about to

■ See Letters A4

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include the author's phone number and address
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Mary Fisher Park to get electric car recharging station

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Nov. 20, the Pagosa Springs Town Council authorized a revocable license agreement with La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) for the purpose of putting an electric car recharging station in Mary Fisher Park.

The agenda item was presented by Pagosa Springs' Town Manager Andrea Phillips.

"La Plata Electric had approached me a couple of months ago about the possibility of installing an electric vehicle charging station in town," explained Phillips. "They were exploring putting it on their property

here in town, but felt that it was a little bit off the beaten path and that folks coming through town, especially those who are tourists, wouldn't be able to find it."

Phillips went on to explain that LPEA approached the town about putting the charging station in Mary Fisher Park.

"There'd be no cost to the town to install it or maintain it or pay the electricity on it," Phillips said. "It would be a pilot phase. It's a dual charger."

Phillips went on to explain that there were three different tiers of charging stations, with tier one having an extremely fast charging rate.

She added that this charging station would be a tier-two charging

station, and it typically takes an hour or so to charge an electric car.

Tier three is typically used by homeowners, and usually requires a person to plug in their vehicle overnight.

"They're proposing at this time to install it at no cost to the town," Phillips said, adding that the town would need to dedicate a parking space for the charger.

"In the first phase of it, which would be the pilot, they're stating that they would probably not be charging people to use it," explained Phillips. "They kind of want to see if people are going to take advantage of it."

Council member Tracy Bunning asked how big the charger was, and

how much parking space the town would lose at Mary Fisher Park.

Phillips explained that the actual charger wouldn't be in the parking lot at all, but rather in the park itself.

She added that an individual would then just pull into a regular parking space and grab the charger on the other side of the curb to plug in.

"It wouldn't take up a lot of space, just really the one parking stall," Phillips said.

Council member Mat deGraaf moved to approve the resolution authorizing an agreement with LPEA, with council member John Egan seconding the motion, which proceeded to pass unanimously.

Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act ends Friday, Dec. 15

By Gordon Hopkins
Special to The SUN

Open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) ends on Friday, Dec. 15, of this year. Previously, open enrollment lasted until the end of January, so the enrollment period for this year has been cut in half.

But, if you miss the December deadline, you may still qualify to enroll.

For example, you are eligible if you have lost your health care coverage. If you lost your job and your employer-sponsored health care plan, or you are recently divorced or legally separated or your spouse has died and you are no longer cov-

ered under your spouse's insurance plan, you will usually have 60 days from the date of that loss to sign up.

Other life-changing events may also qualify you to enroll after the original deadline: getting married, moving, having a child, adopting a child or placing a child in foster care.

According to a Kaiser Family Foundation poll, only 5 percent of uninsured persons know when the enrollment period ends, so it seems quite likely that many of those who need to sign up with ACA for the first time will miss the official deadline.

If that happens to you, don't assume you are out of luck. While the special enrollment period is

usually 60 days, you should contact HealthCare.gov or the Marketplace Call Center at (800) 318-2596 to make certain, as well as to ensure that you qualify.

The Dec. 15 deadline is also important for those already on one of the ACA policies. If people do nothing, they will be automatically re-enrolled in their current plan if it is still offered. However, many of those plans have been changed and premiums may be higher. Once the December deadline has passed, enrollees will not be able to make changes, so they need to be sure they are on the policy that best meets their needs. There are some new, alternative plans, and some may actually be less expensive.

Some insurance carriers have pulled out of the ACA exchanges altogether. Many enrollees have received notice that their 2017 policies will no longer be available in 2018. Someone whose plan has been discontinued will be automatically enrolled in a similar plan, but premiums may have increased and covered services may not be the same. So, it is important for enrollees to verify the new policy is the one they want.

Gordon Hopkins is a native of Nebraska and a graduate of Creighton University. He is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and has worked as a professional insurance investigator. He now writes an award-winning column for The Fairbury Journal-News.

Letters

Continued from A3

attack a Glyptodon. These do not appear to be particularly attractive people and they are naked. We have been spared a frontal view. They appear to have two wooden sticks, possible sharpened, and they are going to attack this Glyptodon, kill it, and eat it. If it doesn't kill and eat them first.

Paleo people, according to Wikipedia, killed all the Glyptodons, mammoths, and mastodons (we can be thankful for that) and then the Paleo people died out to be replaced by Neanderthals who, as we all know, have not died out. They are with us still.

The "idea" behind a Paleo diet seems to be that we should eat what nature intended as did Paleo people. Things like vegetables. How we got from Glyptodons to vegetables is not clear. Vegetables are nice but no substitute for a double meat hamburger and a chocolate shake.

Picture this. Paleo wife says to Paleo husband, "Honey, I have a nice dandelion salad for dinner." Paleo man looks over at the mastodon he killed and is thinking he can cut off a ribeye or a rack of ribs or both, fire up the grill, and have a barbecue. And, there is no ranch dressing for the dandelion salad. What do you think he's going to do? He's going to find someone to help him get a divorce and thus lawyers

came in to being.

Bill Hubbard

Misconduct

Dear Editor:

A year ago, we each approached the voting booth with a desire to support and advance those things that we believed in. Our issues were varied: taxes, education, the economy, the environment, immigrants, the dreamers, etc. We supported different candidates based on our views of the issues that resounded most deeply with us.

Underlying our differing opinions, however, there must be a common code of morality on which to build our society. As a nation, we must value honesty and integrity above any and all partisan issues. No matter how important we believe an issue to be, it cannot eclipse decency and morality.

Sexual misconduct is wrong, no matter the title of the person who commits it. Lying is wrong, no matter the party affiliation of the liar. Hate speech is wrong, and should never be condoned at any level. Racial slurs are not amusing and have no place in a decent society. Name-calling and bullying certainly are not traits that Americans can be proud of.

We must hold ourselves and each other accountable for our actions. By supporting people simply

because they agree with our views, while turning a blind eye to their conduct, we are destroying the very decency that should be the unshakable foundation of our nation.

Mary Kurt-Mason

Bill Of Rights

Dear Editor:

December 15th is the anniversary of the ratification of the Bill Of Rights — the first ten amendments of the United States Constitution.

I am reminded of an event that took place on a public street last spring. I was on a lonely city street with almost no parked cars and no traffic at the time. I parked and waited in my van for a friend whom I knew would be there. Soon he came to my window. I slipped out and we stood to talk near my front bumper. In a minute a man came and told me that I could not talk with my friend there. He said that I would have to see him at his home.

Being a government teacher for three decades, I kindly asked the stern man if he owned the street where we were talking. He said he did not. I informed him that the First Amendment gave us the right to assemble in a public place. I continued to say that the Bill Of Rights further gave us the freedom of speech when we met, and that the U.S. Constitution guaranteed us the freedom of religion for us to

discuss what the Bible says — right there on the side of the street.

I was surprised that over 200 years after the Bill Of Rights granted us these rights that someone would deny us our First Amendment rights here in America.

I chalk it up to a good illustration for my government classes on someone trying to deny us the rights that we are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Yours for a free America.

Dan Manka

Postal workers

Dear Editor:

'Tis the season, yes it is, for most of us a time of shopping and gift giving, but for our postal workers it is a season of stress and over work this year more than ever since the USPS signed a contract with Amazon. The exponential increase in package delivery and relatively small increase in personal has created an extremely stressful and over worked environment for our postal workers. I suggest the next time you are conducting business with our friends and neighbors who work at the post office, please take a moment to acknowledge their hard work and let them know "that this too shall pass" and wish a Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas and God bless.
Ed Simpson

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

for the issue of

Thursday, December 28

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 22

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Tuesday, December 26
Too Late to Classify 3 p.m., Tuesday, December 26

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

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

and for the issue of


Thursday, January 4

Display Advertising
Noon, Friday, December 29

Classified Advertising
10 a.m., Tuesday, January 2
Too Late to Classify 3 p.m., Tuesday, January 2

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters
Noon, Thursday, December 28

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



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Obituaries

John Thomas Blackwell

John Thomas Blackwell passed away on Saturday, December 2, 2017, in Midland. John was 86, born on October 14, 1931, in Brady, Texas to Thomas Henry Blackwell and Davie (Dial) Blackwell.



John was preceded in death by his parents and brother Don Blackwell. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mary Ann (Wilson) Blackwell; daughter Joan Everett and husband Phillip; grandsons Dustin Everett and wife Melissa, James Everett and Stephen Everett; daughter Marcia Mares and husband John; granddaughters Jennifer Jackson and husband Larry, Kelly Epps and husband Steve; grandson David Mares; daughter Lori Miller and husband Russell; granddaughters Leslie West and husband Quentin, and Mary Miller; grandsons Zachary Miller and Clay Miller; son John Thomas Blackwell Jr. and wife Kamilah; grandsons Joshua Blackwell and Andrew Blackwell and six great grandchildren.

John arrived in Midland in 1951. His first job was at Texas Electric in accounting. John then enlisted in the Army, attended officer's training, earned the rank of First Lieutenant and served until 1953. He married Mary Wilson in 1954 and attended the University of Texas at Austin where he earned a B.A. in Business and Finance. John's career lead him to the First National Bank of Midland. Later, he joined Rauscher Pierce as an investment broker where he worked for 38 years before retiring.

John was a dedicated family man. His life revolved around his wife and four children. John loved fishing and was a world class hunter with two Big Horn Sheep Grand Slams. He respected the environment and taught his children and grandchildren about responsible hunting. John enjoyed life and it showed. He will be greatly missed by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Memorial services will be at 3:00 pm, Friday, December 8, 2017, at the First Baptist Church Chapel with Rev. David Johnson officiating. Family visitation will be from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm, Thursday, December 7, 2017, at Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Honorary pallbearers include Dustin Everett, James Everett, Stephen Everett, Zachary Miller, Clay Miller, David Mares, Joshua Blackwell, Andrew Blackwell, Larry Jackson and Steve Epps.

John's family would like to express deep gratitude to long time helper Mary Lee and to friend and caregiver Manny Villareal who brightened so many days for John and Mary and to caregivers Lupe Martinez and Hilda Serrata for their kindness and dedication to John. The family extends sincere thanks to Brookdale Senior Living and their wonderful staff. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to your favorite charity in honor of John.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home and Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Ralph 'Plumber' Harold Davis

The passing of a legend in his own time has been reported. Ralph "Plumber" Harold Davis, 79, passed away at his home in Arboles on Nov. 18. Ralph bravely faced his impending death from an inoperable brain hemorrhage, only nine days after the "acute subdural hematoma, non traumatic" was diagnosed.



Ralph was the son of Harold M. and Frances Eva Davis, born in a cabin at the Hot Springs in Pagosa Springs on March 28, 1938, where he was a lifetime resident, grew up and attended school. He is survived by his beloved partner, Carol Tindell; sister Noreen Bruns, of Oklahoma City; nieces Coleen Henisa, of Oklahoma City, and Eileen Bruns, of Richmond, Texas; and nephew James Bruns, also of Oklahoma City. He will be missed by cousins Helen Moore and Craig, of Buena Vista, and all who knew and loved him; he never met a stranger. He was a master of recycle, re-

purpose and reuse of items and passing them on where they could be most beneficial. Many children were on the receiving end of bikes and other toys that he made or repaired and donated. He made wonderful wooden whirligigs as well as toys which can be found worldwide.

Ralph proudly served in the Army, serving in France as well as in the U.S. and still has friends from that period of time. Among other jobs in the area, he worked long and hard at the big sawmill north of Pagosa Springs, was a volunteer fireman and became chief—a job he really loved. He owned his own business for many years before retiring and moving to Arboles, where he continued his own business. He loved fishing and was a guide to hunters from out of state. He enjoyed gardening and beating the critters to harvest. Ralph had a tremendous heart and love for life. He loved having fun and had a sense of humor even to the end.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Pagosa Springs volunteer fire department in his name.

Rafael T. Garcia

Rafael "Ralph" T. Garcia (85) passed away peacefully at his home in Pagosa Springs, Colo., on Dec. 6, 2017, after a hard-fought battle with heart disease.

Rafael T. Garcia was born on Oct. 24, 1932, to Preciliano and Cleofas Garcia in Edith, Colo. He enjoyed his childhood years living and working at his favorite place — his family's Montezuma ranch — and in Lumberton, N.M., where his family owned Garcia's Cash Store. As a U.S. Army

corporal during the Korean War, Ralph was awarded the National Defense Service Medal. As a small business owner, he ran various businesses including: Garcia Dry Goods, Mercure's Bar and Dance Hall, R and R Grocery, and Ralph's Gift Shop. In 1959, he was the youngest person to be elected New Mexico state representative of Rio Arriba County. In 1971, Ralph was elected New Mexico Rio Arriba County commissioner. Ralph was well-known, admired and respected for his integrity and honesty during his tenures in office.

In Pagosa Springs, Ralph was an appraiser and clerk for Archuleta County until retirement. Ralph enjoyed woodworking and made works of art that hang proudly in his family's and friends' homes today. He was a voracious reader and worker of crossword and word search puzzles and had a great love of history. Ralph had a brilliant mind — many said he had "a calculator for a brain."

A steadfast patriarch with a deep faith in God, Ralph handled every situation with kindness and gentleness. Without doubt, it was Ralph's great faith that enabled him to dedicate his life to caring for his family. Always his main priority, his loved ones feel immensely fortunate and grateful to have had him in their lives. Loving husband, father, grandfather,



great-grandfather and wonderful example to all those around him, Ralph is greatly missed already, and always will be.

Dad, may you rest comfortably and peacefully in God's arms in heaven. One day, we will all be home together again. We love you with all of our hearts!

Ralph is survived by: wife and primary loving caretaker of 56 years Teodora Garcia; three daughters: Darice and Jerry Vigil, Virginia "Gina" Lucero and Clifford Lucero, Marlena Crandall and Ron Christensen; grandchildren: Jerry Jr. and Brunella Vigil (Emilio), Brandon and Alma Vigil (Gabriel), Shaun Vigil and Kimberlee Hurley, Dominique Lucero and Tasha Andrews (Diandra, Nadia), Tricia and Michael Vega (Aidan, Liana, Lillyan, Asher), Zachary and Liz Lucero, Kain Lucero, Anissa Lucero, Jacob Crandall; son-in-law Ron Crandall; siblings: Preciliano Garcia, Lucila Props, Loyola Palmer, Amos Garcia; sister-in-law Elma Garcia; brother-in-law Gilbert Lucero; and, many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Rafael was preceded in death by: son Mauro Garcia; daughter Markita Garcia; parents Preciliano and Cleofas Garcia; siblings Jose Ignacio Garcia, Mary Lucero and three infant siblings.

Rosary took place on Dec. 11 at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, Pagosa Springs, Colo. Funeral Mass took place on Dec. 12 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Pagosa Springs, Colo.

Interment to follow at a later date at Lumberton Cemetery, Lumberton, N.M.

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Happy Holidays

from Ivy, Jann, Blue, Kalei, Lee, David & our fantastic support team — Kathy, Joni, Jody and Jordan.



Jingle All the Way

Photos courtesy Jeff Laydon

Presenting traditional as well as less-known Christmas music, the Pagosa Springs Girls Choir presented its Christmas concert, "Jingle All the Way," last Thursday at the Community United Methodist Church.



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Business

Colorado historic Hot Springs Loop wins Industry Collaboration Award

By Vicky Nash
Special to The SUN

The statewide industry advocacy group Colorado Business Roundtable recently held its inaugural Collaboration in Industry Awards event and the winner of the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation category was the Colorado Historic Hot Springs Loop (CHHSL), a partnership between five western Colorado destinations that features 19 thermal mineral water attractions. The award recognizes success-

ful alliances that strengthen Colorado's business ecosystem.

Business leaders from a broad spectrum of industries including aerospace, energy, education, engineering and construction, farming and agriculture, financial services, government and economic development, hospitality and lodging, health and wellness, manufacturing, and technology attended the event on Thursday, Dec. 7, in Denver.

In the category of Tourism and Outdoor Recreation, the CHHSL

was a finalist with two industry giants — the outdoor equipment retailer Cabela's and the Colorado Tourism Office.

According to CHHSL project manager Vicky Nash, "The Colorado Historic Hot Springs Loop project represents an extremely successful public/private partnership between destination marketing organizations/chamber resort associations, the Colorado Tourism Office and private businesses. We are very proud of our accomplishments and are so honored to be recognized."

In just two years since its implementation, the CHHSL has garnered over 150 news articles and editorial stories valued at more than \$6.3 million in top publications from USA Today and the Washington Post to National Geographic Traveler and Sunset Magazine.

In October, CHHSL also won the Destination Marketing Association of the West award for Best Idea, which recognized innovative techniques and imaginative approaches to promoting a destination.

It began in the fall of 2015, when the five Colorado hot springs destinations — Chaffee County,

Pagosa Springs, Ouray County, Glenwood Springs and Steamboat Springs — formulated a strategy to leverage their resources. Each partner contributed \$5,000, which enabled the fledgling initiative to secure a Colorado Tourism Office Marketing Matching Grant Fund for a \$50,000 total budget for two consecutive years.

Much of the first nine months was devoted to product development including creating collateral marketing materials such as www.colorado.com/hotspringsloop, a map, brochures and videos produced in four languages. Since then, the campaign has taken off and the CHHSL has effectively increased consumer interest in visiting hot springs destinations in western Colorado.

The 720-mile CHHSL showcases some of the most popular hot springs attractions in the country. There is so much variety, from intimate, private baths to the world's largest mineral hot springs pool. Each of the 19 facilities offers unique features like vapor caves, hot pots, terraced pools, enormous travertine formations and fun-filled aquatic centers.

CHAMBER NEWS

2018 Rural Philanthropy Days to return to southwest Colorado

By Mary Jo Coulehan
SUN Columnist

Oftentimes we take our nonprofit agencies for granted: the work they do and the services they provide.

These agencies seek grant opportunities, private funding and public support to offer their services and perform duties that government agencies often cannot fulfill.

One important opportunity for nonprofit agencies is Rural Philanthropy Days, which comes to a region only once every four years. Initiated by Sue Anschutz of the Anschutz Foundation and coordinated by the Community Resource Center, this event brings nonprofit agencies face to face with major Colorado funding agencies. It gives funders a chance to meet those agencies they fund and through networking opportunities, financial request opportunities and educational opportunities and a chance to find out more about where their money is spent and the impact of their contributions. It is also an opportunity for nonprofit agencies to gather additional education to run their organizations better, to make new contacts and seek funding for one or several projects.

The 2018 Rural Philanthropy Days event will be held from Sept. 12-14 in Cortez, Colo., with this event's theme as "Mountains of Opportunity." Four years ago, this event was hosted here in Pagosa Springs and it was an excellent event. It was easy for local nonprofits to participate since it was in our community.

Eight years ago when the event was held in Mancos, Colo., Archuleta County nonprofits made a strong showing as a community. It is important that our nonprofit agencies show the same commitment again in 2018. Currently, the RPD steering committee is asking nonprofit organizations to contribute ideas for the educational breakout sessions through the Program Needs Assessment survey. If you are struggling with financials, need more help in attracting volunteers, marketing your organization or so many other topics that constitute running your business, complete the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/T5WYQ2F.

This conference is about helping the nonprofit agencies attain skills to better run their organiza-

tions, meet and learn from other nonprofit leaders, and giving nonprofit agencies opportunities to fundraise for projects they are interested in or are working on.

Early in 2018, the Chamber will host a planning meeting at which time our local nonprofit agen-

■ See Chamber A9

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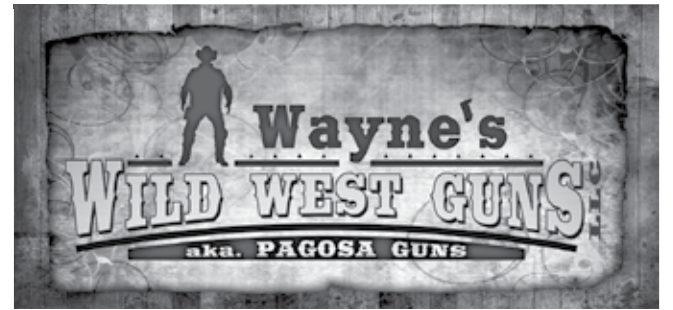
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Pipeline

■ Continued from front

She explained that the PSSGID would be dipping into reserves by \$238,141.

"Right now we have a reserve that we're planning for next year of a little over a million (dollars) with our estimated carryover at \$1.03 million," explained Phillips, adding that the PSSGID is anticipating gaining roughly \$749,000 in revenue for 2018.

"Next year, we'll have total resources of about \$1.78 million. So, we are spending into reserves a

little bit for the GID, and obviously this isn't something that we want to do every year, but we do have some lingering issues from the pipeline project that we're going to be dealing with, and that's eating into the budget quite a bit."

PSSGID Sanitation Supervisor Gene Tautges added that, even though the pipeline project is relatively new, a lot of the equipment utilized by the project is very technical, and instead of regular staff working on the technical equipment, maintenance has to be per-

formed by qualified technicians.

"I put ... enough money in the budget to have annual inspections on large things like that, the high dollar things," said Tautges. "We feel pretty good that, barring any other weird things, we feel like we've got it covered."

PSSGID board member David Schanzenbaker moved to approve the 2018 budget, with board member Clint Alley seconding the motion, which proceeded to pass unanimously.

marshall@pagosasun.com

Contention

■ Continued from previous page

results and associated letter dated Oct. 31 in which Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson stated the courts and probation would not be returning to the Archuleta County Courthouse.

"Simply put, we will switch space with you," the letter reads.

"The science continues to prove our position," Wadley states in the letter, adding later, "Consequently, we are prepared to vacate our current administrative facility and make that available to the Judicial System."

Hogue then explained that, at that time, he and Wilson had concerns, including the logistics of locating the activity there with the flow of the public and the opinion of the school board that had been voiced several years ago when the courts used the building temporarily.

Hogue said the best way to address that was to come to speak with the school board directly.

"We do need to come back, and we need to come back as soon as we can," Wilson added, citing requirements under state law for at least the county court to be within the city limits.

He added that the courts needed to be back for the community, with the courts dealing with more than just criminals.

Wilson then noted appreciation for the offer from the commissioners and explained that, while the building was not ideal, "We can make it work to some degree."

He said the use of the building would allow several, but not all, functions back to Archuleta County, and that they are willing to change some scheduling of court activity.

"You need to understand that if we do this, we're going to be there for several years at a minimum," Wilson said, adding later, "We would like your support."

BOE member Bruce Dryburgh was the first to ask a question, asking if the Parelli building was in the town boundaries.

Hogue and Reed answered that it is, but houses the Pagosa Peak Open School, with Dryburgh following up with questions about how much square footage the courts could live with.

Hogue noted a variety of options in relocating services (including first moving county court and the clerks back) and space needs.

"It's going to be impossible for us tonight to gauge what the community's reaction to this is going to be, but whatever reaction that may be, it's going to require reassurance as to what is going to happen to offenders in custody coming in and out of that building," BOE member Brooks Lindner said, agreeing with a point previously made by Wilson.

Wilson noted that he didn't feel there was as much to worry about with people in custody due to security measures, but that the danger is the people you don't know are dangerous who get upset, though those people are in the community already and not in custody.

BOE president Greg Schick then brought up people on probation, with Wilson stating that probation has a lot of screening tools and they try to take people into custody who may become dangerous.

Following further discussion about probation, Hogue also noted that additional security officers would be present and that he had spoken with the sheriff about emergency funding that could be available to pay for more security officers.

Another concern voiced by Reed was the traffic congestion and lack of parking in the area, with Hogue stating that parking was not good at the courthouse, either, and wouldn't be much different.

Lindner then asked for Pagosa Springs Middle School Principal Chris Hinger's thoughts, with Hinger stating, "Worst-case scenario, I mean, things could go south, but, you know, ... we've been doing

this for years with them being a block away."

He added that he trusted them to do things well and remember that there's a school situated next door.

"I mean it's not like they were 10 miles away," he said, adding, "We're a downtown campus. We deal with a lot of stuff."

Dryburgh noted that the courts needed to categorically rule out every other location, which he didn't anticipate would take long.

Hogue then reiterated that he had worked with a local realtor and that there was no property that was available that met the needs.

"My point is, you need to give us the absolute best ammunition" concerning the reasoning the courts couldn't use other buildings, Dryburgh suggested.

"I would like a brief explanation of why you can't use the courtrooms that are in the old courthouse now," Schick said.

"I didn't come here this evening to debate the ability of us to use the current courthouse," Hogue responded.

"Bad answer," Dryburgh said.

Hogue continued, "That's a whole other animal."

"Why can't you use those rooms now? Why were you kicked out or why will you not use those?" Schick asked.

"We won't use them because they're not safe," Wilson responded. "On various levels."

Schick then asked if the courts had enough square footage there, with Wilson stating, "not even close."

Schick further asked if the courts would be safer or have the square footage they needed in the county administration building, also asking why the current courthouse couldn't be the temporary fix.

"Because they're not healthy," Hogue said, informing the BOE that the courts' third-party hygienist had recommended they not reoccupy the building.

Schick further questioned that other county offices could still use the courthouse, with Hogue and Wilson indicating that it was the decision of those offices to stay.

"Well, I really thought we were going to get more of a good sales pitch," Dryburgh said, indicating he was not comfortable with the idea that there were no options.

Schick then asked Valdez to comment, with the sheriff saying that he too had looked for another location.

One of the biggest challenges with the Parelli building, he said, was the school, which has a three-year contract, and that the uses would not work in that close of a proximity.

"That's a great answer for what my question was on one building," Dryburgh commented.

Valdez then talked about security measures that could be taken with the county's administration building.

Following Valdez speaking, Schick asked the county commissioners present, Ron Maez and Michael Whiting, to speak.

At that point, Maez left after announcing that he didn't want to violate the state's open meetings laws, and Whiting then stepped to the podium.

The BoCC had not noticed the meeting to have a quorum of the board present to discuss public business.

County Administrator Bentley Henderson was also present.

"I want to apologize for you guys being put on the spot on something that you're not connected to in any significant way, as far as we're concerned," Whiting said. "I'm not sure why we're here."

Whiting said the county was there because the courts were here and that the county had found out the courts were going to seek the school's support.

Whiting also recounted the

county's offer to the courts, which he noted was "at the considerable discomfort of the staff," who would also have to move back to the courthouse.

"That offer was declined almost immediately, and there was a lot of good reasons. There was a letter in which they declined," Whiting said, noting that they cited security and safety, among other reasons. "That offer isn't on the table right now. When they turned down that offer, that offer came off the table as far as the BoCC and the county was concerned. We haven't heard from the courts in the interim since they turned down the offer and they showed up here, so we're at a bit of a loss."

Whiting continued, "As far as a suitable building, we have the most tested building in the county in terms of health. Five or six environmental hygienists, CDPHE, fire district, on and on — over years, I might add — all came back well within ... OSHA standards. Well within OSHA standards, habitable and safe."

Whiting acknowledged security problems due to the building's history as a bank and the fact that it was not designed for its current function.

Whiting apologized again that the school was caught in the middle and said the county was trying to solve the long-term problems as quickly as possible.

He noted that there was space available for the courts in the courthouse.

Dryburgh questioned why the other commissioners were not present, with Whiting explaining that they had to follow the open meetings laws and noting that there was no disagreement among the commissioners on this topic.

"Can I just apologize for wasting your time?" Wilson asked before stating he was unaware that that was the county's position.

"I notified them a week ago that I was going to be here to do this," Hogue said. "They had more than ample time to tell me the offer didn't exist."

Schick then asked the pair to stay while the BOE finished its discussion on the matter, which included that the BOE would need more information should the offer go back on the table and the courts need the support of the BOE.

Making a decision like that without public discussion, Schick indicated, could destroy the public's trust in ASD.

Following the meeting, Henderson indicated to SUN staff that he had been notified the previous Wednesday, but that the board was not able to meet before Tuesday morning to discuss the matter.

Earlier that day, the BoCC indicated that the offer to swap buildings with the Judicial Department is no longer on the table during the BoCC's regular Tuesday morning work session.

randi@pagosasun.com

Victim

■ Continued from front

her cheerleading squad. She is the granddaughter of Flora Vista, N.M., resident Terry Lattin and daughter of Aztec resident Jamie Lattin.

A memorial service for Marquez will be held at San Juan College in the Henderson Fine Arts Building on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m.

According to the San Juan County Sheriff's Office, student Francisco "Paco" Fernandez was also killed in the tragedy.

The 21-year-old gunman killed himself and will not be named in The SUN.

In a press conference on the day of the shooting, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez cited several acts of bravery and heroism on behalf of school's staff, students and first responders to the incident.

Comments

■ Continued from front

which we have never named anybody," Ash said.

Ash later added that he had never met Bass, nor has he ever corresponded with him.

"I never used his name. Nobody in our committee has ever mentioned Mr. Bass's name, or any other potential donor's name," he explained.

Ash also added that he did not want to say anything that hurts what the builders committee is trying to do.

Reading from a prepared statement, Ash went on to clarify his stance on Weiler's statements.

"Quite frankly, I was hoping I would not need to have this conversation with you, but Mr. Weiler has refused to step this up and make this right," Ash said. "With that being said, maybe I should use his own words, and 'from my mouth' to the ears of all of Archuleta County, I would like to assure everyone that I did not at anytime speak with Mr. Weiler regarding Sid Bass or any

other person."

Ash then went on to state that neither himself nor anyone associated with the PABC have any desire to be involved in any sort of controversy.

Further along in his statement, Ash described a brief history of the PABC.

"The Pagosa Area Builders Committee was formed over seven years ago. This is strictly a volunteer organization," Ash said.

The PABC is mostly comprised of local builders, but anyone is welcome to participate, Ash explained.

However, the PABC does not collect donations, have dues and is not a nonprofit organization, Ash clarified.

"When called upon, the committee has spent endless hours developing possible solutions and presenting them to whomever might be requesting the information," Ash added.

The PABC, in the past, has worked to bring building and fire codes up to date and make sure

that the codes fit the need of the community, Ash added.

As of recently, the committee was approached with a plan for expanding the current vocational training program in Pagosa Springs High School.

"The committee immediately began with information gathering and helping the high school make connections with members of the community who could further support their project," Ash said.

The PABC is a part of the committee to serve the community, share its knowledge, and make Pagosa Springs a better place to live, Ash noted.

"Under the circumstances, we will not ask Mr. Weiler to participate in any future endeavors of our committee. It is unfortunate there had to be a disruption of this nature. We only hope we can contribute in the future to this and other community projects, as we have for the past seven years," Ash said.

chris@pagosasun.com

Snowpack

■ Continued from front

today, "A series of Pacific storms on the Polar Jetstream will break down the strong Western ridge that has been in place. The next significant system could arrive by the weekend. Again this will impact travel over the high country and some lower elevations due to snow and icy conditions."

But, the week's best chance of

snow looks to be today, with the National Weather Service on Wednesday calling for a 20 percent chance of snow in Pagosa Springs before 11 a.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 14.

For Wolf Creek Pass, the forecast is predicting that snow showers are likely this morning, mainly before 11 a.m. Following that, the forecast is calling for the weather to be partly sunny with a high near 25

and north northeast wind around 10 mph.

The chance of precipitation on the pass is 60 percent, with new snow accumulation of less than half an inch possible, the forecast notes.

A chance of snow for Wolf Creek returns Saturday night and Sunday, with the forecast showing a 20 percent chance of precipitation.

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The Pagosa Springs Sun

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Purchase the 'gift' of electricity for those in need

By Indiana Reed
Special to The SUN

"Kilowatt hours" could be one of the most welcomed gifts this holiday season for those having difficulty paying their electric bills, and the "elves" at La Plata Electric Association (LPEA) have initiated a program designed to assist with that gift of electricity.

At offices in both Durango and Pagosa Springs, the LPEA customer service representatives (CSRs) have decorated festive Power of Giving Trees, adorned with ornaments that sport varying dollar amounts (\$5 to \$100). Community members are invited to select an ornament and bring it to the customer service window, and that dollar amount will be applied to the account of a fellow LPEA member challenged with paying their electric bill this season.

"Any amount is valued," said CSR Julie McIntyre, who initiated the idea with her fellow team members. "Being on the front lines every day, we do become aware of members who are in need. We wanted to try to do something to help."

"It's the 'pay it forward' concept," added CSR Donna Arriza. "Or should we say 'power it forward?' No matter what, it's giving from the heart and helping our friends and neighbors."

LPEA members contributing to the Power of Giving Tree will receive either an LED light bulb or LED night-light for their generosity.

"Though LPEA has not raised its rates for 2018, other utilities have," said Ron Meier, manager of engineering and member relations. "We know firsthand that many people are having difficulty with even the most basic of necessities. The gift of electricity is definitely one that can be used and appreciated, and it's heart-warming to see our customer service representatives taking the initiative to help out our members."

In addition to the Giving Tree, LPEA members can also make arrangements to assist specific family members or neighbors with their bills, as well as nonprofit organizations, by applying credit to their LPEA accounts.

Gifts of any denomination are accepted at LPEA offices in Duran-



Photo courtesy La Plata Electric Association

In challenging times, underwriting kilowatt hours could be a most welcomed holiday gift. You can purchase the gift of electricity for someone in need. Pictured are LPEA staff members gathered around a Power of Giving Tree in their office in Pagosa Springs.

go or Pagosa Springs during regular business hours. Contributions can be made anonymously.

"This doesn't need to be something that happens just around the

holidays," added Meier. "We can make arrangements for regular monthly credits to any account of your choosing. It can be a gift that keeps on giving."

Chamber

Continued from A7

Members can gather and strategize on how to make an impact at Rural Philanthropy Days on behalf of their organization and Archuleta County. In the next year, there will also be training sessions held for the nonprofits on how to best make their funding pitches and network.

You can find out more about the event by visiting www.southwestrpd.org or contact the Community Resource Center at southwestrpd@gmail.com. Registration will open up in the summer of 2018. Nonprofits new and old, don't miss this opportunity.

Your chance to weigh in

If you visit the Chamber's home page, you will see the link for the 2018 board of directors voting process and the Community Award nominations. These are two opportunities for businesses and community members to weigh in on who will represent the business community on the chamber board and who we can thank for being so community minded.

The board nominees are Rev. Leighton Mekeal, pastor, Community United Methodist Church; Dan McPherson, co-owner of Sunetha Property Management; Mary Hunt, owner of Mary Hunt USHealth Advisors; Jesse Hensle, marketing and communications manager, Pagosa Springs Medical Center; Jim Hayes, co-owner of The Hub; and Leanne Goebel, manager of Lantern Dancer Gallery and Gift Shop.

Businesses are allowed to cast one ballot per active Chamber membership and can vote for up to three candidates. Should a business vote more than once or vote for more than three of the candidates, their vote will be invalidated.

The Community Awards consist of Citizen, Volunteer, Small Business and Non-Profit of the Year. For all of the awards, the business or individual needs to have been active in the community and a resident for at least three years. The Citizen of the Year requires that the individual or couple have made an impact on the community in at least one of the following categories: philanthropic, lifestyle, economic or cultural. The nonprofit agency needs to be a registered 501(c)3 organization. The small business must have a reputation of quality service and employee care and give back to the community.

For more information on any of these topics, please visit the chamber website at www.pagosachamber.com.

Chamber news and deadlines

The Chamber's holiday hours will have our offices being closed on Dec. 25 and on Jan. 1. For those businesses interested in putting some information in the Chamber's newsletter coming out the first week of January 2018, please have your flyer or notice into Katie at the Chamber at admin@pagosachamber.com by Dec. 22. You can tout a new business, winter hours or business specials. This insert is a Chamber benefit and is offered free to our members.

The Maximizing Your Membership class will be held this month on Monday, Dec. 18, from 9 to 10:15

a.m. There will be a light breakfast served and the class is free. Please contact Debra at info@pagosachamber.com to reserve your space. Start the new year off right by finding out how you can better utilize your Chamber benefits to assist your business.

We do have a new member this week and this business fits into our Non-Profit category. We welcome

the reinvigorated and restructured Pagosa Springs Arts Council. Its mission is to promote and support the arts in our community with a vision to help build a community where arts, culture and creativity are valued and celebrated. The community will be hearing much more from this group as it strategizes on expanding the arts in all its various forms and work on community engagement.

You can sign up to get updates and information at www.ps-artsCouncil.org. Congratulations to this group for organizing out of the subcommittee that was identified from the Town of Pagosa Springs' Comprehensive Plan review.

Our renewing members this week include Raymond Rent-A-Nerd, Toner Mountain Copier and Wells Fargo Bank.

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LEGISLATURE

Secretary of State visits Archuleta County: Madrid not running for re-election

By Lynn Bartels
Special to The SUN

Colorado Secretary of State Wayne Williams admired the scenery and marveled at the warm weather during his visits with five county clerks who share a border with New Mexico to see how the southern Colorado officials fared in the Nov. 7 election.

For the most part, pretty dang good, considering the clerks for the first time used new equipment from Dominion Voting Systems, and they successfully completed the first ever post-election risk-limiting audit.

Archuleta County Clerk June Madrid is a fan of the new voting system.

"The way Dominion worked, it was amazing," she said, noting the speed in which Dominion tabulates ballots, compared to earlier voting systems. "It's wham! wham! wham! It's just a blessing."

Madrid has nearly three decades of experience handling elections — next year she will celebrate her 30th anniversary in the office. She has served as clerk since being appointed in 1989, and isn't running for re-election next year.

Archuleta initially had a glitch with the risk-limiting audit, a procedure that provides strong statistical evidence that the election outcome is right and has a high probability of correcting a



Colorado Secretary of State Wayne Williams visits with the Archuleta County Clerk and Recorder's office in Pagosa Springs. He is pictured with elections administrator Kristy Arzu, left, and Clerk June Madrid, center.

wrong outcome. The process involves rolling dice to get a series of random numbers, and using

that "seed," as it is called, to check certain ballots to see if machines tallied them correctly. But the

glitch was caught and Archuleta, like the other counties involved, successfully completed it.

Photo courtesy Colorado Secretary of State

Preparing students for an unforeseen future

Road trip: I attended the Summit on Education Reform in Nashville, Tenn. Jeb Bush opened the conference and repeated a quote from the first conference in 2008: "The country's school system is an eight-track in an iPod world. The irony is that we're still an eight-track but the iPod is gone."

Speakers and panelists from across the nation discussed directions education is taking and how our schools can prepare students for an ever-changing future.

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos spoke about school choice and the role of parents in selecting the best school for their children. She continues to be an advocate for school choice to advance opportunities for all children. Several sessions highlighted success stories from students and parents who had taken advantage of school

choice in their communities.

At the conclusion, DeVos stated, "The rising generation represents 100 percent of our future; let's give them nothing less than 100 percent of our effort."

In a general session, we heard about the importance of technology courses at all grade levels to prepare for future jobs that we can't currently define. Bush described it like a quarterback throwing to a receiver: "You don't throw directly at the receiver, but where he will be when the ball is caught." We must teach all students the



Joyce Rankin
State Board
of Education

basics of technology so that they can meet the changing needs of an unforeseen skill set of the future.

One speaker said there were over 3.5 million truck drivers in the United States. What will happen when we embrace driverless cars and trucks? This was just one example of how jobs will experience change in the future. It's important to prepare students to adapt to changes so that the economy thrives and our citizens lead satisfying lives.

Colorado currently uses blended learning and online courses to enable students to learn skills that would otherwise be unavailable at their school. An example is a student in middle school currently enrolled in an advanced calculus course online. He is joined by three other students, in various grade levels, from other school districts across the state. Technology is

opening up many opportunities that weren't available even two years ago. It is also moving so rapidly that we need to teach the basics of computer science beginning in kindergarten. And, yes, there are fun applications currently available online for kindergarten students. Future careers will depend on this knowledge combined with creativity and flexibility to adapt.

The Colorado Department of Education with community participation is reviewing the Colorado State Standards and adding new standards for computer science. We need to prepare future teachers by including computer science in all teacher preparation programs.

Moving from an "eight track system" will not be easy, however with "100 percent of our effort" we can give our students a chance for a successful future.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Dec. 14

Pagosa Peak Open School board retreat. Noon-4 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Friday, Dec. 15

Pagosa Peak Open School board meeting. 4 p.m., 7 Parelli Way.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

Joint town/county work session. 8 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 9:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St.

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation (CDC) work session. 11 a.m., First Southwest Bank conference room, 249 Navajo Trail Drive.

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

Tuesday, Dec. 21

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

Tuesday, Dec. 26

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

Town of Pagosa Springs Planning Commission. 5:30 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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Obituaries: Noon, Tuesday
(We accommodate obituaries after this if at all possible.)

Articles: Noon, Monday
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*Deadlines are earlier if there is a holiday.

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Education

PAWSD board questions community college, funding explained

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Thursday, the board of the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD) heard a presentation by Mark Weiler regarding the potential establishment of Colorado Mountain College (CMC) in Pagosa Springs.

Weiler began his presentation by giving the history of how the idea of CMC coming to Pagosa Springs came to be, which has been reported on in previous issues of The SUN.

Like the other governmental entities he has visited recently, Weiler asked the PAWSD board for its support for the CMC project.

"The first step is support by elected officials in the community," Weiler said.

CMC, as described by Weiler, is "the charter school for community colleges."

Weiler went on to say that CMC does not fall under the same governing regulations as every other college in Colorado.

CMC has 11 campuses that serve 17,000 students and CMC's budget is \$65 million, according to Weiler.

Only 11 percent of CMC's budget comes from the state, Weiler added.

Weiler then went on to add that the lack of higher education in Pagosa Springs not only hurts the students, but the town as well.

Weiler also mentioned, relating to the building trades program, that the old Power House building would be used to temporarily house the program.

"The building committee has made an arrangement to purchase that. And we will turn it into their interim building trades program," Weiler said.

Again speaking on the benefits of CMC, Weiler added that juniors in high school that are located within CMC's district can enter into concurrent enrollment classes.

"The theory is, they want to shorten the time that kids are paying for a college education. You can finish your high school education and have your associates degree at the same time," Weiler noted.

CMC also offers these students a \$1,000 scholarship to attend CMC, therefore these students could get a bachelor's degree for \$2,800, Weiler explained.

After his presentation, Weiler reiterated to the board that he would like support from every entity in Archuleta County by the end of the first quarter of next year.

"Define support," board member

Gordon McIver asked.

"You're looking for a letter of support, not a check right now?" District Manager Justin Ramsey asked.

"No checks. I don't want your money," Weiler clarified.

The project will take two years to come to fruition, Weiler noted.

"The reality is, it is something that has been missing that we've needed in this community. And it is only now that we are at the point where there's enough young families here to really understand this," Weiler said.

McIver then brought up the point to Weiler about affordable housing for students.

Weiler then addressed McIver's concerns by stating that Salida High School students that were enrolled in its building trades program built housing for teachers on property that was owned by the school district.

"I agree this is a problem. I agree this is a great solution. But, I'll also say that affordable housing goes hand in hand with it," McIver said.

Board member Mike Church, participating in the meeting via phone, brought up that his children had access to community college online by taking classes through Pueblo Community College (PCC).

"I'm not saying that this is much better or worse, but there is an option out there," Church said.

Church added that it was a great idea and concept, but he would like to see where the money is going and who is benefiting from it.

"To get my support this early on something like that would be difficult for me," Church said. "I read a couple of things that came out in The SUN this morning that bothered me. And, it would just make me want to wait a few months to see how this unravels."

Church also noted that there is a history of projects on the scale of CMC that have not gone so well in the past.

Church added that in order to garner his support, he would like to see more structure, support and financial capabilities of the project.

Weiler then responded by saying that this will eventually be a ballot

initiative that the people will vote on.

"This is the process of a demonstration of support for the concept, not for the funding of the concept," Weiler responded.

Church then responded that he cannot support an idea if he doesn't know how much money is being spent and where the money goes.

"The information that I have shared with your fellow directors answers a great deal of that. It's based on an assessed evaluation of our community," Weiler said.

Weiler then also added that CMC would be used by what he considers "the mainstream of our community."

Weiler also stated that he understood if the PAWSD board was uncomfortable on making a decision at the time.

"Take the time it takes.

But, at the end of the day, what I'm asking for is support for the process to investigate the potential of bringing a community college to Pagosa Springs," Weiler said.

Later on, Weiler mentioned that he had an hour conference call with five of PCC's executives.

Weiler stated that PCC invited him to its campus in Pueblo.

"They think that they have developed a better program than what Colorado Mountain College has," Weiler explained.

According to Weiler, PCC has made a commitment to come to Pagosa Springs during early January to explain how its program would

"To get my support this early on something like that would be difficult for me." Church said. "I read a couple of things that came out in The SUN this morning that bothered me. And, it would just make me want to wait a few months to see how this unravels."



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Always Pagosa Proud

Debate team travels to Colorado Springs to compete

By Kristin Morehouse
Special to The SUN

Resolved: The United States should require universal background checks for all gun sales and transfers of ownership.

Can you discuss this resolution and calmly listen to different viewpoints and concerns?

The Pagosa Springs High School Debate Team embarked on its first travel tournament in the history of Pagosa to debate the efficacy of universal background checks for firearm transfers.

Eight teenagers bravely traveled to an invitational tournament in Colorado Springs in November and stayed in housing on the Air Force Academy grounds.

The debate format chosen by the team and coach Kristin Morehouse for this inaugural event was public forum, an event that is two persons versus two persons. The debaters worked long afternoon and evening hours honing their skills in research, speech writing, organization and public speaking.

Out of the four teams competing in the novice public forum category, a team of two brothers (Cole and Clayton Cayard) won second place.

While it is a two-person event, the Cayards rose high in the rankings because of the collective work the team put into preparing speeches and arguments for the tournament. The team prepared research-based documents (cases) both for and against the resolution centered on universal background checks.

Debate trains students to manage large projects working toward



Photo courtesy Kristin Morehouse

The Pagosa Springs High School Debate Team tours the Air Force Academy with Pagosan Cadet Jacob Hughes. Pictured, left to right, are Yoli Salas, Nichelle Hutcherson, Ally Ashbaugh, Hughes, Richard Fiedler, Kristina Moore, coach Kristin Morehouse, Cole Cayard, Clayton Cayard and Elan Ramirez.

a common goal and to see issues from multiple perspectives, tools needed to engage in meaningful dialogue and participate actively in our democratic community.

Military connections allowed the team to decrease expenses by staying on Air Force Academy grounds.

This lodging arrangement grew into another educational opportunity. The team arranged to meet a recent graduate of Pagosa Springs High School: Cadet Jacob Hughes. As a first year cadet, Hughes gave the team a guided tour of the Air Force Academy. It was a great opportunity

for the students to reflect on their long-term goals and on serving a purpose greater than themselves.

If you have an hour to listen to the students hone their democratic skills, please contact Morehouse at 903-1263 or kmorehouse@pagosa.k12.co.us.

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Photo courtesy Seeds of Learning

The Butterfly class at Seeds of Learning entertains families with "The Three Little Pigs — Modernized Opera" last week. Seed's rendition of the tale included an Uber driver transporting the pigs from house to house.

Modernized opera comes to Seeds of Learning with "Three Little Pigs"

By Terri Hardeman
Special to The SUN

In the morning before school begins at Seeds of Learning, you can hear the sounds of Luciano Pavarotti singing in his famous tenor voice.

These sounds come from the Butterfly classroom, where Miss Ruby enjoys music as she prepares for the day. This year, her curious pre-kindergarten students wanted to know more about opera: Why do

they sing like that? Operas are from Italy? Is there opera in America? Can we have an opera?

So, the class decided to produce its own opera based upon the story of the Three Little Pigs. They made up their lines, designed their own sets and created costumes from materials they had at home. (Thanks, Mom and Dad.) With instruction from Mr. Dave, narrator, grand musician, volunteer and substitute teacher at Seeds of Learning, the children practiced

the sounds of opera in their lines.

Last Thursday and Friday, the Butterfly class entertained their families with "The Three Little Pigs — Modernized Opera." To most of us, the story is familiar, but this opera included an Uber driver transporting the pigs from house to house, as well as audience participation in a dance at the end of the opera.

Seeds of Learning is a nonprofit, high-quality early care and preschool education center in Pagosa

Springs. It is located at the corner of 7th and Apache streets. Please stop by the center for a tour to learn more about Seeds and how you can contribute to the success of its young children. Call Seeds at 264-5513.

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Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” Acts 2:36

(continued from last week) In Acts 2 Peter declares to the gathered crowd that the man they put to death is reigning as Messiah seated at the right hand of God. When the people grasp Peter's proof they want to know what they must do. Peter replies repent and be baptized by His authority for the forgiveness of sins and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. After more exhortation to be saved, 3,000 people receive His word and are baptized.

The church began and grew with the proclamation that the Messiah came and is seated at the right hand of God. The wonder of the Messiah viewed by those shepherds long ago and understood by the people in Acts is still alive today. May we help you see the wonder?

Dorman Diller, minister



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	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.



Photo courtesy Kristin Morehouse

Brothers Clayton and Cole Cayard won second place in the Public Forum Novice Division at The Classical Academy and Discovery Canyon Campus Invitational Tournament in Colorado Springs.

The Incredible Years Parenting class is coming

By Lynne Bridges
Special to The SUN

The Incredible Years Parenting class is a free opportunity offered to anyone who wants to build positive relationships with their children, needs more effective discipline or would like new ideas to help their children learn and grow. This class is created for families with children between the ages of 2 and 8 years.

The parenting class will be offered on Monday nights (5:30-8 p.m.) for 14 weeks starting Monday, Jan. 8, 2018, at Seeds of Learning. A free dinner will be offered for the entire family and child care will be provided at no cost.

The Incredible Years Parenting class will help strengthen children's social skills, emotional regulation and school readiness skills. You will learn to use praise and incentive to

encourage cooperative behavior, learn to use positive discipline (rules, routines and effective limit setting) and learn how to best handle misbehaviors.

A local father said, "At first, I was not all that eager to give up another night of my free time for 14 weeks, but, over time, the other class members and I became friends. I was astounded at the degree of effectiveness from the class. My son was responding very positively to the techniques I had learned and began implementing at home. This class became a weekly meeting that I looked forward to each week as a positive gathering of friends."

If you have any questions about the class or would like to register, please call Michelle Carpenter at 946-0664 or Lynne Bridges at 264-5513. Call soon as class size is limited.

PFPD battles grass fire, dry conditions create fire danger concern

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded to a grass fire on Friday, Dec. 8, that blackened a 40-by-40 piece of land near Jack's Pasture Road.

According to PFPD Deputy Chief Karn Macht, the fire was caused by hot ashes that came from a stove, and that a residence was threatened by the fire, but didn't receive damage.

Macht explained that the page came in at 8:58 a.m., with the first units arriving at 9:16 a.m.

PFPD personnel immediately launched an offensive attack on the fire, but Macht explained this was a little difficult, as the PFPD was also dealing with wind gusts up to 15 miles per hour.

Macht explained that the fire was controlled at 9:26 a.m., and that the grass fire had blackened a 40-foot square stretch of land.

The PFPD proceeded to "mop

up" the scene and check for hot spots at the scene of the fire before clearing at 10:13 a.m.

A total of seven personnel responded to the scene of the fire, along with one engine, a battalion vehicle, a command vehicle and a personally owned vehicle.

Fire danger a concern

"San Juan National Forest fire officials are warning that continued dry conditions in Southwestern Colorado mean that fire danger is a concern," reads a press release from San Juan National Forest (SNF) spokesperson Ann Bond. "In late November, a man target shooting with incendiary ammunition on private property adjacent to National Forest lands started a fire north of Durango that quickly grew to 60 acres near Electra Lake north of Durango."

The press release goes on to state that, as December comes to a close, fuel moistures are becoming

even dryer.

"Although it's winter, we are extremely dry, and there is potential for fire activity because of our prolonged lack of moisture," said Richard Bustamante, SJNF fire management officer. "Dry grasses are very flammable right now and can act as a carrier fuel to quickly spread a fire even though days are short and nights are cold."

The press release goes on to offer the following safety tips:

- If you must have an open fire outside, clear a wide area around it of all burnable material and keep a bucket of water, shovel and other implements on hand.

- Never leave a fire unattended. Stir water and dirt into the coals until coals are cool to the touch and there is no smoke. Do not dump hot coals onto vegetation or flammable surfaces.

- Never toss cigarette butts out the car window. Extinguish smoking materials only in cleared areas

free of vegetation or debris. Don't park hot cars or recreational vehicles over dry vegetation. Exhaust systems can ignite flammable materials below.

- Off-road vehicles and chain saws should be equipped with approved and recently updated spark arresters.

- Fireworks, including sparklers, are illegal on National Forest lands.

- Use of tracer bullets and exploding targets is illegal on National Forest System lands.

marshall@pagosasun.com



Photo courtesy Holly and Amy Tautges

Members of Immaculate Heart of Mary Council No. 7560 of the Knights of Columbus pose by the recently installed nativity scene at Town Park for public viewing. The nativity scene is lighted for night viewing.

PFPD responds to structure fire

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Fire Protection District (PFPD) responded to a structure fire on the evening of Friday, Dec. 8, that started in the chimney and then spread to the surrounding roof area.

The structure involved was a house near North Pagosa Boulevard and Mission Drive, explained PFPD Deputy Chief Karn Macht.

He added that the fire was paged out at 11:14 p.m., with the first PFPD unit arriving at 11:21 p.m.

"There was some pretty extensive damage inside the chimney area and surrounding," said Macht. "We had to remove a lot of material to get into the stove pipe, and it did creep out into the outside, and got some of the ... ceiling and outside material."

Macht explained that the responding PFPD units immediately launched an offensive attack on the fire and were able to knock it down at 11:48 p.m.

"The actual cause of how the fire escaped out of the chimney is still under investigation," Macht said.

He added that 13 personnel responded to the scene, with 10 of those people being volunteers.

He explained that two engines, two tender vehicles, two chief vehicles and a battalion vehicle were dispatched to the scene.

The PFPD cleared the scene at 1:38 a.m.

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Sports

BASKETBALL

Pirates leave Buena Vista tournament with two wins, travel to Palisade on Thursday

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' basketball team extended its win streak to three games after sweeping the Buena Vista tournament.

Pagosa began the tournament Friday by facing off against the Gunnison Cowboys.

Gunnison

The Pirates started the Buena Vista tournament on the right note by defeating the Cowboys by a score of 41-26.

Pagosa outscored Gunnison in the first quarter 10-8, but the Cowboys were even with the Pirates in the second quarter, 5-5.

At the half, Pagosa held a two-point lead over Gunnison by a score of 15-13.

Outscoring the Cowboys 11-8 at the end of the third, Pagosa held a slight advantage over Gunnison by a score of 26-21.

Pagosa sealed the victory by holding Gunnison to only five points in the fourth quarter, whilst scoring 15 themselves.

The Pirates' defensive efforts did not allow the Cowboys to score more than eight points in any quarter.

Coach Randy Sorenson wrote in an email to The SUN on Tuesday that the Pirates came out sluggish against the Cowboys and struggled to score.

"Luckily we picked it up a little bit in the second half and were able to extend the lead and pull away to win," Sorenson wrote.

Sorenson also commended the Pirates' defensive efforts.

Isaiah Griego led the team in points with 13, while Jesus Pacheco was next with seven and following was Mitch Lewis with six.

Ryan Lewis added five points, with Mason Snarr and Keaton Laverty both adding four.

Ty Kimsey also contributed two points.

Griego led the team in rebounds with 10 overall.

Kimsey added five rebounds as well.

The Pirates also totaled four blocks for the game with half of them coming from Pacheco and the other two coming from Kimsey.

Pacheco led the team in steals with three.

Griego, Snarr and Javier Mariñelarena all contributed two steals apiece.

The Pirates' free-throw woes continued in this game, however, shooting 46 percent from the line and converting only six of 13 chances.

Pagosa turned over the ball six times this game.

The Pirates then had to prepare to take on the host of the tournament, the Buena Vista Demons, on Saturday.

Buena Vista

The matchup between the Pirates and Demons proved to be a competitive one, but Pagosa pulled away with the victory by a score of 60-46.

Buena Vista ended the first quarter leading the Pirates by a score of 13-9.

But, Pagosa finished the first half strong, outscoring Buena Vista 12-6 in the second quarter and taking a 21-19 lead into halftime.

The third quarter was even better for Pagosa as they outscored Buena Vista 18-8.

Holding a 39-27 lead heading into the fourth, the Pirates closed out the victory by outscoring the Demons in the final quarter by a margin of 21-19.

"On Saturday night we faced a good Buena Vista team that has one of the best players in the state. It was a good game throughout and closer than the final score indicated," he wrote.

Sorenson recounted how the team regained a two-point lead at halftime after being down by six in the first quarter, and he then went on to praise the team's third-quarter effort.

"We came out strong in the third quarter and extended the lead to twelve by the end of the third. The run that we made in the third was what helped us win the game as the fourth quarter was almost even," Sorenson mentioned.

Despite Buena Vista's Cade Carroll scoring 28 points, Sorenson noted that Pagosa was able to control the other players around Carroll to secure the victory.

"It was a good and very competitive high school basketball game. Our kids responded and played a good basketball game. They played hard, maintained their composure, and their defense was good again," Sorenson added.

Sorenson added.

Griego led the team in points with 27 while Laverty added 16.

Snarr added seven points and Kimsey contributed six.

Lewis and Pacheco both added two points.

The Pirates shot a better percentage on free throws for this game, making 14 of their 18 chances, totaling 78 percent for the game.

Griego led the team in rebounds as well with 14, followed by Pacheco with five.

Pacheco and Griego also led the team in steals with three apiece.

Snarr and Griego tallied the only blocks for Pagosa.

Pagosa turned over the ball seven times the game.

The Pirates will travel to Palisade, Colo., on Thursday to take part in a three-game tournament.

The first game of the tournament, on Thursday, has the Pirates matched up against the Cheyenne South Bison from Wyoming, who are coached by former Pagosa Springs boys' basketball head coach Jim Shaffer.

Varsity action for the matchup against Cheyenne South (0-0) is set to begin at 7:30 pm.

Then, on Friday, the Pirates take on the host of the tournament, the Palisade Bulldogs (0-6).

Varsity action for the matchup against Palisade is set to start at 7:30 p.m.

To close out the tournament on Saturday, the Pirates are set to face the Montrose Indians (2-4).

Action for the matchup against Montrose is set to begin at 1 p.m.

"We have a really tough weekend coming up at the Palisade tournament. We will have to play our best basketball to date. It is tough to play three games in three days against really good teams so we will have to be prepared physically and mentally," Sorenson added.

chris@pagosahun.com

Lady Pirates go 1-1 in Buena Vista, Lutheran Tournament next

By Randi Pierce
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates' basketball team delved into tournament play Dec. 8 and 9, emerging with a 1-1 record after playing two other top-ranking teams in 3A basketball.

The Lady Pirates went into the tournament as the No. 5 team in 3A basketball, holding that spot in this week's rankings with a 2-1 overall record.

"The season's a marathon, not a sprint, so we've just got to keep taking one step at a time," coach Wes Lewis said.

St. Mary's

Pagosa's first matchup of the tournament saw the team take on the St. Mary's Pirates, who went into the game as the No. 3-ranked team and this week sit as the No. 2 team behind the Centauri Falcons.

That game, however, did not go in favor of Pagosa's Lady Pirates, with St. Mary's walking away with a 49-32 win.

"We played ... extremely poor in

the first half," Lewis said. "We were one of 26 from the field. We had one field goal. And, you know, you're just not going to beat anybody when you make one out of 26 from the floor."

Some of those shots, he noted, were contested and led Pagosa to the free-throw line, but that many were "very makeable shots."

"The only thing that was kind of a saving grace is we were getting to the free-throw line, where we were making some free throws in the first half to put some points on the board for us," he said, adding, "It's frustrating to say the least to shoot one for 26."

Pagosa's shooting woes meant St. Mary's took a 12-7 lead after the first quarter and a 28-14 lead at halftime.

Pagosa fared better in the second half, scoring 10 versus St. Mary's 12 in the third quarter and eight to St. Mary's nine points in the fourth quarter, but Pagosa's Lady Pirates were still left down 17 at the final buzzer.

Lewis noted that Pagosa also had 26 field-goal attempts in the

second half, making seven of them, which kept the second half competitive.

"Give them some credit. They're a good team," Lewis said of St. Mary's before noting that he felt there were a lot more problems that fell on Pagosa.

"We're just not finishing, from the perimeter or from the paint," he said.

Defensively, he explained that Pagosa held a team back that averages 75 points per game, and held back two "very dynamic guards."

Morgan Lewis logged 19 of the team's points in the game, followed by five from Taylor Lewis, three from Teagan Stretton, two each from Hailey Griego and Keena Murphy, and one from Devin Wilson.

Fifteen of the team's points came from the free-throw line out of 23 chances, for a success rate of 65 percent.

Of the team's 27 rebounds, 11 came from Morgan Lewis.

The team turned the ball over 17 times, with the coach noting that

■ See Pirates A15

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Pagosa Youth Soccer • Cub Scouts Pack 807

WRESTLING

Pirate grapplers win Columbine Tournament

By Marshall Dunham
Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate wrestling team placed first during the Columbine Tournament in Littleton over the weekend.

"We got a good look at teams ranked ahead of us, and we did place ahead of them," said coach Dan Janowsky. "We accomplished our goals and benchmarks that we were looking to do."

There were 20 total teams that participated in the tournament, and the Pirates won with 182 points.

The Arapahoe Pirates placed second with 157.5 points, and the Weld Central Rebels placed third with 128.5 points.

"The thing I liked about this weekend, they really worked on the stuff that we worked on in practice," said Janowsky. "Very often, there's a disconnect between what you're doing in practice and how they compete."

He said that newer, younger wrestlers can get distracted by the actual competition, and aren't able to focus on the fundamentals that had been covered in practice the previous week.

"I would say that, Saturday, that was as good of a job I've ever had as a coach with kids applying what we did in practice to their wrestling," said Janowsky. "That's a big plus that I was happy about."

Janowsky went on to say that he really felt that the Pirates put their hearts into the tournament.

He also pointed out that the previous day, the Pirates' junior varsity won a tournament in Bloomfield, N.M.

Janowsky later commented on how wrestling is largely an independent sport, but that there's a large team aspect, too.

"They go out one at a time, and when one guy wins, we all win," said Janowsky. "I thought the chemistry was really good there."

Freshman Erik Wyman wrestled in the 106-pound division, placing fifth and having a win-loss record of 6-3.



Photo courtesy Stacia Aragon

Freshman Dylan Tressler grapples with his opponent during the Columbine Tournament last weekend. Tressler went 9-0, got a takedown in an overtime match and placed first in the 113-pound weight division.

Janowsky explained that Wyman took fifth, and wrestled the top two wrestlers in the state for his weight division in terms of rankings.

"He didn't beat them, but we got a pretty good measure of them and we know what we have to do to get better," said Janowsky. "He turned in a good performance."

In the 113-pound division, freshman Dylan Tressler went 9-0, placing first for his weight division.

"The top finisher this time was Dylan Tressler, and he got a championship," said Janowsky. "He wrestled tough all day, and he wrestled good kids. He won his championship match in overtime. He fell behind, and out-wrestled the guy in the last half of the match. He got it into overtime, got a takedown and won, which was fantastic."

Junior James Thomas wrestled in the 126-pound division and went 3-1, placing third.

In the 132-pound division, freshman Cameron Lucero placed fourth, going 7-2.

Janowsky stated that Lucero placing fourth was a bit deceiving,

because Lucero is used to placing ahead of that.

Lucero beat the No. 9-ranked wrestler in the 4A division, and the No. 6-ranked wrestler in the 3A division.

"He wrestled a state placer, but lost 13-12," said Janowsky. "I think in the end, he was wrestling tough guys all day, and he got just a little physically worn down, but he had a good day."

At 138 pounds, freshman Cameron Hinger went 4-2 and brought in four team points.

"He did a great job," said Janowsky. "He continued to get better as the day went on."

Senior Tate Hinger wrestled in the 145-pound division, and placed first in his division, winning all nine of his matches.

"Once again, Tate Hinger had a tough day. He won it, but he had to work really hard. He had a really clutch overtime win in the semifinals," said Janowsky. "The guy was, frankly, beating him most of the match, but Tate got a late takedown in double overtime. I mean, there

was probably two seconds left on the clock."

In the 160-pound division, senior Trevor Bryant won seven matches and lost one, allowing him to place second.

"He looked great all day," said Janowsky, adding that Bryant's one loss was to the No. 1-ranked guy in the state.

"We're in there," said Janowsky. "We're in the conversation with those guys."

At 170 pounds, senior Dalton Lucero placed first, winning all eight of his matches.

"Dalton Lucero was champion, and he absolutely breezed," said Janowsky. "I think he got all pins. He was very dominant."

At 182 pounds, senior Colton Castro placed second with a win-loss record of 6-2.

"He was disappointed with his loss in the finals, but again, it was a 5A placer from last year," said Janowsky. "He was a tough kid."

Janowsky explained that the aforementioned placer's coach had told Janowsky that that wrestler hasn't had to work so hard for a win all year.

In the 195-pound division, junior Connor Aragon placed third, going 6-2.

"I feel like that's the best he's ever wrestled. He was relaxed, and he finished third," said Janowsky. "He beat some ranked guys, guys that are ranked above him."

Janowsky remarked that the team's lineup was not up to 100 percent, as senior Nolan Stretton was out due to illness.

"They fought hard. They fought for their themselves, they fought for their team," said Janowsky. "It was just a really fun day."

On Friday, Dec. 15, and Saturday, Dec. 16, the Pirates will compete in the Warrior Classic in Grand Junction. Action will begin at 1 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Then, on Dec. 20, the Pirates will travel to Durango to face the Demons, with action beginning at 6 p.m.

marshall@pagosasun.com

Pirates

Continued from A14

the team had some costly turnovers at key times in the game.

Elks Lodge to host Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw Program

By Cheryl Bryant
Special to The SUN

The Durango Elks Lodge No. 507 will be hosting the Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw Program at Pagosa Springs Middle School on Dec. 16.

Doors will open at 10 a.m. and the event starts at 11 a.m.

For more information, please contact Dewey Waldron at 769-8636. There's still time to sign up for the event.

RECREATION NEWS

Youth basketball registration underway

By Darren Lewis
SUN Columnist

The Recreation Department is currently accepting registration through Dec. 29 for youth basketball for ages 9-12.

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

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

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

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

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

Sterling

The next day, Pagosa's Pirates took on the Sterling Tigers, who entered the weekend as the No. 6 team, but failed to make the rankings this week.

"In a lot of areas we were better," the coach said of Pagosa's 30-23 victory, noting that the team's turnovers (13) were better, and the shooting was a little bit better.

The Lady Pirates jumped out to an early lead in that game, 9-5 after the first quarter, with the Tigers tightening that lead by outscoring the Pirates 9-8 in the second.

The teams were even in terms of adding to the scoreboard in the third, with both adding eight, and Pagosa took 25-22 lead into the game's final quarter.

The coach noted that the Tigers packed their zone tight around Morgan Lewis in the game, with the Pirates working to slow the game and win at the free-throw line in the fourth.

Pagosa scored five in the game's final quarter compared to Sterling's one.

Despite being surrounded by Tigers, Morgan Lewis again led the team in scoring with 13, followed by Taylor Lewis with seven, Murphy and Wilson with three, and Stretton and Ada Peshlakai with two each.

Pagosa was successful from the free-throw line 47 percent of the time in the game, making eight of 17 attempts.

Morgan Lewis also led the team

in rebounds, pulling down 10 of the team's 28.

Sterling, however, failed to make a two-point field goal in the game, Wes Lewis said, noting that Pagosa was loose on Sterling's 3-point shooters throughout the game.

"It was a good win for us. It was a good bounce-back win," he said, adding later that Sterling belongs in the top 10 and will likely reappear there by the end of the season.

This week, the Pagosa will head to Parker for the Lutheran tournament, where they will take on the Olathe Pirates, who are 2-1, at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 15.

The following day, Pagosa will take on either Manitou Springs (1-2) or Lutheran (2-2).

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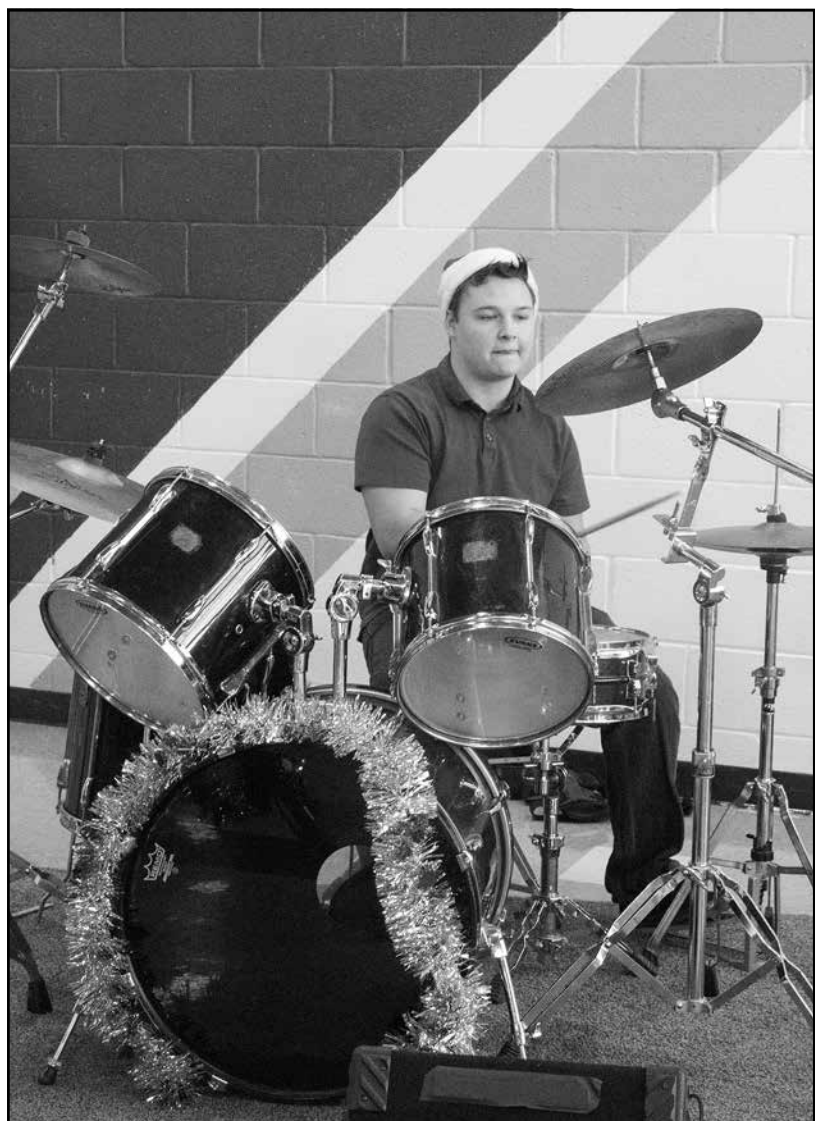
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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SUN photos/Randi Pierce

Santa and Mrs. Claus joined Pagosa Springs High School Music Department students for the annual pancake breakfast Saturday morning, with the event also featuring crafts, games and, of course, music from the students.



Outdoors



The colder, the better: Ice rink hopes for earliest opening ever

By Natalie Carpenter
Special to The SUN

Volunteers working to form ice at the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion (PMP) are hoping for what they deem would be a Christmas miracle: Open the skating rink in Pagosa Springs before Christmas, providing locals and visitors with a fun activity during the holiday vacation, as well as bringing in revenue for the skating rink.

Due to unseasonable rain and warmth last season, the rink didn't open until the beginning of February and was only operational for a total of 16 days. The PMP board and volunteers are hoping that their work on shade structures along with the local forecast for cold nights will allow the rink its earliest opening ever.

By 10 a.m. on the chilly Saturday morning of Dec. 9, three of the PMP board members met at South Pagosa Park to start the process of prepping the enclosed concrete area for what will become the ice rink. While the areas outside of the shaded rink were heating up, Brian Collabolletta, Troy Couture and Jeff Quinn donned warm clothing and spent six hours out of direct sunlight with temperatures hovering just above freezing, hanging the remaining shade structures, clearing the concrete of debris, and spreading the liner over the entire surface so water could be added for the ice rink.

Along with other volunteers, work had begun months earlier for getting the rink area enclosed and ready for the winter. A temporary structure was erected for the Zamboni machine to be housed on-site, which would prevent the wear and tear that had rendered the machine inoperable last year and resulted in volunteers using a "hand-boni," a handheld Zamboni-like apparatus attached to a hose in an attempt to smooth the ice.

"There's very little clearance under the Zamboni machine," Quinn explained. "Driving it to and from the rink in the past destroyed the underside."

This year, the Zamboni is back in full swing after using parts from another machine to rebuild it.

With help from his father-in-law, a retired mechanic, Quinn spends many volunteer hours keeping the 1972 Volkswagen engine on the Zamboni running strong, as well as maintaining the hydraulics and other parts on the machine. It's a lot of work, but he said having a functioning Zamboni for the ice surface is well worth it. Quinn donates additional time on his own small tractor to clear snow from the rink and surrounding areas after storms.

While the board members worked on prepping the rink, another volunteer worked to install



Photo courtesy Natalie Carpenter

Volunteers work to form ice at the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion located at South Pagosa Park. They are hoping to open the skating rink in Pagosa Springs before Christmas.

a water heater in the skate rental shed, providing the hot water necessary for the Zamboni to condition the ice daily. The machine can hold 100 gallons of hot water that is used each morning to smooth the ice surface that becomes uneven and chipped from daily use. The Zamboni has a 70-inch blade that can be lowered to cut the top one-eighth inch of ice and any snow that may remain on the surface. An onboard squeegee spreads the hot water that flows from the machine to create new ice that is smoothed by a towel-like apparatus at the back of the Zamboni.

Six tall steel poles, custom welded for the correct height, were installed next to the rink to allow cables to run above the rink and support the shade structure essential for the ice. Through trial and error from previous winters, it had become apparent that without the entire surface of the ice being shaded from the intense sun, the skating on the ice would not occur due to the softness and amount of standing water.

"Even a small sliver of direct sunlight on the ice in above-freezing weather will cause melting to occur as it moves across the rink," Collabolletta explains. This year's shade system, strategically placed to provide maximum coverage, provides at least 90 percent shade over the entire rink.

By 3 p.m. last Saturday, Quinn, Collabolletta and Couture had cleared the concrete inside of the rink and the last of the shade structures were hung. A section of the concrete that was much lower than

the rest was built up with large sheets of foam that would lay under the ice and rink liner. The trio then moved on to the task of spreading a thin, waterproof liner over the entire rink, draping the excess over the boards around the rink. The tedious task of flooding the rink was started by 4 p.m. By 5 p.m., the air temperature in the rink was near freezing and some areas of water were already freezing into slush.

As the water flowed onto the liner, large air bubbles formed, requiring the three volunteers to don waterproof boots and enter the water, putting their hands into the freezing water while manipulating the slippery liner to remove the air pockets that cause issues on the ice once it freezes.

The volunteers were joined by Aaron Freed, who spent the next few hours working with the team to release the tension in the liner that had been clipped to the boards, but needed to be slowly let out as the water filled against the rink border. Quinn, Collabolletta and Couture stayed in the freezing water doing a coordinated penguin shuffle with their boots over the areas with bubbles, slowly working the air pockets from below the liner.

Filling the rink with enough water for the initial freeze took until 8 p.m. that night. Due to the unevenness of the concrete, some areas of the rink were only an inch deep while other spots had 8 to 10 inches of water. On Sunday morning when the volunteers were out to inspect the rink, the top inch of the rink was frozen solid, but there was still liquid water in the deeper spots.

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Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, related groups honor volunteers

By Mike Le Roux
Special to The SUN

On Thursday, Dec. 7, staff, members and partners of the Upper San Juan Search and Rescue (USJSAR), Incident Management Group (IMG) and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) gathered for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party.

Mike Le Roux, director of emergency operations, welcomed the group, showed a slideshow of highlights from the year and honored those members who had gone above and beyond.

This year we have responded to 33 missions, covering Archuleta, Mineral and Hinsdale counties (west of the Continental Divide) and provided mutual aid to La Plata and Conejos counties. Between USJSAR and IMG, we have 55 volunteers who regularly attend bi-weekly meetings, trainings and missions.

We had a few highlights this year: a Wyndham fundraiser that resulted in over \$22,000 being raised, from which we purchased a Polaris ATV. It was utilized two weeks later in a back country ATV

rollover accident and undoubtedly made a difference to our ability to respond rapidly.

Our technical rope training went to new levels this year, kicked off by an advanced rope training course early in the year. We established a rope team that was committed and consistent in learning their part in a rescue and have trained countless hours to be ready. We base our training approach on this anonymous quote: "under pressure, you don't rise to the occasion, you sink to the level of your training."

In a new initiative for the annual appreciation party and in addition to generally thanking the attendees, individuals were recognized for their performance and contribution to the team.

There were five members who were presented with weather-proof jackets for exceeding 10 missions and 10 trainings since January this year. They were Mike Alley, Jim Bodo, Ed Cowling, Jeanie Pionke and Greg Wynn.

Recognition awards were as follows:

- Mathew Strickland (IMG) for his dedication and service to IMG



Photos courtesy Upper San Juan Search and Rescue

Members and partners of the Upper San Juan Search and Rescue, Incident Management Group and Office of Emergency Management were honored at a Volunteer Appreciation Party last week. Pictured, left to right, are Mike Le Roux, Matthew Fine, Christina Kraetsch, Mike Alley, Ricky White, Greg Wynn and Sheriff Rich Valdez. Inset photo: Mat Strickland.

for the last seven years.

- Ricky White (IMG) for Rookie of the Year.
- Mike Alley (USJSAR) for his dedication and service to USJSAR

for the last 11 years.

- Greg Wynn (USJSAR) for Rookie of the Year.
- Sheriff Rich Valdez was present to add his comments of apprecia-

tion to the proceedings and congratulate members on their specific awards.

The USJSAR's motto is, "So others may live."

Finalists named for water conservancy district general manager position

By Chris Mannara
Staff Writer

During its regular meeting on Monday, the San Juan Water Conservancy District (SJWCD) narrowed it down to two finalists for its general manager position.

Rod Proffitt, who is the current chairman of the SJWCD, and Stacy Thompson have been named the two finalists for the position.

There were three applicants for the position, but one dropped out of the running prior to the meeting on Monday, making Proffitt and Thompson the only two candidates.

During the meeting, the board went into executive session twice. The first was held to discuss legal matters concerning litigation and the hiring process for the general manager, while the second executive session was where the interviews for the position took place.

Board member John Porco stated that the first executive session was "going to be an update from legal council on pending order court litigation and receive legal advice on the hiring process for general manager."

Porco also later described the purpose for the second executive session.

"We're planning an executive session. I sent that out to the candidates and nobody said they wanted

a public interview, so we will do an executive session," board member Porco said.

The board had a standard set of questions for each candidate, Porco added.

"We'll discuss the proposed general manager agreement, we will discuss negotiations related to the appointment of an interim general manager, should we choose to do that, but we will not take any action in the executive session," Porco added.

It was then reiterated by Porco that no selection for general manager would be made at the meeting.

"However, the board may discuss and act upon naming an interim general manager in public session," Porco later added.

The names of the finalists for the position will be posted on SJWCD's website for 14 days, Porco noted. "Obviously, Rod (Proffitt) being one of the candidates, will not participate in the second executive session," Porco clarified.

"And the basis on the agenda for what you're moving into executive session for, which you just stated," Proffitt added.

Upon returning from the second executive session, the board stated that an open public meeting on Jan. 4 at 7 p.m. will be held to offer the position to one of the two finalists.

County Commissioner Michael Whiting, who was in attendance,

then asked the board if the general manager would be an employee or a contract.

"No, it's not an employee, it's a contract position, no benefits, hourly rate, subject to the limitations imposed by the district's budget and the agreement, which will then at that point be signed," Porco said.

The board then determined that an interim general manager would not be needed.

"I think that was one of the options that was open to us. I'm not really sure, I mean given the time frame that we've got and the fact that we've got the holidays coming up on us, that we really have the need for an interim manager at this point," board member Doug Secrist said.

The second executive session was used for the purposes of "interviewing the two candidates."

Colorado Open Meetings Law (COML), states that, prior to an executive session, "The members of a local public body subject to this part 4, upon the announcement by the local public body to the public of the topic for discussion in the executive session, including specific citation to the provision of this subsection."

Prior to both executive sessions, the specific statutes for entering the session were not verbally stated despite it being required by the

COML. The statutes (C.R.S 24-6-402 (4)(b), (e) and (f)) were noted on the agenda.

In compliance with COML, the SJWCD board did, however, pertaining to both executive sessions, give "identification of the particular matter to be discussed in as much detail as possible without compromising the purpose for which the executive session is authorized."

Other business

Other business attended to during the meeting included:

- The board certifying a mill levy in the amount of .317 mills, which, as Proffitt described, "Since we weren't successful in the election the mill levy didn't change, so that's really, effectively, the same mill levy that we've had."
- Approved the 2018 budget.
- Approved the amended bylaws which removes the provision that allows contracts with board members, among other things.

The amended bylaws also lowered the number of board members to operate the district to three, but kept the maximum number of directors the same.

The move followed a court order granting the change in the number of directors.

The district is currently accepting applications for new directors, with information available at www.sjwcd.org.

- The board also made a motion to open a new account with ColoTrust.

The board has impact fees allocated within Citizens Bank and, according to Proffitt, the money "is not generating any interest at all." "There's \$14,132.53, so I called

Forest Service extends road closure dates

By Brandon Caley
Special to The SUN

Due to the unseasonably warm and dry weather we've been experiencing, the following roads which were scheduled to be closed on Dec. 15 will now be closing on Dec.

21 or potentially later if conditions warrant:

- Blue Creek, No. 012/Big Branch No. 664
- Snowball, No. 646
- Echo Canyon, No. 029
- Kenney Flats, No. 006
- Burns Canyon, No. 649 (above

second gate)

- First Fork, No. 622 (gate at Sheep Creek)
- West Monument, No. 630
- Castle Creek, No. 660 to Opal Lake trailhead

- Lefthand Canyon, No. 024
- Fawn Gulch Road, No. 666
- Trail Ridge, No. 639
- West Fork, No. 648
- Williams Creek, No. 640 and Poison Pk. (644)
- Nipple to Echo
- Devil Creek, No. 627 to State Wildlife Area

It is still important for forest visitors to contact the Pagosa Ranger District to obtain the most up-to-date road information prior to heading out to the forest during the early winter season, as conditions can change quickly. Please stop in or call the Pagosa office at 264-2268, or visit its website at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sanjuan/alerts-notices/?cid=stelpdrb5262330.

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Charlotte Ann Jones, secretary

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SALE NO. 2017-020

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust: On September 21, 2017, the undersigned Public Trustee caused the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records. Original Grantor(s) Thomas S. Ferrell and Caroline F. Ferrell Original Beneficiary(ies) Wells Fargo Bank, NA. Current Holder of Evidence of Debt Wells Fargo Bank, NA. Date of Deed of Trust February 14, 2007 County of Recording Archuleta Recording Date of Deed of Trust March 07, 2007 Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/

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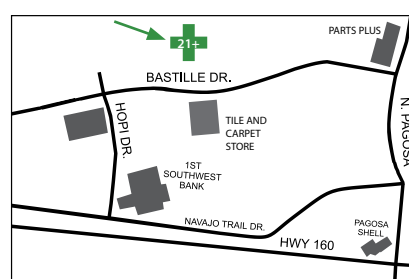
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Continued from A18

Page No.) 20710966
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Outstanding Principal Balance \$139,999.80
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. LOT 14X, BLOCK 6, ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION UNIT 3, PURSUANT TO A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONSOLIDATION OF CERTAIN LOTS IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO, RESOLUTION NO. 2000-72, RECORDED AUGUST 1, 2000 AS RECEPTION NO. 20007211.

Also known by street and number as: 104 Summit Trl, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 01/18/2018, at 449 San Juan St, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 11/23/2017
Last Publication 12/21/2017

Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH, THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Lowell, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
DATE: 09/21/2017

Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: /s/ Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

McCarthy & Holthus, LLP 7700 E Arapahoe Road, Suite 200, Centennial, CO 80112 (877) 369-6122
Attorney File # CO-17-780410-L

The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published November 23, 30, December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

COMBINED NOTICE - PUBLICATION

CRS §38-38-103 FORECLOSURE SALE NO. 2017-021

To Whom It May Concern: This Notice is given with regard to the following described Deed of Trust:

On September 28, 2017, the undersigned Public Trustee executed the Notice of Election and Demand relating to the Deed of Trust described below to be recorded in the County of Archuleta records.

Original Grantor(s) BARBARA JANE ROTUREAU, TRUSTEE OF THE BARBARA JANE ROTUREAU LIVING TRUST DATED 2/22/02

Original Beneficiary(ies) GENERATION MORTGAGE COMPANY

Current Holder of Evidence of Debt U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CIT

Date of Deed of Trust October 30, 2009
County of Recording Archuleta
Recording Date of Deed of Trust November 20, 2009
Recording Information (Reception No. and/or Book/ Page No.) 20993972

Original Principal Amount \$292,500.00
Outstanding Principal Balance \$252,701.66
Pursuant to CRS §38-38-101(4)(i), you are hereby notified that the covenants of the deed of trust have been violated as follows: failure to pay principal and interest when due together with all other payments provided for in the evidence of debt secured by the deed of trust and other violations thereof.

THE LIEN FORECLOSED MAY NOT BE A FIRST LIEN. LOT 3X OF BLOCK 8, PAGOSA IN THE PINES, PURSUANT TO A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONSOLIDATION OF CERTAIN LOTS IN ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO, RESOLUTION NO. 97-98, RECORDED DECEMBER 23, 1997 AS RECEPTION NO. 97010552, COUNTY OF ARCHULETA, STATE OF COLORADO.

Also known by street and number as: 1014 Piedra Road, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1017.
THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN IS ALL OF THE PROPERTY CURRENTLY ENCUMBERED BY THE LIEN OF THE DEED OF TRUST.

NOTICE OF SALE

The current holder of the Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, described herein, has filed Notice of Election and Demand for sale as provided by law and in said Deed of Trust.

THEFORE, Notice Is Hereby Given that I will at public auction, at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, 01/25/2018, at 449 San Juan St, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the said real property and all interest of the said Grantor(s), Grantor(s)' heirs and assigns therein, for the purpose of paying the indebtedness provided in said Evidence of Debt secured by the Deed of Trust, plus attorneys' fees, the expenses of sale and other items allowed by law, and will issue to the purchaser a Certificate of Purchase, all as provided by law.

First Publication 11/30/2017
Last Publication 12/21/2017

Name of Publication Pagosa Springs Sun
IF THE SALE DATE IS CONTINUED TO A LATER DATE, THE DEADLINE TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO CURE BY THOSE PARTIES ENTITLED TO CURE MAY ALSO BE EXTENDED;

IF THE BORROWER BELIEVES THAT A LENDER OR SERVICER HAS VIOLATED THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT IN SECTION 38-38-103.1 OR THE PROHIBITION ON DUAL TRACKING IN SECTION 38-38-103.2, THE BORROWER MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE FEDERAL CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU (CFPB), OR BOTH, THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

Colorado Attorney General
1300 Broadway, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
(800) 222-4444
www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov
Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 4503
Lowell, Iowa 52244
(855) 411-2372
www.consumerfinance.gov
DATE: 09/28/2017

Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee in and for the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado
By: /s/ Betty A. Diller, Public Trustee

The name, address, business telephone number and bar registration number of the attorney(s) representing the legal holder of the indebtedness is:

Nichole R. Williams #49611
Barrett Frappier Weissman, LLP 1199 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204 (303) 350-3711

Attorney File # 20000006806624
The Attorney above is acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information provided may be used for that purpose.

©Public Trustees' Association of Colorado Revised 1/2015
Published November 30, December 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

DEREK VAN ATTA
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302
GREG DYAL

240 MONROE DRIVE #408
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040
FALCON'S NEST, LLC
800 HEARTWOOD LANE #12
BAYFIELD, CO 81122

GREG DYAL
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302
FALCON'S NEST, LLC
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 45 LAKEWOOD VILLAGE, according to the plat thereof recorded April 30, 1979 as Reception No. 94867.

Account Number: R010314
Schedule Number: 569919434036
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03120
and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to the name(s) of DEREK VAN ATTA and FALCON'S NEST, LLC and GREG DYAL for said year 2013.

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 15th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 27th day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

JAMES M HENDRIX II
2911 ALLISON DRIVE
AUSTIN, TX 78741
JANET V B HENDRIX
2911 ALLISON DRIVE
AUSTIN, TX 78741

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 236 LAKE FOREST ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 4, 1972.

AS RECEPTION NO. 77869.
Account Number: R009146
Schedule Number: 569918305023
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03104

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to the name(s) of JAMES M HENDRIX II and JANET V B HENDRIX for said year 2013.

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 15th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 27th day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

ANGELA M JARAMILLO
201 LA ENTRADA ROAD
LOS LUNAS, NM 87031
DAVID JARAMILLO
201 LA ENTRADA ROAD
LOS LUNAS, NM 87031

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 750 PAGOSA HIGHLAND ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD FEBRUARY 7, 1972 AS RECEPTION NO. 75409.

Account Number: R001972
Schedule Number: 558336210009
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03069

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to the name(s) of ANGELA M JARAMILLO and DAVID JARAMILLO for said year 2013.

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 15th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 21st day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

DEREK VAN ATTA
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302
GREG DYAL

204 MONROE DRIVE #408
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040
FALCON'S NEST, LLC
800 HEARTWOOD LANE #12
BAYFIELD, CO 81122

GREG DYAL
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302
FALCON'S NEST, LLC
P O BOX 3900
DURANGO, CO 81302

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

time prior to the actual execution of said Treasurer's Deed.

Witness my hand this 21st day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

STEVEN D BERG
580 OLD GRESS ISLAND ROAD
MIDWAY, PA 31320

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 4 OF BLOCK 3, PIEDRA PARK SUBDIVISION NO. 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD JUNE 29, 1960 AS RECEPTION NO. 59290.

Account Number: R017702
Schedule Number: 616117213001
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03138

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to the name(s) of STEVEN D BERG for said year 2013.

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 15th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 27th day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

CURTIS BULLARD
P O BOX 223
PADEN, OH 74860
ROBIN DENICE BULLARD
P O BOX 223
PADEN, OH 74860

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 49 IN SAN JUAN RIVER RESORT UNIT NO. 1, according to the amended plat thereof filed for record October 4, 1972 as Reception No. 76530.

Account Number: R000112
Schedule Number: 557921402037
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03063

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

That said real estate was taxed or specially assessed in the name(s) of CURTIS BULLARD and ROBIN DENICE BULLARD and WINONA WEST for said year 2013.

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 10th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 21st day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

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

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

EDWARD F GANGEMI
5 WINDONA WEST
ALBANY, CA 94706

You and each of you are hereby notified that on the 6th day of November 2014, the then County Treasurer of Archuleta County, in the State of Colorado, sold at public tax lien sale to

FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC
the following described property situate in the County of Archuleta, State of Colorado, to-wit:

Lot 263 IN ASPEN SPRINGS SUBDIVISION NO. 6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF FILED FOR RECORD AUGUST 3, 1971 AS RECEPTION NO. 74689.

Account Number: R015704
Schedule Number: 589316308061
Tax Sale Certificate Number: 2014-03135

and said County Treasurer issued a certificate of purchase therefore to FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC

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

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

That on the 27th day of October 2017, said FIG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS CO13, LLC assigned said certificate of purchase to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC;

That said BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC on the 15th day of November 2017, the present holder of said certificate (who) has made request upon the Treasurer of said County for a deed to said property;

That a Treasurer's Deed will be issued for said property to BLUE SPRUCE SERVICING COMPANY, LLC

On the 25th day of April 2018, unless the same has been redeemed.

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

Witness my hand this 27th day of November 2017 /s/ Betty A. Diller
Treasurer of Archuleta County, Colorado
Published December 7, 14 and 21, 2017 in *The Pagosa Springs SUN*.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HEARING ON December 19th.

Joseph Jordan, represented by Stephen P. VanHorn, has applied for the San Juan River Resort Subdivision Unit No. 2 Amendment 2017-01 final plat, a re-plat of Lots 153X and 166 at 131 Hidden Island Pl., and vacation of Hidden Island Place right-of-way, creating Lot 153XZ. The property is zoned Residential (R). Comments may be submitted to the Archuleta County Development Services-Planning Department, P.O. Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1507; telephone: (970) 264-1390 or Planning@archuletacounty.gov prior to the public hearing by the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners on December 19, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. in the County Administration Office Meeting Room, 398 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs. Public comment will be taken at the meeting.



SUN photo/Chris Mannara

County staff showed off their holiday spirit by donning a variety of “ugly sweaters.” These sweaters included tinsel, lights and extravagant designs in honor of the holiday season.

The Blotter

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

Archuleta County Sheriff's Office
Dec. 4 — Recovered vehicle, County Road 600.

Dec. 5 — Unlawful ownership of dangerous dog-misdemeanor, East Stollsteimer Road.

Dec. 7 — Information only, Badger Road.

Dec. 11 — Warrant arrest, County Road 600.

Town of Pagosa Springs Police Department

Dec. 4 — Animal/running at large, Apache Street.

Dec. 5 — Criminal mischief/harassment, Eagle Drive.

Dec. 7 — Theft from vehicle, East Pagosa Street.

Dec. 7 — Assault, Talisman Drive.

Dec. 7 — Traffic/moving/insurance, Apache Street.

Dec. 8 — Warrant arrest, Pagosa

Street.

Dec. 10 — Found property, Hot Springs Boulevard.

Dec. 10 — Agency assist, Great West Avenue.

Pagosa Springs Municipal Court: Judge William Anderson
No report.

Archuleta County Court: Judge Justin P. Fay

Nov. 29 — Cynthia Dawn Turner, false reporting-false identification, fines and costs — \$299.50.

Nov. 29 — Evan G. Brees, turning improperly, fines and costs — \$132.50.

Nov. 29 — Troy Dean Woodul, violation p/o-civil, 12 months probation, 24 hours community service, fines and costs — \$864.50.

Nov. 29 — Troy Dean Woodul, harassment-strikes/shoves/kicks, 12 months deferred sentence revoked, 12 months probation, fines and costs — \$1,042.50.

Nov. 29 — Valerie B. Erfurd, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$185.50.

Nov. 29 — Dietrich Geister, speeding 20-24 over limit, fines and costs

— \$339.50.

Dec. 5 — Carlos Eustaquio Quintana, theft-\$750-\$2,000, fines and costs — \$851.50.

Dec. 6 — Cody R. Burke, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$258.50.

Dec. 6 — Devin L. Brandy, seat belt not used, fines and costs — \$163.50.

Dec. 6 — Garrett Taylor Benson, license plates-expired, fines and costs — \$120.50.

Dec. 6 — Ikalka M. Beamer, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$258.50.

Dec. 6 — Jeffrey Glenn Caldwell, dog at large (first offense no injury), fines and costs — \$81.

Dec. 6 — Barbara Denormand Evans, false reporting-false information, fines and costs — \$249.50.

Dec. 7 — Madelon Zientara, speeding 10-19 over limit, fines and costs — \$193.50.

6th Judicial District Court: Judge Jeffrey R. Wilson

Dec. 5 — Carlos Eustaquio Quintana, trespass 1-dwelling, three years direct SNT to comm corrections, fines and costs — \$473.50.

Letters to Santa



Hey kids!

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

Make sure we receive your letter by noon on Monday, Dec. 18.

You can also email your letter to editor@pagosasun.com

or drop it off at the Santa mailbox at 457 Lewis Street

The Pagosa Springs **SUN**

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Schreiber-Custer joins care team at Pagosa clinic

New provider offers primary care at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare

We caught up with Fran Schreiber-Custer, a Physician Assistant who joined Archuleta Integrated Healthcare in the fall. She has practiced medicine for 27 years, and has lived and worked in Pagosa Springs for seven years. She and her husband are “empty-nesters” with four adult children and two grandchildren. Schreiber-Custer shared a bit about her background and interests to continue building strong connections in the community.

Q: What do you like about Pagosa Springs?

A: Beauty, outdoor life, fishing. I wake up and I see the mountains. We have a dock on Village Lake, and my husband and I are out there all the time. A hot-air balloon lands in our lake almost every weekend. It's a good place for our kids and grandkids, the people are friendly and it's just a healthy environment. This will hopefully be where my husband and I retire.

Where did you formerly work in the community?

I have worked as a PA at Cornerstone Family Medicine and Pagosa Springs Medical Center.

Tell me about your connection to the University of Colorado.

I received my certificate as a Child Health Associate and Physician Assistant from the CU school of medicine in 1994. I have been

Clinic information

Archuleta Integrated Healthcare's care options include primary healthcare, behavioral healthcare and oral healthcare referral. The clinic welcomes new patients and offers a variety of payment options. Medicare, Medicaid, CHP+ and most insurances are accepted. A sliding-fee scale is available for those who qualify. The clinic has convenient extended hours from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday. To make an appointment, call 970.264.2104. For more information, visit www.axishealthsystem.org.

on the faculty for 20 years as a preceptor, interviewing kids who want to get into these high-demand programs. It's an honor. Their PA program is one of the top in the nation. I am able to share my love of medicine and watch the students grow and learn with each new procedure and patient visit.

Do you do any volunteer work in the community?

I'm Co-Medical Director of the Pagosa-based nonprofit Thrive, which provides medical services and education, including prenatal care, ultrasounds and pregnancy tests, parenting education and STD testing and treatment. The goal is to improve pregnancy outcomes and support the well-being of families. Free, convenient access to quality prenatal care will mean healthier moms, healthier babies and healthier communities.



Photos courtesy of Axis Health System

Axis Health System's new clinic, Archuleta Integrated Healthcare, opened to the public on Aug. 10. It's located just behind City Market at 52 Village Drive.



Fran Schreiber-Custer, left, is enthusiastic about her new position at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare. She also plans to continue her annual medical mission trips to Guatemala, where she has cared for families in a rural town, above.

Your other volunteer work includes 15 years of medical missions abroad. Why is this work important to you?

The underserved is my love. We have a regional team of volunteers through Durango that goes to a small town in Guatemala for nine days. We provide medication and treatments in facilities that don't have bathrooms or running water.

What interests you about rural healthcare in our region?

I like the closer connection of a smaller clinic. You get to know the family; the children, the grandchildren, the parents, the grandparents. It's kind of a whole, encompassing circle. I want to provide services for people who aren't able to get them. People should have access to good care in their hometown, without having to



Members of the care team at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare, from left: Fran Schreiber-Custer, PA; Kristi Talamante, MA; Celia Lowry, LCSW Therapist; and Lurenda Taylor, Administrative Coordinator. The clinic's primary care providers include Dr. Larry Slaughter and Calvin Newsome, Family Nurse Practitioner (below right).

What is a care team?

Archuleta Integrated Healthcare's providers combine their expertise in a care team, and encourage people to take an active role in their own health and well-being. Archuleta Integrated Healthcare's care team includes doctors, nurses, medical assistants and counselors. Health workers provide support with insurance enrollment, oral health referrals, help getting back to work, and coordination of transportation. This wide variety of care and support helps people get well and stay well.



Larry Slaughter, MD



Calvin Newsome, FNP

travel hours for medical attention. Over my career, rural settings have given me many opportunities. I have covered the ER, and treated everything from newborn babies to hospice care.

Why you were drawn to whole person care at Archuleta Integrated Healthcare?

It covers the entire body. With the way the world is changing now and all the stressors, a lot of people have behavioral health issues. How can you treat the body without treating the brain, the soul, the mind? We want to be able to care for the whole, entire person — and their family.

What are your special interests in healthcare?

Family medicine, emergency medicine, women's healthcare,

urgent care, pediatrics and international medicine. I'm fluent in Spanish.

What is your philosophy of care?

Providing good quality healthcare means healthier families, children and community. If you can provide the services that people need, the outcome is better for everyone.

We're here to provide these services for people, and we even have extended hours to 7 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. This is the time to show the community that, hey, we're here for you.

We'll do whatever it takes to make you feel comfortable and make you feel like you can walk into our clinic and hold your head up high — no matter what your health concern is. You'll know that someone is going to be listening to what you say.

preview

ARTS & LIFE

Heralds of Christmas concerts

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church • Sunday, Dec. 17, at 3 p.m. • Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.



Photo courtesy George Hunyadi



Photo courtesy Heidi Tanner

Karen Mesikapp, trumpeter, will be featured at **The Heralds of Christmas** concerts, which are this **Sunday, Dec. 17, at 3 p.m.** and **Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.** at **St. Patrick's Episcopal Church**. Tickets on sale now at the **Chamber of Commerce, Bookends, The Choke Cherry Tree and Airport Self Storage**. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door if still available.

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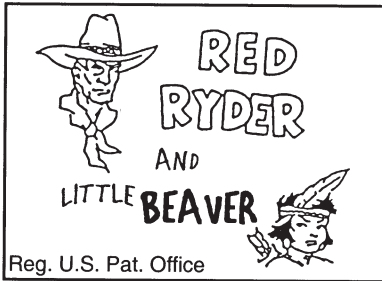
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The Pagosa Springs SUN thanks longtime Pagosa Springs supporter Mrs. Shirley Slesinger Lasswell for the privilege of being the only newspaper in the United States to publish the 'Red Ryder and Little Beaver' comic strip. The ongoing adventures of Red 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

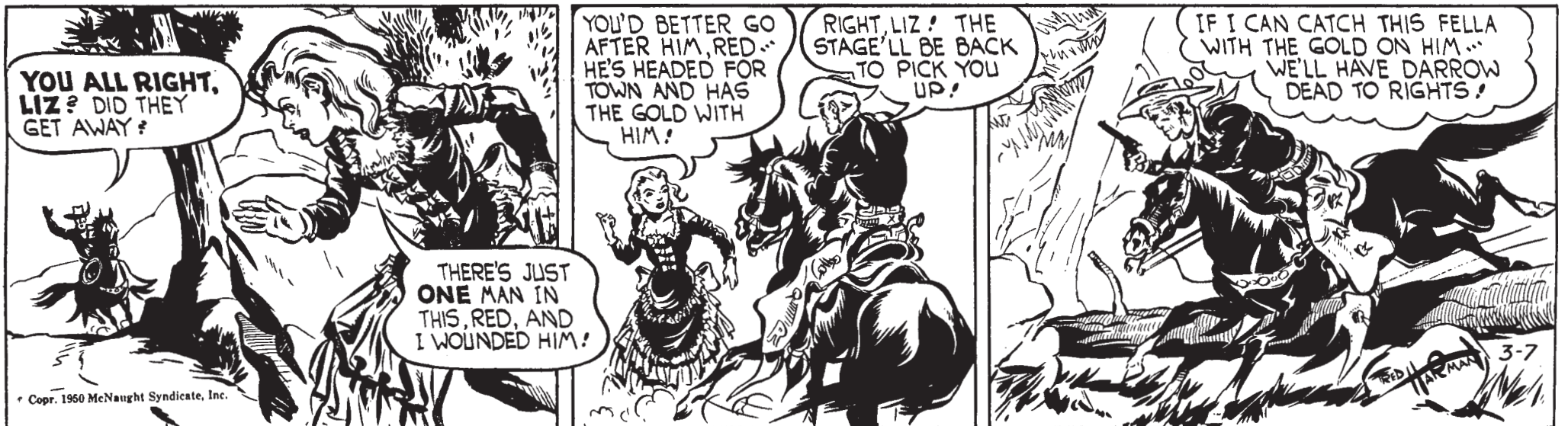




Photo courtesy George Hunyadi

Due to the popularity of last year's Heralds of Christmas concert, two shows have been scheduled this year — 3 p.m. on Dec. 17 and 7 p.m. on Dec. 18. The concerts will take place at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, with tickets on sale now.

Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends concert Friday and Saturday

By Heidi Tanner
Special to The PREVIEW

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and that includes the festive Heralds of Christmas concerts hosted by The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society, or PSIMS for short.

PSIMS is the parent organization of the Pagosa Springs Community Band, and members of the Community Band will be performing music to celebrate the Christmas season.

You will hear a string quartet version of "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" at the two upcoming Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends concerts, which will be held at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 and on sale now at the Chamber of Commerce, Bookends downtown in the old Pagosa SUN location, The Choke Cherry Tree, Airport Self Storage and at the door if there are still tickets available when performance day arrives. Tickets may also be

purchased or questions answered by calling (409) 720-7445.

The Pagosa Brass Quintet will be playing several pieces and will be joined by Sally Neel playing organ on "In Dulci Jubilo" by Michael Praetorius. There will be trumpet solos, a piano solo and a trumpet quartet. You will hear a beautiful rendition of "O Holy Night" on horn played by D'Ann Artis. There will be a variety of ensembles with flute, violin and piano and a vocal piece performed by mother and daughter Brandye and Gracelyn Kiker.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will be decked in its finest festive dress with decorations styled by Carol and Richard Larsen, which will bring beauty to your Christmas holidays and add to the ambiance of this wonderful Christmas concert. As has become the custom at this concert, the brass will end with Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" and the audience will be invited to sing along.

Tickets are on sale now at the locations listed above for \$10 each. This year, we will be adding a new ■ See Heralds on next page

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Photo courtesy Carole Howard

Local Pi Beta Phi sorority alumnae gathered at the home of Carole Howard on Dec. 6 for a Christmas caroling session, potluck luncheon and angel gift exchange. The ladies also contributed 250 pounds of food and toiletries to the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church food bank supporting people in need over the holidays. Seated in the front from left to right are Melissa McDonald, Mary Bailly and Lisa Scott. In the middle row are Mary Rothchild, Penny Hart and Carole Howard. In the back row are Ann Norris and Paula Tennant.

Heralds

■ continued from previous page
element to this concert, which is The Herald Angel Tree. The purpose of The Herald Angel Tree is to provide local music students with items needed to study their instruments.

For a donation, concertgoers can obtain beautiful ornaments for their own tree in a variety of price ranges. Each ornament will designate a specific item such as a month's worth of lessons or sheet music to assist

our local music students. Ornament donations made to The Herald Angel Tree can be made by cash or check and are tax deductible.

Our local players from the PSIMS look forward to sharing

this most wonderful time of the year with you. Concert dates are Sunday, Dec. 17, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd.

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Explore fun, creativity and connection at Tuesday 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, Dec. 19, at noon.

The class offers a welcoming environment that encourages fun, creativity, playfulness and connecting with others. Hand drums are provided for those who don't have one. Even participants who have no experience playing a musical instrument can immediately get into the groove. Besides hand drumming, the class includes body percussion and songs of indigenous peoples.

"The beauty of Paul's drumming class is that it is all-inclusive and children and parents alike learn side by side. It is through play, not being perfect, that we can interact with our children with curiosity and have fun. Not only is this

opportunity wonderful to watch, parents playing with their children and children playing with other adults, it is also very rare to find." — Christa Laos.

Perhaps we can hire a troupe of drumming macaque monkeys to demonstrate their rhythmic prowess to the drumming class. Other primates make drumming sounds by beating their chests or clapping their hands, but when it comes to rhythmic drumming on objects like a hollow log, chimps are the champs. Researchers are of the opinion that monkey drumming is a show of social dominance and that the rhythms they create are processed in their brains in a similar way to vocalizations, which suggests there is an evolutionary origin to drumming as part of social communication. Another hypothesis suggests monkeys are party animals and that all drumming is just monkey business.

Meanwhile, human primates

are bringing a fascinating assortment of percussion instruments, including dombeks, djembes, cajones, wooden tongue drums, metal tongue drums, clay pot drums and talking drums.

Ron Lumsden is bringing his metal tongue drum and participants are enjoying the opportunity to try it out. Made from a 20-gallon propane tank, it has tongue-shaped cuts similar to those of a wooden African tongue drum. It has metal tongues that are tuned to different pitches. The shell of the tank acts as the resonating chamber for the sound vibrations created when the tongues are tapped with fingers or mallets. It has a pleasing bell-like sound. Because of the beautiful way it is shaped and finished, one would never guess the metal tongue drum was made out of a propane tank.

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.



Photo courtesy Bonnie Milburn

Pagosa Springs High School teacher Cindy Halverson and her crew of 14 students spent the chilly early morning hours of Dec. 7 loading several hundred bags of recycle goods from the Humane Society thrift store into a truck headed for a recycling company in Phoenix, Ariz. Each day, the thrift store receives donated clothing that cannot be resold here in Pagosa Springs and, for the past three years, the Humane Society has worked to recycle non-sellable goods to keep it out of our local landfill. Torn, stained or worn-out and ragged items are sorted and stored until there is sufficient quantity to ship for recycling. Some smaller loads of recycle goods are sent to local areas of need, while larger quantities are shipped to Arizona for redistribution to places where there is an even greater need for clothing. Goods that are too badly torn or frayed are recycled for insulation, wiping rags or rendered to fabric. Recycling programs for unsaleable goods keep tons of clothing out of landfills each year, an environmental challenge that the Humane Society thrift store, with an assist from Pagosa Springs High School students, is working to alleviate.

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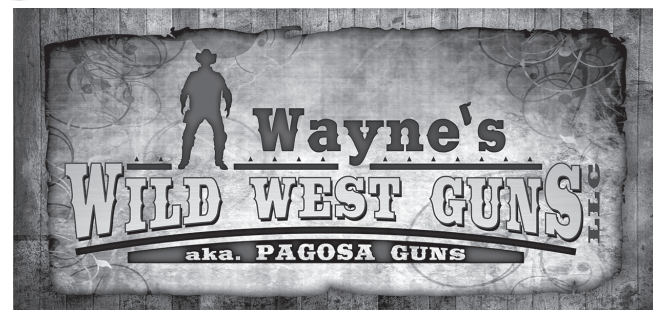
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Curtains Up Pagosa seeking instrumentalists for 29th year of shows

By Dale Johnson
Special to The PREVIEW

It does indeed take a village a mount a production, especially a musical. And you cannot produce a musical without musicians.

Curtains Up Pagosa (CUP), our community theater, will be entering year 29 of bringing musical and theatrical entertainment to our mountain town.

Every one of our more than 70 shows utilizes a live orchestra or

band “pit” of musicians; they come from Pagosa, Durango, Ignacio and sometimes even from Texas. We have an unusual number of talented musicians, former music directors and band directors who live in our town.

We are most fortunate to have them volunteer to play in our pit; they appreciate the opportunity to create and play beautiful music from a variety of Broadway shows, from “Annie” to “Into the Woods,” “Oklahoma” to “Pippin,” “Shrek” to

“Elf” and many, many more.

CUP could not exist without our musicians. We are always seeking new instrumentalists. Dust off what’s hiding on a shelf and join our extraordinary group of music makers. We are already planning for next summer’s blockbuster event, “Children of Eden.”

Call Artistic Director Dale Johnson at 946-1500 or email at dalemom7@gmail.com. See us on the Web at curtainsuppagosa.org and on Facebook.

A pair of scissors and a life lesson

“What do you want for your birthday?” My daughter asked.

“I only want a pair of kitchen scissors.”

It seemed simple enough when I asked for them, but I had to make a big deal about them. When the family came together for my birthday, I received a pair of chartreuse green kitchen scissors, which made me very happy. But I decided to give the family a life lesson on “purpose and place.”

My other pair had been missing for some time and everyone played dumb as to where they went. But, I had an inkling I knew who carried them off. Only two of us live in this house.

When you were young, I’m sure you heard your mother say, “Don’t run with those scissors. You’ll poke out someone’s eye.”

When I opened my gift, I couldn’t just say “thank you” and keep my mouth shut. With an audience around me I had to run with my new scissors.

I served up some of my angst against my Sweet Al. After all, it was my birthday party. I was free to sing, “Don’t tell me not to live, I’ve got to fly. Don’t rain on my parade.”

No one rained on my parade, but I brought my own cloud. It was a perfect time to get my point across. It’s safety in numbers, we all try to be polite in front of other

Artist’s Lane

Betty Slade



‘I don’t want you to cut the dog’s hair with them. I don’t want you to cut the dog’s toenails or your own.’

people. But to get something off our mind is not always best at a birthday party, even if it’s our own.

With scissors in hand, I ran with them and pointed them at Al. “These scissors are to stay in the

kitchen. The last pair disappeared. I don’t want you to cut the dog’s hair with them. I don’t want you to cut the dog’s toenails or your own.”

“Golly, Mother, that’s gross.” One of daughters insisted. “I don’t think I can finish my cake.”

My Sweet Al didn’t have any trouble finishing his cake. He maintained his innocence. “I only did that once. And you won’t let me forget it.”

“Once is too many. I had to run them through the dishwasher four times.”

“OK, we heard you.” Al put down his fork. I saw the flare in his eyes.

When the fork went down and his eyes flared, I knew to back off. But “OK” wasn’t enough. Al didn’t show enough contrition. I was sure he hadn’t learned the lesson. I started again wielding my scissors.

■ See Lane on next page



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‘Jesus loves me, this I know’

By Jan Davis
Special to The PREVIEW

A Matter of Faith

Anna, deaf from birth, found her seat on the plane. Her parents had given her the ticket as a graduation gift. She was about to embark on a life-changing experience — her first mission trip.

She traveled with her church deep into the countryside of Brazil. Once there, the men built churches while their wives taught Bible stories to the children. Anna tutored them in sign language.

Early each morning, she assembled a small group under the shade of an old Kapok tree. They sat on the large surface roots that crept out from its trunk. The villagers provided Anna with a homemade bench to teach from. She sang the words to “Jesus Loves Me” as she signed. By the end of the week, the children signed along with her, “for the Bible tells me so.”

Anna spent seven days en-

trenched in the small village life. She ate food provided by the villagers, worked with the children and collapsed at night on a mat.

The last day of Anna’s stay, as she began to sing, the children snuggled close. Some laid their small calloused hands on hers while others signed, “little ones to Him belong.”

Tears rolled down Anna’s cheeks with the significance of their actions. Jesus now lived in their hearts. Her own faith increased because of this humble demonstration of acceptance. Anna pulled them into her arms in a warm goodbye embrace.

The next evening, Anna boarded an airplane for home. She

dozed off in a peaceful sleep as gentle memories of the children filled her heart.

Commotion and racket startled her awake. A jumble of unfamiliar noises surrounded her. The shuffle of feet and the food cart being pushed up the plane aisle told her it wasn’t a dream. She heard laughter for the first time in her life.

Because of the simple faith of children and a phrase from a beloved song, “we are weak but He is strong,” Anna received God’s gift of healing. God demonstrated His un-failing love through the innocence of children.

Because of Jesus’ love, all things are possible.

“But, Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” — Matthew 19:14 (KJV).

I love you, but Jesus loves you more.

Lane

■ continued from previous page

“I learned from my mother, a widow at 36 with three teenage kids. She couldn’t afford anything new and warned us that the scissors, which hung behind the kitchen door, weren’t to leave the nail. If they did, they better go back on the nail. Katy bar the door if they weren’t. Maybe I’m becoming more like my mother, but I don’t want those scissors to leave the kitchen. They are not to touch anything but food.”

The family knows when I’ve gone too far. It’s funny to a point and then I better stop. I couldn’t stop. “Everything has a purpose and a place. Your dad used my scissors to hammer a nail in the wall.”

“Well, because I couldn’t find a hammer and it was just a little nail. Plus you wanted me to hang your painting. It was your painting.”

I knew what he was doing. He was deflecting the lesson back on me. I continued with my dubious

audience. “Your dad has two hammers in my kitchen drawer. And he uses my scissors to hammer a nail.”

The family had nothing to say. I’m sure they were thrilled to see the evening end, and when we packed up and went home. In the car and in the dark, my new kitchen scissors in hand, Al and I drove home together without a word. I had said enough. Yes, I did it again. I rained on my own parade. As the lyrics go, “Don’t tell me not to live, I’ve got to fly.” But, sometimes, it’s better to say thank you and just enjoy the gift.

Final brushstroke: Another life lesson, purpose and place: Don’t run with scissors in your hand and point them at other people. You might poke your own eye out and be blinded by your own life lesson.

Readers’ comments

Send your comments to betty@bettyslade.com.

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St. Patrick's Christmas Eve services to offer tradition and beauty

By Sally Neel
Special to The PREVIEW

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church will offer traditional Christmas Eve services on Sunday, Dec. 24. The morning services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. will conclude the season of Advent as we anticipate the birth

of Christ.

Following the morning services, the church will be transformed into the glory of Christmas with Christmas greenery and wreaths.

At 5 p.m., families with small children, along with others who appreciate the opportunity to worship at the earlier hour, will

gather for the family service and Holy Eucharist. The service will include special music offered by youth pianist Grace Wiersma and a vocal solo by Annie O'Donnell. The Rev. Douglas Neel will offer a special sermon directed towards the younger members of the congregation.

"This service is a wonderful combination of traditional worship and the wonders of childhood," said Neel.

At 7:30 p.m., classical Christmas music, provided by the NightSong Trio (Jessica Peterson on flute, Heidi Tanner on violin and Sally Neel at the piano), flutist Kathy Wadenpfehl, Sarah Dorian (cello) and others of the Dorian family, baritone soloist Robert Neel, tenor soloist Dale Scrivener and the Choir of St. Patrick's, will fill the church with quiet beauty.

Please arrive early to enjoy this beautiful preservice music.

At 8 p.m., the organ and instrumentalists will announce the great procession of the choir and clergy into the church as the congregation joins in singing "O Come, All Ye Faithful." This service is a traditional service with carols, choral anthems, sermon and Holy Eucharist, punctuated with the candlelight singing of "Silent Night."

The community is invited to attend these services and all other services at St. Patrick's, regardless of your religious or nonreligious affiliation. "In God's House, at God's Table, all are invited to be fed." You are encouraged to arrive early for Christmas Eve services.

St. Patrick's is located at 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Sunday morning services of Holy Eucharist are offered weekly at 8 a.m. (no music) and 10 a.m. (with music). For more information about St. Patrick's and its ministries, call 731-5801.

Celebrate how music can soothe your soul at New Thought on Sunday

By Constance d'Angelis
Special to The PREVIEW

On Sunday, Steve Blechschmidt will share his personal journey of self-transformation through his unwavering awareness of the power of God in his life. Learn how to use your own aptitudes, genius or artistry to become the genuine person you really are. Enhance your world through music.

Following through on a promise made to his young daughter, "I'll learn to play the guitar if you keep up with your piano lessons," Blechschmidt found himself haunted by a deep and seemingly divinely inspired passion to learn to play the guitar.

Blechschmidt believes music is one of many elixirs God uses to enable godly awareness and peace in our struggling world. Blechschmidt will share his lifelong journey of attempting to grasp God's ways and his fervor to be a participant in a wondrous part of God's creation: music.

Enjoy live harp and guitar music to magnify and heighten your experience.

Come to the Center for Spiritual Growth at 40 N. 15th St. on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 10 a.m.


The new time for the movie/discussion group is 10 a.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month.

Our Dec. 16, Saturday at 10 a.m., movie/discussion group will focus on "Spiritual Liberation" featuring Dr. Michael Beckwith. All are welcome.

Pagosa Community of New Thought is building a community by exploring all paths to the Divine, especially by opening minds and hearts to what brings us together, rather than what divides us.

We welcome you and your insights, beliefs, knowledge and talents. Please be part of our Sunday services and/or come to our Saturday movie/discussions of higher consciousness and principles.

For information about the church, join us, email PagosaCommunityNewThought@gmail.com, call 949-9020 or mail to P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-1052. Find us on Facebook or our website: www.PagosaNewThought.org.



Christmas Eve Service

Come celebrate the birth of our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ!

December 24 • 6 pm


We have a wonderful evening planned! There will be a Kid Drama, Kids Singing, Song Specials, the story of the birth of Jesus told, and of course a lighting of the candles while we all join in carols!

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UUs to examine the bond between religion and science

By Pauline Benetti
Special to The PREVIEW

Articulating one's own theology can be a difficult proposition, especially if one is not a theologian or holds beliefs that are nonstandard fare or simply has not thought deeply about it.

UUs believe that as members of a religion that is home to a myriad of beliefs, each one of us is responsible for the deep thought that such articulation requires. Only then do we engage with our fourth guiding principle, a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

In this Sunday morning's message, Pauline Benetti will share her truth and her willingness to listen deeply to other members of the Fellowship as they share theirs.

Finding an author who speaks in the language of our beliefs made the task easier for her and recognizing that kinship was a real moment of personal spiritual enlightenment. Suddenly, ideas that had only been disjointed thoughts in the recesses of the mind are given a voice. Our feelings and behaviors — fears, joys, avoidances, attractions — all begin

to assume meaning. Indeed, we begin to define our theology, admittedly not an everyday occupation.

This was Benetti's experience with astrophysicist Chet Raymo in "The Soul of the Night," subtitled "An Astronomical Pilgrimage." So, leaning heavily on Raymo, who is described elsewhere as "Poised between poetry and physics, faith and reason," she will articulate her "search for truth and meaning."

Benetti has been a member of the Pagosa UU Fellowship for more than 15 years, serving variously as president of the steering committee, chair of the worship committee and member of the Christmas Tree Search Group. In addition to defining her theology, she expresses her values by participating in local groups, such as the Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership and Southwest Organization for Sustainability.

Also happening this third Sunday, the UU Kids' Religious Education class will continue its exploration of the soul or spirit — that unseen force which animates life. Through science and art activities, youth will learn about the third and

fourth principles of Unitarian Universalism, which encourage spiritual growth and a responsible search for truth and meaning, within our congregations. Parents looking for religious education for kids aged 5-12 that celebrates diversity and is fun are invited to attend with their kids on third Sundays.

Our Fellowship is about belonging and through this sense of belonging, we each grow spiritually. We are a Welcoming Congregation; we invite everyone to share in our faith community. We cherish diversity and foster a safe environment for all.

Service begins at 10:30 a.m. and, following that, we invite you to share refreshments and conversation. Find us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza. From North Pagosa Boulevard, turn right onto Park Avenue and right again into Greenbriar Plaza, then turn left and continue around the complex until you see the Unitarian Universalist sign as it faces the mountains. Come in and join us. You are welcome.

For further information, visit pagosauu.org or call 731-7900.

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beginning January 2018



Stop #	Bus Stops	MORNING ROUTES					AFTERNOON ROUTES				
		Rte 1	Rte 2	Rte 3	Rte 4	Rte 5	Rte 6	Rte 7	Rte 8	Rte 9	Rte 10
1	Rio Grande Savings & Loan		8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM
2	City Market Bus Stop		8:04 AM	9:04 AM	10:04 AM	11:04 AM	12:04 PM	1:04 PM	2:04 PM	3:04 PM	4:04 PM
3	Navajo Trail & Hopi		8:07 AM	9:07 AM	10:07 AM	11:07 AM	12:07 PM	1:07 PM	2:07 PM	3:07 PM	4:07 PM
4	Prospect & Lyn	7:11 AM	8:11 AM	9:11 AM	10:11 AM	11:11 AM	12:11 PM	1:11 PM	2:11 PM	3:11 PM	4:11 PM
5	Bonanza Ave @ Vista Blvd	7:14 AM	8:14 AM	9:14 AM	10:14 AM	11:14 AM	12:14 PM	1:14 PM	2:14 PM	3:14 PM	4:14 PM
6	Lakeview Estates	7:17 AM	8:17 AM	9:17 AM	10:17 AM	11:17 AM	12:17 PM	1:17 PM	2:17 PM	3:17 PM	4:17 PM
7	Pagosa Springs Medical Center	7:20 AM	8:20 AM	9:20 AM	10:20 AM	11:20 AM	12:20 PM	1:20 PM	2:20 PM	3:20 PM	4:20 PM
8	Wal-Mart (eastbound)	7:24 AM	8:24 AM	9:24 AM	10:24 AM	11:24 AM	12:24 PM	1:24 PM	2:24 PM	3:24 PM	4:24 PM
9	AspenVillage/Cornerstone/Boulder Dr	7:25 AM	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	11:25 AM	12:25 PM	1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM	4:25 PM
10	Harman Loop (Wells Fargo)	7:27 AM	8:27 AM	9:27 AM	10:27 AM	11:27 AM	12:27 PM	1:27 PM	2:27 PM	3:27 PM	4:27 PM
11	Ruby Sisson Library	7:31 AM	8:31 AM	9:31 AM	10:31 AM	11:31 AM	12:31 PM	1:31 PM	2:31 PM	3:31 PM	4:31 PM
12	So. 8th & Piedra	7:32 AM	8:32 AM	9:32 AM	10:32 AM	11:32 AM	12:32 PM	1:32 PM	2:32 PM	3:32 PM	4:32 PM
13	So. 8th & Apache	7:33 AM	8:33 AM	9:33 AM	10:33 AM	11:33 AM	12:33 PM	1:33 PM	2:33 PM	3:33 PM	4:33 PM
14	Town Hall / Senior Center	7:35 AM	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM	11:35 AM	12:35 PM	1:35 PM	2:35 PM	3:35 PM	4:35 PM
15	Post Office	7:36 AM	8:36 AM	9:36 AM	10:36 AM	11:36 AM	12:36 PM	1:36 PM	2:36 PM	3:36 PM	4:36 PM
16	Hot Springs (east side of street)	7:37 AM	8:37 AM	9:37 AM	10:37 AM	11:37 AM	12:37 PM	1:37 PM	2:37 PM	3:37 PM	4:37 PM
17	River Center	7:39 AM	8:39 AM	9:39 AM	10:39 AM	11:39 AM	12:39 PM	1:39 PM	2:39 PM	3:39 PM	4:39 PM
18	2nd Street @ Hwy 160	7:40 AM	8:40 AM	9:40 AM	10:40 AM	11:40 AM	12:40 PM	1:40 PM	2:40 PM	3:40 PM	4:40 PM
19	N. 4th Street & Lewis Street	7:41 AM	8:41 AM	9:41 AM	10:41 AM	11:41 AM	12:41 PM	1:41 PM	2:41 PM	3:41 PM	4:41 PM
20	Methodist Church	7:42 AM	8:42 AM	9:42 AM	10:42 AM	11:42 AM	12:42 PM	1:42 PM	2:42 PM	3:42 PM	4:42 PM
21	Archuleta Housing - N 6th St	7:43 AM	8:43 AM	9:43 AM	10:43 AM	11:43 AM	12:43 PM	1:43 PM	2:43 PM	3:43 PM	4:43 PM
22	Archuleta Housing - N 7th St	7:44 AM	8:44 AM	9:44 AM	10:44 AM	11:44 AM	12:44 PM	1:44 PM	2:44 PM	3:44 PM	4:44 PM
23	N. 8th Street & Rosita	7:45 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	3:45 PM	4:45 PM
24	Eagle Drive @ Majestic	7:48 AM	8:48 AM	9:48 AM	10:48 AM	11:48 AM	12:48 PM	1:48 PM	2:48 PM	3:48 PM	4:48 PM
25	Giant Gas Station (Piedra Rd.)	7:50 AM	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM	3:50 PM	4:50 PM

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CLIP & KEEP!

CLIP & KEEP!

Holiday depression can be a very real problem

By John Lough
Special to The PREVIEW

While the holiday season is a happy and joyful time for most people, it can also be a time of sadness and depression for many. In most cases, overcoming seasonal depression is a simple process, but in some cases it can be a serious problem.

According to all the stories we see on TV, sparkling scenes in local department stores, and beautiful ad campaigns in magazines and newspapers, this is a happy season with all kinds of good times and pleasures. And, while that can be true in many cases, all the promotion of this “happy” season can also build up unrealistic expectations

and a resulting disappointment when we can’t match the images that are bombarding us.

We may find ourselves becoming upset because we aren’t being invited to all the best parties, we can’t afford lots of amazing presents and we aren’t having the “perfect” holiday we imagine others are enjoying. When we compare ourselves to how things “ought to be,” we can feel that we’re being cheated and left out for some reason.

Other factors that can contribute to holiday depression are the lifestyle changes most of us face during this season. Our diets suddenly include more candy, cookies and alcohol than normal. We are exercising less, facing shorter,

colder days and have less time for outdoor activities and our regular routines.

So how to avoid these depression triggers? A good starting point is simply realizing that the media-promoted “perfect” holidays don’t really exist. Instead of envying that television family or the holidays you imagine the neighbors having, focus instead on the good and positive things in your own life. Think about the things you really enjoy in this season.

It’s also a time to stay in control of your life. Balance holiday party temptations with a healthier diet at home. Make time for regular exercise. Just a brisk 30-minute daily walk has been shown to help fight holiday depression.

It’s also important not to isolate yourself. Get together with friends and family, not to discuss how you’re feeling, but just to enjoy them socially. Doing so can do a great deal to lift your mood.

But if you find that holiday depression isn’t going away for you despite your best efforts, talk to a counseling professional, your personal physician or your clergy. Serious depression is not a health problem to be ignored.

“Counseling Corner” is provided by the American Counseling Association (ACA). Send your comments and questions to ACACorner@counseling.org or visit the ACA website at www.counseling.org.

Mercy to offer Blue Christmas Service to honor sadness during the holidays

By David Bruzese
Special to The PREVIEW

The holidays may not be the most wonderful time of the year for people who have suffered a loss, and Mercy’s Blue Christmas Service is designed for those who are grieving.

Patients and members of the community are invited to the 15th annual Blue Christmas Service on Tuesday, Dec. 19, from 5:30 to 6 p.m. in the Mercy Chapel at Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango.

Led by Mercy chaplains, the 30-minute service will feature

prayer, readings, a time of remembrance, music and a message of hope for all who grieve. The service is for anyone who finds the Christmas season difficult because of the death or estrangement of a loved one, unemployment, loneliness, illness, loss of a pet or other hardships.

For more information, contact the Mercy Department of Spiritual Care at 764-2340.

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Christmas Eve Services Schedule

8:15 AM — Contemporary Sunday Service

11:00 AM — Traditional Sunday Service

6:00 PM — Traditional Christmas Eve Service

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www.taramandala.org/winter-solstice



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Three free family holiday events for all ages at your library

By Carole Howard
PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

The first of three special free Christmas food-themed events for all ages takes place today, Thursday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. when your library hosts a hot chocolate hullabaloo. Bring your family and friends and celebrate the holidays with us as you create your own seasonable crafts to take home while drinking hot cocoa.

Next up is a cookie cook-off on Wednesday, Dec. 20, from 2 to 3 p.m. You are asked to bake and bring in two dozen cookies to share. Participants will judge the other entrants' cookies and vote on which is their favorite in each of three age categories — 13 and younger, teens and adults. Bring a list of the ingredients in your cookies — and please, no peanuts or peanut products. Registration is required. Parents or adult caregivers must attend with their children.

Then, join us for an event to create candy and chocolate holiday treats on Thursday, Dec. 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. Put your creative talents to the test and indulge your sweet tooth. Using candy and chocolate, we will be making holiday goodies everyone will enjoy.

We hope these all-ages special events help make your holidays joyful for you, your family and friends.

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.

All-ages holiday movie tomorrow

Join us tomorrow, Friday, Dec.

Library News

15, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for a G-rated holiday movie suitable for all ages. Our contract does not allow us to identify the film titles in the media, but you can find them listed on the activities calendars.

Teen book club tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 15, from 2 to 3 p.m. seventh- through 12th-graders will discuss "Bone Gap" by Laura Ruby and enjoy free snacks.

Otaku for teens

The Otaku (Anime/Manga) Club meets on Monday, Dec. 18, from 4 to 5 p.m. Join us to watch anime, talk about manga and Asian cultures, and enjoy snacks. This free club is for teens in the fifth through 12th grades.

Spanish conversation

Wednesday, Dec. 20, from 4-5 p.m. practice your Spanish with others at this free informal session. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. No registration is required.

Reading with therapy dogs

Next Thursday, Dec. 21, from 10 to 11 a.m., youngsters from kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to share their favorite books with Hondo, a therapy dog who loves listening to stories, at a Paws to Read session. This is a great way for beginning readers to build confidence.

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.

Computer/technology classes

Join us from 2 to 3 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 18, to learn about Facebook business pages. No registration is required.

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. Note there will be no session Dec. 18, 19, 21, 26 or 28.

Tech Time

Drop in with your technology

■ See Library on next page

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Library

■ **continued from previous page**

questions for free help on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

Kids storytime

Every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m., join us for free great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. This is an excellent way for kids of all ages to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers.

Baby storytime

Every Saturday from 9:05 to 9:25 a.m., join us for a free short session of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little ones. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday family life. Recommended for children aged 0 to 12 months.

Toddler storytime

Every Saturday from 9:30 to 10 a.m., join us for 30 minutes of free stories, songs and fingerplays with open play afterwards. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday family life.

Christmas book for youngsters

“Exploring the Bible” by David Murray is a Bible-reading plan for kids ages 6-12 covering one day at a time throughout the year.

Spanish books

“La Vida es Una Piñata” by Ismael Cala uses the piñata as a metaphor to explain essential values. “Federico en su Balcon” by Carlos Fuentes opens with two legends, Nietzsche and Loredan, exchanging thoughts on power, love, justice and loyalty. “Despierta Tu Heroe Interior” by Victor Hugo Manzanilla describes seven steps to help you make your life’s story worth telling. “El Pais Del Diablo” by Perla Sujez is set in an indigenuous village in Patagonia.

Nonfiction

“Alone” by Brett Archibald is the true story of a man washed overboard into the Indian Ocean. “An American Family” by Khizr Khan is a patriotic memoir by a Muslim American Gold Star father. “Ev-

erything You Need to Know about Social Media (Without Having to Call a Kid)” by Greta Van Susteren is a guide to living well on social media. “Scalia Speaks” by Antonin Scalia is a collection of the best speeches of the late Supreme Court justice. “Breaking Free” by Rachel Jeffs is the memoir of a woman who escaped polygamy, the FLDS cult and her father. “Shame Nation” by Sue Scheff explores the global epidemic of online hate. “Promise Me, Dad” by Joe Biden is a memoir that chronicles the last year of the vice president’s son’s life. “Fifty Years of 60 Minutes” by Jeff Fager documents TV’s most influential news broadcast. “Small Business” by Andy Anderson explains how to start and build a successful business from scratch.

Thrillers and suspense

“My Sister’s Bones” by Nuala Ellwood is a thriller set in Syria. “A Night in the Cemetery and Other Stories of Crime and Suspense” by Anton Chekhov is the English-language debut of this collection.

Other novels

“Past Perfect” by Danielle Steel is the story of two families living 100 years apart who meet in a San Francisco mansion. “If Not For You” by Debbie Macomber tells of a young woman who moves to Oregon to escape her controlling parents. “Behold the Dreamers” by Imbolo Mbue follows a Cameroon immigrant living working for a senior Lehman Brothers executive.

Short stories

“The Best American Short Stories 2016” is introduced by Junot Diaz.

DVDs

“Westworld” is season one. “Martian Child” is a family film. “The Living Daylights” stars Timothy Dalton as Agent 007. “How Colors Affect You: What Science Reveals” by William Lidwell contains six 30-minute lectures.

CDs

“Past Perfect” by Danielle Steel is the story of two families living 100 years apart who meet in a San Francisco Mansion. “We Are All

Shipwrecks” by Kelly Grey Carlisle provides redemption after a woman goes back in time to explore her mother’s murder. “Smile at Fear” by Pema Chodron is part of the Personal Growth/Buddhism series. “Speaking in Bones” by Kathy Reichs is a Temperance Brennan mystery.

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.

Downloadable e-books

Current New York Times best-seller downloadable e-books are being added regularly to our free 3M Cloud Library. Access them by

■ **See Library on next page**

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Grace in Pagosa has come together with several local churches to host a free service on Christmas Eve. This has become a cherished family tradition for many in our community. This year, our service will be all about the music — as we sing and learn about some of our favorite Christmas hymns and songs. We hope that you will make plans to join us for this wonderful worship experience!



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New pets, old pals require holiday precautions

Special to The PREVIEW

December should be filled with fun, frivolity and family. But, for pets, the food, decorations, parties and travel that accompany this time of year can add up to unhappy holidays if not properly addressed in advance by their owners.

The Division of Professions and Occupations, which licenses veterinarians in Colorado under the auspices of the Department of Regulatory Agencies, wants pets to remain safe during this hectic season.

Having your veterinary clinic's contact number handy and, if

different, 24/7 emergency facility information available is a good initial step.

And, if you're adopting or receiving a pet as a gift and need to locate a licensed veterinarian in your area, you can verify a Colorado professional license and check for any disciplinary actions as part of the selection process by visiting <http://colorado.gov/DORA/licensing>.

But once Fido or Tabby already is part of the family, it's important to get a handle on what can harm them.

Here are a few safety tips, courtesy of the American Veterinary

Medical Association (AVMA).

Food: Some of the people food that can be harmful to pets include chocolate, baked goods or other sweets containing the artificial sweetener xylitol, turkey and turkey skin, table scraps (such as onions, raisins and grapes) and yeast dough. Clear food from the table and serving areas and place the trash bin where pets can't access it. The ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) has a Poison Control Hotline in place if you believe your pet has ingested something it shouldn't and is in distress (sudden behavior change, depression, pain, vomiting or diarrhea).

Decorations: Unsecured Christmas trees, water additives for Christmas trees, ornaments, tinsel, electric lights, flowers and festive plants, candies and potpourris all can have associated risks.

Parties: Ensure your pets have a place away from the commotion. Be mindful of the risks associated with guests bringing other pets into your home if there is a question on how they'll co-exist. Nervous pets should be cordoned off in another room or crated with a favorite toy. And, while the guest traffic comes and goes, make sure the door doesn't become an escape route.

Travel: Interstate and international regulations require any pets you bring with you to have a health

■ See Precautions on next page

Library

■ continued from previous page

clicking on the 3M Cloud Library icon on the home page of our website. While there, browse through a multitude of other adult, juvenile and children's books, both bestsellers and classics in many genres.

Downloadable films

For your viewing pleasure, we offer IndieFlix, a free streaming movie service that gives you unlimited access to more than 7,500 award-winning and popular independent shorts, feature films and documentaries from more than 50 countries — on your device, PC or Mac, with no apps needed.

Access IndieFlix through the Downloadable Content icon on the library's website. Use "Quick Pick," the discovery tool that lets you sample movies like you would

music.

Thanks for our donors

For books and materials this week, we thank Julie Gates and our anonymous donors.

Quotable quote

"We should go get a checkup the way we go to the gym ... instead of waiting for something to go wrong." — Kate Walsh, who played a doctor on "Grey's Anatomy" and "Private Practice," on what she's learned about the importance of preventive care since being diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2015.

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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ATRIUM OF LUXURY BUILDING

Next health and wellness event Wednesday, Dec. 20

By Cheryl Wilkinson
PREVIEW Columnist

The Pagosa Senior Center would like to thank Ronnie Zaday, Eileen Anderson and Linda Barber, the elves who so generously designed and decorated our tree entry in the Festival of Trees.

Health and wellness

The Senior Center has a pilot program expanding health and wellness services to Archuleta County seniors. The program includes wellness and blood pressure monitoring, or allows individual area seniors to discuss two subjects of their choice.

The next wellness event will be Dec. 20.

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

Clinical assessment will be provided by Tabitha Zappone, FNP-C.

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

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging: Enforcement of new regulations

By Kay Kaylor
I advocate for residents at Pine Ridge and BeeHive Homes as the ombudsman for Archuleta County. Federal and state laws protect residents, and although the second phase of the new federal long-term care regulations took effect Nov. 28, the nursing home industry



has successfully challenged their enforcement.

According to the Center for Medicare Advocacy (CMA), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced in July, and with details Nov. 24, that it will not fully enforce eight of the requirements for 18 months. CMS states that facility surveyors and providers need this time for education about the new laws, even though the revisions have been public since late 2016 and some rules existed earlier. These revisions to protect residents range from the baseline care plan to use of psychotropic medications to the smoking policy. Instead of fines or other penalties, CMS will require cited deficiencies to be corrected with plans and training. Research has shown that such remedies do not result in better outcomes for residents.

For example, a new rule requires facilities to develop an individualized care plan within 48 hours of a resident's admission.

"This requirement was developed after the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reported that one in five residents experienced harm within, on average, 15 days of admission to a skilled nursing facility; 20 percent of these cases resulted in life-sustaining interventions or death," CMA notes, and 59 percent were preventable.

Advocates such as CMA offer

email alerts, free webinars and website articles on Medicare and health care. See medicareadvocacy.org.

For further information, you may call me at 403-2164 or send

■ See Senior on next page

ESTATE PLANNING - DRAFTING WILLS

Estate Planning is more than just writing a will. A financial and medical power of attorney should be included, a plan for burial, and specific list of the persons you would like to have your personal property, called a Memorandum Distributing Personal Property, and a plan for how you would like for your Estate to be handled.



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What's Cookin'

Spicy Pork Ragù

Recipe courtesy: Colorado Department of Agriculture and Chef Jason K. Morse, C.E.C.

- 1 pound hot Italian pork sausage
- 1 cup carrot, peeled and diced
- 1 cup celery, diced
- 1 cup yellow onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon fresh garlic, minced
- 2 28-ounce cans San Marzano tomatoes, diced
- 1 teaspoon Italian herb blend
- 2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 2 tablespoons sugar

Kosher salt to taste
 Black ground pepper to taste
 Chicken Stock, if needed

Heat an 8- or 9-quart cast iron Dutch oven over high heat for 5 minutes. Add the ground sausage and cook until half cooked. Remove the sausage and leave the fat in the pan. Add the carrots, celery and onions and sauté for 5 minutes. Turn down heat to medium and add the garlic then sauté for 1 minute. Add the pork, seasonings, tomatoes and sugar and mix well. Once at a simmer, cover the Dutch oven. Simmer for

30 minutes, checking and stirring occasionally. If needed, adjust moisture level with chicken stock. Adjust seasoning if needed. Serve over pasta.

The Pagosa Springs SUN does not have a test kitchen and does not independently test recipes printed. Please share your tried-and-true, favorite recipes with us by emailing them to randi@pagosasun.com.

Senior

continued from previous page
 an email to ombudsman2@sjbaaa.org.

Memberships

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

Menu

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

The guest fee for those 59 and under is \$10 and children 10 years and under can eat for \$5 each. Access to the salad bar is only \$6 for those under 60.

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

Thursday, Dec. 14 — Sweet and sour pork, brown fried rice with egg, sugar snap pea medley, roasted cauliflower with red peppers and salad bar.

Friday, Dec. 15 — Swedish meat-

balls, stir-fried Chinese mustard greens, glazed carrots and salad bar.

Monday, Dec. 18 — Loaded baked potato, beef red chili, cream of broccoli soup and salad bar.

Tuesday, Dec. 19 — Chicken spaghetti, spinach with mushroom sauté, green peas and salad bar.

Wednesday, Dec. 20 — Sliced ham with pineapple sauce, gratin potatoes, roasted carrots with parsnips, salad bar and pumpkin pie.

Thursday, Dec. 21 — Shredded beef gyro, Mediterranean beets, eggplant gratin and salad bar.

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

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

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Nothing but a fire drill

By Daris Howard
Special to The PREVIEW

Our high school chemistry teacher flipped the fan switch in the chemistry lab, and a loud pop sounded.

“Oh, shoot!” he exclaimed. “We can’t do the experiment without the fan.”

“Hey,” Brent said. “My dad is an electrician, and I can wire almost anything. Do you want me to take a look at it?”

Mr. Hatsker shook his head. “Probably not, Brent. I’ll acquisition the school to get it fixed.”

“Are you sure?” Brent said. “I’m sure I could have it fixed in minutes.”

“I better not,” Mr. Hatsker said. “I probably need to go through the right channels.”

“What about the due date on our lab project?” Marcy asked. “There is no way we can have it done by Friday.”

“I will move that back a few days,” Mr. Hatsker replied

Mr. Hatsker called the principal to come down, and they discussed the situation.

“Well, we can definitely have the district repairman come look at it,” the principal said. “But I can’t guarantee any timetable on it. They are doing some remodeling at the district office.”

“My lab should come first,” Mr. Hatsker replied. “The problems with the lab have already put me a couple of weeks behind this semester.”

The principal shrugged. “I will do my best.”

Mr. Hatsker started us working on some new material in the book. We hadn’t been at it very long when the principal came back. “I hate to tell you this, but they can’t do it for a couple of weeks.”

“A couple of weeks!” Mr. Hatsker exclaimed. “We can’t wait a couple of weeks. We need it now.”

The bell rang, and we gathered our books to leave. Brent hung around behind as the rest of us headed to lunch. As lunch was coming to an end, he joined us to

quickly wolf down some food.

“Where have you been?” I asked. He leaned over and whispered. “I fixed the fan in the chemistry room.”

“I don’t know if I am happy about that or not,” I told him. “Now we’ll have to do our lab projects.”

“Beats studying from the book all class period,” he replied.

The next day, Mr. Hatsker started to lecture.

“Aren’t we going to go to the lab?” Brent asked.

“There’s nothing we can do until the fan is fixed,” Mr. Hatsker replied.

“But I think it is,” Brent said.

Mr. Hatsker looked at him suspiciously, but we all traipsed into the lab to check it out. He flipped the switch, and, sure enough, the fan spun, rattled, and came to life. Mr. Hatsker shrugged and told us to all get busy. We pulled out the sulphuric acid at our stations and started to work. Soon, those of us closest to the fan started to cough and choke, and before long, everyone was.

“The fan is blowing backward!” Mr. Hatsker yelled. “Everyone, outside!”

He pulled the fire alarm as we headed out the door. I was the last student out, and I could hear screaming coming through a door in the chemistry lab that always remained locked. I had always thought it was a closet. Through my choking, I asked Mr. Hatsker where it led.

“It is a second entrance to the darkroom used by the yearbook class to develop pictures,” he answered through his own coughing.

Within minutes, students were pouring out of every door, happy to be out of school. When they found it was because Brent wired the fan backward, they were high-fiving him.

But there was one person who wasn’t happy. The yearbook advisor, coughing and choking, was marching determinedly in the direction of our celebrating, and she wasn’t smiling. Brent saw her

■ See Drill on next page

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	4	6		7		5		
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				4				5
		1			2	6		3
		2		9			6	
			2	8				
9		5						

Level: Intermediate

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!

7	8	2	4	3	6	5	1	9
6	5	3	1	8	2	7	9	4
4	9	1	5	6	7	2	3	8
3	4	6	2	5	6	1	8	7
5	6	8	7	4	1	3	2	9
1	2	7	3	6	8	4	9	5
6	3	4	8	2	5	6	7	1
8	1	5	9	7	3	4	6	2
2	8	9	7	6	4	1	5	3

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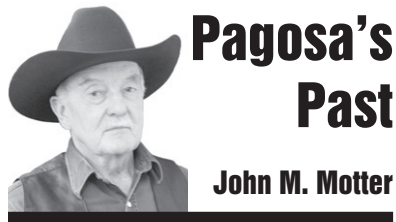


Pioneer times on the East Fork: Old Joe Mann

This week our column will focus on some of the families who lived and worked on the East Fork of the San Juan River during pioneer times. Many of them ended up living in Pagosa Springs.

Remember, much of our information is being supplied from an environmental impact study of the East Fork conducted in 1985. The study included archaeologists, geologists and other experts plus John Motter as historian. The only remaining intact building was the Joe Mann cabin. Evidence of other cabins remained in the form of piles of logs and a variety of artifacts made of glass, metal, etc.

The experts had the ability to comb through the remnants and identify much of the refuse as to function and date. In addition, old-timers had known some of those residents and were able to assist with the reconstruction of the East Fork history. In addition to the identification of several pre-



Pagosa's Past

John M. Motter

historic sites which were studied, settler cabin sites included the Joe Mann cabin and supporting ranch buildings, the Lane cabin with supporting buildings on Lane Creek, a cabin site on Silver Creek and a cluster of six or eight old buildings clustered near the Quartz Creek juncture with the East Fork San Juan River.

The study did not look at the remains of the old town of Elwood, the second Old Joe Mann cabin and buildings connected with the Black Diamond gold mine on Elwood Pass or the McCormick cabin in the big timber area east of Elwood Pass. These latter remains are not

located in the proposed ski area that triggered the environmental impact study.

I know we wrote about Old Joe Mann a few weeks ago in the Oct. 17 issue, but this time we'll include the results of archaeological dissection of the remaining buildings at the Joe Mann cabin site. This cabin is located on the north side of the road where the river valley opens up after leaving the box canyon.

Several of the more recent owners of that property who lived in the Joe Mann cabin while tending their property in the valley had significantly modified the building, presumably seeking comfort. The changes were sufficient to remove any chance of the old building being placed on the National Register of historic buildings.

Nevertheless, in certain parts of the old building and in outbuildings, logs cut and peeled with a broad ax were examined and dated between 1880 and 1890. That finding coupled with the history of the area and of Old Joe Mann recorded in local newspapers seems to reasonably support a conclusion that Old Joe Mann built the original building during that time frame.

Mann's name as a resident of San Juan country appeared in an 1880

■ See Past on next page

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-Todd O. March 2017



LOOK FOR THE RED TRUCK JUST OFF PIEDRA RD. 51 DAVID DR.

Drill

■ continued from previous page coming and tried to calm everyone's exuberance.

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Just then a fire truck rushed up. Firemen jumped off, donned gas masks, and rushed into the building.

"A very realistic fire drill," Brent added.

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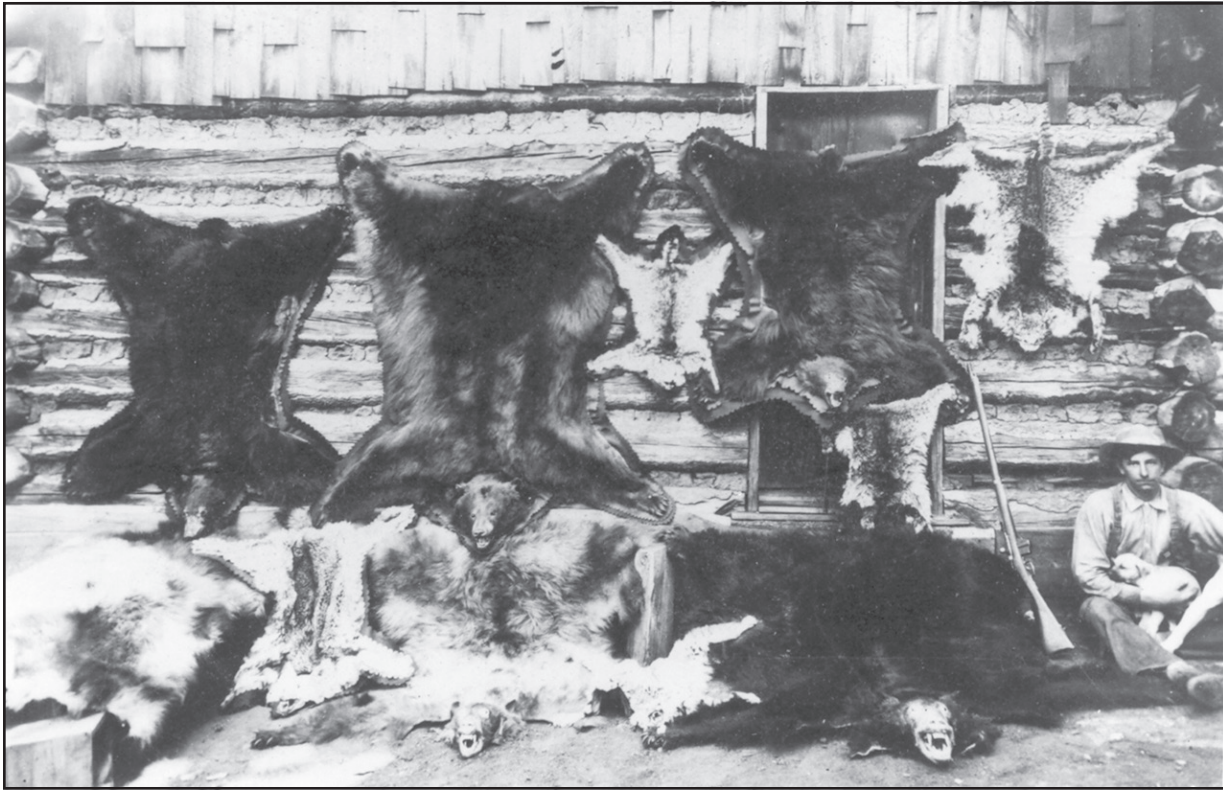


Photo courtesy John M. Motter

The hides shown in this photograph were trapped by the Chapson family shortly after the beginning of the 19th century in the mountains surrounding the east and west forks of the San Juan River. The family is shown in company with the results of their work.

Past

■ continued from previous page

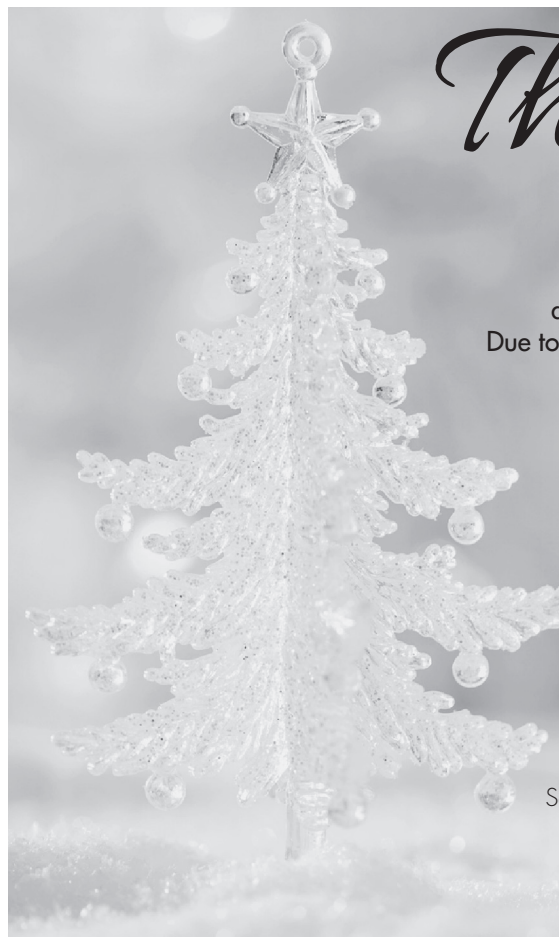
New Mexico Territorial census. His homestead patent was granted in 1901. A land survey of the area was completed by W.W. Allen by August of 1881. Land patents applied for along the East Fork probably precipitated the survey. Allen's map showed "Menn's (sic) cabin" as homestead entry 1237. Its location agrees with the patent granted in 1901. Mann was a bachelor and an enigma. He was apparently involved in most of

the events taking place during the early days of East Fork history. He died in 1912 and was buried in the garden of an aspen cabin and out-buildings on Elwood Pass.

The following obituary for Josiah Mann appeared in the Pagosa Springs Sun: "Died Sunday, August 4 at old Elwood mining camp, Joseph (sic) Mann, of dropsy and old age sterility, being as near as we can learn 86 years of age. Joseph (sic) Mann was one of the old pioneers

of the west, spending nearly half a century in the mining regions of Colorado. Generous hearted, hospitable Old Joe, whither, wherever it is, may you enjoy that peace and prosperity that was denied you in your later years.

"Old Joe was interred on his little garden plot near Elwood where he had already marked the spot some weeks before his death." — Aug. 9, 1912. More next week on Joe Mann and the East Fork pioneers.



Thank you!

We would like to thank our community for their support of the Festival of Trees, at the public viewing and voting and at the auction. Due to your generosity, \$23,389 was raised for our nonprofits!

We would like to thank our buyers:
 Tim Brown Construction * Springs Resort
 San Juan Veterinary * First Southwest Bank
 Citizens Bank * Bank of Colorado
 Jann Pitcher Real Estate * Scott Strategic Investments
 Jeanette Baker * H.J. Jackson * Carolyn Paschal
 Jack and Claudia Rosenbaum

We would like to thank our tree entries:
 Veterans Memorial Park * Mardel Gallegos Head Start
 Our Savior Lutheran School * Aspen House
 Pagosa Peak Open School * Boy Scout Troop 807
 Pagosa Springs Girls Choir * The Romp Room
 Archuleta County 4-H * Archuleta Seniors Inc.
 Seeds of Learning * Veterans for Veterans Archuleta County
 Pagosa Valor Academy * Future Farmers of America
 Rise Above Violence * Wolf Creek Youth Ski Team
 Big Brothers Big Sisters Archuleta County
 Pagosa Youth Soccer * Cub Scouts Pack 807

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

for the issue of

Thursday, December 28

Display Advertising

Noon, Friday, December 22

Classified Advertising

10 a.m., Tuesday, December 26

Too Late to Classify 3 p.m., Tuesday,
December 26

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 21

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

and for the issue of

Thursday, January 4

Display Advertising

Noon, Friday, December 29

Classified Advertising

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 2

Too Late to Classify 3 p.m., Tuesday, January 2

Legal Advertising, Articles & Letters

Noon, Thursday, December 28

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


The Pagosa Springs SUN
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Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Dec. 14

Duplicate Bridge. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot. 1 p.m., Senior Center.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Drop-in with your technology questions. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further information.

Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Come celebrate the holidays with us and drink some hot cocoa. You will create your very own seasonal crafts to take home. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Adult Education. 4:30-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Interested in getting your high school equivalency or GED? Need tutoring or help with placement tests? Come and see how Mark can help you. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACEC-manager@gmail.com for more information.

Our Savior Lutheran School Christmas Program: 'From Heaven Above.' 6:30 p.m., Our Savior Lutheran School. Come and marvel at the beautiful voices of Pagosa's next generation as they sing Christmas hymns in English and Latin, with elementary students playing eight-note hand bells and chimes.

Friday, Dec. 15

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.

All-Ages Movie. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. A doubting 8-year-old boy is whisked to the North Pole on a magical train for a meeting with Santa. Meanwhile, the train's conductor, along with the other young passengers,

help turn the boy's crisis in faith into a wondrous journey of self-discovery. Call 264-2209 for more information.

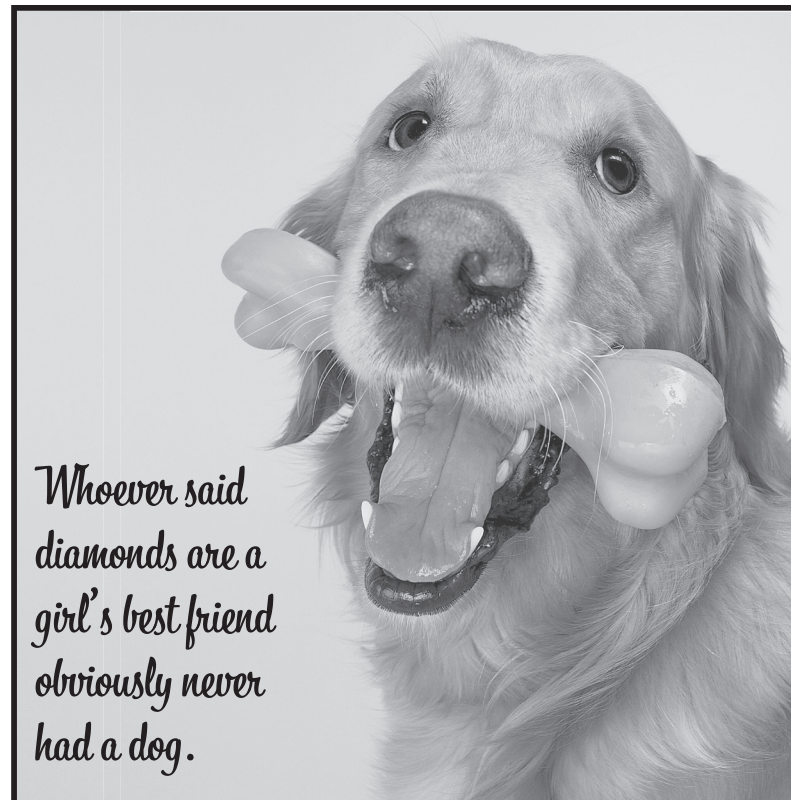
Teen Book Club. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Join us for snacks and a lively discussion of this month's book, "Bone Gap," by Laura Ruby. For teens in the 7th-12th grade. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Saturday, Dec. 16

Baby Storytime. 9:05-9:25 a.m., Sisson Library. For babies 0-12 months. Twenty minutes of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday fam-

■ See Calendar on next page



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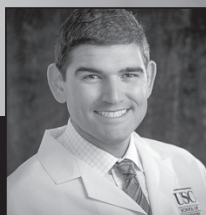
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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
ily life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Toddler Storytime. 9:30-10 a.m., Sisson Library. For toddlers 12-36 months. A half hour of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one. Learn easy tips on how to include literacy skills in everyday family life. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga: Laugh and Let Go. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. This class explores the ancient technique of chi self-massage followed by a lighter yoga asana practice. Call 264-4152 for more information.

Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw Program. 11 a.m., Pagosa Springs Middle School. Hosted by the Durango Elks Lodge No. 507. Doors open at 10 a.m. Contact Dewey Waldron at 769-8636 for more information.

Weminuche Audubon Society. 4-7 p.m., PLPOA Vista Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Christmas Bird Count wrap-up party and chili dinner. Contact Keith Bruno at kbruno@audubon.org for more information.

Santa at the Visitor Center. Noon-3 p.m., Visitor Center. Hot drinks and cookies will occupy those waiting for Santa as he hears the wishes of the children.

Installation of Masonic Lodge Officers. 2 p.m., Pagosa Lodge No. 114, 227 Lewis St. A special invitation is extended to the public as well as all Masons residing or visiting Pagosa Springs. Call (505) 927-9182 if you plan to attend and for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa

Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 17

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. 12:15 p.m., St. Peter-St. Rosa Catholic Church, 18851 Hwy. 151, Arboles. Join us to celebrate this annual event, which will include a fiesta dinner, raffle, silent auction and activities. Raffle tickets may be purchased by calling 883-3330.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Uke Jam. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Come strum, sing and share the fun. All levels welcome. Instruction for beginners provided.

The Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends Concert. 3 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The Pagosa

Brass Quintet will be performing several holiday pieces that will brighten and add beauty to your holidays. The concert will become even more special when we add to this regal brass ensemble the majestic sounds of the organ. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Bookends, The Chamber of Commerce, The Choke Cherry Tree and Airport Self Storage. You can also call (409) 720-7445. Tickets will also be available at the door if still available.

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Parish Hall. Doors open at 5 p.m., early-bird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m. Concessions and cash prizes. No outside food or drink.

Monday, Dec. 18

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.

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.

TEFAP Food Distribution. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Restoration Fel-

■ **See Calendar on next page**

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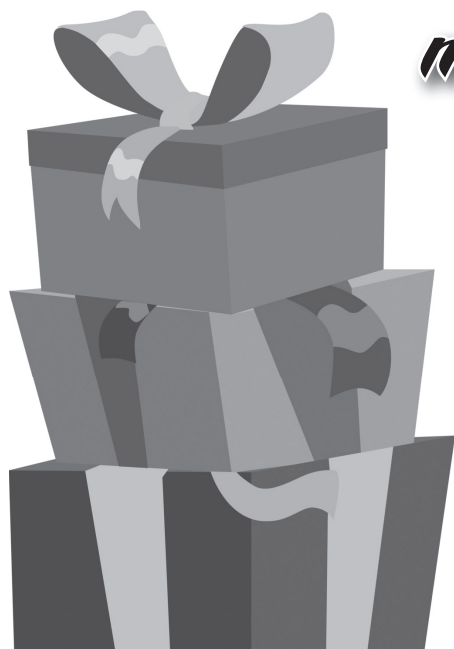
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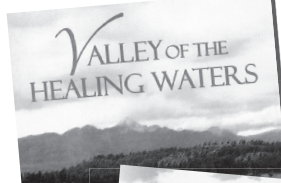
970-731-4892

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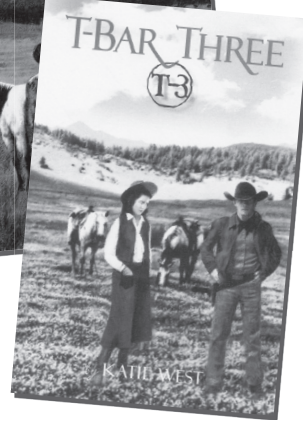


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with ex-scout Mathew Hensen and his best friend Corporal Tom Cooper as they head up a cattle drive to bring cattle to the valley of the healing waters. Mathew establishes his ranch, then he and Tom Cooper fight side by side when the Civil War threatens the sovereignty of the Western Territories. He also finds himself fighting the giant Navajo on behalf of his Ute friends for ownership of the healing waters, with *Katie West's* ...



Valley of the Healing Waters
And the continuing saga of the Hensen and Cooper families ...



T-Bar Three
The Henson brothers eagerly await the arrival of the Cooper sisters in Pagosa. Tom Cooper warns the young Matt Hensen to stay clear of his daughters but upon meeting Hannah, Matt finds her a temptation hard to resist. Hannah finds herself caught between the love of two brothers while struggling to save the T Bar Three after her father's death.

A great gift by local author Kathy Weber aka Katie West

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Preview Calendar

■ **continued from previous page**
lowship Church. Inventory distribution 1-2 p.m.

Computer Class: Facebook Business Pages. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn how to access and plan for social network success whether you're a small business or nonprofit. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Otaku. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. For those in the 5th-12th grade. If you are into anime or manga, this club is for you. Come and watch some anime and talk about your favorite manga. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.
4-H Achievement Night. 6 p.m., CSU Extension Building. Call 264-5931 for more information.

The Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends Concert. 7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. The Pagosa Brass Quintet will be performing several holiday pieces that will brighten and add beauty to your holidays. The concert will become even more special when we add to this regal brass ensemble the majestic sounds of the organ. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Bookends, The Chamber of Commerce, The Choke Cherry Tree and Airport Self Storage. You can also call (409) 720-7445. Tickets will also be available at the door if still available.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

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.

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.

Teen Gaming. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Xbox 360 Kinect, Wii and snacks. For teens in the 7th-12th grade. Contact the library at 264-2209 for further 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

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 Harman 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. Join us for great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. It's a great way for kids to have fun while building the skills they need to become independent readers. For all ages. Call 264-2209 for more information.

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.

Cookie Cook-off. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Calling all bakers: Do you love to make

cookies? Bring two dozen cookies that you have baked, and we will all get to judge them. We will have three age categories: 13 and younger, teens and adults. Parents/caregivers must attend with children. Bring a list of ingredients in your cookies. No peanuts. Registration required. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Jelly Beans and Squiggly Things After-School Club. 3:30-5 p.m., Pagosa Springs Elementary School, room 9. For information, call 903-8104.

Spanish Conversation. 4-5 p.m., Sisson Library. Are you interested in practicing your Spanish skills with others? This informal gathering allows you to increase fluency by speaking with other Spanish language learners and speakers. All are welcome, from beginners to native Spanish speakers. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Yoga. 4-5 p.m., Community Center.

■ **See Calendar on next page**



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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Zumba. 5:30-6:30 p.m., Community Center. Open to all abilities and ages.

The Spouses/Family of Veterans Group. 5:30-7 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact Dr. Sharon Carter at 398-0883 or Charlotte at 731-1025 for further information.

The Most Excellent Way. 7 p.m., CrossRoad Christian Fellowship Church, 1044 Park Ave. The Most Excellent Way offers Bible-based relief from addictions and compulsions, with men and women meeting separately for utmost confidentiality. Call 507-0123 for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Thursday, Dec. 21

Paws to Read. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. For kids in grades K-5th. Come and share your favorite book with Hondo, a therapy dog who loves listening to stories. Paws to Read is a great way for beginning readers to build confidence. Call 264-2209 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.

Candy Creations. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Put your creative talents to the test and don't let your sweet tooth get the best of you. Using candy and chocolate, we will be making some holiday treats. Call 264-2209 for more information.

Adult ESL Classes. 5-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church.

English as a second language class. Free child care is provided. Contact ACECmanager@gmail.com for more information.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Friday, Dec. 22

Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Community Center. Loaner paddles are available if you don't have one.

Pagosa Stitching Group. 9:30-11:30 a.m., second floor of the Pruitt building, Pagosa Springs Medical Center. Bring your stitching project and enjoy coffee and camaraderie. All stitchers are welcome.

Tai Chi. 11 a.m.-noon, Community Center. This is a slow, gentle exercise that improves balance, strength, flexibility and lung capacity while reducing stress and increasing an overall sense of well-being.

Gaming. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson 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.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Film crew member
- 5 Chopper part
- 10 Be sore
- 14 Bench wear
- 15 Age
- 16 Think, in olden times
- 17 "I had no ___!"
- 18 Coldest period
- 20 Classroom activity
- 22 Hang in the balance
- 23 Elton John's "___ Saved My Life Tonight"
- 24 Group of small trees
- 25 Beanie Babies, e.g.
- 26 Dangerous dwelling
- 29 Suitors
- 32 Polite
- 33 Bar supply
- 34 Chief Justice Warren
- 35 Gin's partner
- 36 Hefty volume
- 37 Hand holder?
- 38 Pre-exam feeling, maybe
- 39 Copier need
- 40 Bad way to be caught
- 42 "I'm impressed!"
- 43 Rot
- 44 Light sailing ship
- 48 Steam maker
- 50 Invoice add-on
- 51 Abused
- 53 Party thrower
- 54 Bug
- 55 Consummate
- 56 Very fond of
- 57 Word with man or mat
- 58 Soft
- 59 Drink garnish

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54						55					56			
57						58					59			

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- 2 State sport of Wyoming
- 3 Construction girder
- 4 Tranquil
- 5 VCR button
- 6 Speak one's mind
- 7 Grab, as ice cubes
- 8 Qtr. starter
- 9 Bombast
- 10 Swear (to)
- 11 Evaluation standard
- 12 Batter's position
- 13 Washstand item
- 19 Ward off
- 21 Con
- 24 Kind of duty
- 26 Conclusion
- 27 High point
- 28 Take a look
- 29 Mr. Bridges
- 30 Deserve
- 31 2014 World Cup mascot
- 32 Brooklyn's ___ Island

- 35 "American Pie" actress
- 36 County subdivision
- 38 Indiana hoopster
- 39 Word after dial or earth
- 41 Certain boxer, informally
- 42 Without restraint
- 44 Song of praise
- 45 Make reparations
- 46 Social level
- 47 Glorify
- 48 Former Celtic
- 49 Jumble
- 50 Simmered dish
- 52 Big deal

Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

P	R	O	B	A	B	L	E		P	I	S	T	O	L
L	I	M	A	B	E	A	N		O	C	T	A	V	O
O	V	E	R	L	A	N	D		D	E	U	C	E	S
T	E	N		A	D	D	E	R		S	P	O	R	E
				S	T	Y		M	A	C	H	O		
B	A	S	T	E		T	I	T	L	E	R	O	L	E
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S	O	R	G	H	U	M		A	R	T	D	E	C	O
E	M	U		U	N	P	A	C	K		R	A	I	N
D	A	M	A	S	C	E	N	E		D	A	N	D	Y
				C	H	E	S	T		C	O	B		
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L	O	G	O	U	T		C	A	L	A	M	I	N	E
I	N	R	U	S	H		I	M	I	T	A	T	O	R
T	E	E	T	H	E		D	E	C	E	D	E	N	T

DOWN

- 1 Breakfast dish

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Saturday, Dec. 23

Meditation and Recorded Dharma Talk. 10 a.m., Unitarian Universal Fellowship, 70 Greenbriar Drive, Suite B-15. All are welcome.

Yoga: Laugh and Let Go. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center. This class explores the ancient technique of chi self-massage followed by a lighter yoga asana practice. Call 264-4152 for more information.

Crafting Club. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Center. Join us for creativity, crafting and sharing ideas. This will be a time to bring your creativity, projects in progress, supplies and ideas to spend some time being crafty and connect with others who enjoy all aspects of creativity, too.

Santa at the Visitor Center. Noon-3 p.m., Visitor Center. Hot drinks and cookies will occupy those waiting for Santa as he hears the wishes of the children.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 7 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Sunday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Service. 8 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This service will conclude the season of Advent as we anticipate the birth of Christ.

Christmas Eve Service. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225

S. Pagosa Blvd. This service will conclude the season of Advent as we anticipate the birth of Christ.

Thingamajig Theatre Presents 'Tuna Christmas.' 2 p.m., Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts. A brilliant and hilarious two-man show that takes place in Tuna, Texas, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on the tree. For tickets and more information, go to www.pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW.

Uke Jam. 2:30-4:30 p.m., Community United Methodist Church. Come strum, sing and share the fun. All levels welcome. Instruction for beginners provided.

Christmas Eve Service. 5 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. We will gather for the family service and Holy Eucharist. The service will include special music. The Rev. Douglas Neel will offer a special sermon directed towards the younger members of the congregation.

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.

Christmas Eve Service. 7:30 p.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 225 S. Pagosa Blvd. This service will include classic Christmas music.

Christmas Eve Service. 8 p.m., The organ and instrumentalists will announce the great procession of the choir and clergy into the church as the congregation joins us. This service is a traditional service with carols, choral anthems, sermon and Holy Eucharist, punctuated with the candlelight singing of "Silent Night."

Tuesday, Dec. 26

Veterans for Veterans. 10 a.m., St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

Yoga. 10-11:30 a.m., Community Center.

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.

Wednesday, Dec. 27

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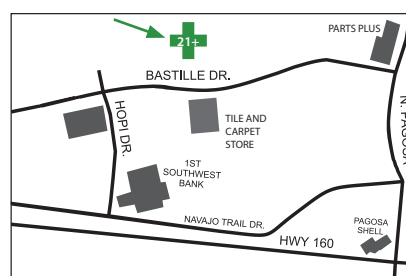
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Online grocery and meal kit delivery

By Terry Schaaf
PREVIEW Columnist

Online food ordering and delivery services have been, and continue to be, a growing trend. Without leaving the house, consumers are able to order groceries delivered to their doorstep and now order assembled meal kits for delivery and easy preparation at home.

More and more companies are entering this market and it will likely continue to grow, fueled by convenience, lack of culinary skills and the rising costs of meals at restaurants.

Grocery delivery

Some brick-and-mortar supermarkets allow you to order food online and then either get it delivered or pick it up. Other supermarkets partner with other business instead, which employs independent contractors to buy and deliver groceries in the same way that ride-share companies employ drivers.

Internet grocers are also popping up and offer home delivery. These options allow the consumer the convenience of not leaving their home to purchase groceries, yet they still need to select the groceries they want and find ways to prepare and consume them.

Meal kit delivery

Meal kit delivery has boomed in the last year. Some grocery stores have also started offering their own meal kits to compete in this growing market.

Meal kit delivery is a little different than grocery delivery in that the consumer selects among the meal options available and the company provides ingredients, step-by-step recipes and instructions for a complete meal to be prepared and cooked by the consumer at home. Some kits provide

Extension Viewpoints

everything pre-cut and measured, while others require chopping and a bit more preparation. Few even offer menus that cater to different dietary requirements, such as vegetarian or gluten-free.

In addition to being convenient, it is possible that meal kit and grocery delivery services could have a positive impact on a consumer's health. Ordering groceries online may help some people choose healthier options, by eliminating the tempting, and often less healthy, end-cap or point-of-sale displays.

Have you ever walked into a grocery store and seen a big display of cookies or chips right at the end of the aisle, or a large cart of candy and treats as you check out? Even if you go to the grocery store with a list, you may end up with extra treats in your cart. In fact, a few studies have shown that shopping online could reduce purchases of unhealthy foods, possibly because seeing images of foods online is not as tempting as seeing the actual food in the store. There is also a longer delay between buying the food and eating it, eliminating instant gratification.

Meal kit services can reduce the number of meals eaten from restaurants, which are often not as healthy as home-cooked meals.

Additionally, meal kits expose some participants to healthy and new ingredients, recipes and cooking techniques. A consumer's experience with the meal kits can help build their cooking skills and boost their confidence. Improved

cooking skills and increased confidence may increase the likelihood that a consumer continues to cook for themselves and possibly even eliminate the need for a meal kit, relying on their own food, meal and recipe selections.

Food delivery could improve access to food for some populations, including for those who have limited mobility and cannot easily go to the store. Some delivery services are only available in certain cities, but others are mail-based and are widely available. Additionally, such services could improve access to healthy foods in so-called "food deserts," areas void of fresh fruit, vegetables and other healthful whole foods, usually found in impoverished parts of the country.

Yet, cost may be a barrier. These services do not come without an extra cost. While there may be a minimal cost for gas or public transportation for consumers to go pick up their own groceries at a store, it is likely more cost efficient than ordering for home delivery. Meal kits average \$9-\$14 per meal, which is less than a comparable meal served at restaurants, but significantly more expensive than a comparable homemade meal.

While it comes with additional costs, grocery and meal kit delivery is a growing market that may have potential to improve food choices and cooking skills as well as fit busy schedules and save time.

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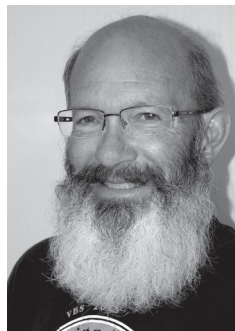
Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Acts 2:36

(continued from last week) In Acts 2 Peter declares to the gathered crowd that the man they put to death is reigning as Messiah seated at the right hand of God. When the people grasp Peter's proof they want to know what they must do. Peter replies repent and be baptized by His authority for the forgiveness of sins and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. After more exhortation to be saved, 3,000 people receive His word and are baptized.

The church began and grew with the proclamation that the Messiah came and is seated at the right hand of God. The wonder of the Messiah viewed by those shepherds long ago and understood by the people in Acts is still alive today. May we help you see the wonder?

Dorman Diller, minister



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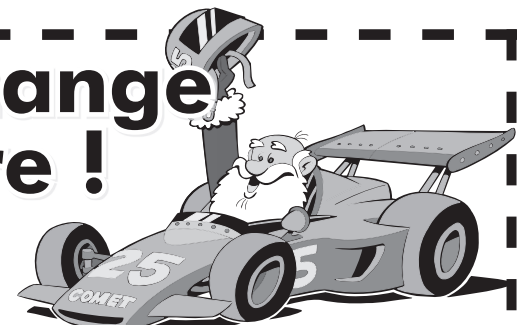
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Small town, big laughs for ‘Tuna Christmas’

By Dale Scrivenger
Special to The PREVIEW

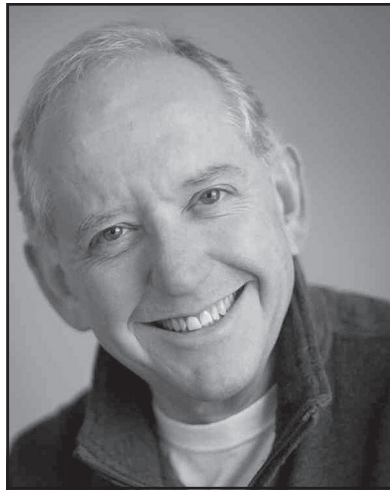
At many regional theaters, it's not Christmas without Tuna. Tuna, Texas, that is. Since its 1989 debut as the second of a three-play series set in the "third-smallest" town in Texas, "Tuna Christmas" by Ed Howard, Jaston Williams and Joe Sears has quickly become a holiday staple of theaters around the nation.

Part of its success is a spate of colorful small-town characters with equally colorful southern sayings, all played by only two actors. With agile and comically savvy actors, "Tuna Christmas" is a guaranteed crowd pleaser.

For the production at Thingamajig Theatre, opening Dec. 15 at the Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts, director Melissa Firlit works with veterans Dan Morrison and Dennis Elkins to play more than 20 wacky southern characters, and the duo proves up to the formidable task.

Playing characters including a bouffant-sporting housewife whose favorite Christmas memories include conjugal visits to her incarcerated husband to a hard-as-nails female proprietor of a used-weapons store who wouldn't blink at shooting someone who stole her toaster, Morrison and Elkins delight in the campy shtick that defines Tuna.

Kudos to Adrienne Young's costuming and wigs, which facilitate Morrison and Elkins' lightning-quick offstage wardrobe changes while clearly defining the multitude of characters the duo portray. Particularly enjoyable is her atten-



Photos courtesy Tim Moore

Dan Morrison, left, and Dennis Elkins play over 20 different characters in "Tuna Christmas," opening Dec. 15 at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts.

tion to detail in recurring Texan flourishes like the different variations of cowboy boots that appear. Speaking of quick changes, it is easy to see why the backstage crew is so invaluable in this show. Morrison and Elkin's character changes are grueling and a team of dressers keep the pace clipping along with costume and wig switches, as well as two large, impressive revolving set pieces by scenic designer John Santangelo.

Perhaps what is most enjoyable about "A Tuna Christmas" is that even though Colorado is a long way from Texas, there are plenty

of small-townisms and oddball characters abound in our own backyard to make the content highly relatable and full of belly laughs. The Tuna plays are a fun and meaningful way to celebrate these everyday oddities and enjoy the holiday season.

Thingamajig Theatre Company presents "Tuna Christmas," rated PG-13, showing at Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts Dec. 15-28, weekdays and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

For tickets and show information, please visit pagosacenter.org or call 731-SHOW (7469).

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Center next to downtown Subway. **Massages
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HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE PERSON NEEDED for
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N. Pagosa Blvd., or send resume to rhonda@
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SHELL STATION HIRING PART- TIME
cashier. Please apply at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

DISABLED MALE DESIRES CAREGIVER
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SPRINGTIME IS HERE so spring into action
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Will train the right person. Be a part of a grow-
ing profession and make a difference. Please
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**BUS DRIVERS NEEDED/ WANTED/ DE-
SIRED:** Come join the Archuleta School
District as a vital member of the Transportation
Team. Current CDL preferred, but willing to
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Apply online at www.mypagosaschools.com.

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GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT of a caring
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sional caregivers in the Pagosa area. Benefits,
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wages offered. Please email your resume to
LStoneCV@yahoo.com or call Lindy Stone at
(575)588-7350.

PART-TIME DETENTION OFFICER.
Archuleta County Sheriff's Office is accepting
applications for a Part-Time Detention Officer.
Starting wage is \$17.74 hourly. Visit www.
archuletacounty.org for position description
or submit application and resume to rsmith@
archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an
equal opportunity employer.

POSITION AVAILABLE- NAVAJO TRAIL
Laundry. Part-time counter help needed.
Please apply in person. 75 Navajo Trail Dr.

LIFECARE- PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME
positions available for Personal Care Provid-
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those seeking a rewarding position with our
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OFFERED.** Sunetha Property Management
is hiring part-time housekeeper(s). We will
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Submit application/resume to sunetha@pa-
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Submit your resume to helpwanted@pagosahun.com or drop off at 457 Lewis Street. Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls.



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457 Lewis Street

BOARD MEMBER OPPORTUNITY. The Upper San Juan Health Service District (USJHSD) is seeking a member of the community to join our Board of Directors. The USJHSD Board is responsible for steering Pagosa Springs Medical Center toward a sustainable future through sound, ethical high-level governance. The USJHSD mission is to provide quality, compassionate healthcare and wellness where we live. The USJHSD Board is made up of volunteer board members who have expertise in a variety of fields. Qualified candidates must be voting residents in the District (Archuleta County and a small part of Hinsdale and Mineral counties), and generally able to commit to a 4-year term although the open seat is to fulfill the remainder of a term from January through May of 2018. The USJHSD Board of Directors generally meets the 4th Tuesday of the month, at 5:30p.m. in the PSMC Great Room. Self nomination forms are available at PSMC's website at: pagosamed.com/boardapplication. Forms must be received by PSMC by December 29, 2017.

PARAPROFESSIONAL/ STUDENT AIDE: Part time (16 hours a week; 4 days a week, mornings), one on one work with a child with special needs in an Early Childhood School setting. Candidate will ideally have experience working with children with special needs in a school setting. High School/ GED required; basic skills and/or past paraprofessional experience preferred. Send resume to mandyc@tchs4c.org or apply in person at Mardel Gallegos Head Start, 475 S. 8th St., Pagosa Springs.

LPN/ RN WANTED. NEW GRADS welcome. Full-time positions, 12 hour shifts with flexible schedules. Benefit packages and competitive wages. Apply in person at Pine Ridge Extended Care Center, 119 Bastille Dr., Pagosa Springs.

MARDEL GALLEGOS CENTER is hiring a Teacher Aide; minimum of HS/ GED and willingness to obtain a Child Development Credential. We will assist in obtaining this credential, send resume to mandyc@tchs4c.org or apply in person at 475 S. 8th St.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. Pagosa's most exciting restaurant. Full-time Saute Position. Some experience preferred but willing to train the right person. Please see Chef Taylor or Sous Chef Brad after 2p.m. any day. 214 Pagosa St., downtown. Open 7 days a week.

PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS. Archuleta County Mountain Express is accepting applications for a part-time bus driver. No CDL required; wage \$13.89/ hour. Submit applications to Archuleta County Human Resources, PO Box 1507, Pagosa Springs, (970)264-8345 (fax), or www.archuletacounty.org. Applications accepted until position is filled. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

ARCHULETA SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking the following positions: Maintenance and Transportation Administrative Assistant (full time, 185 day contract, begins 12/1/17); Transportation Coordinator for Food Service (full time, begins 12/1/17); High School Cheerleading Coach (stipend position, begins 12/1/17); Elementary Para-professional (part time with a 20 hour a week commitment, begins 1/2/2018); High School Boys' Wrestling Coach (stipend) and High School Girls' Soccer Coach (stipend). Please see our website at www.mypagosaschools.com or contact Laura Mijares at lmijares@pagosa.k12.co.us.

HOLIDAY RV SOUTH in South Fork seeks: Parts Clerk/ Receptionist- Assists customers over phone/ in person with parts orders, answers phones, manages service schedule. Previous experience in retail customer service required. 35-50K/ year DOE. Contact shaun@holidayrvsouth.com.

HELP WANTED



Bank of Colorado is now hiring a part-time teller.

Responsibilities include developing customer relationships, receive and pay money, maintain accurate record keeping of deposits and withdrawals, negotiable instruments, other bank transactions and other duties as assigned. Prior cash handling and customer contact experience is a plus. Please apply on line at www.bankofcolorado.com and click on the career link.

ARCHULETA HOUSING CORPORATION, a HUD multi family Section 8 housing project, is now soliciting applications for a Bookkeeper and Occupancy position. The right candidate must be experienced with QuickBooks and Payroll regulations. Please inquire at (970)264-2195 or 703 San Juan Street, Suite 205.

PAGOSA SPRINGS MEDICAL CENTER has an opening for a **Patient Account Representative.** The Rep will primarily be responsible for Medicare and Medicaid billing. The Rep follows up on assigned accounts after claim submission. Responsible for accurately and timely collection of claims billed to third-party payers as both primary, secondary, tertiary, etc. Required to maintain individual AR at the departmental goal as well as other departmental goals: Cash collections, AR days. Resumes and applications must be submitted to mitzi.bowman@psmedicalcenter.org or faxed to (970)731-0907. Pagosa Springs Medical Center is an EEO employer.

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE- Michael Smith Agency is looking to hire a full-time insurance producer. Experience is not required, however, you must obtain your Colorado Property and Casualty and Life insurance licenses within a reasonable time. Send resume to mike.smith@cfbmic.com.

RIO GRANDE CHILD DEVELOPMENT and Family Services/ Del Norte Head Start in Del Norte, Colorado, are accepting Request for Proposals for architectural services for a renovation project, which will be inclusive of a schematic plan. Please contact Donna Briones or Christina Marquez at (719)657-3101 or donna.marquez@gmail.com for a copy of the full proposal request. Proposals will be accepted till January 4, 2018.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is accepting applications for Treasure Sports, full or part time. Must have prior experience in POS system. Friendly, hard working, organized with good communication skills. Send resumes and applications to treasuresports@wolfcreekski.com or P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Winter seasonal (December through April) with competitive wages.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I. Archuleta County's Road and Bridge Department is accepting applications for an Equip Op I. For job description and to apply, visit online at www.archuletacounty.org, or email application to rsmith@archuletacounty.org. Archuleta County is an equal opportunity employer.

SAN JUAN BASIN PUBLIC HEALTH is hiring an Administrative Assistant/ Case Manager. This part-time position provides administrative support to case managers orchestrating services for the elderly and disabled individuals within Archuleta County. Duties also include preparing, organizing and maintaining files, responding to inquiries, referring clients to resources, conducting functional assessments for clients entering a nursing facility, as well as creating individualized service plan, and monitoring client's services. Additional duties include; entering client information in the state database in a timely manner. The applicant must have excellent organizational skills, be able to multi-task, as well as advocate for clients. A bachelor's degree in behavioral science is required. The wage for this position is \$19.24-\$27.90 an hour plus benefits. Although the full salary range for this position is provided, appointments are typically made at or near the range minimum. This position is scheduled to close 12/18/2017, or until an adequate pool is reached. To apply go to www.sjpublichealth.org.

MARDEL GALLEGOS CENTER is hiring a part-time (25 hours a week) Program Support Assistant. HS/GED and prior clerical experience required. Send resume to mandyc@tchs4c.org or apply in person at Mardel Gallegos Head Start, 475 S. 8th St.

PROFESSIONAL CLEANERS WANTED. Must have own vehicle and smart phone. Pay DOE. Please email rjhsteam@gmail.com if you would like to schedule an interview.

PERSONALS

IT CAN STOP! Let us help. 24-hour domestic violence or sexual assault hotline. Confidential. 264-9075.

BELGIAN MALINOIS MIXED GERMAN shepherd pups for sale. 6 1/2 weeks old, first shots, \$700 a piece, 731-1116.

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call 731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer. www.humanesociety.biz.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

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HORSE HAY, OAT HAY. 3x3x8 bales. Hay is green and tight. Call for more information. Delivery available, located in Del Norte. \$50 per bale. (970)420-5127.

HORSE BOARDING- LUCKY A RANCH/ Jack Adams and Justin Adams. Outside pens with shelters; indoor stalls with day pens; indoor and outdoor arenas; round pen; close to national forest. Quality feed and care; reasonable prices. (970)946-5155; (970)946-3377; or leave message at (970)264-2960.

HORSE BOARDING, NEW BARN, full care on 5 acres with round pen and forest access. 2 miles from town, easy access, hay included. Owner on premises, clean and safe facility, oversized paddocks, daily turnout/ pasture time, \$350 per month. (970)903-0329.

FOR SALE

NEW TRUCK LOAD from Illinois. Sale this Friday through Monday. Furniture, big and small, gifts, jewelry, too much to list. Everything in store and truck 20% to 25% off 4 days. Feather Your Nest, corner Piedra/ 160. 264-1122.

SET OF FOUR LIKE- new studded snow tires. 205/ 55/ R16, \$100. 264-0990.

TIME TO STOCK UP your freezer for winter! GrassRoots Meats offers 100% grass fed and grass finished beef and lamb, Berkshire pork and free range organic chicken. Check out this month's special: www.grassrootsmeats.com. For more information, call Lois (970)582-0166.

LIKE NEW TREADMILL, Pro-Form XP550 "space saver." \$300 (was \$795 new). 264-5168.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE, (970)398-1760.

TRIANGLE CUSTOM MILLING. All your custom milling and log needs. (970)398-0739, trianglecustommilling.com.

FIREWOOD- SPLIT PINE, FIR, aspen mix, dry, seasoned. \$185 full cord, delivered. Charlie at 264-0913.

3 GOLD COINS, CANADIAN 1 oz. maple leafs. \$20 over spot price. San Juan Trading Post, 264-1000. 635 San Juan (Hwy. 160).

HYDRO GROW COMPLETE GROW system. Two 1,000 watt lights. Two 175 watt lights. Timers, fans and filter. Used one time. Paid \$2,200, asking \$600 firm. 507-0260.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS AND HOME-OWNERS. Are you remodeling or tearing down? Call Durango Salvage, we buy and sell building materials. Tom, (970)749-2271, Mark, 749-8235.

KENMORE CHEST FREEZER, 7 cu. ft., \$75. Good shape. (970)946-3449.

264-2100

Classifieds

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Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

FOR SALE

NEED FIREWOOD? Pine mix \$185 per cord, \$350 per dump truck load. Fir mix, \$225 per cord or \$425 per dump truck load. Loads are guaranteed to be full cords. Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE. (970)582-0006.

JEWELRY! JEWELRY! JEWELRY! Large supply of Native American jewelry, sterling silver, turquoise, lapis, opal, etc. Hundreds of new bracelets, rings, necklaces, pendants. Also, gold and diamond jewelry. Your last minute gift headquarters. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (160). 264-1000.

SELL YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or consign it- only 15% today. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. 731-PAWN (7296).

20' LOGS FOR SALE. Great for firewood. \$40/ ton. Call (970)264-5000.

ATV TRAILER, \$200. (970)946-3449.

20 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR with top mount freezer. Runs good, \$125. 731-0715.

2 RV BATTERIES, \$75. 5th wheel trailer hitch, \$75. 1 large pet carrier, \$10, OBO. (970)946-9273.

SKIDSTEER 2014 CATERPILLAR 226 B3. Excellent condition, no leaks, runs great, new tires. Everything works, \$26,500. 264-0269, (520)241-1198.

PROFESSIONAL, COMPETITION COMMERCIAL GRADE DOUBLE AXLE SMOKER for sale. Built in tables, running water, 2 propane cooktops, smoke chamber and grill. \$4,000. (318)347-6100.

FIREWOOD, ASPEN OR PINE, split and delivered. Dry and seasoned, (970)264-1620.

CLEARANCE MATTRESS SALE. UP to 50-80% off store prices. Sets starting at \$150. Call (970)335-8315.

POOL TABLES- GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT. Used, in good condition. Call (970)731-3005.

OTT'S MILL- SPECIALIZING IN hand peeled log siding and peeled logs. Rough sawn timbers and lumber. (970)533-7997.

CRAFTSMAN SNOW BLOWER 30" 2016 electric start, thumb control chute, trailer thrown in. \$500, moving. (970)946-3449.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2006 TRITON XT SNOWMOBILE trailer. 10 ft. two place with spare tire, aluminum, \$1,100. (970)731-8886.

AUTOS

1972 NOVA, 6 CYLINDER, 2 speed, power glide, project car. Needs floor and trunk pans. \$1,850 OBO. 507-0260.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

LIKE NEW AWD. Looking for that perfect Colorado vehicle? Come test drive our 2014 Ford Escape SE AWD Eco. Clean carfax, like new condition. Only 53,269 miles. Reduced-\$15,700 at the San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)264-7678.

1993 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE limited. Runs good, needs TLC, \$1,200, will negotiate. Call or text (970)946-2632.

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1999 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT. 4.0 L, manual, 102,000, new tires, asking \$7,000 OBO. Call Eli at 946-0268.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

HOUSES: 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2-car garage, \$1,550/ month. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 2-car garage, \$1,500/ month. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage, \$1,600/ month. (970)731-4344, ext. 2 or (970)422-7162.

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE: 1 condo, 10 houses. Starting at \$750. NextHomeRMR (970)507-8655 www.NextHomeRMR.com.

LAKEFRONT 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath furnished, with hot tub on deck and boat dock, fireplace, W/D. Lake and mountain views throughout. Big yard, garage. 3-6 month lease beginning January 5 at \$1,400/ month plus utilities. Security and references required. No pets, no smoking. Photos available. Please call (505)501-1771 to schedule viewing.

DOWNTOWN STUDIO UNIT, 8TH St. Granite counter tops and patio. All utilities included. \$800/ month. (318)347-6100.

577 E. GOLF. 2 BEDROOM 1.5 bath condo. Wood stove, patio. Water included. No pets. \$900 a month. Call Ginni, 731-2216.

SHARE A COMFORTABLE 3 bedroom home. 1 bedroom for rent. No smoking, no pets, \$525 a month, includes utilities. 264-0826.

BEST VALUE IN PAGOSA. Excellent condition 1/1, 2/2 apartment homes. Convenient location, walk to uptown grocery store. 946-9187.

DOWNTOWN, LEWIS STREET. Spacious, bright, 2 large bedroom, 2 bath, 2 story. Fully furnished. \$1,400 per month, water and sewer included. (970)819-2381.

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EXECUTIVE HOUSE FOR RENT on Lake Pagosa. 2,500 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2-3/4 bath, semi furnished. References required. \$1,600/ month. (970)769-9632.

REMODELED DOUBLEWIDE FOR RENT. Vista. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. On greenbelt. \$1,100 plus utilities. Call (970)903-7499.

LONG TERM RENTALS available. Call Sunetha, (970)731-4344 or sunetha.com.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HOME FOR RENT. Spacious, bright, 2 bedroom/ 2 bath, totally remodeled. New to rental market. Steps from Lake Hatcher and forest. \$1,250 plus utilities. (970)946-2422, whiteningpagosa@yahoo.com.

RV SPACE FOR RENT, Arboles, Colorado, 2 miles from Navajo Reservoir. Covered 16x20' deck, utilities included. Quiet setting with private drive to lot. Pet OK. \$475/ month. (970)946-6647, Skip.

1 BEDROOM 1 BATH apartment for rent. Includes washer/ dryer and utilities. \$650 per month. Please call (970)946-7190.

FURNISHED ROOM FOR RENT. Kitchen privileges, private bath, washer/ dryer, includes utilities. \$485/ month, available now. winkat4@gmail.com.

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820 sq. ft. office, D-4, in Talisman office complex. Three private offices with reception area and break area.

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970-769-2036

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OFFICE SPACE ON CORNERSTONE near Sears. 1,100 sq. ft., 4 offices, break room, waiting room, bathroom, utilities paid. (928)863-3818.

STUNNING OFFICE VIEWS in this Greenbriar Plaza complex on North Pagosa Blvd. Perfect condition. 3 offices and reception area with no stairs and plenty of paved parking. 1,000 sq. ft. for \$139,000. Call Harold Kelley at Jim Smith Realty (970)264-3200 or cell 946-2118.

STORAGE SPECIALS, DISCOUNTED RATES by the day, week or month. All sizes and we will beat anyone's price in town. Lets Store It. 731-0007.

STORAGE UNIT IN TOWN. 10x15, \$75 per month. Michael C. Branch, (970)769-2036.

CONDOS

PAGOSA LAKES FURNISHED 2 bedroom 1.5 bath with 1 car garage, \$145,000. JB Properties. (970)946-3369.

HOUSES FOR SALE

DOWNTOWN PAGOSA SPRINGS, 3 bedroom 2 bath, great views, convenient location, \$299,000. JB Properties. (970)946-3369.

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PROPERTY

MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

6.3 ACRES, 582 MEADOWS. 100% useable. \$129,900. Beautiful mountain views. Dining, shopping and hospital nearby. (214)729-8724.

BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY FOR SALE by owner. 2 lots, 205 Sam Houston Trail. Full utilities. \$19,900. (505)414-1604.

2 EACH, 3 ACRE LOTS with great views. 50 Buck Dr. in Loma Linda. Asking price, \$42,125. 330 Dandelion, Holiday Acres, \$49,000. Both allow horses and both are at a great price. Call Shellie Hogue, EXIT Realty Advantage Pagosa. (970)759-8109.

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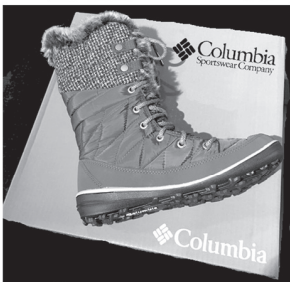


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